

Annual  
General  
Meeting  
To-night  
8 p.m.

# CANTA

The Official Organ of the Students' Association  
Canterbury University College

Write to  
Capping  
Mag.  
Cheer Up  
The Editor

VOL. XV, No. 2

CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z.

Thursday, April 13, 1944

## GOVT. AND EQUAL PAY

During the vacation some A.U.C. undergraduates were engaged in work on State Vegetable Projects. The following are extracts from the correspondence between the Minister of Agriculture and a certain group of students concerning equal pay as between the sexes.

From the petition sent to the Minister:

"We, women and girls employed at Hall's Farm, near Hamilton, desire to bring to your notice the fact that our rate of pay is on a lower scale than that paid to men and boys.

Our knowledge of the facts, based on our observations, convinces us that the differentiation is based, not upon the relative value of the services performed, but simply upon sex. Such differentiation is, therefore, unjust and irksome. It seems to us that at some of the tasks, though not all, we are more efficient; at many we are equal; at some we are less efficient.

Your petitioners therefore pray that an investigation be made so that the facts may be ascertained. Equal pay for equal work appears to us to be the only just method of payment and we ask for payment on that basis.

We would point out that many of us are working under 'direction' and we have not any of the rights of free contract. This seems to us to be an additional reason why just treatment should be accorded.

We would also point out that this is not primarily a request for increased pay. It is primarily a request for just treatment."

### REPLY

From the Minister's reply:

"In reply to the Petition I would advise that the terms of employment were in accordance with the Services Vegetable Production Workers Agreement, 1943, which agreement covers workers employed in the Department's various vegetable schemes.

"The main point raised in your Petition is that, generally speaking female labour is as efficient as male labour, and you indicate that in your opinion on certain work at this project female labour was more efficient than male labour. With this viewpoint I cannot agree, for while it is admitted that in a few of the small tasks female labour might be more efficient, generally speaking the work which calls for sustained effort is more efficiently carried out by male labour. That this is acknowledged fact is proven by the differential rates of payment awarded to the two sexes in practically every occupation or profession. I would further add that in those tasks where it is felt that female labour might prove as efficient as male labour, every endeavour is made to introduce piece-work, so that the worker gains that reward to which he or she is justly entitled.

Yours faithfully,  
B. Roberts,  
Minister of Agriculture."

### COMMENT

From the letter sent in reply by the petitioners:

"You will have noted that the Petition was not an application for increased pay, as we are entirely satisfied with our existing rate of pay, but an attempt to point out an injustice. Those concerned are only too anxious to help the war effort, and the pay is entirely secondary. It is very good of you to enter into a discussion with us on the point at issue.

If we may presume to carry our own point of view a little further in face of your criticism, we would say that there are really two matters which, no doubt because of the form of the petition, have led to confusion.

There is:

1. The personal and practical experience of the petitioners in regard to one set of facts.

We may be wrong, but the only people who can possibly judge, are

those in control of the particular job. We submit that the matter calls for the evidence of the managers and foremen over a wide field.

### EFFICIENCY

2. The general question of the efficiency of male and female labour.

This is a very difficult question and we submit that it cannot be answered in such general terms as those used in your letter. Certainly the customary rates of pay paid to men and women do not do more than establish a custom which differentiates, and always has differentiated, against women. The actual truth seems to be that in certain work women do better men, as in certain loom work in England, as in the nursing profession all over the world. But this is not the whole story, because at certain ages, as during adolescence (15-20), it is generally admitted that young women, as at office routine, are definitely better than young men.

With reference to your contention that differential rates of pay in professional occupations prove the greater efficiency of the male, we would point out that the reason given for differentiation in the teaching profession, is that men have dependents. Now-a-days of course, when married women are admitted to all professions, this argument loses foundation, and we therefore submit that it is unjust.

Also, with regard to your statement that piece work is introduced where possible, the only piece work available on the Hall's Farm Vegetable Project, was for the picking of peas, and this has been for a period of about a week to date.

Other work in which equal labour has been given by men and women is bean picking, tomato picking, harvesting of turnips, cabbages, beetroot, radishes, spraying with the mechanical sprayer, knapsack spraying and scarifying. For the last two named jobs girls are paid 6d. extra, but even this bonus does not give them equality with the men.

Another point which we omitted to raise in our previous petition, is the inequality of rates of pay for work done in the rain. We fail to see why the Services Vegetable Production Workers' Agreement, 1943, considered that rain increases the efficiency of male labour one and a half times, for we know that the inconvenience suffered by the women is just as great as that suffered by the men.

On behalf of our fellow workers we thank you for your consideration of our case, and hope that in the near future these injustices will be removed."

### AS YOU LIKE IT?

Copies of this correspondence were sent to us by the students concerned; and we imagine that this statement of the cases and of the Government's views on the vexed question of equal pay will be of interest to Canterbury students.

### WANTED KNOWN

From now on CANTA, to the heartfelt relief of the staff, will be on sale on alternate Thursdays as usual. The reason for the telescoping of the first two issues to appear 9 and 18 days respectively from the opening of the term is that the rearrangement of lecture dates has considerably shortened the first term. If four Cantas were to appear this term—and this was necessary to bring out the full twelve issues for 1944 at fairly regular intervals—something drastic had to be done. It was. We now return to normal, and it is hoped that the staff will be able to get in a little work.

## ELECTION MEETING

Absent Friend: Student Apathy.

Noticed: Mr. Allan opening proceedings by flourishing a cigarette and quoting Roosevelt or Lincoln or someone; Mr. Molineaux competing imperturbably with Mr. McKenzie, the sliding doors, and a lot of peoples' feet; the women speakers, few in number, but competent and direct; the lightning rapidity with which Miss Bull can smile and unsmile; Mr. Lovell-Smith limbering up his woo arm; the sincerity with which some nominees insisted that they were against government by clique; the equal sincerity with which other nominees denied that they were government by clique; Mr. Eggleton's changing facial expressions throughout; Mr. Henderson packing the customers in with an intimate impression of Mr. Henderson as a solid Executive Member; and somebody mentioning in an awed voice that returned servicemen at C.U.C. might be 24 or even 25 years old . . .

In the cactus: Canta.

Great Truth: A University magazine is as representative as its contributors; if the contributors are few the representation is correspondingly limited.

Also in the cactus: The College Council.

Good points to think over: Rehabilitation, and Student Health.

### SATCHEL

(Also Mr. Wilzek explaining that he was getting old, and wanted to be on Exec. in order to help the efforts of the young. I hear their gentle voices calling "Poor old Ernst Karl Will.")

## STUDENTS AND THE PUBLIC

All those who were disappointed or annoyed by the cancellation of Revue should study closely the first issue of Critic (O.U.'s paper) for 1944. From a disgruntled third page we learn that O.U. this year are having No Capping At All, except for a Graduates Ball, at which the hall is not to be decorated. The reason for this decision—taken by the Council—are given as: waste of time and the probability of public disgust at the spectacle of "privileged" students disporting themselves in public while their fellows are in action overseas. The internal administrative decisions of O.U. are clearly no fit subject for comment in CANTA; but the suggestion concerned with the public reaction to such revelries has interest for all students everywhere. The problem of the relation between a University and a city (and of student revelries as a part of that relation) has been much discussed; and in war-time especially it takes on a certain delicacy. For the University has in the public mind a two-fold nature; it is a body organised for the purpose of gathering knowledge and — dare we say it?—culture, while at the same time it is composed primarily of the young and light-hearted, whose public appearances are usually of an entertaining character. Thus the student is looked up to with the New Zealander's reverence for learning, and is also regarded, more or less indulgently, as a public jester or clown. War conditions strain or distort public feeling in many ways; there is at once the cry for "austerity" and the rise in popularity of the race-horse or the undraped female form. Nevertheless we cannot feel that the fears of the O.U. Council were justified. Readers of our last issue but one of 1943 will perhaps recall a description of the annual street entertainments given by Scottish and Polish students of the University of Edinburgh—a city which knows more about modern war and austerity than Dunedin is ever likely to. What was most striking about this description was the picture it suggested of a University thoroughly integrated with its city and with

## GROUP THEATRE PROJECT

For some time now, there have been rumours throughout the country about the formation of a professional New Zealand theatrical company, but they have not been much more than rumours. What is it all about? Who thought of it? Whom does it affect?

In not having had a theatre of her own, this country is very unfortunate. Unless they have been abroad, the majority of New Zealanders have rarely felt that electric tension in a theatre before the curtain rises or seen a first-class show. Talented young New Zealanders have been forced to leave the country if they wish to take up a career connected with the stage. Except for an amazing outcropping of amateur activity, the force of drama, both educational and emotional, has hardly ever been experienced here.

Many people realise this, and some have striven to remedy it. Others do not, but will when they have the opportunity.

Group Theatre will fill this breach.

### THE FOUNDERS

The man to whom the project owes its origin is Sam Williams of Wellington. A New Zealander, he went as a young man to study at the Royal School of Art, London, specialising in stage-designing. He has worked at the Old Vic, Sadlers Wells and the Maddermarket Theatre, Norwich, one of England's leading provincial repertory theatres. He has designed for Korda. He is a man of the theatre. In 1938 he returned to New Zealand with his wife, and was immediately struck by the lack of theatre in New Zealand. Ever since then he has been working towards one goal: to create one.

The first person he asked to help him was Ngaio Marsh, who has had the same ideas for some time. C.U.C. already knows what a woman of the theatre Miss Marsh is. With her wide experience, she is essential to the scheme.

The Business Manager of the project is a Wellington lawyer, George Swan, also secretary of the Wellington Repertory Society. Although he has never been out of New Zealand, he has an amazing knowledge of theatre. An expert in dealing with every kind of business contemps, Mr. Swan is at present the strong man of the future company.

These are the three begetters of the New Zealand Group Theatre. All people of experience, all very able, all very astute.

The company will consist of about thirty persons, twenty of these being actors. The others will be designers, painters, technicians, and the people concerned with the business side.

that city's war life. This latter doubtless had to do with the fact that the Edinburgh students were collecting for patriotic purposes—as would O.U., a point made by the pro-Capping party. Generally had it not been for the report from Edinburgh, we would have once more recalled with some force the phrase about "the chill of the dour Scot."

### DIALECTIC SOCIETY

In the past few years, this University has been very unsuccessful in Joynt Scroll, the annual debating contest between the six University Colleges, and this decline has run parallel with an apparent lack of interest in dialectics in the College. This year there will be no Tournament and thus Joynt Scroll will be one of the very few Inter-Varsity functions.

The Joynt Scroll team is chosen from those who have taken part in the activities of the Society during the year. Therefore, to ensure that the best possible team is chosen, it is essential that first, all those interested should take part actively in the year's proceedings and secondly that all those

The policy of the company is to provide entertainment by touring the country with plays, both classics and modern, which are good. The big centres will be visited first, then the "small."

They will take round a repertoire of about three plays; after each tour, scheduled to last three to four months, they will go into recess to prepare a fresh batch. Each repertoire, it is hoped, will consist of plays that balance each other, for example "The School for Scandal," "Othello," and a play by a New Zealand author.

These plays will be well acted. This is not an optimistic prophecy of doubtful value, but a certainty. The professional companies that have toured New Zealand in the past have either been less than second-rate, or consisted of one or two stars, with attendant hacks revolving round them which have been picked up in Australia. (The outstanding exceptions to this were the two tours of the de Basil ballet company). Group Theatre will have no stars. It will concentrate on the one thing essential for the fulfilment of an author's purpose—working as a team. Former professional companies in New Zealand, with the exception of the ballet, have been totally lacking in team-work. Although to New Zealand audiences unfamiliar with the theatre they may have seemed very good, in actual fact this was not the case, as anybody could tell who was familiar with the stage abroad. Group Theatre will show New Zealand the difference.

The company will be an all-New Zealand company. There is in this country sufficient theatrical talent to make more than one company, and it is going to be a hard job to select the right individuals. The actors will be chosen by audition as soon as the company is floated. Group Theatre will give young people the opportunity of learning their job under the best conditions, and (what is more important) will keep their talents in New Zealand.

When the position of the main company is stabilised, it is hoped to form a student-actor group. These students will tour the country with plays mainly for children, thus learning stage-technique in a type of play that demands less experience than those performed by the main company.

### ABOUT TIME TOO

We in this country need a theatre. It has always amazed me that, while New Zealanders are willing to spend literally millions of pounds a year on their entertainment, from horse-racing at the lowest to broadcasting at the highest, yet they have up to date deprived themselves of the best form of entertainment, the theatre. Those of us who realise this are more than pleased that one is being started: those of us who do not will, when we have it. So let's cheer those responsible.

A. J. H.

participating should endeavour to raise the standard as much as possible.

Many have criticised the Dialectic Society in the past; is that criticism to stay, this year, sterile and unconstructive; or have we in this University some who are prepared to help and work so that no grounds for criticism are left? The Society therefore asks that all students participate as much as possible.

The Annual General Meeting of the Dialectic Society is on Monday, April 17th, in the Men's Common Room and will be followed by an Oxford Union debate.

This is the time for suggestions and criticism. Come and help.

C. W. W.



Casual  
Comfort . . .



## SPORTS COATS

A comprehensive range of Donegals, Herringbones and Checks in Blues, Greens, Greys, Browns, etc., in all sizes—cut for style and comfort and reasonably priced from 75/- to £5/15/0.

SPORTS FLANNELS tailored to measure

# Hallensteins

Corner CASHEL & HIGH STS.  
CHRISTCHURCH

### SAVE LAMP CAPS

★  
Please remember when you buy a new electric lamp you must return the old lamp or brass cap. This is necessary to ensure continuity of supplies.



MUNICIPAL  
ELECTRICITY  
DEPARTMENT

WE ARE AT YOUR  
SERVICE THE WHOLE  
24 HOURS

## Rink Taxis Ltd.

104 Armagh Street

TAXI SERVICE AT CURRENT  
RATES

WEDDING CARS A  
SPECIALITY

PARKING ACCOMMODATION

Phones:

Taxis 34-878

Office 34-876

C. Hayward, Manager

The Distinctive Flavour of

## MELHUSH'S Worcestershire SAUCE

Gives Zest to the 'Appetite and  
makes Ordinary Food a Luxury

◆  
MELHUSH'S SAUCE is  
equally delightful with  
every dish.

◆  
Just a dash in Soup or Gravy  
makes all the difference

ALWAYS ASK FOR  
**STACEY &  
HAWKER'S**  
"SX"  
BREAD

# Hey!

Aren't you  
going to wear a  
**HAT?**

Even the Bohemian Student  
MUST wear a hat when he's out.  
You must be able to raise  
something.

## MUNNS LTD.

The Man's Shop  
CORNER COLOMBO AND MANCHESTER STREETS



MUNNS LTD., the Man's Shop  
has a remarkable selection of new  
Battersbys, Masterfelts, Lord  
Tony's, Meadowbrook, in all sizes,  
shades and brims. Priced from 35/-

### Do You Know?

That Mr. Erikson, observing that somebody had been nominated by Christine Bull and Colin Allan, was heard to say: "Ah—the lion and the lamb shall lie down together?" Which is which?

That two young things in the Chem. Lab. said in appealing tones to a passing demonstrator, "Can we have Mr. Lovell-Smith when he comes along?"

That Colin Allan wants to know whether Paul Molineaux has made up his mind yet?

That Mr. Danks and Economics I spent five minutes arguing which was concave and which was convex, and eventually decided that it all depended on the point of view?

That Polly Lind, 1942 Editor, has departed to O.U.? Probably to act as official C.U.C. fifth column.

That Franco is annoyed with Allied pressure, said to be interfering with his attitude of perfect neutrality? There is something in his case of course. We really ought to allow him time to get used to it.

That there were 600 (approx.) persons at the Freshers' Ball, in the judgment of Duff Jones, who will not be amused if you quote the Charge of the Light Brigade at him?

That Polly Lind reports from Dunedin that Critic has an S.C.M. Editor? Does he have a Do You Know Column?

That the Chandler brothers celebrated their birthday on April Fools Day?

That it is believed Allan de Malmanche first saw the light of day on Halloween?

# CANTA

Editor: J. G. A. Pocock.  
Sports Editor: M. L. McGlashan.  
Sales Manager: Pearl West.

## CHINESE STUDENTS FREE?

The Christian Science Monitor of America—that usually reliable paper—had from Chungking at the end of March a disturbing story. The essential parts of it run: "The Chinese Government has established a new system of guidance for Chinese studying abroad. . . . Henceforth, to obtain permission to leave China students must demonstrate satisfactory poise, behaviour and political thought, and also must prove that the official Kuomintang doctrine is the unalterable basis of their political convictions. During a two years' term of study the student must submit to the full control of the Chinese Ministry of Education's representatives in Britain and the United States upon pain of shipment home."

It is hoped that this story is unfounded; since, as printed, the "plan of guidance" embodies everything most stupid, cowardly and negative. Free study, the free interchange of ideas and knowledge between differing peoples, is one of the pillars on which achievement and aspiration must alike rest; if anything is to be done with the world, it cannot be done without this. It would, perhaps, be overpolemic to compare this apparent effort to control the flow of thought into China with the policy of total isolation pursued by the Chinese Emperors in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. But there would seem to be a resemblance. Apart from looking like an attempt to maintain the political monopoly of the Kuomintang—or of certain groups within the Kuomintang—this plan seems to betray the same fear of the West as governed the Emperors and their mandarins. The latter had perhaps some reason to fear the radical and transforming capitalism of seventeenth-century trading companies; but there was never—there certainly is not now—any excuse for fearing ideas, least of all the Western ideas of liberalism, democracy and socialism. Moreover, history has few more unprofitable enterprises to show than the attempt to control thought. In the words of a modern Chinese writer, China is not Cathay.

J. G. A. P.

## Drama Soc. Preview

The Drama Society's plans for 1944 are ambitious as to quality, if not quantity. In 1935 the Society presented, in addition to several three-act plays, 10 programmes of one-acters! In wartime, however, this would be impossible. The last two years have shown that, while there are enough women available to cast several plays, the shortage of men makes it difficult to do more than one. Unfortunately most plays have more parts for men than women, and every production needs a stage crew, so while every available man is welcomed by the Society, many promising women members have not had a full chance to show what they can do.

### INITIAL IDEAS

This year, however, the Society has a strong committee of experienced members, who hope that, even if opportunities for acting are limited, the year's programme will provide plenty of interest for students old and new. At the time of going to press the new Committee have not yet met to finalise their plans, so this is merely a preview of some of their ideas. The first function on schedule is a coffee evening next Sunday in the men's common room at Stud. Ass. at 8 p.m. All members and intending members are welcome, and those attending the University Service earlier in the evening are also invited. Freshers are especially welcome, and a questionnaire will be passed round to people joining the Society asking them to say what branches of the Society's activities appeal to them. It is hoped that the President, Miss Ngaio Marsh, will be able to give her Presidential Address on this occasion.

Following on the coffee evening will be auditions for new members, probably conducted by Miss Marsh. These are not as terrifying as they sound, and are more in the nature of interesting and informal exercises in the principles of acting. As a result of these auditions the most promising new students will be tried out, together with old members, at closed auditions for roles in the main production or productions. Further plans are for a series of talks by experienced Christchurch amateurs on such topics as make-up, producing, and costume.

### MAIN PLANS

The major effort this year is to be Shakespeare's "Othello," which will probably be produced some time in July. Encouraged by the popularity of "Hamlet" last year the Committee are anxious to attempt another of Shakespeare's great tragedies and "Othello," though it presents many difficulties, comes best within our scope. Ngaio Marsh, who earned the admiration and affection of all who worked with her in "Hamlet," will be the producer, and it is hoped that Douglas Lilburn will again pay us the compliment of composing special music for the play. A new collaborator in this production is Sam Williams, a director of the Group Theatre project discussed elsewhere in this issue, who had very kindly designed settings for the play, and is now working on ideas for the costumes. "Othello" will be staged in the customary 16th century Venetian dress, which should provide plenty of opportunities for picturesqueness and colour.

The Committee has another exciting idea up its sleeve, but lack of time may not allow it to mature this year. But even if "Othello" is the only main play for the season, there will still be ample opportunity for many people to have a share in the production. There will be posters to be painted, costumes and properties to be made, front-of-house and backstage staff to be recruited, and above all, a first class stage crew is required.

### AN APPEAL

The stage hands are often the forgotten men when it comes to handing out the credit, but last year the stage crew in "Hamlet" set up such a record for slick work in changing the scenes that they earned almost as much praise as the players. Good work in this department is essential to the success of any production, and the Drama Society will be grateful for the help of anyone, male or female, who is interested in the work backstage. This can be as interesting as the workers like to make it, and the present stage manager and electrician are anxious to train up competent understudies to assist them and finally take over when they leave. So remember, freshers—the number of plays available for you to take part in during any season depends upon how many of you take an interest in the backstage work, and so make these productions possible.

So roll up everybody and offer your services. R.H. has been very poorly represented in the Drama Society of recent years, yet there must be plenty of good men in its ranks! The same applies to Bish. Don't leave it all to C.H. and Cannon!

That Prof. Pocock, hearing the eldritch screams of C. H. initiations, told Latin I that he thought a bus had been overturned and some children were dying, but he wasn't sure; and so saying, continued his lecture?

About the young lady, discussing her financial straits, who concluded: "Ah well, it'll probably do me good to be pinched a little?"

## FILMS

### OX-BOW INCIDENT

"The Ox-bow Incident" is the precise and unsparing record of the lynch-law execution of three innocent men in Nevada in 1885. Its purpose is avowedly propagandist—to present the properly-constituted law as an essential basis of civilisation. In this it is exceedingly successful; and the emotive power of the whole production is enormous. It is, for once, a thoroughly adult piece of work; from the opening lines, concerned openly with prostitution, to the scene of the hanging, concerned as openly with incredulous desecration and fear on the part of the dying, nothing is kept back. To be almost—not quite, but almost—entirely free from stock phrases and incidents, is so rare as to be a cardinal virtue. But the most memorable feature is probably the brief, but astonishingly telling, shots showing the impulses and attitudes of the members of the lynching party: the sadist, hiding his desires behind a parade of military justice, the man with no idea but revenge, the men obsessed with dramatic visions of themselves as the dispensers of frontier law, the unimaginative, and—worst of all—the utterly unthinking and unfeeling, embarked on the enterprise boisterously and facetiously; shouting with laughter while they eat the condemned men's food as if these had lost individuality before life. All the characterisation, condemners and condemned, the just and the unjust, is unusually thorough; the photography and direction—of the John Ford school (Tobacco Road, The Long Voyage Home)—is at the top of the tree (the handling of crowd scenes especially); the unity and directness of the film could hardly be better. It is hard to single out any of the actors because all were good—and I don't know who most of them were—but one will not forget the negro preacher who tries to save the living and the dead—blessedly unlike the stock Hollywood negro—or the pathetically senile idiot, who is hanged. And Henry Fonda proves that, if he's left alone and not made to appeal to the hearts of the American Mother, he will act.

### SHADOW OF A DOUBT

"Shadow of a Doubt," by Alfred Hitchcock (out of Orson Welles?), has the Hitchcock vices as well as the virtues, which former have several times in the past been enough to spoil promising films. On the whole, I think they have done it again; this in spite of the facts, that Joseph Cotten is a magnificent actor—the best newcomer since Thomas Mitchell—and Teresa Wright, not without occasional minor lapses, a convincing and appealing one, and the camera-work of the best. I even concede that part of my disappointment is due to a personal inability to get too excited over a "suspense" melodrama. The trouble is really that Hitchcock's ointment invariably contains several fat gurgling flies; his successful devices, which are numerous, and are impressive as (without being completely Orson-experimental) they could be in his rather limited field, but his errors of taste, comparatively few, are so glaring as to cripple the whole. I am, for example, fed to the teeth with the Hitchcock incidental music, supposed to wring the nerves taut at moments of suspense; it doesn't wring mine. But "Shadow of a Doubt" has faults more serious than this, because they lie closer to the essentials of the story. It is about a girl's discovery that her idolised uncle has committed three very nasty murders and her reactions to the various complications arising until the uncle—more or less inevitably—falls under a train. If the two outstanding actors had been left to bring out the values of the situation, aided by the generally good direction, all would have been very well. But they have to be supported by a semi-comic family, including a peculiarly ham specimen of our old friend the American Mother and two of the most offensive children the screen has seen. This spoils the whole thing by continuous incursions of tedious nonsense, the more so as the mother is, in a way, the psychological hinge of the plot.

ZOILUS.



EXAM FEES

The Editor, Dear Sir,

Allow me to use your columns to draw the attention of the Staff—and perhaps of the University authorities—to the unenviable lot of scholarship holders.

My position is this: in the Entrance Scholarship examination I gained a place among the first ten in the Dominion and thereby qualified for a Junior Scholarship. This entitles me to £25 a year plus tuition fees (but not examination fees) on condition that I attend lectures as a full-time student and accept no job outside the University; I have also obtained the distinction of having my name marked "Entrance Scholar" in the graduates roll, when I take my degree—a distinction which unfortunately has no value as security. The situation was bad enough last year, when I had to pay 30/- Stud. Ass fee and 4 gns. examination fees (for four subjects) out of my meagre income. But this year the University has seen fit to raise examination fees to 17/- a paper. I shall now, out of my £25, have to pay 30/- Stud. Ass. fee and £7/13/0 examination fees (for another three subjects), shall also have to buy my books (the cost of which has gone up considerably), and am supposed to live on the rest for the whole of the academic year! I did hear that the Senate intends to consider raising the value of scholarships—which, incidentally, were not affected by the cost of living bonus granted by the Arbitration Court—but I am sure that by the time the matter is decided I shall no longer be in receipt of the scholarship. I should therefore like to remind the University authorities that University scholars—who have had to sit a severe competitive examination to gain their scholarships—have been hit harder than all other students by the sudden raising of fees; that, in fact, a scholarship is at present a high distinction, but a definite financial handicap, as the scholar must not increase his nominal income by taking a job. As a remedy I suggest that the University should as soon as possible increase the value of its scholarships and should also (since the scholar's "income" will even then be small) consent to pay his examination fees, which are now a considerable burden; and finally, that the University should give some consideration to those who have to pay the higher fees without getting the higher scholarships, and should introduce the increases as from the beginning of this year.

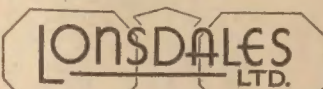
Yours, etc. SCHOLAR.

SHYLOCK

Dear Sir, Three days after reading your review of a book your reviewer had not read ("The Shylock Myth") and which he described as a "denunciation of this contribution to the literature of anti-Semitism," I received this month's issue of "Co-op. Books," in which the work referred to is advertised. Now the point of his not very measured denunciation of the book seems to be that the author does not recognise "The Merchant of Venice" as an appeal for tolerance, but regards Shakespeare as an anti-Semite. Yet in "Co-op. Books" I find the following advertisement, made out by people who presumably have read the book: "The Shylock Myth... Shakespeare's part in the struggle against hypocrisy and intolerance." Which makes me wonder who the "fool" referred to really is. I shall read it to find out.

Yours etc., W. H. O.

OPTICIANS



Norman Wright

D.I.O.N.Z. F.I.O.N.Z.

(late of Manchester St.)

87 WORCESTER STREET (Opposite AVON THEATRE)

Appointments phone 35-160

TWO VIEWS ON CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

Dear Sir,

I was a little disconcerted to find a number of our distinguished professors had their names published in a daily paper in connection with a movement for the alleviation of the sufferings of conscientious objectors.

I feel that we, the University students, will be automatically included with those names by the general reading public, and there are a great number of us who strongly resent this, as our opinions differ slightly from those expressed.

One of our minor clubs has already conducted a newspaper controversy on a similar subject, and actually had the audacity to attempt to predict for the public the opinion of the Student Body as a whole.

I have already heard this institution referred to, amongst other rather unpleasant names, as a 'Home for Conscientious Objectors' and a hideout for dodgers; and I cannot help feeling that these efforts will do little, apart from bringing us into further disrepute with the public.

Worthy though the cause of the Conscientious Objector may be, I suggest that a little more effort by all of us to help bring this war to a successful conclusion would solve his problem in a practical way and incidentally lift a slight burden from the shoulders of his fellow sufferer—the fighting man.

Yours etc.,

J. K. LOUISSON.

P.S. Correspondence just come to hand contains the following which may interest all Conscientious Objectors and their supporters.

University of Japan: Syllabus 1944. Extract—

Practical Course in Rape. Open to all women of foreign extraction—British, Chinese, American, etc. This course is conducted by the entire Japanese Army ad. lib. and is run in close association with the Compulsory Prostitution Course, i.e., the picking out at random of white women for brothels for Japanese soldiers.

University of Germany: Syllabus 1939 onwards. Extract—

Practical Course in Sterilization. This course is compulsory for all male members of enemy countries together with females, who have not passed through Japanese hands, non-Aryans, non-Germans and others with suitable qualifications. This course is very short and painless, but is guaranteed to last a lifetime.

Extract from Minutes of Radical Club:—

The Secretary was pleased to be able to inform members that she was keeping close touch with all conscientious objectors in Russia individually—

The item for this correspondence read:—

Correspondence received from C.O.'s in Russia—Nil. Replies to same—nil.

J. K. L.

There was no time before this issue went to press to invite the Radical Club officials to exercise the right, granted in such cases, of simultaneous reply. This we regret and invite comment from all interested for next Canta.—Ed.

CONCERT FEES

Sir, At the Thursday Lunch Hour Concert the Professor of Music made the announcement that in future an annual fee of 10/6 is to be charged for attendance at these concerts, six evening ones and the Musical Appreciation lectures. The payment of this fee entitles anyone to a ticket which has to be produced at all the concerts.

Admittedly this is a small charge, but I think that the inconvenience such a step causes does not make it altogether a wise one.

In the first place it seems to me that the whole procedure is harmful to any attempt at an increase of the popularity of music. Rich or poor, people come quicker to a free concert. And these concerts have always been free in the past.

In the second place it is inconvenient. It is quite probable that many members may want to bring friends along occasionally. Are these other people to be denied admittance because they have not paid 10/6 and cannot have a ticket? If the money is so urgently needed why not have a silver coin collection at the door.

This may seem a trivial issue

During the vacation a matter of great importance was decided by the College Council. A Conscientious Objector was recommended for a post on the staff. It is to be supposed that the head of the department concerned had taken into account all matters affecting his fitness for the job, and had decided that his pacifism would not so influence his work as to render him less desirable than the next best man. To appoint him was impracticable because the Council had resolved that Conscientious Objectors in its employ be given leave without pay for the duration of the war. Dr. Helen Simpson therefore moved that that resolution be rescinded. The Council negated this motion by eleven votes to nine.

From the Council's viewpoint the matter ended there, but the Radical Club, which had been holding Study Groups through the vacation, had called an Extraordinary General Meeting, and had unanimously passed a resolution in support of Dr. Simpson's motion. It was also resolved by a large majority that the Club took this action "not in support of pacifism but in defence of civil liberties." These resolutions were announced in the same newspaper which reported the Council's decision. This was unfortunate, for it precipitated a most regrettable correspondence. The trend of public opinion was that "the marked tendency towards pacifism among members of the Canterbury College Council" was a menace to the community. One correspondent even urged that the Government take action. Statements so inaccurate and damaging were made that students, and others who believe in liberty, were forced to join the discussion in defence of their ideals. Such defence has proved vain. It is impossible to make the public understand the simplest features of the question. It has been repeated again and again that the real issue is not pacifism but civil liberties. That the resolutions only applied to those men whose appeals have been granted, who have been officially certified as genuine. That such men must be employed somewhere or become a charge on the community. That it is in the public interest that they should be employed at the work they do best. That to deprive them of such work is to defeat the object of the legislation on this subject. Instead of replying to these arguments the public has hurled a torrent of abuse at pacifists. For instance, "No Humbug" says "while it may require courage to be a Conscientious Objector, it requires a deal more courage to be eaten by a Jap." This is irrelevant to the real issue, and is really criticism of the Government's action in tolerating Conscientious Objectors.

VIEWS AND THE PUBLIC

I do not, of course, argue that there is no case for the Council's action. To do so would be to class them with the writers of the objectionable letters. It might be maintained that pacifism unfits a man in some way for his job. But surely no unfit man would be recommended by the head of a department. It might be argued that a pacifist might convert others to his views. But men and women who cannot evaluate the opinions of others have not attained sufficient mental development to make good students. Any fear that students might be converted to pacifism is therefore an admission that pacifists are right. It might be felt that, as a matter of justice, pacifists should not benefit from their views. But surely it is unjust to make them suffer for them. Nor should the students be punished for the views of others by being deprived of the best instruction. Further, the resolution only affected men who had been called upon for military service. I understand that the majority of the staff have not.

Why should a man who is appealed for be treated differently from one who appeals for himself? Again it might be thought that since the College is supported by public money, the wishes of the public should be considered binding. This point gains great force but tactical considerations are very important and should always be taken into account. "MUSIC HO." THE GOOD OLD DAYS "The editor has been very unwell with the bloody flux, so much so that he has been unable to prepare any editorial at all. We hope the editor will be well enough to get out the next issue, when he will have many things to discuss." Ben Robertson—from an American pioneer paper.

when it is realised that the University is the only organisation of its kind in New Zealand. We must be careful not to abuse our position. But surely our responsibility to the public is that of a doctor rather than Court Jester. We must not tell the patient lies merely because he wishes to hear them. We are the intellectual section of the community. For the public to tell us what to think is worse than to keep a dog and do one's own barking. Provided the dog owner is capable of barking.

But the case for tolerance is founded on stronger and surer things than a mere denial of the case against it. It involves the very life blood of democracy. In the modern, close knit, community, the opinions of others do affect us. Any belief which is held by a large group of people may endanger our whole way of living. The opponents of pacifism will be the first to admit this. Why, therefore, in a war for democracy, should they be allowed to express views contradicting the spirit of democracy? Because "the test of tolerance is that it tolerates tolerance." Because freedom is not to be won by infringing the freedom of others. It depends on the willingness of each of us to tolerate views and actions of which he disapproves. Imagine the situation if pacifists got the upper hand and set about the suppression of those who do not agree with them. Absurd, of course; their principles would not permit of it. But this very fact puts their opponents in the position of persecuting those who will not strike back. It is the same as striking helpless men, women or children. (Pardon me, some kinds of women and children).

CIVIL LIBERTIES

One party to the correspondence I have mentioned argued that the Council's decision could not be called undemocratic because it was a majority decision. If this be accepted, then the Bill of Rights with which the American Constitution is based on fundamental ideals. The system of majority rule is only a means to an end, of which most people seem to have lost sight. One of these ideals is liberty. Liberty of conscience, in particular, has been fought for by Englishmen for centuries. So much of it as has been achieved must not be lightly relinquished. There has been a great deal of freedom lost in the course of this war. The argument is that it is sacrificed now in order to protect it in the future. It is rather depressing that Professor Harold J. Laski considers it "commonly accepted that the very idea of freedom must perish." That was written before the war. Now, we must admit, the position is more hopeful. The idea, and ideal, of freedom is still alive, although it seems to have few adherents. But freedom is like a living thing. Once dead it is lost. As Dr. Simpson told the Council, if there is one place where it can be defended, it is in the University. And it must be defended there, to the last ditch. If it is to spring forth again it must find a temporary refuge, if only in the hearts of those who "Never doubted clouds would break.

Never dreamed, though right were worsted, wrong could triumph. Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better. Sleep to wake." J. ERIKSON.

Canterbury College Students' Blazers

REGULATION MAROON CLOTH

All pockets and buttons procurable from Students' Association

Blazers made to order. Pockets extra

Ladies' .... 50/- Men's .... 59/6

THE FARMERS'

"The Big Store in Cashel Street"

Oysters or Flounders

Fish and Chips

DELICIOUSLY COOKED by

Frank HOBSON

Hospital patrons specially catered for

Open till 11 p.m.

52 OXFORD TERRACE CHRISTCHURCH

Phone 32-679

The Friendly

Bookshop

You are welcome to call and examine the new books at any time.

The store is nicely heated and there is a free writing and meeting room where you can write your letters and meet your friends.

WHITCOMBE'S BOOKSHOP

A. W. GRIMMER & SONS LTD. Family Butchers

Primest Quality Meat

73 VICTORIA ST.

Phone 34-848

Established over 50 years

THE STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY LTD.

160 HEREFORD ST. CHRISTCHURCH

Transacts all classes of Fire and Accident Insurance at lowest current rates.

Insure with a purely New Zealand Company

THOS. M. CHARTERS Manager



FOOTBALL CLUB

The annual general meeting of the C.U.C. Football Club was held Wednesday 5th. The election of officers resulted as follows:— President: Mr. J. K. Moloney; Vice-Presidents: 22 were elected; Club Captain: R. P. Dansey; Hon. Sec.: K. A. Mackwell; Hon. Treas. R. W. Drummond; Committee: A. D. McKenzie, B. J. Drake, J. W. Cockrill, M. A. Johnson.

The membership at present stands at 70, an increase on last year, and it is hoped to field four teams; one senior and one junior and two third grade teams. Due to the influx of more experienced players than were available last year it is proposed that this year the varsity fifteens will not be amalgamated. This spells well for a successful season, but can only be accomplished by the whole-hearted support of every member of the club.

Finally as a mark of respect the gathering observed a period of silence for those former members who have paid the supreme sacrifice.

"OCTOPUSITIS"

Sir, Bureaucracy is the prominent feature of our national life, at this, the start of another academic year. Not so many years ago, we could look down with disdain on the muddles in other countries. Our own garden was in order. We had our satisfying "middle way" and would never go to the extremes of Fascism or Communism. To-day it is obvious, however, that we have strayed from our path.

The clue to our condition lies in an overburdened system of government. Our administrative system is incapable of bearing the burden with which it is faced.

No man can satisfactorily perform more tasks than he is physically capable of handling. Notwithstanding this, however, our Parliament continues to accept fresh responsibilities although its capabilities are already overtaxed.

In 1886 the gross figure of New Zealand's budget was in the vicinity of \$4 million. How insignificant this amount when compared with recent budget figures. Even making allowance for to-day's depreciation in monetary values, the comparison gives an illustration of the tremendous increases in State activity. This extension of state enterprise was evident well before the war but has been greatly promoted by war-time necessities.

Whether this hold that the Government has assumed over the sinews of our existence is to be relaxed after the war, remains to be seen. Our present government is avowedly Socialist and we can expect no element of Conservatism in their administration. Looking back through the centuries of world history, however, one sees that all governments, Radical or Tory, Labour or Conservative, Fascist or Communist have extended the powers of the State rather than restrict them. It appears inevitable that state activity should increase.

As new responsibilities are assumed by Parliament, so must adjustments be made in the organisation. Unless the framework of the system is altered, the very principles of democracy will have to be shelved. New tasks will outpace the capacity of the existing organisation and those matters which cannot receive the personal attention of our elected representatives will be delegated to non-representative bodies and subordinate committees.

As these non-representative personnel gain influence and power, the authority of government shifts largely from one elected delegate and we are dictated to by these obscure bureaucrats who are too far removed from public censure to fear its sting.

The American, Woodrow Wilson has said "The history of liberty is the history of limitations on the power of government."

If democracy is to be preserved in New Zealand, it is essential that the small, independent organisations should jealously guard their rights. The duties of Parliament must be restricted to the tasks which the elected members can adequately perform themselves, or personally supervise. Direct, representative government must be promoted wherever possible, and locally-elected organisations should take the weight from the Government's shoulders. Parliament will thus be left with the bare essentials for its restricted capacity and the injustices, anomalies and red-tape, increasingly apparent to-day, will no longer trouble us.

POET'S PUB

TOPICAL

I'm told to write a few verses And make them topical too. But after a dozen curses I still don't know what to do.

Do you? For half the time I can't find a rhyme To some German or Russian name. What a game!— For "Fuehrer"

There's "purer" Which doesn't quite rhyme, and— though the man's inscrutable— Is hardly suitable.

Old Goering May be a rat, But he isn't a cat, So I can't use "purring;"

And as for "stirring": Well, he simply isn't that! There's nothing sim'lar To Himmler—

Except in the zoo: And that won't do Because (that's the point) its name Won't be the same, And therefore won't fit A bit.

As for Doenitz There's "turnips," Which is almost perfectly right (But not quite).

For Field Marshal Rommel There's "pommel." (Which doesn't sound a good rhyme Though I think it would rhyme.

If you took the trouble to take it And make it). So you see it's bad enough with the Prussians

But if you turn to the Russians Well, It's just hell! For Zhukov

There's "took off" But what he took off I don't know, And so

We pass to Malinovsky.— But unless he has a toff's key (Which I doubt)

He's out: One man who hasn't been in Here yet is Kalinin.

The President of the Soviet State. And though it's late, We mustn't forget to mention Stalin, Who's a darlin'.

'Cos you see, There's nothing else he could be, Except perhaps "snarlin'"— And that might mean a fine for me!

So I really can't write topical verses, For after two dozen curses I still don't know what to do. Do you? W. H. O.

Nobody knows de committees Ah been on, Nobody knows but Jeanne; Nobody knows de experience Ah had,

G'Lawry Allan! Ooia! He hated books; he loathed the State;

He wrapped his sponge in Livy. He put the Great Seal in the grate And the Privy Seal . . .

He's the guy That pays the woman That pays and pays and pays. From "The Woman Always Pays," an American ditty.

Ring out, wild bells, to the rainy sky! Thank Gawd, this lecture's end is nigh.

Sun through the red notice on the tram window, The dark trees.

We attempt the potency Of our invocation. It spins away In the glance of words. Not to defeat.

THE RUFFLED RAFFLE

Many of our prominent figures, and others less prominent, who just couldn't get away, spent a happy day in Cathedral Square recently, selling tickets in the car raffle for the Patriotic Fund. A howling gale lent variety and a piquant charm to the occasion.

"Car for sixpence, madam?" said someone, descending on a preoccupied matron. "Drive a car and keep your hat on!" Then there was the gent who tried to sell to a policeman. "Look, boy!" said the Law, "if I can resist some of the girls' faces I see on my job I can resist you!" and stalked on. The Editor of CANTA tried his luck with the Salvation Army, but this apparently was the wrong idea. We also learnt that one in every five of the citizens "had the winning ticket already," and one in four "had plenty already." Cars? we suggested wistfully, or tickets? They smiled bitterly.

Ah, well, a pleasant way of spending an hour. Thank you, Miss Bull. Thank you, Licensed Victuallers. Anyone want to thank us?

MALO MORI

(Concluded)

The conservative of course will step in here and argue that our civilisation would have been reduced to chaos long ago had he not put on a brake and acted as a continuous counter-force to the challenging quest of the radical reformer or innovator. There is certainly some truth in this argument. But I believe that the cases where the explosive force of a new idea would have led to certain disaster unless the conservative had exerted a restraining influence, are very few. On the whole one cannot see what sort of a disaster it would have been— since the only final and fatal disaster that could ever befall us is the death of the spirit that embarks daily on a new quest. All disasters are of a trivial nature in comparison to that disaster. And here we must say that all these other disasters have indeed befallen us in spite of the alleged good influence of the conservative.

It is possible to explain the fact that potential anarchism does not lead us straight to complete chaos in a different and more plausible way. If we assert that the individual conscience is the ultimate court of appeal, we do of course not at all imply that this conscience is the conscience of the individual in abstracto. This individual, although an individual and perhaps an inscrutable unique human being, is nevertheless a member of society. This is not to say that he is a cog in a machine, a mere member of a greater body; he is a self-sufficient being. But at the same time he is indebted for his language and the general framework of his thoughts and volitions to other human beings, for these things have both their origin and find their development in intercourse with other men. What can therefore break and be reduced to chaos are the institutions which men have created; but society itself, the relationship of man with man, can no more disappear than man himself can disappear, i.e., only through the agency of a natural catastrophe. The individualism we have indicated above does not, therefore, at all lead to social Atomism or whatever the theory that under certain conditions society will be reduced to chaos, may be called.

The conservative's standpoint then boils down to a clear denial of the motive force of our civilisation. To him our civilisation is based on authority and tradition—and once these go, he argues, our civilisation is doomed. But in fact there has so far not been a single tradition or authority yet, be it in religion, politics, science or philosophy, that has not been successfully challenged. Is there then no civilisation? Or are we rather to say that our true civilisation consists in this continuous challenge? The latter conclusion seems to be more plausible than the former. And as Pericles warned the Athenians that the secret of freedom is courage, we may infer that it is just the lack of courage that drives the conservative to a denial of the fundamental spirit of our civilisation. As long as we preserve the courage to continue the unchecked quest for knowledge and a happier world our civilisation will remain true to its spirit. Its real enemy is not this or that theory, not this or that religion or lack of religion and not the lack of certain moral standards (as our Churches are so fond of emphasising) but fear of the surprise we may experience as a result of new and ever more daring adventures in thought and deed.

"I offer no final perfection, I aim at no ultimate infallibility. Man will always be prey to error and doubt; there lies the only living splendour, and in my admission of imperfection lies my everlasting strength. I do not demand that you make a choice: the courage of your honesty is the only weapon I demand in you. And in return I give you freedom."— Prokosch. P. M.

THE AUTHOR

Peter Munz, prominent for some years in historical, philosophical and argumentative circles at C.U.C., has left to take up a post as assistant to the department of History at Victoria College. CANTA made three attempts to interview him before his departure, but he always changed the subject. We hope to have an intimate glimpse in our next issue and meanwhile wish him every success.

MAKE YOUR OWN GLOVES

From an excellent selection of skins in Chamois, Brown, White Doeskin, Fawn, Wine and Cream Nappa. These skins will make two or even more pairs of durable and hard wearing gloves, and all are very reasonably priced at

HAY'S Ltd.

Colombo and Gloucester Streets

COUPON

Free Goods

Dixon's offer you a big selection of unrationed meats.

- Sausage Meat . . . 5d. lb., 3lbs. 1/- Mince (mutton) . . . 5 1/2d. lb. Rabbits . . . 1/- each Sausages . . . 6d. lb. Pork Sausages . . . 9d. lb. Faggots . . . 1d. each Saveloys . . . 9d. lb. Delicious Bacon . . . 1/6, 1/7 lb. Lamb's Fry . . . 9d. lb. Pork Brawn . . . 9d. lb. Pressed Beef . . . 1/3 lb. Veal and Tongue . . . 1/4 lb. Rissoles . . . 6d. lb. Belgian Sausage . . . 9d. lb. Black & White Puddings, 6d. each

DIXON BROS.

"The City's Best Butchers" 103 CASHEL STREET, and at Sea View Road, New Brighton

Books repaired and rebound

McHARG

BOOKBINDER & RULER 65 VICTORIA STREET CHRISTCHURCH Telephone 35-263

Flowers?

of course

REID'S

HIGH STREET

Phone 36-171 After hours 22-495 Flowers Delivered Anywhere— Anytime

B-ALL-IN

For Ballins XX XX

Ballins Breweries (N.Z.) Ltd. CHRISTCHURCH

Phone 30-705

High quality Ingredients, the Recipes and the Methods combine to make this a

REAL

Home-Made Cake Kitchen

noted for Superior Cakes, Pastries, Savouries, Catering for Weddings, Socials, Birthday Parties Also specialist in cake decorating Soldiers' Parcels of all varieties

THE HOSTESS

(Miss DOROTHY COOPER) 136 ARMAGH STREET Phone 36-903

Please mention this ad.

THE South British INSURANCE COMPANY LTD.

FIRE ACCIDENT MOTORS MARINE GUARANTEE BONDS

Insure with a Local Company

Head Office: AUCKLAND

N. C. BARSTOW Manager for Canterbury 137 Hereford St., Christchurch

The Leading House FOR ALL

Sporting Requisites

FOOTBALL, CRICKET, GOLF, TENNIS, ETC.

Golf lessons, complete Restrings, Cricket Bat Repairs

Cromb & Merritt Ltd.

110 CASHEL STREET Phone 41-377

WAR TIME FOOTWEAR NEEDS

FULLY SERVICED

Penrose's SHOE STORE LTD.

697 Colombo St.

Maison Treselle

(Mrs. OLDS),

COURT . . . . .

HAIRDRESSERS

Only Address—

83a CASHEL STREET W. (near Bridge of Remembrance)

Phone 35-852

TIMBER

Huge Stocks Best Service with Quality



THE Butler Timber Co. Ltd.

MANDEVILLE STREET CHRISTCHURCH P.O. Box 456. Phones 31-313, 33-864