

SALIENT

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' PAPER

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ALTERATIONS TO SUB THE PLANS ARE OUT

WORK ON THE THIRD STOREY of the Student Union Building will start in October, 1965, according to the Management Committee. The committee has approved the provision of a coffee room for sandwich lunchers, a private dining room, a high price dining room for the use of staff and students, and offices etc. for the Health Service.

ANOTHER 720 square feet is to be set aside for the Appointments Board and the Accommodation Service. SPACE required for the big coffee room and kitchen is estimated to be approximately 2500 square feet. This might be situated in the existing Common Room. However, it appears that this will be inadequate by the "early 1970s."

A SMALL private dining-room seating up to 30 is planned on the second floor. This is to be for use by the Students' Association and University staff for "entertaining." The space required is 700 square feet.

A dining-room serving higher-priced meals is planned for the joint use of staff and students.

This will require 910 square feet, plus kitchen space. It was suggested that staff were discouraged from using the present dining-room because of the conditions there.

The existing space used by the Editorial Room, the Activities Room and the Club Storage Room: 2040 square feet will be cut down to 1650 square feet. Therefore the space available for student activities now able to use these rooms will be reduced by 400 square feet.

A Music Room of 300 square feet will be on the third storey. This is intended for anyone who wants to play musical instruments, not merely students of the Music Department. The Students' Association hoped that this would be big enough for groups of musicians.

It is proposed that the theatre foyer be extended to match the seating capacity.

The three Student Welfare Services have been allotted 1655 square feet. Health and Counselling are to have two doctors offices, an Examination Room, Receptionist's Room, Waiting Room and Counsellor's Office. The Appointments Board has been allotted a Secretary's Office, a Secretarial Staff Office, a Waiting Room and Library, and an Interview Room (totalling 600 square feet).

Journalism At Varsity

NEW ZEALAND students are to give active support to a new course in Journalism in New Zealand. The course will probably be part of a full Arts degree. The old course, which was discontinued in 1956, was for a undergraduate Diploma.

The report, result of a questionnaire sent to newspaper editors and journalists throughout New Zealand, said that all the forty replies received considered University study of some kind a desirable background for journalism. Eighty-nine per cent thought it was desirable to teach journalism at University.

The New Zealand Newspaper Proprietors' Association has set up sub-committees in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch to consider the question in conjunction with University authorities and local branches of the Journalists' Association.

Reporting to NZUSA, the Press Officer said that the journalism course could do nothing but help raise the standard of student journalism, as well as providing a valuable nucleus of academically-trained journalists for the dailies. He said that he hoped for scholarships for editors of student newspapers taking the course.

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IT must have been a powerful vehicle that knocked the brick wall of the main step to the Hunter building over. Unofficial estimates put the cost of repair at £500.

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FESTIVAL PLANNED

A UNIVERSITY FESTIVAL is to be held in the last three weeks of the first term next year. Its programme is to include Music, a Film Festival, Drama, Contemporary Arts, Debating, Sculpture, Contemporary Music, Graphic Art, Sport, a Mock Court, as well as the normal Capping activities. A Capping Queen competition will also be held.

Opposition Attacks Govt. Boasting

-Debate

"THE Honourable Gentleman is an Honourable Nincompoop," said Peter Blizzard, when speaking at the recent University Political debate.

BLIZZARD was referring to a statement made by a Wellington MP that students were suffering no hardships under increased fees. He also indicted the Government for not increasing bursaries to the level suggested by the Hughes, Parry, and the Murray reports. He said that Mr. Tennent, when trebling University fees, had used the excuse that students would get through their degrees faster.

BLIZZARD said that since the fee increase, students had taken no more units than before, and had passed no more. The minister had failed lamentably.

Guest debaters at this annual function were Mr. Freer, Labour MP for Mount Albert, and Mr. Muldoon, National MP for Tamaki.

Speaking to the motion "That this House has no confidence in the Government," Freer told his audience that the Government

Auckland... Student Assoc. Sued

THE Auckland University Students' Association has been served with a writ for libel by Messrs. Beatson, Rix-Trott and Carter, Architects.

There are two defendants, the Students' Association and Mr. Kurt von Meier, Lecturer in Art and the History of Architecture. The plaintiffs are claiming a total of £5000.

The statement of claim alleges that certain remarks made in CRACCUM about the Architects were libellous and claims damages as a result.

The plaintiffs allege that Mr. von Meier's remarks "were understood to mean that the Plaintiffs were incompetent in connection with the building, their other work for the University, and as Architects generally."

The Auckland University Students' Association have instructed Mr. L. P. Leary, QC, and Mr. Arthur Young to appear for them.

'Curious' Congress, Enrol Now

CONGRESS is an annual event held at Curious Cove, Queen Charlotte Sound. It is attended by staff and students from New Zealand and Australian Universities. It is aimed to provide an opportunity for people from different faculties to meet and discuss social, religious, political, literary, and other topics.

THE number of people wanting to go to main Congress usually far exceeds the number of vacancies. Congress Representative Cathy Benefield told SALIENT. She advised students who would like to go to apply now.

The programme will include lectures by about 12 guest speakers, which should be of high quality and wide in scope, Benefield said. They are held in the mornings, leaving afternoons free for sports, tramping, and other outdoor pursuits. The evenings are reserved for dancing, drama, films, and, of course, parties.

Benefield told SALIENT that total cost is approximately £9 per student. This covers all services; students are not required to do any dish washing or similar chores.

When SALIENT went to press,

the dates of 1964 Congress were not known, but it is expected to last for nine days in early February or late January.



Mr. T. Smith, a VUW lecturer formerly on the South Pacific Commission, gives the inside story of Pacific islanders' attitude to New Zealand—on page four.

'Youthful Madness' In Student Mag

AN international student magazine has been launched by a group at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. To be called Circle Magazine, the publication will feature critical writing on any subject, special surveys prepared by the magazine staff, reports on student life and original writing.

THE letter circulated by the group said: "We hope to print or reprint articles dealing with all forms of youthful madness besides the more or less serious aspects of literature, drama, films, philosophy and religion, work, social organisation outside as well as within the university, sport, or even politics."

A SIMILAR magazine is being started in West Germany and another in Czechoslovakia and though Circle Magazine will be

initially confined to Europe and North America, it is hoped to extend the coverage to the rest of the world.

The Editors would be interested to hear from anyone who could send them contributions. They say that contributors may write in any language they like, though correspondence in languages other than English, French, German, Italian or Spanish may take longer to deal with.

Drama Club Revue

DRAMA CLUB are producing a Christmas revue in the same style as last year's successful "Guided Mistletoe."

Production is in the hands of Ian Robertson and Richard Cathie and script is being devised by a group of well-known students and ex-students.

The revue will run from 7-14 December and rehearsals start immediately after finals.

The cast chosen is Ian Robertson, Richard Cathie, Murray Gronwald, Gavin Rennie, David Lind-Mitchell, Stephen Whitehouse, Irene Wood, Jacqueline Armstrong, Patricia Howell, Heather Carewe, Jill Shand, and Josie Knight.

It is hoped that the Jazz Club will assist with music for the show.

According to assistant producer, Richard Cathie, there is still room for back-stage hands and other workers.

Tolerance And MRA

OF all the doctrines currently being spread by fanatics, Moral Re-Armament is probably potentially the most dangerous.

MRA is dangerous because people can accept and admire its crusading spirit without realising all that it involves. Communism, Facism, Racism; these dogmas are well known and their implications widely understood even by those who are not familiar with the central core of the doctrine itself. Moral Re-Armament is not.

At first sight, Moral Re-Armament is just an expression of a desire to return to the moral aims and ideals of Victorian times, and as such has a tremendous emotional appeal. It is not my purpose to examine this aspect of it here.

What I am concerned about is a precept of MRA which demands that our country be governed by Christian principles. Christianity in one of its forms would become the basis of our laws, should the Moral Re-Armers get their way.

Some people might contend that this is already the case, and to support this contention they can cite certain laws which are obviously designed to protect a social custom derived from Christian practice. But it can be argued, successfully I believe, that most of our constitution is derived from more democratic principles, however inadequately they may be reflected in our laws. We run our country more on the basis of political, religious, social and moral tolerance than on the basis of any particular religion.

There are exceptions to this, notably Sunday observance laws, censorship laws, divorce laws, abortion laws, and possibly liquor laws. (It is interesting to note that these are issues on which MP's are unlikely to vote along Party lines.)

It is evident that our present political system is not equal to the demands of religious-based legislation. We have only to look at the confusion, controversy and uncertainty which arise when Bills with religious affiliations are introduced.

If we are to abandon the present general principles and take up those of MRA, we will undoubtedly be turning the clock back. The trend of our law has been towards the secular, not away from it. For this reason MRA can be termed reactionary.

That it can also be considered anti-democratic is obvious from the fact that MRA doctrines do not provide for the dissenting minorities. It may be a commonplace that the test of a democracy is the freedom it allows its minorities, it is none the less true for that. If the laws of the land are based on the religious belief of the majority, religious tolerance cannot be said to exist, because tolerance implies tolerance of both the moral codes and the mode of worship of other religions.

The present principle is roughly that the freedom of the individual extends to the point where it impinges on the freedom of others. I say roughly, because it is sometimes roughly overlooked by Governments, but it is still a vital part of our practice. It would be bad if it were ever entirely abandoned.

MRA seeks to do this. Therefore we should oppose it. —D.P.W.

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Letters to the Editor....

Democracy Not The Perks Again Perverted

SIR,—The main thing that needs refuting about the article on "fascist" groups in the USA is the headline: "Anti-Red Americans Pervert Democracy." If a fuller picture had been given, describing the groups and individuals who are acting against the "lunatic fringe," the inherent health of the American democracy would have been indicated.

It is said that every society must have its lunatic fringe, and keeping in mind the enormous diversity of the American people, their interests, persuasions and backgrounds, it is hardly surprising to find the John Birch Society and other extremists. Should these groups be suppressed? If they were, the ideas they represent would only smoulder under the surface, and the situation would be potentially far more dangerous. Surely it is better to have them out in the open, their leaders known, and their activities clearly seen.

Here are some aspects that balance the one-sided outlook of the article:

- The California State Senate Fact-finding Sub-committee on un-American Activities, in a recent (1963) report, said: "... their (the John Birch Society's) top leadership is almost totally irresponsible" (i.e. the leaders do not reflect the views of the rank and file) and, further, "the membership really disavows the leadership."

- USA Senator Kuchel, Republican, California, recently made a widely reported speech on the Senate floor, thoroughly exposing the tactics of what he called the "fright peddlers" and urging Americans to adopt a more enlightened and alert attitude towards the extreme Right-wing element.

- The House Un-American Activities Committee is now widely discredited by the American people, by church groups, and by some political groups. It is also actively opposed by such organisations as the American Civil Liberties Union. (When HUAC goes to show its propaganda film, "Operation Abolition," ACLU members make it known that the film is politically controversial and apply for equal time to show their film, "Operation Correction." As often as not the authorities concerned then refuse to show either film!)

- In the California State elections last November, the two John Birchers in the legislature were both defeated, indicating the process whereby Senator McCarthy was destroyed—by allowing him enough rope to hang himself. American democracy has efficient methods of dealing with its lunatic fringe although they may not be immediately obvious. I am, etc.,

DAVID WARD

(Mr. Ward sent SALIENT a cutting from the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, which commented on Californian Politics.)

The article says that the State Senate Fact-finding Sub-committee on un-American activities has investigated the John Birch Society, and finds the leadership to be out of touch with the rank and file. It says that the leadership is totally irresponsible, though it is not subversive nor radical.

The Sub-committee said that Californian John Birchers are only conservatives who are looking for effective ways to prevent the spread of Communism.

We thank Mr. Ward for going to the trouble of replying to our article and point out that when printing the article and headline we specifically mentioned that it was abstracted from a Communist magazine. Furthermore we asked if anyone could refute it.—Ed.]

The Perks Again

SIR,—In reply to your postscript on my letter in the last SALIENT, I must say that your remarks appear only to strengthen my case.

You state that I am in ignorance of what NZUSA does; I have that in common with 95 per cent of the student body. If, as you seem to think, NZUSA's activities are important, why was there no mention of them, or better still a full report in SALIENT 11? Room could have been made for it by postponing any one of several articles, notably the one on how SALIENT gets its news. You appear to think it more important to publish this rather than the news itself. If your reply is that the report was not ready, or that no report was available, surely it detracts from the image of "devoted students" who spent a considerable amount of time over the year to help Students Association.

You also claim that these students deserve more than 25 per cent of their fares paid to tournament. Who decides this question? Executive presumably did, and it is noticeable that at least six of them went. This seems to justify the point that I brought up in my letter: that Executive are awarding themselves perks without the consent of the student body.

You also complain that SALIENT was not consulted on the date of the election. You must surely know that constitutionally the second day of the election must be 24 hours before the AGM. This means after the date of the AGM was decided you surely had plenty of time to discuss the matter with Executive. If no attempt was made to change the date of the AGM to fit in with SALIENT'S publication dates, this merely illustrates the poor liaison between SALIENT and Executive.

In your last paragraph you state that SALIENT staff had to get a copy for the cyclostyled elections issue at the last moment. May I point out here that I posted notices requesting candidates to submit election blurbs immediately nominations closed. Mr. Grant then cancelled the elections issue, without even having the courtesy to tell me he had done so and the issue was only reinstated under pressure from Executive at the last moment. SALIENT'S hectic 11th hour rush would therefore appear to be purely the Editor's fault. I am etc.,

IAN HARLAND.

If Mr. Harland believes that student money should not be used to pay fares to tournament, he has an obvious constitutional redress. He can call an SGM of the Student Association. If he believes that the present situation is wrong, he has a clear duty to do this.

Mr. Harland is obviously ignorant of the limitations placed on SALIENT by the technical considerations.

The NZUSA report was prepared by staff of CRITIC in Dunedin, and was not available when pages four and five of SALIENT 11 were

printed. Non-publication was due to factors entirely beyond our control, not to any thought that it was unimportant.

Regarding the SALIENT election supplement, Mr. Harland must realise that since the date of the election was altered without consulting SALIENT (because the returning officer resigned) we had no option but to cancel the printed supplement. We did what we could with a typewritten sheet.—Ed.]

Blizzard And The French

SIR,—I may be old-fashioned, but it is my firm opinion that one can take the strongest exception to the views a person holds, and yet still treat such a person in a decorous and civilised fashion (call it diplomatic if you wish); clearly, I refer to my letter to the First Secretary of the French Embassy, which you published in the last issue of your journal; a letter which thanked the First Secretary for receiving a VUWSA Delegation, thus leaving the door open for future discussions. I presume your reason for publishing that letter was that you considered it to be, shall we say, over-solicitous. I also presume the reason that the First Secretary of the French Embassy requested that you publish my letter, was to (in some mysterious way) exonerate the French (Nuclear) stand, and also to cast aspersions on the SALIENT article reporting the French response to our delegation.

Firstly, I do not consider my letter to be obsequious: exact copies of the letter were sent to both the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, by whom VUWSA Delegations were also received.

Secondly, I am of the opinion that the current French stand can in no way be justified, and to this end the VUWSA Delegation to Winter Council placed a motion before that body "calling for an end to nuclear testing in general, and the strongest possible censure and pressure on the French Government to observe such a cessation, in particular," this motion being carried unanimously by all Constituent members of the New Zealand University Students' Association.

Thirdly, I fully support the text of and nature of the article in the recent issue of SALIENT, reporting the result of the VUWSA Delegation to the French Embassy with the possible reservation that they (SALIENT) did not "hit quite hard enough."

However, fourthly, I resent the Editor's assertion in the last issue of SALIENT that we (VUWSA Delegation) were thrown out of the French Embassy because I was rude; this can only be considered accurate if asking the "wrong" questions is, in itself, considered to be discourteous. I will leave readers to form their own opinions on that.

P. J. R. BLIZZARD.

LEAVING a FLAT at the END of the YEAR?

Keep it in the family Please contact the Accommodation Officer at university. There are quite a number of students looking for small flats.

This service helps students

PLEASE HELP IT.

RING 70-319 AND ASK FOR MISS J. M. ALLEN.

Our Own Dictators

EXECUTIVE'S decision to prevent the practice of hypnosis in the Student Union Building is a blatant usurpation of the rights of students to spend their energy where they want.

Whether or not responsible members of the academic staff feel that hypnosis is a bad thing, it has not been conclusively demonstrated that hypnosis should be banned on ethical or medical grounds. This action of the Executive seems to be dictatorial in that it is an attempt to control students' leisure time.

Doesn't the Executive consider that the University is a place for experimenting?—A.R.H.

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Hypnotism Causes Executive Fight

A MOTION that the ban on hypnosis in the SUB (recently imposed by President Peter Blizard and Managing Secretary Boyd) be lifted aroused friction at the last Executive meeting.

VACATING the chair, Blizard told the meeting that a group of students wished to form a club to inquire into the subject of hypnosis. From this point, discussion revolved about the justification of such a club on ethical and other grounds.

JOHN HUGHES, a spokesman for the unformed club, said that the purpose of the club would be to crystallise members' present knowledge of hypnosis and to avoid the indiscriminate and unpractised use of it. Controlled experiments would be conducted and a controlling committee would be set up to agree or disagree with experiments and to have ethical powers.

Cultural Affairs Officer Murray Rowlands told the meeting he had seen Doctor Ritchie, a senior lecturer in the Psychology Department, on the subject. "He has a basic fear of hypnosis and the opinion of a man with his qualifications should carry some weight."

Opposing the suggestion, Blizard said that he felt any such club should be under the control of an academic faculty and that the support of the British Medical Association and the British Psychological Society should first be obtained.

At this point, Publications Officer Tom March quietly suggested that the Roman Catholic Church should also be consulted for its views on the matter.

Any controlled experiment in hypnosis, Blizard felt, was an infringement on the boundaries of the Psychology Department.

(Blizard is himself a member of the Department.) The club would form an extension of an academic



PRESIDENT BLIZARD—strongly objects to mass hypnotism.

department, which would not be desirable.

Blizard introduced the element of personal risk. "A person has no right to intrude on someone

else's personality. Hypnosis is justified only on the grounds of therapy."

He pointed out further that there was no precedent for an experimental club within the university but this was quickly rebutted by Public Relations Officer Robin Bell, who cited the Biological Society as an example.

Speaking for the motion, Women's Rep. Cathy Benefield said that if people wanted their minds controlled it was their business, and that the Executive had no right to decide such ethical questions for students. She could not see how the BMA and the BPS came into the argument.

The motion that the ban be lifted was lost. But Robin Bell moved a successful motion inviting the group to apply for affiliation in the future. This motion, however, was passed only with the Chairman's casting vote and it appeared that a large bloc of Exec. members would not have allowed the club even to apply for affiliation.

"Put peaceful men in power, educate the editors and statesmen to responsibility, seize every pretext, however small, for arbitration methods, multiply the precedents, foster rival excitements, and invent new outlets for heroic energy, and from one generation to another the chances are the irritation will grow less acute, and states of strain less dangerous among nations."—William James.

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Overcast Economic Future NZ Race Troubles With Unemployment

ALTHOUGH mass unemployment is unlikely to develop in New Zealand in the next 10 years we will almost certainly be faced with a growing pool of jobless unskilled workers due to the New Zealand version of technological unemployment. Since a high proportion of these will be Maoris and Islanders, this has ugly implications for future race relations. Thousands of unskilled and unemployed non-whites piling up into Auckland slums, the new "area of confrontation" between Maori and pakeha will create a serious social problem unless action is taken now to prevent it.

I MAKE this somewhat gloomy forecast because this is the way things will develop if the factors at present at work in the New Zealand economy produce the same results that similar factors have produced overseas. There is no reason to suppose they will not, for in New Zealand we have not discovered some magic wand to abolish economic problems.

THOUGH we may muffle the effects of the technological wave that will leave increasing numbers of unskilled workers as unemployables, we cannot avoid this. That is, unless we plan our Education and job training programmes to ensure that no substantial segment of our population is unskilled or possessed of outmoded skills. We must upgrade the education and skills of our population to fit the kind of economy that is now developing in New Zealand.

In the rest of this article I will deal with two main issues.

● Why New Zealand has had such a remarkable freedom from unemployment since the war.

● Why these factors will no longer prove so potent, and what the results of this will be.

Since the war New Zealand has never known any serious unemployment. At no stage has as much as one per cent of the labour force been registered as unemployed, and unfilled vacancies have normally been many times as high as the number of those seeking work. Last year (1962), for instance, the yearly average of registered unemployed was only just over 1000, or one-tenth per cent of the labour force. At the same time there were nearly 7000 notified vacancies. By world standards this is quite remarkable.

The main reasons we have been able to achieve this have been:

● We emerged into the post-war period with very favourable terms of trade for our exports, which gave us a large manoeuvring space to pursue an inflationary policy, without the consequences catching up with us for some time.

● Due to the population structure resulting from the low birth rate of the nineteen-thirties, we had a long "hollow period" during which the number of young workers (especially those under 20) hardly increased.

● We also had a construction backlog and an acute housing shortage, enough to provide a decade of full employment for the building industry. The renewed migrant inflow after the war and the State housing programme accentuated this.

● At the same time a high level welfare state with large monetary benefits had been developed, a change which greatly increased the purchasing power of the lower income groups.

● As inflation developed and created an excess demand for labour, no very serious attempts were made to stop it, except when the balance of payments went into a periodical crisis. Once the immediate crisis passed, inflationary policies were resumed.

● Potentially destabilising shocks from our export markets were absorbed (as far as the immediate employment impact is concerned) by the farm sector, and to some extent by the primary produce stabilisation accounts. At no time

did employment in primary industry change by even 1 per cent in any year in the nineteen-fifties, despite huge swings in earnings that would have created large employment swings if farming were organised in a similar fashion to manufacturing industry. Secondary effects of swings in farm income were nullified by a perpetually excessive level of demand in the economy in general.

● During this period a proliferation of new industries was encouraged. Many of them were highly uneconomic and inefficient, and can only be justified as glorified unemployment prevention schemes, since they have little other merit, and certainly do almost nothing to help the balance of payments once their own import needs are brought in.

A. P. O'Shea in a paper prepared for the Industrial Development Conference quotes some horrifying figures for the real value of output per worker in New Zealand industry valued at world prices. The average output per worker in Manufacturing is worth only £380 as against £1580 in Agriculture.

● To cap it all, the Government (whichever party was in power) allowed sufficient inflation to keep the economy at least fully but normally over-fully employed.

The result has been that New Zealand has bounced along happily from one balance of payments crisis to the next with full employment never seriously endangered. The real growth of the economy, and of real income per head, has not been very impressive, but as of yet this has not worried the average New Zealander overmuch.

The important question that now asks itself is "Will this continue?" In my opinion, the answer is NO (unless, of course, we are prepared to adopt the Brazilian style of perpetual inflation and continuous exchange devaluation—and even this might not work!). What we are likely to end up with is a situation in which a noticeable shortage of skilled and professional workers co-exists with a growing pool of unskilled unemployed, as has happened in the United States.

The end of this era of the Loafers' Paradise is already being signalled in the rapidly narrowing margin of unfilled jobs. At 7000 last year these were only one third of unfilled jobs 13 years ago. Economic and technical changes affecting New Zealand are such that the supply of unskilled jobs is now starting to grow more slowly at the very time when the labour force is expanding rapidly, particularly as far as the supply of unskilled and semi-skilled younger workers is concerned.

Factors reinforcing this trend are:

● Since the middle nineteen-fifties our terms of trade have tended to move downwards and we no longer have a margin to absorb the consequences of eco-

nomical irresponsibility. Now and in the foreseeable future we will have to export more to provide the same volume of imports.

● Inflation has slowed down since the mid-fifties, and overall demand is no longer so excessive.

● New innovations in the Services and Transport sectors (Supermarkets, all-weather loaders, and even the Aramoana) use less labour than the methods of distribution and transport they replace.

● With the end of the Housing Shortage in sight, the highly-labour-absorbent construction sector is not growing as rapidly as in the past, and may even decline slightly. Newer types of large-scale construction are not so labour-intensive.

● Farm employment will not provide any help, since it is not increasing (and this necessitates an increasingly rapid absorption of Maoris into urban occupations).

● At the same time a flood of young and to a large extent poorly-educated and unskilled workers is beginning to come on to the market. The following figures from the 1961 census tell their own story (Fig. 1):

FIG. 1

Age Group	No. in Group
20-24	158,000
15-19	186,000
10-14	245,000

Unless the percentage of skilled workers amongst this bulge of potential job seekers increases

Not Disaffection...

Islanders Attracted To City Lights

THE people of the Pacific Islands have no real disaffection for New Zealand, nor for Europeans in general. Such is the opinion of Mr. T. Smith, who was the Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission from 1958 until last March, and is now a lecturer in the VUW Political Science Department.

AN impression of such disaffection, he said, could be gained from the statements of the European residents in the Islands who will "try to lead." When their attempts to lead were rebuffed, they felt they had "no place" in the Islands, and so were disgruntled at the prospect of equality with the Polynesian population.

POLYNESIAN emigration from the Pacific Islands, Smith admitted, had a great effect on the Pacific Island outlook. The atolls of the South Pacific (such as Penrhyn and Palmerston) were incapable of supporting a large population because of their small size and very thin soil cover. This meant a monotonous diet of fish, breadfruit and coconuts as well as a monotonous life. Many, therefore, sought the "bright lights" of Rarotonga (the chief island of the Cook Group) which is not a coral atoll, and has adequate soil. This influx was in turn balanced by the emigration of Cook Islanders to New Zealand for much the same reason. Other attractions were freedom from tribal discipline and the prospects of a cash income.

In the smaller islands in particular, a cash income is of little value, because there is little to buy and little that Islanders need that they don't provide themselves. A cash income and things to spend it on seem to have an attraction of their own. Smith spoke of J. M. McEwen, who, when Resident Commissioner in Niue, had asked a Niue Islander why New Zealand was known as Palitiso (Paradise) in Niue. The reply was: "You can earn £16 a week there!"

While life in the Islands is generally very pleasant for the very young and the very old, it offers little excitement or employment for the young man, or woman, who tends to head for the nearest town (Apia or Rarotonga) and thence to New Zealand.

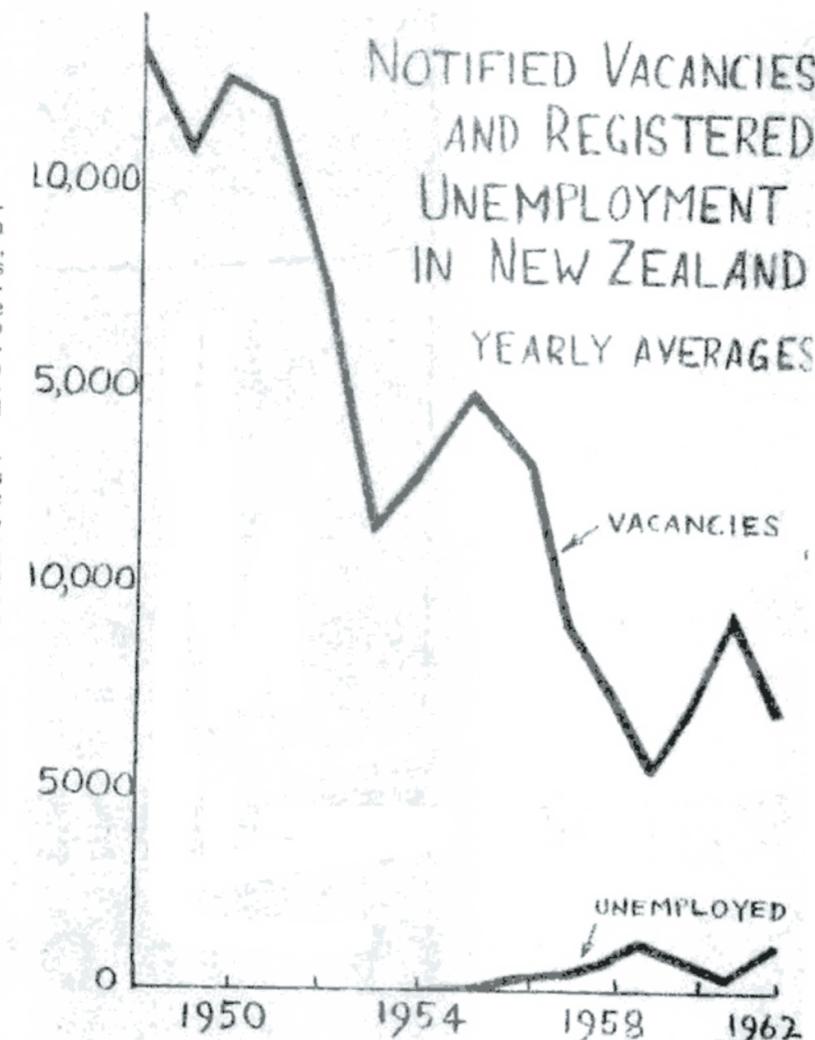
Regarding the likely consequences of continued immigration of Pacific Islanders into New Zealand, Smith conceded that friction between the various Polynesian races now resident in New Zealand was "possible" but, he hastened to add that there is a certain rivalry between the different Polynesian races within the Islands themselves, though friendly, and likely to remain so. Inter-marriage between the Pakeha, the Maori and other Polynesians in New Zealand, along with the increasingly enlightened outlook amongst the Pakeha, was New Zealand's best hope for racial harmony. Smith said, because one cannot force people by legislation to be tolerant.

war Rehabilitation courses).

● Encourage the immigration of highly-skilled workers, and actively discourage the inflow of unskilled migrants (e.g., by an entry bond scheme).

● Take urgent steps to increase the educational levels of Maoris and Islanders. Promotion of Economic development in the Pacific Islands to provide them with an alternative to migration to New Zealand would also ease the problem.

● It might also be necessary to let wage margins between skilled and unskilled workers widen to encourage skill acquisition. This would probably have to be counterbalanced by more generous social welfare measures.—D.A.P.



markedly, then many of them are likely to be unemployable in the economy of five or 10 years hence.

● That this is unlikely can be seen by looking at the present educational standards of school leavers. The Commission on Education quotes some rather sobering figures on this (Fig. 2).

FIG. 2

Percentage of State School Leavers in 1960 with School Certificate or Higher Qualifications.

Non-Maori	29.7%
Maori	4.8%

School Certificate is not the only, or necessarily the best, index of the level of education or training reached, but the figures are illuminating.

Some measures can, however, be taken to prevent these trends being reflected in the employment market. They include:

● Raising the school leaving age to 16 or more to force the bulk of the population to get a better education.

● Greatly increase the percentage of the population going to Universities, Night Schools, Polytech, and other Higher Educational Institutes.

● Institute compulsory day release schemes for further training for all apprentices and technicians, etc.

● Institute job retraining schemes for displaced workers (somewhat analogous to the post-

NZ Press Timid Or 30 Years Behind

THE NEW ZEALAND PRESS is a curious mixture of conservatism with a daring pinch of popularism, the mixture varying slightly from paper to paper.

DOES the press have any great power? In his study of the British press, T. S. Matthews ("The Sugar Pill") says an emphatic "No." Quite so. Regardless of the fact most New Zealand newspapers have backed the Tories (Reform and National) during the last half-century, the Labour Party has had electoral successes. The public read conservative papers in 1935, papers which extolled them to vote National. Yet they voted Labour in overwhelming numbers.

NOT to deny any power of the Press. To ignore the Press as a "kingmaker" or "kingbreaker" would be foolish. Conclusion: People buy a newspaper not so much for its political advice as for the news and entertainment in it.

THE local scene is monopolised by the Dominion and the Evening Post.

The Dominion is openly unabashedly a right-wing paper. It makes no bones about where it stands. But its conservative editorials contrasting with the

BY A PROFESSIONAL JOURNALIST

attractive news presentation make it a paper standing on its two legs, each of those legs thirty years apart.

Generally speaking, the Dominion, though careful and cautious, is prepared to nose around and ferret out a story provided it is not against the paper's policy. Which is reasonable, if one accepts the premise that a newspaper can set down a line if it chooses.

This is the essential difference between the city's two papers. One is a public service, the other very much a private mouthpiece. Once the reader has the distinction clear (and most have, even if they cannot put it into words) he can read both newsheets and profit both in news and entertainment.

The Dominion is a mysterious quantity. It has left behind the anonymity to which the Evening Post still clings. It is a mixture of anonymity, and partial sourcing: (Industrial Reporter, the ubiquitous "Staff Reporter"), initials such as "M.B." or full name (in the case of art-critic Russell Bond).

In this respect it is swinging between absolute anonymity and the personalised by-lines of such papers as the New York Times.

On the credit side, Wellington's morning paper encourages its literary staff to specialise. This enables it to get in before its lacklustre evening rival with presumably informed "it-is-understood" and "it-may-happen" type of story; the manufactured news story.

In favour of the Evening Post must be mentioned the way it looks (on the leader page at least) at the world with its two eyes piercingly wide open. Its leaders are written in the spirit of liberalism. They represent the voice of reason, the impassioned observer, the relentless enquirer, asking

"why, why, why?"

Its news columns are accurate. There is no shadowy party hand putting the blue pencil through unpopular copy.

But its news reporting is badly written. Its stories seem to be written on the principle of "take

the number of words you originally thought of, then triple it."

The Evening Post's pages invite repetition, trivia and what is known in the trade as "verbal diarrhoea." Its layout is uninspired and type-faces in headlines are monotonously similar.

Now to the Press in general. Following the world-wide trend, hard news is on the way out, entertainment on the way in. And

to hear the Listener tell it, this trend towards features is "suicidal."

The New Zealand press is too scared to initiate or inaugurate. "No enterprise this side of the Tasman, thank you," the newspaper proprietors seem to be saying.

The Evening Post is little more than a parish pump recorder of events that happened. Other papers such as the Dominion, Press or Grey River Argus have not faced the fact that 30 years have passed since 1933.

Papers in this country are all too willing to bury their heads in the sand. Details of the Profumo scandal were permissible as long as it was happening 12,000 miles away. Odds are nary a line would have appeared if the scandal had occurred here. Had it happened in New Zealand, editors throughout the land would have echoed: "I mean, after all, it wouldn't be the thing to print it. Anyway, all our space is committed to these ministerial hand-outs." Amen.

Aid To Poor Students

—WUS

WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE (WUS) exists to carry out in the university world of today, functions which were begun after World War I by European Student Relief (ESR), and carried on by International Student Service (ISS) and during World War II by World Student Relief (WSR). These now defunct names recall several decades of service.

In 1920, on a visit to Vienna, Miss Ruth Rouse, Secretary of the World Student Christian Federation, appealed to students everywhere to co-operate in re-establishing the impoverished and disorganised universities of Europe. Her appeal led to the formation of ESR. Its policy, which remains the policy of WUS today, was the encouragement of self help and it created a tradition of impartiality, help being based solely on need. Thus in 1922, ESR was caring for thousands of Russian emigre students, and at the same time feeding 30,000 students in the famine stricken USSR.

ISS in New Zealand was fostered at Canterbury University College, where the Dominion Committee was situated, with leadership from the late Sir James Hight, and Dr. H. D. Broadhead. In 1953, after its transformation to WUS (NZ), the Dominion Committee was transferred to Otago University.

WUS seeks to give material aid to fellow members of the world university community who are in need, especially through initiation and support of self help projects designed to serve long term needs. It also aims to help solve basic university problems, through sharing of knowledge and to unite students and teaching staff in the task of promoting international understanding. Its service is given without discrimination on grounds of race, nationality and political or religious creed.

In Africa WUS programmes have been directed towards overcoming the barriers of isolation between students and staff, between the universities in neighbouring countries, and between the university communities and the societies they exist to serve. Through seminars in Africa, participation of African students in conferences outside Africa, and study-travel grants, the attempt is being made to create a sense of unity with the university world, and foster training for leadership.

Material aid has been given to Angolan refugee students and to non-European students of South Africa. Until 1960 the African Medical Scholarship Trust Fund was the main beneficiary, but as government action has limited its scope, effort is now concentrated on financing the South African Committee for Higher Education, which provides courses for overseas degrees for students shut out of South African Universities. Algerian students have been supported by over 200 thousand dollars, mostly in scholarships for refugees to European countries outside France.

WUS operates in countries in South East Asia, which have well over a million students. In India student health centres were created in Delhi and Patna, TB wards at Madras and Shillong, X-ray equipment supplied in a number of universities, and new plans call for TB and general wards in four centres. Local WUS committees run scholarship schemes, hostels, canteens, libraries and bookstores. A South-East Asian Workshop in Madras in 1960, has had repercussions in Indonesia and Pakistan, leading to co-operative development of student facilities. Burma, Nepal, Vietnam and Thailand have received help in the spheres of health and welfare.

Brendan Walsh.



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Further career information is available in greater detail in the booklets "Careers in ICI(NZ) for Technical Graduates" and "Commercial Careers in ICI in New Zealand" with more general background information regarding ICI provided in the booklet "ICI—The Greatest Name in British Chemicals". These booklets may be had upon request to:—

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Fun At Lincoln

THERE has been some controversy at Lincoln recently over contraceptives.

UNTIL a month or so ago, the student canteen there had a considerable stock of these items, which were on sale to students. Unfortunately, a University official bearing the title "Master of Halls" decided that this was not right. He confiscated the entire stock, and destroyed it.

Not surprisingly, the students are annoyed. It is not the money involved that they are most worried about, but the insult to their maturity which they see implied in his action.

Some students are demanding to know what they are to do now.

Varsity Is Dead, Lacks Stimulus

NEXT YEAR, freshers will be asked what their first impressions of Victoria were, what they had hoped for (will many of them have given it much thought?) and what, in the light of the first two weeks at the old clay patch, they now anticipated. What would those of us who have been at varsity for a year or two want or expect them to answer? Will many old hands at the game even be interested? ("The duffle coat's getting a bit thin now—still, soon I'll be getting a town coat and homburg"...) Perhaps not, yet there have been odd comments by students, staff, and others which show that the old spark isn't altogether dead.

TALK in the cafeteria will fascinate the fresher—for a month or—a year—and soon he, too, will be able to join the blase ranks of conversationalists. There is an impressive array of over-the-coffee-cups topics: sport, cars, people (who's going out with who and how far and what do you think of him, anyway?), the approaching dance (and wasn't the poster on the noticeboard a dag?), work ("I just don't seem to be able to concentrate, somehow"), things in general. But the disturbing thing is, only at a few tables will you hear angry talk, see flaming eyes and eager hands... it's all so very pleasant being a student, especially if you're on a studentship ("Well, a bloke's got to do something") or a company bursary. Even Bohemia has become fashionable.

WHO is to blame if there is a lack of vitality in the university? I suspect we have to look beyond Victoria and its immediate environment, as, after a year at Canterbury University and many a yarn with other students I have had to face up to one fact, Student apathy is the norm. It is partly the national war-cry of "Security and Social Acceptance," and, paradoxically, partly the increasing role of New Zealand in world affairs (or of world affairs in New Zealand) which has created the environment in which we students study and plan for life "outside."

COMPLACENCY and a materialistic outlook epitomise the first factor, fear—with a touch of pride—the second. Security, social and political, has largely made our Universities what they are. Otago is perhaps the university one looks to as having the makings, and it is significant that here, far more than elsewhere, the majority of students know that if they get through their exams, social acceptance and material benefits will almost automatically follow. Perhaps this explains, at least in part, the increased social vitality at Otago University.

But the arm of the Security Service reaches Otago as well as Auckland, psychologically if not physically. The concern for security at the national level (didn't we all get a kick out of expelling two Russian diplomats?) is having an effect on what students are prepared to say and write. Melodramatic? Until fairly recently I would have laughed this

thought off, but odd comments, actions, and an all-too-common attitude of mind have made me think twice.

For example, a young lecturer at Victoria recently had a great deal of trouble getting a visa into the United States for post-graduate study; apparently as an undergrad in Auckland he had been fairly active Communist-wise. Another, who not so long edited a student paper in fiery fashion, refused to sign a recent petition concerning nuclear testing in the Southern Hemisphere. I took him up on this, having somewhat hesitantly signed it myself, and he explained that although he supported the petition in principle, he didn't want to ruin his chances of a job with External Affairs should he want one in a year or two.

Ridiculous? No, it doesn't seem to be. We still have our occasional Bill Dwyer, but it is frightening to see how much derision and hostility is directed by students against outspoken fellows. The beatnik usually gets away with it; like the church, he seems in the main to have become socialised.

An interesting view often aired is that Victoria is little more than an extension of the Public Service. As an ex-public servant, I feel strongly that the Public Service attitude (which extends by all accounts to many parts of the "private sector") has indeed had its toll on the university, at all

levels. Even the Students' Executive seems often to be a stepping-stone for men with their eyes on THE TOP.

Not long ago I won a prize in the "Golden Kiwi Birthday Ballot," and as a result found myself undergoing concentrated training for war at Waiouru Military Camp. I enjoyed this as an experience, but was frightened by its implications. Perhaps here is the purpose of a university in its best sense, to argue that nothing is inevitable, that no assumption should be mutely accepted, no decree abjectly followed. I am still trying to nut out many of the problems raised by military service. Should one kill? Is our society worth killing for? What is the object of it all, anyway? Significantly, few of my fellows seem to give a damn.

I have been subjective, yet this article was to be on the university; has my approach been legitimate? There are many features I have not covered. What would be the situation if Victoria, in the same urban and national environment, became a campus-style university, with staff and students living and mingling on the campus and in its hostels?

Was John Newman right in arguing that "religious truth is not only a portion, but a condition of general knowledge. To blot it out is nothing short... of unravelling the web of university education?"

I am hardly qualified to base an article on these lines, although I find it useful to mull over that statement of Newman's. While at Canterbury University I lived at College House, where nearly half the students were studying theology as well as more orthodox subjects—including evolution. Here, far more than at the varsity proper, just across the road, I found conflict and stimulus. In Wellington, I spent some months at Weir House; the meals were not the only things which left me cold. And Vic itself?

I'm still trying to puzzle it out.
—S.E.G.C.

Contact Led To Confidence

WHEN asked recently why he wanted to go to New Zealand a Cook Islander replied, "Plenty of beer and pictures every night." This case was cited by Mr. J. M. McEwen, former secretary of the Department of Island Territories in the course of a panel discussion on the Cook Islands future during the recent Cook Islands week. He stated that this attitude was due largely to the boredom of living on tiny atolls. Mr. Albert Henry, a Cook Island panel member, commented that his people "are no fools but still only children."

ON the other hand McEwen had noted what he termed "a change in attitude" and "good co-operative spirit" in the Islanders over the last few years. He cited examples of the Islanders' keenness and energy.

Discussing political questions the four man panel rejected the idea of a Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry being set up to inquire into the Islands future. McEwen thought that economists would be better while Mr. A. Alpers (writer)

cautioned that some sort of future inquiry was needed.

On the question of whether New Zealand's administration lacked the confidence of the Cook Islanders, Henry answered (to applause): "confidence should be the first responsibility for the happiness of the future,—the attitude that the administration has taken during Cook Island Week has won my confidence."

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Our Politics Dormant But Seeds Of Discontent

THE fundamental problem of New Zealand politics is readily apparent; it is the lack of political issues. A "political issue" is a problem, a situation, or a policy about which a large section of the New Zealand political community feels involved and on which different parts of this community hold conflicting opinions. Any such issue would be recognised immediately by the discussions and arguments which it engenders.

THERE are currently no such problems in New Zealand. Parliamentarians are in substantial agreement on most issues and feel most involved in such minor matters as whether Shand's libel costs should be paid from Government reserves, or whether the "Black Budget" was or was not advisable in the circumstances of 1958, or whether the National Party Campaign in Miramar is "sinister" or whether candidates should organise essays for school-children. The newspaper reports on Parliamentary proceedings frequently reach the same level of triviality as the column written for this paper by El Crud! And the mentality which the writer of that column portrays would not on most occasions seem out of place in the New Zealand Parliament.

NOW it is not surprising that Parliamentarians should develop a considerable community of interest despite party allegiances. They must all be prepared to exhibit and endure from others an element of "showmanship," but apart from that they are all keen to retain seats at the next election or to pass them on to their chosen successors. Most members are not really interested in attacking another strongly for fear that this may rebound to their own disadvantage. To this generalisation, there are, of course, exceptions in the case of younger and more ambitious members.

The tendency of Parliamentarians to become a corporate body apart from the external party is clearly illustrated in the history of both 19th century English political parties, and the history of the NZ Labour Party. Readers of Bruce Brown's "Rise of NZ Labour" will recall the early attempts by the Party to control members in Parliament, and the failure of these attempts.

In an earlier SALIENT I argued that the difference between the two major parties lies not in their declared policies but in the weight they attach to different sections of the community in gathering advice and forming administrative measures. This difference is real, but it is not the seat of the difference that raises party clashes on to the level of a political issue.

The growing number of small parties shows growing dissatisfaction with the present situa-

tion, but little positive programme for its alteration. This is particularly true of the recently formed Liberal Party and is also now true of the Social Credit Political League. Though the latter started in 1954 with a distinctive (although erroneous) programme of monetary reform, by 1960 it had lost its distinctiveness, and was just another party with a different set of potential benefits.

NZ politics then are devoid of political issues. But a glance admittedly superficial, at the political history of NZ indicates that this is not an unusual situation. There have been periods when issues dominated the scene; the Liberal period of the '90s and the Labour period of the '30s stand out. But for long periods such as that of the Reform Administration from 1920-1928, and the decade of the fifties the emphasis was on management and not on issues. It is significant that Mr. Shand last year described the function of the Government as "the management of the economy"—no issues dominate his mind.

If we look at the contemporary international scene, we find a similar position. Only when issues are largely absent could the naming of a coin the "royal" have been the major political news of the week in Australia.

If we look at the larger fish we find that international events dominate the scene. In the USA, the major political issue apart

from the damnable and extraordinary racial situation is the question of foreign aid, and external relations generally. How much the USA should contribute to underdeveloped countries in total, and how this should be distributed are major questions. And the general attitude that American diplomats should adopt towards the USSR occupies much of the time of the ordinary politician.

In Britain international affairs also occupy a prominent place. The position of Britain in the world, whether it needs an independent deterrent, and whether this is practical in any case, whether Britain can stand alone, or with the USA, or with the EEC; these are the major political issues there. Domestic affairs are not entirely neglected, but they resemble the situation in NZ, with the Keeler affair currently in place of the Black Budget.

International affairs, then, dominate "political issues" in the contemporary world. But NZ plays no major role in international relations, and her politicians are therefore left to play with trivialities.

There is little chance that international affairs could provide a means to revivify NZ politics. Not all politicians are like El Crud; some have intelligence which they hide for slightly less than all the time. But, despite political labels, they are largely in agreement on the attitude to South-east Asia, and few are prepared to take the country away from her doglike devotion to the USA in other international questions.

We may fairly ask whether the day of party-political conflict is over. But this would imply that the level of attainment of our society was perfection, and there are groups within the community that would not support this idea. They are at present scattered and with little unity, but the presence of organisations like Wellington Socialist Forum, Auckland Socialist Forum Monthly Review Society, and others that Brigadier Gilbert could name shows that not all are satisfied with the present position.

At present, such groups are without influence, but their thinking will probably contribute to the creation of an issue or complex of issues at some future date through existing or new parties. We may then expect NZ politics to be dominated by political issues for a while, before they return to the dormancy in which they lie at present. —G. R. Hawke.

Ban The Censor

MY faith has been restored in the film censorship mechanism in this country. Believing as I do in the necessity of keeping well-meaning and intelligent adults from TAKING their children to some of the more "mature" and serious films available (few enough!), I was glad to see a theatre manager exclude a "youngster" from his theatre recently.

Accompanied by her parents, this 14-year-old was excluded from a film for 16-year-olds. The film, incidentally, had as its well-expressed theme, the conflict in an unmarried girl's mind as she decides whether to have her baby or abort it.

The moving climax of the film sees the girl going home to her parents with a renewed faith in her life and the life of her child.

How the censor decided that this film could have a bad influence on teenage girls is completely beyond me.

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TECHNICAL SCHOOLS NZ Airlines In NEED NEW EMPHASIS Farcical State

THE title "technical school" is misleading and unfortunate in New Zealand. The name implies a centre for technical instruction as opposed to any other instruction but the technical schools of New Zealand are not such in the European sense of the word. They are not related directly to particular trades and are not the selective type of school which cater for a few able boys and girls aiming at skilled trades and quasi-professions.

THE TECHNICAL SCHOOL is not what it first appears to be—it and the secondary schools, with their lesser stress on technical subjects, overlap considerably in their courses and aims.

THE MODIFICATION which comes from combining the subjects of a secondary school with the subjects of technical and vocational courses means that ability classification within a course is often impracticable. The numbers in each course decline as the number of courses increases. This is a real disadvantage for abler pupils. But it is not possible to increase the possibilities of classification by sacrificing the variety of courses. Also, it is better to offer many types of courses, academic and technical, in the one school rather than have the consequences of social prestige, or lack of it, attached to one type of school, its subjects and pupils.

THE TECHNICAL SCHOOL does not offer only a technical education, but a general one which could lead a pupil to University. The technical courses themselves are not trade trainings but have a non-specific, generally vocational purpose. In this respect the technical school is a pre-apprenticeship school.

In New Zealand there are local technical schools, regional technical schools and two national institutions (the Central Institute of Technology and the Technical Correspondence School). Now that the country needs to exploit its secondary industries and is beginning to see the need for trained technicians and tradesmen it will have to rely on the polytechnic departments which are attached to the secondary schools. This, in the meantime, is the only way to achieve a pattern of vocational education that will ensure the maximum use of potential talent.

Night pupils benefit from the facilities provided in the school for day pupils, but the strain

in administering two large institutions in one building is obvious. The principal of a technical college becomes in fact the day principal only.

One could wonder whether it is not better to distribute the day pupils to secondary schools. In this way multi-lateral schools could be formed, and the technical institutions left for the purpose of advanced—not preparatory—technical work.

The local administration of a technical school and appointment of staff is in the hands of the local board. Finance and inspection are from the centre. The major point of criticism of the technical education system is the complicated organisation and the tremendous responsibility for the day technical school, and the night work.

Technical education and the institutions it is housed in seem to be emerging from a period of inferior prestige. Technical knowledge is increasing in importance

and so is the need for an education for life.

A contemporary of Hogben's, La Trobe, felt that the existent night classes were inadequate for a serious long-term student. He also felt that pupils from technical schools would be better fitted for industry. Unfortunately for these two men, the New Zealand social scene was not yet ready to accept this new development. People valued an academic education, not only because it was socially more acceptable, but because it opened the way to good jobs. Technical training, even until the last decade, was seen to be part of the employer's task—an on-the-job training.

By the time technical education was established and recognised the planned courses were modified and broadened. The introduction of University Entrance and School Certificate had their effect. The latter meant the introduction of a compulsory basic core as well as options and vocational subjects. The trend now was from vocational education to pre-vocational preparation. The drawback with University Entrance was that the schools had to provide courses already adequately provided by the secondary schools, and had to form sixth forms for a very small number. This disadvantage may be ameliorated by the resulting similarity between the courses of secondary schools and technical high schools, and in its turn this tends to lessen the "social gap" between the two.

In the Annual Report of the Minister of Education (1955) the need was seen for a national technical institute. This was not to infringe on existing technical schools because there were local courses for local people and needs, there were regional and block courses and the national institute itself was for the few who sought some specialised course. The Phamaly School is the outcome of this idea, although many argued at the time that national needs could be met by distributing the national courses between the existing technical schools in the main centres. This would have meant even more responsibility for the principals. All development that is not necessary on the national scale is still performed by the local schools. In an age of specialisation a certain number of small but necessary schools are sure to survive—regardless of the degree of specialisation.

The Commission on Education (1962) sees the necessity of a submission for technical education in the Education Department. It also sees the need for a vice-principal concerned with organising the night work and linking the local industries' needs with the technical college. This need for extra organisation is a result of the growing realisation of the importance of technical education in a changing society, and, if New Zealand is to progress, its demands must be satisfied. Technical education needs to emerge from the improperly organised state it is in at the moment.

Finally, the staffing of such institutions will always be a problem because the men come from industry and are not trained as teachers. The Commission suggests that some teachers go to Training College for a year, others should receive help from established teachers and the Correspondence Department issue teaching manuals. The staffing of such versatile institutions is a great problem, but these suggestions would help.—Susan Gabriel.

BY world standards, New Zealand works its aircraft pretty hard. Every year Iceland's aircraft utilisation rate is the highest in the world, with New Zealand in the next three. Our population of 2½ million support 70 aerial operators from TEAL downwards.

Although we're air-minded, there aren't very many of us. There just isn't the traffic to support two major domestic airlines, but people like to hang on to the idea that competition is always beneficial. In the airline business it isn't. For example, if QANTAS were allowed an absolutely free hand with their fares on the Tasman route, TEAL could be run out of the air. NAC and SPANZ are in limited competition, to their mutual detriment.

Yanks Make Empty Threat

AMERICAN attitudes towards Diem's regime in South Viet Nam are contradictory and unrealistic. "It was a consensus of editorial opinion (in the USA), too, that a cut in USA aid to the Diem Government is not the solution" (USA Information Service).

IT also seems a general attitude of USA editors that South Viet Nam must not be allowed to fall to the Communists: "If the USA pulled out of South Viet Nam and abandoned it to the Communists, it would be like the beginning of a run in a lady's silk stocking. It would unravel the rest of Southeast Asia" (HERALD TRIBUNE).

However, to correct the existing situation in South Viet Nam, which they admit is deplorable, the editors of USA papers also wish to threaten Diem with a discontinuation of aid. The PHILADELPHIA ENQUIRER maintained, "Diem needs USA aid. If he wants it to continue, he had better take Lodge's advice and send the Nhu packing."

This is an empty threat. The 13th September issue of TIME puts forward the editorial opinion that to admit that one wouldn't cut off aid removes all opportunity of using that threat to force Diem to clean up Viet Nam.

Even if an official threat was made, apparently seriously, Diem could safely assume that the Americans would be unlikely to implement it. To do so would negate the whole trend of USA policy.

Moreover, it has not been noticeable in the past that the Americans were willing to sacrifice military and political factors when faced with moral considerations. —W.A.

A.R.T.

Quake Struck Varsity

THE University of Skopje will not be able to commence with lectures and seminars at the beginning of the academic year in October. The 12,000 students will either be given instruction in barracks or they will have to study at other universities. Forty faculties were partly or completely destroyed by the earthquake, as was also the University Library with its 600,000 volumes.

THE student hostels, club rooms and the university restaurant are no longer standing. "In one way or another we shall in time erect new buildings and rebuild those buildings which were destroyed. The problem of equipment for fittings is a very difficult one. We shall make an appeal to other countries to come to our aid," said the Rector of the University of Skopje. —Student Mirror

Australia

The President of the National Union of Australian University Students, Dr. Peter Wilenski, has called for a nation-wide boycott of the matches to be played by the

THE situation at the moment is farcical. SPANZ is being kept going on excessive government grants and loans, mainly, it seems, to vindicate the National Party's private enterprise policy. SPANZ is going to have a tough time if the Labour Party gets in at the next election. They would not continue financial aid, nor would immigration policy allow generation of sufficient traffic for SPANZ to keep going on its own. Ansett's who bought 49% shareholding in return for three extensively modified DC-3s, seem to have lost interest in it following the failure of their efforts to buy TEAL.

The standard of our airfields is low for a country which reckons to be civilised. According to CAA statistics, there are 128 registered aerodromes in the country; only five of these are capable of taking a viscount. We have, as yet, only one jet airport, but it is small by international standards and nobody really wants to fly jets to Christchurch anyway in spite of Councilor Guthrey's apparent attempts to generate stiff competition for TEAL.

Most of New Zealand's commercial aircraft are topdressers. There are about 200 topdressing pilots, and during 1962-63 they had 39 accidents—about one accident for every five pilots. Topdressing is a dangerous business.

In aviation, as in other fields, our main troubles stem from the geography of the country and our very small population. We have not the population to support two major domestic airlines in beneficial competition, nor can the existing population be expected to carry the enormous overheads which would inevitably result from the vast amount of capital development required to bring our "airports" up to airport standard—serving major towns with grass fields is ludicrous. The dangers of topdressing are almost entirely geographical.

A.R.T.

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LITERARY MAGAZINES DON'T GET OFF THE GROUND

— *Kiwi*, *Experiment*

WE may measure a university's standards in part at least by its publications—which gives added interest to the recent appearance of Auckland's *Kiwi* and Victoria's *Experiment* 10.

Unhappily, although it is clearly the best story in either magazine, Albert Wendt's "The Bayonet" can give us little cause for satisfaction over these standards, in spite of the comfortable editorial comments of Renato Amato.

In this story an illegitimate boy, Siaki, comes to an acceptance of his position and a realisation of his manhood by means of lust, murder and not infrequent urination.

The techniques are dishonest; and the sexual imagery in particular is abused, sometimes bordering on the ridiculous—when Siaki tries to rape Mala: "He glanced up. The bayonet gleamed erect in the sunlight." The characterisation is too often less than satisfactory; Mr. Wendt's Americans are very conventional. Motivation is similarly doubtful: why do Mala's taunts about Siaki's illegitimacy involve his secret fear, denial of his manhood? It is all too convenient and contrived. Worst of all it is not a true reflection of the undoubted talents Mr. Wendt has shown elsewhere.

The only prose contribution to *Kiwi* is Tim Heath's "Aamata"—there is an odd preponderance of poetry from Auckland. This work is distinguished by exceptionally good dialogue, a technique,

Experiment's second prize-winner, Murray Rowlands, has not mastered; but the effect is spoiled by strangely bare and transparent technique—the opening paragraphs are disconcertingly unsure, especially with archness such as " . . . the houses lacked the paint of mine."

John Parkyn's "The Last Lecture," which received no place in *Experiment* is a far more accomplished work, despite the unnecessarily harsh comments from Mr. Amato. In the main *Victoria* reached a higher standard in the prose.

Its poetry contributions are not up to the standard of *Experiment* 9. Kirsty Northcote-Bade is not as accomplished or as appealing in theme as last year's prize-

winner, Elizabeth Allo. Maarten van Dijk, despite the successful greyness and rhythm of "November '43," is not sufficiently unobtrusive; and Mr. Wendt's "These Sea-Chained Isles" is often excellent prose rather than poetry. *Kiwi*, however, opens on an infinitely inferior note with a tantrum by Jim Langabeer. This is later supported by the multitudinous adjectives and hyphenated neologisms of Chris Mathew's "Rose," and by the lack of cohesion of Brian Muir's "Solitude" and Heather Macpherson's "Contrasts" (in which even the epigrammatic neatness of the second stanza and the enigmatic completeness of the ending cannot subdue every element to a pattern).

The standard is assured, however, by the precise intellectualism of Myke Savage, and the more sensuous competence of Eleanor Clarke, who is particularly successful in the mellow warmth of "Grandfather's Violin," despite some doubtful imagery elsewhere. There is a little pretentiousness and struggling for rhyme in K. O. Arvidson's "That woman like a season but not this," but at times, especially in the last stanza, it reaches a peak unusual in these magazines. Similarly excellent in parts is Jack Lasenby's "Absent thee a while."

Whose is the flightless bird? Neither *Kiwi* nor *Experiment* 10 get off the ground, and comparison tends not to be of quality but rather of editorial matters. *Kiwi*'s editorial, outlining the value and the problems of such student productions, is possibly the highest point in either magazine. Generally, too, *Kiwi* is more revealing and more satisfying. Renato Amato appears to have sought "literacy" contributions, whatever that may mean; his phrase, "I am unable to let it stimulate me" may be significant. But Tyme Curnow and Terry Snow have asked particularly for "less writing in reverse, less reflection on the reflection," perhaps they have avoided, by a greater awareness, too much evidence of the general lack of honesty, the "hollowness of substance."

Peter Robb

Joan Sutherland On New Albums

UNDER review this issue we have two Decca albums both featuring the prima soprano Joan Sutherland.

The two—*Rigoletto* and Sutherland's Command Performance—are featured on the expensive MET, SET label, which retails for about 2/- above the usual classical LP.

NOT to quibble about price, however, when one comes upon such a performance of *Rigoletto* (METM 224/6, SETM 224/6) as this. It is recorded by the Santa Cecilia Chorus and Orchestra under Nino Sanzogno. Of the half-dozen currently available sets, this (only the second in stereo) is by far the most satisfying, musically and recording-wise.

FIRSTLY, the recorded tone of the orchestra is lucid and round; it (the orchestra) finds perspective with the chorus and soloists where in others (notably Serafin's and Gavazzani's performance) it has tended to dominate. The tempi, too, are distinct in that the time is consistently damped (Caro Nome, Zitti, Zitti), thus making for a dark, mellow *Rigoletto*, and explaining, no doubt, the six full sides vs. the usual four.

Secondly, there is a star line-up of soloists. I find Sutherland's singing (of Gilda) a little idiosyncratic, horribly nasal and froggy in diction. Apart from which she

face), the album consists of arias (Ocean, Thou Mighty Monster) songs (The Last Rose of Summer) and ballads (Ideale, Serenade) to the accompaniment of the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by the soprano's husband mentor Richard Bonynge.

When should one lay-by £4-£5 on a set such as this? I should say when and if you are a keen vocal collector, a partisan of the Sutherland style, and if you want to possess a half-dozen top-notch renditions of such items as the Oberon aria, "Vorrei spiegarri" from "La Cambriale di Matrimonio," "Lo hear the gentle lark, the Flotow song. If you are in two minds as to the worthiness of the whole project, I recommend you pick up her earlier "Art of the Prima Donna" in preference to this album.

Sutherland's singing is under marvellous control here, as witness the ppp's in a few of the songs. Her range is used to the best advantage without trowelling on high Cs and Bs in altissimo. Bonynge accompanies with candour throughout. However, there is still the problem of diction (as in *Rigoletto*). The words and enunciation thereof are watery and croaky. This is becoming most depressing. Especially as it recurs album after album.



JOAN SUTHERLAND

is very good. Notice in *Caro Nome* the clear notes and trills. Cornel MacNeil as *Rigoletto* and Renato Cioni as the Duke are worthy additives; but don't look for any redeeming aria in Cioni's *Questa o quella*. It is way off pitch.

And now excusing (you should easily be able to) these minor detractions I should like to declare this to be the finest recording yet of history's most recordable opera. Libretto is the Peggie Cochrane translation.

Joan Sutherland's Command Performance (METM 247/8, SETM 247/8) is in every way a flamboyant piece of recording. Supplied with a booklet of copious notes by Andrew Porter (set in dated type-

Play Loses Message

THE latest angry-young-man production to bring its dubious message of salvation to the Little Theatre is more likely to confuse than inform.

ARNOLD WESKER'S "Roots" has a message in it somewhere, but the Unity Theatre group has so camouflaged it with sniggers and belly laughs that it goes unnoticed until the last act. Even then the climactic denouncement of the English farm labourers' cultural plight—one of the less pressing problems facing the world today, falls notably flat. The audience just sits there, uneasily wondering when the dirty jokes are going to start again.

TO do Unity credit, apart from this major miscalculation it has done a good job. Except for occasional technical faults (when a radio is switched on music inexplicably blares out from a dart board across the room) the play is well presented. However, by ignoring Wesker's plea that "my people are not caricatures" Unity has turned a social protest into a sort of "The Archers" with sex. Presented in this manner the play sometimes sounds like a parody of itself, notably in the scene where the heroine's mother discusses the activities of the village homosexual and the latest mental case.

As heroine Beatie, Dinah Wright is pretty enough, but her Norfolk accent tends to slip and at the grand finale she is noticeably lacking in the bounce shown earlier. Mrs. Bryant (Jenny Barlow) makes a superb vegetable while her husband (Neil Grange) is authentically earthy. Most of the other roles just call for a vacant stare and a slow intonation. In general, these not over-demanding roles are played well. —R.S.B.

How About Telecommunications?

For the bloke wanting an exciting engineering career there's telecommunications. It's a field with dramatic new developments all the time—satellites, submarine telephone cables, data transmission, electronic telephone exchanges and so on.

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The course down there is pretty rugged but there are compensations. The Post Office pays a living allowance, an adequate book allowance, tuition and exam fees and issues a good set of drawing instruments and slide rule. The blokes in the Post Office don't throw the taxpayers' money away on these bursaries, but it's a pretty fair bargain, really.

Blokes on bursaries are on bond to stay with the Post Office for a few years after qualifying. When blokes have stopped moaning about exploitation they discover that the bonded period expires around the time they become registered Engineers.

What about asking the Engineer-in-Chief for details of the bursary scheme?

THE COMING YEARS WILL BE EXCITING
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Puzzle Your Brain

MATHEMATICS FOR PLEASURE, by O. Jacoby, Gollancz, 191 pages, 21/-.

THE title of this book is misleading. The book is not about the more pleasurable aspects of Mathematics, but is a collection of puzzles similar to those appearing in *The Sports Post*.

There are 161 problems in the book, set out in five chapters, with detailed solutions at the end of each chapter.

MATHEMATICAL knowledge is not needed, but an interest in the subject and a logical mind are both essential. The problems vary widely in standard, providing a challenge for all levels of intellect. However, a number involve application of the same basic method—

few people like doing the same problem twice.

The book will appeal only to a particular type of mind who will probably buy (or borrow—the price seems high) it after reading this review.

J. POWELL.

SEATO A Leaky Sieve Economic Aid Better

IN FORMING foreign policy, New Zealand, like many other small countries, is stretched between the horns of a dilemma. If it acts alone and independently in international politics it lacks the authority of power behind it, and because of its weakness is not very secure.

IF it exerts its influence through membership of an alliance it must sacrifice some of its ideals to other ideologically different members. Collective action usually involves compromise and compromise means concessions. As an example of this, we saw New Zealand, as a member of SEATO, rushing to the aid of Thailand, a country whose government is the very opposite of the New Zealand ideal.

Nevertheless, there are some problems of foreign policy which require independent common-sense action in opposition to the policies of our strongest allies.

The Government recognises that the most strategically important area for New Zealand is Asia—in particular South East Asia. New Zealand's policies in this area have often been unrealistic. It must be stressed, however, that any policy change which prejudices our relations with allies should be examined very critically.

Of the many anomalies in New Zealand policy in Asia there is space here to discuss only a few. One of the most outstanding is its refusal to recognise the Communist regime of China. Here New Zealand is faithfully following the USA line.

To maintain that the Communist regime is "illegal" is ridiculous. The Communists have effective control of almost the whole of China.

They gained this control through a revolution which had no aid from outside. The UK recognised the People's Government almost immediately and the USA was on the point of doing so when the Korean war intervened.

After a decade of hostility, the USA could not now recognise the Communists without disastrous loss of face. Yet sooner or later the rapidly increasing strength of China will require much closer diplomatic relations. Refusal to recognise the Communists is purely token disapproval and will not restrict China in any of its designs in international affairs.

Some assert that China is an "aggressor nation" and the regime is "immoral." This is not a sufficient reason for non-recognition. India's aggression against Goa, Diu and Daman did not cost the Indian Government its recognition by other countries. The improvement in relations with China which recognition by New Zealand would bring would more than compensate for the embarrassment the USA might experience.

New Zealand's main defensive shield in South East Asia is SEATO, which is pledged to resist aggression against member countries. But this Treaty has serious limitations. The most powerful member, the USA, will aid a member only if it is a victim of Communist attack. Only two members of SEATO are South East Asian countries. Thus it seems SEATO exists to defend an area most of which does not want to be defended. SEATO would not necessarily be able to take action in the event of a Communist attack against a non-member.

The leaky sieve of SEATO gets an undue proportion of New Zealand's interest and money. Even from our side of this "shield" it is difficult to deny Mao Tse-tung's claim that SEATO is just another "paper tiger."

South Vietnam has clearly shown the futility of trying to wage a war to protect social, economic and political injustice. Eventually such a policy must come to grief. The crucial strategic area lies not in South Vietnam or Singapore or any other geographical point but in the minds of the South East

Asian millions. These people do not have much sympathy for military power.

We must not be fooled into hasty sanctions against Asian countries which display capricious respect for our interest and objects. The ranting of Indonesia, for example, should not be taken too seriously. If the USA and its allies were to cut off all aid to Indonesia because of its present policy towards Malaysia, it could easily create the conditions for a Communist take-over in this country which has the largest Communist Party outside the Communist bloc. Many observers of Indonesian politics agree that Sukarno is unlikely to provoke full-scale hostility over Malaysia.

If New Zealand is to make a constructive effort in South East Asia the emphasis in its policy will have to shift from military protection to social and economic aid. It is hard, even with the most skilful use of propaganda techniques, to persuade people that you have "liberated" their village if it is a tangle of rubble and corpses.—G.Q.

String Quartets' Technical Side

THE ART OF STRING QUARTET PLAYING by Herter Norton (Gollancz), 190pp, English price 21/-.

"THE string quartet may well be called a phenomenon," says the author in her first sentence. Contrary to appearance this is not a philosophical challenge but merely the first cautious step in a methodical expose of the technical side of string quartet playing.

This book, is as far as I know, the only one available which is devoted exclusively to this field. It is intended for the active amateur who wishes to penetrate reasonably deeply into the mystic art and eliminate some of the frustrating trial and error which it usually involves.

The book covers in concise readable fashion the essential technical points peculiar to the string quartet. Special difficulties such as tempo, phrasing, dynamics etc., get chapters to themselves. The book also deals with rehearsing, style, ensemble work, and such intriguing topics as "Good form," "Personality" and "Breaking the back of a piece."

The author's points are illustrated by 132 examples from string quartet scores. The text is sprinkled with useful hints and some interesting musical truisms. Here is some advice young players could heed. "... a healthy respect for tradition may save one from the dangerous idea that mere tampering with recognised custom projects a new or significant light on the music."

The greatest fault of the book is its avoidance of the special techniques required for modern quartets, especially those written in the atonal

style. The author's discussions and examples refer mainly to Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms. While these giants certainly deserve full treatment, it is a little disconcerting to find only a passing reference to Bartok, and although Schoenberg's quartets are anything but popular, one would expect some sort of discussion of the special problems which he and other "modern" composers present.

In fact, the author expresses something of a sacreligious contempt for a few of the moderns. She says, "More extreme stunts, like slapping the strings with the stick, or producing the peeps, squeaks and groans of Webernesque compositions, also have their place but are not discussed here." If readers can recover from their indignant horror at this harmless bias, they will find this book an interesting and practical manual.—G. Q.

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Education System Faulty, It Caters For Few

THE main trouble with New Zealand education today is that there are too few teachers for too many children. This is the result of the sharp post-war increase in population growth, and has been felt in our schools for some years now. But what is of even greater significance to New Zealand is that, contrary to the situation in Britain, this increase shows no sign of slackening off. Consequently the problem of obtaining sufficient well-trained teachers is likely to be with us for many years to come.

PRIMARY schools have been hard hit by the teacher shortage. In the last 15 years there has been a perceptible decline in the age, academic status, and length of schooling of a large number of the students who have been admitted to training courses for primary teachers.

FOLLOWING on from the primary schools come the intermediate schools, which have not been a success, for two reasons. The first is again teacher deficiencies. Intermediate schools draw their staff largely from the primary school ranks, which means that up to the present standard six level, very few children have been taught by teachers with any university academic qualification. This delays the teaching of both languages and sciences until the first year of secondary school, which is far too late. Secondly, the intermediate school system breaks the child's education twice before he reaches post-primary school—once when he leaves primary school and again when he leaves intermediate school.

For these reasons it would be advantageous if intermediate schools were to be treated as part of the post-primary system.

School Certificate is basically sound, but it is only a pass-fail exam, which is regrettable when it is remembered that for the majority of students this is a school-leaving exam. The successful student leaves with just a pass, broken up into four or five rather meaningless subject marks.

The student who leaves school falls into one of three categories—those who have failed School Certificate, those who have passed School Certificate, and those who have passed School Certificate and obtained University Entrance. For the student who falls into either of the first two groups, and for those students in the third group who do not elect to go on to University, very little is offered in the way of vocational training. One exception to this is the New Zealand Certificate of Engineering, which provides training for would-be engineers along more practical lines than those taught at University level. But not everyone wants to become an engineer and suitable training in a whole host of activities must be undertaken, and undertaken fast, if New Zealand is to have the supply of technicians that she will require in ever-increasing numbers in the future.

The district high schools, while doing a good job in the lower forms, tend to become weak at sixth-form level, through having insufficient pupils. Provision already exists for these pupils to attend larger secondary schools which have a flourishing sixth form, but this practice must be encouraged by the provision of bursaries and hostel accommodation. Only in this way can the intelligent country students take full advantage of their schooling.

In the light of criticism, it must be realised that some aspects of New Zealand education are very good indeed. Worthy of special mention are the Broadcasts to Schools, run jointly by the Education Department and the New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation; the Correspondence School, run by the Education Department; and the Technical Correspondence School, also an Education Department venture, and of a very high standard indeed.

Lastly it is worth remembering that New Zealand is one of the few countries in the world where the bare University Entrance qualification is all that is necessary to ensure entry into a University, and with fees paid to boot.—J.L.

ECONOMICS STUDENTS

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External Affairs Department

THE Department of External Affairs has been established for only twenty years. It is young and expanding and has a continuing need of university graduates to fill responsible and interesting positions in the diplomatic and consular service.

Work in External Affairs is mentally rewarding and satisfying, but it is also demanding. It requires not only a capacity for quick and accurate research, but also an ability to apply judgment and to bring forward practical proposals and creative ideas which can form the basis for policy decisions. The work is essentially concerned with the protection of New Zealand's interests in the international field: As these interests grow more complex and extensive, the range of the Department's work must necessarily expand. In the course of his career, an officer can expect to be concerned with all aspects of the Department's activity; and, if he is to work effectively, he will need to acquire knowledge and experience of a wide variety of problems both domestic and international. He may also develop special competence in a particular field such as economic relations, or Asian and Pacific affairs.

A good academic background is recognised, both in the New Zealand Department of External Affairs and in the foreign services of other countries, as establishing a useful yardstick against which to assess a prospective officer's potential. Selection for the Department, however, is not based solely on academic achievements: personal qualities—integrity, sound judgment, common-sense, ability to work with others, capacity for fluent and accurate oral and written expression and willingness to work hard, often under pressure—play an equally important part.

While, therefore, a Master's degree, preferably with Honours, is normally required as an indication of academic ability, there is no stipulation that candidates for recruitment should follow any prescribed degree course. The Department will—and has—recruited officers whose main training has been in the sciences.

Women are also eligible for appointment and have held senior positions both at home and abroad. Though it is desirable, fluency in a foreign language is not an absolute requirement, provided a candidate is able and willing to become proficient in at least one foreign language during the course of his career.

Salaries within New Zealand are not what they should be; but in posts abroad—where officers may expect to spend about half their career—financial rewards are more closely related to those of other diplomatic services. Moreover, a recruit who makes good progress has good prospects of accelerated promotion and of assuming positions of responsibility in the early years of his career. Normally, an officer will be eligible for posting, at any time after two years in the Department, to one of New Zealand's diplomatic or consular posts abroad. These at present include:

**Apia, Bangkok, Brussels,
Canberra, Jakarta, Geneva,
The Hague, Kuala Lumpur,
London, New Delhi, New York,
Ottawa, Paris, San Francisco,
Singapore, Tokyo,
Washington.**

As New Zealand establishes wider representation overseas, the need for trained diplomatic officers will increase: already there are not enough. If a career in External Affairs offers the kind of work which interests you—and if you have the academic and personal qualities which the work requires—now is a good time to join. You will find that External Affairs provides wider scope and greater personal satisfaction than most other careers, whether within or outside the Public Service.

**If YOU wish to make further ENQUIRIES, please write to the
Secretary of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, or Telephone 18-690
and ask for the PERSONNEL OFFICER.**



YOUR CIVIL RIGHTS NEED WATCHING

Applications for an exploratory interview leading to an executive career with Felt and Textiles of New Zealand Limited will be accepted up to Friday, November 29th, 1963.

Please telephone the Personnel Manager, Mr. S. W. N. Ransom, at 48-980 for an appointment, or write P.O. Box 848, Wellington.

DR. J. C. BEAGLEHOLE of the History Department of VUW and President of the New Zealand Council for Civil Liberties, told SALIENT that civil liberties includes all the rights traditionally belonging to the Englishman. Among them are freedom of speech and of assembly, freedom from arbitrary arrest, trial by jury, freedom from oppression, and freedom to criticise politicians.

NEW ZEALANDERS are reasonably lucky in the observation of these rights, but they are nevertheless sometimes infringed upon. There are a number of instances of the right of free speech being contravened.

In the 1935 elections the Government radio blocked out commercial stations broadcasting Labour speeches. "The economic situation is too grave to be disclosed to the public," said the Government. "The public's morale would be upset."

IN 1949 the Labour Government passed a conscription act. The Opposition was not permitted radio time to oppose the measure.

In the 1951 Waterside Strike the Government, felt it was necessary to have the country's fullest support for their actions. They refused the Leader of the Opposition radio time to speak on the crisis, even though he was not in sympathy with the strikers.

In a Parliamentary system basic liberties are supposed to be protected by the Opposition's right to criticise the Government freely and openly. New Zealand elections depend upon the right of free speech, yet the two major political parties have combined to keep the Social Credit Political League and Communist Party off the air.

New Zealanders cannot guarantee their freedom from arbitrary arrest. In the last war conscientious objectors were arrested on various charges. In one instance a prominent objector was sent to jail for uttering words tending to cause public disorder. He had only said, "Jesus Christ said—" when he was arrested.

Under the Police Offences Amendment Act (1951) the police were given wide powers to arrest suspects without having to charge them immediately. Since then the Act has been amended, but their powers are still extensive.

New Zealanders can have their phones tapped by police. The New Zealand Commissioner of Police stated he felt it necessary for the police to have the right to tap the phones of suspects. He wants the authority for this to be in the hands of the police themselves, not the judiciary.

Twice this year at least there have appeared in the press reports of arrests being made with the previously unscathed victim appearing in Court badly knocked about, presumably "done over" by the police.

The New Zealand Council for Civil Liberties has published the report of a man who alleged that the Security Police, in conjunction with the regular force, blackmailed him to spy on a "Communist-cell" operating in the Hutt Valley. The Prime Minister has never denied this.

"It is worth nothing that" under the State Service Act, public servants may be transferred or dismissed if they are considered to be security risks.

The only appeal against such a decision is to the Public Service Tribunal. The hearings are held in private, and the appellant is not allowed counsel.—A.H.

Units In Same Dep't

A CHANGE in the University regulations allows students of Political Science, Economics and English to do two stage three units in the one department. This is a continuation of the policy begun by the History Department this year.

It will be possible to do five or six of the nine BA units in the majoring department.

Endless Variety and Interest in Transport

WIDE CHOICE OF REWARDING CAREERS WITH THE RAILWAYS DEPARTMENT

The New Zealand Railways Department, our nation's largest commercial enterprise, is not simply a railway transport undertaking. Throughout New Zealand it deals with transport of all kinds—rail, road, air, and sea—providing a diversity of employment unmatched by any other organisation in the Dominion. The importance of efficient transport to the national economy demands a staff of high calibre, well educated, and imbued with qualities of ingenuity, initiative, imagination, enterprise, and perseverance.

Cadetships in the Salaried Division of the Railways Department are open to youths between the ages of 15 and 19 years, opening up opportunities for those with adequate ability to reach eventually some of the Department's highest executive posts.

For university graduates, the greatest opportunities in the Railways Department are in the various engineering professions, though university qualifications are becoming increasingly valuable for those who are concentrating on the administrative and operational aspects of transport.

Railway Bursaries Available

At the end of each school year the Railways Department appoints a number of young men to its staff as engineering cadets (either civil, electrical, or mechanical) and at its own expense sends them to a University for four years to enable them to obtain appropriate degrees. In return for the Department's investment in his education, each person is required to enter into a bond to serve the Department for at least five years subsequent to graduation. The minimum educational requirement for appointees is Higher School Certificate, but naturally those with higher qualifications have a better chance of selection.

Young men training as clerical or accountancy cadets for administrative posts in the Railways Department are also assisted with their university studies.

Railway Civil Engineering

With the present rapid pace of technological development, and the progressive modernisation of railway facilities and equipment throughout New Zealand, the Railways Department constantly requires trained engineers.

Among the many different types of vocation offered by the railways in its various branches is that of Railway Civil Engineer, a career of endless variety with a scope and magnitude of which few people are aware.

The railways civil engineer is responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of a wide variety of structures over and past which the railway runs. The track itself is maintained under his control, as are the bridges, viaducts and tunnels.

There are 55 miles of railway bridges in New Zealand, ranging from the mile-long structure over the Rakaiia River down to those of a few feet spanning little wayside streams. In height they reach a climax in the grandeur of the Mokaha Viaduct, 318 feet

above the river. Some of these 2600 bridges and viaducts were designed and built, and all are maintained by railway civil engineers. Their work is to be seen in the attractive modern designs of the newer station buildings, as at Christchurch, Rotorua, Silverstream, Napier and New Plymouth. Their ingenuity was shown in the recent renewal of the Aramoho railway bridge, where entire truss spans were lowered into place by adaption in reverse of the system of jack-raising entire building floors.

The scope in the railway civil engineering branch for men with drive, initiative, skill and imagination is wide, offering opportunities that can hardly be equalled elsewhere.

Railway Mechanical Engineering

Responsibility for the design, construction maintenance and operation of railway locomotives and rolling stock, and of the associated workshops, fall upon the shoulders of the railway mechanical engineers. Steam, diesel, and electric locomotives, multiple-unit, electric trains, diesel railcars, and passenger and freight vehicles of all kinds come under their care.

In recent years many new classes of wagons designed by railway mechanical engineers have been introduced in New Zealand. Among these are bulk cement wagons of new design fitted with air-compressor units to discharge each wagon's 28 tons of cement; and bulk liquid bitumen tank wagons fitted with oil-fired heating units to maintain the interior temperature required to keep the bitumen in liquid condition. New box wagons with extra-wide doorways to facilitate mechanical loading, new bogie wagons for express train use, and special wagons for pulp log traffic are among

other examples of the mechanical engineer's skill.

Railway Electrical Engineering

Railway electrical engineers are employed in both the civil and mechanical engineering branches.

In the former branch the electrical engineer is mainly engaged in signal and communications work. The great extension in recent years of electric colour-light signalling, interlocking, and Centralised Traffic Control has made the electrical engineer's role of increasing importance.

In the mechanical engineering branch, the electrical engineer deals with railway-traction and power. His responsibilities include electric and diesel-electric locomotives, the bulk supply of power to electrified sections of railway and to the larger station yards in electric traction areas, and all the electrical work associated with the four main workshops.

Where to Apply

Information on railway employment, rates of pay, and other details will be gladly supplied by the railway officers listed below:

Employment Officer, N.Z. Railways, Private Bag, Wellington.

Traffic Branch: Any Chief Stationmaster or Stationmaster.

Engineering branches: Chief Civil Engineer, or District Engineer, N.Z. Railways, Wellington; Chief Mechanical Engineer, or District Mechanical Engineer, N.Z. Railways, Wellington.

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'That Nebulous Spirit Stuff' —Chaplain

"ANY advance towards the truth can only be achieved—as always in man's history—by the challenge of accepted views and the proposal of alternatives." Where does this statement come from? It could come from anyone engaged in any area of research, but in fact it is the concluding statements of Prof. D. F. Lawden of Canterbury University in his recent and renowned radio talk "A Material Basis for Mind."

THE main point of his talk was that, since the successful synthesis of a living cell from inert matter, the line between what is living and what is dead is illusory. Matter has consciousness, and in this fact we have "evidence of the essential unity of the world in which we live and of which we ourselves are surely a part, no more and no less than the matter of which we are formed."

AS Christians we would agree completely with the need for the "advance towards truth," and welcome these particular advances in so far as they reveal to us new scientific truth. But Prof. Lawden does not content himself with this. He goes on to draw conclusions which seem to be outside the evidence he gives. The framework into which he puts his new scientific truth is really an attack against religion, especially Christianity.

This is nothing to be worried about except one may wonder whether the conclusions which Prof. Lawden has drawn are valid ones, and whether he sufficiently understands what he is attacking. He easily dismisses "that nebulous spirit-stuff from which the soul of theological speculation is supposed to be formed" and states simply that "the self or soul is revealed as an illusion." From the consciousness of matter he disposes of the reality of God.

But scientific truth neither proves nor disproves God just as Prof. Lawden would agree, theological truth neither proves nor disproves science. When theology said that because science did not agree with Genesis it was out, this invalid conclusion embarrassed many Christians. I wonder how many scientists are blushing now.

Professor Lawden also mentions the "religious desert of our times." There is just as good, if not better reason to talk of the scientific desert (Nevada etc?) of today and thank God for a few oases of genuine human concern. To further the metaphor, religion and theology today are not so much a waste land but a dense foliage, prolific in growth though with a tendency to run wild. It seems that Prof. Lawden has not heard of this year's best seller (250,000 copies) "Honest to God" by the Bishop of Woolwich—not to mention the annual sales of the Bible.

Theology is indeed in the air and religion has become news in a way that it has not done for many years, not only in theological thinking but in the more "practical issues" such as the growth of Christian unity and inter-church aid programmes.

Even here in the University, things have been stirring. The special committee set up at the instigation of student demand, to consider the teaching of religion at Victoria, reported some months ago and the Professorial Board has given approval for the establishment of a Department of Religious Studies. It will be good to have such studies available at a university level. When will they be started? There has been no decision given yet. That may depend on the demand from students.

In my work as Chaplain I have a good deal of contact with the various student hostels and halls. About this time of the year, those who run them suffer from a very real sense of frustration as they go through the list of applicants for next year and try to decide whom to choose. Every year it grows worse.

This year it is probable that for every place available in a hall or hostel there will be four or five applicants. What is to be done? Nothing until we have more places built. The Accommodation Officer, appointed by the University, provides an excellent service but not

Various groups are concerned about the situation—the University, the Students Association, the Federation of University Women, the Churches—but progress is terribly slow and the costs appalling. What can we do? It looks as if our answer to most applicants for 1964, 1965 (and 1966?) will be

"Sorry, no room at Victoria."—John Murray.

NZUSA Concern For Cook Islands

THE New Zealand University Students' Association is planning to send a six-man working party to the Cook Islands at the end of 1964. This was one of the decisions made at winter council in Dunedin.

THE Association also advanced a number of other recommendations, among them measures for improving relations between NZ Government and the Islands. It was felt that more information should be available to Cook Islanders, and the Council recommended statements of policy at village level, and that the establishment of a free press be encouraged. A recommendation that a bureau be established to advise on living and employment conditions in New Zealand was also passed.

The Council was impressed by the present efforts of the Government to improve conditions in the Island Territories, but

felt that there were other measures that could also be used. A member of the Cook Islands Legislative Assembly could visit New Zealand at least once a year to help publicise the Islanders' problems and conditions.

A Pacific Islanders' Welfare Division in New Zealand, possibly attached to the Department of Maori Affairs, and the establishment of a tuna fishing industry were also mooted.

"God gave Noah the Rainbow sign, No more water, the fire next time."—James Baldwin.

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Many men who have joined our Company here in New Zealand have gone to important Ford positions overseas. Others have received special Ford training in North America and have later returned to better positions here.

Graduates, and students who expect to graduate this year, should write for a confidential interview with:

The Industrial Relations Manager

FORD MOTOR COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND LIMITED
P.O. BOX 12 SEAVIEW ROAD LOWER HUTT

Around The Campus

By El Crud

WELL this is the last issue of the year and I am in danger of becoming nostalgic. It seems fitting that this column which has chronicled so many varsity parties should be written on the eve of what promises to be the wildest and most shabby of all. Benign Dave Campbell and bland Barry Finch are holding a combined 21st complete with 63 gallons of grog. With Weir now as dry as an Alliance committee meeting this could be the last fling before finals.

FINALS, that magic warden, so laden with ill portent. I calculated that since starting High School I have sat 154 exams varying from the academic sterility of Scholarship to a music exam in the third form which I failed ignominiously. Few things in life are as horrible as that first glance at the paper; the sudden numbing realisation that you haven't done enough work. Due possibly to the debilitating quality of Weir food, I have, over the last couple of years, been afflicted with an unshakable lassitude which would suggest I was a victim of the dreaded yo-yo disease.

TO my surprise I found myself the winner of a sweep on the All Blacks and I would like to thank the selectors for their kind co-operation.

Went to see "Boccaccio 70" last night. Man what a film! It's the first film I've seen entirely on sex and I must admit I liked it. In the foyer a cop came up to me and asked if I had been in the vicinity of the Manners Street Post Office. When I said I had he replied that someone had seen me put something into the box and what was it? A letter to my father. Whereupon he seemed satisfied and we had a pleasant chat about the constabulary in Dannevirke. It was unsettling though and my companions said later they hoped I would be taken away for questioning. The next move will be to post an armed guard inside each post box and a set of automatic handcuffs will restrain any would-be lawbreaker, while a voice tells him that anything he says may be taken down in duplicate and used against him.

Some days ago I was given a white mouse, the former owner informing me that it could not walk or run at an angle less than the angle whose tan is (2) to the vertical. Nevertheless, the little devil comes and goes at will. Yesterday it was retrieved from the canteen and placed in an empty biscuit tin, but when I came back after lunch it had vanished. I saw it later on, heading due east across the carpet at about 10 knots, but it was far too clever for me. It has now settled into a war of attrition though I have an uncanny feeling that the mouse is intellectually superior to me. Mice are quite in-

telligent you know. Perhaps it was trained by George Wilder.

I now have a growing respect for the rodent intellect, and I consider them to be brighter than most of the humans they meet. A certain Mr. Kleib, of Arkansas, has demonstrated conclusively that mice are less susceptible to subliminal advertising than are humans. He has also produced a rat which he said had an IQ equivalent to that of John Stuart Mill, but unfortunately it died from 1080 poison, thereby depriving the world of a genius. My mouse has responded well to the Rorschach ink blot test and through long periods alone is learning to sublimate his sex drives.

And, finally, I must close my column for the year. I have taken a swing at many people, important people like Peter Blizzard, Bruce MacLennan and Max Bullock. I have been abused, threatened with libel action, cold shouldered and praised. I was nearly flattened at a party when my identity was revealed; I was amused by the little girl who so badly wanted a mention but would not tell me her name, intrigued by the look of vague disbelief on people's faces when I am introduced, because let's face it I don't look like a columnist. I have not the brash earnestness of Tony Haas, or the business elegance of Ian Grant. They invariably seem disappointed that I don't look the part.

Finally, and in conclusion, let me say this: If, in any way I have offended you or caused you hurt . . . THANK YOU AND GOOD NIGHT!!

School-kids Murdered In Vietnam

UNDER the censorship of the so-called Ngo Dinh Diem government all letters sent abroad are opened, carefully examined and censored. This is the reason why few people can know exactly what is going on in South Vietnam.

THE following are translated extracts from a letter written in invisible ink to a student in New Zealand from a Vietnamese student in Saigon. The author of this letter was one of the students who were sent to a detention camp.

On Monday, 9th. September 1963, the students of Chu Van An High School held a meeting to protest against the mass arrest of thousands of university students by the Government in a previous protest march.

IT was the first day of term and the students intended to seize the microphone from the school staff to lead the meeting. Being worried beforehand, the new school principal ordered the students to enter their classes. The school was then encircled by fully armed special forces, the secret police. From their classes the students shouted slogans insulting the president and the government. In a raging moment they smashed tables,

blackboards, window panes and threw these things at the police. The furious fight began when the armed police tried to get into the school barred with obstacles put up by the students. Many of the police were injured. During the fighting the students had to wear masks so that even if they were photographed they could not be identified by the government.

After three hours of fighting the students were overcome by

the government forces. Being driven into a corner of the school yard they were savagely beaten by the ruthless secret police armed with rifle-butts, truncheons and bayonets. There was bloodshed everywhere and some of the students were beaten to death in the schoolyard. Then they were rounded up and carried away by trucks to a detention camp at Go Vap. There they were wildly beaten again by the secret police. These young students, whose ages ranged from 13 to 17, were kept in a large camp and were forced to eat and drink human excreta. After two days some of them were released but many of them are still kept in the detention camp. Among them there is a student named Ming who knocked down the Chief of Police and four other policemen.

The students did not tear down the national flag as reported by the Voice of America.



Bruce Mason Blues

WE DON'T WANT YOUR SORT HERE: BRUCE MASON. Paul's Book Arcade. 67 pages. 12/6.

WITH pungent and mordant satire, Bruce Mason strongly attacks the New Zealand way of life. He includes drinking, censorship, eating habits and the good, solid Kiwi attitude to conformism in his repertoire. He also makes an attempt to re-draft Bracken's National anthem.

"God's Own Country, God's Own Flock
Can't adulterate its stock.
Close the door: ignore the knock.
That's true blue New Zealand."

IN his verse he reels off many memorable phrases, some of which should be inscribed on suitable

brass plaques for display in public places.

For example—"A kiwi goes on drinking just to stop himself from thinking," and "Ya just one a them queers with advanced ideas and we don't want your sort here."

Credit to Bruce Mason for the collection, but several pieces require a stretched imagination to enjoy and some of the parodies require an extensive knowledge of certain literature which would perhaps be well known to Unity theatre patrons.

Presentation is marred by second-rate binding, but it is a book to be bought and kept for fortification of the spirit in times of depression.

A.R.H.

Labour At Vic

A BRANCH of the Labour Party has been formed by University Students. They intend assisting the party's election campaign, and are running a series of meetings. Mr. Nordmeyer spoke last Wednesday, and Mr. Nash will address a future meeting. So far the club has affiliated itself with the Labour Representation Committee and the local Interbranch Council. They require members to pay subscriptions, part of which goes to Labour Party funds. President D. Shand hopes to increase club membership, and have an active future. He can be contacted at 85-837 evenings.

DID THE MAYOR DANCE?

"KITTS swirled as the pipes and drums of the Wellington Regiment ventured out into the streets and into the teeth of Wellington's southerly last night."

—An extract from the Dominion, Thursday, September 26.

EXEC NEWS

THE collection from Cook Islands Week, £30, is going to be sent to the external department of the New Zealand University Students Association for use in the Cook Islands. It was decided at the September 2 meeting of the Executive.

It was also decided to run an "Indonesia Week" some time during the first term next year.

At the meeting it was decided that Executive would hold back its grant to the Drama Club until the accounts for its production 'Lysistrata' are presented. This was decided on the recommendation of the Finance committee which met on the 6th of August.

The VUW Students' Association budget is to be published for the perusal of students, the meeting decided. This motion was made by Brian Opie, secretary, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

The meeting appointed Cathy Benefield, Congress Representative for 1964. It was also decided that Lester Roussel would be Orientation Controller for 1964.

The remaining 1250 copies of Spike which are unsold have been disposed of in the following ways:

- 500 to Public Relations Officer.
- 100 to Liaison Officer, VUW.
- 600 to Boy Scouts Association.
- 20 to Executive.
- 30 to SALIENT Office for Distribution.

It was reported by Dave Baird, Capping Controller, that 1300 unsold remaining copies of the Cappicade have been sent to the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

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Unequal Opportunity In Education

IT is time that New Zealanders consciously re-evaluated their unconscious philosophy of egalitarianism. (I take egalitarianism to mean equality—a general levelling process—a regression to the mean). Surely what we should be thinking of is equality of opportunity and not equality per se.

IT would be quite legitimate to consider this question architecturally, cf. the proliferation of 1 acre sections, all with red corrugated iron roofed buildings, economically, cf. the topic of margins for skill, artistically cf. the ridicule that is heaped on the "sculpturally new" even to derogatory references such as a "cow's buttock."

However, I will be content to record just a few observations in relation to education egalitarianism.

New Zealand has exhibited no tardiness in providing schools for the deaf, the intellectually handicapped, the far-sighted, the near-sighted, for the inhabitants of out-back districts, but directly the term "gifted children" was mentioned we, until recently, became socially myopic and shrank back in horror from making special provision. The same applies to another educationally under-privileged group, the Maoris.

Parity of opportunity is seen as synonymous with equality of opportunity whereas nothing could be further from the truth. The sooner the powers that control education realise that special provision relates to all sections of

the community, and not only to the handicapped, the better.

Recently the New Zealand University system has undergone changes which contradict the philosophy of equal opportunity: the revision of fees, bursary provisions, and similar legislation have all mitigated against the part-time student. Furthermore this legislation has not been taken sufficiently far as to allow the full-time student the benefit of full-time study (bursaries too low, pressures on passing too high), in short neither the part-time nor the full-time student are adequately catered for.

It has been traditional in New Zealand that University education should be open to all who can benefit from such an education. Many potential students can only take such opportunity on a part-time basis—this is now being made progressively more difficult. Equality of opportunity is being eroded and in some cases denied.

What is the solution to our collective problem? There is no short answer. What is needed is a re-orientation of our attitude to-

ward differences in people, differences in their potential and differences in their gifts and shortcomings. In order to develop the gifts and help people to realise and overcome their shortcomings, differences in educational provision are a necessity.

In the early years of this century, New Zealand was a world leader in social reform. Since then it has rested on its laurels, rather like the over-confident hare who moves at a snail's pace. It is the task of all of us to see that the spirit of forthright and courageous criticism and experiment is revived again. Egalitarianism is the philosophy of the absurd, a philosophy of stagnation. Is this to be the philosophy of New Zealand education or, more important does New Zealand have an educational philosophy at all?

P. J. R. BLIZARD.

SWEEPING CHANGES IN DEGREES

THE University Council approved some sweeping changes in the structure of a number of degrees at its meeting on Monday, September 23.

HONOURS in Commerce and Arts are to take the same form as those already prescribed in the Science syllabus—to be attempted in the post graduate year. B.A. and B.Com. Honours students will be examined in what now constitute Masters papers while a Masters degree will involve a thesis with no examination requirements.

NOW to be incorporated explicitly in the B.Com. course are Political Science and Business Administration, a move welcomed by the Council as evidence of new maturity. The Commerce units for honours are now Accountancy, Economics, and Political Science.

New units to be included in the Arts course are Applied Economics III to give opportunity for advanced work at the under graduate level, and International Politics II. New subjects in the English Department include Medieval English II as an alternative to English Language II—the unit will

make a study of the literature of Old and Middle English. Economic I is to be further stiffened by the inclusion of a compulsory course in mathematics for those who have not reached UE standard—the class's new title—"Elementary Techniques of Analysis."

All Arts and Commerce subjects except languages and maths (which will probably be included later) are participating in the new honours scheme which was thought to be in line with existing trends in most overseas universities as well as giving scope for more advanced scholarship.

A post-graduate, Bachelor of Education degree, was another of the innovations suggested by the Professorial Board. It would consist of two parts, the first would be the Diploma course in its present form, the second will require an additional year of study and examination to complete the Bachelors degree.

The Students' Association proposal to introduce Maori Studies next year was rejected by the Council on the grounds that a temporary lecturer was undesirable. The council wished to see "The new department in the hands of the person who will become its eventual head," who was unlikely to be selected in time.

P. V. O'Brien, the students' representative on the Council suggested that the University of Auckland could be requested to re-open its facilities for extramural studies for one year only—was told by the acting Vice-Chancellor that the facilities were no longer available. He concluded that the absence of Maori Studies next year would upset nobody's plans—an acquaintance with the subject could be made through the Regional Council of Adult Education in preparation for its introduction in 1965, as previously planned.

After a request from the Students' Association that the library remain open on Saturday afternoon, the Council agreed to open the Under-Graduate Reading Room until 5-30 on Saturdays, having had discussions with an Exec. representative and the Library Advisory Committee.

'COLOMBO' QUOTA DOWN

THE Prime Minister told SALIENT last week that there would not be as many students coming to New Zealand under the Colombo Plan this year as there were last year.

NEGOTIATIONS with the governments concerned are still continuing, but it is expected that there will be over 40 arriving this month for the short summer course at the English Language Institute. They include approximately 15 from Thailand, 13 from Indonesia, 11 from Vietnam, 4 from Nepal and one from Laos. Though mainly university students taking engineering, arts and science, they also include post-graduate agriculture and nursing trainees, and a commercial broadcaster.

The Department of External Affairs will again ask the people of Wellington to take these students into their homes for the summer.

RESERVED
FOR THE
CHANCELLOR



Triumph For Yes-Men

EXECUTIVE has passed a resolution taking away its right to make protests on moral, religious or political questions, other than those of direct concern to students as students.

THIS decision was taken by a 7-3 majority, with Bruce Middleton, vice-president, Chairman of the International Club, and Chairman of the International Affairs Subcommittee dissenting. T. March, Publications Officer, and M. Rowlands, Cultural Affairs Officer, also dissented. P. Blizzard, (President) was absent. Voting for the motion were R. Smith, D. Baird, T. Robins, C. Benefield, M. Kemp and the mover and seconder, R. Bell and R. Opie.

THE motions not only prevent students using their official organ for making pronouncements on affairs of the world, but they also require pronouncements on moral, political or religious affairs concerning students directly, to be ratified first by two thirds of the Executive.

Affairs concerning students commented on by the President

other than those above may be and the Public Relations officer at their discretion.

Provision is made for discussion of those issues Executive won't touch, by means of a seminar, lecture, petition, demonstration, special general meeting, SALIENT or any other media that the Executive may choose.

To Catch A Thief

AN uninsured £100 camera was stolen from the library staff room recently. This was the second theft from the room and the nth. in the University this year. Reports of thefts have been coming in at the rate of two or three a week, and there are believed to be more unreported. Missing property has included overcoats, jackets, wallets, purses, pens, brooches and an astounding number of satchels. The loss of these is, of course, most damaging, for the loss of invaluable notes can cripple a student academically.

A CONSIDERABLE amount of the thieving has been from the racks in the main foyer of the Hunter building, where bags are left while students use the library. Other scenes of crime include the Gymnasium and the Student Union Building.

THE POLICE are investigating and the University authorities are aware of the situation. Notices warning students not to leave valuables about have been posted. Thefts should be reported to the Registrar or the Police.

However, these precautions are not sufficient to protect students' interests. The authorities should consider, and the Students Association Executive should press for, facilities for the safeguarding of valuables. Lockers or custodians may provide partial solutions.

But students must remain more alert to suspicious behaviour. There is no reason to follow the example of those who have caught thieves redhanded, asked for the culprit's name and then let him go. A false name is not very useful to the police. To bail the person up and call the police would be more effective.

News Editor.

Fag Machine

THE executive approved the installation of a cigarette vending machine in the SUB. Blizzard noted with interest that non-smokers had voted against the motion, smokers for it.

EMASCULATIONS UNPARALLELED

THE new regulation passed by Executive curbing their power to act as a normal pressure group, is, to say the least, farcical.

NOT only does it succeed in shutting the official student body off from the society in which it lives, but it is self contradictory. Whilst the main clause forbids any official statements, a supplementary clause says "prior to any statement . . ."

IN addition, the motions allow officially for consideration of these issues, and in fact directs the executive to initiate them. But it allows no official protest to come as a result of reasoned consideration.

Although the framers are obviously in good faith, in attempting to restrain the actions of irresponsible or hasty and ill-informed executives, they go to ridiculous lengths by constitutionally denying students the right to speak as a body.

What will happen at an SGM, or when SALIENT or any of the other specifically mentioned bodies come to a conclusion on moral or other issues? Either their protestations will fizzle out in sighs and groans, or they will take action without the sanction of the constitution.

A.R.H.