



### IS UNIVERSITY LOBBYING FOR FLETCHERS?

By a Special Correspondent

The secret is now out, of the Fletcher Organisation's new bid to get the huge Hobson Bay contract—and of its private negotiations with the heads of the University of Auckland.

While University councillors, Professorial Board, staff, students and public were kept in the dark, this Fletcher plan was known to the deputation which discussed the University site with the Prime Minister and other Ministers in Wellington.

The unprivileged outsiders were allowed to suppose that nothing new was raised at the Wellington conference—nothing to warrant, say, a special meeting of the University Council.

According to one source, Chancellor Cocker and Pro-chancellor Robb were agreeable to a hush-hush policy in order to give Fletchers best chance to win the contract.

For their part, Fletchers are said to want the contract badly, but are willing to be regarded as benefactors of the University.

Here must lie the explanation why no decision was made at the Wellington summit talks—why Mr Nash is giving the site 'more thought'—why still another plan has been batted back to the Works Ministry to investigate—why the University is getting no further.

Fletchers' new move is a cut-price offer to do a reduced-size reclamation spir cheaper than Government engineers think it can be done. Twenty-five per cent cheaper, according to one estimate.

Neatly dovetailing in these not-so-well-kept secret moves appear to be those long-standing sympathies between the Chancellor and the Prime Minister—and between the Prime Minister and Fletchers, who grew to power under the old Labour regime.

Suggestions or suspicions of malpractice are out of the question. But there are questions, nevertheless, which call for an answer.

- (1) Did Chancellor Cocker and Pro-chancellor Robb know of Fletchers' bid before they last went to Wellington?
- (2) If so, did they act properly in concealing the knowledge from the rest of the University Council—including members known to be opposed to further pressing of the Hobson Bay proposals?
- (3) Have they acted properly, since, in deciding not to call a special meeting, while keeping the whole affair a secret among a few?
- (4) Is everything right with a scheme which calls for sealed-lips diplomacy in collusion with a big business organisation? — Can it perhaps not stand on its merits?
- (5) Whose interests come first—the University's or Fletchers'?
- (6) Hasn't the University done about enough to help Fletchers lobby this contract through Cabinet?—and isn't that what the whole Hobson Bay scheme amounts to?

### THE OLD, OLD, STORY

In a recent article, Alan Barcan, a Newcastle University College lecturer, claims that the student outlook is becoming more narrow and of less depth than it was in the booming years after the last war. Such a view appears to be accurate. An outside observer sees changes in student outlook according to the impact they make on the life of the community at large, and also, should he choose to concern himself more particularly, in the literary products of the University.

He forms a view which may be far more comprehensive in time than that of a current undergraduate; and he may have a sound idea of the causality of such changes. This cause, which the thinking insider will tend to see with more urgency, if less clearly, is the current dry rot of the University, whether considered as an institution for the adequate education of its members or as a body influential in the formation of public opinion and taste.

Barcan-quite rightly, I feel — implicates the secondary education system in the degeneration of average educational standards. This system has a major influence in conditioning students to a career-tailored, examination-biased attitude to their education. It follows mass-production methods too faithfully . . . Those authorities who demand more attention in the University to education in the humanities are conscious of the gap that has been left by the so-called superfluous subjects from the secondary curriculum. The tendency today is towards an empirical, limited, uncritical education in which the ability to reproduce facts and opinions is at a far higher premium than truly mature critical thought. The result of this orientation, and of associated parental pressure, is that we have a system of pedagogic cramming which just pushes more and more pupils each year through the Leaving Certificate examination to Matriculation status.

This article is an abridged editorial from 'Hermes', the magazine of the University of Sydney.

Most of the students have been conditioned, by this process and previously at home, to consider exams as meal tickets, rather than as a certificate of basic education. If the University wishes to ensure that its matriculants have more than such a working qualification it will be forced to separate the preparation for the matriculation from the standard L.C. process, and to institute a special course covering the one or two years following the L.C. examinations.

This an attractive but fiendishly difficult proposal. In actual fact, the universities have been forced to tackle at a tertiary level the problem of the student who has matriculated without an education, has been channelled into a technical speciality, and who — being infected, as are most, with the modern sin of pragmatism — will do nothing to widen his intellectual horizons. The most frequent remedial proposals envisage supplementary courses, compulsory or voluntary, in the humanities. . . My own feeling is, that whatever is tried will, in the present climate of the University, have no more than a formal success. This may appear pessimistic, and others will not agree that the ideas I propose in the rest of this article warrant such a conclusion. I think that it will be justified by events.

Many people would, I think, agree with Newman that the ideal product of a University should have undergone, and

profited from, an extended course in critical thinking, so gaining discernment and a faculty of selection, with a capacity for creation in proportion to individual talent. Newman has strong ideas on the value of the English, Oxford-type University as fostering this type of formation by the strength of its community life. In this our "red-bricks", (Sydney University) which are in this time and place becoming increasingly *petit bourgeois*, cannot compare.

There is here, as many people have noted, no community life between staff and students. There is a fair community of staff members united by specialist



Downwards or Onwards?

interests; but students with no contingent interests might as well be on different planets. Unfortunately common interests are rarely widespread — therefore, no student community . . .

The opportunities for critical and creative development are still present. But most students prefer to pick up a synthetic veneer of culture requiring the minimum of mental effort. They listen to the classical music, read the fashionable intellectual books know what they like in art. They become the type of the "culture-snob".

Perhaps this is better, if by a little, than the other attitude to culture which is at times obvious — the couldn't-care-less that is the extreme product of our educational system . . .

In the post-war years in Sydney there was a sudden concentration at the University of a particular type — those who wanted to go out and educate themselves. They were ready to challenge anything, criticise everything, venture without hesitation into new paths of art and litera-

ture. Now arrives the flood of the immature, the children who have hardly grown up to the stage of having problems; and the *avant-garde* now far smaller, is swamped by their onslaught. Children are not interested in politics, nor in the refinements of philosophy, nor are they capable of discrimination in art and literature; and their education has not really equipped them to deal with these matters. A few reach this stage of development in their university years, but most will either (remembering Polonius) just work earnestly, or (ignoring) play uproariously; or fall between the two. Even those who have some intimations of something better have not been fitted by their training for the sustained mental effort required.

So, as the University expands immensely, and as it is thrown open to so many more people by the increase in available financial assistance this rot sets in. Perhaps the old, exclusive University was a better idea. At least it provided a healthier intellectual environment. University education like education at all levels, always has the lowest common denominator aspect, and that is the essential University disease — or one of them — at present.

#### Whither Thinkers?

This appears to be a partial explanation of that degeneration of University thought which Barcan detects in the disappearance of radicalism and controversy. Nobody is interested in thinking . . . The massive indifference of the undergraduates to political questions; the divorce of real politics from student representative bodies, which are at the same time markedly short of outstanding personalities — these run side by side with the increasing preponderance of the younger generation . . .

This argument leads to another statement: that the University at the student level is not making any useful impression on the community in which it is placed. The University may see outstanding men and even outstanding ideas emerge from itself; but it is doing nothing to produce them. (This is not, however, meant to impugn the technical standard of any Faculty — for by outstanding I mean much more than "technically accomplished".)

Going beyond, and examining the status of the whole University in our community, we find it in very low standing . . . Any Professor today is a respected authority in his own specialty and little more. The work, writings and opinions of academic figures are largely ignored, while public opinion is being shaped by journalists and politicians and public taste by newspapers and magazines. This situation is correlated with the growth of specialisation, which is necessarily meant that professors can be men of quite indifferent general accomplishment.

In all, the University offers less guidance to the community where there appears to be less demand for such guidance. Here the Press must be implicated. It is difficult to assess whether the Press attitude to the University has followed or created public indifference. I favour the latter. Since the war the pattern of journalism in Sydney and throughout Australia has become more and more slanted to the idea that news alone matters, and that news is anything unusual, preferably sensational. As this policy has affected University reporting, it has eliminated the extensive coverage once enjoyed by academic and student affairs . . .

(Continued on Page 6)





# CRACCUM

The Editor accepts as little responsibility as possible for the contents of this paper, and the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor or the A.U.S.A.

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## The Angry Young Men

THE following is a reprint from the Engineer's magazine *Enginuity*, Thursday, 1st May, and throws new light on several very old themes:

Are we angry young men? We hardly think so. Well are we apathetic? No, not if it is a matter of some excitement, some fun at T.C.'s expense or a party, then the engineers are first on the spot. But about the outside world? About things that really matter?

Living at Ardmore, the other world of overseas news, of politics, of local government, seems somewhat remote. It is not often that the mealtime discussion ranges outside our narrow little sphere here at Ardmore. Could we, purely as an exercise in planning, consider the future of our school?

1. If Princes St. is to remain the site, the engineering school will never be an integral part of the university. It will be at Ardmore for all the foreseeable future: say 20 years. In this case we must press strongly for adequate facilities to be developed here within 2 or 3 years. A reasonable transport system, proper hostel accommodation, bigger lecture rooms, and an improved dining service are some of the things that will be needed.

2. Hobson Bay is in our opinion the best possible solution, assuming that the engineering school could get a high priority and transfer within 4 to 5 years. Unfortunately this site seems out of favour at the moment.

3. Other proposals can be divided into the two categories:

(a) Integral university, &

(b) Insular university schemes.

(a) are basically the same as Hobson Bay, that is the engineering school would have the same as Hobson Bay, would have to abandon Ardmore and move to the new site as soon as possible.

(b) in which the engineering school alone moves to a new site, offer only circumstantial advantages such as location and the new buildings that would be erected. This last is really only a way of pulling wool over politicians' eyes. It would be cheaper to build at Ardmore.

As something has to be decided, and in the near future, it should be our policy that whatever decision is made about the site of the University of Auckland, part of it is about the engineering faculty. A proper plan to cope with the inevitable increase in numbers should be evolved. The ridiculous situation in which we are now placed is that in ten months time, accommodation for an additional 50 students will be required—nothing has been done.

Basically what we want is a decision either:

(a) Princes St., and we will spend £X00,000 at Ardmore within N years.

(b) Hobson Bay, & the engineering block will start being designed tomorrow.

Quote: "As far as I'm concerned, the engineering school I attend will be this one." It is not this attitude that is the spirit of progress. We of the engineering profession are those who make progress a tangible thing. We cannot allow such a spirit to pervade our way of life. Will we then, take the same attitude in the not far distant future when the questions of professional status and pay, are raised?

Hence we return to the original thought—Are there any 'angry young men' here? How many even read through to the end of an uninteresting page such as this?

## BOUQUET

SO, now the big moment has come at last, and after those years of swot and study you are at last to have your efforts officially recognised. Congratulations are no doubt pouring in from all sides, and we add ours to the stream. An extra word, however, to those of you who, besides gaining a degree, have helped run the University as well. You have probably taken longer to become qualified than is laid down in the handbook, and often the end seemed very far away. Usually no-one appreciated, or even realised, the time you put into being Secretary of this and Chairman of that, and it certainly never seemed a very good excuse when exam. results appeared. Now, however, that the final unit has been captured, you may sit back with a sigh of relief. For you not only have the satisfaction of wearing a gown with a coloured hood, but also the satisfaction of knowing that you have taken the opportunity of participating fully in all that University life has to offer you. To have learnt to do this is often more important than the passing of units; certainly to have dealt with the wide variety of personalities that collect around the various institutions of the University is a better lesson in patience than anything learnt in lectures. Thus to you, very best wishes and hearty congratulations.

Nominations are being called for the positions of President, Man Vice-President, Woman Vice-President and Treasurer. These close at the Association Office on Saturday, 10th May, at 12 noon.

Nominations are also being called for the positions of Business Manager, Capping Controller, Sports Club Representatives (2), Societies Representatives (2), Student Liaison Officer, Chairman Men's House Committee, Chairman Women's House Committee, Social Controller.

These close with Mrs. Chisholm on 6th June from whom the necessary form may be obtained.

JOHN HAWTHORN,  
Returning Officer.

## Around the Campus

The guest speaker at the Capping Ceremony this year, will be the Hon. Francis H. Russell, A.B., LL.B. (Harvard), American Ambassador to New Zealand. Students who suffer from long ear-bashing speeches, will be pleased that from such a person an interesting address should be heard.

At the meeting of the Executive on Monday, 21st April, the position of Returning Officer for the forthcoming elections was discussed, and from three nominations the Executive chose Mr John Hawthorn. John graduated B.Sc. last year, and is following on with an Honours course in Chemistry this year. He has been for the last few years the Returning Officer at O'Rorke, and we just hope that his ability to count up to 10 is as good as his ability at Chemistry.

A pleasing bit of news around the place is that Mr Arthur Young has been elected by N.Z.U.S.A. to represent them at the International Student Conference in Rio de Janeiro in 1958. Arthur graduated LL.B. last year, and is doing Honours in Law this year. He has been nominated for President of A.U.S.A. for the coming term. Mr Peter Boag, M.A., a past President of our Assoc., has also been elected by N.Z.U.S.A. to attend CONDA a conference to be held in the Philippines next year.

Grad. Ball this year promises to be a wow of an affair. — And not only wow from the point of view of the beauty of the women who will be present. If heads spin on Friday night as well as the arrangements have spun, no one will go home feeling as though they need forty winks. Instead — forty clinks.

## KIWI . . . .

Copy of an intellectual, literary, or academic nature is required for KIWI 1958. For details consult the editors, via Literary Society letter-box or M.H.C.

A. J. Gurr, M. E. A. Richards,  
Editors.

## Students at Grad. Ceremony

On Friday next the annual Graduation Ceremony will take place in the Town Hall. As its guest of honour the University is fortunate enough to have the Hon. F. Russell, United States Ambassador to New Zealand, who has consented to deliver the Graduation Address. As usual there will also be present many leading figures in the public life of Auckland as well as the relatives and friends of those receiving their degrees. This is in fact, an occasion when it is the duty of the University to appear at its best. The whole city recognises Capping Week as a time of student celebration. Both Thursday's procession and the Capping Revue have long become established institutions for letting off the year's steam. The Graduation Ceremony itself, however, is a different matter. It is a serious event for those receiving their degrees. During recent years this has been more and more forgotten by a minority of students, who have come to regard attendance at Capping as merely an excuse for a display of bad manners. As a result, the Council has decided to close the top gallery of the Town Hall during the ceremony. Alternative seating is being arranged elsewhere, for which tickets may be obtained from the University Office.

We appeal to all of you this year to extend to our guests the courtesy of good hosts and to help make graduation an occasion of dignity, and pleasurable to all who are present.

W. H. COCKER

Chancellor.

K. J. MAIDMENT

Vice-Chancellor.

P. J. GORDON

President, Students' Association.

## FURTHER LETTERS —

### PAINTING THE TOWER

Sir,

Last week you published a news item to the effect that the cost of repairing the 'damage' done to the tower recently would be about £30 or £40.

Although I had no part in this last year's attempt at decoration, I am concerned that the people who will have to pay for its removal should not do so without further enquiry into the price.

Granted that to replaster the spire would probably cost a great deal, I am to see why it was thought necessary to choose this laborious method. In fact, examination of the cost of alternative methods, it is clear that the Maintenance Department have, for reasons which seem highly suspect, deliberately chosen the most expensive way to about the job.

Briefly, here are the estimates of cost for two other methods of restoring the tower to its original appearance:

(a) by painting the spire to match the stonework, — ½ gallon paint would cost no more than £1 — labour of 2 men for 2 hours would cost no more than £2. Total cost £3.

(b) by cleaning the paint off with a proprietary paint remover.

(One brand known to me will easily remove three-coat oil paint, whereas in this case surely only one coat could have been applied).

—one bottle of paint remover with vinegar neutraliser would cost no more than £1 — labour as in (a), £2. Total cost £3.

Allowing for unforeseen difficulties, breaks, danger money, etc. etc., the cost by either method could not exceed £5.

In view of this, it would interest greatly to see some account that could possibly justify the figure of £30.

ROGER H

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CHRIS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



CHRISTIAN OR NON-CHRISTIAN?

Sir,  
When the seriousness of the issues at stake are considered, one would expect the atheist to produce a strong reason for his bold faith. The atheist has not merely to explain how belief in God might have arisen. He must show that this belief is wrong.

Mr Broughton has found comfort for his faith in a materialistic view of nature. Equally have Christian men of science, from Newton down, seen in the presence of law and order in nature a proof of the unchangeableness of God. In this connection it is not hard to understand that the whim of gods and goddesses of ancient times gave little hope of the world they ruled being one of law and order, and hence a fit subject for scientific investigation. I am more surprised at the yokels of modern times who, having removed God from their thinking, introduce idols through the back door in the form of Progress, or Science, or Human Reason, or the Spirit of Enquiry and so on.

Mr Broughton has in effect laid it to the charge of Christians that their belief is the result of wishful thinking. May not the Christian with more cause lay it to the charge of the atheist that his unbelief is the product of wishful thinking? The atheist has no God who may bring him to judgment, and does not believe in an after-life when he will be judged. Is it then surprising that many atheists are pursued by the fear that Christianity might after all be true?

Any man may discover for himself the truth of Christianity by submitting himself to Christ. The non-Christian cannot show him wrong by refusing to submit himself. Nor is there a special way for those with more intelligence or more education than other people; humiliating though this may be to some. But I do not know of anything that will stimulate the mind and broaden horizons like a vital Christian experience. In the words of Calvin, "if we hold the Spirit of God to be the only source of Truth, we will neither reject, nor despise this truth wherever it may reveal itself, provided we do not wish to offend the Spirit of God."—J. H. MAINDONALD.

Sir,  
Although Christianity is not the entire truth for me, it is at least a facet of it. My answer to the question "What is Truth?" is a very different one from Mr Hunt's. Truth to me is something that can be approached in many different ways. It is like the summit of a mountain which none of us climbs in exactly the same way as his neighbour. Truth is that noble idea in which a man believes with all his heart and to which he gives the best of himself . . . The important

thing is that he should think about his beliefs, and examine his own heart with the utmost honesty.

I have sometimes wished that I could give myself over to a religion with all my heart — it must be a great comfort to trust in God as a father. But . . . I cannot believe in the existence of a God outside myself who holds my fate in his hands. God, to me . . . is an inner experience which I cannot translate into a form outside myself . . .

Christianity, to me, is certainly a way to the truth, but it is one of many ways and no better than other religions and conceptions. I want to make it very clear that I do not conceive my own way of thinking as superior to others. For most people in our community Christianity is the answer — for me and many others it is not. I should be false to myself if I accepted it for comfort's sake.

Mr Hunt says that, if you are not a Christian, you need enormous faith. This is true, but it is a different kind of faith than he suggests. We stand more alone than those who have a dogmatic religion to fall back on; there are many problems we must solve by ourselves. This is not always easy. But why does Mr Hunt suppose that a non-Christian passes such a sweeping judgment on Jesus? I am far from thinking that Jesus was insane or evil — I think that he was one of the bravest, noblest men who ever lived, a man who is an example to all the world. Further Mr Hunt goes too far when he implies that "all the best men of all the ages" were Christian . . .

Men, the world over, are very different from each other and each thinks in his own subjective way. The only way we can live together is by being tolerant, especially in religious matters. We have no right to condemn, look down upon, or pity people whose ideas differ from ours, providing that those people are true to themselves.—KATHRYN SMITS.  
Abridged: Ed.

Sir,  
Mr Hunt is a Christian because he believes that there is no acceptable alternative. Christianity is then, for him, the best of a bad lot. However I do not for a moment question his right to make the wrong choice yet I do criticise the tenuous manner in which he dismisses possible alternatives to Christianity.

We may agree with Mr Hunt that agnosticism cannot provide a suitable alternative to Christianity but this flash of insight is but a lull before a storm of inanities. "If you are not a Christian, you need enormous faith" claims our correspondent. Are we to take this to mean that because one needs enormous faith not to be a Christian, a Christian needs less faith and therefore his religion is a better one? Unfortunately this seems to be the indication. Mr Hunt, while you may not have been put together by chance, I am loath to believe that you are a mere conglomeration of molecules. Furthermore I do have faith that God exists; I do not believe the Bible to have been assembled fortuitously nor that Jesus Christ was evil or insane nor that the "best" men of all ages were rogues. Yet I am not a Christian.

Obviously I profess a religion not admitted as an alternative to Christianity. I may believe in a life-force, I may be

a Hindu, a theist, a Mohammedan, or a Buddhist. To these religions which are centuries old and are professed by many millions, Mr Hunt does not even pay the compliment of acknowledging their existence as alternative beliefs.

His article in fact closes very sadly and if there was a law against writing under the influence of one's own verbosity, Mr Hunt would be in very serious trouble by now. Empty rhetoric of this kind is the prerogative of the street Bible-banger and God-botherer, and is out of keeping with the remarks of a true Christian.—W. CURNOW.

YOKELS?

Sir,  
Is A.G.M., the author of the recent tirade against "Yokels" as big a fool as he appears? Many students within the University may agree with the sentiments which he has expressed, and may feel strongly against the stultifying mediocrity of much of our New Zealand society, but who will pause long enough to wade through phrase after lengthy phrase of the turgid rhetoric of one intoxicated with the exuberance of his own verbosity in order to see the point of his article.

A.G.M. has seriously impeded the cause which he desires to further by making his article so stylistically ludicrous. He seems childishly unaware of one of the first principles of journalism, namely, that an intelligent audience will expect such an article to be aimed at approximately their own mental level. Either A.G.M. is deliberately insulting the readers of this University by taking a condescending attitude to which it seems doubtful that he, with his limited experience of intercourse with the so-called University intelligentsia, is entitled, or else he is abysmally ignorant of the fact that rhetoric as a means of persuasion is today dead, and suitable for exhumation only in such intellectual mausoleums as the Houses of Parliament and the daily Press.

A.G.M.'s stylistic mannerisms are sadly prejudicial to his argument. Surely, in spite of the possible validity of some of his statements, the adoption of such a style in his article is an action that can only be labelled immature and irrational.  
—W. S. BROUGHTON.

Sir,  
With regard to an article in the last issue of "Craccum", entitled "On Yokels", by one A.G.M.:

Had A.G.M. himself been moved by the words of H.L. Mencken to further the liberation of the human mind, he would have achieved a far greater measure of success by simply roistering down the highways of life and jeering at his own particular God, who may be impotent or merely merciful, depending on one's viewpoint, without pausing to throw his dead cat of an article before us.

The only fact which becomes apparent after a tenth reading through the inchoate irrelevancies of his almost alcoholically eloquent composition is not sufficiently revolutionary or appealing to justify either the bombast or the blasphemy employed in its amplification, and is simply that we are all fools. All that is, we are to assume, except those who, like A.G.M., have seen the light and are now able to look down upon the rabble with contempt from the lofty pinnacle of their own grossly egotistical intellectual superiority, who have divorced themselves only too willingly from the difficulties of conforming to the rigorous demands of the moral and social laws, and who, from their position of advanced enlightenment, are capable of offering to us from their bounty only disparagement, insult, and derogatory criticism.

We find nothing constructive, no remedy for our alleged ills. We are left to hide our eyes from the light of these orbitless comets as they whirl through the spacious vacuum of their own liberation, and to bemoan the harshness of a fate that denied to us the beauties of the void and left us with both our feet on the earth, where reality is our constant companion; left, conceivably, to hymn paeons of praise to these beings, these demigods who, though seeing all, are yet rash enough to show that they understand nothing.

I will sing no praises. I condemn as anti-social, irreligious, unprincipled, immature and distasteful the attitude of the entire article.—KEN O. ARVIDSON.

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Sir,  
It would seem that your alluring invitation to all and sundry to share with you the delights of 'going into print' has had the unfortunate effect of attracting contributors who would have done themselves and Craccum a service by staying out of print.

In a frenzied effort to show us that they, at any rate, are not "apathetic" correspondents have subjected Craccum readers to a welter of incompetent and uninforming writing most of which is mere intellectual exhibitionism and seems to be based on the assumption that writing of any sort is better than writing nothing at all. I for one, maintain that it is more important to think than to write, though it should not be impossible to do both.

Many of your correspondents seem to regard the whole business of letter-writing as nothing more than an opportunity to be facetiously nasty to one another. I feel sure that Mr Hunt had thought for one moment about his rather silly "Apologia" to Mr Hamer he would never have submitted it for print.

Some of your writers of articles would do well to exercise a little restraint, too. Last Craccum's front page effort "On Yokels" was a little too extravagant to warrant serious attention.

While I am throwing brickbats around so freely, allow me to fling one half-heartedly in your direction for the somewhat lax prose which at times obscured the point of your well-intentioned editorial "Without Uniform"; a bouquet, however for the articles for and against Christianity, which, if continued and elaborated in future issues, could become interesting.—M. P. JACKSON.

SANS EVERYTHING

Sir,  
J. L. Hunt's letter illustrates some common misconceptions current in N.Z. and, (surprisingly), at A.U. He suggests that there would be civil war in Cyprus if the British moved out. When the British were driven out of America as a result of the American Revolution, did the United Empire Loyalists (known as 'Tories'), who were then numerous, cause a civil war? No, they were obliged to flee to Canada.

Similarly, the Turkish Cypriots are too few in number to wage war effectively against the Greek Cypriots. Moreover, it is highly probable that 'Union With Greece' would follow Cyprus' break with Britain; which means that the Greek Government would have the power to evacuate the Turkish Cypriots from Cyprus to Turkey. There is a precedent for this in the forced evacuation of all Greeks from Turkey (including the populous city of Smyrna) during the Ataturk Rebellion.

Mr Hunt quotes internal crime ("gangs" during the Prohibition Era) and MacCarthy hysteria as evidence of American immaturity. Does he forget Britain's internal crime in recent years, headed by the notorious Billy Hill? And does he forget the Anti-German hysteria during World War I when the German Royal Family of Britain felt obliged to change its name to Windsor?

Granted that the British are more mature than the Americans; indeed they are over-mature. Britain exemplifies the senility that overtakes an old nation. Where else could a sensation be made over such trivial incidents as the gift of a bear by Russia to the U.K.?

The Cyprus incidents merely indicate once more the gap that exists between British declarations and British actions. Mr Hunt has clearly paid too much attention to the former and neglected the latter. Can he cite one instance in which the British were eager to grant independence to anyone? Britain loves Liberty, so the British say: so much indeed, it seems, that they cannot bear to share it. I am touched by J. L. Hunt's faith in Britain, but I regret that I, for one, cannot share it.—C.J.O.

COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE

Copy for the next issue of "Craccum" will close on TUESDAY, 27th MAY, at 7 p.m. Please place contributions in "Craccum" box on Men's Reading Room door.

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on**

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**Activities**

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# OUTSIDE THE CAMPUS ?

By Erica Cowan

**In a few weeks' time, a galaxy of new graduands will take part in Capping Ceremony. Their degrees conferred, most of the graduates regretfully sever their ties with A.U. Although there is a satisfying sense of achievement in the attainment of degree qualifications, there may well be too, an intense feeling of sadness that "it is all over-so suddenly".**

True, a degree course is not without difficulties, and not many would wish for perpetual times of slogging swot. But the life has many compensations, and graduates realize that the University has something which life outside cannot really compensate for.

With the cessation of attendance at lectures, the graduate feels that he has grown apart from student activities, and that the old 'hunting ground' has to be left to newcomers. He feels the need of a Society in University surroundings, where he can meet fellow graduates, a society in which his sense of "belonging to the University" can be given fresh impetus.

Opportunity for the realization of these needs is offered in membership of the Auckland University District Graduates Association (incorp.) Though young in years, the Association has already done much to strengthen the ties of graduates with their University.

## Courts of Convocation

Here, in brief, is its history. District Courts of Convocation (consisting automatically of all graduates) were provided for in the various University Acts of past decades. They had two functions: 1. Elective — to elect graduates' representatives on the College Councils and 2. Advisory — to be a body of mature graduate opinion to advise the student bodies and the College Councils. Unfortunately, the Statutes did not provide for any finance, and so the Courts of Convocation, except where the elective function was concerned, have really existed in name only. Owing to lack of money, some of the Southern Courts (i.e. Wellington) ceased to function long ago. In Auckland, there had been, for a long time, spasmodic attempts to revive the Court. It would fade out, and then some enthusiastic Graduates would endeavour to revive it. In 1950, the A.G.M. of the Court lapsed through lack of the necessary quorum of 10. At a meeting held later on, there was still no quorum, but after a frantic search of the College rooms to find a few lecturers etc who were dragged into the meeting, sufficient numbers were present to pass a resolution to the effect that it would be desirable to inaugurate a Graduates' Association to work in conjunction with the Court. The then President of the Court, Mr J. C. Reid, and the Clerk of the Court, Mr F. M. Price, approached the College Council, which generously financed the despatch of notices of the annual meeting of the Court, and of notice of intention to consider at this meeting the formation of a Graduates' Association. At this meeting, held in 1951, there was an encouraging attendance, and so the Association was duly launched with Mr C. Firth as presi-

(Continued from front page)

By this and other factors the University has come to be, in the public eye, considered as a centre of research and technical education, rather than as a centre of thought and intellectual creation. . . . While the University really remains principally an institute of technical education the situation will simply have to be accepted. But it should be clear in the minds of all those who respect the place that pure technical training has its rightful place in institutes of technology, and should as far as possible be relegated to these. The University must aim to turn out graduates with a deep critical understanding of their subjects and a basis of general training in intellectual discrimination. This it apparently cannot do with the material at present supplied to it and with the methods at present in force, even supposing it were adequately equipped and housed. Its current problems, then, are those of establishing a high standard of general education, preferably in pre-matriculation courses; and of continuing this general education in conjunction with an efficient tertiary spec-

dent, Mr F. M. Price vice-president, and Mr A. Peters as secretary. The graduates have cause to be grateful to the early office bearers for their work in inaugurating the Association.

According to the Constitution, which was formulated and adopted in 1952, the Objects of the Association are as follows:



Revue 1957: Life outside cannot really compensate.

(a) to further and implement the activities of the Auckland University District Court of Convocation.

(b) to further the interests of University Graduates who may be or who have at any time been on the roll of the Court.

(c) to provide facilities for intellectual and social intercourse among University Graduates.

(d) to promote interest in University affairs and in particular the affairs of the Auckland University College and the University of New Zealand among graduates and others.

(e) to publish such books, magazines, newspapers and periodicals dealing with matters concerning graduates or Univer-

alist training.

In solving these problems the habits of the time, the undesirable results of mass production education, mass "culture" and contempt of intellectualism must be faced and overcome. Here the Press — almost indispensable to a programme of general re-education — will be indifferent.

There will be an outcry from all sides at any suggestion of increasing the exclusiveness of the University, of raising the standards and making more demands upon the students. This must also be overcome. A third line of resistance, the toughest of all, will be by those men who tell the universities that it is their duty to train the scientists and technicians, and that this obligation must not be superseded by esoteric ideas. Here is a subtle falsehood. The University happens to have the facilities for training scientists; but should it abdicate its moral responsibilities to perform technical functions which are but minor adjuncts to the general devotion to knowledge, it would kill the spirit of the University leaving the shell only. As was the case when the Mongols ruled in China, the scholar and the thinker would find themselves only one degree higher than the beggar in the street. . . .

sity affairs generally, as it may deem fit.

(f) To acquire, hold and deal with any property either freehold or leasehold.

(g) To carry on any other activities of a similar or incidental nature.

Since its inception, the Graduates Association has not looked back, and has steadily grown in stature. Graduates appreciate membership not only for social and intellectual pleasure, but because it is a means of fostering sound relationships with the College and the Student Body. Membership now stands at 407. This is not an impressive figure when it is noted that there are approximately 4,000 graduates from A.U. alone, but it is indicative of growth, for in 1952, membership stood at only 50.

Membership covers a wide area — we send notices to such far-flung places as London and Tokyo. Those who cannot

attend meetings, keep in touch with Association affairs through the Annual Newsletter.

It may be truly said that in the six years of its life, the Graduates' Association has endeavoured to work actively for the well being of the College, the Staff, the Graduates and the Students, and has provided social functions of a happy nature each year. The Christmas Party is a very popular annual event. In 1957, it was held at O'Rorke Hall, and attracted a large gathering. Other interesting functions have been Film evenings, Panel Discussions, Musical and Poetry evenings, and an Art Gallery Conversation. In September 1957, Mr Bill Hamilton arranged a Graduates' party to Ruapehu, and eighteen members spent a most enjoyable skiing weekend there. In 1958, it is hoped to arrange a similar excursion for the weekend of July 25-27.

The Committee is working hard so that the Association may play as important a part as possible in the life of the University. We are proud to have Sir Joseph Stanton as our President.

Other office bearers are: Vice President: Mr M. Nairn; Treasurer: Mr A. Thomson; Secretary (and Clerk of Court): Mr B. Connell; Committee: Mrs L. Berman, Miss E. Cowan, Mr P. Butcher, Mr C. Firth, Mr W. Hamilton, Mr K. Piper.

If you are an old graduate, a new graduate, or have hopes of becoming a graduate some day, you have a vital interest in our affairs. Even if you do not as yet qualify for membership, please tell your friends about the Association. There must be many who are unaware of its existence. The subscription fee is ten shillings per annum — (five shillings for graduates of less than three years' standing). All graduates (of any university) are eligible for membership. Subscriptions may be paid either at the A.U.C. office, or at the office of the Treasurer, Mr Alan Thomson, National Bank Building, Shortland Street.

To all graduands,

It gives me great pleasure to have the opportunity of extending my sincere congratulations and good wishes to all those who are to receive their degrees at this year's Capping Ceremony. Since they first enrolled as students Auckland University College has become the University of Auckland, and yet another step has been taken towards complete academic independence. At the same time the University has continued to grow in numbers. This year the roll stands at almost 3,500, whereas only two years ago it was 2,900.

Every student well knows the difficulties under which he or she has been obliged to work during the recent past; and successful as we have been in devising makeshifts to make life somewhat more tolerable, it is abundantly clear that our troubles will remain with us for some years yet. I would ask every new graduate to keep this in mind on leaving the University, and to lose no opportunity of assisting us in our efforts to ensure that Auckland obtains in the end the buildings and the amenities which it has so long deserved. A University lives by its graduates and their affection for it, as much as by the students passing through it at any given time. I trust, therefore, that those who have now ended their undergraduate days will not sever their ties with us, but will keep us and our struggles in mind wherever they may be.

K. J. MAIDMENT  
Vice-Chancellor

As a graduand myself, I know with what mixed feelings you are preparing for the graduation ceremony. Perhaps some of you are rather blasé concerning the whole procedure, but I am sure that the great majority are looking forward to it with pleasure.

It is a time when our friends and relatives join with us and a time also when graduates and undergraduates find an excuse for celebrating in the time honoured fashion.

On behalf of the Students' Association I would congratulate you all on your various achievements and wish you every success in the future.

PETER GORDON  
President.

## Students Beards; Corduroys

*Nothing so heartily annoys  
The citizen, as corduroys.  
A bearded student also vexes —  
Symbol of inequality of sexes.  
Abominable snowmen are  
Not typical phenomena:  
Often these bearded aberrations  
Fluctuate with term vacations.  
Like those of sailors, so are these  
An occupational disease;  
As corduroys, so beards dense —  
A matter of convenience.*

Oscar Hammerklavier.

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## Uncle Bob's Gradual Nooseleater to All Derision "U" Students

Dear Girls and Boys,

-Are you oil working herd like goad little curs and boils?

Rum-ombre, that's the weigh to parse your Terms Testies and Fine-hole Examiners. If you walk hardly you should all ked degrease and kipper up the greyed wreck-oared of our Derision in Farcity work.

If could fortune debentuates you wool divorcity of your foul-time bichelor and he luck your Pig Brothers and Systems onwhores years, dithermanned to spend when they gang up on Freddy to resieve the rest of your tomb to the beast af-frontage. It is thews who work ardour their well-learned cups and goons. Hyam and bedder, with deadtermination, and squirting you wooden like me to miss beehive like adulterous satyrzens, who goofing them my Harveyest Congradulation get decrees in the end.

Don't ferkit to come promptly to your Yours fatherfully,  
A. Robber (Bebop) Hearty,  
Senile Lurcher  
Diffusion You.

Editor's Neat: Ale the correctors in this Litter are compl8ly Imogenuous, and have no rose-emblems to any livid beer-son.

### ERRATA

"View from Orbit 2" review: the last sentence of the fifth paragraph (dealing with evolution) should read:

In the end reproduction itself must have depended on the chance splitting of 'potential life' (say, a simple protein molecule) under 'right' conditions for it to rebuild and split again.

### EXEC. NOTES

## OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL

It may be remembered that at the last Winter General Meeting of the Association, a University Buildings Development Committee was set up to give the students' point of view on the design and layout of future buildings for Auckland University.

The movers of the original motion felt that the views of students, particularly of those from the School of Architecture, would greatly contribute to the views of the University authorities and professional architects at present responsible for University expansion.

This Committee has been doing a good deal of work behind the scenes, as it were, and has recently come to light with some conclusions which were presented to the Executive at its last meeting and which merit further publicity. One of the most interesting decisions was that the over-all layout and design of the new University Campus and buildings should be open to international competition, a view which the Executive endorsed. It was felt that the project should be worthy of an architect of the highest quality and the most satisfactory method of doing this would be to throw it open to competition, for the results so gained would outweigh any question of expediency.

Another decision of great significance is that the committee has asked certain

of its members to submit a report on the area south of the Auckland Hospital and bounded by Grafton, Park and Khyber Pass Roads as a potential site for the new University. This decision was reached after careful preliminary study of the area by various members of the committee who took into consideration such factors as the availability of transport, the City Council's zoning plans, and the effect of the master transport scheme on the area. Preliminary surveys have revealed the site to be extremely good and it is thought that it is one which has not yet been considered by the authorities. The Executive authorised the Buildings Development Committee to look into the matter further and made a small grant to cover expenses. To add finesse to the decisions made so far, the Architectural Society has been asked to prepare an exhibition on the subject of University design to be staged in the Hall either before the end of this term or at the beginning of the next.

N. MAIDMENT.  
Societies Rep.

A great deal of business was discussed at the marathon meeting of the 'Executive' on Monday the 21st April — a meeting in which yours truly went to sleep and yawns seemed to be predominant. The major part of the evening was taken up by the report of the delegates to N.Z.U.S.A. in which the general cry was 'money, money, money'. The A.U.S.A. levy to the N.Z.U.S.A. has been increased by 75% from £3.15.0d to £6.9.2d per 50 students. This remit was not supported by the Auckland delegates at N.Z.U.S.A., but it was passed, and the question as to whether our 'wealthy' Association can afford it or not, has been put in the hands of the finance committee. As Mr Maidment pointed out at the meeting, we should have to give to N.Z.U.S.A. more than we give to our own Clubs and Societies. Tied up with this was the refusal of Auckland to support the N.Z.U.S.A. scheme for an H.Q. building costing some £3,000, to be built at V.U.W.

A very 'intelligent' debate then took place. It was agreed at National Exec. meeting to grant an extra S.E. Asian Scholarship, this year, and the question arose as to whether it should go to Indonesia or Malaya. The lively debate showed signs of some promising mob orators in our midst, but some not so promising mass hypnotists. Indonesia won.

After a lot of blah, many yawns, and solid hours, the meeting rose at 1.40 a.m.



... Apathy ...

LITERARY SOCIETY and Kiwi editors held their second Manuscript Evening on April 23rd, at O'Rorke. Several Annoyed Young Men and Beautiful Young Women figured prominently in the proceedings, and Kiwi's midwives came forth with a Word from Your Sponsors. One hopes, however, that the end-product of their labours will come from a wider range of possible contributors than was present on this occasion.

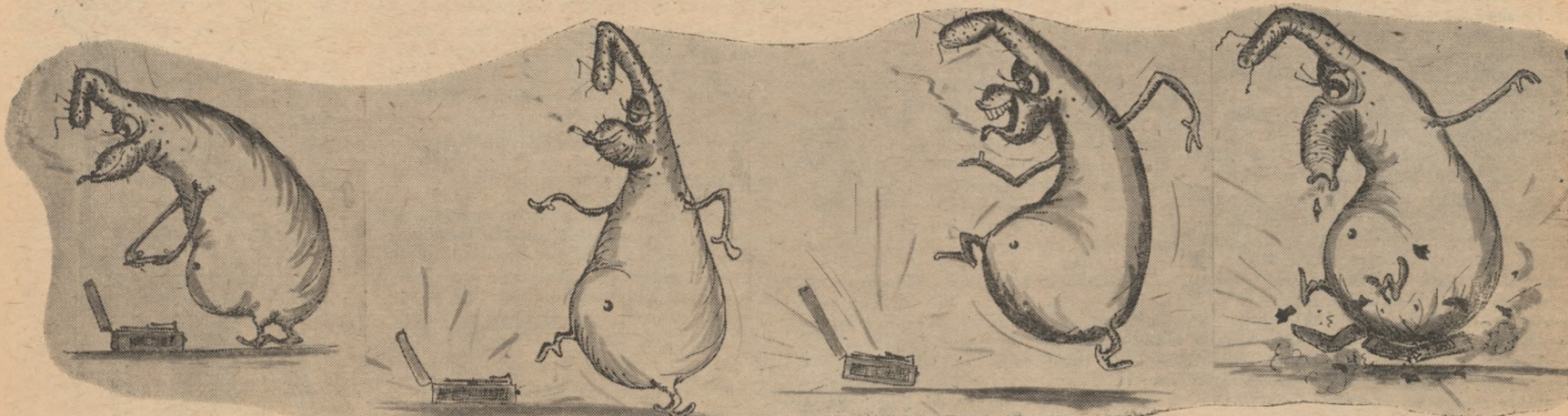
### DRINKING SONG

(Sing to Men of Harlech)

What's the use of drinking tea,  
Indulging in sobriety,  
Teetotal perversity —  
It's healthier to booze.  
What's the use of milk and water,  
These are drinks that never order  
Be allowed in any quarter —  
Come on, lose your blues.  
Mix yourself a shandy,  
Drown your woes in brandy,  
Sherry sweet or whisky neat,  
Or any other liquor that is handy.  
There's no blinking use in drinking  
Anything that doesn't make you  
stinking,  
Oh, the joy of slowly sinking  
Blotto to the floor  
Put an end to all frustration,  
Drinking may be your salvation,  
End it all in dissipation —  
Rotten to the core.  
Aberrations metaolic,  
Ceilings that are hyperbolic,  
These are for the alcoholic  
Lying on the floor.  
Vodka for the arty,  
Gin to make you hearty,  
Lemonade was only made for drink-  
ing when your aunty's at the  
party.  
Steer clear of homemade beer  
And anything that isn't labelled  
clear,  
Then you've nothing more to fear:  
Bottoms up, my boys.

—W. Curnow

### The Stompl





# Filthy Lucre..

## £5,000 £5,000

Yes, at least £5000 income is *possible* from Capping this year — but we are *Committed* to an expenditure of at least £2500. An interesting venture, perhaps.

As some students realise, a few people have, since August last year, been hard at work organising every phase of Capping activities. The organisation is now completed, and these people have to sit back and hope that student response will justify their efforts, as they fondly expect it will.

Capping is, of course, primarily a social event. But it also provides a chance for students to help ease the rather difficult financial situation of their association — whose fees are the lowest in the country.

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY ARE THE CRITICAL DAYS.

The Ghost and Alan Coulam



## What's going on?

### IT'S IN THE BOOK

The 1958 version of this hallowed production follows the usual tradition of presenting to the public a harvest of that scintillating, elevating, and demoralising humour which has endeared it to the people of Auckland, the Waikato, and the South Polar regions. We do think it the best for a number of years.

The book is entirely by students (about half a dozen) and contains a number of new features — several colours of paper, a combined back and front cover design, wide typographical range, and a sustained quality in the material.

The book has been shown to a number of citizens — council members, capitalists, communists, and the staff of a rival publication which shall be nameless. Their comments will be easily imaginable when you read the book.

It is a good book — all it needs is good salesmen.

We need a staff of 3500 — our total roll. There are 20,000 books to sell.

Those students wishing to sell on commission for their clubs should have handed their names in at Capping H.Q. by midday Tuesday. (Late entries might be received tonight).

You should know when your transport leaves varsity, where you are going, and how long you are expected to stay. Transport back will be arranged as far as possible, but if you finish your supply of books early, you certainly won't be expected to wait for it.

Booths for collection of books and handing in of money will be set up in Capping H.Q., Customs St. West, Victoria St. West and at the bottom of Greys Ave. They will be open from 7 a.m. Wednesday and the Capping H.Q. one will also be open from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday. Money need not be handed in at the same booth as books are taken from, but **MUST** be accompanied by the sales docket you will receive when you get your books.

Something original in dress and sales patter (?) will no doubt help — remember the prizes.

### SOCIAL

Grad Ball will be held at the Peter Pan Cabaret on Friday 10th (this Friday), up to 2 a.m. Tickets (35/- double) may be purchased from either the Student's Association office or from Mr White in the Cafeteria. Social Committee members will sell tickets till 7 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday. The box plan for cubicle bookings is at Stud. Assn. office.

All students graduating this year are entitled to buy their ball tickets at a concession price of £1. These *must* be obtained from the Stud. Assn. office. Students who wish to take **LIQUOR** into the Peter Pan must do so during the afternoon. It will be placed in the cubicle reserved for them.



Dear slow lip-moving reader,

Here is your 3d worth for this issue (if you paid, that is). This appears before you three days after the start of the widely touted and much publicised talking-type (for the ten-and-sixpennies), lip-reading-type (for the remainder), and braille-type (for the cast), "TRIPTOMANIA" named revue.

If you haven't booked yet don't decipher further. It may be too late. To those who thought admission price included seat purchase, please bring them back, as some people have been forced to stand through the National Anthem.

We don't think for one moment that this blurb will have any effect on seat sales as, after all, concessions have finished. So . . .

To all those people making suggestions since the show opened, re script, production, and management, we have a suggestion. In future you will have every opportunity to use them as we are retiring on the proceeds. (Jingle, jingle).

Having complied with our suggestion we can only say to those who have come or are coming (you lucky things) that we feel sure you will agree it's tough it only comes round once a year. (You must see 'Hometown').

In future don't egg us on.

Hoo Hah.

### Just a Thought

All that could be done in the way of formal publicity has been done, but the best publicity of all should now be under weigh. Word-of-mouth publicity is always acknowledged as the most effective, so now every student in the association can help us. Tell your parents, your friends, tell everybody that it's a magnificent show. Every person you persuade means more moolah in the coffers, so go to it.

### FINALLY

#### PROCESH

Vehicle float registrations have closed now, but for anyone who hasn't arranged to be on (or under) one of them, foot float registrations are still open. Remember that this year we can't use collection as a crutch as we have done in the past, so quality of ideas and construction is all-important. A panel of senior architectural students is available to help on the latter.

#### Timetable:—

- 9.00 a.m. Trucks arrive.
- 10.00 a.m. Drivers' morning tea.
- 11.15 a.m. Assemble in Princes St.
- 11.45 a.m. Drivers' lunch.
- 12.15 p.m. Move off.
- 12.30 p.m. Start up Queen St
- 1.30 p.m. End of Procession.

All trucks should be off the road and unloading by 2 p.m. Please try to put all your rubbish in the correct places, as failure to do this deprives the organisers of the afternoons drinking they will badly need by this time.

Vehicle float prizes take their usual form, being 2 doz, 1 doz, and ½ doz. Foot float prizes are 1 doz and ½ doz. For those who don't drink suitable substitute prizes will be arranged.

So be in, but remember — quality first.

### FOOTNOTE

Finally, please make some reasonable attempt to act reasonably at the Graduation Ceremony. It is an important day to those primarily concerned, and unreasonable demonstrations are likely to mar the pleasure of at last attaining what our grads have worked a long time for.

Well, we can't do any more.

IT'S OVER TO YOU.

## Memeiors are Made of This

365 days — a year — but the day — hurrah — our party which was — good evening — drunk yet — no I haven't had the chance — revue was good — yes but not as good as — darling pass me the — last times one. It had more — brandy please I like mine laced — but Mac you must have been sore at the time when he kicked you — no get the hell out of it I don't want any — rum is nice when a cocktail with white — Russians — they're not here again I hope — had enough of them last year — round and round we go, singing a tale of very great woe, shadow, now ladies and gentlemen — it's been nice to know — let's freeze the river with crystals of ice from the — ice cream factory, honey. I haven't seen one in years. Last time I was in Albert Park it was — shiney nose, that's what it is — lost the way now let's get back — where were we — yes let's, will you, baby — don't be silly — did you — no I don't want to and anyway the booze is still — that for every man that's born that every woman — dry and wet that's how I like my — women is born by good luck and — management very fine this year — eh no I don't come when I'm wanted are you — saved by — everything



that was ever — inch makes a mile, and twelve feet make — say Joe the rooms getting larger — no — rounder and rounder — that cats sitting on the mat wanting its — rounder and roundest the little wheel of — fortune makes us all sick have another beer and forget — three times three is — your troubles all miraculously gone — take Dr. — for hell's sake forget the bloody — Pink Pills — three after bed each night — rounder and rounder — there's no squares left, just us circles — what's the matter lovely — come and let me show you a — dig in the ribs — I'll tell a worse one than that — it was about the salesman and the — not really — but where are we — round and round they all go — hahaha — your laugh scares — just about then the salesman said — oh! shut up for — yes I'll do it. So she — then the signs go up — it's Number three — the winner — Red jacket — came off and she was ready — to go home — what the heel for — it's only — three in the — next year let's be riotous — round and round — she lost her — we go merrily, happily, they say — we all say — we're round — they're squares — we are squares — no round — I forget.

H.L.J.



Vol. X.

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