

Coming Events

Freshers' Dance

FRIDAY, MAR. 12

Tournament Ball

MAR. 30

CANTA

The Official Organ of the Students Association
Canterbury University College

Wanted for Revue

Short Sketches

(20 mins.)

Topical Preferred

Prize £2 2s.

VOL VIII., No. 1

CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z.

Wednesday, March 10, 1937

TO BE OR NOT TO BE . . .

Fate of Little Theatre

STUDENTS PROTEST AGAINST USE AS LECTURE ROOMS

That the Drama Society should curtail the number of plays produced during the year and turn to the more educational study of drama, was discussed at the most lively meeting of the Drama Society ever held.

There was a very satisfactory congregation of members and intending members of the C.U.C. Drama Society on Wednesday evening, when the first general meeting and election of officers was held. Cyril Wheeler presided and opened proceeding by calling on Assistant-Secretary Joe MacLean to read the minutes of the last meeting and the Annual Report. Nominations were then asked for, the positions of patrons, president and vice-presidents of the society.

Much criticism, it was said, was levelled against the committee of the Drama Society for being a self-contained body and electing its own members each year; but it must be remembered that these were the people who were interested enough to do most of the work during the year.

Nominations were then called for the election of "working" members for the year, i.e., secretary treasurer, producer and committee.

An open discussion followed, Wheeler asserting that radical changes would have to take place that year. There were rumours that the theatre was to be used for lectures—portable screens being used for converting the room into different sections for different subjects. Although the theatre could then be used on Drama nights for the staging of a play, this did not solve the problem of where all the scenery-making and rehearsals were to take place. The Little Theatre up till then had been used as a workshop. (At this stage "Canta" would like to suggest that only portable professors should be allowed to use the theatre. If they interfered with scenery-building they could be folded up into corners and left spouting in the dark, while the merry hammers and saws sent up their chorus!)

Another situation to be faced was that Professor Shelley's room would not now be available for making-up before the performance, and new dressing-rooms had to be found.

In reply to this, Miss Maginness had drawn up a rough scheme as a basis for discussion: Why not, she said, have fewer plays during the year and fill in the rest of the time with the study of plays as dramatic efforts, tracing, for interest, the general development of British Drama or comparing the merits of great playwrights. As there were less facilities for acting than last year, amusement to be found in another way, and only those really interested would take part although the Society would have to reconcile itself to a smaller membership.

Mr. Lyall suggested using the gymnasium for scene-building and transporting the material just before the play was put on.

Joe MacLean pleaded for the powers-to-be to preserve Prof. Shelley's model theatre from the ignominy of becoming fire-wood.

That the Drama Society should produce or read plays to do with various immediate social and political problems of to-day was the idea of Miss Lawn.

Apropos of this, Joe MacLean said that it was very rarely that direct criticism or suggestion about plays was received from members. "More definite help is needed!" he concluded.

Cyril Wheeler hoped that Miss Lawn's idea was not one which would lead to the study of propaganda rather than to that of acting.

Miss Lawn said that that was not her idea.

Mr. Jagger considered that the Society had gone in too much for second-rate plays in the previous year. They would profit by doing fewer and better-class plays giving food for thought in production, acting, and lighting ideals.

The reason for performing so many plays during the year, maintained Wheeler, was to give a chance to all those members who wanted to act. "Were the plays to be for the sake of the audience or for the sake of the cast?" he asked. It was a difficult problem. One had to try new material somehow, and it couldn't be used in the kind of plays one wished to produce.

Eileen Cuff was of the opinion that the cause of the great popularity of the Drama Society was its acting side. "Why not try the new conditions?" she said. "Perhaps there could be several producers with their own places of rehearsal under one central producer."

"If we drop the entertainment part of the Society we become stagnated like a dead body," said Mr. (appropriately) Graves, in support of Miss Cuff.

Mr. Donavon: "What does the Society want? Plays or acting?"

Wheeler contended that the handful of people who could produce plays and knew something about the working of a theatre were too busy.

Paul Jones desired to know how a play was to be entered for the British Drama League when there were to be only a few put on to practise in during the year.

Some gentleman suggested having play-readings with frank criticism at the end.

Mr. Blakiston: "If we have audiences of only two, like last year, in our play-readings, there'll be criticism, but hardly a storm of it."

Peter then suggested that Miss Maginness should train one or two producers to take over the burden next year.

When Paul Jones intimated that the vacations should be made more use of for rehearsals, there were some sharp and trenchant remarks from the aforesaid Peter. "What do you think we do with our vacations?" he asked bitterly.

"Work hard," replied Paul. "Yes, work hard!" cried Peter, in despair.

Miss Flavell suggested seeing what could be done earlier in the year. She advocated more acting.

This was followed by a howl of pain from Stage Manager Jagger, who demanded that it should be made known how much work there was in producing a simple play.

A lady in the gallery thought that more people would give their time to scenery and costumes if desired. The discussion ended on a pure and childlike note of faith: "We should all be optimists!" said Mr. Jones, dashing a tear from his eye!

A one-act play, "The Proposal," by Anton Tchekov, was very well acted by Messrs. Blakiston and Wheeler, and Miss Maginness.

Supper was served and results of the election were announced as follows:—

Producer: Miss D. Maginness.
Secretary: L. Jagger.
Treasurer: R. M. Young.
Committee: Misses Judy Barker, Jill Barker, Mollie Wilson, and Eileen Cuff. Messrs. D. Donovan, G. Lyall, P. Blakiston, T. Straken, H. Baigent, T. J. Tizzard.



C. J. WHEELER.

Sigh no more, ladies, sigh no more,
Men were deceivers ever,
One foot in sea, and one on shore,
'Tis Aussie now or never.
Then sigh not so,
But let me go

And be you blithe and bonny,
Converting all your sounds of woe
Into hey nonny, nonny.

FRESHERS' WELCOME DANCE
Don't forget this great Show in the COLLEGE HALL on FRIDAY, MARCH 12, and FRESHERS, don't forget FREE tickets are obtainable at Students' Association Office.

ELECTIONS

Several Candidates Refuse to Speak

ATTEMPT TO AROUSE INTEREST

Mainly due to praiseworthy efforts by the Dialectic Society it has been arranged that candidates for the Students' Association Elections to-morrow may address the voters in the meeting room at 8 p.m. to-night.

Whether this attempt to arouse interest among the general student body will be successful remains to be seen, but at all events, it is a step in the right direction. It has long been realised that too little is known about the relative abilities of the candidates offering. Perhaps it is hardly too much of an exaggeration to say that the "close-your-eyes-and-use-a-pin" policy has all too frequently been employed by voters.

OPPOSITION TO SCHEME POINTS WHICH VOTERS MIGHT CONSIDER

Strange to relate, however, there is considerable opposition to the Dialectic Society's scheme. Several candidates, it is rumoured, have refused to speak. Their refusal is not to be attributed to a natural shyness or modesty, but rather to a definite objection to this meeting.

Why?
Because—
THEY HAVE NO POLICY AND MAINTAIN MOREOVER THAT ANY POLICY IS TOTALLY UNNECESSARY.

Do you now wonder at student apathy and the lack of attendance at half yearly meetings?

BRIGHT MEETING EXPECTED
Nevertheless, in spite of these conscientious (?) objectors, a bright and informative meeting is anticipated. Voters would be well advised to attend.

NOMINATIONS.
At the time of going to press (9 a.m. Monday) the following nominations had been received.

President: No nomination as yet.
Women's Vice-President: HITCHCOCK, Margaret Annie.

Men's Vice-President: STACE, Ian Ormonde; ROBINSON, Kenneth Wade
Hon. Secretary: STACE, Francis Nigel.

Assistant Hon. Sec: STEEDS, John Mackenzie.

Hon. Treasurer: JAMESON, Keeley Selwyn.

Women's Executive Members (Two required): WALLWORK, Margot Hibbard; HARRIS, Ruth Frances; BRADSHAW, Eileen; FLAVELL, Elsa L.

Men's Executive Members (Three required): HILGENDORF, Frederick Murray; WILLIAMSON, Neil; SARGENT, Frank Winston; COLLINS, Burton Wallace; ROBINSON, Kenneth Wade; STRAKER, Thomas William; GARDNER, William James; WESTON, George Crowley.

Last year Nancy Hitchcock was women's executive member. She is taking Arts and is prominent in the Women's Club.

I. O. Stace, last year's vice-president, is a leading light in the football and cricket clubs. An engineer, he is head student at College House.

K. W. Robinson, well known athlete and cross country runner. One time news editor of Canta—Arts.

F. N. Stace, acting editor of Canta, 1936, news editor, 1937. Treasurer of College House last year. Engineering society and fencing club. Comptroller of advertising for tournament.

J. M. Steeds—Treasurer of Students' Association, 1936. Prominent rower and Grand Old Man of the Crass Country Club. Chairman of the Tournament Committee—Commerce.

K. S. Jameson—Executive member last year. Athletic Club and Dialectic Society. Business Manager of Canta—Law.

Margaret Wallwork—Well known member of Social and Revue Committees—Arts.

Ruth Harris—Member of Drama Society—Arts.
Eileen Bradshaw—Music and Journalism. Orchestral Society.

Elsa Flavell—Poetess of considerable promise. Drama and Modern Literature Societies—Arts.

E. M. Hilgendorf—Oldest inhabitant of College House. Footballer and swimmer. At present may be seen training the haka party—Engineering.

Sargent—Law Society—Law.

B. W. Collins—Secretary of the Scientific Society. Enthusiastic tramp. Records clerk for tournament—Science.

T. W. Straker—Gym-master and footballer. Drama Society—Science.

W. J. Gardner—One time literary editor of Canta. Keen cricketer and committee member of the National League of Students—Arts.

G. C. Weston—Treasurer of the Football Club. Dialectic Society—Law.

CANTA

Policy Defined for 1937

CANTA, this year, has already assembled a competent staff of experienced students, and the production promises to be regular and punctual, and of a very high standard. The layout of the paper is going to be modernised and the use of drawings, caricatures and lino-cuts will be continued to brighten up the pages.

The following is the main CANTA staff for 1937:—

- General Editor.....H. V. BAIGENT
- News Editor.....F. N. STACE
- Literary Editor.....NEAL BUCHANAN
- Social Editor.....JEANETTE FITCH
- Sports Editor.....TREVOR WILLIAMS

This editorial staff has decided to change the somewhat haphazard and indistinct policy of the past few years, to one of purpose in the life of the Students' Association.

Canta is defined as the official organ of the Students' Association, and as such it failed miserably last year.

The executive held 10 meetings—two were partially reported in "Canta." This state of affairs is useless if "Canta" is going to be the medium between the ruling body of the Students' Association and the students.

The small knowledge of the average student about the body which really runs Students' Association is deplorable.

A great number never even know who the president is. Now, we feel sure that if, incoming election candidates were to use "Canta" for the purpose of defining their policy (if any) and generally getting themselves known to the students, the elections, and thus the executive, would be big affairs of great interest in College life.

BASKETBALL

The Annual General Meeting of the Basketball Club was held on Wednesday, March 4, Miss Hendrie presiding. Miss Winifred Weenink's resignation was accepted with regret, and a vote of thanks passed for her untiring work with the Club. The report and balance-sheet were read by Miss Jewell Hobbs and adopted. There was a balance of 2/7.

Officers for 1937 were elected as follows:—

- President: Mrs. J. Hight.
- Vice-Presidents: Mrs. M. C. Hendrie, Miss T. Levvey, Miss W. Weenink, and Miss Rosa White.
- Club Captain: Miss J. Hobbs.
- Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Shona Roscoe.
- Committee: Miss M. Monaghan, Miss C. Stevens, Miss J. Fitch, and Miss B. Sainsbury.

It was agreed that no player should be eligible for the Tournament team unless she was willing to play for the Club in the Saturday games during the winter. A motion was passed that the Blues' Committee should consist of the coach and the captain.

In discussing Tournament, it was decided to have a Bridge Party on Tuesday, March 16, to raise funds. Would all those who can attend, or who are willing to arrange tables, please give their names to Miss J. Hobbs.

Freshers and others are urged to join the Basketball Club for good clean sport, and especially others, as there are several vacancies in the Tournament team.

EXECUTIVE MEETS

Change in Voting System Urged

A change in the present voting system used in the Executive elections was urged at the final and somewhat lugubrious meeting of the executive held in the tea-room on March 3.

After a few bright remarks by the president, the meeting was opened by the quiet and dignified burblings of the secretary; but as the business came under review, these rumblings developed into a torrent of noise. Everyone, even including the stoical "Mr. Canta," was much moved when the annual report announced a profit on both the tea-rooms and "Revue" for 1936. Having recovered from this shock, the executive proceeded to hand bouquets to all helpers and pats on the back to themselves in general. One scandalous feature of the report was the fact that the half-yearly meeting of the Students' Association lapsed through want of a quorum—only the executive being present. This, the president admitted, was a very crook state of affairs, and would have to be rectified in 1937.

The elections, in which no one seemed particularly interested, were decided to be held on Thursday, March 11, with the nominations closing on Monday, March 8. The executive herewith make a great appeal to all the live students to encourage everyone to vote, and so that the elections will really be elections!

The Annual General Meeting of students is to be held on Friday, March 12, and the heads, who have business of a vital matter to bring forward, requested that there be a full attendance of all students, and positively no garbage-throwing or unnecessary noise.

At this stage of the meeting, Joe Stace came out from his trance and promptly began to denounce the present voting system as unfair and demoralising, whereupon all the executive members ceased playing with the flowers and the ribbons on their (few and far between) gowns, and proceeded to discuss this important statement. Finally the inevitable Joe urged that a change be made in the voting to the modern, fair, simple and fool-proof Mawson—Preferential system.

Thus after the president had been called many names, including "Dirty Dog," and after many and mournful farewells, the meeting adjourned to supper.

DIALECTIC MEETING.

Important decisions were reached at the Annual General Meeting of the Dialectic Society last Thursday night. Firstly, that the Society should wake themselves up, and do something of real interest in the dialectic side of the College. Secondly, that an election "policy" meeting should be held on Wednesday next, where nominees could publicly express the policies, and finally, that an annual subscription of 2/- would be charged, and only financial members would be eligible to take part in debates.

Apart from the above decisions the meeting, controlled by Mr. C. F. Hart, was a dull and long-drawn out affair, only retrieved from sheer boredom by the bright (?) remarks of a certain Paul Jones.

The election of officers resulted:—
Patron: Prof. Sinclair.
President: H. W. Rhodes.
Vice-President: Dr. Popper.
Secretary: B. J. Wilson.
Treasurer: K. S. Jameson.
Committee: Misses Freeman and Mullan, and Messrs. Belmer, Widdup, and B. Drake.

Rhodes Scholar

POPULAR ENGINEER EARNS WELL DESERVED HONOUR

The award of a Rhodes Scholarship to Archibald Gordon Bogle last December, provided a fitting conclusion to his University career in New Zealand.

Since his arrival at College House in 1933 as a second year student in Electrical Engineering—his first year was spent at V.U.C.—Bogle showed himself to be not only an outstanding student, but also a real personality in student affairs.

Last year as well as being Head Student at College House, and a member of the C.U.C. Students' Executive, he was also Chairman of the Engineering Society, Chairman of the Social Committee, Captain of the Tramping Club, Chairman of the Gym Control Board, and C.U.C. representative of Massey Agricultural College.

What spare time he had was devoted to mountaineering, and immediately after the conclusion of his final examinations he, accompanied by D. V. Apperley, of the Canterbury Mountaineering Club, penetrated a hitherto unexplored valley of the Wataroa River in South Westland.

At the present moment Bogle is completing his practical work for the degrees of B.E. (Electrical) and B.E. (Mechanical) at Arapuni Hydro-Electric Station, after which he will proceed to Oxford to study Engineering Research.

DIRTY WORK by CANTA

CANDIDATES' LAPSES.

Employing all devices to trap the unwary, our staff has been sleuthing around the Stud Ass and surprising candidates into making the following startling faux pas.

Nancy Hitchcock said she was standing only because she thought there would be no opposition, whereas Margot Wallwork maintained that she was standing to provide opposition.

I. O. Stace exclaimed: "This is the very devil!" on hearing that there were still no nominations for president.

K. W. Robinson was definitely having a policy, but he wasn't going to produce it till the right time.

I. N. Stace at first said he wasn't sure why he was standing, but quickly recovered himself and produced reasons.

Ruth Harris said: "Policy! What do you mean, policy? Nobody ever has one—What are you writing down?"

Straker expected to acquire a policy. "It seems a good thing," he said.

But Hilgendorf produced the winner. He maintained he was out to raise the standard of living!

AND NOW THIS

Knock, knock.
Who's there?
Huey.
Huey what?
Huey going to vote for to-morrow?
Barnett.

TOURNAMENT

Wanted! 200 Beds

PRIZES FOR PROGRAMME PUSHERS

In case you don't know, Tournament will be held here in two (2) weeks. Do your bit to ensure its success. Start helping NOW.

Have you a spare bed, a couch, a bath, or even a soft carpet? Two hundred (200) visitors are arriving, and MUST SLEEP SOMEWHERE. Bill Young is ageing rapidly under the strain of finding billets. If you wish him a long and happy life, tell him you can billet someone.

REMEMBER, BILLETTERS GET FREE PASSES TO ALL EVENTS EXCEPT SWIMMING PRELIMS. AND ROWING.

Programme sellers are also urgently required. These, too, are not unrewarded.

ONE FREE DOUBLE TICKET TO TOURNAMENT BALL for the most successful programme seller.

Would-be sellers see Miss Hanna. Now, have you a motor-car, luxurious or otherwise, a flivver, a trolley or a jam tin with wheels on it? Anything which could be used to take the visitors for a drive on Easter Sunday?

Communicate at once with Mr. A. (Airflow) Johns, who wants one hundred (100) workable vehicles.

Performers and others listen to this—

Our espionage service (c/o H. G. (Pot) Prins) reports—

"V.U.C. is taking Tournament very seriously and training is in full swing. C.U.C. will have to pull up its socks."

Are we to lose all our shields?

By the way, alcoves are now available for Tournament Ball. Reduction to all financial members who purchase their tickets at the office now.

ATHLETIC CLUB

Annual Meeting

The Athletic Club's annual meeting, held in the men's common room on Monday, March 18, attracted a good attendance considering the stress and struggle which prevails on the first day of the College year. Members and friends were summoned to the proceedings in a logical fashion for athletes, i.e., by means of a starting pistol discharged when Mr. Weir's back was turned and Miss Hanna was trying to do a sum.

Within 10 seconds of the start the meeting was well under way, and the president, after hearing and confirming the minutes of the last meeting, called upon the secretary to deliver the Annual Report to the multitude. This he did, trembling in his shoes the while for fear that he had made a grammatical mistake; but he managed to struggle through and inform his audience that the Club had once more come through the season successfully. Special mention was made of V.P. Boot's representation, and performances at the Olympic Games, and of A. T. Anderson's noble record in winning the 440 yards hurdles event five times in succession at the Easter Tournament. The Club had won three provincial titles at the Canterbury Championships and those members who had been in town over the long vacation had shown keenness and performed creditably. The Tournament at Wellington had been a triumph for the Club, which returned home with the imposing array of 11 titles and three records. The one disappointing feature had been the death of young blood in evidence over the summer months, and the secretary in conclusion stressed the dangerous reality of a decreasing membership.

The acting-treasurer, before reading the balance-sheet was careful to explain that one of the financial traditions of the Club had been honourably upheld, and the meeting would once more have to pass the balance-sheet, subject to audit. The report of a favourable and sound position was received with surprise.

The retiring president, Mr. J. K. Moloney, in his remarks, reiterated the perennial plea for more talent, and congratulated the Club upon having maintained the prestige which its hoary ancestors had established in years gone by.

The officers elected for the coming season were as follows:—

- President: Mr. D. W. Bain.
- Vice-Presidents: Professors S. Steele, P. H. Powell, C. Malthus, Drs. C. C. Farr, A. L. Haslam, H. G. Denham. Messrs. M. Leadbetter, C. G. Rockwood, C. S. Thomas, L. J. Darwin, R. Beattie, A. E. Flower, L. A. Dougall, R. Twyneham, R. J. Richards, N. W. Mulvey, J. G. D. Ward, A. T. Anderson, A. S. Taylor, C. O. Barnett.



Mr. E. P. ("Round behind") SANDERS has acquired a telegraphic seat.

Mr. G. L. (Dramatic Critic) GABITES has acquired a government post. He holds it in the Parliamentary Library in Wellington.

His brother, PAUL, has acquired an educational standing, being at St. Peter's Prep, School, Cambridge, N.Z.

Also instructing the young are Messrs. HART (L. S.) and ROSS (J. N. B.), who are helping BROWN (Foster) to put the grammar into Cathedral Grammar School.

Also holding Government posts in Wellington are MORRY FIELDS, being Scientific and Industrial and Researching, ARCHIE HULL doing the same, and "POT" PRINS dealing with the taxation question.

Welcome to—

Prof. WHITE and Dr. SUTHERLAND, who have come to this seat of learning and fill the chair of Physics and the long vacant chair of Philosophy respectively.

And to former President JOE WARD, who is back in Christchurch.

John Allen Departs

At the end of last month a small but very select band was gathered in Wellington on board the Zealandic to bid farewell to John Allen.

Mr. Allen, worthily supported by Mr. O'Malley, was in great spirits. He disclosed that safely deposited in Christchurch was his last caricature for "Canta," his victim being a well known member of Engineering School Staff.

John informed us that he was travelling in the role of assistant pursuer—an onerous task as there were at least six (6) passengers on board. He farewelled the company and then discovered that the boat's departure was postponed from 5 p.m. till 7 p.m. the next day. After a glance at his watch he murmured, "Grand," and disappeared with Mr. O'Malley.