



SALIENT

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Muldoon's race to the top

Muldoon has nearly completed his determined attempt to stride to the top of the country. As though motivated by a massive inferiority complex, he has pushed, plotted, and waged his clever publicity campaign in the relentless pursuit of power. Now he is Leader of the Opposition he has only one ambition left — the Prime Ministership.

With the publication of his autobiography and his currently incessant self-exposure, it is timely for New Zealanders to look closely at Muldoon.

For years he has been a national hero for a large group of people. They range from frustrated little men to frustrated millionaires, from incoherent would-be bosses to entrapped housewives, from latent racists to out-and-out bigots of all forms.

Can we afford to have such a man as Muldoon in any position of influence, let alone the Prime Ministership? This week Salient takes a brief look at some of Muldoon's printable views on race, as a particularly pertinent example of views that are an ugly threat to human rights in the country.

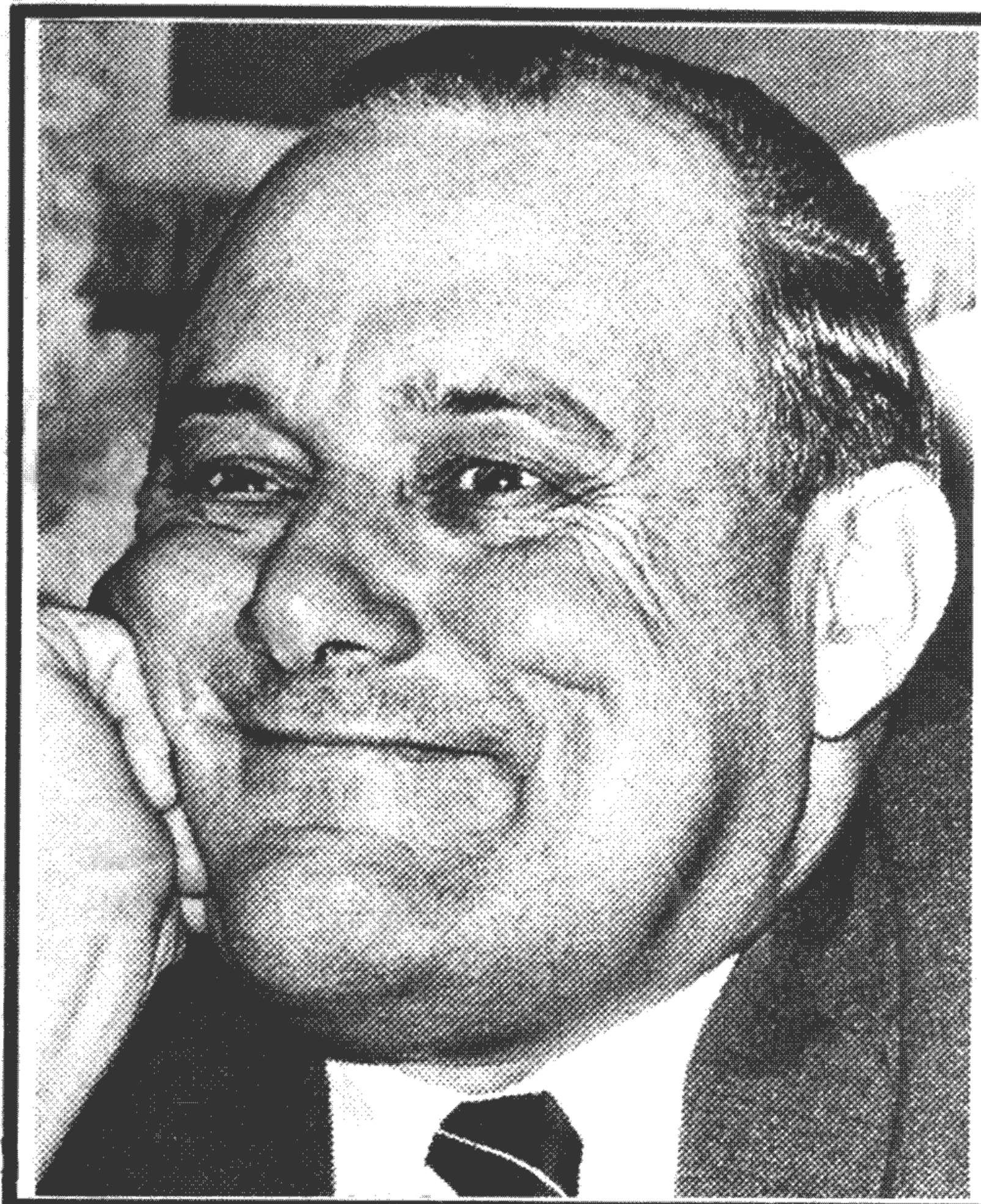
In his book *The Rise and Fall of a Young Turk*, Muldoon gives some insights into his make-up. On page 31 he says:

"To point up the menace of communist subversion, real though it is, is to invite the catchery of "redbaiter" or "smear tactics". Anyone who speaks out against the anti-South African campaign is a "racist".

What a gross exaggeration it is to say 'Anyone who speaks out against the anti-South Africa campaign is a "racist".' Muldoon has little or no evidence for this attempt to devalue the word 'racist'. He is trying to divert attention from the central issue, inventing a smokescreen about words.

On page 52 Muldoon makes his most lurid statements:

"As far as our Pacific Island immigrants are concerned there is no doubt that the majority are good workers and lawabiding citizens. For those who resort to violence, usually as a result of their inability to handle liquor, I would have one penalty for all but the most exceptional cases — send them home. This would be the best deterrent, and if the law had to be altered so be it. For the young Maori lout convicted of an offence involving violence a similar pro-



hibition from living in the city would, I believe, be an effective deterrent penalty.'

Note that the immigrants are workers first and citizens second. According to Muldoon they resort to violence because they can't handle liquor. How blind he is! Why doesn't he ask what makes them (and large numbers of white workers who Muldoon obviously places in a different category) take to excessive indulgence in liquor in the first place? Muldoon prefers not to look at the causes of alienation and violence, he seeks a society which brutally represses crime rather than removes its causes.

His remarks about Maori 'louts' are ironic in a ghastly way. After the Pakeha

land-owning class and its successive governments had driven Maoris from their land, leaving them with only three or four million acres out of an original 66 million, now a Pakeha leader wants to send them back to their (virtually non-existent) land. This particular line is reminiscent of the South African homelands policy which has resulted in gross inequality for the blacks. Cities belong to Maoris as much as Pakehas, and getting rid of the Maoris won't solve industrial exploitation, housing squalor, inadequate community facilities, and all the other problems that make cities irresistible nightmares for so many people, young and old, brown and white.

On page 184 Muldoon quotes with

obvious approval a politician who 'had no time for the maudlin fawning on everything Maori that became the constant preoccupation of the Labour Government.' Again no evidence, just unsubstantiable smear tactics. It is a commendable facet of the Labour Party, perhaps because they have Maori working class members, that they have recognised that Maoris are discriminated against and suffer accordingly socially, educationally, in health, housing etc. The results of all this can be seen in the courts, the prisons, in death rates, in dead-end jobs, in all of which Maoris are over-represented. If anything, they need to become a constant preoccupation of government, if only to rectify the wrongs done them. Calling this 'maudlin fawning' is inconsiderate, negative and blind.

Students who saw Muldoon in action at this university recently were impressed by his skilful evasion of questions about racial problems and race equality. If there weren't so many stirrers there wouldn't be so many problems, evaded Muldoon time and again. But stirrers have to have something to stir, Muldoon, and there's plenty of problems to stir on that won't go away if you ignore them. For instance, the statistics from the 1973 New Zealand Yearbook and the article on the lack of Maori participation in the education system (both reprinted in *Salient*, July 3) need more satisfactory answers than what Muldoon is in effect saying: "Sit down and shut up."

If Muldoon gets in as Prime Minister in 1975 we can look forward to history repeating itself as the Maori racial minority becomes openly as well as institutionally persecuted like the Jews were in Germany of the thirties.

It is doubtful that the few remotely progressive elements in the National Party have sufficient inclination or guts to depose the man they irresponsibly let rise to the top.

Voters have a duty to keep racism out of politics and keep National out of office. People seeing through Muldoon's bigoted beliefs have a duty to expose them, and to fight for a society in which inequalities are solved in multi-cultural, democratic ways, rather than suppressed by National-style reaction.

—Roger Steele

GOVT ATTACKS HARBOUR PILOTS

A fortnight ago, the Labour Government tried to bash New Zealand's trade unions by allowing the Auckland Harbour ferry operator, Leo Dromgoole, to take out injunctions against the Northern Drivers' Union and its secretary, Mr G.H. Andersen, which resulted in Mr Andersen spending two days in prison. Now the Labour Government has again tried to attack the working people of New Zealand, through its attack on the rights of harbour pilots to take industrial action in support of their wage demands.

In 1960, New Zealand's harbour pilots received rates of pay which were comparable to those received by sea-going ship's masters (a master's certificate is a necessary qualification for becoming a pilot). A pilot received slightly in excess of what was earned by a junior master with the Union Steam Ship Company. Now, however, some 14 years later, this pay parity has been completely lost, and the pay-rates for pilots have fallen as much as 50% behind those for sea-going masters. When, last week, the most that Harbours Association (negotiating for the Harbour Boards, who are the employers)

would offer the Merchant Service Guild (representing the pilots) was 17%.

As a result, about the middle of last week, the Merchant Service Guild decided that the pilots would limit themselves to working a 40 hour week as from last Friday night unless the Harbours' Association was prepared to make them a more realistic offer. This threat, however prompted an immediate reaction from the government — on Thursday they introduced regulations which classified harbour piloting as an essential industry (along with other workers such as firemen and hospital workers). The effect of such a classification for the pilots is to make it illegal for them to take any industrial action — in this case an overtime ban — without giving at least a fortnight's notice. Then, on Friday, the government rushed an emergency bill through Parliament which gave Harbour Boards power to prosecute the pilots should they take illegal industrial action. It is quite apparent that harbour piloting is not in the

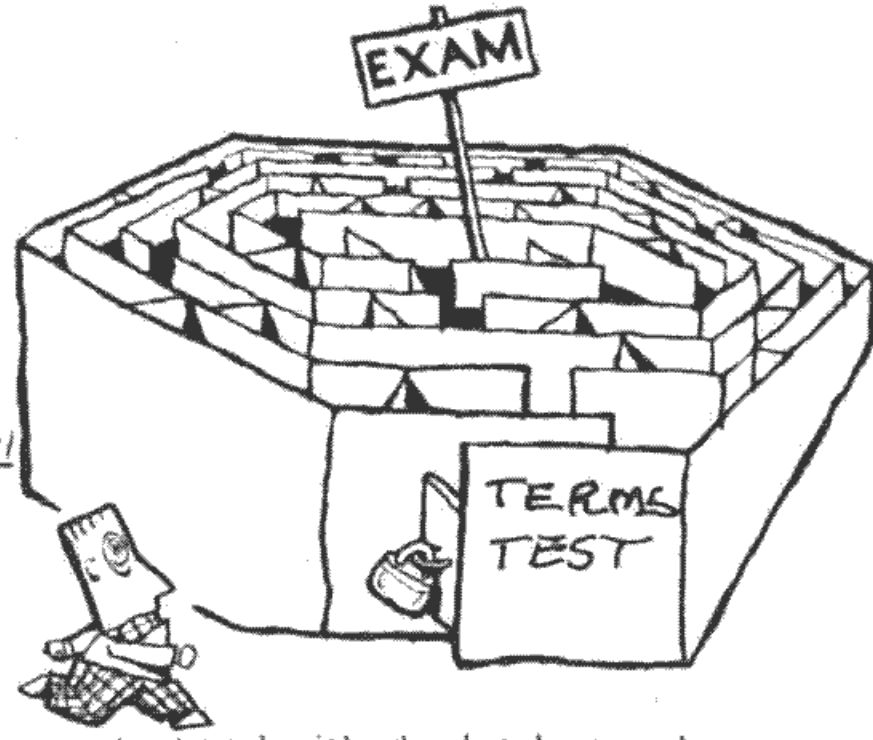
same category as fire-fighting or hospital work, which are directed at the protection and saving of human lives, and, of course, property. The only people to be hurt by the pilot's dispute were the rich tourists on the Australis who had to spend an extra night at sea in their luxury liner, and a few Auckland businessmen who were only going to have three hours instead of two days to try to rip these tourists off by hocking souvenirs off to them. If the government is prepared to classify harbour piloting as an essential industry, what else will it classify as an essential industry? Any other group of workers who have legitimate pay demands, we presume, are now liable to be classified as working in an essential industry, if they threaten industrial action against a group of employers reluctant to heed their demands. This is tantamount to removing the rights of workers to take industrial action in defence of their own interests.

—David Tripe

The Whizz Kid Quiz

1. Give brief but precise explanations of the underlined words in the following lines:

- (a) I'll tent him to the quick.
- (b) confined to exhibition
- (c) who would ardels bear...?
- (d) goatish disposition
- (e) from whose hourn/No traveller returns
- (f) elf all my hairs in knots
- (g) if his occulted guilt Do not itself unkennel
- (h) Poor pelting villages
- (i) I know not how conceit may rob/The treasury of life
- (j) hoist with his own petard



If someone asked you whether this question was taken from a) a camping manual; b) Schanell's Essential Speller, c) the Communist manifesto; or d) a Medieval English text book would you automatically answer: "Of course not, it's obviously from a Stage II terms test in Shakespearean drama"?... You'd be right.

These ten phrases plucked from 'Hamlet' and 'King Lear', completely out of

context and with absolutely no relevance to anything in themselves, represented the grand quiz session after a month's intensive study in English 213. The student's happy task was to explain the big words. To be fair, it was not the only question in the text. Four slightly longer quotations also had to be popped oh-so skilfully into the appropriate place, the

right guys in the plays matched with the right words, and any part of the contents "relevant to the larger concerns of the plays" commented on. With ten minutes allocated to each question, glib superficiality was inevitable, even if some depth of thought had been the aim of the test or possible in such competitive circumstances.

No one who has been to Don McKenzie's lectures will deny that he is an effective and thought-provoking lecturer, nor that his love for Shakespeare is genuine and his knowledge extensive. 'Hamlet' he sees ultimately as a definition of humanity, and 'King Lear' as the fullest explanation of the harshness of perversion of life. Thus he constantly relates the motivations, the dilemmas, the relationships of Shakespeare's heroes to the modern situation, and drama through his eyes is able to create some awareness of the universal human search for identity and meaningful social interaction.

The terms test was the complete antithesis

of this creation. It reduced drama once again to its traditional role as a purely academic study of art form, whose main cause, purpose and consequence seems merely to perpetuate its own existence. It could do no more than check up on who had read the plays (or was sitting beside someone who had) - in itself, a somewhat negative comment on the level of interest expected from students at this university.

Involvement in courses leading to and stimulated by social involvement can only be drained away by such demands of veto learning which are opposed to the genuine sharing and widening of experience. Instead, such senseless tests of 'knowledge' churn out an intellectual elite who concentrate on the medium to the exclusion of the message. No wonder we have critics like the one who considered Patrick White's book, 'The Eye of the Storm', a masterpiece in every respect except for two words on page 338.

- Pip Desmond

Polytech Students Wake Up

by a student at Wellington Polytechnic

Two full-time courses at the Wellington Polytechnic were disrupted when two tutors were not available for tutorials.

The missing staff members were involved in an inquiry by the Polytechnic Council, which is expected to be completed within the next day or two.

Meetings of students were held and letters were drafted to the administration giving it notice of the motives for the action, and expressing the extreme resentment of the students at the action of the administration involving the tutors.

It was felt that action which resulted in disruption of classes should not be taken without consultation with the students.

Many first-year students have come to realise that the Wellington Polytech is nothing more than an overrated secondary school. Decisions are made on the upper floors of "A" block and as far as the students are concerned, that's it.

It's high time students came out in protest against the administration. On many courses students are judged on attendance and punctuality. Naturally the place is geared to training aspiring young capitalists to "go forth and make a man of yourself" but under the present system, the man is not going to be a man of his

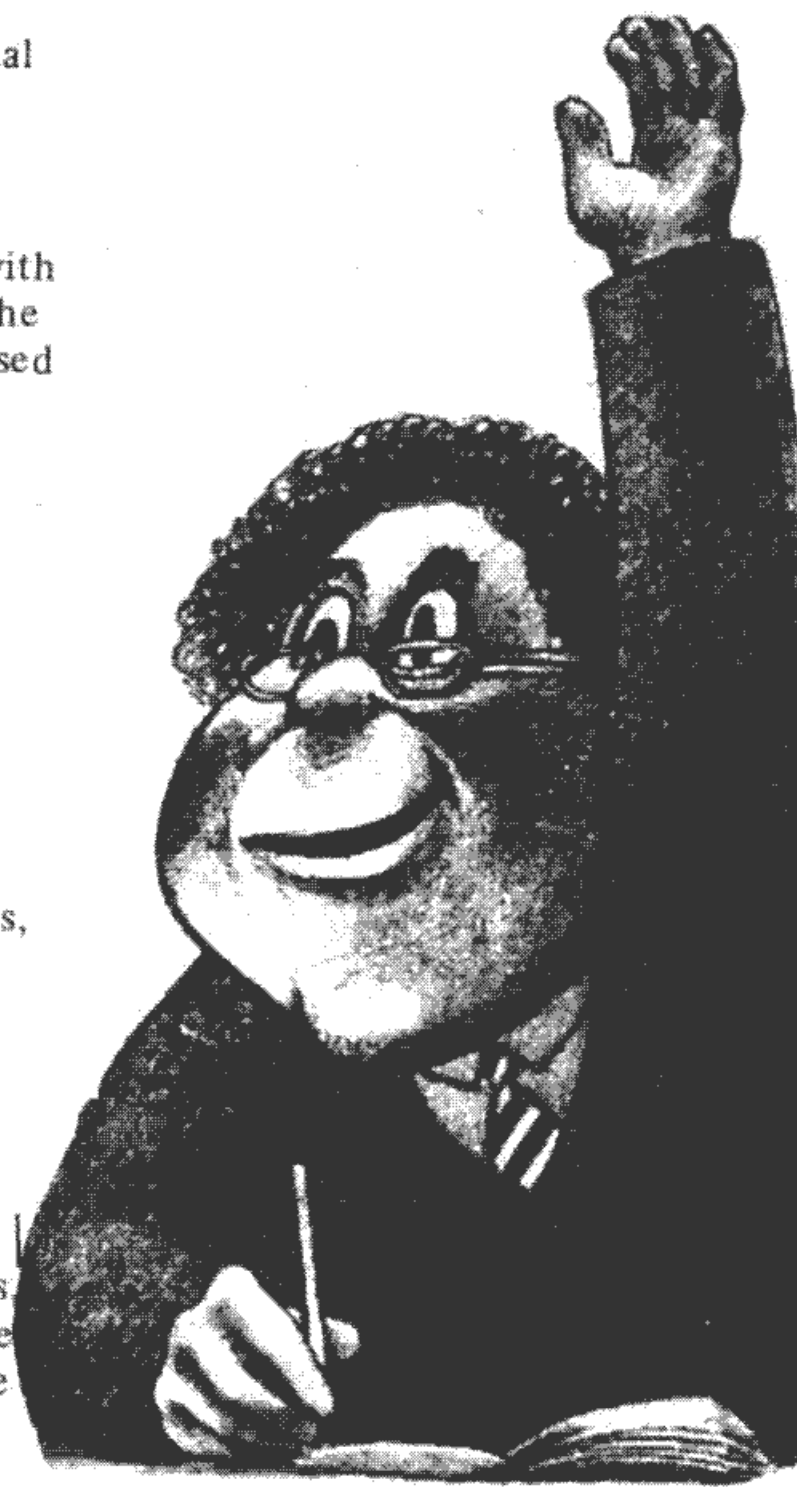
own design. The majority of people emerging from polytech are likely to know what they are doing in their jobs, but the ability to become a free-thinking individual is crushed.

The all-powerful administration must come to understand it cannot go ahead with its domineering policies independent of the students for whom the polytech is supposed to be run.

The job of arousing students to fight against this out-moded system will be difficult. As was shown with last month's protest, few students decided on positive action. Most courses resumed studies as usual, merely because the action taken by the hierarchy did not affect them directly.

The apathetic attitude of many polytech students has amazed first-year students, particularly those who have come directly from secondary school. These pupils only went from one archaic system to another, expecting the freedom one should expect from a tertiary institution but being sadly disappointed. The prime example of apathy was the presidential elections. Of some 5,000 full-time and part-time students 400 managed to drag themselves out to vote.

It's up to the students to bring about the long overdue change. It won't happen by itself.



QUAKERS

We shall not ask you to speak or sing,
We shall not ask you what you believe,
We shall not ask you to give money,
We shall simply offer you our friendship,
And a chance to sit quietly and think:
And perhaps somebody will speak,
And perhaps somebody will pray,
And perhaps you will find here
That which you are seeking.....
We are not saints,
We are not cranks,
We are not different -
Except that we believe
That God's light is in all men,
Waiting to be discovered.

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Hear Jessica Star Speaking on Why Abortion Laws should be Repealed

VENUES:

Sunday, July 21 - Reception Dinner, 5pm, Smoking Room, VUW. Admission \$2. For tickets telephone 552-203.

Monday July 22 - Radio Windy Talk-back Show. 9am-12 noon.

Debate with the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child (SPUC). 12.30pm, Hall, Teachers' College, Donald Street, Karori.

Debate with SPUC. 8pm Union Hall VUW. Tuesday, July 23 - Forum. 12 noon Union Hall VUW.

Money to pay for the tour is urgently needed. Please send your donation to P.O. Box 2669, Wellington.

Wellington Women's Abortion Action Committee (WWAAC)



FROM THE COURTS

by Bernard Randall

Last Thursday in the No 1 Supreme Court in Wellington a middle aged man appeared before Mr Justice Cooke, charged with murder. During the trial the 175 spectators consisting mainly of law students ignored the possibility of contempt of court and hissed and booed when either the judge or prosecutor made prejudicial comments about the accused. Were the law students heeding the call of direct action to change the legal system? Unfortunately, no. It was merely the annual moot of the Law Faculty. On trial was Othello who was accused of murdering his wife Desdemona.

Prosecuting for the Crown was Messrs R.A. Moodie and A. A. T. Ellis. Appearing for the accused was Professor D.B. Inglis and the Dean Mr J.C. Thomas. The trial was heard before Mr Justice Cooke and a jury of 22 senior law students. This large number for the jury was seen as compensating in some meagre way for the usual 12 reasonable men who normally form the jury.

In his opening address to the jury Mr Justice Cooke told them that in the tedious repetition they were about to hear they could be thankful that they did not have to put up with it every day. Mr Moodie opened the case for the Crown and stated the reason for Othello killing Desdemona was vengeance. He proceeded to describe Othello as an extreme egotist, psychopath, inward-looking, impulsive and insensitive. Having exhausted Roget's Thesaurus he summed it up by saying that Othello may have been an epileptic. The cross-examination of Ray Henwood reached its crescendo when Prof. Inglis asked the witness "If epilepsy is not a disease what is it?" - to which Henwood replied "A very good question!"

The case for the defence was opened by the Dean Mr J. Thomas who pointed out to the jury that in "the cool of the court" the real circumstances surrounding the case could not be appreciated. He then proceeded to lay some emotional importance on a handkerchief belonging to Othello's mother. Mr Thomas sought to prove that the defence of insanity and provocation were available to the accused, one and a half hours later the jury, no longer resembling their earlier pose of being alert and observant, were addressed by Mr Justice Cooke. He told them that he invariably gives an indication to the jury of his views as to the verdict but that they generally disregard them. The jury returned a verdict of guilty of manslaughter.

For many of the law students present it was their first time in the Supreme Court. How can law students become aware of the injustices in the criminal trials if they seldom attend the supreme or magistrates courts? Unless law students attend the court regularly they will be oblivious to the injustices of the legal system which in their studies they perpetuate.

SOCIOLOGY DEPT CRACKING UP

Victoria's Sociology Department is about the best in the country for the study of conflict and social change — not in the subjects it teaches but in the goings on behind the scenes.

The department is an unstable and confused mess and a large part of it is due to the high staff turnover. In the time it takes an ordinary student to complete a sociology major the entire staff of the department will have changed with only one or two exceptions.

As a result students get little chance to get to know staff and the continual comings and goings leave students just a little bit dazed and confused as more and more new faces appear and more and more old faces disappear.

Due to understaffing, the staff are over-worked and their lectures generally uninspiring. Those staff encouraging a questioning critical approach in students

The Sociology Department at Victoria consists of at present: 3 senior lecturers, 4 lecturers and 2 junior lecturers.

Of these:

2 senior lecturers will leave this year (both arrived 1971 by assisted passage)
1 lecturer is on sabbatical leave in 1975
1 lecturer is to leave at the end of this year (arrived 1970 assisted passage)
1 lecturer left in 1973 (arrived 1970 — assisted passage)
a lecturer leaving August (replaced the one left 1973 — New Zealander)
1 junior lecturer leaving 1974 (started 1971 — New Zealander)
1 junior lecturer left 1973 (started 1971 — New Zealander)

Of these:

Two are going to the London School of Economics.
One is going to a highly rated Canadian University.
One — is going to Columbia (USA)
And others have gone to highly rated universities in USA and Canada.

In 1975 there will be:

1 senior lecturer (arrived 1974) plus new staff (2)
3 lecturers (two arrived 1974) (one on sabbatical) plus new staff (1)
1 junior lecturer (arrived late 1973) plus new staff (1)

Professor Robb (Departmental Head) has now been there for X years.

receive little support from the department. And the one constant factor — the department's head, Professor Robb — appears either to be ignoring these problems or playing a major part in their propagation.

So what's wrong?

Most of the staff for the department come from overseas due to lack of New Zealand applicants for positions. On the basis of Vic's good name (overseas that is) we get a reasonable selection of staff. They have their travel to New Zealand paid in full provided they stay a minimum of three years.

The problem is that most stay the three year minimum and then leave.

It can be seen from the box that even New Zealand staff members take the earliest opportunity to leave the department.

1975 will bring a totally changed staff from even early 1973. Mostly coming from overseas, the new staff will experience many problems settling into the country, university department etc and these problems will, en bloc, on unsuspecting students.

It would be easy to explain this away by saying that staff have put their 'careers' above the interests of students. It would be easy except that several of the leaving or left staff have enjoyed and fostered very good relations with their students. Pat O'Malley (left 1973) and Stephen Mugford (leaving 1974) are just two of those staff who enjoyed good relations with their students. They demanded a critical response to their teaching and by and large accepted the resultant criticisms. O'Malley went to the highly rated London School of Economics. While by no means perfect in their approach or acceptance of what is essentially a bourgeois science they represented a significant body of staff trying to break down the pervading concepts of staff elitism and student passivity.

Those that leave the department do not on the whole appear to be leaving for purely selfish reasons. The inner workings of the Sociology Department seem the more likely cause.

There is no doubt that students are perturbed and troubled over the high turnover of Soc. Dept. staff. Courses

Department and Mr R.G. Bagnall of the Department of University Extension, and enrolments for specific days or for the whole course close at the Department of University Extension on July 24.

For further information phone 758-677 (Mr R.G. Bagnall).

change willy nilly as do the expensive set texts, adding up to a lack of a consistent approach. This can only be at the expense of students trying to master social science. Resultant chronic understaffing means lecturers and tutors too often teach theories that are divorced from current social practice because they do not have sufficient time to go out on research. This shows up in a dull and uninspiring set of courses and increased student cynicism. The bleak prospect of 1975 brings matters even more to a head and action is needed immediately to change matters.

What needs changing

Duplication of courses within social sciences is one of the causes of understaffing. Social change and urban studies are taught by various separate departments and could profitably be combined into interdisciplinary courses cutting out wastage of staff resources.

But this is not the prime solution to the sociology department's woes. As I said before one must look inside the department to trace this.

There appears to be two main factors. One is the lack of promotion given to able staff members. Staff have been consistently let down in their expectations for promotion and no indications have been forthcoming from the top to make staff feel that they will get promotion. Over-worked staff tend to become disillusioned as again and again their claims are passed by. Secondly staff advocating a critical approach earn the ire of the powers that be. If a staff member builds up good student relations then he can expect no congratulations but spite and of course no chance of promotion.

A lot of these threads appear to lead to



Professor Robb — head of the Department. Prof. Robb is the only member of the department left from 1969 but he's been round a lot longer than that and naturally some of the blame must fall on him for the current state of affairs. He is responsible for presenting the case for staff promotions in his department. He could well have acted on streamlining courses and reducing staff workloads. He, too, is responsible to a large extent of meek acceptance of the same old ideas and the reification of staff into an elite, unquestionable by mere students.

These problems in the sociology department are very pressing and students will continue to suffer unless action is taken. Members of the administration of this university and those in the Department of Sociology and Social Work who have allowed this situation to occur either through blindness or conscious activity have something to answer for and a responsibility to act quickly to improve this situation and prevent it from recurring.

—Bruce Robinson

CHEMISTRY FOR THE COMMUNITY

Everyday aspects of chemistry will feature in a series of monthly Saturday morning seminars organised by the Department of University Extension of Victoria University starting on July 27.

Geared to the layman the series will be of particular interest to potters, professional and home gardeners, and to mechanics and engineers.

The July seminar involving two members of the University's Chemistry Department, one of whom is a local potter, will look at the making, firing, and glazing of pottery.

Garden chemistry is the theme for the August seminar and the morning will include discussions on soil and plant nutrients, "natural" versus "artificial" fertilisers, soil acidity and the virtues of compost.

Chemistry and human reproduction, the topic of the third seminar, will involve a study of a variety of aspects of reproduction including contraception and abortion.

The final session will deal with corrosion and the general principles of metallic corrosion and its prevention.

The course is co-ordinated by Dr G. Burns of the University's Chemistry

Christ

The Reverend Professor C.F.D. Moule, Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity at the University of Cambridge since 1951, will deliver a public lecture at Victoria University at 5.15pm on July 23 in Kirk 303.

The topic will be "Jesus in Paul's Experience".

Professor Moule is a Fellow of Clare College, Cambridge and was awarded the Burhutt Medal of the British Academy in 1970, for Biblical Studies.

One of Britain's leading New Testament Scholars and Biblical theologians, Professor Moule has been invited to New Zealand by the Presbyterian Church to deliver the Burns Lectures in Dunedin in late July and early August.

—Lindsay G. Wright
Information Officer



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Liberating the snake-pits

The voice of traditional establishment psychiatry confronted fuzzy-haired and radical therapy on Thursday last in the Union Hall. Dr Castanov, the head psychologist at Porirua Hospital and Dr Erich Geiringer, outspoken critic of existing medical practices, spoke at a forum organised by the Psychology Society.

Castanov began by speaking briefly on



the different psychiatric techniques practised at Porirua, and compared New Zealand mental hospitals favourably with those in Australia. He said the main problem was lack of staff.

Geiringer then announced that the key question to be faced in the discussion was what is meant by mental disturbance. Although throughout history there have been cases of people whose brains are damaged, the majority of mental patients are not so extreme. Many of these people we would now say are undoubtedly insane, but earlier societies have tolerated them as variations of normality. So it is society's values which creates the myth of mental illness, by defining certain types of behaviour as non-conformist. For example, until recently psychologists were trying to "cure" homosexuals. Now they are giving up and saying homosexuality is not a disease. Perhaps in 50 years it may become one again.

Before the Industrial Revolution society was sufficiently flexible to absorb most kinds of social variation. Then with the division of labour, intolerance increased to the point where the "insane" were extracted from society to purify it. The capitalist notion that mental disease is an inconvenience to production caused patients to be stored away in institutions.

Our understanding has increased and today industrial society feels it may itself be insane. This has created a branch of psychology studying the behaviour of groups which impinge on the individual. The idea of separating the ill from the well is now known to be absurd and counter-productive. Geiringer claimed that Castanov's job was to imprison the mentally ill in an artificial society when they should never have been removed from the real society. We should instead be able to adjust and live together. Apart from a small minority who need institutionalising for their own protection, it is ludicrous to try and reform people and send them back into the same society which created their problem.

Geiringer believes that the proper care of mental patients depends on the restructuring of existing society. The image of mental illness must be changed from individual mental suffering to the suffering of society itself. Thus our society could easily and with tolerance care for all its members. This statement came in for great applause but Geiringer throughout the forum offered no useful suggestions on carrying out the revolution he describes.

The first significant question suggested a union to safeguard the rights of patients. The manipulative nature of therapy means that patients deep within mental hospitals may suffer extremely inhumane treatment.

Castanov promptly denied that any violence had taken place in his time at Porirua, and said that if he came to hear of any case he would be the first to write a letter to the Minister of Health. Decisive action indeed. Geiringer then took the opportunity to deliver another speech on the chronic staff shortage at Porirua, where there are only two psychiatrically

qualified doctors for 1400 patients. This situation makes a Bill of Rights urgently needed, he said, as it is impossible to protect patients from abuse at present. A "Catch 22" situation operates, he said, where a patient lays a complaint of poor treatment and this is considered by the authorities to be invented owing to the patient's mental state. Psychiatrists themselves are insane, Geiringer maintains and they should all be done away with, since it is easier to treat society than the individual. Revolution has been shown to be more effective than therapy.

The next questioner asked Geiringer's opinion of Muldoon's recent statement on radio that the doctor should stick to tonsil operations and leave politics to the professionals. Geiringer chose to answer by analysing Muldoon's mental health. He saw the new National Party head as a clear case of systemised insanity. The beliefs he holds as part of a system would, in an individual, justify committing him. Geiringer gave as example Muldoon's attitude to the drug problem. First, he knights the brewery bosses for pushing the most dangerous drug this country knows. Secondly, he poses himself for a gin advertisement, thus pushing the drug himself. Third, he speaks in Parliament in favour of a tobacco growers bill, while knowing that tobacco kills more New Zealanders than road accidents. Finally, he suggests stamping out the drug menace by imprisoning cannabis smokers. In any other situation, such illogical action could easily result in Muldoon ending up in Porirua.

Geiringer was asked how he reconciled his general attitude with his recent statement that he would attempt to cure homosexuality if he could. He indignantly replied that he was misquoted on this point; what he really meant was that if he had a child who appeared likely to become a homosexual he would use a non-oppressive means to try and prevent this happening. This was just a preference, he assured the audience, since straights seemed to have more fun. He would not, however, use violence to enforce such a bias, but instead try to reeducate.

Asked to explain who he meant by the 5-10% of mental patients who really needed hospitalisation Geiringer replied by analysing the situation of the mental patients in institutions like Porirua. One third of these, he felt, were minor cases who could easily be treated in their own community. Another third were brain damaged people who just needed care and the chance to use what potential remained to them. Again this could be better achieved within the society. The remaining third are chronic cases, mainly schizophrenic. Experiments have shown that at least half of these really represent the untreated illness of their community. After institutionalising, they become worse until they are too far gone to be allowed to leave. The remaining 15% are prone to bizarre, "anti-social" behaviour, but half of these are not really dangerous. They are simply a nuisance and a society such as India's would accept them easily. It is the

final 7½% who are not properly understood by science. They are both unpredictable and dangerous to themselves and others and Geiringer feels that they alone should not be allowed outside a secure institutional environment.

Castanov replied that he agreed with much of this, that the ideal was to treat most patients at home. However it was their own families who brought them into Porirua, so the policy was to return them as quickly as possible.

Asked how many patients are in mental hospitals because their families did not want to care for them, Castanov replied that quite a lot of epileptics and geriatrics were in this situation. This caused a big problem of under-staffing.

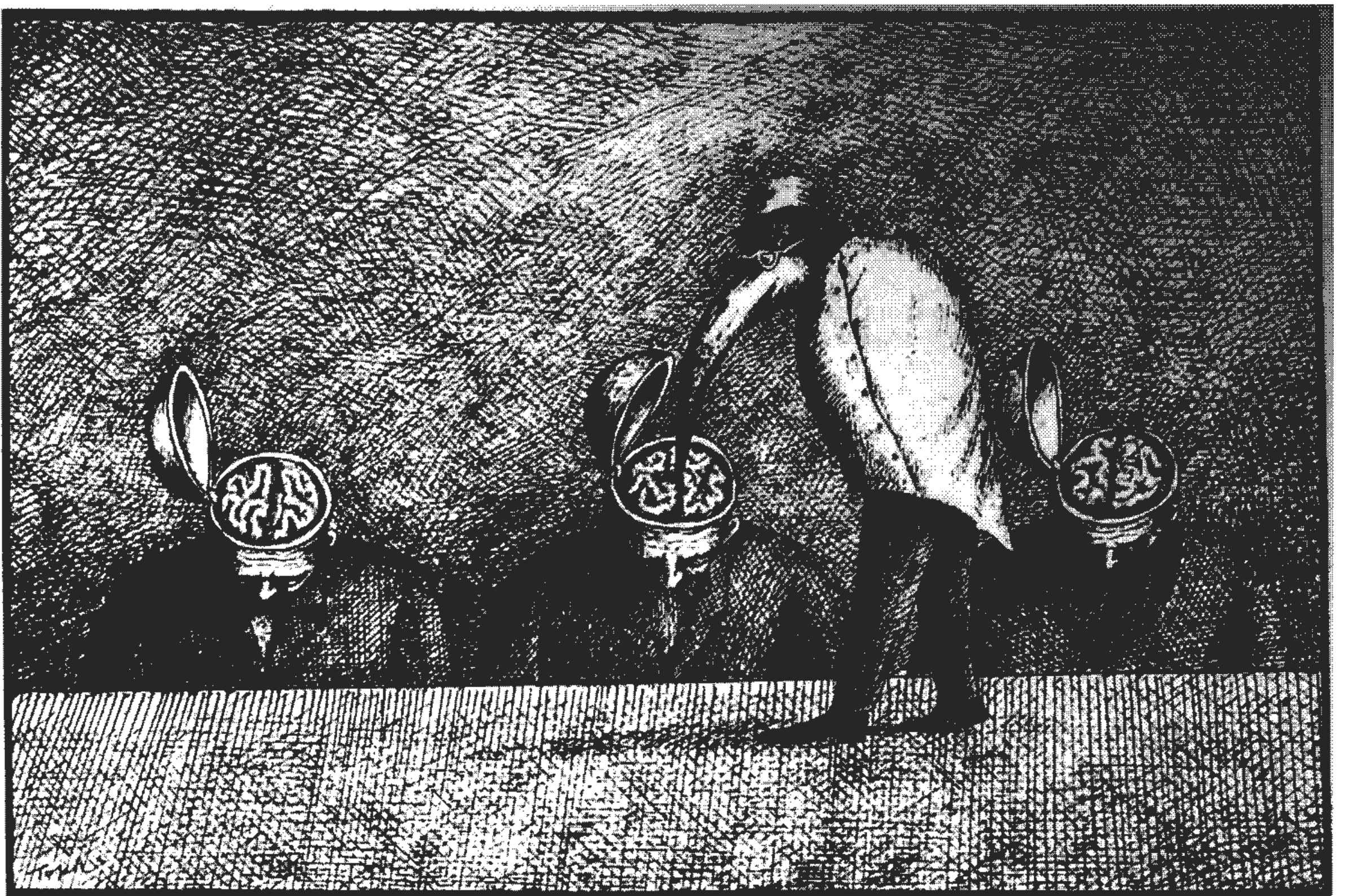
Geiringer added that the families themselves are subject to very great stress. More doctors would solve the problem, he insisted. Ninety per cent of psychiatric cases are the result of lack of government spending, successive governments refuse to train sufficient psychiatrists, even after a Royal Commission specifically recommended this.

Castanov agreed that pay at Porirua was insufficient to attract staff, but said he couldn't see any improvement at this stage. There was no sense in simply agitating, he said sternly. Small changes are being carried out already and the situation is slowly improving. Geiringer replied that if many in the audience were training in psychology, that was part of the answer, but for the others political action was necessary, since it is the state which makes the decisions. People need to fight for tolerance, to end the need to conform to a society which drives people mad. Geiringer sees the answer as planned parenthood, through free contraceptives and adequate sex education, and a reasonable abortion policy. When children are properly looked after during the crucial first five years of life, he thinks mental illness will drop dramatically.

Another questioner suggested group therapy was the answer to the problem, but Geiringer said the best therapy came from society itself, not new forms of treatment since they end up existing purely for their own sake.

Another query about protecting inmates from brutality led Dr Castanov to point out that the patient is free to complain to a charge nurse, senior nurse or the Department of Health. Geiringer replied that these complaints are not investigated, since no one will believe a patient. In the past brutality was widespread in Porirua, and it still occurs from time to time. This was inevitable if a depressed person was to be put with a lot of schizophrenics. Although patients rights might be fully protected on paper, they could not be enforced and the snake-pit mentality of asylums would remain as long as the asylums themselves continued to exist.

by Mark Derby



Gays reply to Rob

On a Radio Windy talk-back programme on Monday last week, Mr Muldoon called the Gay Liberationists 'exhibitionists', adding that he would not take the movement seriously. He claimed that through demonstrations, presumably referring to the recent picketing of Parliament, the movement is harming the cause of homosexual law reform. "Homosexuals should not be parading the streets," said Mr Muldoon, drawing a comparison with a parade of one-legged men. The opposition leader contradicted himself by stating that the homosexual "is not a very happy person" and "is not in essence a normal person", then saying a little later, "What I want to see them doing is being treated as normal individuals."

Mr Talboys accompanying Mr Muldoon on the programme, expressed concern that Gay Liberationists have been speaking to Liberal Studies groups in High Schools. He feels that movement members express their views in a manner designed to engender sympathy and to "encourage young people to express themselves in the same way."

Gay Liberation challenges the statements of both Mr Muldoon and Mr Talboys. The opposition leader's opinion that homosexuals are not happy people is not substantiated by recent research nor does recent medical opinion treat homosexuality as a mental disorder.

Why should Mr Muldoon object to homosexuals holding public demonstrations? He does not seem to hold in such distaste recent demonstrations by other pressure groups - dental nurses, kindergarten teachers, Labour Party women, Labour Youth, pensioners, etc. In fact there has been only one instance of a public picket by Gay Liberation in Wellington, and some half of

the demonstrators were from supporting organisations. This action is more than counter-balanced by public teach-ins, addresses, and other political/educative activities.

Unfortunately there have been few instances of Gay Liberationists addressing Liberal Studies groups in secondary schools. In each instance it is by invitation only with absolutely no attempt being made to 'convert' students. We challenge Mr Talboys to substantiate this claim.

The Gay Liberation movement has been forced to become outspoken in an effort to counter-balance ill-informed attitudes and statements made by prominent persons, and also to fight against inhumane treatment of homosexual persons as exemplified in the existence of anti-homosexual legislation. If Mr Muldoon really wishes for homosexuals to be treated as 'normal individuals' then he should be concerned with repealing and revising existing legislation so that homosexuals and partners in stable homosexual relationships are treated by the law in precisely the same manner as heterosexually oriented persons.

Plunket Medal

Plunket Medal Oratory contests have always provoked considerable comment: "I am desired," wrote E. Bogle, Military Secretary to the Governor General in 1929, "by His Excellency to say that, much to his regret, he notices that there is to be one speech which does not comply with the conditions which he felt bound to lay down. He fears that this prevents his attending the contest."

Although the "one speech" was not specified, it was fair to assume that the hearty perennials (Lincoln, William Pitt, Shelley....) were hardly the offenders and that the awkward subject was none other than that doyen of all truly "scientific" thinkers - V.I. Lenin. "The point, which His Excellency is sure you will

appreciate, is that it is conceivable that the speaker on such a subject might deal with it in a way which would be inappropriate in the presence of the Governor-General; and further, that it might possibly lead to demonstration on one side or the other, among sections of the audience."

Times have changed. Invocations of Lenin these days would probably excite no more than a yawn. Thus it is hardly a surprise to learn that he is not being offered this year (and neither is the Governor-General)

What we do offer (in that famed tradition for which the Debating Society is known and loved) is the annual orgy of liberal values where eight earnest young men preach humanitarian clichés to a well-fed, self-satisfied, welfare-state audience. (Apologies to Tony Jacques)

But this year, as a special treat, (it is after all the 75th anniversary of the society) we extend an especially warm welcome to undernourished proletarians. Mind you, law students can still come if they really want to.

The latter have always been our special concern. Above all, Plunket Medal is for those that are weary of the aridity of calculated academic objectivity and precision. Integrity, accuracy and truth are always so very boring. One thing we can provide is that noble cultivation of subjectivity by which the truly wise are distinguished.

This year's contest (the 68th) is to be held in the Memorial Theatre on Friday, July 19 at 8pm. Admission (including supper) is only 50c. All students are warmly welcomed to hear the eight orations or merely ogle the party of guests.

At the conclusion of the contest, the society will confer an Honorary Life Membership upon Mr B.M. O'Conner for his long and distinguished service to public speaking.

This year's contestants and their topics are: Peter Coles - A place for everything, everything in its place; John Compton - Bert; Haeng Jung Kim - Soongnyong - the feminine spirit of Korea; Russell Fairbrother - Benbow; John Laurenson - ZPG; John Roseveare - Of men and rats; Peter Tait-Jameson - Beehive-Break-in; Anthony Ward - Why I am Here.

Cathsoc Anti-Tablet

Press statement from the Victoria University of Wellington Catholic Society - July 12, 1974

The Victoria University Catholic Society Executive today attacked Mr John Kennedy, the editor of the Catholic newspaper *The Tablet* over statements made by him in the latest issue of his paper concerning the imprisonment of Khoo Ee Liam, a former student at Canterbury University.

In a feature article Mr Kennedy said that the "propaganda campaign" which followed Khoo's arrest "had all the characteristics of a classic left-wing agitation, directed from Peking"

The Catholic Society Executive said that the article was inaccurate and misleading. It gave the impression that all those involved in the campaign to free Khoo and give Malaysian students in this country their democratic rights were communists or dupes of the Peking Embassy, implying that students were incapable of thinking for themselves.

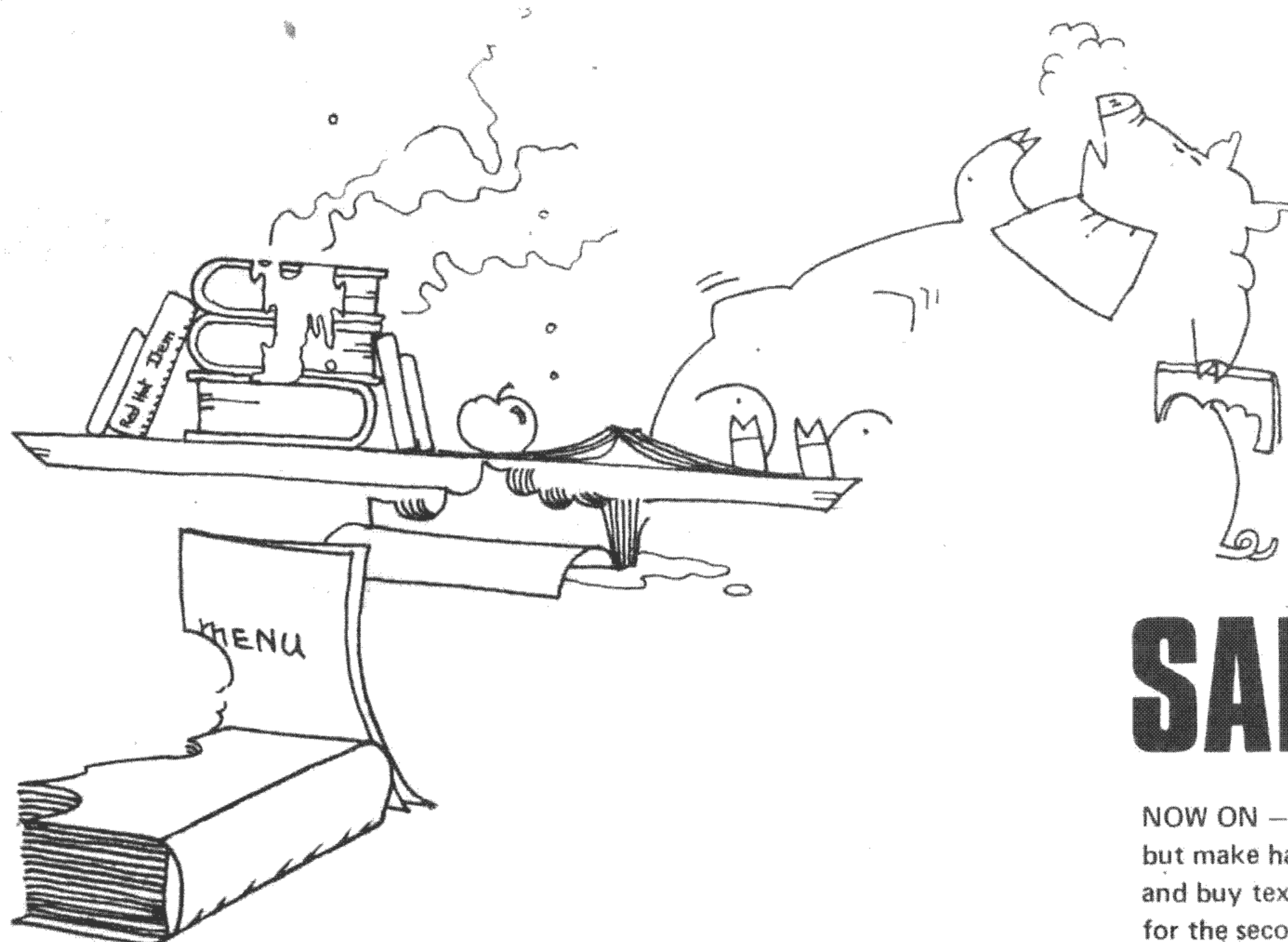
They went on to say that many of their members had participated in the peaceful demonstration outside the Malaysian High Commission that Mr Kennedy described as a "turbulent mob". The Catholic students took part out of a genuine understanding of the facts of oppression and spying by the High Commission on Malaysian students in New Zealand.

The executive said that the Catholic Society and its members would continue to support the democratic rights of Malaysian students in New Zealand with or without the support of *The Tablet*.

They added that *The Tablet* appeared to be used by Mr Kennedy as a vehicle for the propagation of his own political beliefs under a thin guise of Catholicism.

-Joanne Cunningham
(Secretary, VUW Cath Soc.)

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THE COCKIES' PLIGHT

by Kevin J. Wright

Most New Zealanders will concede that we owe our prosperity to the success of our agriculture in the past. But many city dwellers are totally out of touch with what is going on today. Many "townies" think that all "cockies", be they sheep, beef, dairy or other type of farmer are all well-to-do and get things pretty easy. Unfortunately this is a case with only a minority of farmers today. I say unfortunately for not only the farmers but the whole country feels the effects of farmers being in dire circumstances.

More than 80% of our export income comes from farming and its associated industries and we use this export income not only to increase the money supply at home but also to buy all those imported atrocities of the twentieth century.

This article will look at the hill country sheep farmer. These people are getting a worse deal than many other groups in the country today. The hill country farmer in New Zealand differs from the flat land "cockey" in one important respect. The flat land man is generally better off for he does not have the problems of the hill country farmer such as stock falling over banks and noxious weed control. The hill country farmer may have all the scrub on his farm cut but about eight years later nearly the whole farm will be covered with scrub again and the clearing process must be repeated.



Farmers may be divided up into categories of those who inherited their land and those who bought into it. Most farmers who inherited their land are not in anything near the predicament of the farmer who bought into his land with a high mortgage interest rate when prices were good. These farmers who own their land can generally look forward to a large tax free capital gain when they sell it. We will not be looking at these people, but rather at the hill country sheep farmers who are struggling this year to earn enough money to pay the interests on their mortgages.

As more than 75% of a sheepfarmer's income comes from overseas he is very susceptible to any overseas price changes or to any internal inflation. Overseas prices can fluctuate very quickly (e.g. the price of beef has dropped more than 55% this year). Farmers are one of the few groups in the country who cannot pass on the effects of inflation because of their dependence on the overseas prices they get. In a special study by the Institute of Economic Research on the effects of inflation on farming the authors said:

"The farming sector has an especial interest in the avoidance of wage-price inflationary spirals. Some approximate calculations for the future clearly demonstrate, other things being equal, that the level of net farming is very sensitive to internal inflation rates similar to those experienced in the early 1970's will surely generate serious economic difficulties for the farming industry if they continue."

Many sheep farmers live on a wage as little as \$25 a week and \$30-\$40 a week

is quite a common amount. If you asked many city slickers to move out to the country, put in a lot of hard work and get paid this small amount they would say you are crazy. Some retaliate with the foolish argument of all the benefits the farmer gets from living on the land but when these are investigated carefully about the only concession the sheep farmer has is free meat and a free house. Therefore it can be seen that the sheep farmer only earning \$25-\$40 per week is still in a worse position than the average person in town after an allowance is made for that person's rent and meat.

Because of these low incomes many farmers have had to resort to other means to earn enough money to support their families. These include deer stalking, opossum trapping and horse training. They all have one thing in common. While the farmer is involved in these supplementary activities he is ignoring the routine work that should be done on the farm and this has happened on thousands of farms in New Zealand recently.

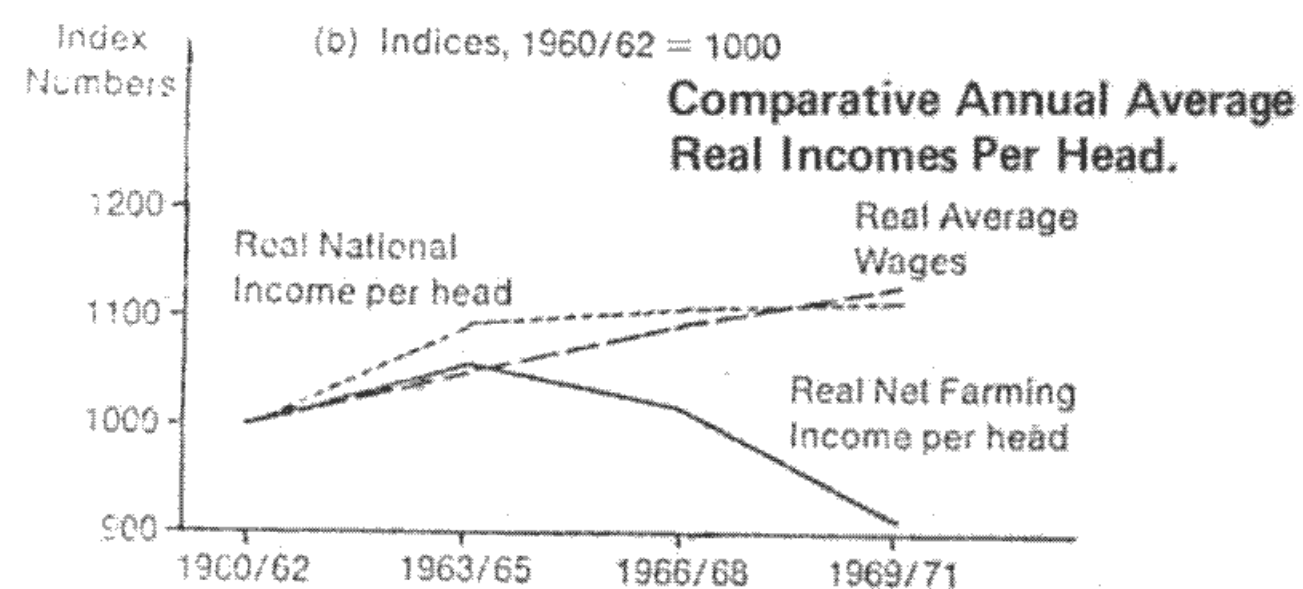
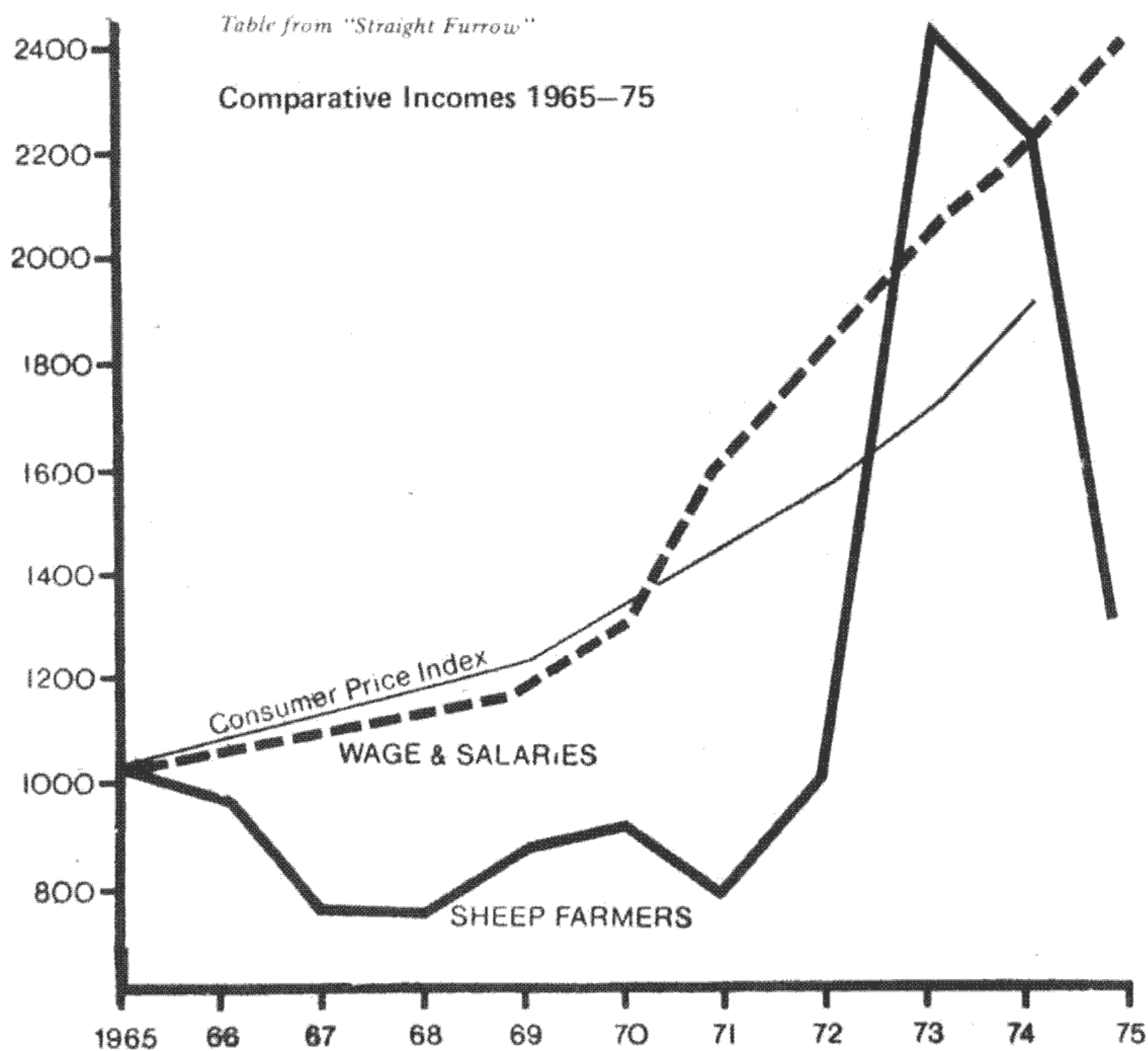
One of the most upsetting things to happen to the struggling sheep farmer today is to get tied down to one of the large unscrupulous stock and station agents. In many cases these money grabbing firms not only force the farmer to pay crippling interest rates but actually take over all the financial affairs of the farm and decide what wages the farmer will receive.

Stock and station agents have a far tighter control over the affairs of many

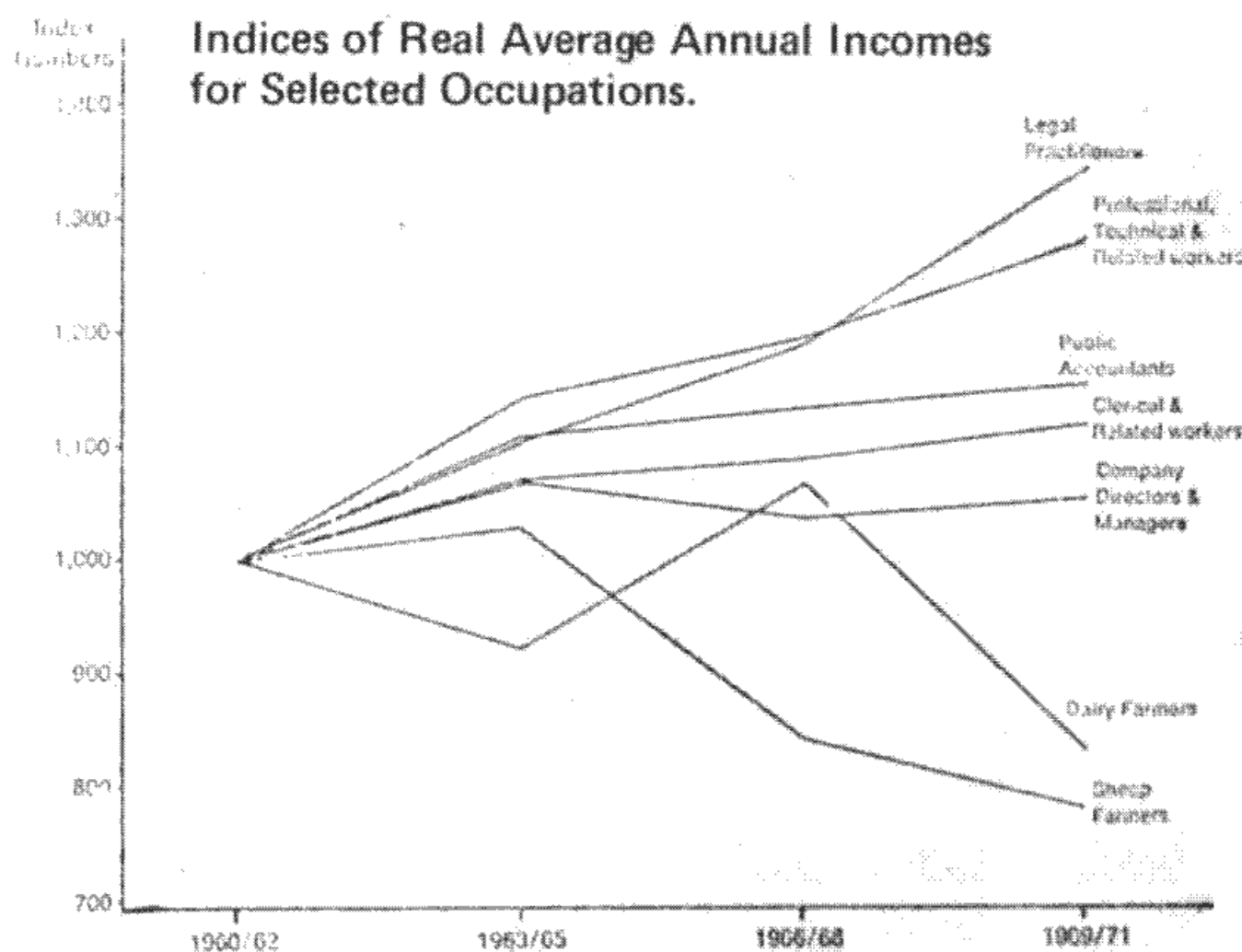
farmers than the government has on any employers or unions. This is because the big firms set figures for the farmers which they expect them to meet for five or ten years. Indeed many farmers who had been on the same wage for ten years prior to 1972 because the stock and station agents controlled the drawings of the farmer.

Looking at the men themselves who farm the hill country, I will make another generalisation and say they are cautious conservatives (i.e. National) and very wary of any advice from farm advisors, wool-brokers etc. Further, out of all the farmers in my experience they have the least to do with organisations like Federated Farmers. So they have no way that they opinions can be heard, and in any case they would probably not want to present them in public. Hence the lack of communication between the 'townies' and the farmers.

One of the worst things that concerns farmers at present is the government and its inability to govern effectively. Everybody knows that Labour is not a farmers' government but this time round the farmers have had a rough deal. In 1966 wool prices slumped. In 1967 the National Government devalued the dollar which made exports more favourably priced but which also saw the start of inflation on a large scale in New Zealand. In 1972 wool, beef, and mutton prices started to pick up again and in 1973 farmers had record incomes. But one good year does not make up for six bad ones.



Tables from "Farming and Inflation" - NZ Institute of Economic Research



DIFFUSION

Chameleon

Sometimes I am the thing itself
with tail and two horns
and sometimes Christ
who covers me
and wounds my back with thorn.

Today it is the man in me
that writhes and writhes and will not
cease:

tomorrow it may be the child
tomorrow it may be the child
who crying finds relief.

—Brian King

The Young New Zealand Poet

The Young New Zealand poet sits
without hardly moving:
smiles,
blinks twice
and carves another line upon his chest.
His lover agent
names his price —

I like it

yes,

I like it yes:

I've always thought that red was best.

—Brian King

J'accuse

Don't come around me with your shrinking eye —
love cannot
will not

be contained,

not by you nor any human hand:
in fingers of hollow
that dry and crack and bend.

—Brian King

Massey's Memorial

Dimmer to us now, the studio portrait
of a dozen slanted history books:
the head turned to two-thirds profile,
the thick neck and bulging temples,

The full-moon cheeks, the ridiculous droop
of the moustache attached like a mop
to the ruddy farmer's face...Snapped
With George V, snapped also Addressing troops,

Neither the best nor the worst of Prime Ministers,
a man much like the rest of us
with equal capacity for good and ill,
hardly a martyr, not saviour material.

II

Thirteen drab years we had him, breaking strikes
with a "cold, hard...bigotry"; his ironic master-stroke,
suggesting doubled hours might up the average wage.
He brought us through the War to the Aspirin Age,

Our headache: one in sixty of the population died;
imperial, he wept in the unspeakable wards.
Some thought of Specials on blood-spattered horses
and openly laughed as he went to pieces.

In those months while he expired in office, sore,
irascible, he dreamed a Russian wolf at the door,
reserves milked dry, families dining on the family cat,
looters, looters, taking his fat towns apart.

III

For Savage, yes, I grant you,
for our benignant, cancerous Little Father —
as though Huey Long fed the rabble tripe,
his jackboots concealed under pinstripes —

For Savage the weeping and the funeral train,
the shrine. But an obstinate Orangeman
moved the country to a febrile spending spree
that had had him, living, burnt in effigy...

Who could accept that dirty ruse
of politicians, or excuse
their playing the fool with his death,
forging a nation with shibboleths?

IV

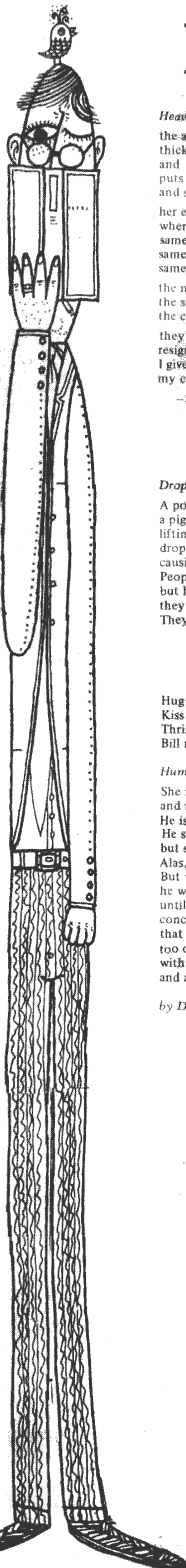
For one like him, "unimaginative as a clam",
the tomb's fake Greek confection is a sham;
its pile of native marble, overly embellished,
weighs heavy on the heart of our holy relic.

Past the jail, above the bay, worth a million dollars,
Farmer Bill is straining at his celluloid collar:
pining for his post at the garden gate
of Torydom — to be vetting the candidates,

Spraying for "Bolshevism" as for fruit-fly,
killing the patients with remedies...

Until his farmers pour down from the hills like sheep,
with cudgels to help the hungry poor to sleep.

— Rhys Pasley
(first published in "Waterfront Worker")



Heaven Revisted

the angel,
thick with Max Factor
and nine-to-five grime
puts out her fortieth Cameo
and signs my card agin

her eyes don't click
when she looks at me
same jersey, same hair
same spotty face
same card

the male nurse eyes
the surgeon who removed
the cyst from his hand

they ask if I've been before
resigned to anonymity,
I give the doctor
my crushed finger.

—Samuel Wind

Dropping In

A poet is like
a pigeon
lifting into the sky
dropping in on sacred places
causing some embarrassed faces.
People feed the pigeons
but how begrudgingly
they feed their poets.
They call their poems 'shit'.

Hug me Diane
Kiss me Diane
Thrill me Diane
Bill me Diane

Humour

She is pretty
and reputedly promiscuous.
He is witty and humorous
He sees the humour in rumour
but she sees none.
Alas, the affair is done
But while she regrets
he will move on
until there's a rumour
concerning his humour
that humour lets him do wrong
too often and too long
with a laugh in his sting
and a song.

by Don Colebrook Jnr

They are going away, those who harboured the day
Why did I stay
to waste my thoughts
on wrought
iron?

Madam!

Pull in your thoughts!
They bulge obscenely over your brow.
Were you not instructed how (by your mother)
to bind unseemly fats
— shape them in unnatural forms.
Natural Beauty
is Obscenity

So thoughts are
Corseted in Blank Faces

Where is your mind?
Where your hand —
your body —
where have you gone?

Madam, do you know regret?
Your thighs ache from the
love they have borne
Screaming
from a Silent World
Sit still on your padded chair
The caresses of love
have tangled your hair
in a love knot
caught his hands.

Madam, know you of loneliness?
That which neither is
nor is not.
Iron wrought Butterfly
where is his mind
you cry
crushed between the world
and his force
once
you had love, now
where is his body
Where has he gone?

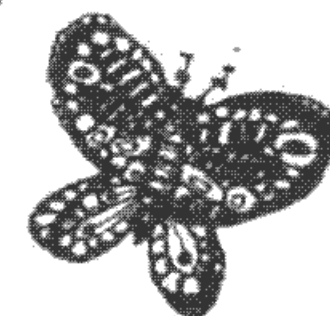
Between the essence of existence and the essence
of destruction he waits in shadows longed by
the failing light of darkness

Hidden in the blinding light too dark to see
too widespread to touch the edge of your cell
sealed in eternity destroyed by impermanence.

There are times I try to hide away your gentle rain
Listen to the lovesongs sung so often
so often they have spoke of two as one
two as one, and heartbreaks caused for both
For both would sing and harmonise their life

You yawn; stretch your tangled body
across the tress growing
in your carpet
Skip a stone across the break surf
No one in the Street
will know.

—Lynn Peck



The Musicians Last Song

by Brian King

*I flung my guitar off the cliff
and watched it arc ungracefully
and splay on the rocks below:
it was made of wood from the Bavarian
Forest.*

The forest is dark — the Black Forest — but I
am unafraid for with me are my two little friends.
They are Pixies: Dee has sparkling eyes.

We are good company, as we walk we talk
and sing, I have a song:

*One fair tree
Is only to be seen
In the green wood, green*

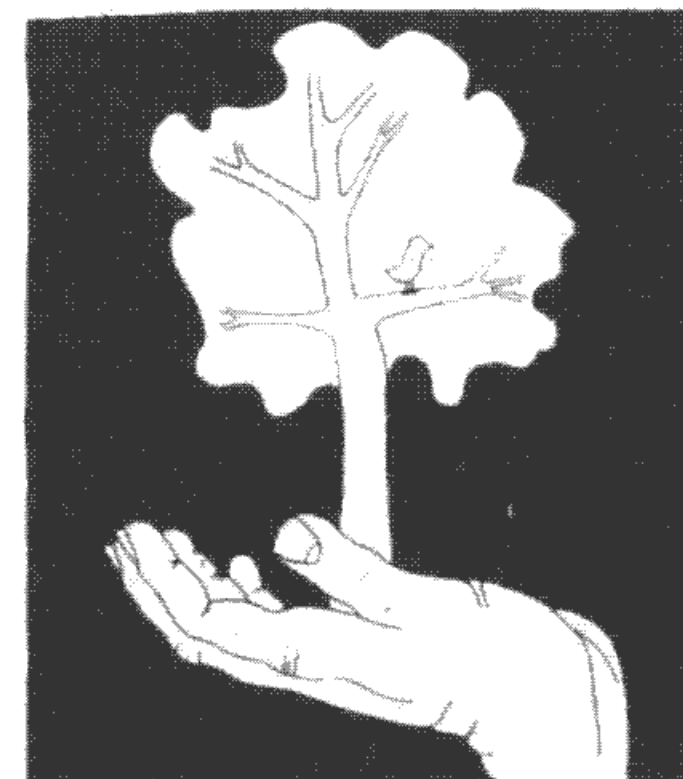
Jul* is extremely wise. He knows many
wonderful things. He has told me many tales
about the Woods and the trees. He knows magic
too. I have a spell, he says:

*Place a flower in the lowest branch
of a beautiful tree
Stand back and see*

We walk on.

Soon we come to a clearing where the light
shines through, soft and hazy with tiny particles
that float in the air, and small winged insects
buzz and drone. Everywhere there is life. Here
the forest is full of sound, for we have reached
the green wood.

*pronounced 'Jew-l'



Look, says Jul, there is the tree. See how it
stands apart from the others. It is my favourite.
I think it is the most beautiful tree in the whole
forest.

Dee is silent. I know that she has seen it
many times before and I understand her feelings.
I whisper: it is beautiful.

It is beautiful. Think of the most beautiful
tree you have ever seen, then think of a time in
your life when you were very pleased. That is
how the tree appears.

I remember the spell. Placing the flower, I
stand back beneath the branches covered with
golden leaves.

I will tell you more next week.



DRAMA

Carry on Acting: by Ghelderode. Theatre 87. Reviewed by Martin Edmond.

Theatre 87 have just completed a long and, I gather, successful run of a thing called 'Love Story' featuring the work of Roger McGough. I did not go, since I find myself somewhat allergic to that man's poetic posturing in the face of an undoubtedly unloving and probably insane world. It's not that I prefer policeman's boots to flowers or a morning kiss; but I am not adept at arguing myself into a position where they become alternatives, to be chosen at leisure. I know the world is cruel to poets and it makes them wistful about everything from geraniums to the char-ladies' potato knees. My question is, however, do I need to know it? — and my answer, typically, a resounding no. But this is all by the by. I'm really here to talk about the play which has succeeded the one I did not see. It is a piece called 'Carry on Acting', identified as a 'french farce' by Ghelderode. Since it was penned sometime in the 1920s, the title probably bears no relation to the many English films of later years. I am delighted to report that it does not feature Syd James, either.

It is a rather slight play and a short one, constructed around the actor's confusion about what he is on stage, what off it and how the two are related. A foolish and perhaps dated melodrama with faustian overtones is invaded by the real, off-stage drama of the three player's lives. Not surprisingly, the only person who suffers from the intrusion, is the author of the original melodrama. His suffering is, however, soon over, the agent being a bullet in the head. The actors

continue their farce. There is not enough precision in any of the five performances — Michael Wilson's is the best — to make the production an outstanding success. It does exude the kind of bumbling good-humour which occasionally provokes secret grins and muffled titters, though not the unencumbered belly laugh. It is cheerful without much genuine humour and a little morbid without any accompanying depression. It is not, finally, heavy in any direction. And this is more or less how it should be and about as much as it can hope to be.

Theatre 87, since it is a small concern, with limited resources, is there primarily to give its lunch-time audiences an hour or so of entertainment, while they eat their sandwiches and drink their coffee. As such, it does passing well and I think it a good institution and worthy of support. It is the only theatre I go to where I feel slightly embarrassed about receiving a free seat; though the embarrassment has not yet caused me to insist on paying to remove the cause. You cannot expect, when you do go, to be profoundly moved or suddenly startled into some intellectual or spiritual enlightenment; yet you cannot expect that anywhere and an abject failure is somewhat worse than those productions which do not make the attempt. The positive side of the place — the rather infectious combination of good-humoured enthusiasm and amateur concern, in the air as it were — is worth sampling. It was apparent again in their children's theatre, called The Dancing Pig Theatre, which is 'Elsie, Friends and Giants' every Saturday at 11am until the August Holidays. This is a hotch-potch of Aesop fables, folktales and short-sketches with bouncy music inbetween. It's probably not sinister or violent enough to get the kids really going and it is a trifle moralistic at times; but you could feel the mingled disappointment and pleasure in the room as it ended, which is some indication of its success. Though I do think less words and more action would improve later attempts.

BOOKS



E.E. "Doc" Smith Ph. D. was the acknowledged master of the gadgety, fast-moving, gigantic cosmic melodramas, known as "space-operas" which sprung up in association with the pulp magazines of the 1930's. The adolescent co-existed with the adult in escaping into his famous epic "Lensman" series.

Smith was a scientist, turned writer. It shows. His books are atrociously written and only a bare semblance of structured plot — usually a series of unrelated, adventures. Scientific rationalisations abound; self-conscious gadgetry which baffles the reader in theoretical complication. The introduction of science is a mere faint attempt at respectability. His characters are like children's drawing — wooden, emotionless people who are strictly defined in black and white categories. The hero is the goodest, cleverest, strongest in the whole cosmos. The villain is the cleverest, vilest of his collective band of villains. The fight between civilisation (a utopian socialist democracy) and the rest who form a united front of imperialist space pirates and inter-galactic dope traffickers.

But its unfair to analyze Smith like this. His books do have a rather quaint charm and sometimes his sheer imagination overcomes literary deficiencies. But there is a limit to the imagination shown in Smith's work and other space-operas. For one, their plot structure is identical to the cheap westerns of a few decades earlier. Arizona becomes the cosmos, the hero sports a blaster instead of a six gun, badmen become bad aliens and Indians become monsters. Secondly the elemental settings, no matter how far from Earth are little different from the America of the time. Inter-galactic gangsters draw Broadway slang in extraterrestrial versions of Manhattan. Especially in Smith's books, where there are unmistakable elements of crude Marxism, there is an obvious question to be asked. If you are trying to make a point, why leave Earth at all?

If we can accept that space opera, no matter how vulgar, is a form of social expression, and as such is a product of the social environment, then the answer becomes more obvious. There are two major themes running through 1930's space opera: 1) that by the systematic investigation of nature and the knowledge of science, man could improve the human condition.

"The universe is a machine, indifferent to man, and lacking a divine plan or purpose. The 1930s was a depressing era which saw the near-collapse of capitalism, great economic hardship and the shadow of fascism. Space opera was popular because it offered people the chance to transcend the limitations of their immediate environment in the form of undisciplined galactic romping which defied all scientific laws. They offered not only escape but hope. Man had used the power of science to conquer not only Earth, but a hostile cosmos. Smith's socialist utopias offered the same hope.

After the war, when the wave of new affluence meant that people were able to look beyond the immediate reality into a future that was becoming increasingly resistant to scientific progress, science-fiction realised its potential for social comment. By transforming the institutions of the present into another context, they could be shown up for the absurdities they were. The relationship of humanity to scientific and technological progress was explored. Inverted and satiric utopias served as warnings of menacing, subtle repressions. Space opera faded away, but the need for a new form of escapist pulp remained.

The new pulp is not as blatantly childish as space opera but the principle behind it is the same. James Bond and Kung-fu movies offer not only escape, but a perverse hope. The inadequacies of man in an unjust social system can be forgotten. For once man becomes the superman — he reacts not to his social environment, but to some under strength we can pretend is always with us.

Space opera and other forms of escapist pulp are overwhelmingly symptomatic of the competitive, rat-race western culture. The USA is the best example where the need for escapism is not only spawned, but it exploited in the form of pulp. Pulp is big business. But it need not be dismissed completely. The new pulp is as equally expressive of the times, as space opera was of the 1930s.

—David Buxton

[Note — the general opinion of practising intellectuals at varsity (with the possible exception of Roger Steele) is that it's probably excusable to read the odd E.E. Smith novel as a sociological period piece as long as one does not neglect their diligent readings of the Thoughts of Mao Tsetung. —DB]

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salient notes

It was a light and fine morning. Suddenly the phone rang. "Salient here." "Hi, is Margot Bourke there please?" "Nah, she's playing pool with David Rutherford." "Really? How about Graeme Simpson or Anthony Ward?" "They're watching TV with Brendan Smith, Robert Pui and Mark Derby." "What are they doing that for?" "They're hoping to see Roger Steele, Grub, Colin Feslier, Alison McKay, Claire Smith and Stephen Hall on the march to the Employer's Federation." "I see, well who can you offer me?" "Um, Christine Haggart, John Ryall, Derek Fickers, Richard Siegart, Lyn Peck, Barbara Frings, Pete Byrne, Pete O'Neil, Alex Shaw, Krishna Menon, David Tripe, Lloyd Weeber, Patrick O'Hagan or John Henderson." "Could I speak to one of them then?" "I'm afraid they're busy." "Doing what?" "Getting down details of all the libel suits coming over Radio Windy." "Well who are you then?" "Roger Steele — the Editor who are you?" "It's Barry Ackerman — I wanted to get Keith Stewart to take a photo of that man doing an imitation of my clown act down at Parliament."

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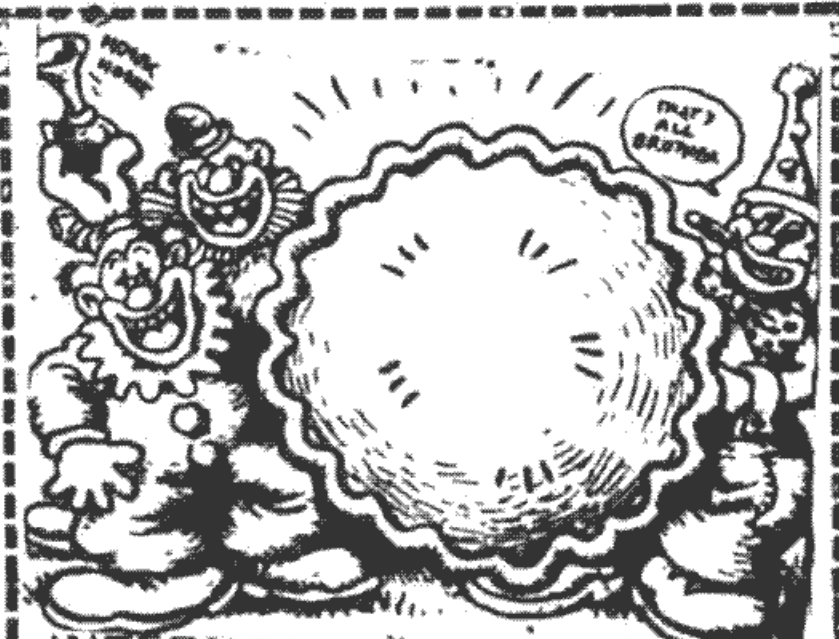
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The Labour Government decided the farmers had earned too much and asked them to deposit \$80 million in a Income Retention Scheme (with the threat that it would be taken if the farmers did not do it voluntarily). The money is kept for more than a year during which it earns no interest. However if the farmer has a lower income in subsequent years it means he pays a lower rate of taxation. While the government lets inflation rise at 15% this means that at the end of the year the farmer has effectively lost 15% purchasing power on his money while saving a small amount in taxation. What other group could the government con in this way? Imagine if they said to the companies that made excess profits to put this excess amount aside for a year. There would be a hell of a row.

The fact that the government has allowed rampant inflation which the farmer has to try and absorb has very much disturbed them. Many farmers are most upset at the strife in the freezing industry and blame it on the militant unions. However the blame lies more on the government and the archaic management methods practiced by the foreign controlled freezing companies. The government could do much more to help solve disputes. Remember the farmer only has his stock in prime condition at one time and any hold up in processing means serious repercussions for all involved. Then there is the matter of the new hygiene regulations in the freezing works to bring works up to standard so products can be marketed in the good old USA. Expansion for this has cost millions of dollars which of course are passed on to the farmer, but in the case of beef exports, an announcement is expected by Nixon soon that they will not allow any more NZ beef in. Was this just a waste of money?

Another thing which has upset the farmers is the governments determination to pass the Wool Marketing Corporation Bill. I will not go into the pro's and con's of it here but it would be true to say that the vast majority of farmers oppose this piece of legislation and were very surprised when the government announced a second reading of it in Parliament a couple of weeks ago.

At present stock numbers (cattle, sheep, etc) are at the lowest point for some years and farmers see the outlook as bleak. Until the government gives the farmers some much needed confidence New Zealand is heading rapidly into a recession.

After reading all these problems of the hill country sheep farmer I have listed, some cynics will probably ask "why don't they get out?" The answer is that many have and many are trying but are tied down by mortgages. Also for many it is their only way of life and they would not consider anything else, living in a crazy mad city just doesn't attract some people.

In summary, the three major problems of farming are communication, the stock and station agents and the government. The farmers know what is going on in the cities, but they don't know why and the city folk don't even know what's going on in the country. The government could also put some controls on some of the questionable activities carried out by the stock and station agents and help farmers rid themselves of them by making the State Advances lending policy more liberal. If the government controls inflation better then this may give the farmers what they are badly lacking in — confidence. There is every reason for the government to give farming this confidence for there are 1000 million starving people out there in the world and who knows, we might all gain something.



Watt Gives a Dam For Dollars

In 1972 the Labour Party promised that the banks of the Clutha River would not be raised above their natural level. Yet now they have put forward a \$400 million dam project for the Clutha River. This will flood a large part of the town Cromwell. Mr Kirk felt justified in issuing a statement saying that locals supported the proposals because the only people the government has consulted have been the businessmen, who stand to gain substantial compensation.

More recent developments have shown that other sections of Cromwell are not so enthusiastic. The locals were not given the chance of a public meeting; this was a privilege only for businessmen. The public meeting was cancelled because "it was felt that more people would have been outside the hall than in it. Greater frustration and disappointment could have resulted had the meeting proceeded." (*Otago Daily Times*) Instead three weeks were given from the time the interim report of the government committee was made available on June 13, until public submissions could go before the committee.

From the limited information given, townspeople have based their opposition

on the effects to Cromwell. Orchardists and farmers are concerned about the effect a large expanse of water will have on the climate of the region. When Lake Karapiro was created on the Waikato River there were several climatic changes, among them, thick fogs and a more irregular rain-fall, both of which would have had effects on orchards. Residents of Cromwell are also worried that re-siting the river could lead to the town being by-passed.

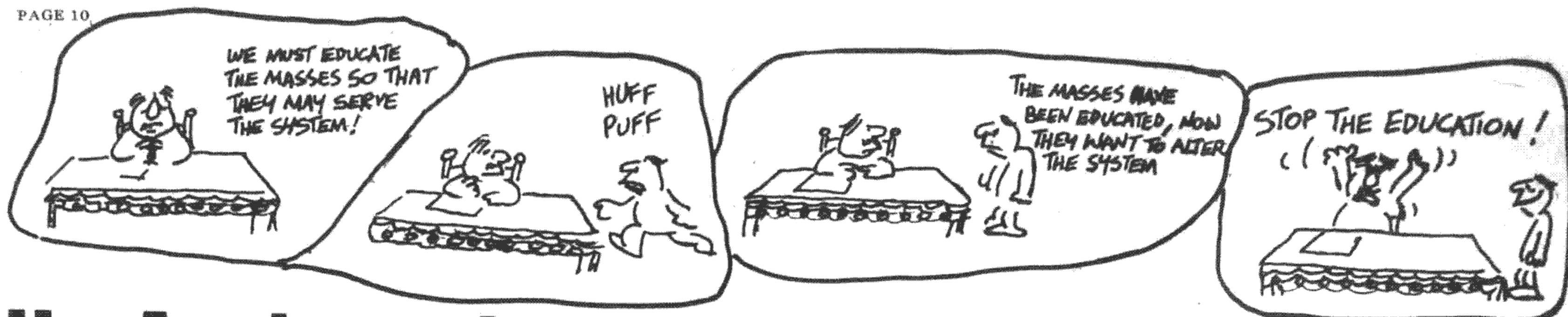
One of the letters to the *Otago Daily Times* about the plans for Cromwell, stated "For some, the dam will be a shot in the arm: for others — a low kick in the stomach". Another letter pointed to the amazing powers of the dollar, when it can "induce life-time residents of this area to sell off this area for a series of concrete ponds." Other letters have echoed the point that no amount of compensation can buy sentimental associations people hold.

There are other disturbing facts involved in the issue. The day before the plans were to be announced, Dominion Breweries were reported to have purchased two hotels, the Lowburn and the Golden Age, that are to be flooded under the proposed scheme.

Also, it is strongly suspected that certain elected representatives in local body and government positions may have financial interests in the proposed areas for flooding. People are wondering why Cromwell was chosen as the construction site for the dam, ahead of Clyde, reckoned to be better suited geographically and closer to material sources.

For this scheme to be of maximum benefit to NZ a high dam is essential. In hydro-generation it is the top few feet of the dam that are important in water storage. Only the water that is above the penstock entrances is any use in generating power. The proposed low dam is considered a political compromise between the Labour Party's present non-disruptive environmental policies and increasing demand for greater power generation. Yet the low dam will have minimal effect on increased power supply.

The Cromwell scheme is a substitute for the mis-guided effects of the original Manapouri and Wanaka power projects. Cromwell is being forced to pay the price for the wasteful use of electricity in such activities as Colmalco's aluminium smelter.



Up Against the Law

UNIONISTS CONFRONT STUDENTS

by Graeme Simpson

The forum on trade unions in the Union Hall centred on three aspects of the present controversy over the use of injunctions. The three speakers, boilermakers' national secretary Con Devitt, Irving McKechnie, a rank and file member of the Seaman's Union, and President of this Union, Dave Morgan, spoke on the rights of unions, the anomalies of the judicial system and government, and the prejudice against unions showed by the media.

Con Devitt spoke first amid cries of "commie" from a vocal minority who had come to heckle. Devitt said that the question, the use of injunctions revolved around, was whether employers have the right to force a worker to work against his will. He reiterated what unionists have been saying for the last two weeks, that an inherent right of workers is to withdraw their labour. He compared the present situation and that of the Tolepuddle Martyrs, who were transported from Britain in the mid 18th century when a law relating to seamen, the Admiralty law, was arbitrarily imposed on farm labourers.

Workers must take action, he said, but while the injunction law was still on the statute book, it would be "return to work or go to jail".

The second speaker was Irving McKechnie, who outlined the Dromgoole case. The injunction was put on the unions

involved in March this year, although the dispute extended back into 1973. The Shipping and Seamen Tribunal had ruled that Dromgoole must employ a seaman on his ferry in January 1974 — an order that has since been defied for six months, in which time the Tribunal did nothing to enforce their decision. However when a decision went against the Union in a case with a ship whose crew refused to work, the Tribunal issued writs on every crew member. Like Parliament, which was one and half hours in passing an emergency act to shore up the sagging Cornish 'Empire' but hesitated to assist Unions, the Tribunal is a bosses' court. In fact the government was very quick to stand threateningly over a union — as in the case of the Engineers' Institute over the weekend of July 6-7 — but did not afford the same treatment to Dromgoole. Thus injunctions work in the interests of the boss.

Dave Morgan, President of the Seamen's Union, began by saying that the injunction issue was one of the hottest facing New Zealand people since 1951. He described as nonsense the old argument that if trade unions were above the law and if government didn't act responsibly, then anarchy would result. There is enough debate and democracy in unions to stabilise situations, he said. But struggle and demand from below is necessary for progress to be made.

Morgan also commented on the dubious neutrality of the courts, particularly in the Andersen case, where the judicial system's class bias was exposed. Justice Mahon had appeared, in Morgan's opinion, to have brought the issue down to personalities; Andersen being a symbol of "the machinations of union officials." However the struggle had come from the rank and file members of the unions.

His conclusion was that the union's right of bargaining power had been infringed and now their right to withdraw their labour was gradually being restricted. "The struggle [against this] must stay on the street and on the job."

On the subject of restraints on unions and the argument advanced for the retention of injunctions, that unions should not be above the law, Dave Morgan said that if a law is oppressive, then it would only be changed by active struggle. He believes the only way history could be affected by the working man was when that man took his destiny in his own hands.

The views of the speakers on the bias of the courts was exemplified by Irving McKechnie's response to one question. He said the hecklers — "the ra-ra boys" — who were gathered around the main doors and made no constructive comment during the whole meeting, would be the lawyers and the judges, etc. of the future. This, he said, spoke for itself.

Peter Wilson also commented on the "mythical" impartiality of the courts. He cited the example of Heath's Tory government which, he said, used the courts as "battering-rams" to attempt to break the miners' strike in Britain earlier this year. When a law was unjust, then unions should oppose it.

At this point the most offensive incident of the forum occurred. The majority of trade union officials were described as "pommy stirrers", by a speaker from the floor, in a piece of blatant chauvinism. McKechnie responded angrily, saying Bill Andersen was born in New Zealand, and although he, himself was of Scottish birth, he regarded himself as a New Zealander. Someone in the audience wasn't satisfied by this reply and yelled out "The Poms have ballsed up England and now they've come to New Zealand to do the same."

Dave Morgan's response to this juvenile xenophobia was to say that it was high time that workers in all countries recognised the necessity to participate in an international movement. Business was transcending national boundaries and unions had to follow suit. Morgan said he regarded himself not as a member of a national group, but as a member of the working class.

Peter Rotherham made several points. The accusation of "foreign domination" of unions was merely a diversion by politicians to confuse people. Unions, Rotherham continued, are the best guarantor of democratic rights, being an organisation at shop floor level. The real power in society, however, lies with big business. Unions represented the phenomenon of ordinary people struggling against this overt predominance.

Rotherham's question related to the mystification by government and the media to the injunction issue. He advocated a massive publicity campaign to explain the real issues.

Devitt agreed with this, but said that the unions did not have access to the media, that oversimplifies the issues.

The daily newspapers in New Zealand are controlled by people equivalent in social status to the bosses. But Devitt pointed out that within some unions, and he gave his own as an example, workers had been made aware of the issues. "Nobody was under any illusions." The most active areas had been those where the problems were known. Unions are introverted, he admitted, making communication on a broad scale difficult. Thus unionists were grateful for opportunities to speak at forums, to get their side of the story across. Particularly in middle-class domains such as Victoria University.

A question was asked relating to education in schools about trade unionism. McKechnie replied that the existing education system was inadequate in this respect. To ensure that the view of unions wouldn't be too slanted in favour of the bosses, unions would have to be consulted. The failure of the existing system to do so had been shown by the education development conference, to which working class people had not been invited.

Dave Morgan said that at present the only education was on the shop floor. The emphasis here had to be on the need for organisation.

Neal Andrews, who chaired the forum, commented that the working class movement was under continuous attack with wages not keeping up with inflation, the power to bargain evaporating, and legal injunctions being used. The contradiction was that the government at present is a Labour one, which ostensibly stands for the rights of the working man.

Morgan replied that the Labour Government had only said that they could run the capitalist system better than the "Tories", because the Labour Government had the co-operation of the working man.

For this reason the panel considered that last month's march on Parliament by Seamen and Drivers and the action taken earlier this month reflected not only opposition to the injunctions, but also a growing discontent with the inability of the Labour Government to fulfill its promises.

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RECORDS

Slow Dancer: by Boz Scaggs. Reviewed by Brian King.

Boz Scaggs is, next to Van Morrison, my favourite singer, and after Al Green he's my favourite soul artist. He's a white soul singer - i.e. soul without the simmering crack and falsetto that has come to characterise black soul music - who sounds black. It's the kind of music that white singers like the Righteous Brothers and bands like Electric Flag did so well, and if you remember Electric Flag's "Long Time Coming" album then you've got it.

Recently I imported two earlier Boz Scaggs albums - "Boz Scaggs" (with Duane Allman) and "Moments". This album, "Slow Dancer", differs from these earlier albums. The guitar that features so prominently is gone, and Boz has made a smooth progression from blues to soul with the addition of strings and horns:

"I have had my eyes on you, oh since the da-ay/I learned to laugh at myself/caught you laughing too/You went your way, and I went mine/it's strange that in another place/that joke should hit me in my face...../But you, you make it so hard, to say-ay no."

"You Make it so Hard" is the single from the album which is due to be released about now. Listen for it. If you like this then you'll probably like the rest of the album too. "Slow Dancer" doesn't cook, it cruises comfortably; it doesn't jar, even when the arrangements start to remind one of Uncle Tom bands like Junior Walker and The All-Stars.

Ten out of ten, with a red bullet and a big shiny star.

Live in Europe: Creedance Clearwater Revival. (Fantasy Import) Reviewed by David MacLennan.

Creedance Clearwater Revival were the greatest rock 'n' roll band America has, or will ever, produce. They kicked off 1969 with the unforgettable "Proud Mary" (described by one Zimmerman, as the best song of that year, and since recorded by everyone from Ike and Tina Turner to Andy Williams) and followed this with a series of classic singles and albums, nearly all of which earned platinum discs for sales in excess of \$5 million, before they split up in 1972.

CCR's distinctive sound was largely due to lead guitarist/vocalist and songwriter John Fogerty. His distinctive vocals and guitar style, and his flair for writing simple, yet highly effective songs, sustained them throughout their career. Straightforward pop/rock? Sure, but in the best traditions of pioneers like Chuck Berry and Little Richard. And it wasn't all just commercial pop either. Longer tracks such as "Graveyard Train", "Effigy" and others proved that there was more to CCR than catchy songs like "Bad Moon Rising" (still their best single). From blues, through country-rock, to straight down-the-line R & B - CCR did it equally well.

Which brings me to "Live in Europe". Looking at the track listings, any CCR freak (myself included) could be forgiven for thinking that this album (a double, incidentally) would be The Most. Just about every one of their best numbers are there, from "Susie Q" from their first LP, to "Sweet Hitch-Hiker" off the last. Taking in things like "Lodi", "Bad Moon Rising" and "Keep on Chooglin'" on the way.

Well I hate to disappoint you folks, but "Live in Europe" just doesn't live up to expectations. The fact that it was recorded after rhythm guitarist Tom Fogerty (John's brother) left them is bad enough; his rhythm playing was vital to CCR's overall sound: play the live versions of "Lodi", "Born on the Bayou" and "Keep on Chooglin'" then play the studio versions and you'll see what I mean - and his absence takes the wind out of the album in many ways.

Add to this the fact that the album is rather badly recorded and the fact that John Fogerty's lead work, instead of the pure, ringing sound of the original versions, sounds distorted and fuzzy, then what you are left with is an album that does not do CCR, in concert, full justice.

The concert they did at the Fillmore West that

was shown on TV here last year was much more like it. If they had recorded a live album then (around 18 months prior to "Live in Europe") it would have been one of the best live LPs ever made.

Tracks like "Travellin' Band", "Sweet Hitch-Hiker" and "Commotion" come off quite well, but others, notably "Born on the Bayou", "Bad Moon Rising" and "Proud Mary" are very disappointing. This is, especially true of "Keep on Chooglin'" their finest number and the finale to their act. On the TV concert it was pure dynamite (and how!!) but here....well, sadly, its just not up to scratch.

However, despair not CCR fans of VUW this album aint a total bummer. Taken as a whole, in fact, it is quite good. It rocks along quite strongly through all four sides (especially side 3) and John Fogerty's raucous vocals and tight guitar work are as good as they have ever been. Once you get used to the idea of no rhythm guitar it doesn't sound too bad at all. (A good idea is to grab a guitar and add your own rhythm part while its playing) The fact that all the good numbers are on it means that it could hardly be a complete washout, and indeed, this is the case. In short I would recommend this album to any CCR fan, despite its inadequacies though if you are like me you will have to play it a few times to get used to it. On a 10-point scale I'd give it seven out of ten.

As a final postscript a quote from Roy Carr's NME Review of this LP says it all for CCR.

"On their own ground, Creedance could not be bettered, their music is timeless, their contribution to rock music securing them immortality. They haven't been surpassed."

Good gawd y'all, I do believe he's right! And anyway, CCR aren't dead yet! Lend an ear to the last two singles by John Fogerty on his own and you too will loudly proclaim: "Creedence lives!"

Pipedream: by Alan Hull. Reviewed by Brian King.

Listening to this album made me think about its special qualities - what distinguishes it from the other records I have heard recently. I've realised that it all comes down to the voice. More specifically, it has to do with accent.

Alan Hull is, as you will know, a Geordie and when he says words like 'night' and 'moonlight' they sound like 'nate' and 'moonlate', and similarly 'mad' sounds like 'mud' - noo wha' a' meen laddie? Anyway it gives the songs - all of which are very good - an earthy quality that is, arguably, essential to folk music.

Hull is, of course, the force behind Lindsfarne and "Pipedream" his solo effort, is similar in quality to the band albums. Ray Jackson and Ray Laidlaw feature among the large number of supporting musicians and drinkers, but the songs are different to those heard on the Lindsfarne albums. Some are slow and delicate and wouldn't suit the free swinging style of Lindsfarne, while the traditional-sounding 'Country Gentleman's Wife' would. Two tracks are especially beautiful - "Money Game":

"Oh, Anna, what does money mean anyway?/ I've got more than all that./ I can smile when it's a rainy day/ I can see what's behind the big/ money game they all must play.

And "United States of Mind" with the quavering voice we heard in "Lady Eleanor". If you would like to know where John Hanlon got the melody for "I Care", have a listen to the track entitled "STD 0632" - Hull does it better I think.

Alan Hull turns: a nice tune, obviously having an eye for the ladies, and the album is full of vulgar (i.e. Scottish) humour. And if, like me, you tend to buy records for their covers then this album is doubly good. The imported English cover is fronted by the painting 'La Lampe Philosophie' by R. Magritte and includes four sheets of colour photographs of the musicians, plus all the lyrics. Bloody 'ell.....

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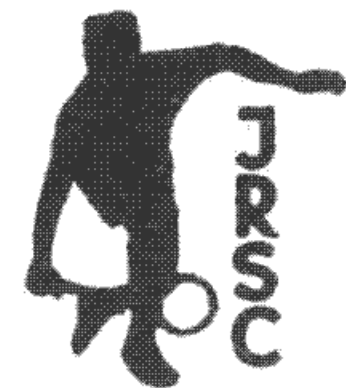
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LETTERS

Occasionally in the past Salient has noted that its policy is to print all letters, subject to the laws of defamation and obscenity. Recently we have withdrawn a few letters on these grounds. Now, and with some regret, we must announce new editorial policy. Due to the greatest outpouring of coprophiliac [look it up - Ed.] and bum-fetishist indulgence unequalled since the sewers last broke at Parliament buildings, we now reserve the right to not print letters on the grounds of excessively nauseating bad taste or crushingly irrelevant vacuity. Contrary to some frustrated students' opinions, the Salient letters column is intended to be a forum for free exchange of fact and opinion. Criticism is welcomed, urged, but try and keep the incidence of faecal references to less than one word in two, please. Shit-spielers and general drivellers, have taken of late to trying to get their contribution into our columns obviously as a new sort of personal therapy. They are respectfully urged to write their hang-ups onto toilet walls, or ring Dr Geiringer on Monday nights, 10pm - 12 midnight.

Positive criticism...

Dear Sir,
 Criticism of the content of Salient by a few overly-vocal crapheads encourages me to write in support of your editorial policy as I see it.
 Generally, my position is one of acceptance without comment of that which seems desirable and criticism of that which appears undesirable. I make an exception in this case because of my concern that these critics might just possibly succeed in influencing editorial policy.
 Salient exists as one of the very few (perhaps two) NZ newspapers prepared to discuss and criticise national and international socio-political matters from a position of justice and principle, and I suggest these mindless and irresponsible critics are already sufficiently well served in this country and that their intellectual appetites and sense of social responsibility would be better satisfied by their following the programme which I have troubled myself to compile for them:
 1) Arrive at the pub as early as possible and drink as much as possible.
 2) Leave early in the evening and purchase a copy of 'The Evening Post'.
 3) Buy fish and chips on the way home, arriving in time to absorb the early evening TV commercials which provide enlightenment on correct living and social responsibility.
 4) Read 'The Evening Post', paying particular attention to editorials, letter to the editor, articles by Gabriel David and cable page headlines. Lodge cartoons provide further enlightened social comment.
 5) Spend the remainder of the evening in attentive listening to one of the talk-crap radio stations.
 Finally I would suggest that the content of Salient could mostly simply and easily be improved by their not writing letters to the editor.

Pete Mackey

... and negative

Dear Sir,
 Congratulations on a readable Salient. This week's issue (July 10) was actually of interest to non-socialist inspired students as it contained items relating to Godzone. How about putting an end to your intellectual wanking by making Salient a magazine of interest to the majority of the students who finance it.
 Yours etc,
 Kiwi Keith

THE FREAK BROS.



GILBERT SHELTON

that he may not know what he is talking about. 'Truth' is well known for its intolerant and narrow minded articles. It is sad to see this occurring in Salient.

Michael Thomson

No support for straight

Dear Sir,
 It has been brought to our notice that a recent issue of Salient contained a rather incoherent rave letter on the subject of homosexuality by one Richard G. Wardle. He implied that he was a member of Young Nationals and the Christian Union, and that these organisations supported him.
 On behalf of Young Nationals I can assure readers, our policy here is quite clear. Young Nationals (and the National Party Conference) are in favour of legalisation of homosexual activities between consenting adults in private.
 We in no way support Mr Wardle's sentiments and he is not a member of Young Nationals.

Stuart Wardell
 Publicity Officer
 Wellington Young Nationals

The Zionists start quoting

Dear Sir,
 If Salient's latest (?) Middle East atrocity of July 3 ("Blood in the Milk and Honey") could include imaginary statements by General Dayan, may I submit some factual statements by some Arab sources?
 "The Arabs have kept the Palestinian refugees in tents, according to a planned policy for the return of Palestine - since the rehabilitation of the Palestinians would have lost them Palestine for good." (Colonel Jaloud, Libya's number two man, in the Beirut paper "Al Hawadath", 24.12.71)
 "The Jews deviated from the Law of Moses and tried to murder Jesus Christ because they did not want the Laws of God to be observed.... They are the enemies of Islam and it is specifically stated in the Koran that the Jews are the worst sworn enemies of the Moslems... We must unite against Zionism and communism, which are both dangerous enemies of Allah and the faith of Islam." (King Faisal, 20.12.73, according to the Saudi Press Agency).
 "This is a holy war and it is the duty of all Moslem countries to join in. If any Moslem country shirks this duty, then it will be deviating from the teachings of God and his Prophet." (A noon prayer service broadcast by all Cairo radio stations from Cairo's Al Azhar Mosque, 12.10.73).

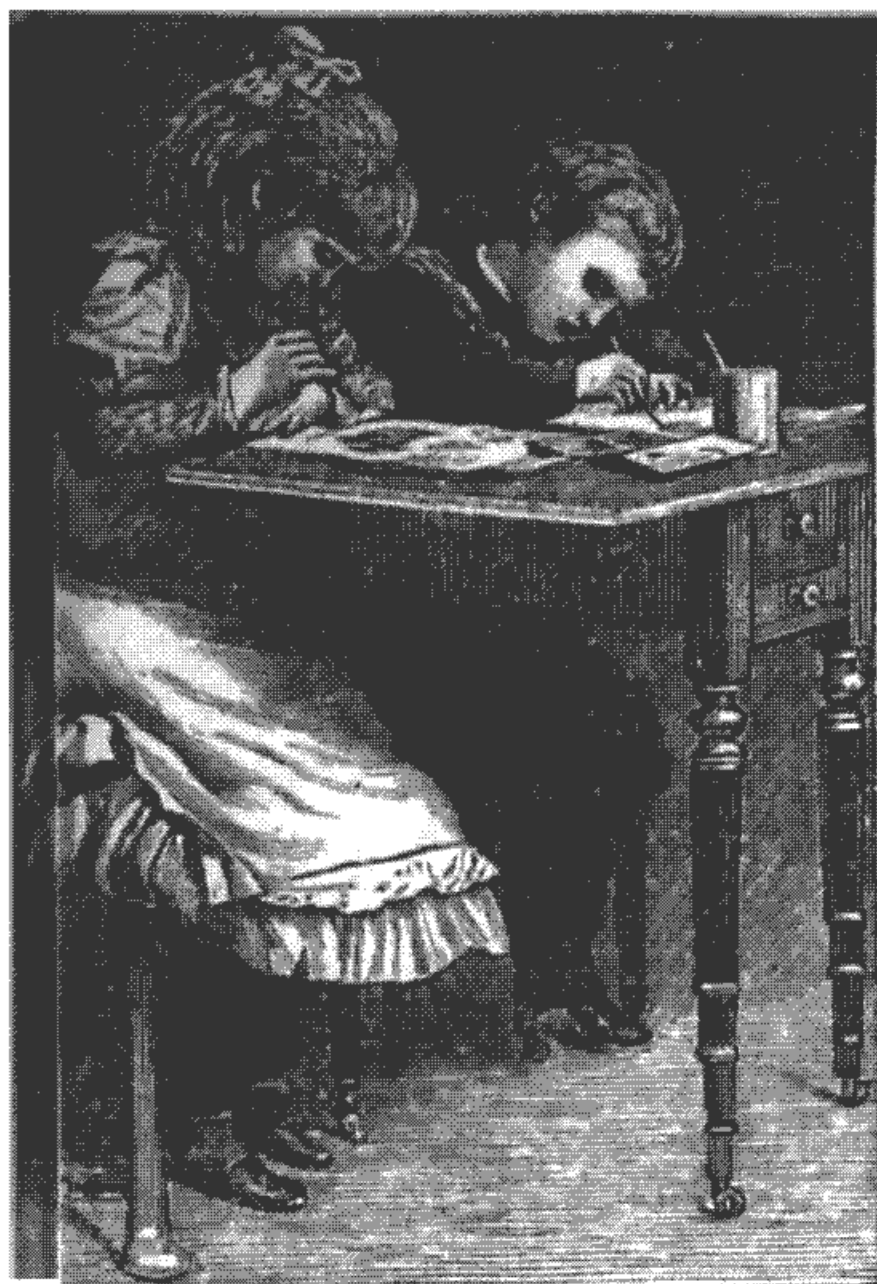
"Hitler did not burn Jews alone - too bad he didn't! He burnt his enemies of all religions and no religion at all..... Nobody finds the time to say: the Jews are by nature bloodthirsty beasts. All their religious books testify to that and describe them as having the meanest characteristics." (Anis Mansour, in the Cairo paper 'Al Akhbar', 11.12.72).
 "There are people who talk about freedom of expression, liberty and democracy, and even about freedom in the universities. Only sick people can think such things." (Colonel Kaddafi, quoted by the London Daily Mirror 9.7.73).
 Such are just some of the revolutionary and progressive sentiments of those on whom so much sympathy has been lavished in Salient's fair pages.
 David Carr

Open letter to Mr Kirk

Dear Mr Kirk,
 I am writing to you as a concerned individual who is very involved in the Gay Liberation movement. It is my intention to forward copies of this letter to every major newspaper and all university papers in New Zealand.
 This letter is in response to recent statements you have made concerning liberalisation of homosexual legislation, particularly comments ascribed to you in a report published in 'The Dominion' (July 9, 1974).
 According to this report, you have inferred that the Gay Liberation movement exhibits anti-social rather than socially-concerned attitudes. I demand that you substantiate your inference or, if this is not possible, publicly apologise to members of the movement.
 Perhaps you consider that the recent picketing of parliament was an anti-social act. Surely the right to protest is well-established? Along with other persons concerned with social issues, gay people in New Zealand are incensed by Government inaction. To impede the individual's right to register his/her lack of confidence is more akin to communism than socialism or democracy.
 In fact a great many gay people are deeply concerned with social reform that extends far beyond the confines of homosexual law liberalisation and related areas. I believe that your own ill-informed statements are inimical to socially concerned attitudes.
 You are reported as having stated that you would not vote for legislation that treated homosexuality as "normal behaviour". As Prime Minister, Mr Kirk, you have an obligation to express yourself more precisely. If you are under the misapprehension that homosexuality constitutes a mental disease, then you ought to be made aware of the official attitudes of a number of informed groups. Official opinions of the American Association of Psychiatrists, the British Medical Association, the Australian Psychological Society, and the Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists are that homosexuality is not a psychiatric disease. In its remit, the Australian Psychological Society further elaborated that:

- 1) The Australian Psychological Society condemns discrimination against homosexuals.
 - 2) That the APS condemns community attitudes which discriminate against homosexual behaviour between consenting adults.
 - 3) That the APS affirms that it supports any moves to counter discrimination against homosexuals.
- A similar remit was passed in 1973 by the Federal Council of the ANZCP.
 As far as religious attitudes are concerned, you are no doubt aware that the majority of New Zealand churches favour liberalisation of homosexual legislation.
 Obviously the words "normal behaviour" were ill-chosen. In any case your statements can be shown to have no rational basis.
 Once again I shall remind you, that whilst you may regard a bill seeking homosexual law liberalisation to be damaging to party unity, you have certainly lost the votes of 10% of the voting public (i.e. those who are predominately homosexual in orientation) along with those of many other socially-concerned individuals. We will not support a government which refuses to treat us as people.

Yours sincerely,
 Raeone Dellaca (Ms)
 President,
 Gay Liberation (VUW)



Is he for real?

Dear Sir,
I was deeply disturbed to read a letter signed "a straight and proud of it" in Salient, July 3. Not only am I disgusted with the sentiments expressed by Richard Wardle, but also deeply angry that he found it necessary to lie to give credence to his "opinion".

Young Nationals are strongly in favour of a change in the homosexual laws. They are an ugly blot in our legal system and we, as a group are trying to erase this blot. At the Dominion Conference in Auckland later this month we are calling for a change in the law — as we did in Napier at the Wellington Divisional Conference in June. There may be some people who belong to Young Nationals who feel the way Mr Wardle feels, but they are acting as individuals and not as representatives of us. Mr Wardle however declined to name one Young National who agrees with him and any inferences to be drawn from that I leave to the reader. I disassociate ourselves from his opinion and object strongly to his using our name to further his bigoted views.

To examine his letter further I notice he suggests a "fun-fight" to ward off temptation to commit a homosexual offence! Apart from suggesting that a cold shower might be more effective I can only say, that is as ludicrous as suggesting a fun-fight instead of making love to one's girl. Personally I'd rather "pash" than "ash"! His comment however shows not only his ignorance but his immaturity. He also states that homosexuality is dirty, degrading and a lower animal instinct. It horrifies me that a supposedly intelligent person can say such things. It is not dirty or degrading — perhaps these adjectives are better applied to our friends' thoughts! As to being a lower animal instinct — why? It is a human expression of feeling between humans. Certainly the thought does not appeal to me at all, but that does not give me the right to condemn those to whom it does. Remember, Mr Wardle, that heterosexual activity doesn't appeal to many homosexuals.

In speaking to Mr Wardle, he suggested to me that a few "beatings!" is a cure for "queer activity" and he cited as an example what gang members do to another member if he is found to be homosexual. All I can say to this is bullshit. Such a "cure" may repress but it is as hell won't cure. Perhaps he would favour public whipping post for homosexuals? Why not castration Mr Wardle? Surely that would fit into our higher scheme of things. To be quite frank Mr Wardle, I consider that you are sick, sicker than any homosexual, if you really think inflicting pain can be justified for therapeutic purposes. Believe me, if I beat you for long enough you'd crew a sheep to avoid more pain.

Finally, Mr Wardle said homosexuality was a sin and there was a spiritual cure. There is no time here to put up a long argument about this, but briefly Mr Wardle I am not prepared to play god, are you? Apart from numerous churches supporting a change in our law a small piece of scripture springs to mind "let he who is without in cast the first stone."

In total therefore Mr Wardle your letter was adulterated drivel and I will happily meet you or anyone else who shows your warped views, in public debate and justify every word I have written and tell you a few more things I have been unable to say here due to a lack of space. True you are entitled to your opinion, you are welcome to it and further more you know exactly where you can bloody well put it — being a "proud straight" I suggest you stick it "straight up". But whatever you decide to do with it, do not ever again use Young Nationals to shove up your point of view, as it is repugnant to us.

Duncan G. Harvey,
Wellington Division,
Young Nationals

The rise and fall of a young turk

Dear Sir,
I was fortunate enough to be present at a debate in the union hall on July 10, the purpose of the debate being to pass certain motions concerning the middle-east situation. Although I enjoyed this game, I feel responsible to offer some advice on how the situation should be resolved.

The solution lies in the example set by Turkey. Istanbul was Constantinople, now its Istanbul — not Constantinople, been a long time gone as Constantinople — still, its Turkish delight on a moon-lit night! If we look even deeper into the fact we find that every gal in Constantinople lives in Istanbul not Constantinople, so if you've a date in Constantinople she'll be waiting in Istanbul.

This can be backed up by the famous American example that ever old New York was once New Amsterdam. Why they changed it I can't say, perhaps they just liked it better that way!

Let's get back to Constantinople. No, you can't get back to Constantinople, because its Istanbul not Constantinople, why did Constantinople get the works? That's nobody's business but the Turks!

RSP President of the White Sport Coat Soc.

Battering Ram ?

Dear Sir,
Who did the writer (s) of the front page article of Salient 15 think he was fooling. If the majority thought the union officials were worth fighting for and/or supported the writer's unsubstantiated bullshit, there may have been a "march" through Wellington during the so-called "strike" — one and one half thousand is a number to be laughed at (I for one, jeered at the rabble).

As for the "bosses sitting on bags of money" picture — the words unions and bosses should be exchanged. Perhaps the writer failed to notice that many New Zealand companies are on the verge of collapse, and there has been a large drop recorded on the stock exchange (— yeah go on, blame it on the government and credit squeeze.)

Maybe the biggest fault of the article was that it was all opinion.

I was almost astonished to see some informed article writers giving facts and figures elsewhere in that issue. Perhaps Len McGrane would do a survey on how much of student funds were misappropriated last year. (Or perhaps he might care to name a value for any "surplus items" he has "borrowed" from someone else.

It's good to see some of the motion deleted from articles (— come on the wogs.)

Stephenson
P.S. I didn't know the state was a battering ram.

A touch of Zen

Dear Roger,
We may differ in ideologies to the extent, in your own words, that there is a bullet for you and me, but this will not deter me from saying this of you and your staff: you lot are apparently hardworking and appear devoted to your cause. Seven nights a week, Salient's office (and the billiard room?) is blazing with lights!

With this salute, I make my exit with full realisation that little could now be gained by further writings on the matter. After the words, action must follow.

Dated 9.7.1974
L.C.

The story of a hopeless president

Hello Editor,
As McDonald has resigned and I suppose when this letter is published the next president (one! etc! Don! Don!) will have taken up office and will furiously be going about his round of duties: constructive, constructive.

The position of president of this union is such a non-position — fuck-all people could give a damn about it. Do you know why? Because the people up here don't give a damn about anything except their own asses. Its self complacency personified up here. It's bloody disgusting.

But the biggest joke of all was that Don Carson did want to be the president of the union so badly. Poor old Don. A few people decided for a laugh — that's all — that they didn't want Don to be president, just to annihilate the complacency that hung around like a bad smell before the election. The someone, no-one had heard about, called McDonald was farted into the forefront, got pumped up with a bit of publicity and pissed in.

So he turned out to be bloody helpless — he was meant to be; but I'm damn sure the complacency is gone and I'm fucking well laughing but Don Carson isn't. He's crying.

An Instigator

Education or aid

Dear Sir,
Why should I, a tax payer of New Zealand, pay for the education of overseas students when the money could be better spent on aid? Patrick O'Hagan should know better.

Stevenson.
P.S. How much does it cost the Government to send each student to university? \$4000 pa?

The women's right

Dear Roger,
Those who advocate abortion law reform claim that a woman has the right to choose what she does with her own body. The law already recognises this and protects her right, i.e. it makes it an offence for anyone to involve her in sexual intercourse before she is old enough to understand the significance and complexities of her decision, or to force any woman against her will.

Initially then, the woman exercises her choice when she voluntarily agrees to sexual intercourse which always involves some risk of pregnancy.

The law in this country even allows her to back-track on her initial choice by allowing abortion where her life or quality of life are severely threatened.

Now approaching the question of abortion freely available, as a matter of sheer convenience, have those who advocate that it is a woman's right to choose what she does with her body, also acknowledged that it is the woman's responsibility to accept the consequences of that decision.

With freely available abortion the pregnant unmarried girl has the options: have an abortion, have the child and get it adopted or keep the child. If she keeps the child, by invoking the law she may require the father to contribute towards its support.

However if the father requested her to have an abortion but she declined, deciding to have the child and keep it, would she have any moral or legal right to expect that the father should support her and her child throughout its dependent years?

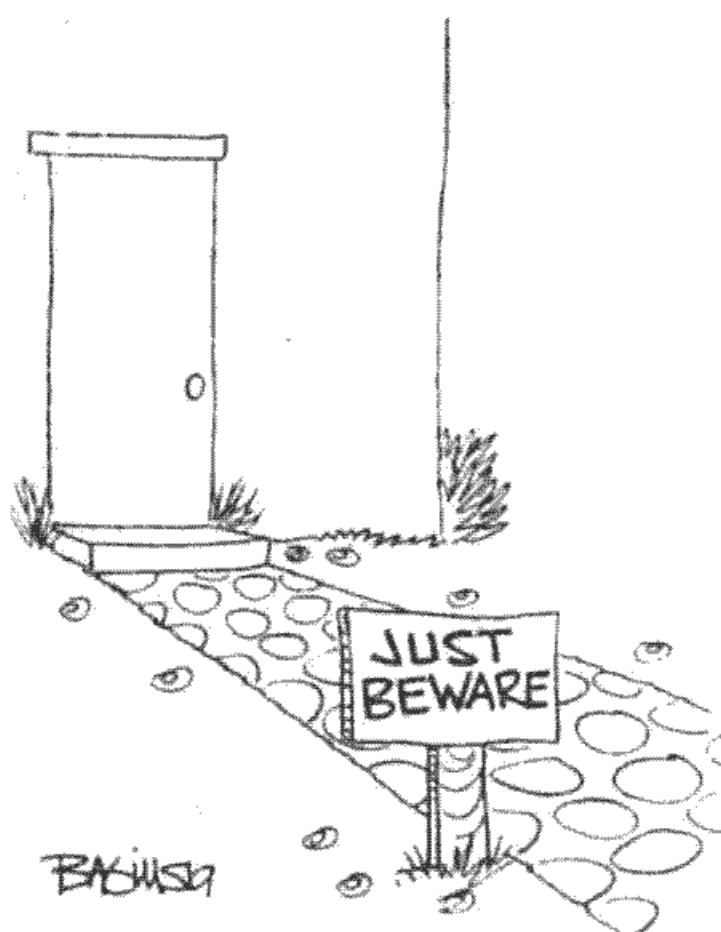
If she exercised her right to do as she chose with her body and continued the pregnancy in the face of legally available alternatives, could she reasonably hold anyone else responsible for what was entirely her own choice?

Could the father argue in paternity proceedings that her free choice absolves him of responsibility? It would seem so, but would have unfortunate repercussions for the girl whose conscience would not permit her to take advantage of legal abortion.

With liberal abortion laws, how do the reformers see the rights of the father? Have they just ignored him?

I believe that any change in the law would bring great pressure on women to submit to abortion, even against their better instincts, or face the alternative of assuming complete responsibility for the support of the child. It seems those in most need will again suffer for the convenience of others.

Wendy Turnbull



na na na Te hee hee

Dear Sir,
It has come.....to our notice and we would ask you to wipe it off. You realise of course we think it was a pretty slack thing to do and remind you that the penalties are very stiff. We know. If you intend then don't. Blue was Thursday and cat saw knives at ½ past a bubble. I know you are mad we got told.

Signed IT
P.S. I love you, ya na na na na.
Te hee hee. And some other interesting cockeye.

Huh?

Dear Roger,
Shit it was good to read that thing you wrote about Te Kaha. [Actually it was about Wairoa-Ed.] Christ you put those artist buggers in their place shit hot. Too stuck up eh? Good for you Roger, you a real white man. You stick up for the old Maori eh? Like I didn't understand all the big words, but bloody good on you. Were you in one of the photographs? People like you, they can change the world. Shit eh?

Lionel Moko
SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD
ACROSS: (2) Elite (5) Off (7) Nero (9) Ulianov (12) Rani (13) Is (15) Distaste (16) Pi (17) Ena (19) Nixon (22) Guru (23) Trot (25) Csar (26) God (27) Orwell (29) Emu (31) Prestige (32) Goon.

DOWN: (1) Gossip (2) Eli (3) Innate (4) Envisage (6) Fu (8) Rune (10) Ars (11) Onan (14) Sinister (15) Dextrous (18) Muldoon (20) or (21) no (24) There (28) Leg (30) Me.

Exercising a salient right

PAGE 15

Dear Sir,
Now that he is back from his salient and zymotic parting-with-knowledge tour of NZ, would the "industrious and hardworking" socialist by the name of R. Pui with a wealth of six year's indurate experience here, has done Constitutional Law and is doing International Law (most info gathered from the TV programme) please clarify the following matters which he appears to be so dexterous at.

1) In demanding the release of Khoo and directly attacking the legislation of Malaysia, is not NZUSA etc infringing upon the integrity and sovereignty of that country?

2) Since he has a photostat copy of the Internal Security Act 1960 kindly expostulate to me what is wrong with or so notorious about that Act?

3) He says he never urged Malaysian students to join him openly in the protest, yet how does he justify himself in calling his friends "cowards" when they refused to support his ideals?

As a learned law student, he should establish his case first.

In view of the fact that Pui has been a Salient worker, is receiving top priority treatment from Mr Roger Steele, the looming intimidation from the leftist rascals and their secret police methods, and above all Pui's three months' practice of the deadly Tai Chi martial arts which I was told he has mastered and now is capable of killing an ant like myself, I must regrettably come under a pen name yet proud to be exercising my salient right to an unsigned authorship.

Any detective work is truly yours.

The Hunter

Sexual Bondage.

Dear Sir,
The almost unbelievable stupidity of the women who want abortion on demand absolutely staggers me.

Men have always tended to be selfish and irresponsible in sexual matters, and the pill and abortion encourage this attitude.

In countries where abortion on demand is available the obvious male attitude is the height of irresponsibility. They place all the responsibility of contraception on the women.

"She can take the pill or have an abortion if the pill does not work. I've had my fun, there is always some other stupid bird to give me a good time."

There is no regard for the woman, as a person, as an equal human being. All she becomes is a sex play thing.

Do these women really want to encourage their menfolk to be even more selfish and self-indulgent than they are already?

Can they not see they are making themselves into sexual conveniences for the debased, selfish-type of man who wants them for one thing only?

This is not emancipation or liberation. It is sexual bondage of the most horrible kind.

Joan Oldoman

What is a student?

Sir,
I must point out to you that your publication is not doing its part in furthering the cause of the most neglected minority group in this university. Recently, many minority groups have stood up and proclaimed that they are not ashamed of their beliefs (one thinks of the Society for the Legalisation of Cannibalism and small religious groups such as The Rosicrucian Underwater Marching Guild).

But one group has up till now remained silent: they are known as students. They come to university with the intention of learning and seeking intellectual stimulation. The term "student" is often applied to the whole mass of people enrolled at university: this usage of course is entirely incorrect.

Basically, the people inhabiting Victoria University can be divided into three groups:

(i) those suffering from the "meal ticket" syndrome;

(ii) those suffering from the "I'm-here-because-I-can't-think-of-anything-better-to-do" complaint (these can be recognised by the conversations they have about "stirs" and "trail bikes");

(iii) people known as "lecturers" — these are of higher status than the previous groups. They can be identified by their academic gowns or their white coats (both of which are marks of status, equivalent to such insignia of rank as the penis-sheaths of the Small Nambas).

A recent study shows that the numbers of true students (who belong to none of the above groups) can be counted on the fingers of both hands (if one is suffering from advanced leprosy).

Even though it is socially-acceptable to be 'pissed-off' with university, students are actually interested in the subjects they are studying. We also believe that interest is not a disease, but is as natural a condition as being bored or uninterested.

Mareko Maruru

...
**INEVITABLE
 DOOM
 COMICS
 PRESENTS**
 ...

Weslie

THE SACRIFICE
 STARRING...
JACKIE JACKSON

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FINDS JACKIE JACKSON LYING AWAKE IN BED PONDERING THE QUESTION OF EVENTUAL WORLD DESTRUCTION. HE WONDERS WHAT LIES IN STORE FOR MANKIND IN THE 70'S. NOW LET'S WATCH AS A STRANGE COURSE OF EVENTS MAY VERY WELL CHANGE JACKIE'S LIFE (OR SHOULD WE SAY DEATH.)

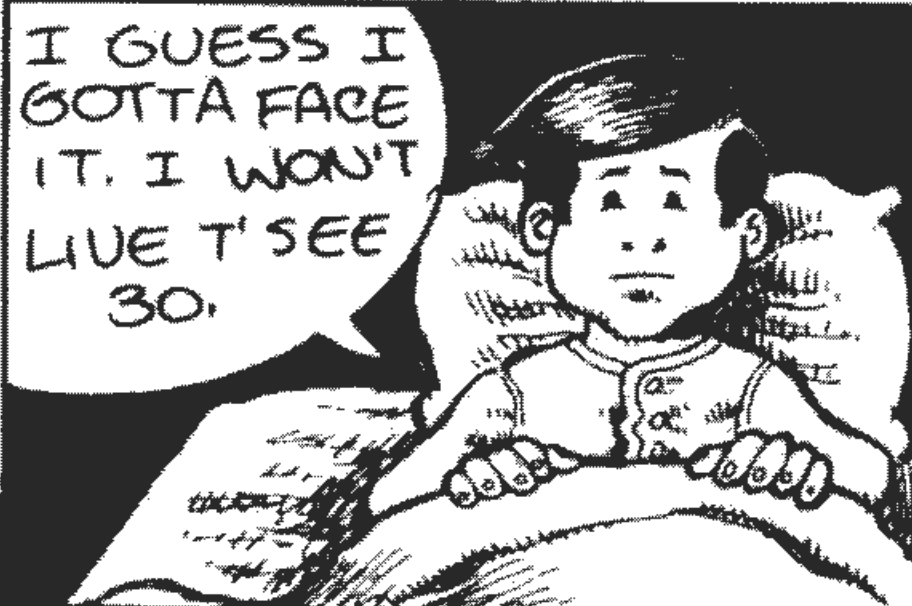


...BY THE YEAR 2000 THERE'LL BE STANDING ROOM ONLY 'N' THE AIR POLLUTION'LL BE SO BAD WE'LL ALL HAVE TO WEAR GAS MASKS. ...POVERTY ENTRAPS MOST OF THE WORLD'S INHABITANTS LEAVING ONLY THOSE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE BEEN BORN THE RIGHT COLOR AND IN THE RIGHT PLACE.



THE BOY'S EYES OPEN WITH REALIZATION FAR MORE ADVANCED THAN HIS EARTHLY YEARS SHOULD PERMIT.

I GUESS I GOTTA FACE IT. I WON'T LIVE T' SEE 30.

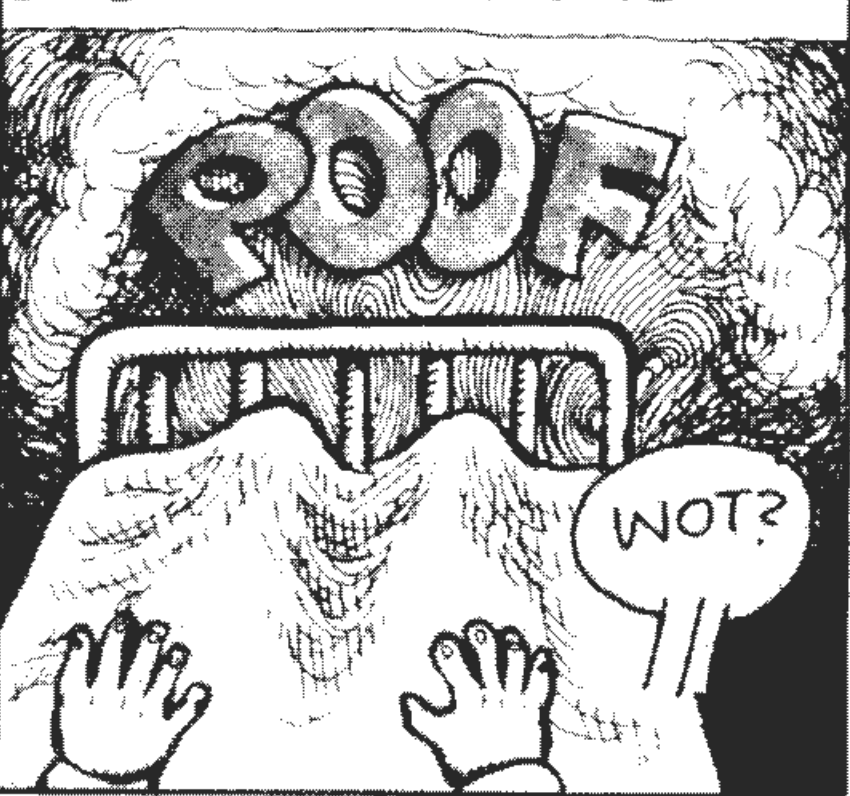


IN DESPERATION, THE LAD MAKES A SOLEMN WISH...

I-I, WISH THERE WAS SOMETHING I COULD DO, BY GOLLY!



SUDDENLY, AS IF IN ANSWER TO HIS PRAYERS...



JACKIE, THIS IS GOD SPEAKING! I HAVE COME TO FULLFILL YOUR DREAMS FOR WORLD PEACE!

(GEE!)



YES, JACKIE... I CAN MAKE PEACE ON EARTH, I CAN MAKE MEN LOVE ONE ANOTHER, I CAN MAKE THE SKYS BLUE AND THE RIVERS FRESH AND CLEAN AGAIN BUT FOR THAT TO HAPPEN YOU MUST BE SACRIFICED! ARE YOU WILLING, JACKIE?

(GULP) I-I GUESS SO!



Dear Mom + Dad,
 Last nite god came down and told me that if I were to give my life, he would spare the world, end suffering, end poverty, and stop pollution and all that.
 So don't be sad and don't worry any, everything'll be all right.
 love,
 Jackie



THE END.