

Social Science, the newest department at Victoria and the first in New Zealand. Instead, he tells us what the department is doing, and how far it has succeeded. A great deal of research has been undertaken, much of it at the request of the Health and Social Security Departments. In the fields of psychology, economics, education and political science the new school can do a great deal to make the general public realise that the university is an integral part of the whole community, working with and for it.

Others deal in facts and figures. Professor H. A. Murray has set himself the unenviable task of pondering the imponderables. "Scholarship" is his subject; and what other term is there to describe those toughened concepts, not tangible like brick and mortar, on which the *idea* of the universities has been founded and handed down? "Scholarship," says the professor, "studies the thoughts of men in different ages and different countries, as a means of surveying the social, moral, intellectual, religious and related trends of mankind, of finding their place in the scheme of things and assessing their value for the present and of examining the possibilities of their future." In three words, *cogito ergo sum*. (If the proof-reader had been as clear-headed he would have spared the author the embarrassment of "Bracciolini was concerned with the discovery and usability of sauces," and indeed, he is much to be reproved in too many other places.) Concretely, Professor Murray can point to 120 published works, in books and specialised articles, which are the fruit of scholarship in the College. "The community has the right to present certain questions and problems on its life to the University, and the University is obviously discussing and examining constructively those questions and problems and frequently very cautiously suggesting answers." A guarded statement, but what more can be said?

Victoria is but one of six constituent university colleges whose expanding needs clamour to the earth beside and

Memories in Music

A HALF-HOUR'S light music on a Sunday evening is just what the doctor ordered, so, beginning Sunday, October 17, at 9.0 p.m., ZB stations are offering the BBC series *Masters of Melody*. Dad can put his feet up and Mum can keep her knitting needles flying while they listen to the orchestras of Charles Williams and Sidney Torch playing the music of Haydn Wood, Eric Coates, Montague Phillips, Richard Addinsell and Vivian Ellis.

Of Haydn Wood's two hundred or more songs "Roses of Picardy" is best known. Its melody is used as the signature tune of the series, and Haydn Wood's music is heard in the first programme. In the Richard Addinsell programme listeners will hear his Prelude to the film *Blithe Spirit*, written at Noel Coward's request—the first time music was written for one of Coward's works by another composer; then versatile Joyce Grenfell sings two of Addinsell's songs, for which she wrote the lyrics and finally, Wilfred Parry (pianist) plays the popular *Warsaw Concerto*.

N.Z. LISTENER, OCTOBER 8, 1954.

the heavens above for more and more facilities. It is therefore most satisfying to see an article by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. G. A. Curry, dealing with the University as a whole, and with the Grants Committee in particular. This body, first appointed in 1948, collates and assesses detailed estimates from the constituent colleges for a five-year period. Co-ordinated planning has become possible. (In major building alone nothing has been done in Canterbury since 1923, and nothing at Victoria or Auckland since 1939.) The research fund has been increased to £15,000, and there is about £20,000 a year from the D.S.I.R. for special research, mainly agricultural. At Queen Victoria's accession England's total education vote was only £20,000, but if more knowledge calls for more and more public money wisely spent, the University is at least alive to the problem.

It has been noted that *Spike*, though published by the Students' Association,

leans rather heavily on the staff. But not in the literary contributions, though Mr. J. M. Bertram writes with a view perhaps beyond immediate student perspective of literary movements and periodicals centred on the College. There are only two "stories"—both ready-made affairs—and a great deal of poetry. It may be said at once that the poetry is very good. James K. Baxter takes pride of place with his "Lament for Barney Flanagan," a modern ballad that indeed sees congruity in an incongruous death, and is, of its kind, masterly. But he chucks in another, obviously dredged up from the bottom of the scran-bag, all about King James of Scotland and a fool; good, but five centuries out of place. More will be heard of Charles Doyle whose "Empirical History" is a very sure piece of work. Rilke's Fifth Elegy is translated, with considerable power and beauty, by E.

P. M. Dronke. Victoria is strong in verse, stronger than the other colleges.

A longish article by J. Cody is devoted to the architectural "delights" of Wellington, nicely caught in non-comment line and wash by Jeanne Benseman. Queen Victoria, her statue and her echoes, must meet with resignation a little more judicious but not ill-humoured recrimination. Elsewhere in *Spike* are full accounts of the sports which bind the College in public affection, and of the junketings which alienate it in the eyes of the vociferous few.

It is the sad occasion of death which makes it necessary to record the services of Sir Thomas Hunter, Professor R. O. McGechan, Dr. Winston Monk and Mr. George F. Dixon. Any memorial is inadequate measured against their enduring work.

—D.G.

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