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SMAD

AN ORGAN OF STUDENT OPINION.

AT VICTORIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

WELLINGTON, N.Z.

Vol 2. No. 2 | APRIL 20th, 1931. | Price 3d.

EDITORIAL.

NOXIOUS READING.

The Students' Handicap.

Whatever psychologists affirm regarding the vital spur to human endeavour and the ethics of good and bad conduct, it must be admitted finally by all that primarily the happiness of the individual and secondarily of the greatest number are the only standards by which our moral actions may be judged by Virtue, Health, Wisdom, Pleasure, Reflection — all suggesting ends of life are embodied in individual happiness in varying relations. Happiness, not Pleasure, is the ultimate state for which these wretched, strugglisg masses around us are labouring.

Some think to find it in the realms of the unconscious, reeling periously through life on a diet of debauchery. The dreamers seek it in ineffectual meditation and in idle craving. Many—and the University—is the founder of the School—dilate their minds and dissipate their lives on the foul filterings of the foul minds that generate the Modern Novel.

What possible use can these overstrained revolting truths about some few of our number secure in crumbling the ideals of those meek, defenceless millions who ordinarily would pass through life unaware of their existence?

An observer will notice that it is the student of literature, forced to soak his mind in tales of degraded lives, and the ordinary heavy reader—reputed to spend "all his money on books"—who is ever wrestling with the tortures of pessimism, fatalism and bitterness. Not only is he tarnished by the viciousness of one aberrated writer but by a whole jostling pack of crude cudweeds vieing with each other in an effort to draw the most profane, exaggerated, perplexing and horrible caricature of what should always be held universally sacred.

The natural repugnance of those who cling to the illusions of youth, avoiding distasteful reading, abhoring this shallow-pataed trifling with the inviolate is by their friends skilfully reduced to a system of complexes. The idealistic few can make little headway in any advanced English class, and are branded as ignorant.

Notwithstanding the amusement and lofty contempt the attitude creates, the minds of such people are the most normal, the most unspoilt, and therefore the happiest. And if the new day will bring to one no added measure of happiness, it would be really just as well no to bother to rise in the morning.

The impious modern Novel as exemplified by a reading of recent best-sellers is to be treated as an economic utility for those who feel the necessity of it, but not as a standard of Literature, not as an emblem of modern thought—never as an aid to optimism.

CRAMBE REPETITA.

A critique appearing in last year's "Canta," the unofficial Canterbury College rag, concluded a few delicate remarke with a rider to the effect that the aim of the committee was obviously to sell this magazine.

Recently we made a point of giving "Canta" our serious consideration, and have pleasure in announcing that we now understand this peculiar comment. Any effort to produce a paper that will sell must indeed seem a novel one to the editoral committee of the Canterbury College magazine.

COLLEGE OF ELECTORS.

Since we last went to press a general meeting has been held by which the fate of the College of Electors scheme was decided. The issue was fought as one between the system of proportional representation recommended by the Recess Committee and the College of Electors system, as proposed by the Executive, and the meeting decided by a substantial majority against the Executive's proposals. Subsequent to the meeting, the secretary, Mr Plank, and Mr. Macduff resigned from the Executive. Although we feel the action was hardly as dignified as might have been expected, we feel that our thanks should be extended to these gentlemen for their work during 1930, and especially to Mr. Plank, who, in spite of much criticism and contumely, worked unflaggingly in the interests of the students. Mr. Eric Mahoney is to fill Mr. Plank's position as Secretary, and Mr. Fred. Cormack is to take Mr. Macduff's place on the Coemmittee. We congratulate both gentlemen.

Another general meeting will shortly be held to consider the recommendations of the Recess Committee concerning the Students' Association Constitution. The most important of those recommendations we would like to remind students are:—

(a) The institution of the office of paid Secretary-Treasurer to the Executive, to have voice but no vote at Executve meetngs.

(b.) The formation of a Social Committee to run all College dances and to control Capping celebrations.

(c.) The formation of Two Common-Room Committees to control common-room affairs.

(d.) The representation of the Professorial Board on the Executive Committee.

Although the political tension was greatly eased by the last meeting's decision on the College of Electors issue, students will see that many important suggestions are yet to be considered.

CAPPING CELEBRATIONS.

We feel that the activities of the College representatives off the sports grounds at the Tournament were a complete fiasco, and for this the Executive must take a considerable portion of the blame. However, the Executive have an opportunity of redeeming themselves in the arrangement of Capping Celebrations. If the Capping functions go off successfully the Executive's past sins of omission may be forgotten, and eprhaps forgiven. The big events of Capping for all students are the Procession, the Extravaganza, and the Graduation Ceremony. We presume the ceremony is to be a public function, but we have heard only the vagnest rumours concerning the Extravaganza, which seems to be yet some distance from the rehearsal stage.

Finally we would exhort those engaged in the Capping Procession to set about arranging stunts immediately. The first stunt thought of is not alawys the best, and if those concerned do nothing more than discuss the procession with their fellows the ground will have been broken and the enthusiasm necessary to carry the programme through will be aroused. We must have enthusiasm, but it must be organised enthusiasm, and the sooner the Heremai Club set about organising that enthusiasm the better.

MEN'S COMMON-ROOM.

We feel that an editorial protest should be penned regarding the disgraceful state into which the men's Common-room has been allowed to fall. Mr Plank, in his last report of Executive activities, assured the students that the magazines and furniture in the Common-rooms were their property, and provided by their money. His attention aroused by this assurance, the men student discovers that the magazines are non-existent, and that the furniture has been depleted during the last two weeks to three armchairs and a couch. Last year a few belated "Punches" did find their way into the men's wilderness, but for 1931 the supply has seemingly ceased for both Common-rooms. It is rumoured that they go far to enliven the monotony of business-meetings of the Executive. Furthermore, what appears to be a week's accumulation of filth on the floor does not add to the comfort or cleanliness of the men's Common-room. Surely it is time a Common-room Committee was set up, or else that the Executive should take more care of the Common-rooms. Also may we ask whether the N.U.S. intend to preserve the Common-room as a second-hand book-exchange for the whole of the year? Last year this room pursued an inglorious course as part-time Committee-room, part-time comfortable "swotting"-place for the men, but we fail to see that its activities this year are in any greater degree those for which it was intended. The institution of a real Common Common-room is one very badly needed at Victoria College, where what should be a wholesome camaderie of the sexes is confined to furtive meetings by the letter-box.

THE TOURNAMENT.

All loyal Wikitorians present at the recent Tournment will remember certain aspects of it with shame and indignation. First we shall never forget the haka debacle at the Boxing, secondly the poor figure cut by the tennis representatives, and finally we have no reason to be proud of the performance of the swimming team. Admittedly, the swimming team were runners-up to the other three colleges, and our lofty eminence of runners-up was gained, although we did not score a single point. We have referred to the haka, or lack of it—things have come to a pretty pass when we dare not produce our mascot at the Tournament Ball because we had an insufficient number competent to perform a haka when it was produced. Tournament is at Wellington next year, and it behoves the Executive to set about getting a really good haka immediately, and, above all, teaching it to all students, whether or not they intend taking part in next year's Tournament. It will be a lasting disgrace if the students of the town in which the Tournament is held cannot give expression to that College spirit we all think we have. The Constitutional Recess Committee very wisely communicated with other Colleges, and from the knowledge at their disposal evolved something concrete for the consideration of students. Let the Executive take a leaf from their book by scrapping the old haka, and then by having a selected group of students taught haka at some Haeremai pie evening—the best to be settled by vote and learnt immediately. The Haka Committee could also with advantage obtain some more College songs from the Australian Universities. The question is an urgent one, and we should suggest that the Executive take immediate action.

DR. T. Z. KOO.

"A man of brilliant and attractive personality and a magnificent speaker."

It is in these terms that one of the keenest observers of youth movements—Basil Matthews—has written of Dr. T. Z. Koo.

Dr. Koo is a graduate of St. John's University, Shanghai. For nine years he was a member of the Administrative Department of the Chinese Railway Service. In 1918, however, he joined the staff of the National Committee of the Y.M.C.A. of China. In 1925 he was one ofthe three chosen by 34 Chinese organisations to represent his country at the Second Opium Conference called by the League of Nations. The following year he was a delegate to the Conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations at Honolulu. Mr. Walter Nash, M.P., one of the N.Z. delegates, says that "Dr. Koo was one of the most brilliant Christians from China. Clear and able in the presentation of any case he was talking on, he brought a viewpoint of the feelings and outlook of the people of China that was entirely new to the people of the Western World."

This cultured scholar and speaker is vice-chairman of the World Student Christian Federation. He is passing through New Zealand on his way to attend the meeting of the Executive of the Federation to be held in U.S.A. in July, 1931.

The Chinese nation is in the melting-pot; her leaders are preparing her future form. What that form will be is of the utmost importance to all nations. She has produced great scholars and philosophers, and her thinkers and statesmen must play an increasingly important part on the stage of international affairs.

It is the privilege of New Zealanders to hear and meet one of China's great thinkers and student leaders.

Dr. Koo will spend a month in New Zealand, and his visit to Wellington will include the following:—

(1.) Saturday, 9th May, 1931.
Morning: Civic reception at Town Hall.

(2.) Sunday, 10th May, 1931.
11 a.m., St. John's Presbyterian Church.
7 p.m., Wesley Church, Taranaki Street. (Brodcast service).

(3.) Monday, 11th May, 1931.
8 p.m., Public Address in Wesley Church, Taranaki street.
8 p.m., Address to Students and friends at V.U.C.

(5.) Thursday, 28th May, 1931.
8 p.m., V.U.C.

(6.) Friday, 29th May, 1931.

(4.) Welnesday, 27th May, 1931.
Afternoon: Address at Teachers' Training College, Kelburn.

WHAT DOES MR. PLANK THINK?

It is felt that the crying need of the Tennis Club is not so much a wider back line space as a sound experienced elementary coach.

MAGNANIMITY. OR CHAIRMAN INTO COOK.

(Mr. Mountjoy, Jun. has been appointed a Cook to the Haeremai Club).

FIRST VERSE (to be sung softly and simply at the beginning, rising to a crescendo of joy).

When the singings hushed at last
And when Fabian chants no more,
And the final jests are passed,
'Tis the cook who takes the floor.
With a smoking saveloy
In his high aesthetic hand,
There appears the lofty Mountjoy
With a smile elate and bland.

Chorus (plaintively and reverently):

Oh! Joey Jun.,
The hungrys' boon,
Who bringest soon
A saveloy,
Deal with the kai
With manner high,
To those who cry
And moan and sigh
For J. Mount—joy!

SECOND VERSE (a Paean of praise and thanksgiving).

'Tis the voice that moves men's souls,
'Tis the form that thrills girls' hearts,
A debater, match for Powles,
He appears! and supper starts!!
For he comes and feeds the Club-pub
Which has scoffed at Joe's oration
Which has jeered and raised a hubbub,
Like the famous bull of Bashan.

CHORUS (plaintively and reverently, preferably with an harmonium).

Give thanks to Joe!
For men may go
And come—but lo!
There's one who stays
And leads the throng
Of those who long
(As saith the song)
For liquors strong,
To better ways.

—C.G.M.

INTERJECTION COMPETITION.

This month's Interjection Competition, inaugurated by "Smad" in an effort to enliven College meetings and debates has been won by Mr. H. J. Bishop.

During the recent debate on the College Lad and his attendant peculiarities, Mr. Clement G. Watson was liberating his usual critical review of these people into whose midst he has been so cruelly thrown. "A gentleman," declared Clement, "is one who is content always to remain in the background He does not intrude too much upon the public's attention. He says very little and rarely ventures an opinion unless forced to do so." He paused to run a lofty eye over the gathering.

"H'm!" Mr. Bishop's voice at the back broke the differential silence. "That's rather blown YOU out, hasn't it?"

A boy-proof watch has been forwarded.

EXIT THE COLLEGE OF ELECTORS.
OR
THE REARDON RISKE REVUE.

(By Distinguished Contemporary.)

Quite the best and cleanest show of the year so far was that put on by the Recess Revue Company in the Jym. on the evening of March 25th. It is not the first time that these talented entertainers have been before the public, and they were fortunate to secure the co-operation of the famous Executive Entertainment Body in amusing the audience. Perhaps the most notable fact with these artists is their astonishing versatility. This was not so noticeable in the case of the Executive Body, who prefer to maintain the more conventional roles they portrayed last year, but the members of the Recess Committee astonished and delighted the audience with the ease with which they were able to enact parts totally different from those they handled so ably last year. Mr Reardon is a particularly interesting example of this versatility. Those who were present at this Company's performance last year will remember how Mr. Reardon thrilled hundreds of hearts with his portrayal of the inspired femmist, determined to see justice done to the women at all costs. This year he represented the simple Irish patriot, thrilled more by the alternative vote than by justice to the women, whom he occasionally forgot to address, confining his remarks exclusively to the gentlemen of the audience. We hope to see more of this versatile performer, and especially to see whether, at his next public performance, he does not portray some entirely different character. Mr Riske disappoints us. Last year he represented, most ably, the fiery demagogue, inciting the people to wrath and destruction, but in the recent entertainment, owing to the great length of the performance, he was obliged to omit the greater part of his role. When we did see him he was enacting very successfully the part of the slightly harassed schoolmaster, determined to bluff and bluster his way before a class of refractory children. Particularly amusing aws his rebuke to Master Macduff, a talented child-actor, who attempted to question the facts adduced by Mr. Riske's colleague, the Irish patriot (Mr. Reardon) on the subject of proportional representation. Master Macduff was placated by references to Professor D. M. Y. Somerville and to red herrings.

Other members of the company contributel to the success of the performance.

Mr. C. N. Watson played the leading part in the comic sub-plot which concerned a swimming club. Mr Carl Watson seemed far from word-perfect in his part, and had to be prompted by Mr. Rollings.

Mr. Bannister took the heart-rending part of a champion of lost causes. Many of the audience were almost moved to tears when this noble-hearted idealist's favourite scheme was definitely defeated by 146 to 4 votes.

Mr. Crossley, the comic uncle of the piece, told interminable witty stories of early Executives, and indulged in amusing dialogue wth the more serious characters of the piece. We hope to hear more of this lever cross-talk artist.

Mr. Hurley provided the tensest dramatic situation of the evening, when re requested that the doors be unlocked. The request was grudgingly acceded to, but the earthquake he so evidently expected was unavoidably delayed. Mr. Hurley conducted the cross-examination of Mr. Rollings in a manner which brought many people to their feet.

Miss Helen Dunn represented a Tory lady of high degree, determined to keep the rabble in its place. Miss Dunn spoke her part very nicely, but her authors had unfortunately failed to give her many striking lines.

Miss Zena Jupp had obviously assumed new stockings, and had had her hair waved for the occasion, and in her efforts to foil the machinations of the Exec. drew inspiration from the Reform Bill of 1832.

Mr. Bishop, of the Executive Entertainment Body, another rigid Tory, appeared to think that even if Waterloo wasn't won on the playing fields of Waitaki is should have been conducted according to the rules of the Hockey Club. Mr Bishop unfortunately introduced a certain amount of humour of the chewing-gum standard into the play, which we would wish to see eliminated from a performance of this order.

Mr. Scotney, the villain of the piece, brandished a question at Mr. Rollings, and Mr. Rollings meekly answered it.

We are promised many more performances by these two talented companies, and are looking forward to much more clean, bright comedy.

(How temperamental these artists are! We believe that after the entertainment of March 25th two highly emotional members of the Executive resigned from the Company and threw in their parts While regretting their action we realise such things must take place with highly-strung sensitive temperaments.

Wellington Teachers' Training College

REUNION

Training College Hall,

MAY 9th.—ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND SOCIAL.

MAY 11th.—REUNION AND BALL.

BE THERE TO WELCOME OLD FRIENDS FROM BACK O' BEYOND.

Any information from Secretary. Telephone 27-581

H. C. READ,
Hon. Sec.

Hooley of Hoolies.

THE TRAIN JOURNEY FROM DUNEDIN

From Dunedin to Ashburton, although we all felt more or less chastened, the train journey was one long, exhausting hooley. Charlie Plank, the disturbing element right from the beginning, was responsible for the first engagement He paid a visit to our carriage and captured a shoe from both Mildred Briggs and Alison Pagnall. He was followed to his den by John Macduff, who always has fate on his side. The train roared into a tunnel, and when we arrived at the end, the shrieking in the next carriage, and John beaming once more in our midst, with his arms full of hats, scarves, shoes, socks, coats and gloves, told their own story. Before the door could be jammed Harris, followed by Charlie, Ellie Heine, and one or two others, were in our midst. Wilmer attempted to capture a trophy, but found Julia Dunn just a shade too strong for him. Rothewll rushed pluckily to her rescue and thrust him outside, but it was too late; Duff and Eileen Plank poured in and Rothwell gave up the role of Christian benefactor and retired from service In the meantime Kitty Wood and Margery Curtis had stowed away the spoils of war and pandemonium reigned. Julia Dunn captured Harris's shoes and conveyed them to the other end of the train, and Kitty Wood was taken to the next carriage to be held for Ransom. Socks, ties, and collars began to disappear, and the excitement was stimulated by the embarkation at another station of Pen Rollings, and at another station Bisnop and Joey Mount, who were hailed with secret exultation. A cordon was formed, the attack was made, and in a trice the three were parted from all their smaller detachable articles of clothing, and had joined Plank, Harris, and Macduff in the barefooted and collarless army. Pen went for a tour of the train, returning with two odd garters, neither of them his own. Joey retrieved someone else's from Miss Thyra Gill, who had adapted them to her own use.

It was here that a stray Canterbury College boy wandered in, inquiring plaintively for a white shoe. No one knows even now who the stranger was, but he joined the fray impartially, and attached himself to us for the day.

We then had an interlude while Wilmer Harris pattered around, barefooted, with paper caps of maps inviting the thirsty to drink. When the carriage was finally well under water he desisted and gave a delightfully spontaneous exhibition of juggling. All the men were minus their smaller portable garments, and a continuous stream of barefooted pedestrians was passing through, making exhaustive inquiries after their property. When we stopped at Oamaru for refreshments, Wilmer caused considerable excitement in the dining-room when he roamed in like some desert nomad barefooted, but happy, arrayed only in his trousers, a torn shirt and rain coat.

Charlie Plank went completely to pieces quite early in the journey. He invented an entirely new game of his own. When we would pelt frantically along after our carriage, begging everyone most piteously to write to him. No one took much notice, and he played it for hours.

About 5 p.m. the strain began to tell, and the various clans subsided, and hats, socks, etc., began to appear from odd corners and adjacent carriages. The Canterbury student who remained with us throughout the journey became sentimental as the time for parting drew near. Perhaps Wilmer's soulful mouth-organ solos provoked the emotion. He had the urge to give us some little thing by which we could remember him, he said. Unfortunately, all he had left was his running singlet. This he autographed, and on behalf of Canterbury presented to Victoria College. "Something that will help Victoria to think of me sometimes," he told us in a charming little speech. "Lest we forget."

An attempt was made to obtain a similar souvenir by which the N.Z. Railways might also be remembered. The first move in this direction was made by a tense Auckland gentleman who had had a curious impulse all day to tell everyone that he was Head of Auckland Training College, and to follow it up with a request that one should sign one's name legibly on one of the scraps of paper he was carrying. "Write your name here," he would say to us, over and over again, as he passed through. Just as we drew into Christchurch he threw open our door and walked silently with set interest to the other end of the carriage He braced his foot against the seat and tried to wrench Ovaltine advertisement off the wall. The idea caught on, but proved ineffectual, and the wild young A.T.C. man departed, complaining bitterly of the miserliness of Governments that nail everything down.

The night on the boat was spent by the men in singing drinking songs and outdoing Auckland in the way of hakas and College songs.

There were several noble students at the wharf waiting in the frosty air to greet us, and the Tournament was voted one of the most enjoyable we have known.

SHAKESPEARE ON THE EXECUTIVE.

W. P. Rollings.—"Smooth runs the water where the brook is deep.

H. J. Bishop.—" A fellow of infinite jest."

Mildred Briggs.—". . . . and some have greatness thrust upon them."

C. S. Plank.—" . . . . man, proud man! Dressed in a little brief authority."

E. K Eastwood.—"Thou knows't that all my fortunes are at sea."

Catherine S. Ford.—"One that's honest enough; would all the rest were so."

Helen Dunn.—"I spoke with her once but found her wond'rous cold."

Margaret Gibbs.—"I charge thee, fling away ambition; by that sin fell the angels."

W. J. Mountjoy. "Fie! What a spendthrift is he of his tongue."

J. L. Macduff.—"O what may man within him hide
Tho' angel on the outward side."

E. H. McCormick.—"Fret not thyself because of evil men, neither be thou envious of the wicked."—

Open Letters.

To Mr. Elliott, B.A. (Syd.) B.A. (Cantab.)

Dear Sir,—

It would be no presumption for us it describe ourselves as a contemporary of yours, for the year that saw your arrival at Victoria College, was also graced by the first number of "Smad." And we hope we may venture, speaking as one only a few months your junior, to congratulate you on your introduction of the humorous into the Latin lectures. It has brought sunshine into the life of many a student to hear the subterfuges by which he (or, as it may be, she) hopes to win the heart of the examiner in November, so caustically exposed and to be told so well and wittily of his utter incapacity for hard work or literary susceptibility. Spurred to enthusiasm for the subjects of the classics by your amusing little essays which foot his Latin sights and proses, he (or, again, she) approaches the November examinations with a mind refreshed and invigorated by a dozen or so of the bons mots made at his expense during the year. In addition to your little disquisitions on Roman history and antiquities, he has the advantage of hearing the wretched patchwork of evasions and omissions known as the passman's soul described in all its misery. We therefore take a great pleasure in once more congratulating you, Mr Elliott, on behalf of all those classical students whom you have scarified with satire and invigorated with irony.

SMAD.

TO MR. A. D. PRIESTLEY, M.A.

Dear Sir,—

It is one of the most piquant of our experiences to miss familiar faces and voices at the beginning of new term; but while we regret such losses we have still one consolation left us, the knowledge that the new year will bring back to us one old friend, perennial as the seasons, unchanging as the mountains. In short, Don., we are very glad to welcome you back again. It was only when we heard those three charming little speeches with which you prefaced the three one-act plays your Dramatic Club produced recently, and heard you speak so grandly of those dramatic ideals which you have endeavoured to foster at Victoria College, that we realise fully how integral a part of College life those same little speeches of yours are. Your summing-up at the annual general meeting of the same club was also one of those addresses which lighten the heart and elevate the mind. We hope to hear very much more during the year in the same style. If you are tempted towards the humorous, the toast to the Ladies at the Undergraduates' Supper should allow us to hear some more of your wittiest and wisest remarks

Many of the plays read in the Gym. on Friday nights would be vastly improved by a few well-chosen remarks which should leave the audience in no doubt as to the meaning or dramatic importance of the presentation. Ten minutes should be enough for this purpose, and we feel sure they would be ten minutes most agreeably spent. Finally, Don, we shall try to give you as much publicity as possible, and thus keep up a very old College tradition; but we hope you will not blame us if we are unable to devote as much of our space to you as we would wish. Once more, good luck for the coming year!

SMAD.

TO THE BASKET-BALL CLUB.

Dear Madams,—

The Auckland University team has won the Basketball Shield again. For five years in succession, that is ever since basketball was made a tournament event, Auckland has achieved this distinction.

Several times Victoria's team has been runner-up, and this year, although fired with the determination to do or die, and knowing Auckland's team to be a weaker one than usual, our team has failed again.

What is the reason for this? Is it because of lack of practice, or is the ability of our players always lower than in the more northern college?

I have been informed that the first supposition is a correct one, but that the existence of favouritism and cliques among committee members of this club is mainly responsible for the weak team fielded this year.

Anyone who saw the inter-university basketball matches in Dunedin will agree with me that our team, with sounder centres and a stronger defence, could have won the championship. Although the girls occupying these places played fairly well, they were palpably weak compared with the Auckland opposition, and it must have been extremely disappointing to our very excellent attack to see our defence fail time and time again.

Now, I desire to ask the Basketball Club Committee this question: In the interests of the College did they sink petty differences and turn a deaf ear to the wishes of their friends, or did they allow membership of the S.C.M. and suchlike considerations to bias their better judgments, when the team for tournament was being selected?

Were such girls as Marg. Bell (her twin sister at Dunedin gained her N.Z. Blue this year), Dorothy Roberts, Bertha Wingfield, Valda Wilson, and Pat Dennehy, asked to practice in the tournament trials? Whilst some of the above named did not desire to play and others had differences of opinion with the committee, I say definitely, knowing these girls, that in the interests of the College they would have done so if the lamentable conditions of our representative team had been put before them.

I submit that the Basketball Committee has failed in a duty to the College, and should now endeavour to remedy matters so that the same thing will not occur next year.

Yours faithfully,

TRUE CHRISTIAN.

(This letter was presented to a member of the team, who answers as follows:—)

Dear Sir,—

In reply to your letter I should like to point out:—

(1.) (Regarding lack of practice).—The Basketball Team has practised regularly twice a week since

the commencement of March, and has played two practice matches against Training College.

(2.) (Regarding accusation of favouritism).—Four members of the team have represented Victoria College for three years and two members for two years; so that this year's committee can hardly be accused of favouritism in respect to them. M. Line and P Quirk were chosen as representatives in 1929, so that their inclusion is surely justified. Also J. Morice, M. Curtis, M. Line, and J. Dunn have been selected for the Wellington Representative Trials. This fact should be some justification for their inclusion in the team.

(3.) I admit the defence could be improved, but it is not so much lack of ability on the part of Victoria's defence as a weakness in comparison with the Auckland team. Surely it is another blinding glimpse of the obvious that any team loses because of inadequate defence. . . . The same feeble criticism may be applied to our Tennis, Boxing, Athletic, Swimming, Football, Cricket and Hockey teams.

(4.) I maintain that membership of the Christian Union should not necessarily debar students from inclusion in any of the athletic teams.

(5.) Despite your opinion, which I deeply respect, although B. Wingfield and P. Dennehy attended all the practises, they were not considered to be quite so good as those selected, in that they did not combine as well. Valda Wilson resigned her position prior to the 1930 Tournament, and it was impossible to prevail upon Dorothy Roberts to attend practises, so the committee can hardly be blamed for their absence.

In fact, the only indictment upon the committee appears to be that M. Bell was not asked to practise. The committee possibly did not realise her sister would be a N.Z.U. Blue. Besides, I don't quite see the connection. I have a sister at V.U.C., and none has asked HER to play.

Yours faithfully,

UTTER AGNOSTIC.

Letters to the Editor

The Editor, "Smad."

Dear Sir,—

Last year, in the June issue of "Spike," two would-be helpful members of society gave their views on Extravaganzas, and how they should be run. Now that the time has come to produce another Extravaganza I think some comment should be made about these articles. Both advocated that the Extravaganza should be a 'Varsity show, run solely for the amusement of the staff and students; in fact, one goes so far as to say that if the public does not like a 'Varsity show let it stay at home.

In theory this suggestion to run it for 'Varsity is excellent, but at V.U.C., where the College "spirit" —unlike the poor—is never with us, it would be impracticable.

The following few examples illustrate the lack of enthusiasm on the part of the students for College activities. The secretary of the Football Club, in the club notes in "Smad," tells us that even the members of the senior team have no compunction in letting their club down, if they have any other engagement on a Saturday afternoon. It is common knowledge that the women's junior hockey team invariably turns out with seriously depleted numbers, sometimes having as many as five players absent.

Another case, perhaps more analogous to the Extravaganza question is that of the Dramatic Club's performance in the Y.W.C.A. Hall last August. Although this proved a financial success, it was in no way due to the patronage of staff or students of V.U.C. A careful study showed that on both nights less than 10 per cent. of the audience comprised those connected with the College. There is every reason to believe, judging by their attendance at the dances and freshers' welcome address, that the staff are, if possible, less interested in the College than the students

Now, may I ask what would be the use of even considering putting on a 'Varsity show solely for the students while the conditions mentioned above exist In conclusion, I can only hope that these two enthusiasts are doing their little bit towards all College activities.

H.M.D.

The Editor, "Smad."

Dear Sir,—

May I be permitted to use your columns for the purpose of entering a protest against the methods adopted at the first meeting of the Free Discussions Club. The club held its first meeting for the year a little before Easter, and I went along to take part in he function. After some delay Professor Hunter entered. He proceeded to state that owing to the absence of the secretary a report and balance-sheet had not been prepared. The Professor then proposed that no report and balance-sheet be prepared until the time came when the club should apply to the Students' Association for a grant. This was agreed to without one voice being raised in protest. The next statement ran somehow as follows: "The committee has received the following nominations. . . ." A string of names was then read out. Curiously they coincided with the number of vacancies. I have no recolection of nominations being called for on any of the College notice boards. The Professor then asked if there were any further nominations. Not a voice was raised in protest or to nominate. The persons who were nominated in such mysterious circumstances were then declared elected. This concluded that part of the evening devoted to the Annual General Meeting. The farce had lasted not longer than five minutes

I am not an active member of the Free Discussions Club, but I feel as a student that some protest should be made. The club is a student club, and the students are entitled to proper organisation. In the first place there should have been an annual report and balance-sheet, and secondly the trick of going to the meeting with all the vacancies carefully filled is not one which commends itself to my mind. One would have thought that the power or powers that be in the club would be imbued with a little more of the spirit of democracy—or is democracy a fad of the past with some of our friends. Is the cry now "Democracy is dead; long live Mussolini—and his would-be imitators!"

I am, Sir,

R.J. REARDON.

SHEPHERDS OF SHEEP.

The Editor, "Smad."

Dear Sir,—

The present economic crisis is receiving wise and serious consideration from the gentlemen who so carefully conduct the affairs of this College. It is an unfortunate habit of some of our younger and more scattered-brained students to attack and vilify the white-headed protectors of our youth and inexperience. Such an attitude is not only to be deplored but also to be condemned. The benefits which we received from the dear Professors are so many that the time has come for me to lift my student pen in the praise of my mentors.

Let us for a moment forget all pettiness and narrow-mindedness and look at the matter in the broad light of reason.

First the question of bursaries. Could anything have been finer than that dignified march on Parliament? Do you forget the restrained but dignified protest written for the occasion by the revered Classicist. The opening words, "Hic bursarius necesse est ad omes pupillos," lit a torch which has blazed through the length of the land, not to mention the breadth.

Then, again, let us not forget the matter of fees. In other places places I have learnt you had to tell the authorities that you were in reduced circumstances, that you were suffering from "the cut," that your furniture was on the time-payment sstem, and so on. All was different at Victoria College. And our eyes shone with gratitude when we saw these words on the notice-board: "Fees may be paid in four equal quarterly payments on the 31st. day of March, May, July, and September." What generosity, what foresight in such a wise provision!

Another matter comes to my mind. In hard grasping centres of learning it is the custom to collect the fees for the November examinations on the 1st. day of July, and thus reap many months of interest on same. Not so at our Utopian school. We are to be given, we understand, until the 1st day of September to find sufficient funds to enter for the examination. Verily there be Daniels come to judgment.

I think I have said enough to convince you that the powers that be are devoted to our interests. Let me add one more significant point known to but few. Months ago, before there was an talk of salary cuts, our learned staff voluntarily gave up 10 per cent. of their salaries. O bon cives! O felix civitas Please keep this last unparalleled deed a close secret.

Yours faithfully,

CULLODEN.

CLEANSE OUR COMMON ROOMS.

The Editor, "Smad."

Dear Sir,—

It is with some temerity that I venture to lay before you the doubts and despairs of a fresher whose College career has been short but eventful. However, as the Editor has thrown open the pages of "Smad" to all, I venture to address you.

I confess that Beverley Nichols, Coward and the Sitwells—those bright young people of literature—give me cause for doubt and despair; sometimes I doubt them, more often I despair of them, but still more often am I left dazzled and bemused by their intellectual fireworks.

I thought such people could be produced in England alone, but I must admit that I was appalled to find people of the same type at V.U.C. glorying in their "tranquil consciousness of effortless superiority."

For instance our aristocracy is composed of such people as Count Riske, of Russia, M.A*, Lord Reardon de Proportio Representatio, R.C *, Sir Pertinacity Plank, C. of E.,* and My Gawd Scotney, K.C.M.G.,* of Training College—all less dazzling than Coward and Co., perhaps, but having the same unsettling effect on the very young.

With such people abroad how can the tired student restore his wasted tissues by restful contemplation of the scenes of beauty around him from the depths of one of the men's common room chairs—always assuming,of course, that our super-efficient executive and club committees have not omitted to return them when quite finished with. The general scheme of decoration and ornament is somewhat lacking, but I am assured by a tall, fair man, who wears a light blue suit, with a contemplative air, that the men's common-room is the epitome of modern decoration—all is left to the imagination. Here, I think, an injustice has been done to us poor, benighted individuals who have neither the brains nor the imagination of our aristocracy. The aristocracy can view the place in the light of a beer garden or heavenly palace, according to their respective beliefs (Haeremai Club or Christian Union), but we howling lowbrows cannot project ourselves away from these sounds of strife and the torn-up scraps of last week's "Truth."

Perchance you, gentle reader, may say: "Why not close your eyes, and, if necessary, your ears." To that I answer that the effects of some lecturers upon me are so soporific that I dare not blink my eyes within an hour after their lectures have ended, let alone close them. As to closing my ears, I answer only this: have you ever noticed the high quality of the yarns told in the Men's Common Room at V.U.C.?"

Besides, we all know that Scotney has a persuasive voice, Benjamin an insidious one, and Crossley an unforgettable one. When all shout, one must, shout in self-defence, even though it may mean drowning Harry Read's flute-like notes. Then there is a bright chap whom all know as "Doug." Fabian hurtling here and there, and Duff fraternising with the enemy, as personified by Kennard, of the Trust Office. Follow we the smell of Hefford's pipe—a smell he never seems to quite catch up, worse luck—and we will join a group in which Bailey is unburdening himself about the dole to Ralph Hogg, of that ilk, not Bannister, whom unkind fate has presented with a rhyme "tin cannister."

These fine fellows may serve as a set-off against our pernicious aristocracy's crimes, but, in addition, these lordlings, in their lust for gold, have not hesitated to rain down raffle sheets "Thick as autumnal leaves that strow the brooks in Vallombrosa."

No sooner has a student met and surmounted the mountain of Boxing Club sheets than he is over-

whelmed with Rowing Club sheets, till he would fain exclaim, "Hills peep or hills and alps on alps arise"!

Accordingly I appeal to you that you may launch a crusade:

1. To abolish those aristocrats who have not abolished themselves.
2. To introduce some brightness i nto the Men's Common Room.
3. To provide some literature for the Men's Common Room, and so avoid the necessity for the aforesaid yarns.
4. To burn all those raffle sheets.

I've not own a raffle yet, and an all-day student doesn't get much pocket money in his first year, and anyway, what is the use of a hamper to me? I get more than enough to eat in the Cafetaria.

*M.A., Morning After.
R.C., Recess Committee.
C. of E., College of Ejectors.
K.C.M.G., Kindly call me God.

FRESHER.

Something Attempted.

By the Executive of V.U.C.S.A.

Since the last issue of "Smad" burst upon an eager band of freshers, thirsting for knowledge and wisdom, the Executive of the Association has had its time fully occupied. While some three hundred students crowded the Gymnasium at the Freshers' Welcome Dance, the Executive held a brief meeting downstairs to consider the belated announcement of the reduction in bursaries. After an offer to co-operate with the Professorial Board and the Council had been rejected, the Executive arranged a deputation to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Education. Authority to represent the three other Students' Associations was procured by telegram, and after some delay an audience was obtained with the Prime Minister and his colleague. Messrs W. P. Rollings, W. J. Mountjoy,and J. L. MacDuff, as the Association's spokesmen, were given a courteous hearing, and were extensively, though not adequately, reported in the Press. Prior to the deputation a hurried census was taken of students affected by the reduction, and the Executive now thanks all those that replied, giving valuable and convincing information that was used by the speakers. A promise was obtained from the Prime Minister that in any case where the reduced bursary would entail the giving up of a career, he would give favourable consideration to granting the whole bursary. Beyond this concession, little was accomplished, as the Government's Economy Committee has made recommendations along certain lines, and the Cabinet has apparently determined to carry them out without modification. The extent of the interest taken in students' welfare by the Professors and members of the Council may be gauged by their inaction on the bursary question. We believe that every other Council, whether it made a spirited protest or decided to take no action, dealt with the matter almost immedintely; but after trifling with the motion of sending a deputation, and timidly decrying the promptitude of the Canterbury College Board of Governors, our elders and betters weakly desisted, and left any public action to the Students' Association. We should like here to acknowledge the helpful attitude of the Chairman of the Professorial Board, which was encouraging as the comments of certain other College officials were discouraging; but on the whole the inaction of our College authorities in this and similar matters raises the question of one of our College poets:

> Look back and see if in those walls
> You helped to build, and cherish,
> Truth walks with courage, sword by sword,
> Or both before some overlord
> Fall down and feebly perish.

Next in order of importance is the defeat of the College of Electors' proposals, and the consequent resignation of the Secretary, Mr C. S. Plank and a highly emotionalmembers of the Executive re-Committee member, Mr J. L. MacDuff. Their places have been filled by Mr. M. E. Mahoney, as Secretary, and Mr. F. Cormack, as Committee member. Completion of the new constitution has been delayed, pending the rush of business occasioned by capping and extravaganza. An extravaganza entitled "Willum the Conk" has been adopted, and will be produced in the Town Hall on May 4th and 5th. A large caste and army of assistants will be needed, and all students are urged to offer their services and to attend regularly at practices.

As the result of representations made by the Executive, extensions of time have been given by the Council for the payment of fees by bursars. Details are announced on the Registrar's notice-board. The Business Manager of "Spike" has resigned, and Mr. I. D. Campbell has been appointed to fill his place We wish him every success.

Early last year an elaborate scheme for improving the tennis courts was discussed by a joint committee of the Executive and the College Council, and definite arrangements were made whereby the Council would provide the greater part of the finance by way of loan to the Tennis Club, guaranteed by the Students' Association. Owing to the financial stringency, the Council's grant for the year will probably be reduced by at lease 10 per cent., and the Executive has accordingly written to the Council voluntarily accepting a postponement of the scheme. At a more propitious time it should be revived, as the improvements are urgently required.

Again, owing, no doubt, in some measure to the "financial stringency," the notice-boards were plasteerd with sale notices at the beginning of the term, and became such a nuisance that a book-stall was established in the CommonCommon Room, conducted by the Local Books Committee of the National Union of Students. It proved a success, and next session a similar arrangement will probably operate from the commencement on a large scale.

SHAKESPEARE'S ADAPTIBILITY.
THE COLLEGE OF ELECTORS.

"Argument for a week, laughter for a month, and a good jest forever."—Henry IV.

MR. A. D PRIESTLEY.

"Fair flowers that are not gathered in their prime,
Rot and consume themselves in little time."
—Venus and Adonis.

Tournament, 1931.

RESULTS.

We congratulate:—

A.U.C., winners of the Tournament Shield, the Basketball Shield, and joint winners of the Swimming Contest.

O.U., winners of the Boxing Shield, and joint winners of the Swimming Contest.

C.U.C., winners of the Athletic Shield, the Tennis Shield, and joint iwnners of the Swimming Contest

"Ourselves," winners of the Haslam and Hebberley Shields.

We congratulate the following V.U.C. Representatives:—

F. S. Ramson: Winner of the 440yds Hurdles and Putting 16lb Shot.

D. W. A. Barker: Winner of Long Jump.

W C. Hart: Winner of Feather-weight Boxing Contest.

We understand that A.U.C., O.U., and C.U.C also competed.

The following were awarded New Zealand University Blues.

F. S. Ramson (Athletics), D. W. A. Barker (Athletics), W. C. Hart (Boxing), P. Menkin (Shooting), D. Gane (Rowing), W. J. Kemp (Rowing).

A RESUME.

When we sailed on Wednesday, April 1st, we numbered about sixty, only half-a-dozen travelling with the team as barrackers. About thirty more were there to cheer us on our way, carolling beer songs, hakas, and College yells from a point of vantage on the Ferry Wharf. An emotional lull followed the casting of the bow-line, the tension being broken by Ray. Reardon, who called in stricken tones to his old friend, our ex-secretary: "Oh, Charlie-Don't forget to write to me!"

The Auckland team was aboard, and the chanting of hakas and the munching of biscuits helped to pass away the evening. A young gentleman from the steerage with a portable gramaphone, a spotted cap, smart lumber jacket, and wearing a beer bottle jauntily in his hip-pocket, spent a mutually exhausting half-hour beseeching the Victorian women to start a dance going. John Macduff, who throughout the trip was just like a father to us, all fearing that they might possibly weaken, prevailed upon the lad to seek another hunting ground.

The passage was fair, and everyone looked fit and happy when assembled with the rest of the passengers on the main stairway the following morning. John was at his best, instructing Charlie to straighten his tie, Bishop to hold his head up and to look pleasant. He even took the ball and gave the basketball team a short practice over the heads of passengers. One of them whispered to her companions that John was The Father. Charlie, Bish, and Joey and the rest were probably The Children. John kept the ship amused with badinage and by recounting a few racy selections from his vast repertoire of anecdotes.

CANTERBURY COLLEGE.

On arriving in Christchurch we were stowed into taxis and whirled off to the College, where we were the guests of the Students' Union at breakfast in a large, well-appointed sunny dining-room. We inspected the College, appreciating the atmosphere of tranquility that pervaded the cloisters and grey ivied walls, and the appearance of the lawns in the fresh, dewy morning.

OUR ARRIVAL.

We were welcomed by many hundreds of Otago students at the station with an awesome aggregation of melodious and frenzied rancous and tumultuous hakas. The welcome in Allen Hall on Good Friday was followed by afternoon tea, where the Tournament veterans greeted the old stagers from other Colleges, and many old friendships were renewed.

THE TOURNAMENT.

On Saturday morning the Tennis preliminaries were played on both the University and the Otago courts. We did not shine, however; but the Boat Race in the afternon, perhaps the most exciting of all the events, restored our faith in Victoria.

Several hundred citizens collected on the wharf nearest the starting post, running with the barrackers from the four Colleges to the finishing post beside the oarsmen. They thundered down the wharves like a cavalcade, hats and arms flying, cheering wildly. John, with fine presence of mind, leapt on the running-board of someone's car, completely blocking out the view of the race for its occupants, howling frantically for Victoria. Our crew appeared to be just as fresh as they had been previous to the race, and we congratulate them warmly once again.

BOXING.

This item of the itinerary took place at His Majesty's Theatre, the various hakas, with one outstanding and regrettable exception, showing to great effect in the Dress Circle. Although our haka failed to amuse isolated Victorians and the women of the team, it provided for the personnel of the other Colleges perhaps one of the brightest interludes of the evening. It started raggedly, yammered, got out of step, faltered, blushed, trailed off miserably, and sat down. The sight of our President, Mr. Rollings, and of our Mr Mountjoy, executing totally incorrect gestures, and using wrong accents in the front row of the Dress Circle, was sufficient to turn us all grey. Everyone else laughed heartily.

An Otago undergraduate amused us all wandering disconsolately for some time along the rows of seats peering into every face, asking in vain for "Eve." He had apparently missed Eve, or else Eve had missed him, but harboured the impression that she was playing hide and seek with him in the Circle.

"Where is Eve?" he asked, selecting his words very carefully. "I cannot find Eve anywhere. Has no one seen Eve anywhere to-night? I am sure I saw her over here."

"She's been dead for years," said Reg. Larkin. "Come and sit down."

"You can't kid me," said the lad, violently, some time later "I saw her over here." He set out on another pilgrimage.

It may have been a coincidence, but at that moment someone with that name, someone who had been sitting immediately behind him for some time, hurriedly left the theatre.

A wild young student from Manaia, sitting on the stage at the ringside, Joe Christie provided an opportunity for much gentle banter during the evening.

"We see you, Joe!" called his friends in unison. Joe steadied himself, and manfully attempted a bow,

doing a few odd movements of a haka for luck before sinking back.

"I bet you can't see us, Joe!" called someone with sudden intuition.

THE DRIVE.

On the programme, Sunday morning was reserved for attendance at "any good Church." We had ample choice, for every second edifice in Dunedin is either a Religious House, a Dental Parlour, or an Hotel. In the afternoon we drove over the hills in limousines and 'buses, and despite many perilous moments reached Cargill's Castle in safety. The fact that only 150 invitations had been extended and a good 300 people arrived did not spoil the catering operations, and Sunday afternoon was one of the most enjoyable of the week.

MONDAY.

The Basketball was played off, Auckland winning two matches and Victoria and Otago one each. The Athletic Sports started on the University Oval at 11 o'clock. We had bad luck on several occasions, but no one begrudged Canterbury their Victory. Victoria was missing when the Tug-o'-war was announced. Someone explained that the team had "gone home."

SWIMMING.

This innovation was for the second time, so far as Victoria was concerned, a miserable failure. Our representatives at the finish, if they were still in the water, were generally well over a lap behind. Swimming at V.U.C. must be encouraged.

The Tepid Baths were packed, the air hot, the noise appaling, the visibility nil, the lighting and seating accommodation most inadequate, and the man with the megaphone indistinct, but generally inaudible. No attempt was made to keep to the programme, few of the competitors were cautious, and every race seemed to be a sixty-six and two-thirds yards Open Handicap. Everyone cheered impartially and continuously, while the megaphone was hiding the M.C.'s face, and his announcements would be followed by a mixed haka from the assembly and a splash as another beer bottle on programme was thrown into the water.

A pitiful attempt to enliven the proceedings was made by a few comedians, who fought feebly with each other on two top-heavy pontoons.

At 9.35, in company with many others, we left them to it.

Afterwards a dance was held, and from all accounts it stands out in relief as one of the high lights of the Tournament. Bishop, apparently one of the few men still able to control his major movements at 3 a.m., was in charge of the Knox College Delivery. It was his especial mission to see that all Knox students left lying about the deserted hallways were handed over to their friends before breakfast. Bishop's memory is still hazy, but he recalls certain oft-crossed fences and ditches, and a number of ineffectual attempts to reach his own hearthstone afterwards, before he met perhaps the only taxi-driver in the City with those high intellectual faculties appropriate to the occasion.

TUESDAY.

The Tennis Finals and the Ball were held, the festivities running well over into Wednesday.

The story of the train journey back is dealt with elsewhere. Next year the Tournament will be held (D.V.) in Wellington, where, although handicapped by fewer facilities, we shall try to return the hospitality we have enjoyed in the other centres

THE NEW WOMAN.

(A Series of genuine interviews "Smad" is having with prominent women of the College).

No. 3.—Miss Aileen Davidson, on "A Still Small Voice."

Miss Davidson perched herself on the end of the table. "So this is where 'Smad' is brewed, is it? You do do yourselves well. Even being connected with a rag like this has its compensations." She twirled her red bow-tie.

"What do you think of Bannister" we asked, touching the matter nearest her heart. You talk and we'll write.

"Bannister I think Bannister is a LOW TYPE. I think Bannister has the most meagre brain equipment ever bestowed on man I think he's positively the lowest form of life. THAT—is what I think of Bannister. I dislike his views on absolutely every single matter, and I think he's the punkest debater who has ever blurbed and yammered upon our platform. He's been here ever since the war ended, and everything he says and writes has been written or said by some other student years ago. Rehash. But he's not so much worse than the rest of the poor-spirited, seedy-looking, ill-starred rabble that overrun this place either. There must be something in the atmosphere that contaminates the men students. They're all right in the city—tall, thrilling-looking people, with pipes, and so on, but look at what we have here! A swarm of helpless pip-squeaks, with home-made cigarettes hanging out of their mouths. No, I have no heart at all—it was shredded years ago. Brookey is the only decent man I ever talk to here, apart from a few of the legal fraternity. No, I have no hobbies. Debating I regard as a mission. Someone must watch Bannister and keep him in his place.

My only great passion in life is hockey, and I've just been put on the Committee. That's why I'm all for the College of Electors now. Watson? I think he's too bumptious. The first time I heard him speak last year, I had to laugh outright. He gave me the impression he had been a bit of a poohbah at his school Debating Society, and had come up here to show us what was what. The Editor? Oh, she's too self-sufficient and aloof—never seems to feel the need of the comfort of the Herd. Julia Dunn? Oh, she's just the same, and Julia thinks I belong to the Outer Darkness. Joey Mountjoy? Joey is a dear—so soulful and pure white I've just discovered that Joey is susceptible to the feminine influence. Goodson? I've not noticed him beyond his motor-car.

"You know I'd like to be a Vampire—a Siren, and lure everyone to destruction; but what could a siren do on a barren waste like this. Politics? I'm red-hot Conservatism. I believe in keeping the masses well heeled under. I'd like to lead a movement some day, and go into Parliament and clean things up. No, I have no complexes, except perhaps my red bow-ties. They express my personality, and if you have a personality why not express it?

"Say I am more fond of the Devil than of God, and always have been. I don't hold conversations with him though, as they do in books. You can tell the Athletic Club that the Inter-Faculty Sports were the lowest form of human entertainment I've ever viewed, and don't alter anything. Is there room for another short description of Ralph Bannister? What a shame. I'll keep it for the next debate, then. Oh, well, I'll tootle off now. Goodbye!"

BY THE WAY.

Will Mr. W. P. Rollings deny the impeachment levelled by the Tournament Team regarding his energetic attempts in Dunedin to out-Don Mr Priestley as the Universal Lover?

Mr. C. S Plank must confess that he realised at the time the top deck of the S.S. Wahine was hardly the site for a Strephon and Phyllis idyll, but that rural facilities were not available.

Fortunately Miss Eileen Plank's luggage, which was put off at Oamaru, en route to Dunedin, was forwarded just before she reboarded the train on Saturday. Miss Plank had reluctantly decided to spend her holiday in Oamaru with her luggage.

Did Miss Isoebl Morice discover the reason it was arranged she should not dance with McGavin, Major at the Tournament Ball?

Mr. C. N. Goodson will shortly announce t hat he has decided to take up tennis instead of sprinting, and that he will specialise in mixed doubles. He commenced training immediately after the Ball last Wednesday morning.

Mr. Macduff described himself on his billeting sheet as a "shy, retiring, unsophisticated lad." His reply to the query on Religion was "unsatisfactory."

EXTRACT FROM THE "DOMINION," NOV., 1961.

Chas. S. Plank, at the Tennis Association dinner held last evening at the Cricketers' Arms in his honour, touched briefly upon the proposed Cook Strait Tunnel. The scheme, he stated, presented for him no difficulties at all. The plans will be completed the day after to-morrow and the tunnel shortly before the Christmas rush sets in.

Mr Plank, in reply to the Chairman, Mr. Macduff, Member for Mount Street, stated that his first great engineering feat had been accomplished when he was but a student at Victoria College. He remembered the occasion well. He had been watching the tennis courts one summer evening, when he noticed suddenly that there was not sufficient space between the back line and the fence. Realising that V.U.C. tennis was not such that it could hold its own against hazards such as this, he determined to rectify this great handicap.

There were two alternatives: Either a piece of the bank at the south end could be cut away and the courts moved southwards, or else (1) the fence could be taken down, (2) an upright concrete wall constructed, (3) the bank extended out over the roadway below, and (4) the courts moved northwards.

Mr. Plank smilingly admitted that, as usual, he had chosen the more difficult course of action, and although much of the students' money had necessarily been sacrificed, he was proud to say the great work had been put through.

Mr. Macduff, rising to propose the toast mentioned his own and Mr. Plank's proverbial modesty.

(Karori newspappers please copy.)

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

A.J.—Thank you, but the Interfaculty Sports Meetings are past mourning over. Write again.

A.C.M.—"Good Form" Referred to Editor, "Spike."

Ordinary Ellen.—It was very nice of you to tell us this, Ellen; but people would think we had written it ourselves.

Thales.—We are printing part of your MSS. The rest will be referred to the Editor, "Spike."

J–N. F–LTH–M.—"Campaigns as a Colponteur," together with four non-complimentary copies of "Open Windows." Don't rub it in, Joan. Times are so bad.

Bl-ndf-rd.—"Two Weeks a Criminal" and "Punishment and the Penny in the Slot." Afraid this harrowing narrative might encourage waywardness in others. The committee spent many happy hours on Kelburn green after reading an account of your methods.

M-ldr-d Br-ggs.—The Religious Editor suspects you of careless usage of the word "hymns," and refuses to print it.

H.G C.—Referred to the Editor, "Spike."

D. Edwards.—Thanks; but the Executive is already moving in this matter.

S.C.M.—Will endeavour to publish in next issue.

To all others "left out."—We had sufficient material for three issues. The committee and the printer have done their best.

ANOTHER BLINDING GLIMPSE OF THE OBVIOUS.

Miss Peggy Spence-Sales, at the debate on the College Lad: "I think the word 'gentleman' is quite the most interesting in the English language."

-o- -o- -o- -o- -o-

Miss Aileen Davidson is engaged in writing her memoirs. Some 200 men are mentioned.

A LIBELLOUS LIMERICK.

A young LL.B., Eaton Hurley,
At an S.C.M. social was surly,
He was missed from the fold,
And the seekers, I'm told,
Found him sitting downstairs—eatin' early.

E.J.S.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

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His style was hotter than hot-but that is beside the question.

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