

Salient

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

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TWENTY-FIVE
YEARS AGO:

N.Z. GOES TO WAR

OVER 600 ENLIST FROM V.U.C.

MORE THAN HALF, KILLED OR WOUNDED



A day will come when bullets and bombs shall be replaced by ballots, by the universal suffrages of the people; when a cannon shall be exhibited in our museums as an instrument of torture is now shown, and men shall marvel that such things could be.—Victor Hugo.

August 4 returns again; it is a quarter-century since Britain joined with the nations in a feast of suffering and waste. Most of V.U.C.'s present students were not alive on August 4, 1914. In the light of the world situation, it is possible that many of them will not be alive on August 4, 1940.

During the period of the Great War, 624 students and ex-students of V.U.C. enlisted for active service. Of these, 167 were killed or died of wounds or sickness, and 171 others were wounded.

A special "war record" issue of "Spike" was published in August 1920; its preface said: "The University, more than any other of our institutions stands for peace, for its outlook is cosmopolitan and universal. But there are things dearer than peace, things which must be bought at a price."

To us who since have seen how utterly futile was the "war to end war," the latter sentence is pitiful, although the emotionalism reflecting the relief of apparent victory is understandable.

The former sentence, however, we would repeat and emphasise. The acquiring of an outlook cosmopolitan and universal, broad and flexible, should be the most lasting result of attending a University. Such an attitude towards life cannot fail to make for peace. University students, who supposedly represent thinking youth, have it within their power at all times to work creatively for peace. And since it is youth who will be called upon to fight in a war, it is youth alone who can say that wars must cease.

PROGRESS.

DR. CRIPPEN murdered his wife and cut her into small pieces . . . THE MODERN BOMB combines the processes—and you need not even have been introduced to the victims.

HULLO AUSSIE!

N.Z.U. DEBATERS' SUCCESSFUL TOUR

Here's all the dope from Jack Aimers, LL.B., who, with M. G. O'Callaghan (Otago), visited Australia as a debating team from N.Z.U. Students' Association. They had a great time, and worthily represented N.Z.U.

"How does Australia compare with New Zealand?" We always evaded this stock question by replying, "It doesn't. The two countries are so different that there is no basis for comparison." But one thing we soon realised. Australia is a land of great distances. Travel 4,000 miles by rail in five weeks; travel 4,000 miles in carriages which are not heated and you will appreciate this problem of distances. For it is a problem. It even affects university life and student activities in Australia. Inter-university events do not seem to play such an important part as they do in New Zealand. There is nothing to equal the N.Z.U. Tournament, although inter-varsity contests are held. There is not the co-operation between universities as we know it in New Zealand. For example, as far as I could gather, at the last conference of the National Union of Students, one of the most important matters discussed was whether a National Union was needed. Although it has now consolidated its position, the National Union is not nearly as strong as N.Z.U.S.A. Its greatest asset is the General Secretary (Chester Wilmot, Melbourne), a remarkably able chap oozing personality. He organised the tour, and effectively organised us as soon as we stepped off the train at Melbourne. We received a typical Wilmot welcome on our return from Tasmania. After spending a night on a boat that did everything but loop the loop, we were met by Wilmot—"Hullo, boys, have a good time in Tassie? Now, about this broadcast scrip we must . . ." The National Union will boom if the universities respond to Wilmot's enthusiasm, but it is significant that Sydney, the largest university, did not participate officially in the tour. At every university, however, hospitality reached dizzy heights. Indeed, at one stage we wondered whether we could last the distance.

TALKIES. There were fourteen debates, most of which were non-decision, but the team won debates against Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide Universities. Lectures and luncheon talks became a habit, and radio work was frequent. O'Callaghan gave two State network talks, and Aimers gave a National Network talk on the New Zealand Government. (Everywhere the question was asked: "What is your Government really doing?") There were several radio interviews, a radio discussion, and a talk on New Zealand Universities and

number as V.U.C., Hobart with 300, and the University of Perth, which is a free university. We had no opportunity of gaining many impressions of Sydney University, but we decided that Melbourne is the outstanding university in Australia; certainly so far as student activities are concerned. They are well organised, and a large number of students take an active interest. We placed Adelaide next on the list.

STUDENT UNION BUILDINGS.

It is significant that both these universities have excellent Student Union



The Melbourne Students' Union building, which turned Aimers green with envy!

student activities. In Hobart we told the listeners that their harbour was more beautiful than Sydney Harbour, although at that stage we had not even seen Hobart Harbour. The good old policy of giving the public what it likes—or what we thought it would like.

THE UNIVERSITIES.

In Australia there are the two large universities—Melbourne and Sydney—with over 4,000 students each, Queensland and Adelaide with about the same

buildings. The Melbourne Students' Union building is magnificent (it cost about £80,000) and contains a theatre, two cafeterias, dining room, common rooms, numerous offices and club rooms, recreation, music, art and newspaper rooms, a suite for entertaining visitors, and many other facilities. The V.U.C. Gym would fit into one of the cafeterias. Student life centres round the Union, and this new building has stimulated interest in student activities.

RUSSIAN ALLIANCE DISCUSSED

NEW CLUB STARTS IN FINE STYLE

If an attendance of 200 students (in the midst of exams.) is an index of interest in international affairs, the International Relations Club gives great promise of filling a need in College life. At the Club's initial meeting, August 1, interest was sustained at a high peak for two hours—testimony to the capacity of the speakers and to the excellent possibilities of the Club.

The meeting was arranged as a dialogue between Professor Lipson and Dr. J. C. Beaglehole on the pros and cons of an alliance with Russia. Incidentally, the conversational manner adopted by these speakers was enhanced by the arrangement of the seating to produce an atmosphere friendly and conducive to frank discussion.

The careful survey of all factors involved in the question of a Russian Alliance, as well as of many phases of international politics, gave an unusually balanced picture of the situation.

Perhaps the main charm of the meeting lay in the perfect freedom everyone felt to contribute his mite to the discussion. It was not a debate; minds were completely open, and no dogmatic assertions were made for the sake of effect. The dominant note was a tolerant searching for truth; in short, a welcome relief from the comparatively useless bombast of debates.

Encouraged by the evidence of interest in political affairs, the club is toying with the idea of alternating discussions of domestic concerns with its deliberations on international affairs. Discussions of contemporary society and politics in New Zealand would round off a branch of student activity which has been unduly neglected.

Professor Lipson based his case upon two propositions, from which he drew a natural conclusion. Firstly: The Nazis are going to continue their attempts at further expansion in Europe. Secondly: If they are to be stopped, as much power as possible must be gathered against them, which led to the conclusion that the best deterrent was an alliance of England, France and Russia.

Dr. Beaglehole, though professing himself in the depths of a profound depression resulting from contemplation of the last war and reflection that history was for once repeating itself, maintained a lively defence against the Professor's points. Considering the question from the point of view of practically every nation, in particular from that of Russia, he stated himself unable to see that an alliance would either preserve the peace of the world or be of the slightest advantage to Russia.

In any case neither of the speakers held out any hope of a peaceful solution of the world's difficulties.

The hum of conversation at supper-time gave the impression that in the new club everyone had found what he was looking for. The insight of Professor Wood in sponsoring the club was as shrewd as usual. I fancy we'll be hearing quite a bit of the International Relations Club.—C

BURSARIES.

Although most of the Australian Universities have better facilities than our Universities, very little assistance is given to students. Melbourne, with its 4,000 students, has only a few entrance scholarships. Australian students were amazed at the extent of the New Zealand bursaries and scholarships, and demanded full particulars. The Melbourne students have already taken the matter up with the Minister of Education, but he treated the student deputation like school children, and told them that it was a good thing for young people to have a struggle, and that when he was a boy . . . The students have organised a public protest meeting, so you can expect the defeat of the Government any day!

A GREAT EXPERIENCE.

The Australian National Union arranged an exceptionally fine tour, and the students made sure we enjoyed every moment of it. Every opportunity was given us to meet people inside and outside the universities, to meet interesting public men (and publicans), to obtain a general knowledge of Australian life, industry, politics, and conditions. It was a great experience. In the words of the Aussie National Anthem (which the average Australian has never heard)—"Advance, O Australia Fair!" —J.B.A.

WISDOM'S CORNER

The English are mentioned in the Bible: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."—Mark Twain.

All great men have been betrayed by women. Bonaparte was, and so was I.—Victor Hugo.

Arches and stately temples, which one age doth raise, doth not another raise?—Drummond of Hawthornden.

War, one 'war after another. Men start 'em who couldn't put up a good hen-roost.—Ezra Pound.

The film industry was begun by men who had been thrown out by the theatre. That is why it is so bad—and so wonderful.—Sacha Guitry.

I was told the other day of an expensively-educated young woman who married a country squire . . . A novelist asked her what library she got her books from. "Books?" she said. "Oh, well, we've only been married three months. We haven't needed a book yet."—W. A. Darlington.

It has always seemed to me a great absurdity that history and geography should be taught in schools; who ever learnt history and geography except by private reading?—J. S. Mill.

There is no such thing as a moral or an immoral book. Books are well written or badly written. That is all.—Oscar Wilde.



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'SALIENT' MATTERS

This issue of "Salient" uses a few illustrations. This was in part made possible by borrowing blocks from various sources.

A picture or two adds interest to any printed page. Up-to-date journalism takes for granted the necessity for illustration.

Those responsible for "Salient" put plenty of hard work into the paper. They aim to make it as attractive as possible for all students. But pictorial reproductions cost money.

An assured income, such as would result from an inclusive subscription from all students, would eradicate the present working loss, and would make possible a really strong paper with resources for improvement. The increased circulation, at a definite figure, would greatly facilitate the approach to advertisers.

Most institutions and organisations which publish journals these days do so on the basis of an all-inclusive fee, the paper reaching every member without extra charge. (Public Service Associations, Lodges, most universities, professional societies of all kinds.) It's more efficient for all parties concerned. Moreover, "Salient" and "Spike" work directly and indirectly for the fostering of an all-round interest in V.U.C. affairs on the part of all students. This aspect is worth everyone's support.

You will be asked later to vote on the question. Don't give too ready an ear to talk of "compulsion." The portion of the student fee which (for example) supports the various sporting clubs falls equally upon all students, who do not loudly protest thereat, although in many cases unable to join such clubs.

Surely it's worth while accepting, and helping in every possible way, an organ of College life which gives all students opportunity to express themselves—a most valuable feature of any attempt towards acquiring education.—W.

THINGS TO COME

Thurs., Aug. 10, 7-8.5, at Friends House, Moncrieff Street (auspices of Peace Pledge Union). Discussion: "Power of Non-Violence." All students invited and can have their say, for or against.
Lectures in Public Administration—None during Vacation. Recommendation Sept. 5.

Finish the term at the
SPORTS CLUBS' BALL

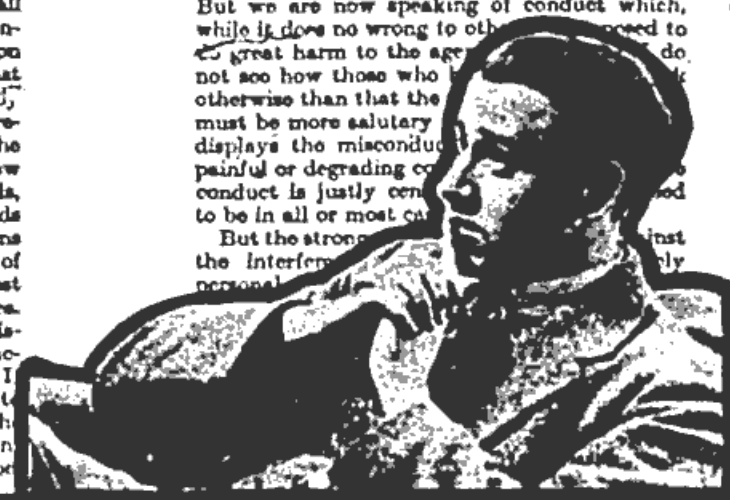
in the GYMNASIUM on FRIDAY, AUGUST 11th.
Tickets at the 3/- Single 8.30 p.m to Exec. Room - 2 a.m.

123 LIMITS TO THE AUTHORITY OF

period of childhood and manhood in which to try whether it could make them capable of rational conduct in life. The existing generation is master both of the training and the entire circumstances of the generation to come; it cannot indeed make them perfectly wise and good, because it is itself so lamentably deficient in goodness and wisdom; and the best efforts are not always, in individual cases, its most successful ones; but it is perfectly well able to make the rising generation, as a whole, as good as, and a little better than, itself. If society lets any considerable number of its members grow up more children, incapable of being acted on by rational consideration of distant motives, society has itself to blame for the consequences. Armed not only with all the powers of education, but with the ascendancy which the authority of a received opinion always exercises over the minds who are least fitted to judge for themselves, and aided by the natural penalties which cannot be prevented from falling on those who incur the dislike or the contempt of those who know them; let not society pretend that it needs, besides all this, the power to issue commands and enforce obedience in the personal concerns of individuals, in which, on all principles of justice and policy, the decision ought to rest with those who are to abide the consequences. Nor is there anything which tends more to discredit and frustrate the better means of influencing conduct, than a resort to the worse. There be among those whom it is attempted to coerce into prudence or temperance, any of the material of which vigorous and independent characters are made, they will infallibly rebel

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against the yoke. No such person will ever feel that others have a right to control him in his concerns, such as they have to prevent him from injuring them in theirs; and it easily comes to be considered a mark of spirit and courage to fly in the face of such usurped authority, and do with ostentation the exact opposite of what it enjoins; as in the fashion of grossness which succeeded, in the time of Charles II., to the fanatical moral intolerance of the Puritans. With respect to what is said of the necessity of protecting society from the bad example set to others by the vicious or the self-indulgent; it is true that bad example may have a pernicious effect, especially the example of doing wrong to others with impunity to the wrong-doer. But we are now speaking of conduct which, while it does no wrong to others, does great harm to the agent. It is not so that we do not see how those who do otherwise than that the must be more salutary displays the misconduct painful or degrading conduct is justly censured to be in all or most cases. But the strongest of the interference of personal



STUDENT OPINION
CIVIL SERVICE EFFICIENCY TESTS

FOR AGAINST

It is surely a good thing that our civil servants are to be tested, that the material used in our Government services is being subjected to reasonable arrangement. During the last hundred years or more, man has made tremendous progress in changing his environment and social order so that the world would be a better place to live in, or rather to show man how to live in it better. All this progress in the positive sciences has been brought about by the application of reason and order to the material of man's surroundings, by the close study of the problems he is faced with, and reducing his findings to ordered classifications. In all cases there has been no advance until he has rejected all that is found to be of least use and fostered the proved best in spite of prevailing prejudices. Yet in spite of this example shown by the progressive positive sciences, when science attempts to study the problems of men themselves to find ability so that it may be exploited, there is immediately an outcry of protest.

They say that a rigorous inspectorial system would be of more value in determining efficiency than an examination. This is just fooling. How a system relying on personal impressions and open to all the abuses and sharp practices of personal report can be considered as superior to a well-constructed test is inconceivable. The next objection is that educational thought today is against the principle of exams. This is true, but it must be remembered that it is exams in the young, the results of which don't mean anything anyway, that the educationalist is against. Examinations at the adult level are of definite value. After the age of 16 or so an exam is very valuable in that it synthesises knowledge and brings learning to a point. This is the modern view, and according to its findings there is everything in favour of exams for civil servants. Some objective estimate of ability and efficiency is necessary.

The case against the efficiency tests has been based mainly on the cruelty of forcing a civil servant to suffer exams. That argument is weak and I do not attempt to sustain it. A man who knows his job should have no difficulty with the tests, and if he does not know it, he should learn, if only to justify his position. It is beside the point if the process of learning involves "swotting."

Any real criticism must be based on the purpose of the tests which is, I assume, indicated in the title. Is an efficient civil servant merely one who knows several acts and sets of regulations, has read up the history and functions of his department, and who is proficient at indexing, precis writing and correspondence? I think not. A sound routine plodder should pass that test with ease but the tests are to select men for promotion to the higher grades from which administrative heads are recruited.

The efficient administrative officer must have the ability to see the functions of his department, himself, and his staff in the light of the best current thought on the functions of government and in relation to the policy of the Government of the day. He must have the ability so to organise and direct the work of his section or Department that those functions are carried out completely and efficiently. To perform his advisory function he must possess an informed, disciplined and inventive mind and the power of concise and lucid expression.

That the old system does not select the best men for these tasks may condemn it but does not necessarily justify the new system. The best men are urgently needed, but the efficiency tests in their present form give no guarantee that they will be found.

—T.R.S.

A great deal has been made in the commercial press and even in "Salient" of the effect this extra swot will have on deterring civil servants from taking university work. This is untrue. To quote from the proposals: "Civil servants making satisfactory progress towards a professional or university diploma or degree will be exempted from sitting the tests."

It seems, then, that in principle there is no real objection that can be raised against the introduction of civil service tests. It is merely the details of tests that is objected to. This is surely only a matter of arrangement rather than of substance.

ABOUT THE BUDGET

Our Socialist Government's fourth Budget came to light last week. The increase in taxation of income and company-profits are in line with the Government's past actions and in our view are quite commendable. The fact that the big companies generally manage to pass on direct taxation to the consumers, however, is a difficulty to deal with them adequately. Increase in cost of living is indicated. The Minister says that two-thirds of our petrol is used commercially. It seems likely, then, that the petrol tax will not result in a great shrinkage of consumption. The same remark applies to beer insofar as it is a luxury preferred by many consumers to more rationally necessary expenditure. Both taxes should realise their respective estimates and the beer tax is certainly morally justifiable.

It is a pity that the Government finds it necessary to mask its need for money under the cry of defence costs. Argument like this shows the Government's desire to escape from Opposition criticism of its £62,000,000 spending campaign. It also shows a desire to appease the British moneylender. Seems to work, too; London comment calls the Budget "prudent."

The proposed expenditure of £23,000,000 on public works is excessive. Some of the works being attempted could well be left to the future. The undertakings are in some cases merely a masked form of unemployment relief. However, such relief must be given, and in a better form than the 10/- a week starvation camps of Messrs. Coates and Forbes. Many of the criticised works, too, though perhaps not very remunerative, required completion having been once begun, and the wastage caused by their abandonment in the past has been little short of scandalous.

The most cheerful point in the Budget is that the development of iron and steel works at Onekaka is to proceed. If this project justifies the optimism of the Ministry it will prove a very valuable asset to the country. Word to wise Science students (if any): Study up on iron and steel!

—F.D.O.F.
By arrangement with "Salient" staff, Mr. J. G. White is guest editor of this issue.—J.L.B.

MUSIC TODAY

MADAME BETTS-VINCENT LECTURES

From one of Madame Betts-Vincent's personality one expects something illuminating, but no one was ready for the catalogue of diversions which did result from the mature "bottling up" of her thoughts about music. Just as dear Mrs. Robinson in the Swiss Family could produce anything from her capacious sack in less than a moment's notice, so Madame could draw upon her memory for anything from a scrap of a comic song to a football match in which a nephew took part. However, we have ceased to expect a strict adherence to subject matter from Phoenix club speakers.

Commencing with a passing mention of the three "B's" the speaker recounted her early musical impressions at Wanganui Girls' College, whence arose the question of musical films and mentioned that a mark of universal good taste was the universal appreciation of pictures with good music (e.g. "Maytime" with Tchaikovsky's "Fifth Symphony.")

Among other things of less note, the influence of America was mentioned. Could anyone on earth enjoy Bing Crosby? It transpired that no one present had ever encountered such a disagreeable phenomenon, or at least they did not own to their acquaintance. It seems, however, that this controversy is unending.

Madame Betts has no brief for the Crosby, or indeed, for any of his ilk. She rather approves of the dictator who banishes crooners. A "Vocalist audience naturally did not attempt to justify this bulwark of American heart-throbblism:—

"Your baby has gone down the plug-hole—

Your baby has gone down the plug. The poor little nitro was so thin and so slight It should have been washed in a jug."

and
"You can put salt in my coffee
You can put tacks in my shoe
You can put glass in my apple-sauce
But you can't stop me lovin' you."

That would not educate! Noise of this type (one title of which we ourselves are very proud to have heard is, "I call My 'Cutie Treacle 'cos she always sticks around") was deleterious to informed taste.

Madame Betts-Vincent concluded by a statement which she had made several times with an almost vituperative emphasis, "It all boils down to Music." Education is background, what is left after you have scrapped all that you learnt at school. Music is one of the colours in that background. Then it was obvious that the government's sanity was questionable which budgeted enormous sums to educate teachers to educate the children, and at the same time founded a 2ZB.

Certainly the compulsory system of education is the destruction not only of music but of every cultural development in the child.

GLEE CLUB

An enthusiastic audience of some 200 people heard the Glee Club's third Annual Concert, on Friday.

The choir opened proceedings in fine style. "Silent Night," a duet by Misses Vesta Emmanuel and Marie Fletcher, was good. The dramatic disappearance of half the stage curtain provided an hilarious interlude.

The choir's best item was the women's rendering of "To Music" (Schubert). A pianoforte solo by Mr. P. Marsack was well played, on an indifferent piano.

Miss Emmanuel's solo, enthusiastically encored, was of a high standard. We would have liked more from her. The male choir negotiated "Road to Mandalay," "Deep River," otherwise a brave performance, seemed to flow rather quickly. Whole effect very fine.

A stout effort was Martin Liddle's dramatic Hungarian "Shepherd, see Thy Horse's Foaming Mane," which gained the most enthusiastic encore of the evening.

Community singing enlivened the interval.

Space does not permit detailed reference to the many attractive items—Mr. F. Rule's tenor solos; instrumental trio; male quartet; excellent vocal trio (Violot Wood, Nora Grey, Graeme Ayson); and John Carrad's piano enterprise towards the close. We left with the conviction that the club, despite many handicaps, had given us an excellent programme.

The Chairman of the Glee Club, Mr. I. E. Allan, has sought space to express appreciation to all who helped towards this concert; particularly to the soloists, to the accompanists, Miss Laura Dutton, and to the members who put much hard work into rehearsals. It is the Glee Club's aim ultimately to sponsor a College choir, and progress to date augurs well for this objective.

PERSONALITIES



Passport photo of Hon. Meek, J.L.M., who goes to take up the Sirathona Research Studentship of St. John's College, Cambridge. Leaves Wellington in about two weeks.

Camera sends met recently to hear G. Elby (colour photo exponent) and H. Daniell (infra-red, and baby movies). Scribe W. A. Robertshaw turned in to us a full report, which space pressure just ousts. This club is obviously developing nicely.



"Who's this Ben O'Connor, anyway?" is partly answered by above picture. (Actually he's quite nice, girls.) Ben successfully throbbed judges' heart-strings, to walk off with Plunket Medal for Oratory.

Congratulations to Sid Agar on his engagement to Rosemond Drummond. (Mighty surpris'n, Sid. We never even saw you together.)

ADVANCE ORSTRALIA FAIR!

(Replacing "God Defend N.Z." for this issue.)

It gives me great pleasure to welcome these young New Zealanders, and I only wish more of our young men would take up the noble art of public speakin' instead of wastin' their time boozin' and gamblin'.

—Mayor of the City of Greater Newcastle.

A Melbourne Communist addressing an open air meeting: "All the by-elections have gone against the Government. If I were Mr. Menzies I'd make quite certain that no more Government members died."

"But Housing Commissions alone will not abolish slums. A complete cure can only be effected by smashing the whole bloody economic system."

—An important and respectable executive officer in Australia chatting with N.Z.U. Debaters.

"Oratory has been called the harlot of the arts. When I recollect the orators throughout the ages, I say, 'Gentlemen, put me with the harlots.'"

—An Australian King's Counsel at Adelaide Law Students' Dinner attended by N.Z.U. Debaters.

We had an appointment with the Australian Broadcasting Commission. They sat us down at a table, told us to chat for fourteen minutes on University Life in New Zealand, and put it on to a record straight away. Shades of Shelley! We talked and chatted and interrupted for fourteen minutes—it was terrible trash. The programme organiser then emerged from the control room and told us it was excellent. I can only presume that the standard of broadcasting is lower in Australia than in New Zealand (if possible).

—Extract from letter (N.Z.U. Debaters).

THE RADIO AS EDUCATION

"Good evening, everybody! This is Station 2V.C. Wellington, broadcasting to all Victoria College students to-day's lecture on English Literature, by Professor I. A. Gordon, whom you see before you. As usual, all other subjects are being simultaneously broadcast by our subsidiary stations on their respective wave-lengths."

Ridiculous, you say? Not altogether. Looking ahead a little, that's all. But while we're on the subject—do you know there's a minor war on—"Radio Record" v. Radio Powers-that-be? It seems that the "Record" has enjoyed for 13 years the right of publishing detailed station programmes, well in advance. The Government's new paper "The Listener" has bagged this monopoly for itself, in the hope, no doubt, of forcing the old-timer out of business.

Does it affect us? Yes! Radio is becoming increasingly the hand-maiden of education (despite 2ZB and F. Martyn Renner, at opposite extremes). When "Salient" sought to print news of forthcoming radio fare likely to be worth the student's closing his books, the veto was likewise applied. Strictly speaking, we are not allowed to tell you, a week ahead, that (for example) Kate Ross and Marie Fletcher will debate from 2YA, at a certain time, the subject "Kindness Versus Cruelty in Managing Men."

However, we're not growling. The broadcasting of Parliament has taken the gilt (though not the gilt) off radio for a while. At the same time it would seem equitable to allow each paper programme rights and to let them meet in open competition on equal terms. —M.

BIOLOGICAL

Last Thursday evening we sought the Biological Society with the intention of reporting its meeting from the point of view of a non-scientist. We finally ran it to earth in a lecture-room enclosing between its pale green walls Professor Kirk, some 20 earnest students, three cases of assorted skeletons, a totara twig, a large coral, tables and chairs infected with the jitterbug craze, and two bodies covered, one in a shroud, the other in a battle-scarred N.Z. ensign.

Seemingly unaffected by this unique lecture hall, Mr. A. J. T. Barker, in his clear and simple address, first outlined the development of the theory of photoperiodism from 1920 to the present day, and then gave a detailed analysis of the experimental work in vernalisation of crops carried out since 1918 by Lysenko, Gassner, and their associates. After discussing plastic development and the work of Eremenko and others, he proceeded to apply some of this theory to a series of practical examples.

A technical and—according to the science students present—concisely excellent exposition of the physiological causes of vernalisation, preceded what were to us the most interesting parts of Mr. Barker's address, his proposition of a heresy which was not examination material, and brief note on scientific work in Russia since 1917. Mr. Barker is to be congratulated on reviving the custom of a presidential address. He has set a high standard for his successors in office.—Frank.



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S P O R T

END OF A SEASON

Days are slowly lengthening and another winter sports season is drawing to its close. Last Saturday the Rugby seniors, a strangely inconsistent and disappointing team, lost their chance of winning the Hardham Cup by succumbing to Old Boys 11/5. The second fifteen won, and will finish high on the ladder.

Men's and women's hockey is now over. In basketball the senior team has defaulted in its last two engagements.

Harriers have had another successful season. D. R. Scrymgeour, by again winning the Club championship on Saturday, is establishing a claim to be regarded as one of the best V.U.C. harriers in the past ten years. His chances of retaining his New Zealand University title in the championship at Auckland on 19th August are bright and he should be well supported by S. K. Newall, a harrier who has shown marked improvement this season. —L.B.S.

HARRIERS

With the personnel of the team for the New Zealand University Championships still doubtful, great importance was attached to the harrier club's 61 mile club championship at Silverstream on Saturday. Some of last year's team, whose inclusion this year had been rather doubtful, were all out to make the team again, while newer runners were just as keen to impress the selectors. Consequently the first six places were very keenly contested, resulting in two very close finishes. Newall took the lead at first, but Scrymgeour overtook him along the road in the last quarter of the first lap. Scrymgeour increased his lead in the second lap to finish a comfortable distance ahead of Newall. Burge and O'Flynn, who had run together practically all the second lap, had a great tussle for third place, Burge touching the tape only a few yards ahead of O'Flynn. To gain the next place, Henderson also had to fight hard, and just got home from de la Mare, whom he had overtaken at the turn on to the finishing ground.



D. R. Scrymgeour

JUNIOR EVENT

In the junior event run over one lap of the same course, Canter repeated his previous week's performance by taking the honours. Hitchings made an auspicious first appearance with the Club, finishing second, with Daniell hard at his heels.

Results were as follows:—

Championship:—Scrymgeour 1, Newall 2, Burge 3.

Sealed Handicap:—Henderson 1, Farquhar 2, Wilkinson 3.

Junior:—Canter 1, Hitchings 2, Daniell 3.

On Saturday week, 19th August, a team of six will carry Victoria's colours to Auckland for the New Zealand University Cross Country Championship Contest for the Dixon trophy, presented by Mr. G. F. Dixon, our own president, in 1932. This trophy, which is competed for annually by the four universities, is at present held by Otago. Victoria's last victory was at Wellington in 1937, when Bagnall, Cairns and Horsley were all in the team. Their absence last year made a considerable difference, and the process of formation had to be begun all over again. As a result last year was a lean year in every way, and Victoria was placed third. Although results in the inter-club races this year have not been very promising we should produce better results in the Universities contest. It is expected that the strongest opposition will come from Auckland, who have a very strong team and who will have the advantage of being on their home ground.

This year's team is composed of Scrymgeour, Newall, O'Flynn, Henderson, de la Mare, Farquhar.

Of last year's team Scrymgeour, Newall, O'Flynn and Farquhar are all in action again. Scrymgeour, present New Zealand University Champion, is as fit as ever, and should be able to turn on another good performance. Newall has progressed wonderfully since last season, when he first made the team. He has beaten Scrymgeour twice and been beaten by him twice, so these two should be well to the fore. The other two members of last year's team, O'Flynn and Farquhar, have been back numbers all the season, but O'Flynn produced his old form on Saturday last, running a splendid race. On his performance

In the provincial championships he would not be in the team, but if he can maintain his present form will certainly justify his inclusion. Farquhar seems to have begun to take things seriously over the last few weeks and should be capable of doing plenty of damage to the opposition in Auckland. Being in the team for several seasons he has plenty of experience to back him up.

Other New Men

The other two men, De la Mare and Henderson, are new to the team, but both have forged ahead with hard training and have certainly merited their inclusion. De la Mare, although very young, has some fine performances to his credit this season, and until last Saturday was the third best man of the team. Henderson, who has been running in the fast pack for only a few weeks, has made good progress in that time, and his last two races have been very fine efforts.

On the whole the harriers feel assured that they are ably represented, and even though the boys may not win the trophy, they will do their level best for the green and gold, and there will be no need to be ashamed of their efforts.

Next Saturday a run from Island Bay bathing sheds at 2.15 p.m.

Members are reminded of the annual dinner on 9th September, and to place their names on the notice provided on the notice-board if they intend to be present.

TABLE TENNIS

The success of the Table Tennis Club's activities for the season is clearly indicated by the enthusiasm shown in the championships, at present well under way. The four club teams have performed creditably and have effectively introduced V.U.C. to inter-club table tennis.

Of the inter-club players, MacLeod is losing his slightly erratic tendencies and is maintaining a more consistent standard. Terry Journet is still playing a fast open game. His forehand attacking shot is as difficult to return as MacLeod's service. Bert Foley is earning a reputation for reliability in the top team and can always be relied upon to contribute his quota of games. Rashbrooke, last year's champion, is in fine form and will be very hard to beat again.

Still unbeaten, the "D" grade team have every chance of winning their section, if not the grade championship. Terry Sweeney, always a hard man to beat, has played exceptionally well at times. Fred Brooker, Eddie Robertson and Jack Stafford played splendidly in their matches and show every promise of improving further. Jack Stafford has been included in the Wellington rep. team under 18. He is to be heartily congratulated on his selection.

Although it has met with a few reverses, the second "D" grade team has benefited from inter-club matches and the players are improving with every round.

THE GIRLS' TEAM

This team in the "E" grade has found the opposition rather too strong at times, but it has always managed to force the issue all the way.

Of the girls generally, Kath. Pears and Doris Johannesson are perhaps the keenest contestants for the singles title, although Pat. Ralph, who played very well in last year's championships, will be hard to beat. Shirley Grinlinton and Lila Marshall are also well in the running.

Through lack of practice, Marie Fletcher is not playing quite as well as last year, and was defeated in the singles by Molly Moody, a player with a very capable defence but a lack of confidence in attack. Star Chalk and Marie Best are both impressive players and Star, in particular, has a most effective backhand.

We would urge all contestants in the championships to complete their matches as soon as possible. —R.R.



Yes, fair nymphs depicted above are all our own girls—women students' gym. class, meets Thursdays (7.15 to 8 p.m.) under virile Helen Macdonald, up-to-the-minute physical exponent from Y.W.C.A. Picture shows girls posed in movements typical of attractive exercises presented, designed to keep our women healthy, agile, graceful. Helen Mayamor, class guardian, announces scoop: Bunch this Thursday will meet under Professor Gertrude Bodenwieser, of State Academy, Vienna, first European Professor of Modern creative dancing. Class will meet as usual during vacation; plans to put on sparkling demonstration in a few weeks.

RUGBY

Meeting Wellington College Old Boys at Kelburn on Saturday, 'Varsity were defeated 11 points to 5, in a hard-fought game, which 'Varsity might easily have won, though it is doubtful if a win would have been deserved.

Outstanding player in the 'Varsity side was Burke, the captain, who gave an outstanding exhibition. He was on the ball from the beginning to the end and he was very unlucky in not scoring two tries.

Undoubtedly the best rake in Wellington, Burke also far surpasses all other hookers in general play and representative honours in his case would be well deserved.

On Saturday University's tackling was good and in a second spell in which they were on defence for long periods, the backs tackled really well and kept the Old Boys from adding to their score. The whole forward pack battled well and McVeagh was very prominent for heady play. He is an ideal back row forward. Meads was out again after a long absence on the bank and he kept going well. Jim Parker has certainly built up a strong forward division and it is to be hoped that next season a stronger back line will support it.

Consistent Rae

In the backs Rae was again very good and he has performed very consistently this season. A very game half, he is one of the best the Club has ever had. Parker was good at first five-eighths and scored a fine try. The other backs all tackled well and Larkin made several nice dashes. The backs do not function smoothly, however, and the lack of a back of Wild's calibre has been one of the team's disabilities.

IN OSLEIR'S BOOTS

Skipper Jack Jeffs has been emulating the feats of Bennie Osler and several neat field goals stand to his credit. At full-back that staunch socialist, Bonk Scotney, has been a tower of strength.

It seems the decent thing to do to mention Barney Campbell's dive pass. Pat Feltham, at centre, has taught the opposition a lot of points.

Among the forwards, Jack Porteous was a hard toiler until he lost his teeth. The same applies to Malcolm Mason until he lost some ribs. There has been no more consistent forward than Jim Halpin. In the line-outs Gregory has frequently been outstanding.

Altogether the team has done well and the social spirit and spirits have been just as much in evidence as usual.

WINTER TOURNAMENT

Dear "Salient,"

With the annual N.Z.U. Cross Country Championship race for the Dixon Trophy only a week or so away now it is an opportune time to raise once again the question of amalgamating this tournament with the other Winter Sports fixtures.

I was one of the College Harrier Club's representatives to the N.Z.U. Harrier Council meeting in Dunedin after last year's contest and the matter was brought up there and a resolution passed recommending consideration by the N.Z.U. Tournament Committee. This consideration was accordingly given and it was announced during the Tournament that such an event as a Winter Tournament was considered to be impossible because of billeting difficulties, etc.

Granting the Tournament Commit-



Tricky play in a line-out, 'Varsity v. Old Boys on Saturday. 'Varsity lost 11-5. Muddy rear of Burke (2) and Mead (5) faces us; Kade (nearer) and Stacey tussle supplicatingly for ball; McVeagh waits, poised, in background.

(—"Evening Post" Photo.)

tee and the N.Z.U.S.A. Executive are more competent to judge and that their decision that a Winter Tournament embracing all winter sports including those held now at Easter, (Basketball and Boxing), is impossible, there seems to be no reason why the existing winter fixtures, the men's and women's hockey and the cross-country race, could not be combined. As far as billeting is concerned it should be remembered that the women's hockey and the Dixon Trophy race were both held in Dunedin last year within a month of each other. Further than this, the probable hosts of hockey players are not the same people as will be called on to billet the harriers. From the social point of view, too, a tournament consisting exclusively of women and one consisting exclusively of men could only gain by amalgamation.

From the practical point of view (Continued at foot of next column)

Senior Reserve Hockey

The long-awaited clash between the two 'Varsity teams in this grade was somewhat a disappointment as far as the standard of play of the First team was concerned. The game did not produce the fireworks that were expected, and Dave Good's team seemed to be only a shadow of its former self—when for instance they played a meritorious drawn game against Island Bay the previous week. Playing one full-back short, the defence was sorely tried, especially in the second half. George Witham was the outstanding player in the team, his attack-work and tenacity on a poor ground, being excellent. Ian Purdie played a sound game, especially on defence. Good seems to play a peculiar type of game, hard hitting but at times ineffective from a tactical point of view. More finesse would improve his play.

Sandford at full-back had two men's work to do at times. The fast forwards in the opposing team did not suit his play, although on several occasions he made very good clearances. He should endeavour to restrict his 'One hand' play to a minimum. Of the forwards, Kenouf started off promisingly but seemed to lack finish and devil. He was unlucky not to score on one occasion. A. McIntosh was the best of the forwards, being always up on the ball. McAllister (right wing) has a tendency to over-run the ball, and does not seem to use his speed to advantage. The score 3-0 was a fair indication of the run of play.

For the winners the shrewd efficiency of Dr. Campbell at left-half was a match-winning factor. He and Arthur Long, at centre-half, initiated attack after attack in the second half. One of the club's most experienced players, Long has a sound knowledge of tactics and seldom plays a poor game. At right-half, John Till was not so prominent as Long and Campbell. He is a rapidly improving player, however, and has proved a very sound link in the strong defence of his team.

Spiers, a nuggety bustling centre-forward of the George Shaw type, scored two goals. Kingi Tahiri hit the other one—an unsighted head-high shot from a corner. He and the mobile Roger Kirkham were too strong a combination at full-back for the opposing forwards. Their effectiveness left Ian Allen in goal with little to do. Allen has improved to a marked extent this season and is now probably very little inferior to D. A. Beresford.

A. Ives was a fast right wing and most of the team's attacks were wisely launched down his side.

Island Bay emerge as the grade champions, but although they defeated the 'Varsity Second team some weeks ago, they would probably not do so now. A fortnight ago they were fortunate to escape with a 2-all draw against Good's men.

WINTER TOURNAMENT

(Continued from previous column) the permanent Monday holiday afforded by the observance of the King's Birthday on the first Monday in June seems to offer a week-end sufficiently long to allow of the conduct of all the events involved. —F.D.O'F.

