

HALF-YEARLY MEETING
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LET'S HAVE A QUORUM

CANTA

The Official Organ of the Students' Association
Canterbury University College

SCUM!
REVIEW
Contributions
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SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENTS

In this issue *Canta* presents the first of a series of articles, long or short according to the amount of material available, on the state of affairs, thought, activities and so forth, of students of other countries. Our information comes chiefly from the various student publications which are sent to us and all too often moulder unread in the Reading Room or the *Canta* room cupboards. We hope by this experiment to make a digest of and commentary on student life outside New Zealand available to a larger public than is at present the case. We notice that *Critic* has got in first with a similar if less ambitious scheme, but this really was our own idea.

N.U.S.A.S. Journal appears to be the South African equivalent of *Rostrum*. It is produced by the National Union of South African Students and the contributions come from the various universities and university colleges, with Cape Town and Witwatersrand (Johannesburg) predominating. It is bilingual, some articles being in English and some in Afrikaans, and at least one article is by a coloured student (at Cape Town). It differs, however, from *Rostrum* in that the articles seem to be closely integrated and are mostly studies of the same problem, the state of South African society. A brief editorial introduction to each article links them up to a considerable degree of unity. The amiable discursiveness of a New Zealand magazine suffers by comparison.

South Africa is, of course, a land whose problems of every sort make the political and cultural difficulties of New Zealand look like Sunday afternoon tea. The appalling complex of racial-economic conflicts and disparities presents a challenge to students to which we have nothing comparable. This accounts for the greater unity and drive of the magazine; it accounts also for the state of mental ill-health and indecision which is the dominant impression given by this Journal.

DISRUPTION

In the first place, it would seem that great disunity exists among students. The few coloured students are permanently resentful and suspicious; the Nationalists, comprising a very high proportion of the Afrikaans students, are characterised by "anti-British feeling, colour and Smuts-hatred and varying brands of Fascism." (The last word is no exaggeration).

Evidently—Wu's Views, the Witwatersrand fortnightly, bears this out—rational and tolerant discussion is very hard to obtain. The English-speaking and liberal Afrikaans elements are themselves divided into the United Party (followers of Smuts) and the small group of assorted radicals, whose voices dominate the Journal; while our old friend apathy also counts its devotees.

From this background of bitterness and uncertainty the South African surveys his times. These writers, the most active, hold in general extreme views. There is a tendency to say "a plague on both your houses" to the advocates and opponents of South African participation in the war. One writer (English-speaking) goes so far as to say: "The South African elector chooses the government on the basis of issues which are neither the real ones nor in themselves have any intrinsic importance." In view of the fact that elections for the last four years have been fought largely on the issue of neutrality, this attitude seems a pity—reminiscent as it is of the pre-1941 Communist contention that world war was of no importance compared with the waging of the class struggle at home. However, in South Africa the most introverted of the Dominions, the radicals have no monopoly on preoccupation with national problems. One should nevertheless question the remark of the

coloured contributor that: "the enslavement of the body presupposes in some measure the enslavement of the mind, and nowhere else in the world except in British colonies has this concept been pursued with such ruthless (in?) efficiency as in South Africa." The present condition of Europe and half China seems to have escaped the author's notice; but the remark is a fair index of one element, limitation of world-consciousness to wit, in the South African student mind.

There are two main strands of thought in the efforts of these writers to understand their society. The first is, as we would expect, the Marxist or semi-Marxist, which attempts to explain poverty and racial inequality in terms of the domination of finance-capital over a semi-colonial country whose limited agriculture suffers from the exploitation of its only marketable industrial product—gold.

The main difficulty in this attitude—it is shown in a certain uncertainty of writing—is the awareness that the white workers and poor whites (represented in the British Labour Party and elements of Nationalism) seem to consider their interests menaced by the great coloured majority no less than do the owners and middle class. There is an attempt to explain this as a deliberately-induced mass delusion; but are there perhaps signs of doubt whether racial antipathies are not as fundamental as or more so than the straightforward class "dialectic"? Is there an attempt to rationalise and simplify the colour problem by blaming it all on Hoggenheimer, the symbolic figure of the capitalist mine-owner?

DANGER

The other train of thought is unexpected and a little disquieting; though at least more original than the rather sheeplike radicalism which is all our mental climate. It is nothing more or less than anti-industrial semi-anarchism of the Gandhi-Eric Gill pattern. The theme is that modern civilisation—right and left alike—is materialistic, soulless, over-mechanised, and worshipping the state. There is a good deal in this; but when one is constantly regaled with quotations such as:

"The masses, deprived of religion, make the state their emotional fixation. Where Abraham would have sacrificed his only son to Jehovah, the modern man sacrifices his to the Democratic or Totalitarian state," and: "Democracy and Industrialism, the one inspiring its adherents and the other forging their weapons, have by the titanic strength of their demonic ferocity converted war into total war," one begins to feel alarmed. Where does all this lead us? One writer advocates liberal education and "the voluntary communal self-discipline of a church," which is fairly harmless, but others hold up to our admiration the mediaeval Byzantine civilisation in which "worshipping both God and Emperor, the men and women of Byzantium were ethically and spiritually united." Thus instead of worshipping the materialist state (by the way, do we?) we are to bow down before spiritualised sym-

INTIMATE GLIMPSE VII



Mr. G. T. J. WILSON
(Welcomed back)

SPECIAL PRODUCTION

On the 10th, 11th and 12th of August, the C.U.C. Drama Society will present "None Other Gods" a play in verse by Allen Curnow. This is a politico-religious play dealing with the impact of Christianity on the natives of Mangia, one of the Cook Islands; a situation which has its parallels in New Zealand. This is the first time such a presentation, of an original dramatic work by one of the most prominent New Zealand writers, has been possible to a university society.

SCI. SOC.

At the last meeting of Sci. Soc. members and friends were told something about "Foods, Fads and Vitamins," by Mr. A. M. Burnet. He gave those present a general view of the parts played by various substances in the metabolism of the body, as a basis for choosing a balanced and sufficient diet. An interesting account of some of the precautions necessary in the manufacture of foodstuffs and drugs was given by Mr. Burnet. The next meeting is tonight at 8 p.m. in the Chem. lecture room. Speaker, Dr. J. L. Will, on "Occupational Therapy."

hols of a mystical collective unity in society. And is it very different from what we are supposed to be doing? And what happens to the individual in all this? The answer is that the West was too materialistic and came to make the individual more important than the mass.

This is almost exactly the view of Hitler and Rosenberg; for "God" read "Blood and Race" and for "mass," "Volk." So there we are.

One reason for all this—and I do not say that these thinkers are Nazi, only that they are dangerously near it—is that South Africa is passing through a sort of industrial revolution in which new forms of production challenge the supremacy of the mines. This is, of course, an alarming experience, but surely the seeds of hope are in it. By properly-managed industrialism the colour problem may yet be solved, as one author (only) writing on adult African education in the Army, seems aware. In general, South African students seem disorientated and unhappy.

(N.U.S.A.S. Journal is kept at the *Canta* Room, and may be borrowed by anyone interested).

ELECTRONICS

In May, 1943, in response to the invitation of the College Council, the Dean of the Engineering Faculty of Sydney University, Sir John Madsen, visited the College and reported on the future of the present School of Engineering. Acting on his recommendation the Council initiated the establishment of an Electronics Department as an addition to the existing Electrical Engineering departments.

This development is unique in the Dominion and destined to play an important role in the future progress of electronic engineering in this country. If we are to keep abreast of the rapidly growing science of Electronics, it will be essential for us not only to be able to train technicians, but also to provide facilities for further research into the subject. The Electronics Department has been designed with both these objects in view.

The Council has entrusted the preliminary work of building up the department to Mr. T. R. Polard, senior lecturer in Electrical Engineering, who, for the duration of the war is Director of the Defence Developments section of the D.S.I.R. in Christchurch. At the outset requests for assistance in financing and equipping the embryo department were made to a number of public bodies and industrial organisations, both local and overseas. All responded generously to the College's appeal, and as a result the department is already being equipped with apparatus necessary to carry out fundamental teaching and development work in the study of electronics.

AID AND COMFORT

Accommodation has been provided in the School of Engineering block, and the department is situated opposite the present Strength of Materials Laboratory, in what was the original Electrical Engineering Lab. This has been completely remodelled to meet the requirements of the delicate and expensive apparatus it will now contain.

Apart from direct financial assistance from within New Zealand, overseas firms have been most helpful in donating pieces of spec-

ialised apparatus, the value of which in some cases runs well into four figures. The most recent gift of this nature has been the presentation to the department by a prominent overseas firm, of a complete high vacuum exhausting plant for electronic valves and associated high vacuum tubes. This will be the only plant of its type in New Zealand, and of immense value both to Electronic research, and to advanced work in Physics.

Of particular interest to students is the founding of three Post Graduate Scholarships. These are due to the generosity of Mr. H. C. Urlwin, the Christchurch City Council, and the National and Electrical Engineering Company, respectively. All three have been given on a year to year basis, each is tenable at £150 per annum, and they are available to Electrical Engineering students who wish to do an additional year in electronic research. From present indications it is probable that these will become operative in 1945 if they are required by any eligible students, but this year one has already been awarded to Mr. P. Humphries, and he is at present engaged in a post graduate year on electronic work.

At present and for the duration of the war, the department is working in close collaboration with the D.S.I.R. on defence problems, but it is hoped that in the very near future it will be able to devote at least part of its resources to the instruction of Electrical Engineering Students.

After the war it will be completely free, not only to train students, but also to provide the Dominion as a whole with an organisation capable of investigating the numerous problems arising from the application of electronics to industry in general.

ENGLISH OR HOME SCIENCE?

The latest news from the Education front comes from Taranaki, where a more than usually outrageous attack has at last met with a courageous reply. Here is the story, as told by the "Taranaki Herald."

The headmistress of New Plymouth Girls' High School had thought it desirable that, if heads of departments were to be appointed for the School, one of them should be a head of the English department; there were 11 English teachers in the School, and besides it was a basic subject. The High Schools' Board passed on this recommendation to the Education Department, and in addition agreed to appoint joint heads of the "social studies" department. Back came a reply from the Department agreeing with the latter suggestion, but stating that it could not approve the appointment of a head for the English department: instead of this, it would later be desirable to appoint a head of the home science department: the headmistress herself, the extraordinary document continued could act as head of the English department, being highly qualified in languages!

At the next Board meeting, when the letter from the Department was received, there seems to have been some plain speaking. The headmistress pointed out what the Education Department

had apparently overlooked: that as principal of one of the largest secondary schools in the country she could not possibly be expected to undertake the additional post of head of a department. Another member of the Board said that girls going into offices nowadays often did not know the most elementary rules and words of the language, not to mention a cultural background. He did not suggest, he said, that technical subjects were unimportant, but the so-called "academic" subjects (and especially English) must not be neglected. Other speakers (including Mr. McNaught) asked the obvious questions whether the secondary schools should not have some say in determining the policy of education, and whether the Department was justified in ignoring the principal's recommendation. "Schools," said one speaker, "seem to be departing from the teaching of the rudimentary principles of education." The Department is to be advised of the Board's views.

And the moral of the story? Dictatorial methods? Unwarranted interference by our bureaucracy? Official encouragement of illiteracy? You can take your choice which one you regard as most important; but you must consider the matter, if you want to preserve the civilisation our soldiers are defending. B.

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Do You Know?

That Mr. Erikson says his part in "Othello" was to build up the atmosphere? That Zoilus was a ferocious literary critic of the ancient world, known as "The Scourge of Homer"? Modern actors solicitous for their future renown may be glad to know that his works have all disappeared. What sort of pictures Mr. Rhodes ought to see? About the young lady who came rushing into the Library and whispered to the assistant: "Do you mind if I hide here?"

CANTA

Editor: J. G. A. Pocock. Sub-Editor: Maude Eaton. Sports Editor: M. L. McGlashan. Sales Manager: Pearl West. Business Manager: R. P. Dansey.

HORNY-HANDED STUDENTS

In a leading article in the July 6 issue of Critic, the editor (Mr. W. D. Trotter) advocates "A Radical Cure" of the immaturity of the University. "Students," says Mr. Trotter, "are the bane of most universities; and he proposes as a remedy a raising of the minimum age of entry to 20, and in the three years between high school and university our undergraduates could take their places as unskilled workers in the nation at large."

Mr. Trotter's first mistake, it seems to us, is that he thinks it deplorable that the tone of the University is one of immaturity, because the University does not thus take a greater place in the life of the nation (whatever that is). But after all, we come here to gain education, not to uplift the community; the University is intended to teach, to aid the immature to attain maturity. Mr. Trotter is surely sacrificing the individuals to the collective community. The University was made (primarily) for students, not students for the University. It should produce educated people first, and provide a focus for their cultural efforts second.

Moreover, Mr. Trotter seems to be on dubious ground in his apparent belief that the university is remote from reality and the people and so forth, and that his scheme would bring the young into contact with "life." He does not use the word, but that seems to be the idea. This is an error widespread in the extreme among modern intellectuals, this distrust of their own occupation and feeling that manual labour is in some ill-defined way more "real" and more truly "life."

We suggest to Mr. Trotter and to our readers generally that if students and the University are to be less immature, the way lies through a fuller realisation of this. To a considerable extent, the University is indeed too self-contained and remote; but this is not the fault of its nature. From the classics and literature to science and engineering we are able to make some contact with the greatest achievements of man. Here we begin to acquire our learning, our skill, perhaps our philosophy. What is needed is awareness of this and of the fact that our pursuits here are themselves "life" and lay on us the human responsibilities and opportunities. This is life now. To distrust education because it is education and exalt the unskilled labourer into a sort of "noble savage," enjoying alone true contact with "reality," will not bring us to maturity, but if carried too far to the trahison des clerics, the betrayal of his life and responsibilities by the intellectual.

J. G. A. P.

OTHELLO—I

With their last year's production of "Hamlet" and with this month's "Othello," the Drama Society have fully established their right to be taken seriously! From the point of view of criticism, then—and criticism is presumably a necessary adjunct to drama in a university—they are entitled to be seriously considered; and this means that the standards by which the criticism is made will be higher.

We have too much respect for the company to treat them with the rather strained and insincere indulgence meted out to the usual collection of adolescent twitterers and elocutionists. Thus any critical (i.e., unfavourable) remarks we may make are in a way a compliment, Starky. They mean that since the play was so well done it is, in the critic's opinion, a pity that such and such a thing was not better done, which a lesser society could not be expected to do.

"Othello," then, was beyond doubt an outstanding production for a student society, especially when working under difficulties (when the better world arrives we must really have a bigger theatre). Nevertheless, I don't think it came up to the level of "Hamlet," I have one major complaint, and remember nothing that gave quite such satisfaction as certain moments last year which really made one feel that this was the real thing. Of course, "Othello" is not so good a play, partly because the motives of the chief characters are not, when all is said and done, strictly credible. Othello's mind is too easily poisoned, unless after all Iago's contemptuous description of his and Desdemona's love was largely correct; in which case how to avoid writing him down an ass? As a result writers, producers and actors tend to concentrate on Othello's "passion," and trust to that to provide the tragic grandeur to carry them through.

This brings me to my major complaint; the matter of speech. The speeches in "Othello" are extremely elaborate and highly-wrought, at times positively Euphuistic, and as a result, unless spoken with great care and clarity, tend to escape the audience altogether. This was, I think, what happened this time. Under pain of Dr. Pullon's displeasure, I will assert that there was a general tendency to speak too fast; but, more to the point, actors seemed to rely more on the tone of their voices than on the words of the

play to give the necessary impression. This was, I think, especially true of Paul Molineaux as Othello; he concentrated on putting passion into his voice to the exclusion of the words that Shakespeare wrote, so much so that at moments of greatest storm it became an almost wordless outcry of pain. This seems to me a pity; I feel strongly that the words would, given a fair chance, speak for themselves. Moreover, he chanted rather than spoke his lines, making a plentiful use of deep rresounding chest-notes, which one might perhaps manage to do without. Many lines, however, were admirably spoken, notably: "Yet she must die, or she'll betray more men," and his appearance alone is an asset.

Both Othello and Iago—perhaps this was true of the whole play—remained on the full stretch, vox humana and heavy artillery, throughout; and as a result, the few moments of quietness or relief—Desdemona's and Emilia's willow song and the superb buffoonery of H. L. Ross as Roderigo—are remembered with gratitude. Like last year's "Hamlet," our Shakespearians conceived "Othello" entirely as melodrama; and we did seem to be conducted rather from rant to rant. Henderson's Iago, as a result, held a mirror up to Mephistopheles throughout, very effectively and vividly indeed, especially in the third front of certain soliloquy. Is there more to be said about Iago? We see the plotter, very strikingly portrayed; could we perhaps see that impersonal quality of evil, above motive and even above jealousy? Perhaps it is ungracious to ask for more. It was certainly a memorable and thoroughly-conceived performance.

Having thrown my bricks, I lack elbow-room to arrange my bouquets, which is unfair to the general level of the production and gets CANTA a bad name. There was too much ranting, certainly, which affected the clarity of speech; and I don't remember any of those moments, such as occurred in "Hamlet," at which one really seemed to feel the inheritance of the English language. But many of the minor parts—Cassio, Brabantio and Montano come first to mind—lacked the weaknesses, if also the major key, of those more prominent; Roderigo one remembers with positive affection; the whole visual side—costumes and sets—was entirely admirable; and, to repeat myself, only the excellence of the production has brought upon it criticisms which may be thought counsels of perfection. ZOILUS

OTHELLO—II

To say that "Othello" is not a worthy play may sound foolish—but is it worthy either of Shakespeare or of a University Students' production?

Its theme is the threadbare triangle, only here it is an ingeniously plotted triangle of which the actual participants are unaware; it is perhaps sordid, but, worst fault, it is monotonous. Perhaps it was due to the necessary cutting that this was so, but it is the hardest thing, even for the most experienced actors, to maintain a series of duologues one after the other, all concerning the same emotions and with repeatedly the same arguments.

There are many things that can be appreciated about C.U.C. Drama Society acting. It is admittedly untrained and raw, but it has the fundamental qualities of zealous attack, freshness and vigour. There are of course many examples of "ham," or over-acting to a lesser degree, but it is always easier to turn a highly revved engine down than to coax a sluggish engine into activity; this is a good and natural fault. But there are examples also of two deplorable tendencies. One is inaudibility, owing to malformation of the English language (and this is so much more noticeable in Shakespeare than in modern comedy), and the other is an orgy of listening to one's own voice, wallowing in a sea of Euphony and tricks of voice production.

Of Paul Molineaux's "Othello" there is such that could be said on either hand. He possesses deep feeling, a fine sensitiveness, an understanding of the part and a resonant voice. At time he was really the Moor of Venice, but as yet he has not learnt to use such vehicles for acting as his voice, his face, his body, his hands to their best advantage in dramatic rendering.

In contrast, A. J. Henderson's Iago was full of overflowing of adept ways to conjure his face, voice and hands into the sardonic, scheming character that he was playing. Here is a wealth of talent that is being choked by a heavy pall of mannerisms.

And talking of being choked, how was it that Desdemona and Emilia both retained full command of their muscles when dead? One to keep her knees in the crook position, and the other to cling to the side of the bed!

In these roles Barbara Reay and Ann Gabites afforded an excellent contrast. B. Reay's Desdemona was charming and sincere; although she may have lacked deep feeling in her love for Othello, and real terror in the death scene, she made up for a lot by speaking and moving well. Ann Gabites displayed dramatic flair, and a delightful sense of low comedy, as Emilia, but until she realises that words come out of the mouth she will be inaudible, and while she is inaudible she is useless.

Last, but by no means least, there was the worthy job done by Costumier Margaret Westmacott and her satellites.

ANON.

MEET JOHN DOE

This has been done better, and by Capra himself. It is the same old formula mixed by the same old chemist, who has gone a bit stale on it. Ingredients: Edward Arnold as the Demon of Big Business or Crooked Politics; the Hobo-Hero with Ideals and as Good a Face as Hollywood can provide (Gary Cooper of course); the hard-boiled Secretary or Newspaper Girl, who turns out to be only three minutes after all (this time Capra gives Jean Arthur a rest and Barbara Stanwyck a break); the even harder-boiled Editor who blushing confesses himself Patriotic (a minute and a half) when Under the Influence (James Gleason).

They all do their stuff with the competence one has learnt to expect. I except Miss Stanwyck, who tears herself but not me to pieces. If it were not for the fact that I like Mr. Cooper, I would by this time be getting heartily sick of his one role of gangling naiveite. All the same I enjoy this sort of film, and only regret that Capra has run dry with his subject matter. But his touch in production is as sure as ever. The most exciting part of the whole thing is shots of a convention of thousands standing under umbrellas in the pouring rain.

A. J. H.

Mr. ALLAN

Not being in my usual robust health the other day, I was unable to attend my Saturday morning lecture. To amuse my enforced leisure, I tuned in to 3YA and found myself listening to a talk on "Great Figures of The Modern Theatre," by that familiar figure of university life, Mr. C. H. Allan.

By a study of Mr. Allan's repertoire, carried out in back numbers of the Listener, I gather that practically all great figures of the modern theatre are Americans. Perhaps that explains the hushed reverence, with overtones of pagan ecstasy, that characterises Mr. Allan's voice when he speaks of the thoroughfare of Broadway in New York.

Soon, however, I was recalled to the cold world of truth by a new note that crept into the speaker's voice. Mr. Allan, it was plain, was but too painfully familiar with that poem which enumerates the great actors of the past and has the haunting refrain: "Into the night go one and all."

DENNIS.

W.E.A.

Students who are not already aware of the fact should be interested to know that typed sets of W.E.A. lectures are available for 2/6. These courses, which are sets of lectures (usually about 12) written by various lecturers and professors, are not only of general interest but are frequently useful for examination courses.

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NOT A DEBATE

The S.C.M. and the Radical Club recently held a debate. The subject, we think, was "That a belief in the all-sufficiency of human reason is adequate to the full development of man's life."

Mr. Sutton (S.C.M.) denied this, saying that altruistic, as opposed to Platonic, love and belief in the divine were essential. Belief in the brotherhood of man (alone) degenerated into worship of self.

Mr. Travers Christie (Rad.) said that reason comprised every quality in man, including the emotions. All human achievements—and he quoted Marx—had been carried out by reason against religion.

Miss Hervey (Rad.) delivered a speech which proved conclusively that reason was necessary and desirable, that irrationalism was deplorable, and that Nazism was anti-rational.

Miss Hammersley (S.C.M.), in far and away the best speech of the evening, delivered a clear and intelligible argument in favour of reason and of the existence of other and perhaps higher forms of perception.

The floor debate was chiefly remarkable for a spirited defence of the Greeks against the charge of being rationalists and natural enemies of religion, led by Mr. Pockock and, marvellous to relate, Mr. Erikson.

Mr. Quentin-Baxter then said that nothing would induce him to act as judge in a serious philosophical discussion. However, on this occasion he had no hesitation in declaring that the Radical Club had not debated at all, and that accordingly the S.C.M. had won by default—and hurriedly sat down.

BRICK

I do not think M.S.E.'s review "Vae Victis" reflects credit on either the subject or the writer. There were witticisms, but no solid criticism. Then came the statement: "All the speakers cheated by the process of identifying Classical Education with something they approved or disapproved, and then discussing their own identification."

On analysis this means that the established manner of debate is cheating. For without divergent opinions, and angles of approach there can be no discussion. Nor can a defender view an institution in the same light as its attacker—which is very elementary. Never before indeed, have I seen a reviewer so naively condemning her subject.

Yours, etc., W. R. M.

BOUQUET

Dear Sir, More by accident than by design I attended the last Sci. Soc. meeting and to my great surprise found it very interesting and easy to follow even for an outsider.

Yours, etc. ARTS STUDENT

STQPQAPS

That Christine Bull found her B.A. diploma on the Stud. Ass. noticeboard?

That Mr. Erikson is quite lost without his Ethics notes? Overheard: "You don't look too good." "That's the Drama Society party on Saturday night." "But this is Monday." "Is it?"

Book seen in the Library: "Civil Procedure in a nutshell."—No sweeping gestures. Seen in City: motor-car with sticker: "E.P.S. Ambulance—GORE."

Dr. FIELD AND Mr. RHODES

At the last meeting of Open Forum, Dr. H. E. Field discussed "Authority in the Democratic Community," and Mr. H. W. Rhodes spoke on "Democracy and Freedom."

Dr. Field said that authority was power to compel others to accede to one's will. In the first instance, it was customarily exercised by parents over their children. Some idealists objected even to this; but he knew from his own professional experience that too much freedom for children to "develop their personalities" had invariably deplorable results.

Thus it was plain that one sort of authority, that of the mature over the immature, was entirely justified. Dr. Field proceeded to apply this to specific instances; the 11 o'clock rule at hostels was justifiable—frozen silence, broken by giggles, from the audience—because eighteen-year-olds did not always know how much sleep they needed. Mental defectives, also, should be wisely guided and prevented from doing themselves harm.

In the political sphere, authority was a necessary attribute of any government, democratic included. The world was growing smaller and life more complex. More and more common interests of all citizens were developing, and more and more threats to them. Increased co-ordination of society was necessary; with or without centralisation, this made essential the increase of governmental authority and the readiness of a government to apply it.

Mr. Rhodes began by saying that people of different countries or in different walks of life had totally different ideas of what democracy and freedom were. Many simply didn't know, and this attitude was noticeable among soldiers. As a result there was widespread cynicism about the words. Thinking people tended to pin their hopes either on some form of Fascism, or Communism, or on government carried out largely by specialists in a specialised community.

Let us, Mr. Rhodes suggested, think not of the sort of freedom and democracy we had, but of what we hadn't got. The list was a very long one. He found the cause of this incompleteness in the present social system and above all in the fact that production of necessities, entertainments, luxuries, and so forth, was for profit and not for use. The reversal of this state of affairs was the first essential of a working freedom. The standard of products would thus be raised, and economic equalities would begin to be adjusted.

INTIMATE GLIMPSE VIII



Dr. H. E. FIELD (Is he a stern parent?)

A. J. H. A POOR TYPE

I am moved to protest against the plaudits of your so-called film reviewer, A. J. H., whom, if the initials have their usual significance, I should advise to stick to Shakespeare. Lest any Canta readers regretted not seeing "This Land is Mine" I will quote from my film diary: "This Land is Mine: Particularly poor type—made worse by the presence of Laugh-ton."

I would remind A. J. H. that the object in film acting should be to conceal the acting in an atmosphere of reality rarely achievable on the stage. Photography and technical detail may be so outstanding in a film that the story is relegated to the background, but where both of these are mediocre the story becomes of paramount importance.

Perhaps I should persuade my present employers to dispense with my services, so that I may watch over and encourage K.M. and his generation until their personalities are sufficiently developed to enable them to acquire, by right, the positions they hanker after. Yours, etc., W. J. McELDOWNNEY, Ashburton.

P.S.—I like mixed metaphors. CRITIQUE

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REHABILITATION

In a most interesting and well-delivered address to the Radical Club, Mr. Dell gave a competent and comprehensive summary of the present position with regard to rehabilitation. The Government's aims, he said, were to establish men and women from the armed forces in no worse position than they were before the war, and to give the injured sufficient recompense and an interest in life.

For the disabled there is a Basic Pension of £3 per week plus an economic pension of £1/15/- and additional allowances for dependents. The economic pension is subject to deductions if the man has more than 30/- additional earnings. Mr. Dell thinks that this means test could be less stringent, since every encouragement should be given to these men to do as much work as possible, work being valuable by reason of its therapeutic effects. The Government hopes to establish workshops and to provide training in horticulture, not as an economic proposition, but to give these men an interest in life.

All fit men returned from abroad, and in some cases the demobilised if they can prove hardship, are eligible for a Rehabilitation allowance (3 months on an adequate pension spread if necessary over a period, to give these men a chance to look round) trade training facilities, educational opportunities and loans.

Men who wish to enter the trade training schemes are fitted into three classes. A class, comprising such work as carpentry, fitting and turning, ideally receive their training at special schools; B class, where there are not enough applicants to form a school, may receive training from a private employer; C class are apprentices whose time has been broken. The government subsidises these men where necessary to give them an equitable wage during training. At present there is the danger that too many men wish to adopt certain outdoor occupations, such as carpentry and farming, and a bottleneck and unemployment may result. An increase of remuneration in the more unpopular trades (e.g., plumbing) might improve the position.

Any man who has had his education interrupted receives anything up to £5 per week and a grant for books so that he can continue his studies. This money is payable overseas as well as in New Zealand.

In addition to this returned men can apply for loans—residential, financial, farming, business, tools and special loans. In such cases a Rehabilitation sub-committee will investigate not only the man's ability to pay back the loan but also the suitability of the proposed investment.

Men who wish to settle on farms are graded in accordance with whether they are capable of starting farming at once, whether they need practical experience under another farmer, or if they require a short or full course at an agricultural college. If the applicant is suitable, all these requirements are met. The Government has some difficulty buying enough good farms, and there is always the problem of how much property should be held for men still overseas.

Another difficult question is the housing situation. If returned men wish to borrow money to buy a house, the value of the property is fully investigated. They are allowed a 50 per cent priority for State houses. In an interesting aside, Mr. Dell remarked that the present housing shortage is strictly speaking really an economic problem. The present number of houses would be adequate in a depression. People nowadays have more money and are therefore less willing to live in slum conditions. Abolish the family allowances and there would be no housing shortage.

Mr. Dell said the government has probably done all it can do for the returned men under the present economy. If any section thinks they are being badly treated (e.g., students who are returned men) it is their business to agitate and they would probably get an increased allowance. Hitherto the chief trouble has been that the Rehabilitation Department in Christchurch has been badly housed and inadequately staffed. This has meant that people have been kept waiting and have not always received the best advice. However, the staffing position is improving, returned men with a special interest in these problems are to be appointed to the Department,

PHYS. ED.

As a follow up to Mr. McMillan's interview with CANTA (June 22nd) it might be of some interest to students to do a short line on developments in foreign countries, and on what has already been accomplished in New Zealand.

In America they do things thoroughly, whether it is a gang boss's funeral, or making provision for care of student health at the University of Onehorseville (Ky.). Mr. P. Smithells, Director of Physical Education in the N.Z. Department of Education, has lent the C.U.C. sub-committee cards from the Physical Education Departments of various American Universities. Freshmen fill in part of these cards (family history, personal history) and the doctor who examines them fills in his findings. There is a lot to fill in: "Parents; General Body Build. Mother: thin, slender, stout, broad, not definitely either. Father, ditto, ditto."

You fill that in, and if both your parents were of stout build, while you were on the thin slender side, then the competent authorities would consider your case and perhaps prescribe cream on your porridge and stout broadening exercise. (As distinct, of course, from thin slenderising exercise). This should check any tendency towards further thin slendering, which might have led towards doing bad work, lack of energy, and if carried to extremes, complete disappearance of your shadow.

By the time you have filled in all the answers (Subject to frequent colds in the nose? yes, no. "Easily fatigued? yes, no." "Present general health? good, fair, poor." "Arches of feet painful? yes, no." "Persistently worrying? yes, no.") the authorities know a good deal about you, and have a chance to help you improve your general health, both mental and physical, by advising what you should eat, how much and what form of exercise you should take, and what, if any, remedial treatment you need.

Each Swedish University has its instructor of physical culture, who works along the well known Swedish systems, some of which have been imported into, and mangled in, N.Z.

R.H. LOOKS BACK

Those who attended the 25th Jubilee Ball in the Winter Garden on Friday night do not need to be told that it was a great show. Those who were sufficiently misguided not to go will no doubt already have been told, so we'll leave it at that.

However here are a few highlights worth recording. The House Orchestra led by Gavin Bartlett and under the baton of "Shag" Smith gave some splendid extras during supper in spite of the fact that the trombone was half a beat behind and half a semitone flat in "Baron Munchausen."

The Mayor of the city, the Rector and Mr. Darwin—at one time warden of the House—were all there, obviously enjoying themselves.

Mr. L. Loveridge, one of the oldest House men extant led the House in the haka and the garden floor rocked in fine style.

We are left to wonder what P. W. Humphries said to the young ladies in his alcove, and why he didn't care, and we can only guess what J. McNab was doing in his alcove when we saw him.

Finally much credit is due to the House Council and to J. Muir for organising the dance. It was a huge success and it just paid for itself so everyone is happy.

FOOTBALL

Since the last CANTA there have been very few games played by the Varsity teams. The only results being: Juniors v. Air Force, lost 14-8. Third B v. Christ's College, lost 12-0.

To-day the annual Otago University-Canterbury College match was played at Rugby Park and we hope that most readers attended, as they will the informal dance in the Men's Common Room at Stud. Ass. tonight.

Next Saturday is the match North Island Universities versus South Island Varsity representatives. There are four players from the College: A. D. McKenzie (Capt.), J. Veale, R. Bond and J. McIntyre in the team, while R. J. Harris is an emergency. We hope that there will be a large attendance of students at the match.

ment, and the position should be much better in future.

Nazi Germany was inclined to crack the whip over its students' backs. Here, there was a definite policy of discrimination against the physically unfit. Medical examinations were thorough, and if the examiner considered that the prospective student was not fit, the latter was not allowed to take a course. Thus, apart from disadvantages like a non-Aryan grandmother, you had to be pretty hearty to get into a Nazi University. (Serve you right for being hearty if you did get in too).

Very little that is concrete has happened in New Zealand yet, but there have been encouraging stirrings, and these show signs of growing more vigorous.

HOCKEY, PEPPED, WINS

In a fast and willing game last Saturday, the Senior Team defeated Trinity by 3 goals to 2. This win makes Varsity the leaders in the Competitions. In the first spell the Varsity team lacked cohesion and "punch" and failed to penetrate the solid Trinity defence, with the result that they were one goal up at the end of the spell.

After a very necessary "pep" talk at half time, the team showed a marked improvement and played very fast hockey. Trinity managed to penetrate the sound defence of J. Martin on very few occasions. C. V. Walter time and again turned defence into attack and with E. Bennett kept the team continuously on attack. In the forwards B. Short and T. Eggleton provided most of the penetration. Varsity netted 3 goals in this spell and held on to win 3-2. They did well. So did Mr. Eggleton.

The lower teams have not been so successful lately owing to a shortage of players through illness and injuries.

However, if the Club would take advantage of the excellent opportunity provided by C. V. Walter for training and team talks on Thursday evenings a much greater measure of success for all teams would be assured.

GUIDING LIGHT

Dear Sir,

The last Open Forum meeting, we were told, was to be on Authority, and Democracy and Freedom. Yet it must have occurred to most of those present that not a single speaker (with the partial exception of Mr. Erikson) tackled the most important problem arising out of the subject: the practical aspect of the relation between Authority and Freedom.

I quite agree with Mr. Rhodes's economic solution of "production for use and not for profit." But as Dr. Field quite rightly pointed out, someone will have to determine what is useful, and someone will have to co-ordinate—at various stages—the complicated machinery which is modern society.

Mr. Rhodes will no doubt agree that the question of "good" films cannot be decided by "counting heads"; the majority of the public (perhaps only through long conditioning) would prefer films—or books—Mr. Rhodes quite rightly thinks bad. Even the idea of entrusting film-stars with the decision seems rather naive. Imagine Bing Crosby voting against crooners! This may be a minor matter, but it leads to the main problem: who is to decide? With the greatest possible faith in humanity, we must not neglect the common human failing of selfishness. How are we to prevent people from working solely for the advantage of their own group—trade-union, or whatever it may be? Again, if (as Mr. Rhodes seemed to think) experts are best qualified to judge on the "usefulness" of their products, is the consumer to have no say in the matter? And can experts always be trusted—e.g., so-called "modern educationists"?

There must be authority, as Dr. Field pointed out: but there must not be dictatorship. We must be guided, but not regimented. And who is to guide us? Men elected by the old method of "counting heads," for every position of authority, without much regard for qualifications? Or a dictatorship of Technicians and Experts? These questions must be answered before a Socialist State is established. We cannot merely ignore them and hope that things will work out smoothly. For we cannot risk failure in such an experiment.

Yours, etc., E.B.

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