

SALIENT



Amos buys votes with bursaries

In July 1973, Stephen Chan, then President of NZUSA and the Association's Educational Research Officer, Christine Gillespie, met with the Minister of Education Mr Amos, on the subject of bursaries. At the meeting, Amos told the student's officials that the Government would be issuing a white paper on student bursaries early in August 1973. Chan then issued a press statement to this effect and the report was widely circulated.

Those who read the statement may be wondering what happened to the white paper. NZUSA started thinking similar thoughts in September of 1973. Amos told them that the task of preparing such a report was very 'complex' and needed to be done thoroughly. Following this initial fob-off, NZUSA continued to write asking about the progress of the paper.

The Education Department's replies to these enquiries make interesting reading. The 'white paper' originally promised is variously referred to as a 'position paper'

a 'report' and a 'review'. One wonders if Amos was aware of just what his department was so assiduously preparing.

NZUSA made representations to the government on interim bursary increases in November last year. Amos promised them that the position paper as it was now being referred to would be ready by the beginning of this year.

1974 came around the 'position paper' was nowhere to be seen. In May representatives of NZUSA held inconclusive discussions with the Education Department in an attempt to at least arrive at broad outlines for future policy.

About the same time, the Labour Party issued an interesting little booklet called 'Labour Achieves'. Under the heading 'Education', they had this to say:

'A common bursary scheme for university, technical institute and teacher's college students is to be the subject of a Government White Paper being released this year. This would give every student the

right to the same standard of allowance, irrespective of his place of study.'

The reason behind the delays in the production of this document are not difficult to understand. Given that the government regards the matter of bursaries as an important one and that the Minister of Education and his department are not simply incompetent, then Amos' stalling on this issue can be seen as a clear piece of political manoeuvring. It's election year next year, and the Labour Party is going to be after every vote it can possibly get. To issue the white paper late this year, with a recommendation for considerably increased bursaries, would provide the Labour Party with excellent vote-buying machinery. What student, promised a vast increase in his bursary if Labour is returned in 1975 will vote for Labour's opponents?

Buying votes at the expense of three more years of insufficient allowances may be Labour's approach to university educa-

tion but such an attitude can only work against them, when people realise what is being done. I should very much like to see Mr Amos deny my beliefs about the delays and back his denial up with facts as to how many people have been working for how long on this 'white paper'. Without such information we can only conclude that the government is intending to buy the votes of students in a most base and callous way. Well Mr Amos?

As bursaries were made a major priority for NZUSA at May Council in 1973, it's time students questioned the effectiveness of their National Association. Is the Government taking NZUSA seriously? The least that could be done by NZUSA would be some sort of explanation of this mysterious situation to various constituents.

—Mike Dew
Vuw Education Officer

Squatters discharged — SAC & police bungling revealed

On Wednesday, July 17 in the Lower Hutt Court, Mark Derby and Dennis O'Reilly were both charged with the alternate charges of being unlawfully on premises without intent or wilful trespass by refusing to leave premises under the express authority of the legal owner, the State Advances Corporation (SAC). Their second charge was resisting arrest by obstructing a constable in the execution of his duty.

The charges related to the TPA squat in a vacant Woburn SAC flat on June 17 which ended with seven squatters being arrested. The prosecution opened their case by questioning the SAC officials involved. They told the court how they had called the legal tenant, Mrs Rerekura, on Monday, and arranged to pick her up and take her to the Lower Hutt Police Station. Under cross-examination by Mr Hugh Rennie, defence counsel, the circumstances under which the legal tenant was found were explained. It was shown that the SAC might have arranged a hasty cover-up for the prolonged vacancy of the Woburn flat. It seemed State Advances only tried to find a tenant for the flat after discussion with TPA during the first week in June. In fact the tenancy agreement had been back dated from June 14 to June 13.

Thursday June 14 was the original date set by TPA for the squat. The court was left to draw its own conclusions.

Next Sergeant Keogh of the Lower Hutt Police, who had been in charge of the police actions, told the court how the squatters would not come out of the flat unless State Advances gave an assurance that Mrs Andrews would be allocated a flat. He had replied that 'this was another matter'. According to the sergeant 'on entry of the police, the two defendants resisted, a violent struggle ensued which lasted a few seconds. It was necessary to hand-cuff both the defendants'. When asked for more detail the sergeant said of Mr O'Reilly, 'his boots came in my direction'. The court was told later that

this happened in a three foot wide and six foot long passage containing two mattresses, three armchairs, four squatters and four police.

Defence again elicited new facts. An earlier police patrol had first asked the squatters to leave, then changed their minds and said that no-one was to leave the flat. Although the sergeant in command, had not been aware of this at the time of the arrests it was later verified by another police officer.

Mr Rennie also showed how the situation was perhaps mis-managed because of police inexperience in this type of situation. When the squatters had asked to speak to the State Advances officials, this was the usual step in negotiations. Mr Rennie suggested when the door finally came down that it would have been simple to say 'you are under arrest' and enter peacefully. The sergeant said this was impossible because 'the immediate entry of police met a violent reception'.

'As we tried to move into the flat the defendants came out at us.' And then 'the defendants attacked me,' the next witness Constable Olston testified. It was important to establish who went through the door first and consequently who made the first aggressive move. The defence claimed that a moustached constable had entered first. When questioned about this the witness denied that any of the policemen who entered the flat had a moustache. Moreover he didn't think that any policeman in his section had one. Yet later another police witness gave different evidence. The actual questioning was:

Rennie: For the defence. Did Constable Burnside go through the door first?

Hubbard (police witness): He went through with Olston.

Rennie: And which one of the constables has a moustache?

Hubbard: Constable Burnside.

Another point was whether the constable had told the offenders that they were under arrest before taking hold of them. Both the

defendants and the defence witness said they heard no such warning immediately prior to being physically arrested. The defence counsel asked Olston that if no-one else heard his statement of arrest, would it raise any doubts whether or not he had said it. The constable replied 'No'.

These differences in parts of the police evidence made it difficult for the court to work out what had happened. Not only did the police evidence differ from the defences' but also their own evidence was contradictory on important points.

Olston's final point was that he handcuffed the other male squatters although they offered no resistance, simply because he 'expected resistance and wanted to remove the possibility'.

After the lunch adjournment the police prosecutor requested a change in the charge. He wanted the words 'legal occupier' changed to 'legal owner' because of what he claimed was a 'clerical error'. The possibility, however that he wanted the change because the defence counsel's cross-examination emphasised that the charges had been initiated by the SAC rather than the tenant is hard to ignore. This meant that as Mrs Rerekura was the proven legal occupier but would not press charges, the SAC had no legal grounds for pressing charges.

In their summary the defence asked whether there was any necessity for the force the police used in making the arrest, and suggested that any force O'Reilly and

(Continued on page 2)



Activity among overseas students

By Bernie Randall

Students from Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Fiji were among those who participated in two international events last weekend.

Last Saturday, an international dance was organised by a combination of welfare services and students. Held in the gym the scene was set for some real physical dancing. With the pace set by Lynda Rigler and Diem the students engaged in strenuous dances which left them physically exhausted. They were quickly revived by Allan Laidler and Dr Margaret Sparrow who handed out the cheese and biscuits. The wine supplied by the MSSA quickly quenched the thirst of everyone present, especially Dr Bird and Pak Yoong. David Chin: hand kept everyone happy as they danced on the gym's creaky floor boards.

Last Sunday MSA and the Fiji students association organised an international food

festival. Overseas food from Malaysia, Fiji and other countries was served to the queuing masses. Maureen together with 30 other students worked hard in the kitchen preparing the food for the hungry hoards. Ken Lim estimated that \$200 would be forwarded to the IHC as the result of the festival.

It is unfortunate that few New Zealanders involve themselves with activities organised by the various overseas students associations. New Zealand students should know that they are welcomed by overseas students. Recently, concern has been expressed that extreme religious sects such as the Children of God are engaging in conversation with overseas students solely to recruit followers.

Hopefully Malaysian students who talk to these religious empire-builders can distinguish between conversation and conversion.



SRC silently supports injunctions

by Anthony Ward

The SRC on Thursday saw motions coming up to support WONAAC's tour of Jessica Star, and to reaffirm our support for unions faced with court injunctions. It was perhaps unfortunate that the two items were on the same agenda. Under-ground sources have suggested that certain Christian groups concerned at the abortion proposal, turned up to oppose it.

The event was something of an anti-climax — the mover of the motion didn't turn up to speak to it, and pro-abortion speakers opposed the idea of support because of the lack of organisation that seems to characterise WONAAC. The request for support was soundly defeated.

An uneasy mood came over the meeting as if many had turned up solely for this motion and felt themselves frustrated when it was defeated so easily. However, most of them stayed around, unlike the pro-Israel forces at the last SRC who left as soon as their motions had been considered (to be fair, this was at 1.45 while this week the central debate was over by 12.30).

The meeting then moved on to the union motion. Moved by the unlikely coalition of Peter Rotherham and Don Carson, showing leftist solidarity on this issue, the motion called for Studass support of unions threatened with court injunctions. Telegrams which had been sent supporting the unions in the dispute, and to the Prime Minister asking him what he was doing were read out, and two speakers, Anthony Ward and David Tripe spoke briefly supporting the motion. There were no other speakers, but when it came to a vote, after a division and a count, it had been lost by about 39 to 50.

In many ways, this situation gives more cause for concern than the Israel debate. While that was decided largely by a group that had come along for that purpose and little else, at least there was considerable discussion, both in forums and through Salient. In the case of the

injunction debate, while Salient has taken a strong line, there has been very little opposing feedback. No one spoke against the motion at the SRC. There has been no coherent attempt to explain why workers should be subject to two sets of laws in industrial affairs which the dispute was essentially about.

'Anti-worker' elements I have spoken to have largely spiced their arguments with ideas long disseminated by the National Party, which they do not appear to have questioned. Their reaction to the coverage in Salient seems characterised by similar irrational attitudes — accusing it of "left wing wanking" and similar crimes. Many have not read the articles they criticise. If any confirmation was needed for the thesis that students come generally from middle class backgrounds and that our education system does not encourage questioning and independent thinking, it could come from the result of this debate, which I fear is an all too accurate representation of most students attitudes.

There is another side to the problem — while more people coming to SRC is welcome, they do not appear to take an active interest in student politics generally. In the pattern of many recent meetings, the number of positions for student reps passed in without applicants was as many as those filled. Far too many positions this year have been filled unopposed. It is also worth noting that while sometimes different beliefs are heard at SRC, student reps are nearly all of radical persuasion of one sort or another. If those who so violently oppose the "leftist clique" were prepared to take some responsible part in student affairs rather than the destructive role they are playing at the moment then their criticisms would be of more weight. Purely destructive criticism does have some value but blind alienated thrashing out at people trying, however unsuccessfully, to do something about the alienation is of no use unless its adherents are prepared to take a responsible role. This the present critics do not seem eager to do.

ANNUAL GENERAL ELECTIONS

Notice is hereby given of a general election for the 1975 VUWSA Executive. Nominations for the following positions will close at 4.30pm Friday July 26.

- President
- Man Vice-President
- Woman Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Cultural Affairs Officer
- Publications Officer
- Sports Officer
- SRC Co-Ordinator
- Accommodation Officer

A number of constitutional changes were made this year at the AGM (April 9) concerning election procedure and positions on the Executive.

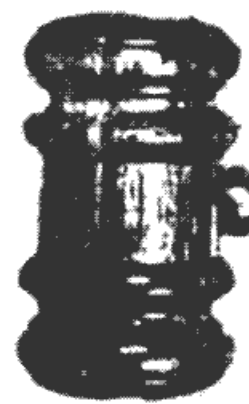
Candidates are reminded that any position for which only one application is received, then that applicant must receive at least 50% of the vote to be elected to the position he or she stood for.

Two new positions — that of SRC Co-Ordinator and Accommodation Officer — will come into effect for the 1975 Executive.

Polling will be on August 7 & 8. Salient will print an election supplement. Candidates are to hand in their manifestos to Salient by 4.30pm, Friday, July 26.

Kelvin J. Ratnam
Returning Officer

FROM THE COURTS



by
Bernard
Randall

A young person appeared before Mr G.P. Monaghan SM, accused of stealing \$10 from his employers. The clerk asked the accused whether he wished to be dealt with by this court or tried by jury. He answered, "by jury". Counsel for the accused interrupted and said, "He's got that all wrong. He wishes to be dealt by this court". This instance is one of many in which the accused person is not aware of the procedure of the court even when represented by counsel. The government should employ staff to assist defendants in the court by explaining its procedures. Few lawyers are prepared to spend the time with their clients to educate them as to the procedures of the court. Why does the advice given by many lawyers seem to be proportional to their clients annual income?

There's an old maxim that justice must not only be done, it must be seen to be done. That is, the public must know what's going on.

After a morning in the Magistrates Court recently, one observer said that the maxim should be extended to say "justice must not only be done, it must be heard to be done." Standing in the public gallery at the back of the court, it was often impossible to hear what the magistrate was saying, particularly when he addressed the defendants. Whether or not defendants themselves could hear was questionable. Some of them were obviously having difficulty following what was going on, but then there could be several explanations for that.

But the public, and at times the press bench, had to crane their ears to catch what was going on. How will they ever internalise the pearls that magistrates drop, if they cannot even hear them?

On some occasions it was difficult to avoid the conclusion that the magistrate was speaking softly because he had something to say to a defendant that he didn't want anybody else to hear

The duty solicitor scheme was introduced recently into the courts to try and break down some of their mysterious air for defendants with no knowledge of the law. Often magistrates or court clerks used to baffle defendants with their intoned list of charges, the quick fire questions on 'how do you plead' and the inscrutable choice between being tried by a jury or by the magistrates court. In fact, those questions still baffle defendants. Now the duty solicitors are a new element of confusion for some. After a night in the police cells and a long wait in the cell behind the court the defendant is flung in the box and proceeds to show he doesn't know what's happening. Unfortunately, being told that a duty solicitor can be seen in the nearby chambers without an appointment and the case may be deferred, doesn't often get across, particularly to those unfamiliar with just what a solicitor does. Also, of course, its little solace for those who for one reason or another, usually a good one, don't trust solicitors rather than they could moot them. So they just say 'Nah' and the old-style justice revs up and is dispensed.

An elderly man appeared before Mr G.P. Monaghan SM on a charge of being found drunk in a public place. The accused had three previous convictions of drunkenness. He pleaded guilty and was fined \$10 and court costs. No one bothered to question the broken skin on his forehead which was partly covered by plaster.

Are the police so underworked that they must arrest alcoholics who are hardly going to be helped by any court or prison? Alcoholics are a product of a society where the manufacturers of the drug alcohol are knighted for their services to the community.

The introduction of the duty solicitor scheme has allowed many people of committing offences to have direct access to a solicitor. The majority of people who now appear before magistrates are remanded for a week to seek legal advice. In the Wellington Magistrates Court last week a female cleaner was charged with using obscene language namely fucking in a public place (Cuba Street). Similarly a young steel worker was charged with using obscene language namely "fuck off pigs" in a public place (Taranaki St). Both were remanded on \$100 bail while they sought legal advice. The police regularly prosecute people for obscene language. In their evidence the police usually state that the language used would have been heard by women and children in the vicinity. However some of these offences occur in the early hours of the morning and others in places where no women or child would be present. Evidence given by the police should relate to the particular circumstances of each individual offence.

Two young women, after appearing in the Wellington Magistrates Court, were ordered by the magistrate to stand down. Instead of going free and leaving immediately, as is customary, they were tapped on the shoulder by a police officer and motioned to sit on two chairs nearby the dock. They sat there not knowing what to do for some time. They were still there when this reporter left the court. What was the police officer's intention for detaining these persons in the court? The police should not interfere with defendants who are ignorant of court procedures by insisting they remain in court. Such police officers could have actions brought against them for false imprisonment.

SQUATTERS IN COURT (continued from front page)

Derby might have used was in response to the excessive force used by the police. Mr Rennie then explained the defendants' motives to the court. TPA wanted to find accommodation for Mrs Andrews and secondly to protest against the three-month long vacancy of the SAC flat. O'Reilly explained, in his defence, that if TPA had known of the tenant the SAC had arranged the squatters would not have moved in, and that in a squat there was usually discussion with the police, not aggression by the police.

The police cross-examination was characterised by sarcasm and rude badgering of the defendants and their witness.

For example:

Police: You heard that the police said you were under arrest?

O'Reilly: No.

Police: Why didn't you?

O'Reilly: It was not audible to me.

Police: Is there anything wrong with your hearing?

O'Reilly: No.

Police: Nothing?

O'Reilly: No.

The same type of pointless sarcastic questioning was used on the other defence witness. This indicated the police feeling towards the case. When Mark Derby's interpretation of the events differed from the other defence witness the police cross-examiner said 'You don't even agree with O'Reilly!' Was he suggesting that every witness should try and match evidence?

It was left to the defence's counsel to explain to the police how they could have peacefully controlled the situation. Mr Boyd showed how the size of the corridor only required the police to stand in the door-way and that keeping all the facts in mind Derby and O'Reilly used only a reasonable degree of force in self-defence. Mr Rennie noted the SAC mis-handling of events and said the case was a 'tragedy of errors'.

The magistrate, Mr Horn from Palmerston North said he understood and accepted the good motives of the defendants. He recognised the right and necessity to protest but it should be kept within

the law. The defendants were found guilty on both charges and discharged under section 42 of the Crimes Act. They were ordered to pay \$15 court costs on each charge.

The case showed up faults within the police system which need immediate attention.

The recurrent over-reaction and bumbling of the police in their methods of arrest in most types of political confrontations and their court techniques of laying incorrect charges and clerical errors seems to have a deliberate purpose. Firstly it is a punishment for the defendant before any proof of guilt. The numerous court cases which result from the need to clarify police handling of the arrest puts defendants under a mental strain. For this case there were five court appearances, the first on June 18, the last not until July 17. Secondly, police and magistrates are highly paid for their work while defendants have to miss their work or study, and consequently suffer.

The police evidence and court-room techniques clearly displayed their inconsiderate inefficiency. The way the police handled the Woburn situation often showed a blind adherence to the rule-book. Initiative in allowing negotiation rather than aggression would have achieved discussion and probably a better outcome with the State Advances Corporation. The arrests could have been avoided altogether, but at the very least they could have been executed without violence. The reasons behind these faults reflect a general attitude of law enforcement, the belief that protection of private property, especially state property, is more important than people. —Christine Haggart

Student union — at the top

Students who read Monday's *Evening Post* might have noticed that plans are afoot to merge their national union with that of the student teachers.

Why did they learn this from the commercial press before being told by *Salient* or a students' association meeting?

It was because the students' association and *Salient* had not been told. The press release was made by James Crichton, President of NZUSA on the basis of a vague authorisation to carry on informal discussions with David Benson-Pope, President of the Students Teachers' Association who just happens to be his flatmate.

Crichton and Pope have apparently drawn up a "plan for union" which will eventually be seen by selected people. It is not for general distribution. In this manner they hope to avoid criticism by ordinary students.

This is taking to extreme the isolation which has been developing for years of so-called student representatives from the students they are supposed to represent. Instead of going out and asking students to voice their opinions they sit in off-campus offices, dreaming of ever larger empires.

What chance does the ordinary student have to ask about the activities of his elected representatives? Does he

really feel fairly represented by these dwellers in a land of rental cars, expense accounts and jetsetting.

No doubt we will be told that a larger organisation will have more punch in its negotiations. Hints will be made that it will help bursary negotiations. But will it really? Rumours are afoot that NZUSA is attempting to extensively alter the present bursary situation. How many students have had a chance to make representations on this matter? How will making the organisation bigger help matters? A larger organisation will only be further divorced from students unless it is given a leadership which constantly refers back to its members. Unless the new organisation is structured to do this it will not benefit students one bit.

In his press release Crichton said that he and Benson-Pope were confident of success. Where does this confidence come from? At present he is withholding his plan from ordinary students, and trying to win over the presidents of local associations. There should be no reason to do this if he is confident.

It would appear that, actually he is attempting to present an accomplished fact when he eventually gets around to making the plan available.

Lecturers needed in Friendly Islands

Lecturers are needed by Tonga's new university. Atenisi Institute, Atenisi means Athens which gives an inkling of the idealism and dedication of a small group of Tongans who in the face of enormous difficulties (such as no governmental support and virtually no facilities) have successfully started:

1) Tonga's cheapest (and only 'liberal') highschool, (high school education in

Tonga being only for those who can afford it), with an enrolment of about 650 and a diverse curriculum (and also short of teachers);

2) Tonga's only (?) technical school;

3) Tonga's only Tongan Cultural Programme (which has attracted professors of music from Dartmouth College and Indiana University);

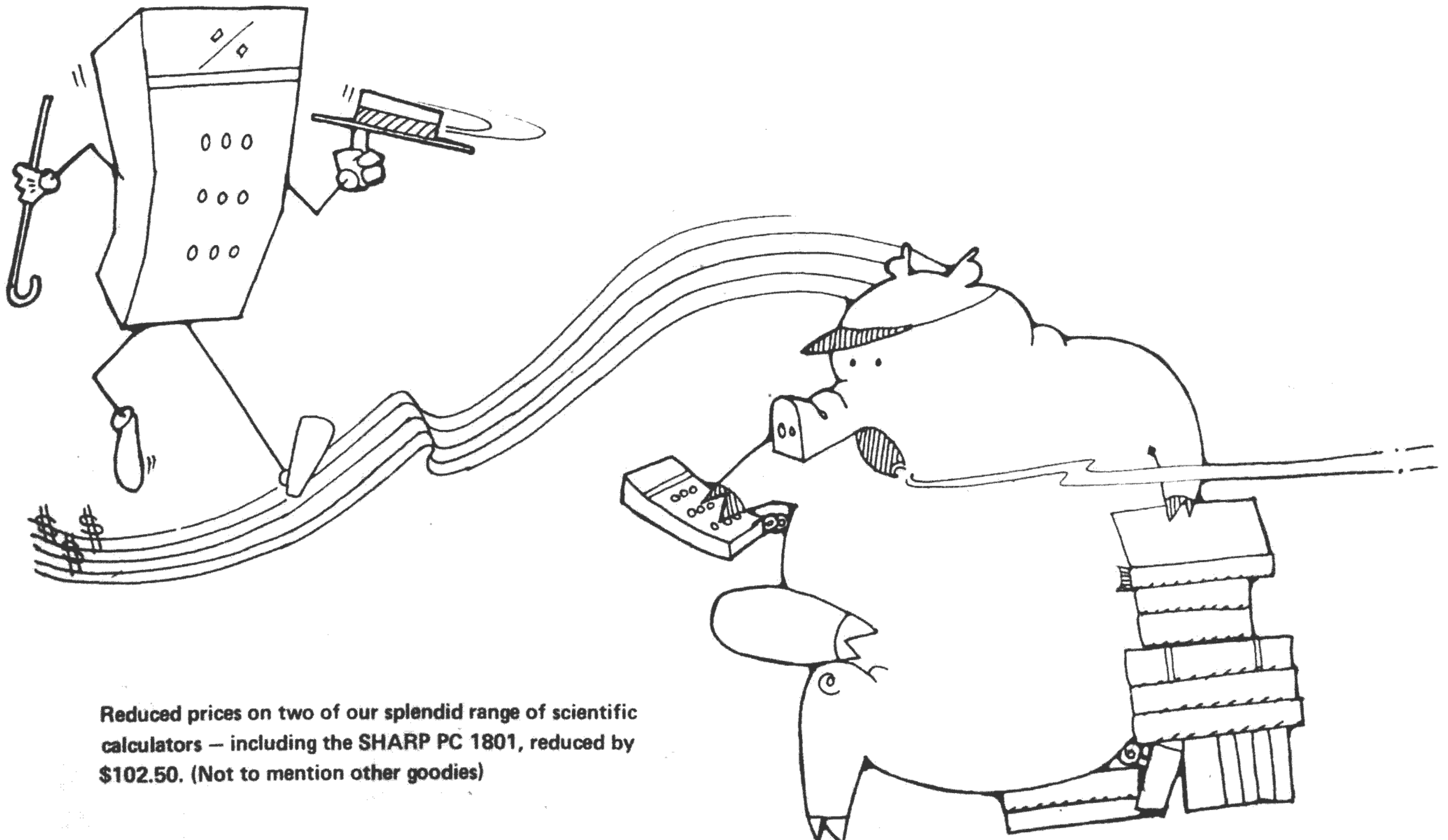
4) Tonga's only university (offering two

year A.A. and A.S. degrees from 1975).

If you are interested in working with this dedicated group at low salary for one or two years in the Friendly Islands, write for further details to:

The Director,
Atenisi Institute,
Box 220,
Nukualofa,
Tonga

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Reduced prices on two of our splendid range of scientific calculators — including the SHARP PC 1801, reduced by \$102.50. (Not to mention other goodies)

Killing the 'gooks' . . . and GI's

To get another perspective on the controversy over the alleged killing of six GI's by New Zealand soldiers in Vietnam, Salient interviewed Ron Eckrich, an American who served in Vietnam.

SALIENT: What were your reactions when you first heard about this?

ECKRICH: My initial reaction was what the hell's all the fuss about? I didn't think it was a particularly unusual thing to happen in Vietnam. It also struck me that New Zealanders kill Americans and it hits front pages, while in Vietnam, people are being killed, tortured every day and it takes a helluva lot of work to get any kind of public reaction. It doesn't strike me as a big deal. I can understand that the guy — the New Zealand soldier — had to get it off his chest and that's not an unusual thing. It's happened with a lot of American Vietnam veterans. Not so much ringing up actual talkbacks. It occurs mainly in the States with Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) a lot of whom have had the same kind of problem — been involved with killing Vietnamese or other soldiers or killing their officers — but have been able to talk it out with other veterans.

Do you actually believe what was said on the talkback show?

I think it's certainly a possibility. Whether its actually true or not I couldn't say for sure, but it probably is. It's a pretty incredible story not to be true.

All the questions being asked about the insignia, about helicopters about all this, do you actually think these are relevant questions? Surely the most important thing is that someone has come back from Vietnam and has wanted to say all these things, whether they are true or not? Whether or not the facts in this particular instance are true is a bit irrelevant because the sort of thing described certainly did happen. I know of occasions where American soldiers have killed South Vietnamese soldiers (AVRNS) or vice versa. That sort of thing happened a lot especially when you consider the fact that most soldiers consider all Vietnamese as "gooks". They just don't consider them people and they get pissed off. Things are always tense enough — they just might kill some of them. It's happened before.

You say that American soldiers didn't consider the other side to the people. Do you think this had quite an influence on the war dragging on?

It's not as though they are killing someone of the same race or background, they're only killing 'gooks'.

It certainly contributes. It's a way of making the enemy "others" They're not the same as you. But Vietnam was a progression from the time of WWII. Korea was bad, the same sort of thing was happening. But it seems to be getting worse because wars are more and more racist all the time.

What actual experience have you had of such atrocities and the interrogation which was

described?

Well I don't have any visual experiential knowledge but I was in an intelligence unit which I got to see quite a lot of interrogation reports, and a lot of the people I came into contact with were interrogators, helicopter pilots — a whole range of people. At the time, I didn't necessarily have strong opinions about whether we should be in Vietnam or not. If anything, I would have probably leaned to being there. I can remember a helicopter pilot who was in my unit who told me about several instances where in his actual helicopter suspected VC prisoners were dropped out of the helicopter. And that happened a lot. He also told me he had a door gunner, he was just pretty freaked, I guess, he'd been there quite a while — who just liked to kill. The helicopter pilot said that he had got so bad before they had to get rid of him, that they had to take the barrel of the gun until they were in an area where they wanted him to shoot because he would just shoot at every thing. Buffalos, Americans, ARVN's it didn't make any different to him, he just liked to kill.

One incident that sticks in my mind is one of a marine unit that came across a bunker with North Vietnamese nurses. After they had raped them and tortured them they took a weapon similar to a bazooka, stuck it in their vaginas and blew their heads off. That sort of thing, you know, is not at all unusual.

One of the things that the man on the radio said was that when he got to Vietnam he saw many things that make you realise that everything you read in the papers is not true. He said a lot of what goes on the public just doesn't realise. How far would you agree with that?

A hundred percent. When I was in Vietnam I was getting my home-town papers sent to me and it was just amazing the reports you would read. They were nothing like reality, particularly reports about area missions. Particularly things like, "such and such was ambushed". There may not have been an ambush at all, but it sounds better if you lose an ambush than a battle. Crazy things like that. The majority of the stuff that I was aware of was really twisted in the papers.

Why do you think that every one is so keen to

write this thing off as a hoax?

Oh well, you know that it is not very good for New Zealanders to do the sorts of things that Americans did. I think if New Zealanders had simply saved the lives of those Vietnamese and no Americans were killed, not very many people would try to call it a hoax at all. Killing — wounded Americans just doesn't look very good. It just shows what kind of things wars can do to people, in particular, what kind of things the war in Vietnam did to people.

It certainly shows that New Zealand soldiers do the same sort of thing. Do you have any personal experience or know of any instances of New Zealand soldiers being involved in torturing the Vietnamese?

I think that's one of the reasons this has obviously been blown up. There's no other instances known of New Zealanders doing anything like that. I seriously doubt though that this is the worst thing any New Zealander did in Vietnam. I think you'll find perhaps now that perhaps more New Zealand soldiers may start talking about some of the things they saw in Vietnam. It will be very interesting to see just what does come out about that.

Previous to this particular talkback call, war was something people occasionally saw on the TV, and as often as not they'd turn it off. But on this occasion last week, I think it had impact because it went right into people's kitchens on the radio that they listen to every morning and the full horror was described in detail by this soldier. Do you think that this is a good or a bad thing that the war is coming into people's kitchens?

I think it's a good thing that it's come out particularly in New Zealand. I hope that some more evidence comes out to prove that it's not a hoax. I just find that a helluva lot of New Zealanders, the people on the street, although they're willing to relate to Vietnam a little bit, they don't really consider it to be part of their problem. I don't think they really feel the impact of what's happened in Vietnam. New Zealand troops were there. That was one thing. They think New Zealanders didn't really do any harm in Vietnam. We've got them out and that's all we can do. And I think something like this may help to jolt more of a recognisance about the fact that New Zealanders have to contribute a lot more because they're responsible at least to some extent for allowing what's happened to happen. I think once they realise New Zealand played a fairly large part in it, at least in the numbers they had there and the contribution the government made to keeping people there, perhaps organisations like RAVPOC and Amnesty will get more support in New Zealand.



War in the kitchens of Kelburn

A furore has sprung up over a call to an Auckland radio station alleging that the caller and three other New Zealand soldiers had killed six American soldiers while on service in Vietnam. Most of the radio press and television coverage, and not suprisingly most people's conversations, have centred around whether or not the call was a hoax. Would-be experts pick to bits the caller's story, proving whatever their prejudices instruct them to prove. All of them miss the point — it is irrelevant whether the call was a hoax or not.

What people could more usefully think about is what should be done if the story is true, and why the man rang up if the story is false.

If true, then another generally ignored point the caller made becomes crucially relevant. He said "we saw many things that make you realise that everything you read in the newspapers is not true". He said "There's a lot

that goes on that the public just doesn't realise". Whether his murder story is true or not there's no doubt that these two remarks are utterly true. The Pentagon Papers have proved it, subsequent revelations about the National Government's duplicity have proved it, My Lai has proved it, and so have all the other atrocities all too slowly leaked or yet unleased to the media.

Yet still people put the war out of their minds, its something 'over there' that they prefer to imagine doesn't exist. It's going on today. Thieu is keeping it going because it keeps him in power, and New Zealand is helping to keep Thieu going.

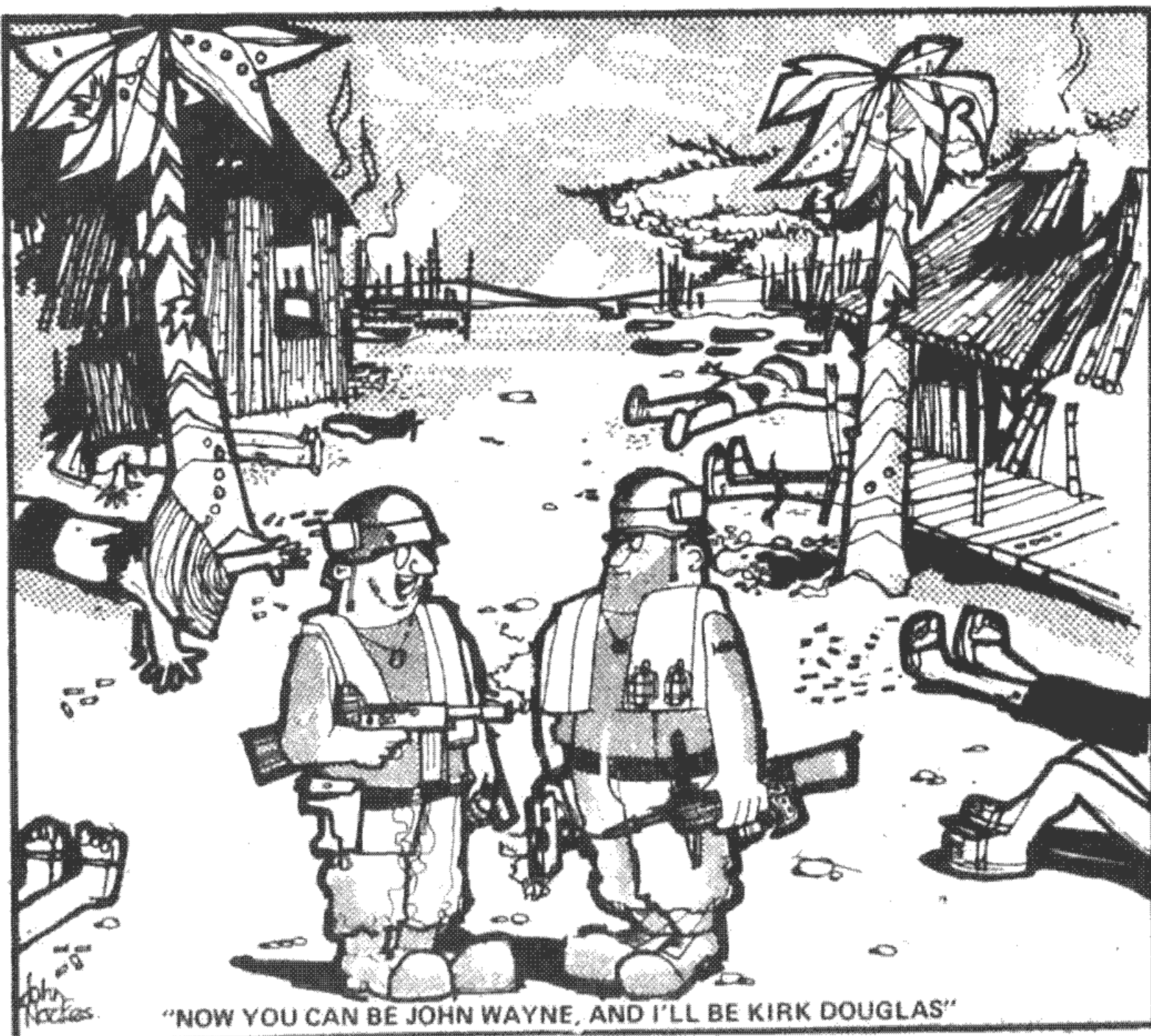
So it's good that the talkback show took one of the grisly features of the war out of the faraway steaming jungles of Vietnam and put in the steaming kitchens of Kelburn. War is atrocious, and our boys can fight just as mindlessly as the Yanks. Unfortunately the issue of why we were over in Vietnam, and why the Yanks are still there, and how we are helping the Yankee puppet Thieu, and what might be done about it all, weren't raised.

People whose consciences have been woken up should know that groups such as the Committee on Vietnam, the Release All Vietnam Prisoners of Conscience are still very much active, and maybe they'll think about doing something to help such groups.

If the story was a hoax, that is still not relevant. The point is, whether fighting such wars of imperialism as Vietnam is worth it, if only on the grounds that it produces such a state of mind in ex-servicemen. The call is just the tip of the iceberg — for instance, a fifth if not more of American ex-servicemen in Vietnam are now seeking psychiatric help. More have drug problems and other difficulties about getting back into 'ordinary' society. The Vietnam's of the world, and there will be more until imperialism is curbed, mess up minds as well as bodies. New Zealand soldiers are no exception, and the faint hysteria that this talk-back caller caused proves it.

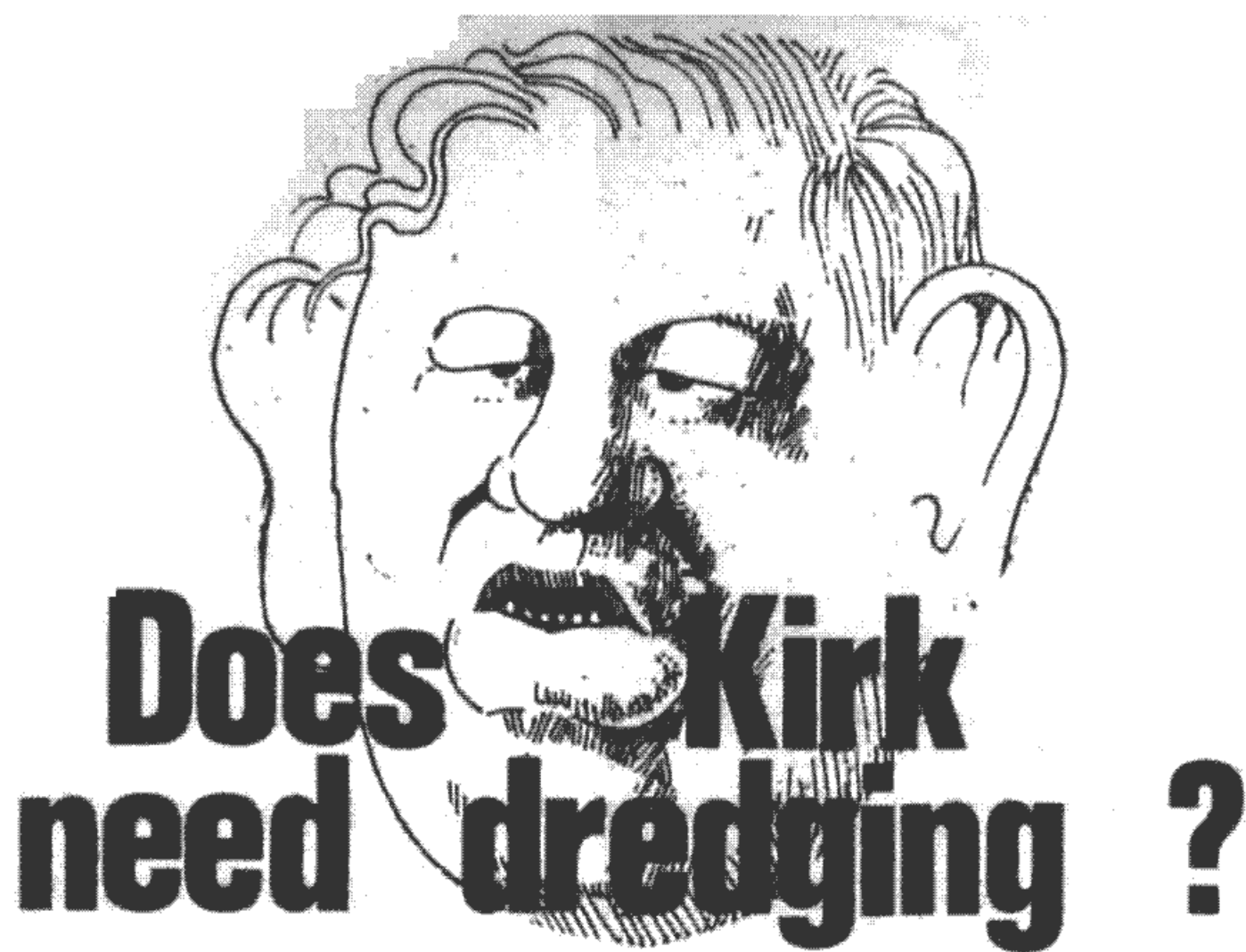
Another very disturbing feature of the call has gone totally unnoticed in the media. The caller was still upset years after the event by the killing of the Americans. But he mentioned only in passing and without emotion that a couple of innocent Vietnamese villagers were shot in the barrage. The press etc. talks of the six Americans and ignores the two Vietnamese said to have been killed.

This is typical of one of the many repugnant features of the Vietnam war. One big reason it has gone on for so long is because the Americans and Anzacs weren't killing their fellow westerners, they were killing what they called 'gooks'. This racism has made it easier to kill, usually in the most brutal ways imaginable. The media reflection of this attitude can only condition New Zealanders to further believe that they weren't fighting principled, courageous people, but 'gooks', 'Vietcong', 'communist terrorists', or whatever the fashionable term to depreciate them happens to be.



"NOW YOU CAN BE JOHN WAYNE, AND I'LL BE KIRK DOUGLAS"

-RWS



Rob Muldoon has recently criticised the Gay Liberation Movement for its "anti-social" behaviour. It appears that, instead of operating through the "proper channels", its members have been shouting, trying to hold forums, demonstrating, and carrying on in a most unorthodox fashion. Other movements working against oppression are, by the same criteria, unspeakably unorthodox. It is interesting, therefore, to examine what is meant by using the "proper channels", and what results can be expected. The Homosexual Law Reform Society, for instance, have been doing so for a long time — and these respectable people have now said they've had a "gutsful" of Labour's inaction. Gay Liberation members occasionally revert to using the "proper channels", such as organising opinion polls, discussing proposals with the political parties, or Writing To Your MP. Marty tried writing to Norman Kirk. His three-page letter began:

"I am utterly appalled at your ignorance of what homosexuality is. I am quite willing to accept that one in your position does not have the time to become an expert on every subject: nevertheless, you are required to ensure that the facts you are using to decide any case reflect the opinion of the respected and accepted body of experts in the given subject. This you have not done."

The letter criticised Mr Kirk's statement that he would not support any move aimed at treating homosexuality as "normal" —

"...a height of seven feet is 'abnormal'. An IQ of 120 is 'abnormal'. The capabilities required of being Prime Minister are abnor-

mal...."

The letter went on to describe current medical opinion on homosexuality: that it is harmless, that there is no connection between homosexuality and pederasty, and that it is not regarded as being outside the range of "acceptable deviance", which is the range of "normality" which psychiatrists consider acceptable and not ill or faulty. It continued:

"Once you have read these things...you will find yourself in a difficult position....I do not know, Mr Kirk, whether you will have the moral courage to stand up and admit that you were wrong..."

He also discussed the effect of Kirk's attitude:

"Most important, do not think that it is your laws which are oppressing homosexuals — certainly not the one which prohibits male homosexual acts, nor even all the marriage, loan, taxation, testimony and inheritance laws which discriminate against homosexuals. No Mr Kirk, it is your attitude, sanctified by the law: the public pressure which is daily wrecking thousands of lives up and down this country, causing beatings, blackmail, nervous breakdowns, sometimes suicides."

And the final sentence: "Imagine, Mr Kirk, being told not to show love for your wife in public. Think about it."

So it went through the Proper Channels. One more citizen had exercised his right to influence political decisions by communicating with the head of the elected body. Or had he? What had happened when the letter finally arrived within the sacred office? The following reply, signed by one, Norman Kirk, arrived two days later:



Prime Minister
Wellington
New Zealand
12 July 1974

Dear Mr Pilott,

Thank you for writing and supporting Government's decision taken in Caucus not to promote legislation at present liberalising the laws governing homosexuality. The decision was made after a very full debate and with no dissent.

It has been suggested to the Homosexual Law Reform Society that it may care to test the climate once again by promoting a further petition. As I have explained, my personal view is that the time is not opportune for an amendment to the law in this field.

Yours sincerely,

We may give Mr Kirk the benefit of the doubt and assume that he has the intelligence to know whether a letter supports or opposes him; and there was nothing whatsoever in this letter to suggest that anything less than a drastic overhaul of many laws is required. The solution is quite obvious. Kirk does not read people's letters. There is some under-secretary who skims through every letter, decides whether it's for or against, and pulls out the appropriate form as a reply. Kirk only has anything to do with it when he signs the reply — unless, of course, they have a rubber stamp to do that. No wonder even the HLRs is getting

fed up with the treatment doled out by the Labour Party. The Proper Channels is just another term for the Red Tape Curtain, and Piggy and Kirk know it. The situation is grim enough for Gay Liberation, who have long been aware of politicians' lip-service, paid especially by those out of power; but it is tragic for all the other movements, and the sincere, conservative, powerless people who have really believed that the Proper Channels are an open means of communicating with the authorities and getting things done. Because if Norman Kirk is a Proper Channel, it's about time he was dredged.

Bikes ripped off

by David Tripe

By some amazing coincidence, the day before bursaries were due to be paid out last week, the university began a scourge of towing away motor-bikes. On Tuesday July 16, they started the cycle by getting Jamiesons to tow away three motor-cycles which had been parked in various odd spaces around the Hunter Building. The charge

which Jamiesons levies was \$7 to the owner of each motor-bike — \$21 in all.

Wednesday, the day that bursaries were paid, the University administration decided that it was a good day to offer Jamiesons a few prize plums and a handy bit of income. Jamiesons arrived in the courtyard between the Rankine Brown and Easterfield Buildings at about two o'clock in the afternoon, for a couple of university bureaucrats to invite them to remove a total of 14 motor-bikes. This was such a magnificent haul for them that they needed to take two loads, and they decided that they had a sufficient haul for them to be able to lower the charge to \$4.

For future reference, there is no need for any students who gets their car or motor-bike towed away on the instructions of the university to pay the towaway operator any money. The university is not like an ordinary roadway and towaway firms have no legal right to exact payment from vehicle owners.

The real problem, however, is shortage of space for parking bikes around the university. In the past, there was a section of Kelburn Parade, expressly set aside for parking bikes, but that space is not available this year. Often during an ordinary weekday, the space specifically designated for parking bikes between Easterfield and Rankine Brown is full. There are more and more bikes to be parked, and less and less space in which to park them. And towing bikes away is no solution to the problem.



Photograph by Margot Bourke

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The rich get richer, the poor blow bubbles

by Lionel Klee

Perhaps you have been recently offered the chance to earn \$70 a week in part-time employment, then chances are that you live in a lower middle class area, chances are that there are Polynesian families living nearby. Promoters of pyramid selling are only too willing to exploit the hard earned savings of those uneducated in the realms of business and retailing. In spite of past dis-favour created in all circles, the rip-off soap organisation GOLDEN PRODUCTS is still hanging around like the proverbial bad smell.

The drama starts with an intriguing message written in felt pen on a scrap of card which has been inserted in the letter-box. "Interested??"...the card gives a phone number which can be rung for an interview. The voice on the other end of the line introduces himself as a representative of an international organisation which is just beginning its operations in this country, and is looking for management personnel. When he receives an enthusiastic reply, a time for the interview is given at an address in Lambton Quay. The plot thickens already.....

Wearing the formal apparel which has been requested the interviewee arrives at the door of the building, and out of the shadows steps a sentry to interrogate the prospective management potential on his reasons for entry. He is then directed up the stairs, by now slightly perturbed, to the sweet sounds of background music. The scene is a large room divided by a curtain which successfully hides activity on the other side. An attractive secretary seated behind a strategically placed table takes down name and address. Having taken a seat for a brief time the voice on the phone introduces himself in the flesh.

"We are an international marketing organisation,.....registered in Geneva and operating in half a dozen countries,....selling automotive additives, burglar systems, lingerie, detergent.....we are looking initially for part-time workers....we would like to introduce you with a talk by one of our members on management...will you please come through...." Such is the stereotyped introductory interview.

Behind the curtain are a dozen rows of chairs, seated are 20 to 30 ordinary people, often more Polynesians than others. A blank blackboard awaits for the performance to begin, and the audience whispers excitedly. To the left a tiered array of household goods all manufactured by Golden Products. This is the first time that the name is communicated; there must be some reason for keeping its secret until this stage.

Suddenly a young, vigorous man saunters out onto the dias, checks the chalk and apparatus, flashes a beaming smile at the audience, and the show is on the road. The man produces a typical piece of a wall to wall carpet defiled by Johnnie from next-door's wax crayon. To the rescue comes Golden Products super-diluted, non-toxic biodegradable general purpose cleaner, lo and behold the carpet is rejuvenated to its original state, a ripple of amazement runs through the audience. He ends his performance by relating how, in search of the good things in life, in other words money and the luxuries it can buy, he left his trade of panel-beating, after attending a similar Golden Products opportunity evening.

The salesmen are neat in grooming and appearance, the polish of their presentation matching that of their shoes.

Another slick young man bounds onto the stage and extol the opportunity offered by Golden Products, enthusiastically

relating a comparable success, including an imminent management conference in Surfers Paradise which he will attend, thanks to Golden. This is yet another device for entrapping gullible applicants. They are promised paid weekend trips to Auckland for training, or even the prospect of journeying further afield to such romantic locations as Surfer's Paradise and Japan, all under the guise of a training stint. The slick young man then steps to the blackboard and uses it to explain the principles of selling and management. Pyramid selling, however, by any other name, still smells rotten.

At the conclusion of the spiel in front of the blackboard each interviewee is then individually probed to evaluate the degree of seduction. At this stage any query tends to produce a stereotyped reply, generally superficial to the problem. Question - To whom do I sell? Answer - all people use soap, don't they!; Question - Where could I find \$1650 in order to become a direct distributor? Answer - If you required that amount for an operation to save your legs you could find it! and so on. If the interviewer establishes that the seduction has not been successful you will be politely told to piss off because you are not suitable for management. On the other hand, if the performers have succeeded in pulling the soap over someones eyes, they are allowed to fill in an application for consideration.

This means that some poor sucker is loaded with a pile of expensive, hard to sell, biodegradable golden junk. The Consumer Institute ran a test of G-15 washing powder, which sells in 5lb containers. They found that it contained less detergent than comparable products and was therefore not highly concentrated as claimed, it gave no advantage in washing performance, the claims of superiority even in regard to biodegradability were found to be untrue. G-15 is more alkaline than other washing powders, and the economy of use claim is entirely erroneous - G-15 costs two or three times as much per ounce as other substitutes.

These products must sell in a situation divorced from price and quantity comparisons, in the home or at work, usually to a friend, relation or associate. This allows the seller to create a monopolistic situation, as the consumer no longer has the relative safety of the supermarket shelf, where products lie packaged and priced

side by side, or even the media where all advertising however extravagant, is still not directed from a one-to-one level. Many people find it hard to say no when face to face with a glib and practised salesman. The fact that these products are not conventionally known to the purchasing public means that the seller is able to make excessive claims of superiority, such as those related to G-15.

The pyramid system itself is about as straight as average American politicians. Once established, it is largely an autonomous process as far as those at the top are concerned. People try to work their way up the pyramid, recruiting new sellers, finding new buyers. Initial investors who work hard will accrue reasonable profits and at this stage the organisers higher up make their fast bucks. BUT - even assuming the soap market is monopolised by driving the competition out of business (Unilever - RIP) the market must slow when sales are reduced to replacement purchases only. This would probably occur before everyone in New Zealand was selling soap to the next person.

At this stage the producers are happy, but the \$1650 a time or more mugs towards the bottom of the pyramid are left blowing bubbles with unsaleable biodegradable. The golden sellers are relatively safe with only a nominal investment and relatively little soap. The danger lies for the get-rich-quickers who have invested in above their heads, at the direct distributor level or above.

The Golden Products contract has been

described as an iron clad document; it comprises 24 legally worded clauses that are printed in such minute print that it is even difficult to discern through a microscope. A legal opinion has described the contract, which incidentally appears on the reverse side of the form which the applicant is filling in, as a document skillfully drawn up to suit New Zealand law.

The contract aims to tie down the franchise system and give Golden full control over the distributor, without Golden being responsible in any way. Naturally pricing and supply remain fully under the control of the Golden boys at the top.

The contract insists that a bank cheque, not a personal cheque, must be received before the delivery of goods. It also requires that the distributor pays freight costs except on large orders e.g. \$2000. Yet another clause prevents the distraught soap seller getting rid of his unwanted goods by auction or sale in bulk lots. The seller must obtain prior written permission from the company to do anything bar walking, talking and sleeping. It is legally unbelievable that a person should not have the right to sell his distributorship, but the bubble boys have made this virtually impossible under the contract.

The repurchase of goods is subject to several 'minor' conditions:

- 1) attendance of at least one opportunity meeting a week for a year;
- 2) attendance at one training period per month over a one year period;
- 3) be responsible for \$50 a month sales over a year;
- 4) attend two direct distributor schools per annum;
- 5) join a distributor co-operative in his area; as well as abiding with all other clauses in the contract!

It is nigh on impossible to see the slightest resemblance to the originally expressed idea of part-time evening work or the superficially attractive promises made at the blackboard during the opportunity meeting. Those interested in selling are told to sell \$100 worth of soap in five days, then order another \$100 in ten days. The speaker presses them into believing they can easily satisfy these requirements and earn at least \$100 per month part time.

The category to which most are gullibly attracted is "direct distributor". Lured by a reputed earning capacity of \$700 plus per month, and the possibility of promotion up the pyramid to earn \$2000 month, the listeners rush to give their \$1650 without really being aware of the realities of selling \$2000 worth of soap, within a year.

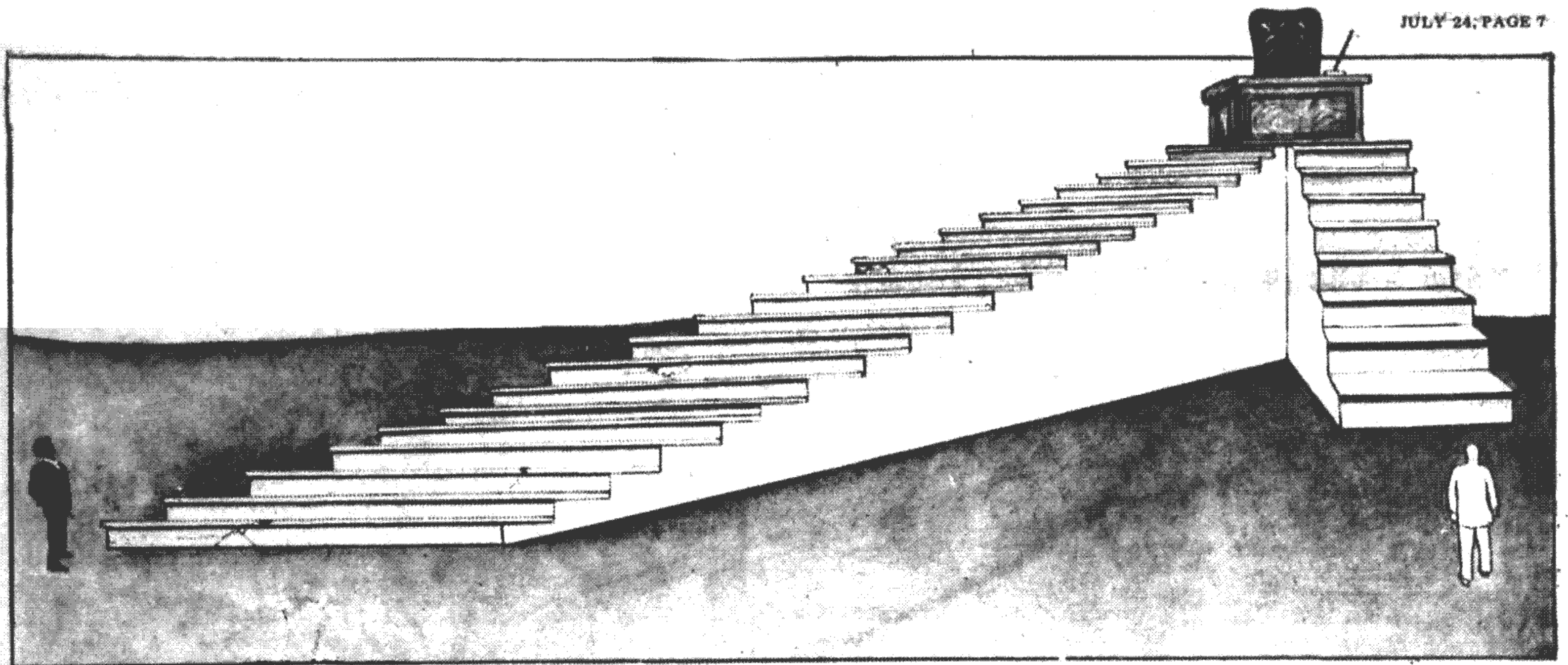
In pure legal terms this contract is incredibly binding and constrictive. In fact



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

<p>1. The Distributor shall have the right and privilege (but not exclusively) of using the name GOLDEN for identification on all sales and business cards but only as such use cannot in any way be construed as creating a relationship between the parties hereto or indicating that the Distributor is a member of the Company. The Distributor agrees that he will indicate clearly on such signs, letter-heads and business cards that he is an independent Distributor and not an agent or employee of the Company and identifying use shall include the word "Distributor".</p> <p>2. The Distributor shall have the right and privilege (but not exclusively) of using the Company's GOLDEN marketing plan including any future modifications thereto in connection with the sale of GOLDEN products.</p> <p>3. The Distributor shall have the right and privilege (but not exclusively) of using the name GOLDEN for identification on all sales and business cards but only as such use cannot in any way be construed as creating a relationship between the parties hereto or indicating that the Distributor is a member of the Company. The Distributor agrees that he will indicate clearly on such signs, letter-heads and business cards that he is an independent Distributor and not an agent or employee of the Company and identifying use shall include the word "Distributor".</p> <p>4. The Distributor is an independent contractor and is not in any manner or fashion to be considered a representative or employee of the Company and no joint venture is to be implied and the Distributor shall not be empowered in any way to act on behalf of the Company.</p> <p>5. The Distributor shall comply with all statutes, regulations, provisions and orders of the Government of New Zealand.</p>	<p>10. The Distributor will pay all shipping charges provided however that on orders of 40 cases or more of products only the Company will reimburse the Distributor such freight charges as exceed 2% of the purchase volume of such order from the Distributor, i.e. on an order of \$2,000 F.V. if the freight charges are \$90 Distributor's freight costs are \$40 and the Company will reimburse \$50 to the Distributor.</p> <p>11. Title of all literature, sales aids and products shall pass to the Distributor when it leaves the Company's warehouse. Any damage incurred in shipping shall be reported to the carrier by the Distributor immediately.</p> <p>12. It is understood and agreed that the Company's suggested retail price is used as a pricing guide by the Direct Distributor. It is designed to offer a fair profit to the Direct Distributor and is further used in computing the Direct Distributor's discount on products, literature and sales aids secured from the Company. The price set out or referred to herein is a recommended price only and there is no obligation to comply with the recommendation.</p> <p>13. It is further understood and agreed that the Distributor shall not at any time while this contract is in force and effect undertake to distribute or market any competing items through the use of the GOLDEN marketing programme or the GOLDEN distribution system.</p> <p>14. The Company may upon giving seven (7) days' notice to the Distributor vary at its absolute and uncontrolled discretion the percentages and amounts of money referred to in Clauses 1, 10 and 17 herein.</p> <p>15. The Distributor will not without the consent in writing of the Company dispose of any part of the Company's goodwill or any other asset in any way which would be detrimental to the Company's interests.</p>	<p>namely -</p> <p>(i) In the event of the Distributor failing to promptly pay moneys due and payable by him or in the event of the Distributor becoming insolvent or bankrupt or compromising with creditors or assigning his estate or any substantial part thereof for the benefit of his creditors or any number thereof.</p> <p>(ii) In the event of any breach, non-observance or non-performance by the Distributor of any of the agreements or obligations herein expressed or implied and on the Distributor's part to be observed and performed and in particular in the event of the willful breach by the Distributor of the provisions of the foregoing paragraph hereto.</p> <p>(iii) In the event of the Distributor without the prior written consent of the Company releasing, selling or transferring voluntarily or by operation of law the active control of the distributorship or in the event of the Distributor for any reason ceasing active control of the distributorship without the prior written permission of the Company.</p> <p>8. Subject to this clause the Company agrees to repurchase from the Distributor all undamaged products either in stock or "on draw" at the Company's original selling price less 10% handling and restocking fee provided that the Distributor has made a genuine effort to apply with reasonable promptness and has not been negligent in selling a substantial part of the distributorship.</p>
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The small print from the contract



The weighted scales of justice

by John Ryall

The past Minister of Justice, Sir Roy Jack, commented last year that "we have the best of British justice for all." Unfortunately for Sir Roy Jack, New Zealand is not a country of British people, but rather a country of many people among whom no one group can claim absolute authority on the matter of the dispensation of justice within the society. But how deep does this equality go?

Various groups, particularly the Nelson Maori Committee, have concluded from studies of New Zealand courts that the present New Zealand criminal justice system is grossly unfair to minority groups, especially (in the Nelson case) Maoris. In a paper presented to the 1973 Race Relations Conference, the Nelson Committee concluded that "strictly racial criteria can influence sentencing and the presence of absence of counsel may contribute to much of the discrepancy in sentencing of these defendants." A survey of offences committed in Nelson in 1970, 1971 and 1972 showed that types of offences committed by both Maoris and non-Maoris did not change over the period. Neither did the conviction rates and sentences (except for 1972 when a legal aid scheme was introduced).

In 1970 and 1971 a greater proportion of Maori offenders were convicted and those convicted were more severely punished. Thus in 1970, 3.5% of cases against Maoris were dismissed or withdrawn, compared with 11.8% for non-Maoris; and in 1971 the figures were 1.2% for Maoris and 5.1% for non-Maoris. Comparing the penalties, it can be seen that in 1970 36.5% of all Maori offenders in Nelson were imprisoned compared with 27.4% of all non-Maori offenders. This pattern was repeated in 1971 when 31.2% of all Maori offenders were imprisoned compared with

24.6% of all non-Maori offenders.

Recently Stephen Mugford, a sociology lecturer at VUW, and Martti Gronfors, a former probation officer, looked at the evidence for the sentencing of offenders. Their aim was to discover whether or not sentences received by Maori offenders differed from those received by Pakeha offenders for broadly similar offences. However, their conclusions suggest that the inequality was not primarily between Maori and Pakeha, but between people in the lower socio-economic groups and people in the upper socio-economic group.

Mugford and Gronfors carried out a pilot study of all first offenders in New Zealand on whom a probation officer's report had been prepared in the month of July 1973. A person who had never made a court appearance for an offence punishable by imprisonment was considered to be a first offender. The sample included 137 European males and 32 Maori males, on whom they collected data about their parent's marital status, progress at school (as reported by the school), offender's occupation, offender's work habits (as reported by the employers), his financial position, his type of accommodation and person(s) by whom he was brought up. The offender's age and race was also recorded and "situational" factors were noted (as taken down by probation officers).

Mugford and Gronfors then attempted to answer the question — Given a similar crime of equal seriousness, do European and Maori offenders receive equally severe sentences, or not? They developed a scale (graduated from 1 to 5) which allowed them to measure the seriousness of a particular offence as perceived by magistrates and one which measure the severity-of-sentence scale (graduated from 1 to 7). These were both constructed from answers to

questionnaires by 91 probation officers around the country. Probation officers were chosen because the researchers thought they were unlikely to receive much co-operation from magistrates themselves, and because in 81% to 86% of cases a probation officer's recommendation is followed by the court.

Categories 1 and 2 for each axis were amalgamated against the remaining categories (as shown in Table 1). These points were chosen because they permit some analysis.

Severity of Sentence Against Seriousness of Offence, (a) Europeans, (b) Maoris

Severity of Sentence	1-2	3-5	Tot.
1-2	31	29	60
3-7	22	55	77
Tot.	53	84	137

Severity of Sentence	1-2	3-5	Tot.
1-2	6	8	14
3-7	6	12	18
Tot.	12	20	32

Logically one would expect a reasonable association between punishment and crime blurred to some extent by mitigating factors taken into account in formulating sentence. The measure of association be-

tween offence and sentence received for European (using Yules Q) was 0.45 and for Maoris 0.20.

The data was then re-examined according to class and race (24 of the 32 Maoris were in the unskilled category). The association was now:
Unskilled Maoris 0.25
Unskilled Europeans 0.37
Semi and skilled Europeans 0.37
Clerical, managerial and professional Europeans 0.75

As can be seen, in the upper socio-economic groups there is a close association between crime and punishment — ideally what we would hope for in a system of justice. A man who commits a small offence receives a light punishment and if he commits a serious offence he receives a heavy punishment.

But for lower socio-economic groups (and this includes most Maoris) offenders seem to receive the same sentence no matter what they have done. As Stephen Mugford commented, it almost appears as if you roll up in front of the court and they say, "Hello, it's your working-class mate — give him probation and a fine whatever he's done."

Mugford believes the answer is a two-fold one. If the courts are at fault then the remedy is to look at the discrimination that takes place and to improve the quality of the justice they administer.

But the more important bias could be the whole nature of the law. For instance, in South Africa, if the police and courts behave with scrupulous fairness in enforcing the law, injustice will still result because the laws discriminate against Africans and coloured people. How much do the New Zealand laws discriminate against those in the socio-economic groups as against those in the upper socio-economic groups? Perhaps the law is the key to the problem and not just the courts.

(Continued from previous page)

so much so that if contested in court, it may be rejected outright in favour of the seller who is contesting it. A similar contract has been rejected in court already.

However due to the submissions to the government by the Consumer Institute (Golden Products accused the Consumer Institute of being in league with Unilever), and other interested parties, new legislation emerged in the Commerce Bill. January 1, 1975 has been chosen as the day on which the big biodegradable bubble will burst with one helluva bang.

Firstly pyramid selling schemes will have to be approved by the Commerce Commission, made liable to various provisions applied in the public interest concerning prices and so on, the numbers will be controlled such that "every person who participates in the scheme in an effi-

cient and businesslike manner will have the prospect of obtaining a reasonable reward from his participation;" and that adequate security be provided as under section 30. Herein lies the crunch:

- the purchaser will be able to rescind the contract within a month returning all goods and receiving all money paid by him.
- the purchaser can at any time return the goods which he possesses in good condition and receive 90% of all money paid by him, in respect to those goods.
- the clause also gives the purchaser reasonable rights of distribution, rights of recruitment as presently denied to him under the Golden Products and similar contracts.

Nevertheless Golden Products have boldly stood up to such criticism. Commenting to the *National Business Review*, the apparent head of Wellington

distribution compared criticism of Golden Products with the initial reception given to Jesus Christ and Henry Ford. Chances are that Christ and Ford probably would not succeed in today's world anyway; after January 1, 1975, the day when the new legislation is brought into effect, Golden Products' continued operation will be as likely as the survival of a soap bubble in a furnace. While previous government legislation (like the Land Speculation Act) has quickly been circumvented, this new bill is much more likely to succeed, with pressure applied from conventional businesses who are threatened by pyramid selling, from the Consumers Institute and the Police.

Golden are undoubtedly aware of this, and are in the process of making a last money-making charge before the fall, thus the recent upsurge in their operations after a period of dormancy. When Golden

Products began operating in New Zealand the question was asked, who would get the chop if the biodegradable bubble bursts. The men at the top of Golden are shrewd businessmen — they will not lose when the company ceases to operate. It will be those at the bottom of the pyramid that will be left with piles of unsaleable soap under the bed and in the garage, they will have lost most of their hard-earned savings in search of obtaining quick wealth. Next time, perhaps, they will be a little more wary.

LOST: Woman's watch. Gold with black strap. Between Wai-te-ata Road and K303. Ph. 862-113 if found.

The academic geography of the university

by Brendan Smith

While this statement is concerned with the Geography Department in particular, it also looks at university education as a whole. Further, the comments made of the Geography course could serve as pertinent reference points for the examination of other courses. Read on and feel free to send in personal comment on the criticism.

Our Vice-Chancellor, Dr Taylor, addressing the Education Development Conference's Wellington seminar in May, at one point drew embarrassed laughter from the audience. He boasted of the low cost of "turning-out" students in New Zealand. Immediately he had used the expression common to the car assembly or canning industries, he realised, as had his audience, the poor taste of the statement. He tried at first to cover the phrase up but then blustered on, using the phrase a second time.

The ease with which Dr Taylor could refer to university education in terms of the manufacturing process manifests the dominant attitude of the administration to the students and points to the orientation of the whole university.

The report of the working party on educational aims and objectives prepared for the Education Development Conference states:

"Education involves those activities which extend the individual's ability to learn, relate, choose, create, communicate, challenge and respond to challenge so that he/she may live with purpose in the community of

today and tomorrow and achieve satisfaction in the process."

Compare this with the actual form of education here at Victoria. Directed by Dr Taylor, this form appeals to fewer and fewer school-leavers and provokes an increasing number of students, even staff, to opt out. A comparison is imperative for both students and staff, but more so for staff who are more likely to be under the influence of the traditional modus operandi of the university.

The report on the aims and objectives of education further maintains that school and university, should aim to reflect present society, lead society, develop the student's personality, pass on knowledge, prepare the student for future activity within the wider community. These points provide a convenient framework for a consideration of the university as an institute of education.

In order to reflect the present society, the university has to break down every vestige of being an 'ivory tower'. Through constant interaction with every level of the wider community, the university can learn the aspirations and needs of people.

But to merely reflect the present society without discrimination or evaluation benefits neither the university nor society. Therefore, as the report states, the University should lead the wider society. Interaction with the ordinary citizen would impel the university to adopt the humility so lacking, but so necessary, if it is to be anything other than a parasite on the community. Advances, insights of all kinds would then be able to be directly applied to society and their value will be measured by their ability to improve the well-being of society. And this relationship with society is not a confining factor in the life of the university, but is a spur to the progress of knowledge while basing academic discussion firmly in reality. One reason for the mounting dissatisfaction felt by students is that so much study is divorced from the actual situation through lack of research, or has no application in the present or future.

Society looks to the university to prepare a person for future activity within the community. A break must be made from the practice of the university 'educating' towards merely a specialised or professional role. Where society does not appreciate what education in its fullness is, the university can fulfill its role of leader in society and reform itself without buckling under to the dominant attitudes and structures of society.

The tendency for the university in New Zealand to concentrate on the passing on of knowledge in the form simply of business techniques, scientific expertise and professional skill is a recent phenomenon. In the past, university education was conceived of in a wider context than it is at present. They system encouraged participation in activities and interests outside the confines of course material. There used to be more intergration of personal development with the gaining of knowledge. But now the gaining of knowledge dominates, and inhibits personal development.

The expectations of new students who want to take part in vigorous and wide-ranging debate, make new friends and associate with students of diverse life-

styles, are dashed to the ground. Those who come back for a second year are unhappily reconciled to the barrenness and individualism of campus life.

Certainly the university succeeds in passing on knowledge, but if this is seen as being the purpose of the university without reference to the further need to develop the student's personality, then the university is a failure. To hold that academic excellence is the only goal for the university is anachronistic, completely out of step with the brief given institutes of tertiary education by today's society. The aspirations of students today and the obvious needs of society show that the nature and presentation of academic information must not inhibit personal development but foster it. The reports of the working parties of the EDC contain many calls for the education system to increase its flexibility, to open out in response to the new demands and expectations of students and the community.

The university is at fault for seeing education as 'the process of naming the world'. The university is presently orientated towards the categorizing, labelling, describing and itemizing of all and sundry. Packed knowledge is dispensed. The fault lies in naming or describing in order to build up a corpus of knowledge, without ever entering upon the difficult task of analyzing society or the content of the parcels of knowledge.

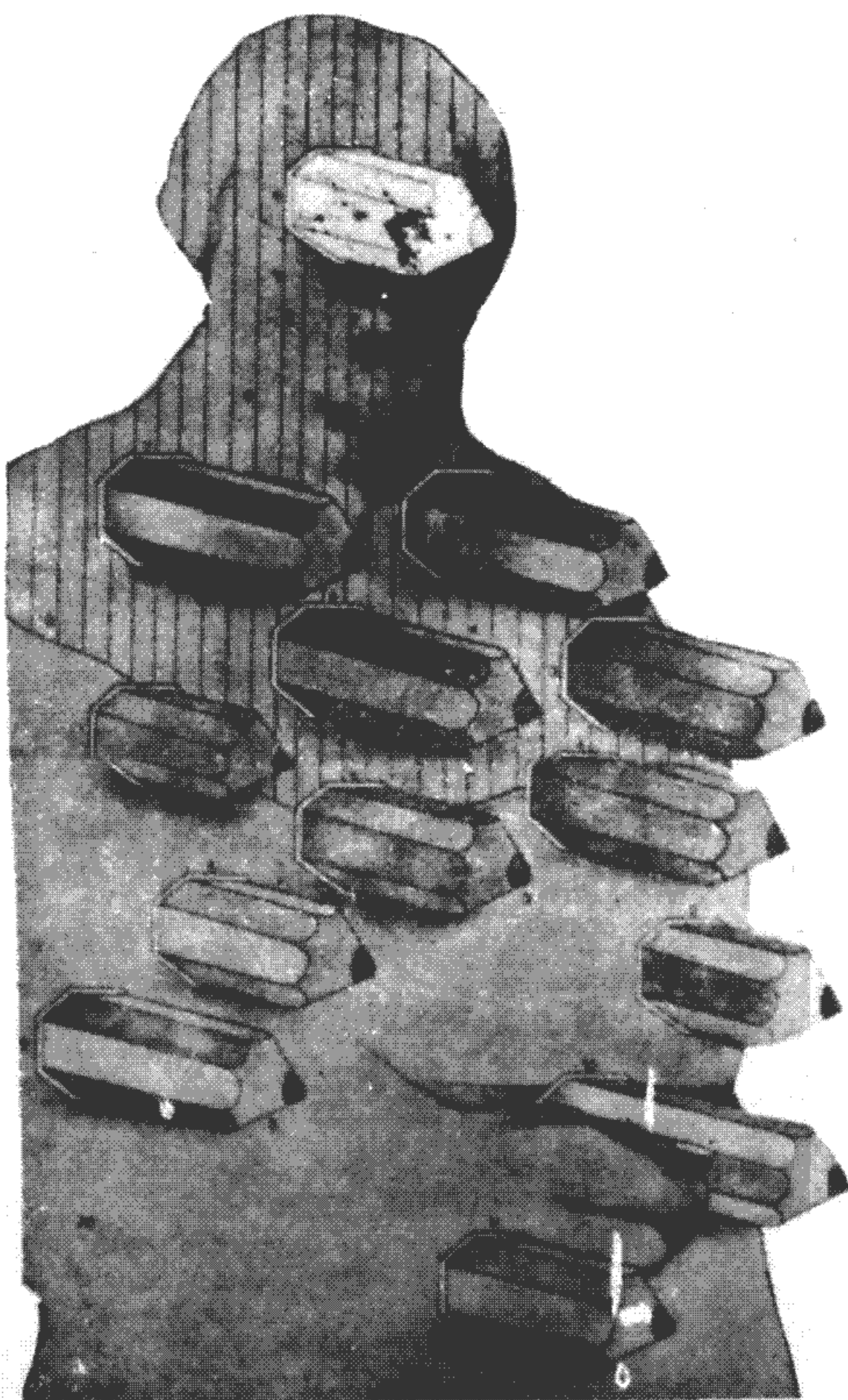
GEOGRAPHY seems to be at fault particularly in this area. The course itself includes at stage I level the study of the British and American Industrial Revolution, industrialisation under a Marxist regime in Stalin's Russia, tribal and peasant life, China under Mao, and the South American urban situation with reference to the political establishment there. However, the impetus given is towards a theoretical examination of a set of conditions or events which stand isolated from our own situation.

The lack of critical analysis and the failure to encourage the incorporation of the imparted knowledge into a personal belief system or personal view of the world was made vivid in two particular instances. Last year articles recounting the experiences of students who had just visited China appeared in *Salient*. At that same time we were being lectured on China and some were writing essays on that nation. However, from observation those articles were largely ignored by the class. The study of China was seen as something for lecture time and when reading the recommended texts.

Further, towards the end of the year, after a series of lectures on the corruption of American colonialism and the political and economic injustices in South America, the lecturer, invited the class to ask questions. Only one question was asked so the lecture abruptly concluded.

Where was the critical approach, the analytical method, that the Geography lecturers and tutors had all year to develop? The lack of response is not to be wondered at as the students had previously received little, if any, encouragement or practice at delving into the subject under discussion to a depth greater than that at which the lecturer presented it.

There is an obvious comparison between geography and economics as studied at Victoria University where much time is devoted to the mechanics of managing a monopoly or oligopoly, without facing up to the question of whether such forms of business practice are bene-



(Continued from previous page)

ficial to anyone other than the managers and shareholders. The geography course at stage I level is strong on explanation of chains of events as to industrial development or urbanization or regional inequalities, but almost totally lacks perceptive judgements on the underlying factors such as attitudes of industrialists, the basic political system or the legitimacy of the relevant economic activity.

The geography course operates in a manner too theoretical or too much abstracted from our own situation here in New Zealand. Paulo Freire has forcefully pointed out that there is no such thing as value-free education. The attempts to maintain academic objectivity can only meet with failure for, in fact, silence means consent. The lack of appraisal of the subject matter with reference to New Zealand, provides the student with a certain amount of knowledge but does not help him/her to personalise that knowledge. Therefore personal interest and satisfaction with the work does not arise.

As far as personal satisfaction goes physical geography particularly where it involves a weekly three hour laboratory period, lacks it completely. The boring nature of the work and its unrelatedness to the human geography course poisons the whole first year for many geography students.

At stage II level the weakness of the Geography Department becomes more apparent. Whereas the staff of the department are mostly scholarly, friendly people concerned about the student's welfare and ever-willing to talk over the subject matter with students, there is a methodology or orientation that is, it seems, imbued by the staff from the Department itself with its traditions and dominant personalities.

The report already mentioned on the aims and objectives of education states:

"We believe that the person is always a person in society and should be educated for living and learning in society".

The department, however, in its courses on human geography once again has the descriptive approach rather than an indepth analysis. The 202 (urban/regional geography) course, is a very appropriate place to put some emphasis on evaluation of the urban and regional growth processes in New Zealand. What was done was to recognise problems, isolate patterns and trends and explain them. The fundamental premises and assumptions behind the development practices of government, city and private enterprise are ignored. The trouble is that



if issues such as whether present modes of housing, transportation, and decision-making are really to our advantage, are not faced, the necessary analysis fails to materialise.

If the discipline of geography, which studies man in relation to his environment, does not by means of its methodology help the students to comprehend the bases of NZ urban and regional life, then it fails as a discipline.

Nothing is made in the course on urban/regional development of the statement made by Reismann

and Lampard that the use of land is primarily determined by economics. Considerations of the social, cultural and physical needs of people are therefore of a secondary nature in a city or region.

E.A.G. Robinson stated in one of the recommended books that 'it is by no means clear that in a capitalist country an entrepreneur, in making his decision about the location of a new activity, will take into account all the considerations which from a national point of view are relevant to optimum resource use'. Moreover, Colin Buchanan states that it is "abundantly clear that market forces, left to their own devices, fail utterly to produce a humane environment."

Here we have an opening for a critical analysis of the forces at work in our own society, an analysis which would benefit the students and society as a whole through them. But the analysis does not flow from the course itself. Neither, in terms of reality, is there an impetus given for the student personally to undertake such an analysis.

While progress is being made with the introduction of discussion groups and research proposals as well as new forms of assessment, the result of the actual content and presentation of the study of human geography is seen to be the failure to develop in the student the ability to think critically and independently.

Physical geography at 200 level is also divorced from NZ society and thus fails in a similar manner.

Perhaps students at stage three level are in a completely different situation. However, the likelihood is that they have passed through previous levels without gaining as much as they could have under better circumstances.

The geography courses reflect the most glaring faults of the whole university. From the courses as from the university system, the student gains no well developed capacity to perceive the real personal and society needs, to voice criticism, to position his/herself within the context of the whole community and to establish value preferences. In sum, the student fails to learn from the study of geography the capacity to watch for occasions 'when a real threat is buried under the soft fall of a thousand words'.

Geography, at all levels, offers the student an interesting course which has a potential to contribute greatly to a complete education, an integral part of which would be the attaining to the understanding of other societies and that of New Zealand. This potential is not being realised, at the present time.

Pensioners scrape by —MPs grow fat



If pensioners weren't too old some might be forced to go on the streets at night to try and supplement their income — they would be put in this degrading position because of successive governments' failure to adequately support them. This sentiment was wryly expressed by Fred McComish, President of the Wellington Pensioners and Beneficiaries Association at a forum in the Union Hall last week. He told the small number of students present that pensioners are protesting not only for themselves but also for young people who will one day be pensioners too and largely dependent on the state.

In opening the forum, McComish described the pensioners demonstration at Parliament in March. It was the first occasion in the southern Commonwealth when pensioners have marched on Parliament, and he was proud of it. It was a spontaneous movement of the pensioners themselves who felt it was time that their pensions were increased. Most of them can barely get along on pensions, and anything above the subsistence level is out. Nor can they afford to replace articles in their home which break or wear out. McComish said he wouldn't even be able to afford a new suit if the charity shop was closed.

"Outright bloody cheek"

Pensioners have to seriously reorient their whole way of life to their changed economic conditions. Many have had to stop having people in for afternoon tea and supper — the price of tea, coffee and cocoa continue to rise. Sugar has gone up, so have biscuits, and their fixed incomes do not keep up with rising prices;

A single male pensioner gets \$24.85 a week compared to the average wage for males of \$98 a week. Since many wives work the take-home pay of a working husband and wife is often \$150 a week — a pensioner couple gets \$44.70.

McComish marvels at the double standards and "outright bloody cheek" of ministers giving themselves terrific salary rises when the budget turned around and gave pensioners a mere \$2 a week increase.

Pensioners and beneficiaries are upset that often many people in influential positions think that they are 'bludgers'. Such people fail to realise that pensioners have paid tax since the 30's. A man on Geiringer's radio show rang and said that the old people should be put away. But as McComish stated "we built this country, we are the country".

Some people believe that pensioners should have saved for this period of their life. This was impossible McComish pointed out, as inflation makes savings progressively more worthless.

Many pensioners are willing to work but they are unable to get employment because they lose their pension if they earn over \$17 a week. Few employers are willing to offer the necessary part-time work.

Nothing to boast about

The Pensioners and Beneficiaries Association handles many cases in addition to the basic problem of the inadequate benefit. A recent case concerned 12 pensioners living in a shack in Wellington. Their rooms are barely big enough to fit their beds in, yet they are each paying \$12 a week. Another case was a lady aged 97 who lives in a private nursing home in Miramar. She spends most of her day just sitting looking out of the window, virtually waiting for the undertaker. She was paying \$184 a month for her accommodation which left her with no money for food. Her son and daughter had to find \$100 each month to make up the amount which her meagre pension paid.

McComish cited the case of a lady paying \$6 a week for a state unit who received a letter from the SAC more than doubling the rent to \$15.60. This woman's pension is \$24 so two thirds of it will have to go on rent.

Politicians used to boast of the lead New Zealand gave the world in social welfare, but pensioners now feel that the government's treatment of them proves this to be an empty boast.

—Margot Bourke

After they learn to spell C-A-T Who's going to teach them how to T-H-I-N-K?

Teaching means helping students to learn for themselves. For this task we need teachers who are well equipped academically and who are able to stimulate young minds. If you think you have the necessary qualifications, contact your careers adviser, or local education board for further information.

Secondary Teaching

Here is a career that uses your knowledge; a career with probably more job satisfaction than any other. A career in which your academic, artistic and sporting interests can be used to the full.

Teaching offers permanent lifetime employment in a service that's vitally important to the future. It offers variety and scope for initiative. It offers freedom to develop special interests, and real opportunities for advancement and self-improvement.

Then there's the generous salary scales and the payment while you train. And the long holidays.

THE TEACHING CAPACITY

Secondary teachers usually specialise in a subject or group of subjects. English, science, maths, languages, social studies, art, music, physical education, homecraft, commercial subjects, woodwork and metalwork, or agriculture. Some teachers undertake special responsibilities in connection with school libraries, or as careers advisers. Others specialise in the expanding field of guidance counselling, while a few become child welfare officers, or education officers in the armed forces. There are opportunities, too, in teachers' colleges and in the secondary inspectorate.

TRAINING

1. **Division U:** Full time university study towards a degree or diploma, followed by a year at a teachers' college.
2. **Division B:** A three-year course including teacher training and university study at either Auckland or Christchurch.

SECONDARY TEACHER STUDENTSHIPS

These provide students with financial assistance for full-time university study. To be eligible for a studentship, you must hold U.E. at the date applications close (15 August), and be at least 16 years of age on 31 December of the year you apply. If you wish to go to University independently you can make use of the Fees Bursary if you have only U.E., or the Fees and Allowances Bursary if you have Higher School Certificate. You may apply for a studentship or Division B during your university course if you decide later to enter secondary teaching.

Division B students are paid an allowance of \$1,759 for each of the first two years, and \$2,388 for the third year, plus a boarding allowance, if eligible, of \$139 a year.

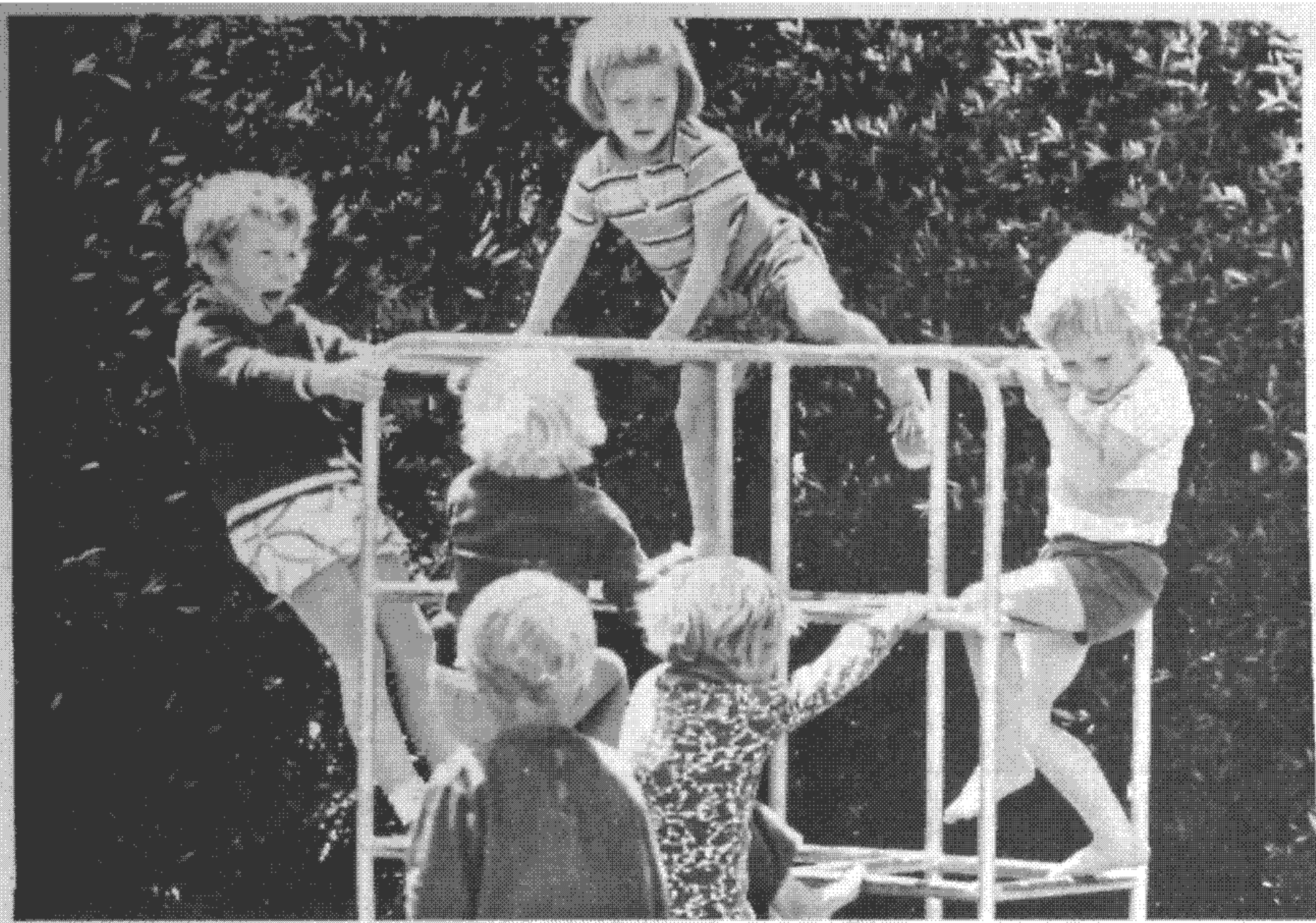
SALARIES

Basic Salary Scales at 1 February 1974 for a trained teacher with a Bachelor's Degree are:

1st year	\$4,711	5th year	\$6,380
2nd year	\$5,188	6th year	\$6,855
3rd year	\$5,584	7th year	\$7,412
4th year	\$6,060	8th year	\$7,967

If eligible, a married allowance of \$140 is paid. Higher rates are paid for positions of responsibility. In secondary schools with rolls in excess of 850 pupils, the basic salaries for Principals and Deputy Principals are:

Principal	\$13,608
Deputy Principal	\$10,826



Primary Teaching

The primary service includes all pupils from the primers to Form II. If you wish to become a teacher in this field, you may apply to your local Education Board to enter a teachers' college under the classification Division A. The minimum qualification is Sixth Form Certificate. However, University Entrance is an advantage for those who wish to undertake additional University study during their training. If you are now in the sixth form you should be pursuing a course of study for University Entrance. You may apply in anticipation of gaining your U.E. or Sixth Form Certificate at the end of the year.

SALARIES

On admission to a teachers' college, you receive for the first two years \$1,759 and \$2,388 in your third year. A boarding allowance of \$139 may be payable if you must live away from home. If you are over 20 you will receive \$2,936 in your first two years and \$3,092 in your third year but no boarding allowance. The table shown below gives the **basic salary** paid during the first eight years of teaching.

Basic Salary Scale at 1 February 1974.

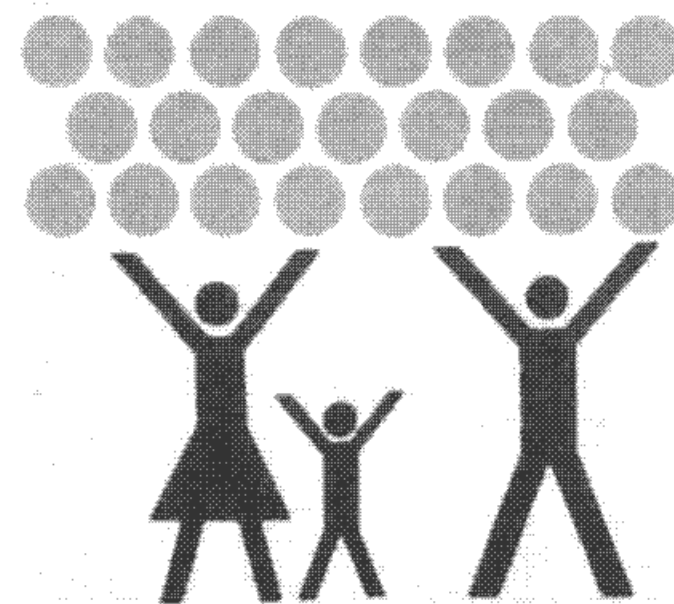
	Trained Teachers Certificate	Diploma in Teaching	Bachelor's Degree
First year	\$4,059	\$4,236	\$4,717
Second year	\$4,236	\$4,407	\$5,013
Third year	\$4,407	\$4,601	\$5,234
Fourth year	\$4,576	\$4,823	\$5,498
Fifth year	\$4,841	\$5,087	\$5,827
Sixth year	\$5,170	\$5,416	\$6,156
Seventh year	\$5,498	\$5,744	\$6,482
Eighth year	\$5,827	\$6,072	\$6,482

As you study this **basic scale**, keep the following in mind:

- To these figures would be added \$140 married allowance, where applicable.
- Many thousands of positions of responsibility are on higher salaries.
- Promotion prospects at an early age have been greatly improved.

For information and application forms, see your school principal, Careers Adviser, or the Recruitment Officer at your nearest Education Board. Applications close 31 July, although late applications will be considered.

Opening eyes,
opening minds
come
Teaching



Department of Education

Students' charges may be reduced

from the Sydney Morning Herald, July 12

From Our Diplomatic Reporter

CANBERRA, Thursday. — The Malaysian Government is expected to drop charges against a former student for alleged "communist" activity while studying in Australia and New Zealand.

It will press only those charges which relate to help the man is alleged to have given the underground communist move-

ment in Malaysia after his return.

The decision follows a note from the Australian Government that it would be concerned if penal action were taken for acts committed in Australia that were legal under Australian law.

The detention of the former student, Mr Khoo Ee-liam, has caused concern among the several thousand Malaysian students in Australia and NZ.

Mr Khoo attended a matriculation course in Australia in 1965 and 1966, before going to Canterbury University in NZ to study engineering. He returned home in 1971.

In February, this year, he was arrested for allegedly supplying the communists with electronic parts, and for other security regulations offences.

Among activities believed to be cited are his membership of NZ-China Friendship Society and

possession of communist literature while in Australia and New Zealand.

Mr Khoo, who has legal representation, is understood to have been held since February on a detention warrant. His charges have been heard in closed court.

The case has led to protests from the Australian Union of Students, and some Malaysian students, that the Malaysian High Commissions in Canberra and Wellington have been "spying" on students.

MALAYSIAN STUDENTS DEMAND DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

Robert Pui has played an important part in breaking down the fears of Malaysian students to speak out for more democratic rights in Malaysia. He has appeared on the NZBC Inquiry TV programme and has recently returned from a speaking tour of New Zealand universities. Salient interviewed him on his tour and the issues involved.

SALIENT: What was the purpose of the tour?
PUI: It was to discuss with students in other New Zealand universities the significance of the student demonstration on June 6 against the arrest of Khoo Ee Liam and the subsequent arrest of another student Wong Siong Seng.

This was also in response to the tremendous support given by Vic students for the cause of democratic rights in Malaysia. Kirk's announcement of the new policy on admission of Malaysian students increased the importance of carrying out the speaking tour while events were still fresh in students' minds. The response at all the universities proved the value of this tour.

What is the significance of the demonstration?
 Khoo's arrest merely highlights the basic issue of lack of democratic rights in Malaysia. The lack of freedom of belief and expression is clearly shown by the charges against Khoo relating to his activities in NZ and Australia. The issue remains unchanged in spite of the recent Australian press report that the Malaysian Government may drop these particular charges. If this report is correct it confirms that they have actually been pressed against Khoo. It will also be a great victory for Malaysians in their struggle for freedom in that the government has at least conceded defeat in its attempts to apply its laws here. Thanks are due to NZUSA and all those who have come out in strong support of our cause. For the first time Malaysian and NZ students have united and openly protested against the oppressive rule of the Malaysian Government. Malaysian students in Australia, Britain, Canada, Japan and the USA are actively campaigning for more democratic rights. The Federation of the MSA in North America has come to the fore, being led mainly by Malay students who have disregarded the question of race in the more basic fight for freedom. Malaysians at home have protested against government service corruption.

What has been the response to your tour?
 The response has been very enthusiastic and encouraging. In all centres many Malaysian students turned up. This ranged from 50 students at Waikato, to over 200 at Auckland, and 300 people at Vic. The meetings began with Alick Shaw and myself outlining the Malaysian Government's role in Khoo and Wong's arrest and its relevance in NZ. In Auckland the meeting lasted over four hours with many students speaking openly and calling for action against the home government. A resolution calling for the abolition of the Malaysian Internal Security Act was passed unanimously. Two other resolutions calling for the release of Khoo and a stop to surveillance of Malaysian students by the High Commission were also passed with many students speaking for and against the government on mainly economic issues, particularly on the question of foreign investment.

In Otago there was a solid turnout of Malaysian students at an evening meeting lasting 3½ hours. Among the resolutions passed was one calling for the Malaysian Government to ratify the UN universal declaration of human rights.

During the discussion, mention was made of a "Jack de Silva" cup donated by the High Commissioner for the annual Malaysian Cross Country race. The point was raised that no one should 'sweat' for the honour of winning this trophy as the patron was a person who does not act in our interests. The night after my talk, a SGM was held to discuss if the cup should be sent back to Malaysia or to the High Commissioner for his own use. I hear that the OMSA committee executive has gone ahead with the race, against the wish of the majority of its members. However, the reaction is in the right

direction. For years Malaysian students have been known for their industriousness and unquestioning attitude to any form of authority. Whereas in the past people have been too scared to speak out, now the silence has been broken. This is very important in itself. This means the home government can no longer shut up its citizens for ever, no matter how oppressive it becomes.

Students have now awakened to the fact that getting a degree is not the only important thing in life. It is also important to be more critical politically and exercise what freedom they have here at least, in deciding and controlling their own destiny. Malaysian citizens must decide what the government should do on their behalf, not the other way round.

This is just the beginning. Malaysians cannot change the political situation at home overnight. We must go on discussing the problems of Malaysia for it is through discussion that we will understand the problems and find solutions.

Any negative response to the tour was confined to petty arguments largely diversionary in nature. A few took a defeatist approach. This attitude may be summed up by a letter to the Otago Overseas Student Forum in which Malaysian students air their opinions freely. The letter was by a first year student "There has been a lot of talk about what we Malaysians can do for ourselves to secure our basic human rights. But the question is how are we going to do it. We all know what our government's policies are. Won't we be better off to keep our mouth shut rather than joining Khoo Ee Liam in a Malaysian prison?"

The letter raises important questions which I hope to answer afterwards. However it must be contrasted with those who realise the dilemma they are in but fear to speak out because of the threat of reprisals or harassment by the government against their families once they go home.

Have I been painting a very bleak picture of Malaysia? It is bleak enough for many Malaysians to emigrate to obtain freedom. Some critics prefer to see their country as a lush tropical paradise. Fair enough. But while protecting their economic and class interests they ignore the poverty of the majority of the Malaysians. Over 50% of the Malaysian population live on a subsistence level. This is the picture they do not want the world to see. They are unable to accept

the reality of the situation and an over-sensitivity to criticism directed at the heart of the problem i.e. who owns most of the country's wealth?

Attempts at character assassination have been made on me, by people who cannot present objective arguments in defense of their government. Speaking words such as 'leftist' and 'liberal opportunist' mean little. New Zealand politicians have stood up for democratic rights. They must therefore be 'leftists'. How can I be 'opportunist' if I am calling the wrath and vengeance of the government upon myself. Their wrath will without doubt descend on me, it probably would be a long term stint in Batu Gajah prison or some such institution for political prisoners.

What has been the reaction of the Malaysian High Commission so far on your speaking tour?
 Mr de Silva has recently stated clearly that any activities by Malaysians here or elsewhere relating to the political situation at home will be subject to Malaysian law. This is no doubt intended to further intimidate students into silence.

Although it is encouraging that a lot of Malaysian students have spoken out, this announcement may dampen further discussions. It will not intimidate me into silence as I have already said enough to put me in jail for life if the government chooses to do so. Maybe it could prove me wrong by leaving me alone. But life would probably still be pretty unpleasant with harassment such as not being able to get a job or travel freely. Returning graduates already find it hard enough to get jobs let alone those who have been politically active.

You have been called a lackey of NZUSA and NZUSA has been accused of interfering in Malaysian affairs. How true are these allegations?
 Calling me a 'lackey' of NZUSA has been one of the least useful counter arguments so far. I speak my own mind and on my own accord. NZUSA does not tell me what to say. We say similar things but it does not mean we think alike. When I first spoke out, it was from my conviction that something about home politics stinks. I pursued my own independent course of action. I gave a talk at a Catholic Society meeting on its invitation. I requested VUWSA to let me hold a forum after Mr Kirk's new policy on the admission of Malaysian students here was announced. When NZUSA learned of this they disagreed with this show of independence.

After the show of student support at that forum where donations were generously given for a speaking tour I proposed to take, NZUSA came around to my point of view and extended its help with the tour. Alick Shaw and Graham Clarke sacrificed a lot of their time in travelling around with me and in explaining the association's stand on the campaign for democratic rights.

Whether NZUSA is 'infringing' the integrity and sovereignty of Malaysia is a matter of opinion. I am not sure whether Malaysia displays much integrity in the way the government rules much less the way the High Commissioner conducts himself. One of the reasons NZUSA stepped into the picture was because as it maintained all along, that by charging Khoo with his allegedly subversive activities here (and in Australia) the Malaysian government was infringing the sovereignty of NZ. The NZ Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs has said as much.

Whether foreigners should interfere with domestic affairs of a country becomes a moral issue where the question of basic human rights arises. The NZ Government may not interfere as such but its citizens can decide for themselves whether they will speak out against what is happening in Malaysia. I wonder how your government justifies its condemnation of racial discrimination in South Africa and the French bomb tests?

You have been talking about the oppressive rule of the government and lack of democratic rights what do you mean by these?

Citizens are deprived of their basic democratic rights such as freedom of expression, and thought in the political and cultural spheres of life. They are implicitly and expressly intimidated by the laws of the country.

Article 8 of the Malaysian Constitution says that all persons are equal before the law and that there may be no discrimination against citizens on grounds of religion, race, descent or place of birth in law, except as expressly authorised by the constitution. The constitution expressly entrenches the following provisions that:

1) The King has a divine right to rule; 2) The Bumiputras (natives of Malaysia) have special privileges; 3) "Malay" is the national language; 4) "Islam" is the national religion.

In the language and religions provisions it asserts the superiority of one culture and it promotes the interests of one group by giving it favoured treatment in government employment, educational and business opportunities.

While the provisions may have been designed to place one community on an equal footing with the others, only the political and business elite of this group have benefited from them. They have also placed other communities at a disadvantaged position. The constitution fails to aid the development of an integrated multi-racial state.

All Malaysians including members of Parliament are prohibited by the Sedition Act 1969 (amended 1971) from discussing these so called 'sensitive issues'. This means they will probably remain unsolved for many years to come.

Our colonial masters did not teach us how to practice democracy — but they did teach us how to rule through fear and oppression. The British left behind a political and legal system based on the principle of "divide and rule". The Malaysian constitution divides the people and the Government rules through oppressive laws.

What are these oppressive laws?

These laws are directed at controlling the people through fear and intimidation. The Sedition Act which I have already mentioned prohibits the discussion of 'sensitive issues'.

S. 3 (1) of the Act defines such activities as having a 'seditious tendency'. "A tendency to raise discontent or disaffection among the subjects of the King or ruler of any state or among the inhabitants of Malaysia or any state."

The Prime Minister of Malaysia himself has helped propagate terror in the people by saying: "Whoever talks or takes any steps which reveal that they have subversive and treacherous intention, then we shall take the action against them as we did the communists. I would like to see if we can make an example of these traitors."

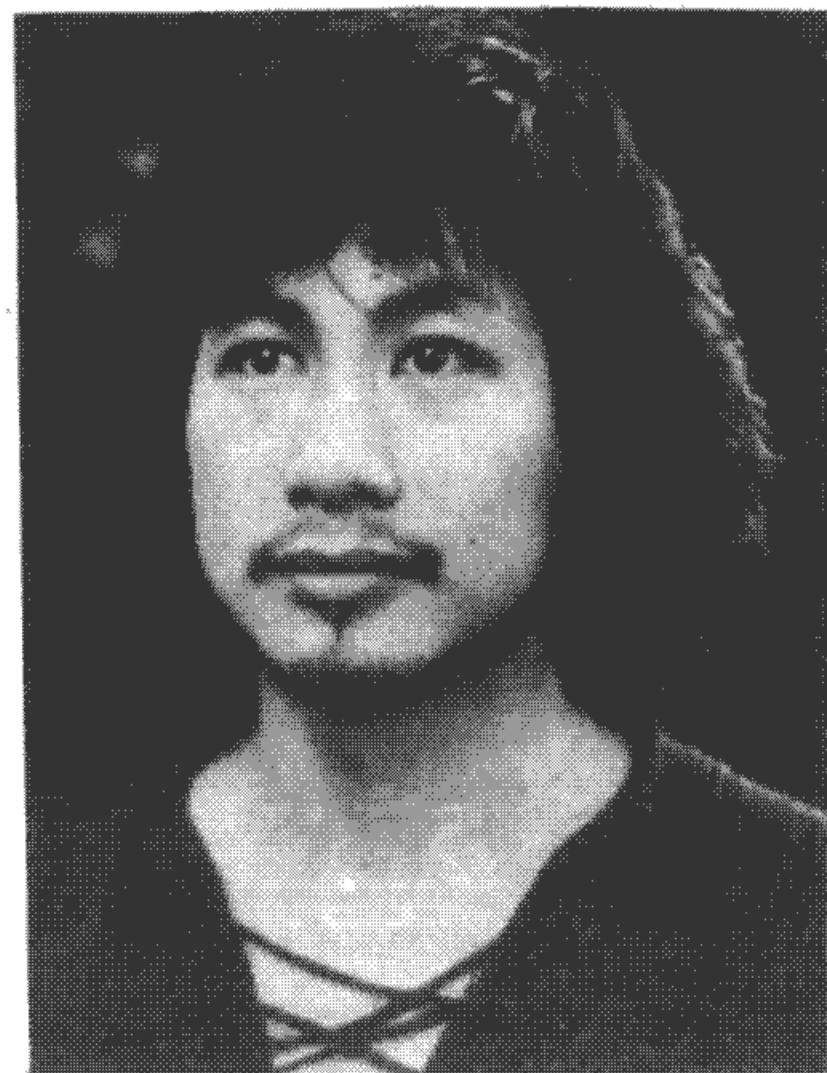
The Prime Minister is known to stand by his words and this displays the mentality of the Malaysia government which entertains no opposition. This approach has effectively stifled any meaningful discussion by Malaysian citizens on a wide range of issues.

Could you tell me more about the Internal Security Act?

The Internal Security Act is the main weapon of control. The Act gives wide powers to the government to restrict or prohibit a whole range of human activities in Malaysia. These include cultural activities, participation in public meetings and gatherings and the publication of written, pictorial or printed matter. Under section 8 of this act a person whom in the government's opinion is anti-national may be arrested and imprisoned without trial for two years. After this period he may be imprisoned again on the original charge or in addition new charges brought against him. These have effectively silenced any opposition to the government for many years.

The law has been applied indiscriminately to people of all shades of political opinion particularly those of the opposition. At least 2500 political prisoners are still detained without trial. Some of them have been imprisoned for over 10 years.

(Continued on next page)



Among those detained are members of opposition parties, elected city councillors, elected MPs, lawyers, doctors, students, Malay peasants, trade unionists, school teachers and businessmen who contribute financially to the opposition parties.

Missionaries and foreign teachers have not escaped this law. They are regularly deported. The most recent examples are two European University lecturers who did not criticise the government. They were merely known for their progressive ideas. Even the US Peace Corps has not escaped this oppression. They made themselves unpopular by teaching school children the meaning of 'democratic ideas'.

The Universities and University Colleges Act prohibits students from taking part in political activities. Any student found guilty of this offence is liable to a fine of \$(M) 1000 or six months in jail, or both. It is not surprising therefore that students fear to speak out, especially in view of de Silva's recent press statement. All these laws can be arbitrarily applied and it is the abuse of them which has given rise to much dissatisfaction with the home government.

In what other ways has the Malaysian Government acted to deny citizens democratic freedom?

It has resorted to unconstitutional rule since 1969. After the riots the Sedition Act was amended without the consent of Parliament which was out of session at the time. The general opinion among academics is in agreement that this was a political move by the ruling party to stay in power, when it did not get the votes it expected in the 1969 election. Elections expected to be held this year have been postponed twice. In the case of *Ningkan v. the Federal Government of Malaysia*, the Federal Government changed the state constitution of Sarawak to remove popularly elected Chief Minister Dato Ningkan when he failed to toe the government line. He was replaced by a man with no opinions except those of the government. The opposition has now been left with no other means to exist except by joining the government. Since the formation of Malaysia, the major opposition parties have been absorbed into the government in a conglomeration of parties.

You mentioned that there is cultural repression in Malaysia, what form does this take?

Salient and other student newspapers have given extensive coverage in this respect, namely the closure of the Chun Lei Cultural Show in April this year under the Internal Security Act. Over 600 Malaysians of differing political views involved in organising the show were arrested ostensibly on the grounds that the show was not in the nation's interest.

Cultural repression extends to New Zealand where Jack de Silva strongly condemned last year's Eastern Cultural concert as 'subversive'.

There is no freedom of the press either. A glance at the "Straits Times" and other Malaysian newspapers would show a strong bias towards government news. One seldom finds criticism of the government in these papers. Indeed, one publication "Truth" which dared to do so was closed down under the Internal Security Act after seven editions. "Truth" was published by two Malay lecturers, educated in the US.

What about economic repression?

Economic repression is evidenced by the imprisonment of the courageous Malay leader Hamid Tuah who led a group of landless Malay peasants to occupy and cultivate unused government land. It takes an indirect form where people have been put in 'new villages' an idea which has been adopted in South Vietnam. This creates great difficulties for peasants involved who have restricted movement to and from work.

The more direct economic repression is carried out on behalf of foreign interests by the government against its people. It has always been argued that the Chinese in Malaysia are better off than the other races but it has never been pointed out that foreign interests own 70% of the country's wealth and they should be blamed for the poverty of many.

The country has been made totally dependent on foreign investments and Malaysians have been deluded into believing that this is necessary. Meanwhile, wages have remained on the same level over the last ten years while countries like Britain gained 300 million pounds in revenue from Malaysia last year. It has been calculated that every Malaysian owes \$500 to foreign interests. At the rate things are progressing we will be forever in debt.

The question is therefore, is Malaysia really independent? Unless and until it is free from all forms of foreign control, it will not be. The Victoria University Students Association will be inviting Mr de Silva to debate with me on this point some time before the close of the second term. If he fails to reply, as is his habit, the invitation to debate is extended to any Malaysian who wants to defend his government.

Talking about de Silva's habit of not "replying", has he yet replied to the NZ government's initial inquiry about the fate of Khoo?
No. Recently he made a statement in the Auckland press. Referring to this point, he said the Malaysian Government will reply to the NZ

government in its own good time through the NZ representative in Kuala Lumpur. This was outright rudeness to the NZ Government, constituting a serious breach of diplomatic protocol - as it was over six weeks since the inquiry was made.

Why do you think the Malaysian Government is silent on the issue?

Basically, it does not have a strong case to answer. All channels of inquiry were exhausted before NZUSA brought the matter to a head with the demonstration. The government also prefers to lock people up without publicity and fuss, which would also be brought about if trials were held. This is the hall mark of a police state. If the charges against Khoo are true, according to Malaysian laws, the government has a strong case as far as they relate to Malaysia itself and he should at least be given an open and fair trial. Under the Internal Security Act, the government need not bother after all its intention is to put away its opponents.

If the charges against Khoo relating to "communist activities" in Malaysia are true does this not invalidate the arguments you have put up so far?

Not at all. As I have repeatedly said, the basic issue is the lack of democratic rights. People raise "the spectre of communism" to block any such thoughts. The fact that communism exists in Malaysia indicates that at least a section of its population actively disagrees with the present government. This is a problem created by the British who refused to recognise the communists as a legal political body although the latter helped most in the fight against the Japanese during the war. After the war the British recognised a government formed by people who sympathised with the Japanese invaders.



What is Jack de Silva's role in the scheme of things?

Up to date de Silva has actively conducted "red scare" campaigns to divert the attention of the public from examining the basic political issues of Malaysia. The collaboration between low grade newspapers and his office is clear. The latest attack on the campaign for democratic rights comes from the editor of the "Tablet". This bitter attack is similar to the other news smears, essentially that this is a communist plot conducted by the People's Republic of China. The editor there emphasised the 'violence' created by a 'turbulent mob' in breaking one window. He revealed that he has been to Kuala Lumpur and seen the results of the damage done by the communists from the military operations room of the government. But de Silva and his collaborators have been discredited on two occasions. The first was when the Prime Minister of Malaysia denied his allegation of communist subversion in Parliament last December. The second, when Mr Kirk concluded that the High Commission was speaking through a hole in its window when an attempt was made to link the demonstration to the Embassy of the People's Republic of China. This was detrimental to the recent establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Jim Crichton, President of NZUSA, has written to all newspapers concerned about the seriousness of their allegations. But their failure to publish his letter so far indicates the extent to which papers are willing to publish lies in defence of an authoritarian government. In the "Tablet's" case the editor supports a regime which regularly denies renewal of Catholic priests and brothers' permits to preach their faith.

The editor of "Tablet" should spend some time researching the plight of Catholic priests and brothers in Malaysia before he takes any stand at all. Having been educated in a Catholic school I can understand his rigid views about communism, a philosophy which the Vatican

strangely enough, claims a close affinity in a statement made last year. However, there are two types of Catholics, the first to which the editor of "Tablet" belongs, the second with whom I align myself (not being able to get away from them) is the VUW Catholic Society. My good friends in this society have taken the correct stand in supporting our struggle for democratic rights. Mr de Silva is also a Catholic, regrettably of the old school. Having said a fair bit about Catholics, I make it clear here that this is in no way an attack on anyone else's religion. I have been accused of doing this in a letter mysteriously connecting me with the Virgin Mary in which the writer concluded that I was attacking his religion via the discussion on the language issue. How he came to this conclusion is beyond me. How could I call for democratic rights and at the same time deny religious freedom to others? This is incompatible and illogical to my thinking.

Apart from the obvious intimidation by de Silva what other examples of intimidation do you know of?

I know that returning students are frequently interrogated by the secret police. The most obvious form of intimidation is the threat of imprisonment under the Internal Security Act. The secret police have consistently put this to good use as I have already pointed out. Students are also questioned and warned by the secret police before they come here. The parents of blacklisted overseas students studying in NZ are also often visited and questioned by the secret police regarding the activities and behaviour of their children.

Another method of restriction takes the form of an identification card which every citizen must carry for life from the age of 12. If a person is found without his card he is guilty of a criminal offence. During the emergency he was liable to be executed. This is one of the most effective ways in which the Malaysian Government controls its citizens. It was also introduced by the British after the war.

Is it true that the Malaysian government carries out surveillance on its citizens?

One of the main reasons why Malaysian students have been afraid to speak out openly is the fear that they are being spied upon. The High Commission and some students proved this suspicion to be true when they had a field day taking photos of all the students at the demonstration. The extensiveness and depth of surveillance carried out by the Malaysian Government is indicated in the charges against Khoo.

That even the freedom of privacy is denied is shown by these charges. The refer to detailed knowledge of his activities such as his reading material during his school days in Australia. That was many years ago - but this has all come to the surface now, revealing the efficiency of its surveillance.

In Australia, the situation appears to be no better. The most recent case of intimidation was reported in the Christchurch Press on June 13, 1974. Here a Melbourne student Michael Yeoh was visited by Malaysian officials. He was questioned about statements he had made asking the Malaysian Government to give assurances that it wouldn't spy on students. Students over there are now reacting against this sort of intimidation.

Do you think the New Zealand Government plays any part in the surveillance of students?

This is quite possible. A positive impression is created by the fact that students applying for permanent residence have their past activities here scrutinized before they get permission to stay. The Australian example where its security service was giving more information to its "allies" than to its own government rests easily on my mind. It may be possible therefore that the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service may do likewise with the Malaysian Government as regards students. Both the New Zealand and Malaysian Governments have collaborated very closely in security matters.

For example, New Zealand has given \$7,000 to Malaysia as internal security aid and sent tracker dogs to Malaysia. New Zealand also has a defence arrangement with Malaysia.

My conclusion is that such close collaboration does not end there.

Granted that spying is a fact of life for Malaysians, the issue has created suspicion and mistrust among Malaysians. This is an undesirable result as people give way to emotional thoughts rather than objective thinking. This impedes any sensible discussion when some students come forward to defend their government, rightly or wrongly, they have been yelled down. This is very unfair to this section of Malaysians who should be allowed to air their views. Another effect is that suspicion and mistrust is also created on the part of Malaysians against some New Zealanders. The Malaysian Government must come out to assure its citizens here that it will stop playing big brother with them.

What is the New Zealand government's stand as regards Malaysia?

The New Zealand Government takes a very questionable stand in at least two aspects of its

foreign policy - political asylum and racial discrimination. In the first case, the New Zealand Government readily grants asylum to political refugees from communist countries, yet it is very hard for political refugees from countries as repressive as communist countries are considered to be, to get asylum here. Politically active people are not welcome in New Zealand. This is so in the case of some Malaysian students so far to my knowledge. Students who are politically active find it hard to obtain political asylum here. At least one has since been deported. The easier way to get permanent residence here would be for one to be docile and unquestioning. Even then only those with degrees required here need apply. So much for democracy and foreign aid self righteousness of some local politicians. I needn't stress their lack of concern for Malaysians who have little democratic freedom. The New Zealand Government must therefore make its stand clear on these matters. This is an issue which reflects poorly on the NZ political system which now appears to give little allowance to the tradition of liberalism and western democracy with its "I'm all right Jack" attitude.

As regards racial discrimination, the Labour Party in its manifesto declared that "all doctrines of racial superiority are totally rejected". The Labour Government has put this into effect by consistently refusing sporting contacts with South Africa, but it quietly condones this policy in Malaysia, especially in reference to the recent policy to use the Malay language test as a criteria of admission to study here. The language may be relevant at home, but has no relevance in NZ. This matter is being taken up by the universities here.

This policy is yet a further step by the Malaysian Government to deprive its citizens of their basic human rights. It suits the New Zealand Government's immigration policy at the same time, in restricting the number of Malaysian students coming here. In the Khoo case, the Malaysian government was denied the right to extend its laws here, in the new policy New Zealand has agreed to this without fuss.

What do you hope to achieve in speaking out?
Malaysians are aware of the injustices at home. It is for them to bring about peaceful changes and progress. Pressure may be built up from abroad to make the Malaysian Government change its policies. This will take time but the time for action is now or it will be too late. We must not think solely about our own welfare but that of future generations. Students must start to explore seriously peaceful and suitable means of achieving this object. They can do so by discussing the problems at home and attempt to find solutions to them.

What further action would you suggest students should take?

Action that would bring New Zealanders to a closer understanding of their Malaysian fellowmen. The most immediate in my mind is to draw up a petition on the things I have discussed in the form set out by the Federation of Malaysian Students in North America. This could be signed by both New Zealanders and Malaysians here and copies sent to the United Nations and the New Zealand Government to draw their attention to the political situation in Malaysia. A similar copy could be sent home calling on the government to change its policies and clarify on Khoo's and Wong's fate among others.

At the first forum I held, the idea of forming a committee for democratic rights was brought forward. There have been words of encouragement and I am hoping to get more positive and concrete offers to help. I invite those students who are serious about this idea to get in touch with me and perhaps we could arrange for a meeting to discuss things further. In Auckland the response to this idea appears to be more positive and I think a committee is now in the process of being formed.

The next course of action is very important. This is a conference to be held on August 30 and 31 where hopefully all people no matter what their political views are welcome to express their opinions. The High Commissioner should be invited to join as representative of his government. The conference will be open to everyone interested in Malaysia.

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Student politics in Malaysia

Introduction

I believe we are living in one of the profound periods wherein students are no longer solely the recipient of cultural heritage, but are increasingly becoming a central element of social change.

Students activism that received headlines in developing countries certainly poses a disconcerting challenge to the traditional forms of authority. Perhaps the crisis of authority is one of the first signs of institutional decay.

I have here outlined an example of the sort of confrontation between the Malaysian student movement and the government in its attempt to impose (the Universities and Colleges Bill — passed in April 1971) restrictions on student political activities.

Section 15(1) of the Universities and University Colleges Act states:

"No Students' Council, Faculty Students' organisation or any body or group of students of a university shall have any affiliating with, or shall do anything which can be construed as expressing support, sympathy or opposition to any political party or trade union established and registered under the law relating to the registration of societies or trade unions or to any unlawful group or body of individuals."

Section 15(2), states:

"No person while he is a student of the university shall be an office bearer in a political party or trade union..."

One of the major criticisms of this Act is centered not on the issues of university autonomy or academic freedom but on STUDENT LIBERTY. (The provision in the Act allows the University Council to suspend or dissolve student organizations if they violate the law or conduct themselves in a

manner it considers "detrimental or prejudicial to the well-being of a university."

Note: However, like everyone else, the student who is a threat to national security can be locked up under the Internal Security Act.

On the basis of the argument from the government point of view, the section is necessary because students are not "just like everyone else".

What interests me most is the sort of justification the government presents — "Demonstrations held without the necessary permits have not resulted in prosecutions. Student speeches at the University of Malaya's Speakers Corner, which would have landed many a politician in jail, have been allowed."

Now, when one examines these justifications carefully, certain aspects of one's perception of reality are altered in quite striking ways — just last week, 181 students from MIT (Mara Institute of Technology) were arrested and prosecuted for having taken part in an unlawful demonstration along Federal Highway, Petaluy Jaya, to further their cause of action — to raise MIT to a university status.

The government has argued that the law only prohibits students as a body from taking part in political party and trade union activities. "It does not prevent them as individuals from doing so."

Section 15(2) points out the contradiction which the government so benevolently presented.

This argument illustrates the fear of the Malaysian government in its recognition of the potential richness of forms of protest the student movement will produce. The enormous gamut of different forms of student struggle has been demonstrated again and again — The National Union of Students in Thailand that toppled the previous military government, the revolutionary impulse of the Indonesian students' movement, and lately the danger of the National Union of Malaysian Students that may draw inspiration and experience from fraternal student

movements across the world.

Note: Japan was the first major capitalist country to experience a militant student movement and its record is therefore a great insight and relevance to the Malaysian government.

In a Press statement in June 1971, the National Union of Malaysian students argued that the Act "most effectively turn students into mere schoolboys totally uninvolved in national development," whereas the government and its supporters' view of the university is quite different. One editorial states:

"Let it not be forgotten that students have a moral obligation to the people and the country to study hard, pass their exams and to acquire more knowledge, experience and still to help the development and progress of the nation."

As Malaysian students become increasingly aware, increasingly take control of their own environment, working situations and able to engage in its role of a progressive if not revolutionary social force, there will be direct confrontation with authority. But such preparation and development of a movement has always been branded by the government as subversive elements. Speaking before students in April 1971, in reply to criticisms of the Act, Allah Yarham Tuu Dr Ismail stated: "I realise students want freedom to disagree. I also realise the desire of students to take a bigger part in your own affairs and politics. But you ought to know that there is no freedom that is absolute. And if you accept this fact it is necessary for you to review your approach and attitude. There are subversive elements who are bent on creating an unhealthy climate for the governments and the student community. The Act is directed against them."

My intention here is to try to identify the prevailing ideological tactic of the government. This ideology I hope to show, consistent-

ly defends the existing restrictions on universities in their pursuit of normal academic activities, such as research, enquiry and objective analysis — an undertaking on academic freedom. It endeavors to suppress the idea that any preferable alternative social arrangements do or can exist. It is systematically pessimistic about the possibilities of attacking repression and cautious in recognising student liberty. On this basis, it constructs theories of national aspirations, international elements, the subversive elements, of all which imply that "sensitive issues" cannot be questioned.

There is an article "Campus Act and Student Politics" by Noordin Sopiee which suggests that because higher education is such a great investment by society, the government believes that the highest returns for the nation should be secured.

The government believes that to ensure this, it must be in a position to intervene legally. Thus it follows that the Act rules out absolute university autonomy for the justifications set above. This is the sort of logic that the government expounds.

This leads me to an important question that has some sort of significance in relation to higher education and society. The question — "What do Malaysian students think of the educational institutions in which they spend an important part of their lives?" The most significant fact is that most of them don't think about them — "tidak apa" attitude. The majority are still the apathetic silent population whose main interests involve securing a good job, "fat" pay and enjoy a relatively comfortable if not aspiring luxurious life (in relative terms).

It is important to understand that students are alienated from much more than the social and extra curricular aspect of their education. In fact, their deepest alienation is directed at the educational process itself — of irrelevancy, meaninglessness,

boredom — and fragmentation — far from the rhetorical rationalization of the government — "as a process of developing free, autonomous, creative and responsible individual" — the "nationalist" in the best sense of the word.

What is the reality of Malaysian education? Contrary to the commitment of individual, creative, free and autonomous, we find the day-to-day practice of our schools — authoritarian, conformist and entirely status oriented.

From individual freedom to the Internal Security Act; from egalitarianism to class and racial hierarchy (within eco-political framework), from equal rights to special privileges, from democracy to institutional restrictions — we have come to see education as a mechanical process of homogenous, uncritical acceptance of "data" and development of job skills.

From this analysis, we can understand the student revolt in its most strategic and crucial sense from a broader perspective. What we will witness in the students movement within Malaysia during the next few years will be significantly influenced by the character of its struggle.

In conclusion, the most important factor for the Malaysian student power movement to keep in mind is the fact that the university is intimately bound up with the Malaysian society in general. "We cannot liberate the university without radically changing the rest of society."

by a Malaysian student presently studying at Monash.



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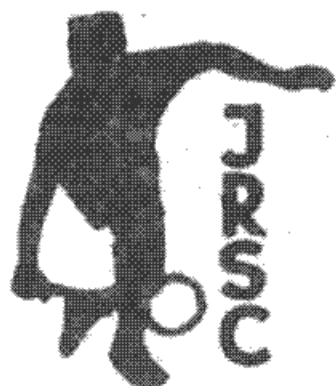
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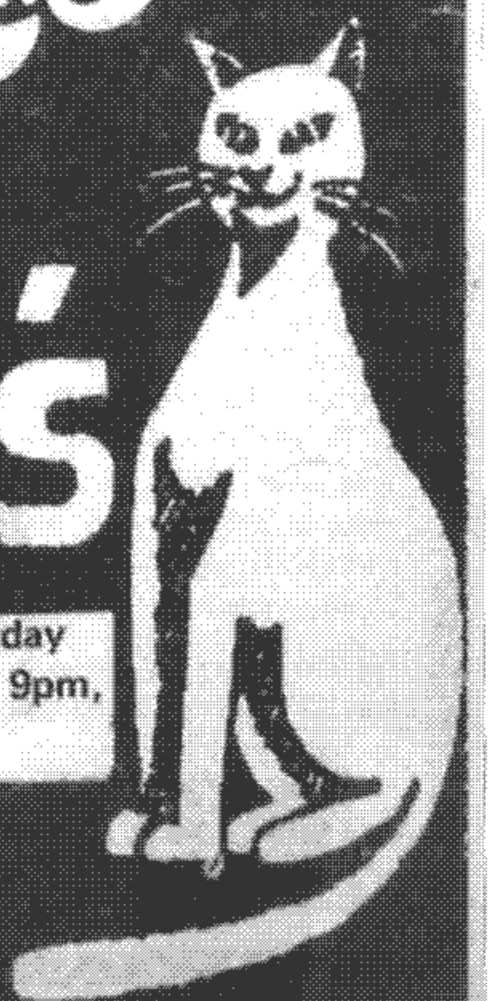
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SPIKE: been and goon

"Good evening ladies and gentlemen and those of you who've had the operation." So began an evening with Spike Milligan. The Friends of Downstage were conducted (literally) through choruses of 'Good evening, Jim', 'P-pong' and the absurdist Goonery that is Spike. Interspersed between bits and pieces of Milligan humour was the often poignant singing of Val Murphy. It was late last Thursday night when Milligan began "the Bible reading from the top of Mount Kaukau!"

"Dearly beloved we are gathered here to make money. This is my lifelong friend Harry Edgington. Inside leg measurement 33. I knew him when his inside leg measurement was 11. Its been a long hard pull. If he doesn't stop it he'll go blind. I'd like to say by the way, that Harry is the only man in the world to have won a three legged race alone."

"I somehow feel that my appearance in New Zealand is long overdue. When I landed in Wellington, a customs officer said to me 'weren't you Spike Milligan'. We haven't organised anything so nothing can go wrong."

Milligan pointed to a dummy seated on his right, "This is a frustration dummy. If the jokes don't get laughs we beat the shit out of it. The Japanese use it in factories to alleviate tensions in the workers. Otherwise they knock themselves off by the thousands. They throw themselves off Fujiyama by the thousands. Hence the saying 'There's a nip in the air.'"

"I thought I'd start reading my selection of Shakespeare's love songs. Umm. Then I thought twice of it. He never reads any of mine."

"Last time I came here, three years ago, this place was a little shack occupied by a fireman who said you can't have plays in here for more than two people at a time. Those guys say 'I died in the last war for people like you'. They thought they'd do a few bits up and it got cut of hand. They built this whole building for me."

Then it was the familiar routine:

"Knock, knock."

Audience, "Who's there?"

"Winston."

"Winston who?"

"See you've forgotten him already. Here he is to read a poem. Good evening I must say how glad I am to be here in New Zealand. I've been dead nine years and here's a poem he thinks is funny. There was a young man called Wyatt, whose voice was remarkably quiet, then one day it faded away...."

Milligan sat down on a chair. It broke and the audience roared. Val Murphy sang. Milligan then got the audience singing p-p-ong. Next he



read from one of his 'bits of paper' - an excerpt from his war memoirs.

"One morning a letter came marked OHMS. I thought it was Faraday. 'Don't open that,' said father 'the last time one of those came I ended up in Mesopotamia. We were chased by Turks waving pots of vaseline and all shouting 'Lawrence we love you'. It was a proud day for my parents when two military policemen dragged me screaming from under my bed. At Victoria Station the RTO gave me a travel warrant, a white feather and a picture of Hitler marked 'This is your enemy'. I searched every compartment but he wasn't on the train."

"At 4.30, June 2 1940 we arrived at Bexhill station where I got off. It wasn't easy. The train didn't stop there. I reported to the regiment. The sergeant marched me to a small room. He then marched me to a smaller room with a naked 40 watt bulb which when lit made the room darker. At the head of a table covered with a very grey blanket sat an officer in his late 50s, wearing a uniform in its late 90s' (neddy noises of the most gibberish type) I knew he'd been to a good school. 'Why aren't you in uniform?' I wasn't going to go naked sir. 'I mean why aren't you in uniform?' I'm not at war with anyone sir. The sergeant 'Silence when ya speak to an officer'. The officer snapped 'I suppose you know you're three months' late in arriving'. Sir I'll make up for it, I'll fight nights as well."

"The sergeant marched me to my quarters.

He pointed to the floor. 'Hereya thats ya bed'. Thank you. 'Thank you sergeant'. Sergeant already. 'Cheeky bastard eh'. He gave me a scrubbing brush with two bristles. Leering over all this was the dwarf like Bombadier Nash who looked like Quasimodo with the hump reversed. He was doing things to sausages. So I got a uniform from the Quartermaster's store. So I went on guard in a blue suit, with gaiters, tin hat and a webb belt and a pink tie. 'Halt who goes there' I would challenge. The answer was always the same "Piss off". It was going to be a long hard war.

"Then there was the sergeant who looked in profile whichever way you looked at him.

"On Sunday morning the sergeant would yell 'Fall out the Catholics and the Jews'. We'd spend every Sunday peeling spuds. We'd get a visit from the Roman Catholic priest who used to warn us about sex. 'Avoid drink and strong things like that. Bear in mind it excites the sexual appetites and therefore if someone's drunk bring him home and bathe the parts in cold water.'. It was great to learn how to be a Christian - all you needed was an erection and a bucket of cold water."

It was time for a song. In a style quite different from the songs of Val Murphy, Milligan rendered the following:

"I left my heart in San Francisco, I left my knees in old Peru, I left my liver and leg somewhere in Winnipeg, I left my wig in Dublin, too on you, I left my teeth on Table Mountain, high on a hill they smile at me, When I go back to San Francisco, there won't be much left of me to see."

He gets many letters from children. Milligan read some to show the sense of humour that most adults seem to lose. He once asked his son if he wanted to help with cutting the grass. The boy replied "Yes, we'll make the garden nice for when the cat dies."

"We bought one of those plastic swimming pools. Before that we had no friends. Before I knew what had happened the garden was full of little spotty things. A little boy, all trousers and hair was queuing up for the toilet. He knocked and the little girl inside said 'Who's that?'. He replied 'It's somebody else'."

Following the strong statement of Val Murphy's "Aint Gonna Marry", Spike read a poem.

I sent you a rose, a single scarlet rose,

You like my rose are single,

and like you I too am single

and that's th bloody way its going to stay.

Then along came Henry and Min: Henry: Yes

Min? Min: I'm hugging your legs for winter. Leg,

leg leg leg leg leg. Henry: Did you put the cat

out? Min? Why? Henry: I think it's on fire.

Henry and Min have not had their last

words but others have been and goon. The last

words of Mr Gladstone: "I feel better". Florence

Nightingale "I smell burning". Milligan had

words for the Scots, as well as Pakistanis. A

'Gaelic' song was incomprehensible except for

one middle word 'singing'. The laughter eased

and we were told that the next song was serious.

"We have cracked the midnight glass, and

loosed the rattling star-crazed night into the room,

the blind heart sings in the firelight, and your

hands are decked with white snowflakes, what wine

is this we drink, the squirrels are dancing in my

glass, Great God! I'm pissed!"

There actually was a serious verse. 'New

Numbers:

"Pull the blinds on emotions

switch off your face

put your love into neutral

this way for the human race."

After seeing a rabbit dying of mixomatosis he

wrote "The baby rabbit, eyes full of pus, the work

of scientific'.

His daughter admired an antique doll in a

shop window.

"Beautiful porcelain yesterdoll

still wax fresh

some little girl - all ringlets and flounced lace
once loved you quiet
and sat happy in your glass eyes gaze
those long shared dreams have slipped their
mooring
that great red brick house
spick span polish piled
now hard wearing room
reeking of curry cabbage and cats piss
and your polished doors
now lie du,ux deep and red plastic handles
so dear waiting doll in the window
waiting for the right price
we have turned you into a whore."

For once the audience was silent. It was interrupted by the man who is not just a goon saying "that silence is very important."

The silence was short lived with a short verse. "I thought I saw Jesus on tram, I said are you Jesus? He said 'Yes I am'."

Out of the pile of bits and pieces of paper came odd sayings like "Policemen are numbered in case they get lost."

Rewritten proverbs that Punch had requested: "all's fair in love and war. It's a lie, both Cleopatra and Adolf Hitler were dark". "The early bird catches the worm. Yes. All the birds in my garden have got worms. You shouldn't get up so early." "It's useless to flog a dead horse. Rubbish. Take all the money you can get." "God sends nuts tot hose who have no teeth. He also sends teeth to those who have no nuts."

Following some songs by Val Murphy there was a further reading from war memoirs. "A pissed sandy haired doctor stopped at my bed to look at my chart. 'Oh I see you're suffering from Gunner Milligan.' 'That's my name'. 'Oh I see a bad knee.' The second day he came around and said 'Oh I see you're suffering from a bad knee, Oh I see'. The third day he came around and said 'Oh I see you're suffering from a bad knee.' I replied 'I'm suffering from a pissed sandy haired doctor.'"

Australia suffered from a national anthem contest. Milligan sent an entry to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

"Australia, Australia, we think of you each day, / ustralia, Australia at work or at play, We think of you in the morning and every evening too, We even wake up at midnight so we can think of you, Australia, Australia we love you from the heart, The liver the kidneys and the giblets, and every other part."

The ABC sent it back. After the Pakistanis, the Scots, the Strine patriots, why not the French. In Paris, Milligan hailed a cab "which pulled up in a cloud of garlic. The driver hopped out and gesticulated in the corner. We proceeded to a hotel called Demolition by Kirkpatrick. The cab driver said it was built in 1800 before Napoleon. In 1803 they added the west wing. In 1804 they added the east wing. In 1805 it flew away. Inside I had a word with the manager. "I'll have to have a talk to you about the ceiling in the room." He said "what about it?" 'I'd like one'. He said 'I hope you have a good memory for faces'. 'Why?' I said. 'There's no shaving mirror in the bathroom.' It was the only hotel I know where the birds brought the guests bits of food in the morning.

"Later we went to a restaurant called Le Cafe GoGo. 'Plastique and chips' I ordered in French and waited for the alarm clock covered with chips. The lady next to me was having tea and frogs legs. Her friend's ones were better. I said to the waiter: 'There's a fly in my soup'. He said 'don't worry, the spider on the bread roll will get it.'"

Milligan got to everyone in the audience. After some jazz with Harry Edgington and Val Murphy everyone sang Goodnight Irene. It turned into "God Save the Queen Irene". Then it was "For Gods sake save the Queen Irene". Spike Milligan got out a small silver object from his box of props, a whistle, told everyone to go home and blew a whistle on the affair.

Living on a tight budget is no bed of roses



So if you need a little help or advice on money matters while you're at varsity, see Errol Hanna at the Wellington Branch of the BNZ



Just apart from BNZ services like cheque and savings accounts, travellers' cheques, and so on, there are two particular BNZ services that a lot of students have found very useful.

BNZ Educational Loans

The great thing about these is their flexibility. You can take one out for a few days, to tide you over a rough spot till the end of term, or you can borrow on the long-term, and plan things out over the years you're at varsity.

BNZ Consulting Service

Free, helpful advice on practically any financial matter, from people who understand money and how it works.



And just by the way, there's another good reason for banking with the Bank of New Zealand—it's the only trading bank wholly owned by the people of New Zealand.

Call at the BNZ on-campus office and fix up a time for a chat with Errol Hanna or phone him direct at BNZ Wellington Branch, Cnr Lambton and Customhouse Quays, phone 44-070 Ext 823.

BANK OF NEW ZEALAND



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CONCERT

Review of Kris Kristofferson/Rita Coolidge and Blood, Sweat and Tears by Amarillo Bill.

Kris Kristofferson's stay in Wellington began badly with an interview on 2ZM that explained a lot of why performers sometimes get rough with the media. John Stier confronted him with questions like - what is your philosophy of life? Do you believe in God? Are you a cynic? And the final classic, is Bobby McGee your lead guitarist's brother? In the circumstances, Kristofferson was a model of tact and patience. But sometime I hope Stier will run into someone like Frank Sinatra or Bob Dylan. There'll be blood on the microphone that day.

The crowd outside the Town Hall didn't look too promising; very country and western, in fact they looked so clean and dowdy I was sure Stewart MacPherson

had bussed them in from Taihape and Masterton especially for the show. A girl in front of me just hoped it would be as good as Kenny Rodgers.

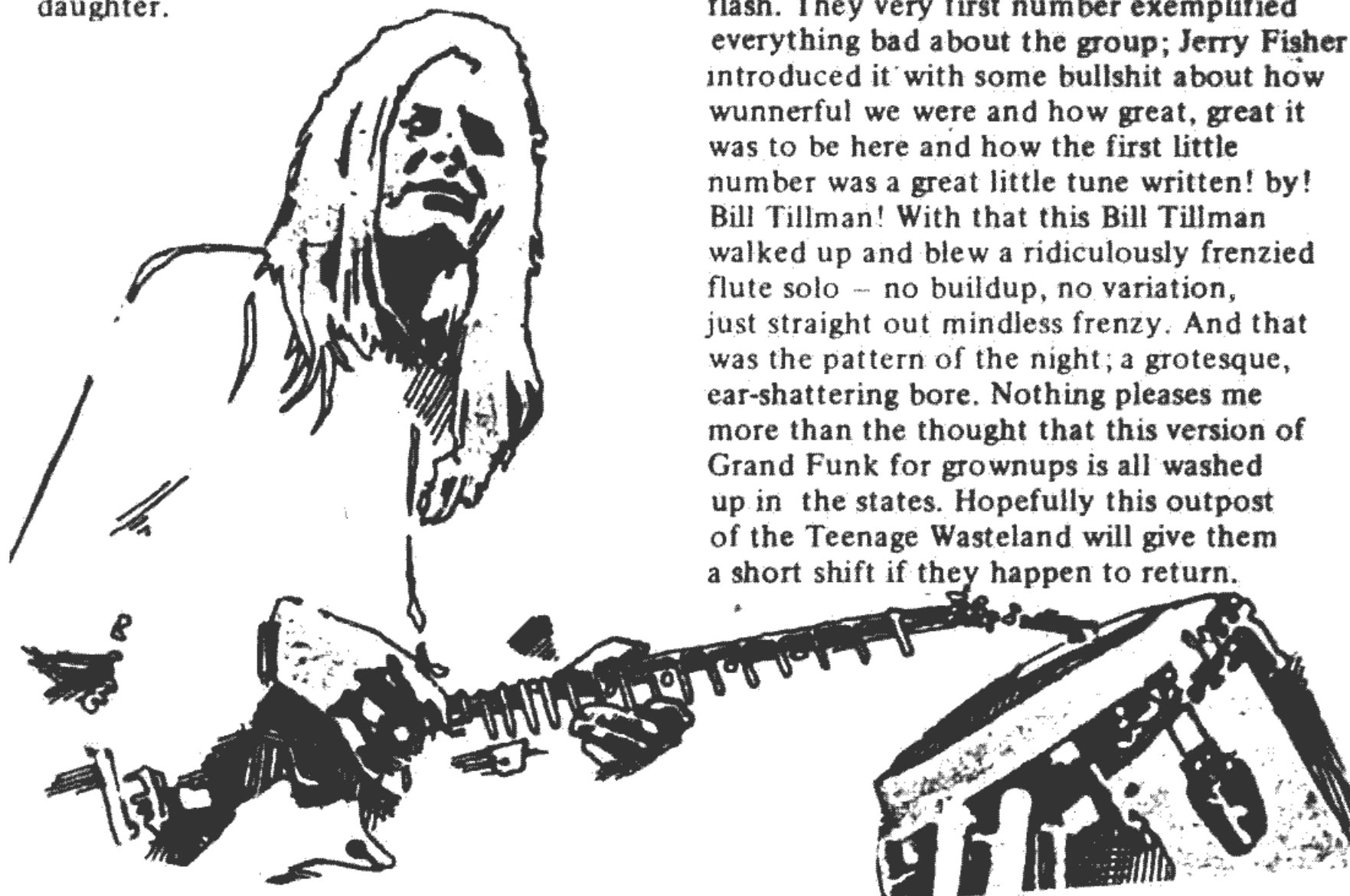
Kristofferson and the band played a very warm low-key set in the first half that sounded a lot like a lightweight version of Dylan and the Band. Their lineup is identical to the Band's and they all sing in the same tight harmonies. Though its hard to single out personalities, probably Terry McGee on lead guitar and keyboard man Mike Utley were the most impressive.

Two songs by a writer called Larry Murray marked him as a man to watch for, and generally the set gave us a good glimpse of the taste and professionalism that Muscle Shoals is all about.

Rita Coolidge however, was quite a different story. On the face of it, she has all the technical qualities, she looks good, has a nice full tone, and she breathes in the right places. But she moves on stage terribly, like a wooden Indian sleepwalking underwater. A grimacing kewpie doll.

As for her singing, she murdered Van Morrison's "Crazy Love", playing down all the jagged surfaces of the original, and her imitation of Peggy Lee on "Fever" was curiously flat. If this was Rita in a fever, then Rita being introspective must put her in danger of premature burial. The duets with Kristofferson went over big with the

Kenny Rogers fans; I mean, you could just tell they were in love. Nosetip to nosetip, holding hands round the microphone, they brought back so many memories of Paul and Paula. After the quiet brilliance of the first half it was a bit like watching your favourite western star nuzzling up to the rancher's daughter.



It took the excesses of Blood, Sweat and Tears to drive home how good Kris and the Band had really been. Quite simply this pack of posturing phonies did the worst show I've ever seen - unbelievably shallow playing, done at an excruciating, pointlessly loud volume with the worst type of Las Vegas flash. They very first number exemplified everything bad about the group; Jerry Fisher introduced it with some bullshit about how wonderful we were and how great, great it was to be here and how the first little number was a great little tune written! by! Bill Tillman! With that this Bill Tillman walked up and blew a ridiculously frenzied flute solo - no buildup, no variation, just straight out mindless frenzy. And that was the pattern of the night; a grotesque, ear-shattering bore. Nothing pleases me more than the thought that this version of Grand Funk for grownups is all washed up in the states. Hopefully this outpost of the Teenage Wasteland will give them a short shift if they happen to return.

Students say...



I like it compared to other student mags but I'm getting sick of the general Marxist bit in it - I'd like to see more comics of course. There could be more student news but that's not really Salient's fault, it's really the students fault. I'd also like to see more photos of the campus and things...

Last Monday Salient interviewed several students on the steps outside the Union Building, extracting their opinions on the present Salient format and on future modifications they would like to see.



Letters from students should not all be published because some are anonymous and malicious - you should only print genuine letters. The articles are a bit on the radical side but I don't mind them - I am concerned about the letters.



It isn't as objective as it could be, it should present all sides. However I think that university students have a right to be interested in what's going on outside. Perhaps the only criticism is that is overly zealous and slanted to one side.



Salient should deal more with things that affect students on campus. There is too much overseas stuff. I liked the article on sociology and things like that. It really strikes me that students are so apathetic - I'm really against the internal assessment and credit systems and these might have an effect but I still think students are apathetic.

Never even read it - I'm a part-time student.

I never bother reading it - I'd much rather read the Evening Post. She'll be right.

It's very good....I don't know how it relates to the varsity but I think it's quite reasonable. I think it covers what students want generally.

Inadequate....just a small group of people writing....hasn't got the representation of the majority of students although I think they are just not interested. There's not much of immediate concern to students.

Too much political crap - not enough recipes. I'd like more FFF Brothers comics and stuff....not such heavy political stuff all the time...you need constructive stuff - put out a list of good supermarkets and things. I like it though.

I like the letters best - I thought the last issue was very good....I always read it. I think the coverage is good although it could do with more poetry and art. I don't think the average student is bothered to express his opinion by contributing... I don't think the comics are very good - I prefer Superman!



I think there's a need for Salient. I think there's a need for the leftist point of view to be presented. I don't think its reaching others students but it's probably the best around.



Generally all right....I like most of the articles in it - its good to have radical views on campus but it goes a little far at time. I'd like to see some articles on South America.



I don't imagine much could be done to Salient....I'd like to see some contributions from students about the studies they're undertaking...it might be interesting to have a forum on the subject. I think the most important thing is that the people who produce it enjoy it. I would like to hear things that students think about, but most of the stuff students write is more fitting for learned journals, rather than a newspaper.



It's a bit impersonal - not much to do with the university. There should be more sports results and things and more concentration on varsity life more than current affairs.



I only read it when its got something Maori in it so I can't really say. I don't read the Evening Post unless it's got something Maori in it.

Whether you agree or disagree come to the...

FORUM ON SALIENT

26th JULY

UNION HALL

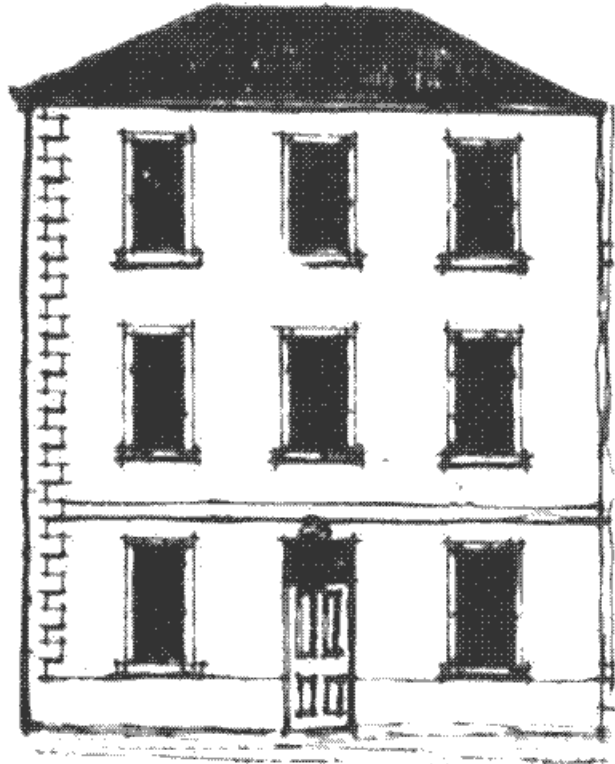
COME ALONG NOON

Council won't act on slums

The Wellington mayoral election forum held recently in the Union Building produced a number of important issues. Two of the questions directed to candidates sought answers as to why the Wellington City Council had not licensed apartment buildings and only employed one inspector of substandard dwellings. Sir Francis Kitts and Councillor Michael Fowler were baffled by these questions and promised to investigate.

Some weeks after the forum enquiries to both candidates about the result of their investigation produced no reply from Sir Francis Kitts and a mild answer from Michael Fowler. Councillor Fowler said that he had spoken to the city engineer who promised him that would direct his staff to licence apartment buildings. Mr Fowler also said that any person who did not receive satisfaction from the council officer in regard to substandard dwellings could refer the matter to him and he would investigate. Michael Fowler's reply is an attempt to smooth over a very serious situation.

In 1968 an amendment to the Municipal Corporations Act 1954 required that all apartment buildings coming within the given definition were to be licensed. The definition states that an apartment building means a building which accommodates three or more families living independently of one another with or without common facilities but does not include owner-occupied flats. Six years have elapsed since the legislation was passed and Wellington City Council has still not licensed apartment buildings. The reason for this inaction lies principally in the economics of the council and its fear of



offending landlords. Inspections of apartment buildings involves the fire officer, building inspector and health inspector. Regular inspections by these officers could keep these flats in a reasonable standard for living in. However the Wellington City Council is concerned no doubt in the extra staff required to inspect these premises, and also with the extra cost especially in relation to safety requirements that the landlords would have to spend to bring their buildings up to the required standard. The council should be made aware of the likely effect on the mental physical and social health of the community if people are continuing to live in substandard flats.

All substandard dwellings in New Zealand are governed by the same legislation. The relevant legislation is the Health Act 1956 and the Urban Renewal and Housing Improvement Act 1945. Generally the enforcement of this legislation is carried out by health inspectors who are trained

specifically as preventive officers in the field of public health. Although the Wellington City Council health inspectors are officers appointed under the above mentioned legislation, only one building inspector apparently does the necessary investigation work. The Health Department has constantly written to local authorities, to say that they should carry out regular inspections of all dwellings within their area. To this purpose health inspectors have the wide power of entry and inspection of premises at all reasonable times.

But no prosecutions in recent years have been successful in relation to substandard dwellings. The number of substandard dwellings continues to increase.

The tenants have the legislation to support them in their legitimate claims in regard to substandard dwellings but the local body is apparently not prepared to enforce the legislation.

The study of women

Approval to introduce an interdisciplinary course on Women in Society will be sought from the Curriculum Committee of the University Grants Committee by Victoria University.

This decision, taken at the University's Council meeting last Monday, means that Victoria University could be, in 1975, the first New Zealand university to offer an integrated programme of women's studies.

Planned for students in their second year of study, the new course will concentrate on the status of women in contemporary society.

Proposals for the course were first considered by a group of women academics at Victoria University in mid-1973, and were developed in a series of meetings arranged for men and women academics interested in teaching such courses.

Responsibility for coordinating the course will be assumed by Ms P. Bunkle, a lecturer in the university's History Department and a range of university teachers in the Faculties of Arts and Languages and Literature will be involved in providing lectures.

The lecture course will cover the present status of women, an historical viewpoint of the origins of the status of modern women, and the reactions of feminists to the changing status of women.

Lindsay G. Wright
Information Officer

Dance

Johnathan Livingston Dance

Johnathan Livingston Seagull is a popular expression of ideas, emotion and movement. Some have endeavoured to capture the atmosphere evoked by Richard Bach. VUW Dance Theatre is using Johnathan Livingston as a basis for exploration. Exploration of the book's moving qualities and emotions is outside the belief in set style and tradition in dance. An artist can be part of society and yet not have to conform to it. So it is with dance theatre. There is exploration that hopefully reaches people in new and different ways. The dance theatre production is on August 1, 2, 3 and it costs 60 cents. It will be on at 8pm in the Memorial Theatre.

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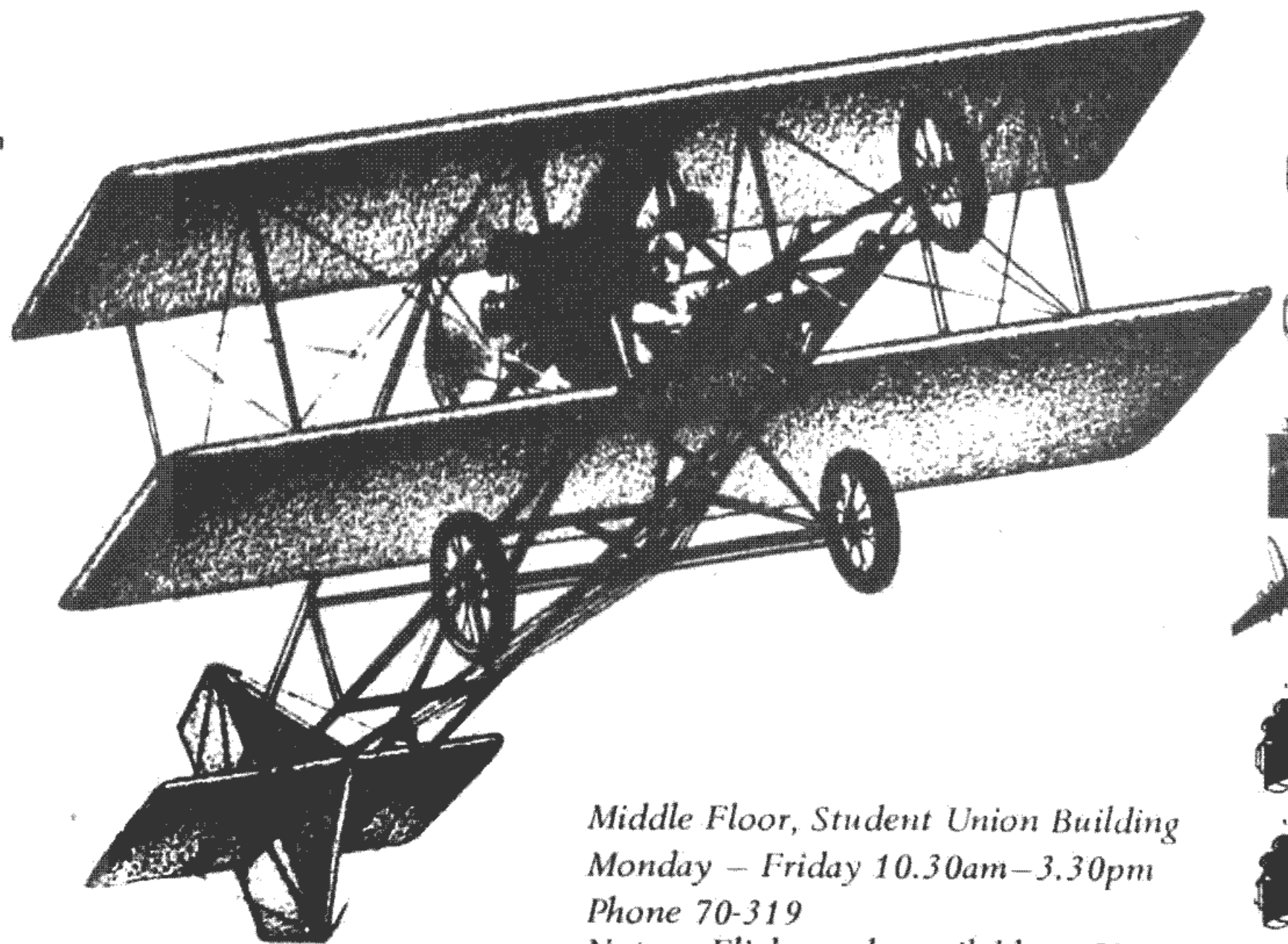
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Letters

Archaic teaching

Dear Salient,

It's time for students to appraise the repressive and archaic teaching methods that certain lecturers around this university embrace. There is not the slightest reason for people to sit back complacently and merely accept such methods when recourse is available to them in protesting to this paper or confronting the lecturer in person.

Recently, in the law of torts, Professor G.W. Palmer has started a course of lectures in which he has provisions to enforce virtual compulsory attendance at his lectures. He has a scheme whereby it is noticed by him that a certain student or students have been absent from his lectures three times or more, or, if a student cannot answer one of his penetrating questions after two previous failures to do so, those people will be denied terms in this subject. This state of affairs is repugnant to the concept of tertiary education, and should be rectified by replacing the element of voluntariness in lecture attendance again. Can we expect Professor Palmer to send notes home to our parents if we cannot make it to his lectures? This is probably not unreasonable to expect of this lecturer who is bent on rooting out the non-professional from the professional students, the pursuers from the servile.

If other students feel intimidated by such impositions they should also make their vehement protest felt.

P.J. Hay

Schemers or decision makers?

Dear Sir,

One would presume that the editor of 'Salient' had a university trained mind, but what university trained mind would print a controversial article without some investigation? Apparently the editor of 'Salient'.

I have only recently read your feature, "Teacher rip-off festering in Fiji", but the facts as pictured make a sorry distortion of the truth to me living in the line of action in Fiji.

Your leading paragraph states that under the "Scheme of Co-operation", the New Zealanders do the scheming and the locals do the co-operating. If we can replace the insidious word, "scheming", with the word that is true in nature and fact, "decision making", then your printed word is true. But let me add, no one likes decision makers here: such words mean discipline; making order in chaos, and the locals do not like that as it spoils their clumber. Fiji as a whole suffers from the lack of decision makers, and only the New Zealanders are brave enough to call a spade a "spade".

Sure the New Zealanders salary may reach \$(F)10,000 - \$(F)12,000, but why come here to earn less than that which he can earn at home, or are the locals always to want a world of philanthropists so they can sit on their "chuff" forever? The same paragraph did not mention that inflation and cost of living is running three times higher in Fiji than in New Zealand. Nor did it mention that most of the "allowances" are absorbed in surtax so that most of the salaries quoted would pay 96c in the dollar above \$(F)5000.

To say that professors only get \$(F)10,000 - \$(F)11,000 or even that the Prime Minister's basic salary is \$(F)11,000 is really begging the real question: everyone gets what he earns, the law of supply and demand sees to that.

I agree that the average student at USP probably gets only a few facilities, but as is men-

tioned on the same page, "There is no international salary level", nor may I add, "Are there any international facilities level." Or, do the locals want, "The cake and the ha-penny too"?

It does not take university level mathematics to calculate who pays the most rent: local staff on \$(F)4,000 pay \$(F)600 p.a. New Zealanders on \$(F)10,000 - \$(F)12,000 pay \$(F)1,000 - \$(F)1200 p.a. Who is pocketing the difference? Or does that not matter among all the hurricane relief goods rotting around Laucala Bay.

"Better promotion prospects when returning to New Zealand", what a laugh: I have only ever seen it used as a deterrent to promotion on return to New Zealand. Or, do you want an M.A. in "squeezing the tourist" in every country in the world?

To the last three "impertinent" questions one can only pose pertinent answers:

a) The Government rules by default, it bows to all pressure groups and strike action, co-operates with nobody, and is unable to make decisions which make it a living body.

b) Supply and demand, the world over, dictate the price and quality that any university must pay its staff.

c) Local staff are incapable of making reasonable or rational decisions and will, as always, abide by "Fait accompli". After all, the homeland of one race is still "developing" after 7000 years of "being around".

The real problems of Fiji are bound up in racialism indolence, poverty of mind, envy and immaturity. The European expatriate is frightened of his own skin to make worth while comments, so the civil service is slowly grinding to a halt. Thank God the New Zealanders can make a "decision" no one else appears capable.

Yours faithfully,
A Yorkshireman Abroad.

Ban on gambling in the union

Dear Sir,

The University Union Management Committee at a special meeting on July 11, 1974, considered a complaint made by the Students' Association on students gambling in the Union Buildings. The Committee's findings were while specific charges against the students concerned were not proven it was convinced, by the evidence he heard, that gambling was taking place in the Union Buildings, in direct contravention of the policy of both of the Union Management Committee and of the Students' Association. The Union Management Committee also reaffirmed that gambling in the Union Buildings is not permitted and that it proposed, in consultation with the Students' Association, to initiate stronger measures for enforcing the prohibition of gambling in the Union Buildings.

Byron Buick-Constable,
Managing Secretary
University Union

Access for the Disabled

Dear Roger,

For the information of one of your correspondents, Patrick O'Hagan, who wrote you recently about the lack of facilities for physically handicapped persons, there is a project under way to try and improve access for disabled persons on campus.

I hope that the soon the Union Management Committee will be able to take action on the provision of access for the disabled within the Union Building including special disabled access for toilets.

If your correspondent would like to visit me I would be pleased to give him more information.

Byron Buick-Constable,
Managing Secretary,
University Union.

Concerned

Dear Sir,

I am very concerned about the lengthy and completely useless raves which have been the norm in SRC meetings of late. It's all right to talk about Zionism etc etc but isn't it possible to limit the number of speakers and/or make the time limit shorter? More business can then be conducted more efficiently.

Bored Student
(Renowned for his short speeches)



Re The Hunter

Dear Roger,

It seems that your urging students not to wallow in coprophilia has resulted in some of them directing their energy to 'batriotic' attacks, to coin a new word.

I shall attempt in simple English as far as possible to answer the above mentioned pseudonym's character assassination and questions she raised.

Her first two questions (and H. Lawhutt's insinuation that I am being used by NZUSA) are answered in the interview on my speaking tour to spread the word of freedom which has been very contagious. I believe I have sufficiently established my case that the Malaysian Government is unduly high handed in the manner it rules. However, if The Hunter is not gratified with the answers there, she may write again so that there can be more debate on a very interesting issue.

To be fair to Roger I must mention that although the interview was ready for publication last week he failed to give it the top priority treatment it truly deserved in deference to The Hunter's letter.

Firstly let me salute The Hunter for being so humble as to refer to herself as an 'ant'. I am not sadistic enough to go around killing ants with Tai Chi. Her claim that I could do so is a clever hyperbole which my friend Ban Cheong will confirm is an impossibility. Tai Chi is only practiced as a physical exercise. Anyway I shall not let her know what deadly martial arts I practice lest she is frightened away from further discussion in these pages.

For a person who purports to have got most of her information on me from the TV Inquiry programme The Hunter displays a lot of knowledge of my life otherwise not known to the public.

I shall now try to establish that The Hunter is a spy. If not, then she is some one who knows me very well.

1) How did Modesty Blaise know that I have done Constitutional Law? 2) How did she know I have a photostat copy of the Internal Security Act? 3) How did she know I practiced Tai Chi for three months, a fact which is very confidential? 4) How did she come to know that I called my friends 'cowards' which is partially false? All these point to one obvious thing, spies do exist on the campus.

As regard the fourth point, it is true to the extent that I have indeed called only one friend 'coward', not 'Friends'. She asked me to reconcile this fact with the allegation that I claimed not to have urged Malaysian students to join in the protest.

In saying that I did not urge students to protest openly, I did so in reply to Ken Lim's statement accusing me of just what The Hunter is doing now i.e. putting words in my mouth as usual. At the first forum before the demonstration I did not in fact urge Malaysian students to take part in what Mr Lim describes as a 'potentially dangerous situation'. This may be confirmed by tape recordings of the NZBC.

This unfair allegation has no connection whatsoever with the fact that I did call one of my friends 'coward'. This came out in the course of a conversation with this particular person outside the Law Library for your records, on the specific topic: Whether we as Malaysians should continue to submit ourselves uncritically to intimidation by the home government. My friend counselled that we should. Whereupon I

said "You bloody coward". We laughed over this remark and parted as good friends as before. Satisfied?

My ideals have been expressed in the interview referred to above. I am not sure Mr Steele will guarantee to print it. If he does not, would The Hunter apply to me for a copy which I shall be pleased to contaminate her with.

The Hunter at least will not be subjected to 'leftist' secret police methods which the Malaysian Government applies to its political opponents.

Long Live Liberty
R. Pui

If Israel.....

Citizen Editor,

If Israel is religious, in the manner of the Arab states, it is accused of theocracy. If it is secular, it is accused of worshipping statchood as idolatry. If it is western, the east accuses it of colonialism. If it is eastern, it is merely Levantine and not worthy of the dream of the ages and the Bible. If it institutes kibbutzim, it is communist. If it emulates western capitalism, it is reactionary.

If it throws itself on the mercy of the nations, it is merely continuing the passivity of the Hitler period. If it fights for its survival, it is a Spartan little beast, intruding on the Middle East.

If it cries at the Wailing Wall, keeps Jerusalem and uses the Bible as the history book in its schools, Israel is hopelessly fanatic and backward. If it tries to keep up with the overvalued twentieth century, it is spoiling the uniform medievalism of the Arabs.

When you displease everybody, you just might be right.

David Los

Irony

Dear Sir,

It seems that it is again time for me to congratulate you on your terrific newspaper. Especially on the publication of the letter by Joan Oldoman on sexual bondage.

Though I think it should be pointed out to Joan that a woman's real place is the home. Women, having inferior minds to we males, are subsequently unable to compete with the superior male when it comes to solving women's problems. Women 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. A woman is not a real person but a sex play thing. Sorry Joan but that's the way it is. Have fun.

J. Kryst - Christian

NO KASHIRA, I HAVE HEARD THE SAME WORDS FROM AGITATORS MANY TIMES IN MANY PLACES AND THEY INVARIABLY * RESULT IN VIOLENCE AND UNHAPPINESS



Satire!

Cowardice or hypocrisy?

Dear Mr Steele,

Salient No. 16 published an article about the recent arrest of 35 people; including lawyers, accountants, students and politicians in the Republic of Singapore and 113 others in 1963 who were alleged to have infringed the notorious Internal Security Act in Singapore.

The "real" offences committed by these people have never been revealed. The alleged infringement of the Internal Security Act has never been substantiated let alone bringing the people who were arrested to a proper and fair trial before the Court of Justice.

Like many Singaporeans in New Zealand, I was very disappointed at the way our "representatives" who self-proclaimed themselves as fighters for liberty, freedom and basic human rights, had remained mute and spastic about the whole matter.

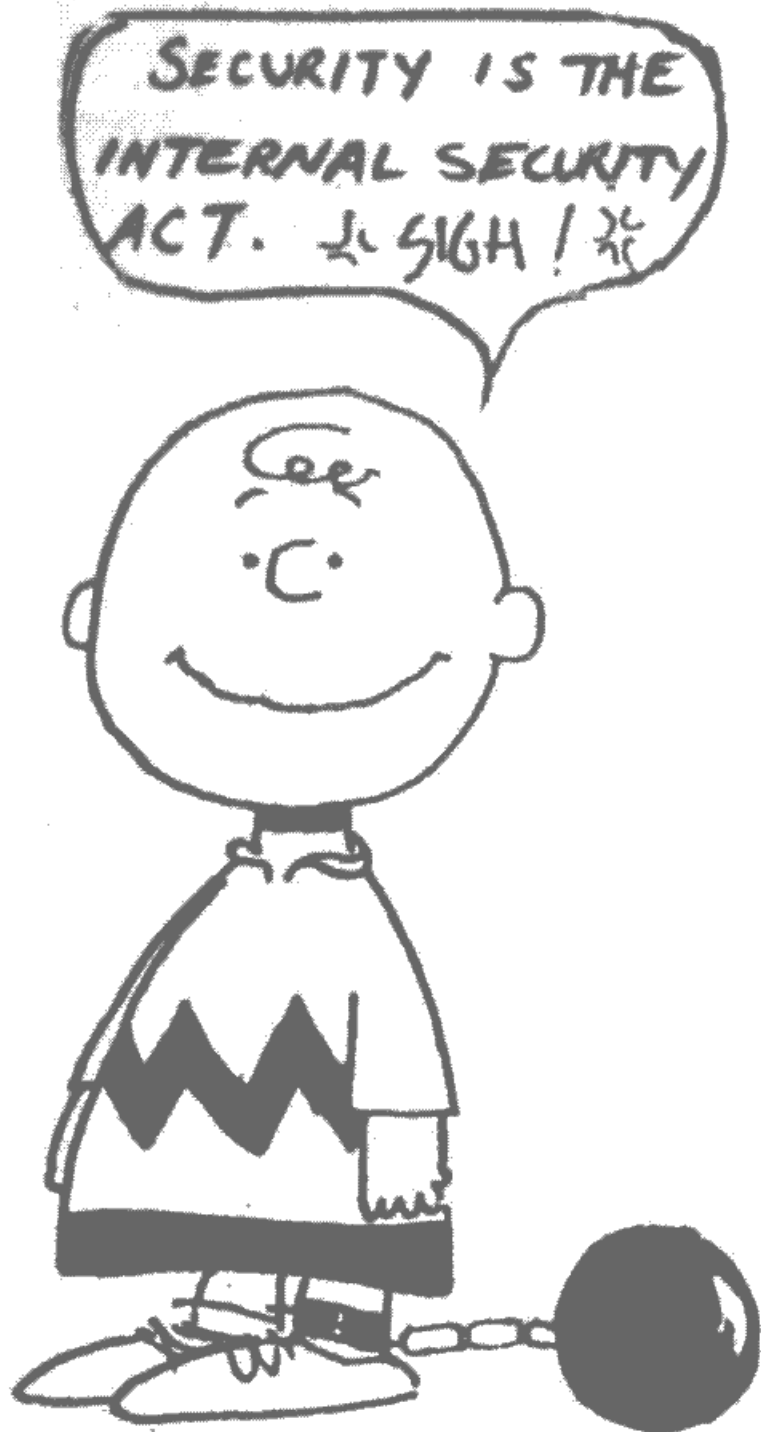
When Khoo Ee Liam was arrested, David Tan and his comedians wasted no time in discrediting the Malaysian Government. Do Tan and his comedians condone this indiscriminate arrest of people in Singapore who have the dignity to question the authoritarian Government of Lee's regime. If not why does he continue his bare hypocrisy and muteness? Is David Tan a coward when his head is on the chopping block?

Worried Singaporean

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Another reactionary speaks out

Dear Mr Steele,
Although I do not understand the big words used by the Hunter last week I support him against R. Pui. It is untrue as claimed by Mr Pui that the Malaysian Government is 'oppressive'. The word has no meaning in Malaysian politics. The Internal Security Act and other similar acts are used solely against communists who deny religious freedom and other things people believe in.

The Malaysian Government does not claim to be perfect. No government in the world is perfect. In a multi-racial society like Malaysia, there must be laws to safeguard the interests of the races so as to prevent racial troubles arising. This is the reason why we are not allowed to talk about certain things. This is in the interest of all the peoples of Malaysia. Racial equality, religious and other interests are given a fair chance to operate. Because of the nature of Malaysian politics, this is a delicate balance which our government has managed to keep since 1969. This shows the importance of the laws used. If people are allowed to do what they wish there will be chaos and civil war in the country.

I hope you understand the difficult position we are in and do not worsen it by publishing ultra progressive ideas like our unwanted hero Pui. Thank you.

Amin
A students understanding of the Middle East

Dear Sir,
I loudly applaud the solution to the Middle-East situation as offered by the president of the white sport-coat society as being the most logical and hard-hitting, no punches pulled, no holds barred etc to date. But even so I feel that if one wishes to commit oneself, one should go the 'full hog' as half measures only result in part solutions. Might I then make the suggestion that as surely as Istanbul was once Constantinople - Constantinople was in turn once Byzantium.

Acting secretary for the pink carnation fan club
High Commission orgies?

Dear Editor,
While thousands of poor Malaysians suffer from malnutrition at home, last week the High Commission held another one of its many epicurian and bacchic orgies for a group of students from Weir house, along 200 Oriental Parade.

This is a regular occurrence which has been going on for as long as the High Commission has been in existence here. The High Commission is very selective in its lists of guests. This is part of the corrupted way of life the country's officials lead at the expense of the taxpayer at home.

Students who attend these sessions should think about the gravity of the wrong they committing against the people at home. If they wake up from their stupor, they should boycott all future functions by refusing to attend them.

Red Malay



Anti-commie

Dear Mr Roger,
As a loyal Malaysian citizen I express concern over the way our High Commissioner has been acting. I am suspicious as to whether he is on our side or the side of the communists. So far he has created a very bad image of our beloved country Malaysia. What is his purpose? He is up to no good as he mixes around with the Soviet and Yugoslav ambassadors. This sort of fraternising cannot be defended. He should refuse to have anything to do with these, same as he does the Red Chinese.

Anti-Commie

Abortion again

Dear Sir,
Both the anti-abortion letters in last week's Salient reflected an attitude which unfortunately is common to a lot of people in this society, where we grow up learning to take all kinds of coercion for granted. Most people's lives are so full of restrictions that the idea of allowing more freedom to some is seen to entail inevitably less freedom for others.

Wendy Turnbull said that if women have the right to choose whether or not to have abortions, a woman whose conscience would not allow her to have an abortion would be worse off than at present. Her right to force the potential father to provide support for the child may well be lost since it was her decision to continue the pregnancy, and not necessarily his. This would certainly not be a new situation at all: many women today are struggling to support a child on their own, because the social security system is not geared to help them unless they have made every effort to track down the father and sue him for maintenance. Many women find the whole business distasteful, or even impossible to organise, so they are forced to continue alone. Undoubtedly, some of these women decided not to seek abortions because of personal opposition to the practice.

It is very easy at present for men to avoid supporting a child. They need only to refuse to admit paternity and in most cases it cannot be proven. There are some people who suggest that better methods of proving paternity should be found, even to the point of forcing men to undergo genetic tests. That is the logical direction of thinking for people who accept that individuals, with their varied and often limited resources, must be held totally responsible for the support of children. But nobody - woman, child or man - benefits from that kind of set-up, and women and children who are dependent on the resources of one man are the worst off.

Wendy Turnbull should be campaigning for social (rather than individual) responsibility and support for children and solo parents. She would find on her side many of those who are currently working for repeal of abortion laws, since no contradiction arises between these two positions. If you support a woman's right to choose what happens to her pregnancy, you want that choice to be an effective one, whichever it is. It is certainly contradictory to want to keep present restrictions on that choice while claiming to be concerned with women's interests.

Joan Oldoman's letter implied that women's vulnerability in sexual matters was inevitable, especially if there was not possibility of combining sex with reproduction! If a woman takes steps to avoid child bearing, Ms Oldoman argued, she will be exploited sexually by men and treated as less than an equal. Does that mean she would be less open to such exploitation if she took no birth control precautions? Unless you have the mistaken view that men would be less likely to have sex with her, you would agree that this argument is nonsensical. It only makes sense if you think, as Ms Oldoman appears to, that sex itself is dirty and is degrading to women, unless it is a necessary means to a desirable end such as motherhood.

She is perfectly entitled to such a view. What I and many other women would object to is her assumption that woman have no sexual feelings of their own, and therefore have no interest in making it easier to have sex. While the pill and access to abortion have certain benefits for men, they also have very real benefits for women, who can for the first time feel positive about their own sexuality, free from the anxieties associated with inadequate birth control. It is therefore annoying to come across the attitude that the threat of pregnancy protects women's interests. In fact what it does is to keep women vulnerable, and as long as women are at a disadvantage compared to men, it is easy for men to abuse them. It is harder for men to exploit women if they have no more to lose than men have, and just as much to gain.

Of course, all the other inequalities that have been created between men and women mean that equal sexual relationship are some-

what illusory. Ms Oldoman ought to join those who are fighting to get rid of those inequalities, rather than trying to get women to return to Victorian times.

Kay Goodger

We're too unbiased, now

Sir,
I was with disappointment that I read Mark Derby's report on the Geiringer/Castanov forum (Salient July 17). I feel it represents a victory for those who have been long pressing for a non-political, non-critical, what's-going-on-around-campus-type Salient. Surely the article pleased them immensely.

Why? Because this article is no more than a word for word report on the forum. After a promising introduction.....'The voice of traditional establishment psychiatry (Dr Castanov is a psychologist, isn't he) confronted fuzzy-haired and radical therapy on Thursday last...' we had not the advertised heavy-weight boxing match (and surely such a combination of emotionally loaded words portend something exciting, provocative) but a slow and deadly dull, three and a bit columns of cricket.

The whole article contains only one small attempt at an evaluation, where Mark says....."but Geiringer throughout the forum offered no useful suggestions on carrying out the revolution he describes."

And right to the end Mark maintains his winning style with a slow left-arm googly in Geiringer's last words, to finish off his over.

An unconvincing write-up lacking the usual Salient judgement; I even had trouble in clearly discerning whether 'snake-pits' referred to Geiringer or the 'asylums' he described.

One last word, no mention of David Tripe's bubbles. I distinctly remember that even Dr Castanov in one of his few guarded statements alluded to them.

Roger Pharazyn

Annoyed Malaysian

Dear Sir,
What has R. Pui done since his 'nine-day wonder' tour? Has he got scared and is in hiding? The Hunter's letter shows that he does not know what he is doing.

But he is asking for plenty of trouble by stirring up discontent amongst Malaysians. Malaysians have been satisfied with things until the NZUSA made a lot of nonsense out of Khoo's arrest and Pui got stirred up for no reason at all. Khoo is a communist and deserves to be jailed, as these troublemakers are attempting to overthrow our political system through violent means. The government is justified in denying citizens of some democratic rights to control this problem. Pui should be aware of this as a law student. Can he honestly say that there is no law in any country that does not restrict the activities of its citizens? There are many in New Zealand, e.g., the laws against trade unions, homosexuals, traffic regulations and abortion.

In demanding for 'democratic rights' he is demanding too much in context of Malaysian politics where conditions are different from that of New Zealand. Malaysia is not New Zealand. He has been here too long as consistently pointed out, to know of the changes at home. He should be deported to jail for his silly views. If he wants to stay in NZ he should keep his mouth shut and hope that the NZ Government will let him stay if it decides that he is useful. Malaysia does not want people like him.

Annoyed Malaysian

The Butcher

Dear Sir,
I write my letter on tissue paper about a subject which only deserves to be wiped as such i.e. that running dog of the leftists who has been running around like a mad dog barking up the wrong tree.

Instead of condemning the Malaysian Government he should condemn the leftists who pretend to expose injustice in Malaysia for their own selfish purposes. The only injustice there is that done by terrorists who murder innocent citizens, soldiers and policemen, e.g. the recent murder of the police chief in Kuala Lumpur

He claims that the Internal Security Act is creating hardship for many. What a pack of lies! The only hardship resulting is that the terrorists have to run harder now to escape the bullets of our armed forces. Political opponents who do not agree with our national policy and approach in solving the country's unique problems, deserve to be locked up without trial. These people are all terrorists.

The running dog should change his views fast or else he will have to run as fast as the terrorists. So beware dog!

Abdullah the Butcher

Those lazy cockies

Dear Salient,

Concerning 'The Cockies Plight' in your issue of July 17, I would like to say that the article - although based on some interesting statistics (which we all know can always be fiddled to argue both points of views) was - in my opinion grossly exaggerated in its depiction of the supposedly poor NZ cocky. Coming from a small country town myself and having done a considerable amount of farmwork on a number of farms both hill country and lowland and thus knowing a little about the situation I can verily say I have never read so much bloody sappy bullshit. The average NZ cockie is bone-fucking lazy - stock fall over banks as a result of no fence - scrub grows as a result of no control and apart from wiping his own arse, whenever a cockie wants something done on his land he calls a contractor sooner than do it himself. Those who loose stock and have scrub problems and erosion etc, although having a dilapidated farm are bloody likely to have a 1974 falcon and colour TV and a \$20 a week beer sponge hanging over their belts.

For what many so-called farmers actually know about running a farm, I wouldn't give a tin of boiled goatshit. Its true that big companies are controlling many farms - jesus - if they weren't we'd really be in the shit.

Stirred from apathy

P.D.

P.S. If you print all the other shit I read, you can print this.

Cockies not so hard up

Dear Roger,

I would like to draw attention to various aspects of Kevin Wright's article in the last issue "The Cockies Plight" which I consider misleading.

Firstly, the table 'Comparative Incomes 1965-75' has a steeply falling sheep farmers income 1974-75. This is in the realms of pure speculation, but seems highly unlikely to be this pronounced. A collapse of prices by 50% (which is what this entails) is unforeseeable - even the great 1966-67 fall was 'only' of the order of 25%. At least those constructing this table should have made it clear that this only a projection.

Secondly, the tables start from a period that was favourable to farmers, the early sixties. Wool prices in particular were high in this period, and to use figures that take no account of this is irresponsible (or is it in someone's interest?)

The tables from the Institute of Economic Research are misleading in that they do not contain the effects of the last two years. There is no quarrel that the farmers position in the late sixties was distinctly unfavourable, but to use this fact to argue a crisis now is ridiculous.

Kevin's article very wisely makes little use of the results obtainable from these figures and is a good guide to some of the problems farmers face. There is one point that worries me - why, if one of the major concerns of farmers is the variability of farm produce prices do they oppose in toto a scheme that will take at least a little of the uncertainty out of the situation?

Lastly, congratulations on a very good issue.

Anthony Ward.

Student reactionaries

Dear Sir,
As an attender at last week's SRC, I could not help but be amazed at the reactionary attitudes displayed by the students present at it. With one or two exceptions such as the Middle East, students have traditionally been prepared to adopt a progressive stance on many issues presented to them for discussion, recognising injustice whenever they see it occurring around them. Students have opposed apartheid, foreign military bases in New Zealand, and the activities of such groups as the staff of the Malaysian High Commission in spying on students within our supposedly free universities. But now it seems that all that has gone by the board.

The attitude of students in declaring that they supported the use of injunctions in industrial disputes was, to me, nothing less than repugnant. Experience throughout the world has shown that the use of legal battering rams in industrial matters, backed up by the use of legal sanctions, will, in general exacerbate and embitter industrial disputes rather than solving them. The use of injunctions, moreover, is tantamount to denying workers the right to strike, and is thus a gross injustice, since employers are capable of closing down their factories at any time. The attitude displayed by students, in their voting on this motion illustrates how many students are nothing but middle-class reactionaries who, where their own interests are concerned, forget any liberal, Christian ideas that they ever had.

Frank Cairns

**you MUST
come to the
S.G.M.
tonight Wed. 7.30**

Dear Sir,
I write to express my disapproval of the motivations of work conducted by physicists of the University of Otago which has recently come to my notice.

I refer to a "Letter to Nature", *Nature* Vol. 248, April 5, 1974 concerning experiments in whistler-mode v.l.f. communications at a frequency of 6.8 ktHz.

Though I consider the experimental Alaska to New Zealand communications as interesting and valid scientific work, the motivation is particularly suspect and appears to be a case of direct participation in a programme of US military communications research. This low-budget experiment could easily have been conducted without the formation of an unholy alliance of and sponsorship by the US Office of Naval Research, the US Naval Air Systems Command, the US Air Force and the NZ Universities Grant Committee.

According to *Nature*, the NZ end of the programme was conducted by R.L. the Physics Department, University of Otago, Dunedin, NZ.

Pete Mackey

High Commission Corruption?

Dear Sir,
May I be allowed to voice my concern over the extravagance of the Malaysian High Commission in throwing regular parties. I am a Malay student from West Malaysia and come from an area which is extremely poor. I was at a party given by our High Commission last week and I must say that standing in the midst of many other students drinking away, I felt guilty and out of place when I thought of my family at home. They live on dried fish, blachang (a fish paste) and unpolished rice.

When I thought of them, I could not swallow my drink - a luxury I could never afford at home, because of the lump in my throat. I shall appreciate it if you will not print my name. In the area where I come from there is a lot of Malay communist activities and I am therefore afraid of being accused of being a communist although I am not.

Government boot-lickers again

Dear Suadra,
So you think that we have nothing to say about your friend who spread false ideas about Malaysia. Well, you're wrong!

We are merely waiting for the right time to expose him. When that happens, everyone will know of his blindness to the truth and disbelieve him. We will have no need to use the Internal Security Act against him as no one will support him by then!

A Group of Loyal Malaysians

Anti-homosexual

Dear Sir,
I will not be replying to the rambling letter of one of my political opponents published in the last issue of "Salient" because I consider it to be libellous and defamatory and have placed the letter in the hands of my lawyer, Mr Robert Brace, of Biddle, Anderson, Keat and Co. for the appropriate legal action to be taken (and damages claimed), as I do not like my name being associated with homosexuality or self-confessed homosexuals.

However, I am prepared to lead a debating team from the Wellington Division, Young Christians (a recently formed group of community-minded Christian young people who are doing youth work) against the Young Nationals perhaps one lunchtime in the Union Hall if the Young Nationals would like to back up their fighting words with deeds, just for a change. Looking forward to hearing details of time and place from the Young Nationals, and reserving the right to take the negative in a debate on homosexuality.

Richard Wardle,
Young Christians,
Wellington Division.
P.S. "Homosexuality" not homosexual law reform is the subject of the debate.

MEMO TO: Mr Duncan Harvey.

Yes, we would be delighted to debate in public on the issue of homosexual law reform and (or later) abortion law reform provided we can take the negative of both these issues.

My team for the homosexual law reform debate will be: Leader, myself (conservative youth vote) 2nd speaker Mr B. Hewson of Foxton (farmer), 3rd speaker Mrs Margaret Gellan (mother's vote) and 4th speaker (if necessary, Mrs Pearl Komene (Maori vote, i.e. reservist).

My team for the abortion law reform debate if you would like one will be a straight-out Wellington College (1971) debating team: Leader: me, 2nd Mark Peck (Christchurch) 3rd David Pierce (Auckland) - flown to Wellington courtesy of Wardle Print.

Peace etc.
Richard Wardle

Faint praise

Dear Sir,
Never before have I been so disturbed as whilst reading the letter in your last issue by the President of the White Sport Coat Society. To refer to a varsity forum as a "game" shows little, if any, respect for the idealisms of student politics. Furthermore, I fail to see any relevance at all between the situation in the middle-east as compared to that in Turkey in the 1950s. Why didn't the writer sign his full name? Perhaps the answer is too obvious to deserve explanation! I would like to put forward the suggestion that such stupid unfounded letters should be ranked alongside all the other unpublished shit which, in your wisdom, you have seen fit not to publish. It is a blessing to know that there are still a few people like the editor of this paper who still have respect for decency.

Thank you,
D. Kaworup
Politician

A subtle example of the inanely drivelling non-criticism which we'll ruthlessly censor in future

Dear Sir,
As a mother of 83, (no I do not use fertility drugs), I would like to uphold in the strongest possible terms the florious, righteous stand of your paper. At last we have seen a firm resolve to clear out filth and fetishism. I too have a super-developed abhorrence of faecal fetishism, and excessively nauseating bad taste. However, I do feel that your editor is hardly a one to judge. After all your paper does seem excessively occupied with the outpouring of faecal analyses of current social and political conditions. As for nauseating bad taste I think that if this was an honest reference and an honestly intended desire to remove it, we would have a new editor.

Bartlett Pair (Siamese twins - thus accounting for our prodigious fertility)

Christian anti-Jesus freak

Dear Editor,
How's it that some Christians are so selfish? All they talk about is how wonderful life has been since Jesus came into their hearts etc. They indulge in Bible freak-out sessions attempting to solve their personal problems. Seldom do you hear them discuss what is happening on earth and the sufferings of many people. As long as you believe in Christ earthly problems are not important.

They go around disturbing other people's peace of mind by telling them how sinful they are, how they must accept Jesus or else they will go to hell. Their explanation for the problems in the world today is that the devil is hard at work. These people are only hiding behind the cloak of Jesus, nothing more than an abuse of what the Christian faith is.

If they keep to themselves, and leave others alone, there will be less brain damage amongst students all round.

Disgusted Christian

salient notes

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