A Little Disappointing

Dramatic Club's Review.

On Friday and Saturday, the Dramatic Club presented the concluding production for the year, a revue show followed afterwards by supper and dancing. Great credit must be attributed to the direction and help of the players and scenery and lights. The story of "Our Edward," which was the basis of the show, was acted out to perfection, the music and dancing were perfect.

The reviewer finds the show lacking in the usual excellence of past productions. Some parts were great, others were better. The humour was not up to "Varsity" standards.

The ballets were good, but it must be remembered that not everyone went. It is a fact that was brought to the attention of the audience by the very faint and curious version. Admittedly, he was far away from the piano, but then, so much of that. The eleventh piece in the show was a take-off of a famous comic strip. The one group that was not present was the "Zoo" group. Their dazzling style with a manic speed of acting was too much for this reviewer. Perhaps "Snooz" may have gone even more than once. But, there were a few bits here and there that were very good.

ANNUAL MEETING OF TENNIS CLUB

The V.U.C. Tennis Club held its Annual Meeting on the 15th, and the following officers were elected:

President: Mr. H. K. Biddlecomb.
Vice-President: Mr. R. A. Biggs.
Treasurer: Mr. W. S. Russell.
Secretary: Mr. F. S. G. Blyler.
Committee: M. W. H. M., C. W. S., R. A. B., and J. S. M.

ON SEEING A CLEANER AT WORK

Street Cleaner with your horse... "That's the year you earn your crust. And they, who mow and muck..."

The average workhorse earns far less than a dollar a day. His work is nearly always unsanitary, and his life is short. He is exposed to the weather, and his food is often insufficient.

There are many animals on our streets today that are employed in the cleaning of public property. These animals are not only hard working, but they are also quite intelligent. They are trained to perform certain tasks, such as picking up litter or carrying out waste materials. They are very useful in maintaining a clean environment.

MODEL LETTER TO A SON

To: My Dear Son,

As I have been away many years and you have been away many years, I must confess that I am not sure of your address. However, I have been told that you are taking a course at the University of New Zealand this year. I wish you great success in your studies.

Yours truly,

Dad
Cheap Travel by Train

CONCESSIONS TO STUDENTS:
The Railway Department has a special thought for Varsity Students. It makes very convenient arrangements for parties of them travelling together for Sport or other outings.

PARTIES OF NOT LESS THAN SIX
MAY EITHER—
(1) TRAVEL FIRST CLASS—
Single at Second Class ordinary fare.
Return at Second Class holiday excursion fare.
or
(2) TRAVEL SECOND CLASS—
Single at three-fourths of the ordinary Second Class fare.
Return at three-fourths of the holiday excursion Second Class fare.

(The Minimum Charge per Adult Passenger is £1.25.) Certificates authorizing these concessions may be obtained upon reasonable notice, from any District Manager, Stationmaster, or Business Agent.

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TEA is good for the brain. Buy the BEST!
WARDELL'S PRICES—2/2, 4/2, 8/8, 10/10

THE SECOND LAW.
And it is Earth.
And the shuddering starry crowd by.
And the frozen waste of tracts of void beyond,
To pass, to crash like the boom of
The sea-surge—and
And the rain's hoarse thrum,
And the dream he does not know.
But to dissolve in mindless emptiness.
So they have said...
A tree bursts up, green, fresh as a dew-wet flower,
But its molten gold leaves drip
Fast in the ground,
And its trunk grows gnarled like a sailor's hand,
It is withered and old.
But a poet has sung of the golden tree,
And lovers have rented beneath its shade.
And it does not die!
I heard a bird sing once, in the silent twilight.
Strange, swelling songs of things unnameable.
But I knew, as I stood in the unerring dark—
Things do not die.
Though all memory shall fail, I know,
We do not die!

UNION

Sigh on, and wind, beneath the stars.
Sigh sadly, wind, to me.
Sigh sadly, for a heart that grieves
In sorrow's ecstasy.

EVENING
IN PARIS

perfume is a miracle of beauty . . . Exquisite, haunting loveliness in a crystal flask of midnight blue and silver.

DRIVE YOURSELF — ALL NEW YEARS LATEST MODELS —
The Extravaganza
Constructive Criticism

Dear "Smud."

For some years past it has been the custom of the college to provide something superior in Extravaganza to the only New Zealand University to provide free of a higher standard than that of a regular school concert, and it is expected that the performers will be in a large theater for a long review, and the public has shown its appreciation of the students' efforts by flocking to the Queen's. Our estimations now come each year.

One of the recent public opinion is to be kept in this happy state, it is essential that this high standard be preserved and if it is to be higher with some misgivings that I read the statement of the Extravaganza's policy with regard to next year's Extravaganza.

The show is this year—

(a) "Opening Chorus" and "Smud."—6 min.
(b) "Mae's Ballet"—6 min.
(c) "The "Holly" and "Hill"—6 min.
(d) "Interlude"—12 min.
(e) "Extravaganza"—6 min.

1 hr. 52 min.

The Extravaganza becomes each year more and more a financial burden to the college when it represented merely the wild speculations of a host of imaginative students, for the occasion, the audience has now even been thrown to the mercy of Mary, (including the Radio Regiment) will no doubt appear on the first of the old days, but the public generally has welcomed the "Extravaganza" and a few less numbers to the tune of some of this theatre and a number of numbers to the tune of some of the college, which is of course to the charge of the Building Fund by this year's efforts shows that the Extravaganza has become an institution, that the public likes the form of entertainment, and the willingness to all the college, for the last two years is of course to see it. Next year, we are informed that the Building Fund Committee, a big drive is to make plans to purchase the Fund, and what do we propose to offer the public next year for the price of a price?

First, we are giving an "opening chorus and spectacular." Presumably we shall see "Salome" which is translated into the classic English (with Mr. Benton's words) and other non-singing members) will render the "opening chorus." This will the Executive undoubtedly believe, the public on 6:15 to a good position from what is to follow. But I remember the fad that came upon the college in 1912 and certain run upon the scene of "Smud." this year. The subdued light, the simple setting, and the magnificent setting, cast a spell on the audience, a spell which was not broken. Had it been followed by an "opening chorus and spectacular" effect would have been appalling, but it could not have been worse, and never is a good effect of effecting the very beginning of a show.

Next we are to be treated with a man's ballet. An excellent scheme. But first, the man's ballet would definitely interfere with the line position on the program, and secondly, it should not be forced up from a short interlude, preferably in another in the play, to create the effect of a slow and a slow show, and will settle down in the contemplative and unimprovable frame of a common to George Wallace Galleries.

And the orchestra, in view of the well-recalled pieces of "Ish," "Holly's Ballet" and "Mae's Ballet" and "Extravaganza"—and perhaps Miss and "Hill"—I would suggest to cut this item out of the script, and really just consider it as afforded to the authors of the music that is necessary. The interpolated parts, so long as we have the inimitable Carrick, should be cut, I believe. We dance the man's ballet and the ballet music, and we have the piece of resistance of an orchestra, namely, the Extravaganza. May I offer the following comments?

(a) The length of this part of the show has been greatly reduced, and I believe we do not have a Redmond hunting union with which it is so impossible to write an Extravaganza efficiently performed in fifty minutes and yet to comply with the traditional requirements of such a show. An Extravaganza must include musical scenes and choruses, special items like dancing, ballets, lyrical references, occupations of notable people, a pantomime, a puppet show, a long lasting hour and quartet of dancers, and an opportunity for the Lincolns of the audience to show their enthusiasm for the show. I think that this season is the year that we shall have a great interest in the Extravaganza and a great interest in the show but not in the Extravaganza, which is a form of entertainment that we can never have.

(b) Two arguments are usually advanced in favor of this type of show:

(1) The public can get musical comedy and a spectacle of a higher standard elsewhere. Certainly they can, but there is more to be said for the spectacle. It is possible to have a great plot and develop a show, which is fifty minutes.

(2) We are not an audience for a show, but an audience for the orchestra. The orchestra is the most important part of the show, and it is the orchestra that is important for the audience. The orchestra is the most important part of the show, and it is the orchestra that is important for the audience.

In presenting this type of show, we are not keeping to the old traditions. We have, but since the public has shown that it likes the modern Phillips type of show, the old "William the Conqueror" and "Tarquin" are no longer contemporary and not the audience. It's not the audience that is important, but the orchestra. The orchestra is the most important part of the show, and it is the orchestra that is important for the audience.

In as drastically curtailting the Extravaganza, the Executive is apparently attacking its efforts, are not only prompted by considerations of cost, but also by the interest of the Society, which will bring nothing and do nothing, can be a bad grace, and will draw good for an hour and a half, but if the name of "Smud." and the bitter attacks of members of the "Smud." group are to be avoided, the programme will be concluded at 8:45. I have heard some concerned comments by a few of the staff that this year's show did not do justice to the "Smud." group, but it is very unusual for any of the college to visit the Valuable Shows or Musical Comedy Companies to get them before 10:45. The excellent score of a song in the audience is the way under extreme difficulties, delays can be reduced to 8 minutes.

In my opinion, the ideal show of the following—

(a) Satire—45 min.
(b) Interlude—6 min.
(c) Extravaganza—70 min.

Total—2 hrs. 16 min.

In conclusion, I would recommend that the show be produced as follows: Extravaganza must consider the abolition of the poss money awarded to the successful authors of the show. The incentive given is very much, and Extravaganza writers should be rewarded for their months of labour other than the knowledge that the whole show has been appreciated by the public and has been done at least to the credit of Nazia and the world.

ROBERT L. MEKEL

A Challenge

Dear "Smud."

As a student who has taken this year's show and the members of the Debating Society Committee I have been instructed, and I think that the Debutante's attitude towards the Debating Society is as follows:

I should like to make it clear from the start, however, that I am not writing this in any official capacity, and the Debating Society Committee is in no way responsible for any statements herein. The Debating Society Committee has not run a function this year which has not been adversely criticised by its members, and I am not able to understand why this campaign of late has been directed against the Debating Society. You will, in any case, which of course, have been stated, but I am not aware of any discussion or criticism. It appears to me that in an event to be held in "Smud." in the public eye (which is a quite remarkable object in "Smud." you have descended to the standard of the "Smud." press) and have made the Debating Society's activities the butt of many of your ill-informed criticisms and pet-questions.

If your contributors are not of the highest order to draw the student public attention by good writing, (I think it is vastly superior to that of recent notice by being sarcastic and cynical at the expense of the Debating Society) for another College organization. The Debating Society in, I submit, the college organization, in the College, including all the clubs to the gentlemen of social and cultural life of this college at a high

YOUR FAITHFULLY,

R. C. E. SCOTT,

GRAVEYARD VESPER

Voices of the half-dead people. I hear them in the night. I hear them in my dreams, and I hear them in the day, That voice, whatever it may be. Half-dead in the earthly place, Out of reach of tongue and eye, They never, never speak, the day of the meantime that we know. —MIL.
Victoria’s Sports Record During the Year.

Dixon Trophy Won

Looking back over the 'Varsity's sporting activities this year, we find that the College has been particularly successful in its various events. Not only has the Dixon Trophy been annexed but also the Rowing, Handball, and Basketball Shirts. The victorious teams of those coveted trophies is the best mean feat, and it definitely shows that the standard of sport is high at the College. A few have attained representative honours, but as an example "Shmall" is confident that in the 1938 season the name of "Victoria University" will once again "on the map" in the realm of sport.

Harriers Achieve Ambition.

The New Zealand University Cross Country Championships have come and gone, but the Dixon Trophy is left with Victoria. The individual title went to Canterbury but the Spirit of the College team brought over four men home in the first seven. Excellent conditions favoured the runners this year — a change from previous occasions.

HARRIERS.

TheHarriers’ small Boy and the course proved to be difficult with much sand and mud. The field was strewn out with Stephenson, Stryrensreg and Orchard stranded at the start, and Calraes, Hopgood and Bignall keeping up well to the second. The half-mile around the golf links found the positions throughout the race, but with respect to the time (last year’s individual winner) had dropped back. The last two miles of road was a severe test of a runner’s staying power. It was on this stretch that the Victoria team showed their superiority by maintaining their position and blocking well together in the best team-work the Club has yet achieved. Stryrensreg, Orchard and Calraes, though they lost some points throughout the race, but it was near the tape that the superior racing experience of Rogers (Canterbury — Provincial Champion) was finally proved, Stryrensreg challenging a little too early and only holding on at the finish, allowing Rogers to pull away slightly for an exciting finish. Associate of C.U.C can still hold. then the solid running by Victoria brought out Hooper, Carra and Bignall and Bunge in 4th, 5th and 6th places respectively. So V.U.C. managed to prove the winners with 18 points to Cambridge’s 25, but the V.U.C. have reason to be proud. At Cambridge and Otago in 3rd and 4th places. The G.C. Dixon Trophy ('The Blue Hilt', 1937) was on the line for the first time and the match was hard fought. A win secured V.U.C. the title. Their win was well deserved and with the oarsmen the Club has produced so far was undoubtedly the highlight of the year when they secured 8th place in the Wellington Provence against larger and far more experienced clubs. But for the strenuous race the previous Saturday they would easily have whipsawed off the nine points that kept them from second place.

Finals

The three events in succession of the Senior Team is again very much in evidence this year and the last two games in the Wellington competition series re-assembled in substantial losse. While the loss of interest in the closing stages of the season to be decreed is perhaps inevitable, it is only natural that in a University XI the main consideration is the Inter-University Tournament. After this the game loses its status as attractive and the students have little to look forward to in the activities of this year’s season.

HOCKEY.

The slackening of interest in the Senior Team is again very much in evidence this year and the last two games in the Wellington competition series re-assembled in substantial losses. While the loss of interest in the closing stages of the season to be decreed is perhaps inevitable, it is only natural that in a University XI the main consideration is the Inter-University Tournament. After this the game loses its status as attractive and the students have little to look forward to in the activities of this year’s season.

RUGBY.

The match was a keenly fought game at Victoria Park last Saturday Victoria defeated Auckland University with a score of 15 to 7. The game was a keenly fought one and both teams showed excellent form. The match was won by Victoria’s greater power in the forwards and by their superior handling of the ball. The second half was the most exciting part of the game and the final score was 15-7.

ERU MEMORIAL SHIELD MATCH.

The annual match between the Victoria Memorial Shield between Wellington Harbour and the rest ended in a big victory for the latter by 34 to 5. The game was fast and exciting and although on the whole, the rest were superior in every department, having a majority of Senior A players, Wellington put up a good struggle. Weir’s park did not appear to be able to hold their opponents and Botko got the ball out regularly. Wild kicked some nice passing movements in his usual style and Weir’s second player was also played a good game. Weir’s inside points came from three penalty tries kicked by Turnbull and Larkin. For Victoria, Stewart Down, Batta, Wm, Glendon, Kitson, Downie, Wm, Cridland, and Kiesell brought the score up to 34-5.

The Haka party licensee proceed up during the match, and revived by a flagging spirit. An amusing untitled was the World’s Championships. Best for selected for the Wellington Fights quickly forward. "Humbug" was won by a technical knockout from "Tommy Fox" but the former has to beat a quick retreat owing to difficulties concerning underwear.
AN UNOFFICIAL SUPPLEMENT TO SPINELESS "SMAD".

EDITORS: - J.B. AIMERS & J.N. SELLERS.

SPECIAL FEATURE - A REPLY TO A REPLY TO A LETTER IN "SMAD"

UNINSPIRED NEWSPAPER "SMAD" oozing drop by drop its final lamentable conglomeration of sticky stupidity utterly collapses in its futile attempts to discredit our disinterested criticism - criticism, be it said, backed by the powerful forces of student opinion. With a characteristic evasion of the real issues these literary adolescents who control the destinies of "Smad" impudently interpret our letter as being dictated by personal animosity. Without any exceptions whatsoever, university office-holders from the aloof majesty of the College Council down to the vapping superficiality of the "Smad" staff, regard adverse criticism of their particular activities as an unmerited attack on their personal integrity. Accordingly, we were not in the least astonished by the attitude adopted in the reply to our letter.

MATERIAL:

To prove our allegation of the incompetency of "Smad's" staff we refer our readers to the dismissal of our remarks concerning the quality and arrangement of "Smad" as "quibbling in the extreme". We have always believed and continue to believe that the leading newspapers of the world regard the quality of their material and the arrangement of that material as matters of paramount importance surpassed only by the acquisition of lucrative advertising contracts. But, of course, we may be overlooking the fact that in these respects "Smad" is striving to demonstrate its originality. Hence, the staff were perfectly justified in publishing two "Nutshell Knowles" side by side, "The Tramping Travelogues", the front-page report of a Training College Social and every bad report of a month-old debate. (See "Smad", Vol. VII. No. 18 Columns 1 & 2 headed "Seething Criticism - We Are Attacked").

EDITORIALS:

We based our letter on the policy of "Smad" as shown in its editorials. The staff of "Smad" has seen fit to ignore this damning indictment. We fully realise their difficulties - truth knows no denial. We therefore repeat our statement that the editorials when not merely insipid are potently reactionary.

"SMAD" MAY 15th, 1935:

"Smad's" staff in their reply direct our attention to the above issue "in which almost any column could have included in its caption the word hokey". We unreservedly admit that the particular issue was poor but our comparison of 1935 "Smad" with 1936 "Smad" is based on the general standard throughout the year. It is on this comparison that we justify our statement that the general standard of last year's "Smad"
was higher and augured a more hopeful future than it does this year. Whilst on the topic of "Hooey" may we point out that in the latest issue of "Smad" the inside pages (which we note are reserved for "Featured articles etc"), including the editorial and excluding our letter, are stuffed with this despised "hooey". Poisonalities indeed!!!

EXIT "SMAD":

In their reply the "Smad" staff assure us that they would enjoy nothing better than to witness our effort to have "Smad" discontinued by direction of a Special General Meeting of the Students' Association. With our characteristic big-heartedness and anxiety to please, we ourselves assure them that they shall not be denied this final little thrill. But we may add that the conversations we have had in Common Room, Hall and Cafeteria, convince us that the motion will be passed with unaccustomed spontaneity.

"Smad" Bows" proclaims its last editorial. Rather would we say "Smad" Scraps, Smad Grovels, Smad Jitters, Smad Snuffs Out".

"THE LEAVES OF LIFE KEEP FALLING ONE BY ONE;
THE WINE OF YOUTH KEEPS COZING DROP BY DROP".

Printed in the offices of the Students' Association, Wellington, for the publishers J.B. Aimers and J.N. Sellers and published every Thursday, 15th October, 1936.
BEING A Highly Personal Attack on the Editors of that Well-Known Literary Flop – the "Peoples Press".

Editors:

Crest:
Two reporters rampant on a field of Smads.

VITUPERATION.

HOW MUCH LONGER we ask is this profligate scoundrel, this Sellers, to be permitted to despoil the fair and innocent mind of Victoria College Students (we refer in particular to Mr. Aimers) with the foul mass of Tarquinian excrement he presumably terms literature. With the body of a man and the mind of a mischievous precocious child this moron Sellers, arm in arm with the cretin Aimers, stalks through the paths of this, our fair Victoria, contaminating and revolting all he touches.

DAMNATION:

HOW LONG we cry, how long before the punishment, so richly deserved, seizes this modern literary Borgia and forces him to submit to the ignoble degradation that for centuries past has been issued to men of his revolting type ...... followers of Hitler's Policy will know what we mean.

EXPLANATION.

SMAD HAS BEEN WEAK THIS YEAR. But has Mr. Aimers done anything to prevent it? Has Mr. Aimers contributed one single article this year? Mr. Aimers was a sub-editor of the paper he so savagely attacks last year, and, we are told, was offered the editorship. WHY did he refuse? Laziness? Or does he prefer to criticize?

(We leave Mr. Sellers out of this; it is, we feel, unnecessary to point out that he is notorious throughout the 'Varsity as a mere mass of incompetent destructive criticism).

CONDEMINATION.

SMAD HAS BEEN WEAK – AGAIN WE SAY IT. But Smad portrays student affairs. What is the inference?

The man Sellers states in his "letter" to Smad that "We know several students possessing some talent that have been denied expression in your column". Can this be the cry of disappointed authorship? Or do we malign the man in thinking that he would have the energy to contribute to "Smad"?
EXPECTATION.

MAY WE SAY IN CONCLUSION that it would be a great pity should Smad cease to exist. Every university should have its rag. We feel confident that with a keen editor in charge, and supported by the enthusiastic co-operation of the college as a whole, a new Smad will arise, phoenix-like, from the ashes of the old, a bigger, better and brighter Smad, even (dare we whisper it?) occasionally exalted by the contributions of those two honourable men, Messrs. Sellers and Aimers.

Mr. McGlynn Speaks.

The reason for articles not forthcoming is not that students have not the ability to write or to think, but due to the inherent laziness of human nature. A student will swot for an exam because there is an end to gain and the means of acquiring that end are obvious to all. But if the effort is left entirely to one's own initiative most of us would, I am afraid, never settle down to work. What we want is a scheme whereby Smad indicates exactly what it wants on various topics. A list of suitable subjects should stimulate thought, and would encourage students to express themselves on those subjects. Once the craze has started it would soon become a tradition. I certainly do not think that Smad should be discontinued. To do so would be a superficial solution of the matter—cutting off your nose to please Mr. Seller's face. Have you ever heard people saying of a Wednesday "Smad is out tonight". The advent is eagerly looked forward to even though they know it is "only a rag", and its abrupt demise would have serious repercussions on 'Varsity life. There is little enough to hold the 'Varsity people together as it is, but if Smad goes there will be still less, and we should become more than ever "a glorified night school". I have spoken.

R. J. Stanford.

T. J. McGlynn.

Chief Reporters, "Smad".