cuits, and by his control of Gaumont interests, so gained the Gaumont-Gainsborough studios at Islington."

As the film They Were Sisters is a Gainsborough picture released through Gaumont British Dominions (owned by Fox interests) in New Zealand, it would appear that Mr. Rank's organisation was responsible for it: on the other hand the film may have been completed before Mr. Rank took over.

The article goes on to say, "Such became Mr. Rank's theatre purchases that the Board of Trade extracted from him a promise not to buy further theatres without the Board's prior permission." This may prevent what may eventually become Rank monopoly in the sphere of films. LAWRENCE J. DIXON

(Rotorua).

## SURNAMES ONLY

Sir,—I am afraid "Respect Your Elders" is most inconsistent in her (or his) argument. The acme of fame is recognised in having one's name handed down to posterity. Stout and Massey are good illustrations of this: I suggest, too, that if your correspondent is asked the Christian names of many famous people she (or he) would be hard put to it to answer. What about, for instance (quoting The Listener):

Music: Tchaikovski, Handel, Beethoven, Brahms, Rachmaninoff, Mozart?
Science: Rutherford, Marconi, Farraday?

Poets: Byron, Shelley, Longfellow, Keats?

Statesmen: Disraeli, Gladstone?

"Respect Your Elders" seems to be airing her (or his) knowledge, but the pettiness displayed in doing it suggests that her (or his) name will never go down with the famous few who have the honour to be called by their surnames only—as for example, just plain Roosevelt or Churchill. — WALKER (Some day, I hope), Wellington.

## THE UNIVERSITY.

Sir,—Bertha Bogle's letter calling for a true University wherein a select few "intelligent and eager spirits" may ascend to the highest peaks of wisdom and learning in order to revitalise a stagnant world, is inspiring and forceful—but I find nevertheless that I disagree.

Such an institution would be admirable, certainly, but of real benefit to only that select few. It is not guidance and example that the people lack but wisdom. High thinking must be encouraged not in the few but in all.

The State is undoubtedly trying to encourage thinking in its primary and secondary education, but education for the majority ceases too soon. Those who continue to University do so only to become specialists in one particular branch of learning, a situation inevitable when competition for position and security is so keen and vital.

The solution to our problem then seems to be first to ensure security from competition and then to launch a vigorous campaign encouraging high thinking, not merely in the select few, nor even just in the University of to-day, but in all sections of the community.

C. G. WILSON (Takapuna).



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