

## Do prisons really help anyone ?

by R.W. Steele

When Dave Peters went to Mt Crawford jail a few weeks ago, he went prepared to pay the penalty for the crime that he been caught at. What happened to him, however, was beyond his wildest and worst expectations.

He is in hospital now, in the intensive care ward. His hair is shaved off and ugly black stitches line his scalp, holding together a long, deep wound. One eye is still blackened. Dave speaks with some difficulty — though his mind, memory etc are okay, he has lost some control over his tongue. It tends to roll around, and slurs his speech. He can't suck either, he can't even have a smoke because he can't inhale, and he can't even whistle anymore, let alone sing. He has lost some control over his oral muscles, and it's not certain that control will return. Maybe it will, and maybe the distorted vision and terrible headaches that Dave suffers will go away, but the memory of what happened to him in Mt Crawford prison will never go away.

Dave is 32, a blue eyed, pleasant sort of man. He got on well with most of the prisoners, and set out to cause no trouble. Trouble, however, came to him.

He was on a work party on the prison farm when a young violent prisoner tried to boss him around. Dave objected mildly, and he was kicked in the groin for it. A warder saw this, warned the violent prisoner, and went away. Shortly after this Dave and the same prisoner were working together, out of sight of any warders. The young one got stropky again. Dave said that he didn't like to be bossed around by someone with no authority to do it, someone younger with less experience than himself.

The young prisoner found this mild reaction too much, leapt over the fence, and belted Dave in the eye. Dave remembers saying that he didn't want a fight, remembers going down to the other, blows, remembers a colossal blow — actually a kick in the head with steel-capped, hobnailed boots. That's all. He returned to consciousness hearing the prison medical orderly telling the ambulance driver to hurry to hospital, he was a serious case.

That's where Dave is now, in hospital, slowly realising the horror of it all, determining himself that even if he's got to serve out the rest of his sentence, he will not go back to Crawford, not

now or ever.

He lies in the intensive care ward, in a room with two other battered but living bodies. He is waiting for his wife to come over from Nelson to see him. The Justice Department flew her over once but she can't afford to come back, and Dave's got no money, not even enough to spend on fruit, let alone flight. And anyway his wife is expecting their second child in November.

At issue in this case is basically the inadequate supervision at Mt Crawford prison, that led this first offender to be placed in with other more experienced prisoners, many of them violent. The one that did Dave over with his fists and his hobnailed boots was obviously crazed.

Although there was little or no provocation, this is irrelevant, as even if there was, this type of violent assault should not be allowed to occur. It could have been avoided by separating prisoners more effectively and by not letting dangerous prisoners out of the warders sight. Whether some prisoners should be allowed steel-shod boots, let alone tools, shovels and other potential weapons is another matter to be seriously considered.

There is little point in criticising the actual prisoner who committed this assault. As long as society produced violent people it must properly accept responsibility for them and must do more than it presently is to foster rehabilita-

### *A press statement from the Howard League*

The NZ Howard League for Penal Reform (Wellington Branch) says that it deplores the recent assault on an inmate of the Mount Crawford Prison Farm.

'Inquiries have shown that at the time of the assault, only one warden was present with a work gang of eight prisoners. The gang leader was a prisoner serving a sentence for robbery with violence.'

'This situation is most unsatisfactory, and shows up grave inadequacies in prison administration. The League is not opposed to work gangs, but it is absolutely essential that the gangs are properly organised and provide worthwhile activities for prisoners. It appears that in this particular instance, there was considerable shortsightedness and naivety on the part of prison administration.'

'What the league deplores is that a peaceful prisoner serving time for a minor offence was placed in such a dangerous situation. The possible repercussions of placing a petty offender alongside violent offenders should have been obvious.'

'Moreover, enquiries have disclosed that the prisoner who was assaulted should never have been in the Mount Crawford prison. He was convicted for petty theft, and the Probation Office recommended a penalty of periodic detention. It appears that the presiding magistrate thought he knew better and sentenced the prisoner to six months imprisonment.'

tion. Such prisons as Mt Crawford tend to make prisoners more rather than less anti-social, and this sort of violence, basically caused by the unjust society outside the prison, is only made more likely by conditions within prison. Our main priority should be to work to build a society that does not need to lock-up some of its members, but there is an immediate goal as well — to make the prisons we do have as humane and as positive as possible.

Some of the problems at Crawford are caused by overcrowding. At present it is carrying about twice as many prisoners as it is intended to. Staff suffer as well as prisoners, but there is little either can do about their rights. Staff are forbidden recourse to strike action, and have only inadequate representation as members of the Public Service Association.

Prisoners don't know their rights, for instance that first offenders (such as Dave) are meant to be separate from other prisoners. Most of them, including Dave, shouldn't be at such a terrible prison as Crawford at all. There is a copy of their rights posted in the prison at the place prisoners change their boots. But according to one prisoner who spoke to Salient, they aren't allowed to stop while changing their boots, and so can't read the regulations. They should be posted in the exercise yard.

What led Dave Peters to be in prison in the first place? Not so long ago he, his wife, and their child shifted from Auckland so he could take up a farming job near Nelson. But the job turned out to be no good. On the farm, Dave says, the workers were treated like animals, like slaves. So he took a job in town as a truck driver. The flat they got cost \$30 a week, a fair whack out of the \$58 that Dave was clearing. Food often cost as much as \$20 a week, leaving very little to spend on the child and on themselves, particularly with Dave's wife expecting another baby.

Dave tried to set up a small part-time business, a tape-recording agency. But he found it difficult to get ahead, and the temptation to make a few bob on the side by pilfering from his work was too strong to resist. He was caught, and got six months.

In his own words: "When I was sentenced to prison, I was prepared to make the sacrifice for getting caught. But I certainly wasn't prepared for what I got...."



# STUDENT HEAVIES GATHER

Each year the New Zealand University Students' Association holds two Councils to formulate policy, debate action and call its bureaucrats back into line. In three action packed 16-hour days at Lincoln College August 21-23 delegates wheeled, dealed, argued and compromised. A full report, with the major items discussed and the new NZUSA policy, will hopefully be ready for the next issue of Salient. This note will outline some of the major areas covered and some of the consequent issues for this campus.

Victoria had ten delegates at the council: Gyles Beckford and David Cunningham — chief delegates; Dianne Hooper and Lisa Sacksen — national commission; Don Carson and Vivienne Zethoven — international; Mike Dew — education; Peter Aagaard — welfare; Barbara Leishman — cultural affairs and Anthony Ward — accommodation. Most of the policy will be coming up at SRC for VUWSA ratification, but if you're particularly concerned over some issue, see us right away.

The Council opened on Wednesday with the consideration of constituents' and officers' reports, followed by an important and wide-ranging discussion on the present state and future prospects of NZUSA. It was generally agreed that NZUSA tends to become isolated from students, and various means of overcoming this were suggested. No total answer emerged from the discussion, but at least all delegates were made aware of the problem and of possible solutions.

The meeting then moved to the election of officers. The present International Vice President, Alick Shaw, was elected President ahead of this and last years' Presidents of Canterbury, Jim Benefield and Robin Duff. For International Vice

President there were two candidates, Don Carson and Ken Howell but after four ballots there was no clear majority for either (to be elected a candidate needs 22 constituent votes out of a total of 42, spread among the campuses roughly according to student roll sizes) and the positions will be readvertised. There were no applications for the post of Education Vice President, which will also now be reopened. John Blincoe was re-elected General Vice President with 42 votes out of 42, a strong vote of confidence in his work so far this year, including his submissions on the drug bill.

The various commissions then started their own sessions, the entire group coming together again for the priorities plenary on Thursday night (taking from 8pm to 2.30am) and the final plenary on



Alick Shaw, new NZUSA President

Friday night (considerably shorter as most delegates were by now very tired and eager to get away.) The major debate of the Council centred on the proposed post of Welfare Vice President. Welfare/Accommodation commission, aware of the many policies unacted since their introduction made a strong case for the need for such a post. This was accepted by the plenary, discussion centering mainly on the financing of such a post with minor diversions for various political points. The main one of these concerned the absence of the Auckland delegate from welfare commission. (In the plenary he argued that he felt international commission looked more interesting.) After two hours of debate on the Welfare Vice President in that commission an Auckland rep turned up to vote against the proposal, giving as one reason the line that there had been insufficient argument. The next day, after the public rap over the knuckles in plenary, three Auckland 'heavies' turned up — as did Mike Treen the rep — in his case for only a few minutes.

Such diversions aside, the debate moved uncertainly through various ways of financing the post, many delegates seemingly reluctant to admit the necessity of increasing the levy to cover the expenditure. At one stage Victoria proposed, seconded by Otago, that a Welfare Officer be appointed from the beginning of 1975. Several hours later this proposal, which had been narrowly passed, was recommitted and narrowly defeated. The situation now is that the post is open to discussion on each campus — a compromise leaving the establishment of the post until all students have had a chance to consider whether a Welfare Vice President is worth an

increased levy of 20 cents per student to \$1.30. At Victoria it is proposed to hold discussions, through SRC and/or an SGM and Salient.

Two other matters of considerable importance were resolved, with a re-affirmation of support for Carl Gordon in his tussle with the Waikato University Council, and an effective tabling of NUS proposals until these too have been fully discussed at constituent level. Proposals that the decision to join be unanimous and that as many students as possible be consulted were both passed, though these are not in any strict sense binding on constituents — it is up to students on each campus to ensure their rights of discussion are not compromised.

Another Council gone by — and undoubtedly many students will be wondering whether NZUSA as a whole is really of value. A consideration of John Blincoe's drug bill submissions, contained elsewhere in this issue, and of the general body of policy and action which will be summarised next week can make such debate more informed, and debate there certainly should be. NZUSA exists, as VUWSA exists, to serve members needs and if either of these are not fulfilling their members requests, or are incapable of such action, it is up to the members to criticise and point out the problems. Only through such criticism can students associations really be effective in their professed intentions.

—Anthony Ward  
NZUSA Liaison Officer

**BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE**  
The Wellington Hospital Mobile Blood Transfusion Unit will be making its second visit to the Union for 1974 on Tuesday, Sept 24, Monday, Sept 30 and Tuesday, Oct 1 from 9am — 12pm in the Memorial Theatre Foyer. Please donate your blood to help another.

## CAFE CRISIS

### One student's solution

There are many theories as to why the student catering facilities and service is unsatisfactory in the view of the student masses. However, if students stopped moaning and arose out of their apathetic state and contributed constructive ideas to studass, action will come sooner than we think.

For those students who do not know, the catering operation has made a loss of \$22,000 for the first six months of 1974. Hot meals will not be served in the dining room during the third term. These now being available only in the restaurant. Inflation, high staff turnover and 'shitty food' are the problems affecting the dining room. The other problem is what sort of meal can be provided on what students can afford — 60c for shit or \$1 for quality, which isn't guaranteed.

Several alternatives are available in solving our catering problems. These are:—

- 1) Closing the entire union catering operation down.
- 2) A severe cutback in uneconomic catering services, such as hot food in the dining room, closing down of coffee bar, sale of milk, etc.
- 3) Engage private enterprise, to run the three branches of the catering operations.
- 4) Ask government or university council to subsidise the loss, or investigate the possibility of combining our catering operations with Victoria and Weir House.
- 5) Undertake a scheme to update the facilities which will be flexible enough, for the various types of catering, and be adaptable to change with the times. Staff utilisation and convenience, should be considered, as should be a group of catering consultants. Experts be asked to investigate what the most suitable form of catering would be,

Students returning from the August holidays probably have seen the sign on the cafeteria door, informing them that the caf will close at 4.30pm every day. And those wanting hot food will have to pay the higher prices in the restaurant — from 60c for plain fried rice to \$1.40 for porterhouse steak. The reason? Because during the first six months of this year, an overall loss of \$20,754 has been recorded on student meals.

Consequently in the third term, the ground floor dining room will operate only from 9.45am — 4.30pm Monday to Friday, while the shop will be open from

8.30am to 4.30pm. The middle floor restaurant will cater for those with expensive tastes in hot food from 11.30am to 2.30pm and 4.30 to 6.30pm. The top floor coffee bar will be closed down completely.

According to the Union Management Committee, the measures will have the effect of reducing wages 62% and should bring the operation back to its break even point. If it does not, further drastic measures will be taken.

The main reason for the loss is a 50% decrease in takings. This being the result of a change in student study and eating habits, students no longer adhering to the

to benefit students, clubs, and to foster more student activity on campus.

The first alternative, is not very constructive. It can only lead to an even greater decline in student use of their own building. However it must be noted that during 1973, not only was there a decrease in the use of the catering services, there was a decrease in the use of the library in spite of the increase of student workloads. University clubs over the same period have not expanded to their greatest potential.

Overheads, old outdated and faulty equipment and milk bottle thieves, are contributing to these losses. Either way, whether the cafe is closed or not the students will have to pay or they loose the benefit of eating there.

Cutting back uneconomic services means less potential for increased use of union facilities and deprives others of the benefit of the Union Building. The coffee and milk comes under this category. No hot food in the dining room means students will have to walk to the Grand for a hot meal at 65c (unless students are rice fanatics).

However meals at this price are obviously subsidised by liquor profits. Another idea being discussed is splitting the catering operation into three — run by three private firms. Although profitable in concept it would not be beneficial to students. A more constructive proposition would be to encourage greater use by upgrading the facilities of the restaurant (and cafe) — make kitchens more flexible, provision for bar etc. Comparable to that of a reception room, which could be hired to private enterprise, any night of the week. All studass would have to do, is collect the hiring fee.

The top could be better utilised — a bar could be built with the milk bar being more flexible — such as a kitchen with facilities to prepare food as in a reception room.

Another way of eliminating losses is to obtain a government subsidy, or make the university council run the catering operation although this may be the only realistic alternative, it would lead to the respective Institution dictating to students as to what services should be provided. The loss of student control over their own catering operation would be unfortunate because the cafe in spite of difficulties could be a profitable concern, which will ultimately benefit students. The possibility of combining our catering operations with the boarding houses. This would result in a better utilisation of staff of the operations concerned. More permanent staff would mean better food.

The final alternative which would benefit students, but would be very costly is to split the cafeteria into two lounges. Briefly this would mean the provision of two bars, one for each lounge; four food bars, nova grill, sandwich-cold food bar, servery for hot meals — such as in the Grand Hotel ground floor bars and a takeaway bar. This would be a modified scramble race system or a mini scale. Each of these serveries would be flexible, so as to be adaptable to changing eating habits of students in the future.

The provision for a dance floor in one of the lounges along with liquor and food would encourage more student participation or use of campus facilities, something that is almost nonexistent at present. Brightly coloured paint, a light coloured lino, or brightly coloured carpet would eliminate the depressing atmosphere of the cafe. The dishwasher should be resited. By

"hot meal in the middle of the day" custom. Only 200 hot meals per day are sold by the dining room and restaurant, compared with 800 in 1972. This has made evening and weekend services uneconomic.

The Management Committee regrets the changes, but have concluded that students no longer require the range of services previously offered.

However students will have the opportunity of disagreeing with the committee's decisions. A forum to discuss the catering situation and possible solutions to the problems will be held by the Students' Association early this term.

putting one beside each entrance, this would oblige students to take their dishes back as they walk out the door. This would mean a slight resiting of the shop to have its opening in the union foyer and repositioning of some cooking facilities. This can be taken advantage as most of the equipment needs replacing or can be eliminated. Students will have to improve their eating and drinking habits — remember we are people not animals. Evidence overseas indicates there are high standards and good discipline present in campus bars — a good argument for licensed campus liquor facilities.

Air conditioning and some sort of stereophonic system for music is a must. An intercom system is apparently under consideration. These two lounges would not only be ideal for student use, but would be of a good enough standard to be used by private enterprise for socials etc. The kitchen, of course, would have to be very adaptable for this purpose.

No doubt there will be problems in bringing a scheme such as this into reality. Inflation costs, a liquor licence and student apathy are the biggest hurdles. There are ways of getting round the liquor licence, such as a chartered club with certain hours of opening, or each club and faculty could work a roster system, hiring one of the lounges from Studass and have it billed as a private function.

The purpose of this article is not to bring a scheme into operation, but to circulate some constructive, realistic ideas which could be improved upon. A talent poll of 6000 bears out this fact. The ultimate result could be beneficial for students, student activities (cultural affairs) and student clubs and possibly more finance for union extensions.

—Paul J. (Spud) Murphy



Two weeks ago the men who run New Zealand's universities met in Auckland for the Conference of New Zealand Universities. For the most part it was a pretty complacent gathering — plenty of socialising and scant attention to the problems confronting students and staff.

One resolution passed by the conference requested the universities to promote discussion and research on the use of assessment and moderation procedures in the universities and the secondary school system. Moving the resolution Graeme Clarke, Education Vice-President of NZUSA, said:

"In calling for research and discussion as a student I am only too aware of what a lack of thought has meant in the past. As an ordinary student I was one of the many that pushed for in-term assessment. What I meant by this was that for an end of year grade I would get the average of marks that I got during the year for my essays and pracs, etc. Consequently I would have received a higher grade than the one I got from the exam for the same amount of work."

"But when this monster in-term assessment was introduced it didn't work like that at all. It meant more work, more pressure and the same grades as before. This has been borne out by faculty and welfare services reports on the subject at Victoria University."

The university "heavies" didn't try to dispute what Clarke had said. In fact Victoria University's Pro-Chancellor, K.B. O'Brien, agreed that reports on in-term assessment at Victoria had provided grounds for serious concern about in-term assessment.

If the university bosses are serious about promoting discussion on the use of assessment they will publish the faculty and welfare services reports Graeme Clarke referred to, and make them available to students.

But on the off chance that the university won't come up with anything for students to discuss, some details of the criticisms of in-term assessment have been published in a recent study on different methods of assessment by NZUSA's Education Department.

In a pamphlet published by NZUSA in 1971 an English educationalist, Michael Bassey, who was a supporter of in-term assessment, made the following warning.

"In formal assignment assessment (i.e. in-term assessment) it is imperative that a student's motivation is interest in his work alone, for if his motivation were to be the need to get a successful mark for every assignment, we would be replacing torture at the end of the course by three years of regular torture!"

While a number of staff members and students claim that student workloads have not increased as a result of the widespread use of in-term assessment, there is evidence that students are experiencing difficulties with their workloads, which suggests that workloads have increased.

In a report to the Professorial Board this year a subcommittee of the Science

# ASSESSMENT ASSESSED



Faculty noted that while staff opinion on whether or not student workloads had increased was very mixed, it was "notable that nobody has ventured to suggest that it has decreased". The Law Faculty reported to the Professorial Board that it had re-examined its workloads in consultation with Professor Clift of the University Teaching and Research Centre, and the Law Students Executive, and as a result there had been a reduction in the number of assignments set for the coming year which, in conjunction with the preparation of a fixed timetable for assignments and the modification of the in-term assessing programme was expected to reduce the pressure of work for law students.

The Commerce Faculty's committee on assessment and workloads found that about 21% of students surveyed could not adequately cope with course workloads and that nearly 24% could not adequately cope with total workloads.

Although there is still debate about whether workloads have increased or not as a result of the introduction of in-term assessment there seems to be general agreement that the pressure on students has been spread throughout the academic year and that it has probably increased.

The Faculty of Commerce committee noted in its report: "Under in-term assessment many assignments which previously counted only towards terms now contribute toward the final grade. These assignments consequently now demand more attention from students. It seems likely therefore that even if the total number of assignments has not increased the pressure involved in completing these assignments has risen. The result is that 'students feel under continuous trial in everything they do'. The problem is further compounded if, as in this faculty, the duration and coverage of final examinations has generally remained unchanged. Lengthy final examinations mean that the pressure on students at examinations time is still considerable despite the fact that most examinations now contribute less to total assessment than formerly."

One particularly burdensome aspect of this increase in pressure on students is that the pressure on them is uneven. According to the university's welfare

services many students have complained that their workloads are unevenly spread during the year and that there is poor co-ordination within departments and between departments. Fifty percent of students surveyed by the Commerce Faculty committee stated that their total workloads were either poorly or very poorly spread.

In an attempt to overcome this problem the Welfare Services and the faculties of science, commerce and law have come up with proposals for planning and co-ordination of assignments by staff and the provision of full information to students about the number and dates of assignments early in their courses. Such reforms may reduce the problem of uneven workloads, but will they reduce the student's total workload?

Another problem created by the use of in-term assessment has been that students have tended to neglect unassessed work in favour of assessed work. According to the Commerce Faculty committee the consequences of this are to encourage staff to increase the number of assessed pieces of work in a paper, with the result that workloads generally are increased.

The use of in-term assessment has brought about several other problems for students and staff. These include:

- fragmentation of courses so that "some students feel they have to switch from one topic to another unrelated one before they have understood the first or explore it as deeply as they would like" (Director of Student Welfare Service);
- inconsistency of marking between various tutors in the same subject;
- increased pressure on staff. One department in the science faculty commented that "far from reducing examination anxiety (in-term assessment) has tended to spread throughout the course of the year. Furthermore, it has emphasised the role of teachers as examiners rather than teachers, and this change is regretted. It may not be long before "pressure arises from staff and students to return to the situation that prevailed three or four years ago when final exams were the key factor in assessment procedures, and students were free to make their mistakes and errors and share their ignorance in a healthier educational milieu than that

which obtains at present.

Finally there is a lot of discussion about whether in-term assessment has had an effect on student's extra-curricular activities. In a memorandum to Deans on Faculties in August last year the Director of Student Welfare Services, Mr Ian Boyd, noted: "The impression of the Welfare and Union staff is that this year and last year there had been reduction in the time students have been prepared to make available to extra-curricular activities." Mr Boyd went on to say: "During our most recent discussion, a Warden of a hall of residence referred to 'the strange new malaise about the university this year'. The VUWSA Student Welfare Officer commented that 'students feel deadened by assessment and other academic requirements.'"

In July last year the Professorial Board asked faculties to consider assertions "that the work programmes being required of students by present courses and methods of assessment have become unduly onerous and destructive of both effective learning and joy in university life." The Science Faculty reported mixed feelings among staff about whether students have 'less joy in their university life than formerly'. However some staff members did believe that this was true and that it was somehow related to the fact that students feel themselves continually under the pressure of being assessed. To its discredit the Commerce Faculty made no comment on this matter.

(Next week "Salient" will look at proposals for reforming the present system of in-term assessment, and ways in which students can start working for change.)

## ELECTION RESULTS

**PRESIDENT:** Lisa Saksen (763), Andrew Cowlrick (123), Fred Dagg (190), Arthur Pomeroy (410), Peter Rotherham (69).

**WOMAN VICE-PRESIDENT:** Diane Hooper (800), Judith Tizard (682).

**MAN VICE-PRESIDENT:** Gyles Beckford (1123), Simon Collins (379).

**SRC CO-ORDINATOR:** John Roseveare (663), David Cunningham (620), John Henderson (183).

**SECRETARY:** Robert Pui (1441 for, 163 against).

**TREASURER:** Michael G. Curtis (1515 for, 89 against).

**PUBLICATION OFFICER:** Colin Feslier (1400 for, 204 against).

**ACCOMMODATION OFFICER:** Peter Aagaard (912), Bernard Randall (577).

**SPORT OFFICER:** Kevin Wright (726), Philip Tree (373), Robert Crow (354).

**CULTURAL AFFAIRS OFFICER:** Barbara Leishman (983), Sandra Callister (372), David Cheung (193).

### APPLICATIONS FOR EDITORSHIP

Applications are hereby called for the following positions:

Editor of Salient  
Editor of Handbook  
Editor of Cappicade (complying with certain conditions)

Applications to be handed into the publications officer (with a brief resume of experience, etc), at the Studass Office by September 4.

Keith Stewart  
Publications Officer

### AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL (Kelburn Group)

The Poetry Society present Bruce Mason, Lyn Glover and others reading the poetry of:

Wole Soyinka  
Denis Brutus  
Brodsky  
Mikos Theodorakis  
Yannis Ritsos  
and others  
Songs — Jim Delahunty  
Meg and Gregory Campbell

All proceeds to Amnesty International.

Wellington Settlement · Thursday August 29 — 8pm

Admission \$1 Students 60c.

ALL WELCOME



**Police are the worst gang of all**

**CENSORED BY THE PRINTER**

**CENSORED BY THE PRINTER**

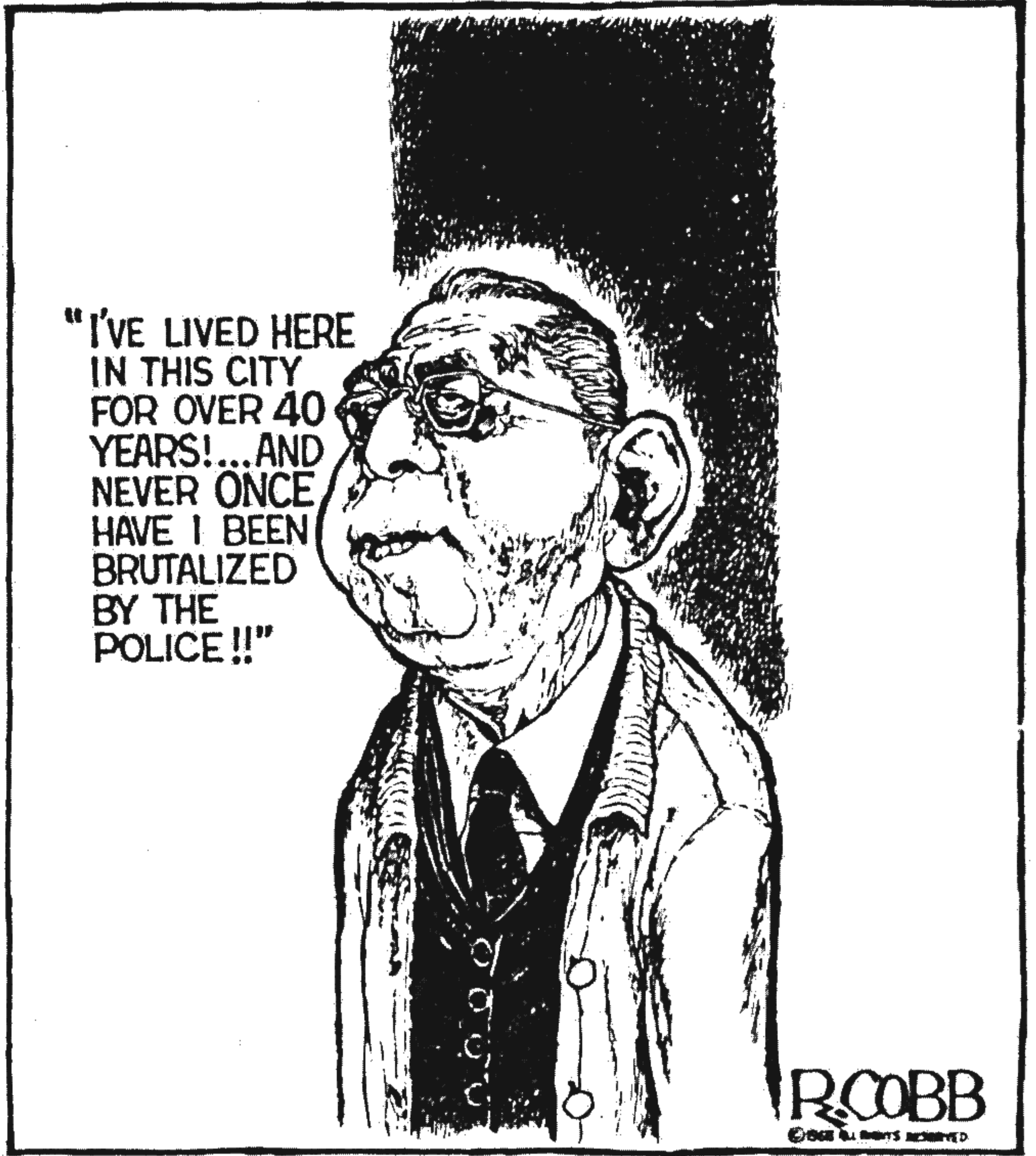


**CENSORED BY THE PRINTER**

*John Smith, a day after the police "arrested" him.*



CENSORED BY THE PRINTER



CENSORED BY THE PRINTER

## 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

Errol knows the sort of money problems you're going to be involved with as a student, and he'll be pleased to give you all the assistance and advice that's possible.



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



"The malicious hoodlums masquerading under the guise of the Drug Squad deserve no sanction...they undertake the violation of basic human rights, destruction of private property, criminal forced entry, search without warrant..... wrongful arrest and subsequent holding without legal counsel, forceful intimidation..... planting of "evidence", paying of informers to give false information, supplying of narcotics to arrest the person to whom they are sold, molesting of women, threats, tapping of telephones, constant shadowing and photographing of suspects, harrassment, personal searches on the streets, beatings for not admitting to crimes and farming of crimes — and on and on it goes."

The quote is taken from the NZUSA submission on the Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Bill which NZUSA General Vice-President John Blincoe and others presented to a Parliamentary Select Committee on August 13.

The remarks, made by a drug-user who was undertaking methadone maintenance treatment, were included in the submissions to give the committee an idea of the impression that drug squads leave on a person involved with them.

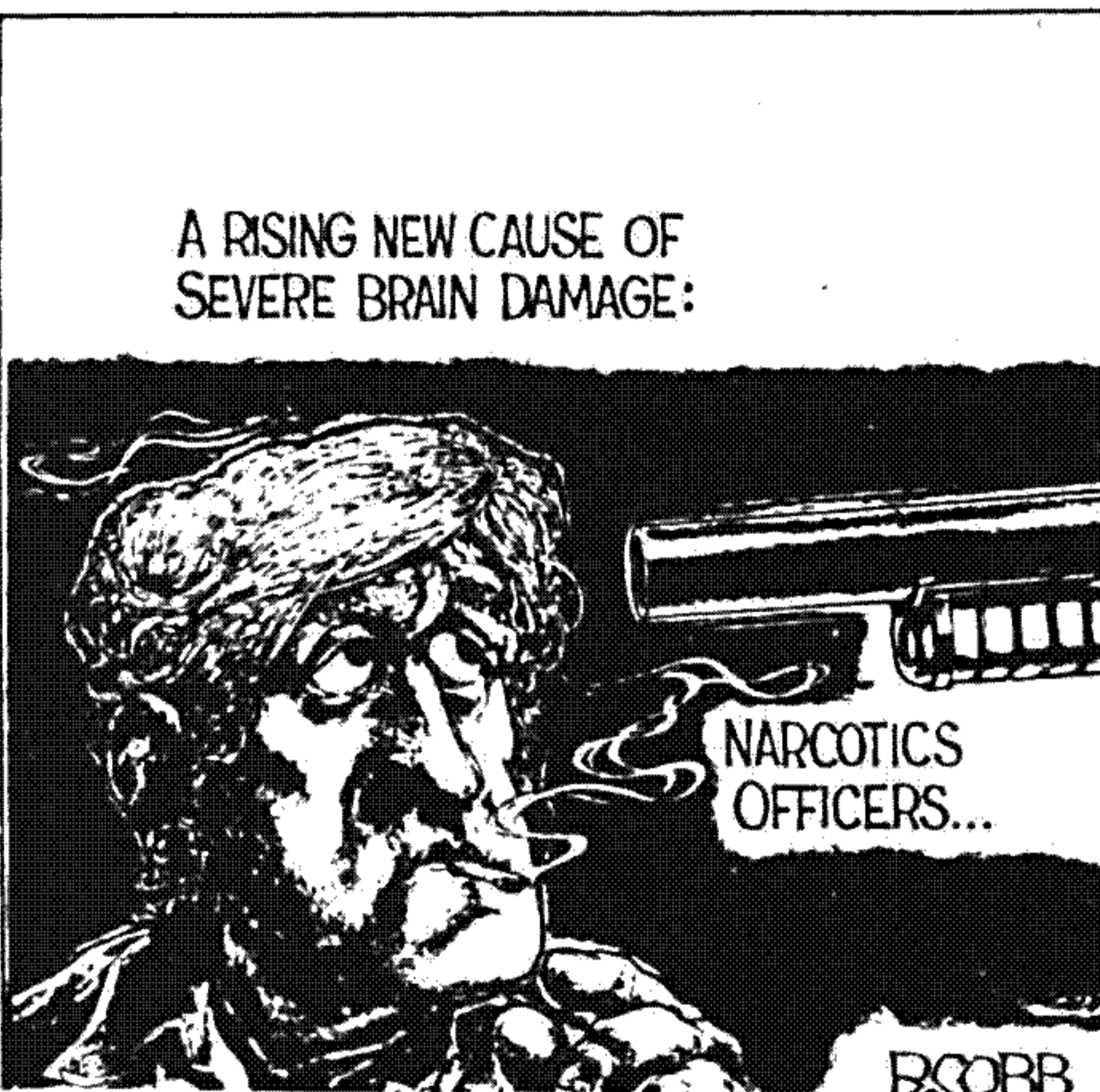
The main thrust of the submissions lies in this area — the behaviour of the police, particularly the infringement of civil liberties, in dealing with suspected drug users.

The submissions contain several examples of such infringements, and harrassment by the police under the Narcotics Act 1965

For example: "A arrived home to find two Drug Squad detectives in his kitchen with a warrant to search. The detectives attempted to question A, but A refused to answer the questions put to him (as he was lawfully entitled to do). One of the detectives then phoned his superior, Detective B. While his superior was coming around to the flat, Detective C threatened to "smash up" A unless he answered questions. Detective B asked A to go down to the Central Police Station under the impression that he would be arrested when he got there. A remained at the Police Station under the impression that he was being detained for questioning. However, he was not questioned or arrested, and after about half an hour Detective B told him he could go.

"The main points of this case are:

1) The threat of the use of violence against a member of the public for doing no more than asserting one of his most fundamental civil rights — the right to maintain silence



2) The detention of a suspect when clearly there were no grounds for arresting him. This was quite illegal.

And: "Four drug squad personnel raided a flat at 6.15am one morning with a search warrant made out for lysergide. The raid resulted in two smashed-in doors and the police removing \$740 without leaving a receipt. The police found two bedroom doors to be locked and broke both of them down. One room was unoccupied and the girl asleep in the other was not given time to get up and open the door.

"Members of the flat protested about the unnecessarily caused damage. One of the policemen then asked if there was a hammer in the house. He was given one which he handed to one of the other officers who made a token effort to nail one of the door frames back into place. The other was left in a splintered condition. Neither could be locked or shut properly.

"In the locked but unoccupied bedroom the Police found \$740. They took this money because, they said, it was a large sum and might have been stolen. They said that when the money's owner returned to the city, he could go to the Central Police Station and claim it. One of the policemen said he would give members of the flat a note in his name for the money. This consisted of "Detective D, Central Police Station". There was no mention of the money in the note.

"The members of the flat who were present were not permitted to count the money or even see it. A request for a proper receipt was refused. The conversation with one of the detectives concerning this request has been

A summary of the

## N.Z.U.S.A. SUBMISSIONS ON

recalled by one of the flat members.

Detective D: Well, we'll be off now.

Flatmate E: Could we have a receipt for the stuff you're taking?

Detective D: Oh, you'll get it back.

Flatmate E: That's all very well to say — what have you got there?

Flatmate F: They reckon they've got \$700 of (Flatmate H's).

Flatmate E: Well, I want to count it at least, if you're going to refuse to give me a receipt.

Flatmate G: We've got a right to a receipt.

Detective D: No.

Flatmate E: I demand a receipt for the money and the other things you've got.

Detective D: No.

Flatmate E: You're a smart aleck bunch of bastards aren't you. It's my right that I have a receipt for that money. You're no better than thieves.

Detective D: You watch yourself sonny. I could do you easily so don't talk to us like that. Anyway, it's not your money.

Flatmate E: That's true, but it's in my custody and I still demand my right to a receipt.

The policemen then left, still without issuing a proper receipt."

"The main points of this case are:

1) The disregard by Drug Squad personnel for private property through a) causing quite unnecessary damage (for which no compensation is payable); and b) quite unreasonably and unlawfully refusing to acknowledge their removal of private property, especially money.  
2) The direct personal intimidation employed by a Drug Squad detective. Here a member of the public was threatened with prosecution for getting angry with a policeman who had unreasonably rejected a proper lawful request from him."

Example: "One morning two detectives arrived at K's flat and were met by K's female flatmate J, who insisted that they show her their credentials. They entered, apparently of their own volition, and took a casual look around the premises. It is improbable that they had a search warrant. They went into J's room, making sexual innuendos as they went about who was sleeping with who in the flat. On a mantelpiece in J's room they found a container of medication for methadone maintenance, still wrapped in a pharmacist's paper bag. J explained that flatmate K had left it there by mistake. The detectives knew that K was on methadone maintenance treatment. Nonetheless, the detectives told H that they might charge her for possession of a narcotic. They asked where she worked and said they might contact her within the next few days. The detectives then uplifted the medication and left.

"Two days later they came back to return the medication to its lawful owner K. Upon being challenged by K for threatening to charge J, they informed him that they did not intend to charge J but were only trying to give her a scare.

"The main points of this case are:

1) The confiscation by the Police for two days of K's medication even though they were fully aware that the following day K would be caused considerable distress through not having it. As it happened, K was forced to obtain his next daily ration of methadone illegally. This shows a callous lack of regard for the welfare of the drug dependent person concerned.  
2) The way in which J was threatened with prosecution. This amounted to intimidation and mental cruelty, and reveals ethical standards of the lowest kind."

Example: "L was a registered drug addict on methadone maintenance treatment. She was in her early 30s and was making a sincere attempt to break her dependency. Being quite a creative person, she was involving herself in social work and learning another language. However, her rehabilitation was severely jeopardised by the constant attention she attracted from the Drug Squad, and occasionally other policemen, in connection with her drug dependency. It is fair to say that she was harrassed. Over one two-week period, for instance, the Police contacted her once or twice nearly every day. They would either visit her at home or phone her at work or at home. If she was out they would sometimes leave a message asking her to ring them. There were also occasions when they told her to expect a visit from them and then did not come. On at least three occasions, searches for narcotics were conducted at her home but nothing was found.

"There was no visible justification in terms of the enforcement of the law for the constant attention the Police paid L. However, according to those who lived with her (who were not drug users) it was quite devastating on her personal development. The harrassment caused her to become mentally and physically run down and quite useless in terms of her own creative ability or the social work or language learning activities in which she had been involving herself. The harrassment was also they believe a major factor in a number of unsuccessful suicide attempts made by L. In short, those who lived with her believed that her plans for rehabilitating herself were wrecked by Police activity

"The harrassment stopped eventually, but only after L's solicitor had threatened to obtain a court injunction to restrain Police activity."

With regard to such examples NZUSA recommends that a judicial enquiry be held into the activities, methods and operation of the various Drug Squads, especially those in the main centres.

"NZUSA feels much might be achieved if the Police were to become an agency primarily concerned with discovering people with drug problems and passing them on to those who could help them. This is not the case at present and it cannot be the case while the Drug Squads continue to operate as they do."

The tendency of the police to place members of the force in a position of responsibility in relation to drug offenders, for long periods of time, is also criticised. Policemen may be pressured for results, leading to over-enthusiasm and aggressiveness. And consequently results become more important than operating within the law.

Because of this NZUSA also recommends that the police impose an arbitrary limit on time during which an officer may be engaged in drug squad work.

NZUSA urges the deletion of Clause 17(2) of the new bill which provides for search without warrant. It makes an unnecessary and distasteful exception to the common law rule upholding the inviolability of a person's home. NZUSA is also concerned by the further power given the police by the subclause, to search any person found on the premises, in question.

On March 7, the Minister of Police, Mr Connelly stated in the House that the power relating to search without warrant had been exercised on 56 occasions. Prohibited drugs had been found on 45 occasions. This statement was made apparently to justify the use of such powers.

However the Minister's figure takes no account of the times the Police have threatened to use the power but have not formally invoked it. An occupant of a house is more likely to agree to a search rather than force the police to make a violent entry:

"The members of the police specially responsible for administering the drug laws are not renowned for their integrity or sense of fair play."

Most people are only vaguely aware of the rights and powers of the police. Many people are reluctant to challenge police action for fear of the consequences.

Young people resent the existence of such an extraordinary power of search without warrant whether it is abused or not (and NZUSA believes it is abused). In this case the onus to justify this power is on the police — the agency which feels the power is necessary.

NZUSA challenges the police to do so, but frankly believes they cannot.

NZUSA also calls for the deletion of clause 17(1) which gives the Police an automatic power to search person found on premises being searched with a warrant issued under Clause 17(1). Normally under New Zealand law a person can only be searched if he has first been arrested.





# DRUGS

Usually even a search warrant does not give a power of personal search. This subclause therefore makes a severe encroachment on the sanctity of the person, a concept that has traditionally been rigorously upheld by the common law.

NZUSA also recommends that upon being executed, all search warrants (including those issued for drugs) be returned to a Magistrate endorsed with a statement of the results obtained. This would mean that the Magistrate could check whether they were being issued responsibly or not. Generally the Police have little difficulty obtaining search warrants and frequently get them from JPs. At present there appears to be no system of checking after a search has taken place whether there were in fact reasonable grounds for the issue of the warrant.

"NZUSA is very concerned at the manner in which the police sometimes go about apprehending drug offenders, especially in their use of paid informers and undercover policemen.

"The Waikato University Students' Association has reported to NZUSA on the use of paid police informers on campus.

"A particular case which occurred in 1971, concerned a raid one morning on a Hamilton flat. The flat and the occupants were searched but nothing was found. The police left the flat at mid-day. In one man's change pocket were four tablets of Alert Tabs which the Police-men did not find. The man told his flatmates of that at 1pm just before they left for the University. He stayed home. While at University his flatmates described the raid and mentioned the oversight of the Alert Tabs.

"At 3.15pm the Police returned to the flat, asked the student to go outside, went straight to the pocket and took the tablets for testing."

Police use of entrapment procedures in supply cases is a matter for greater concern. One such case illustrates vividly the objectionable nature of these procedures.

"A 20 year old girl came from a small provincial town to live in one of the main centres. By nature she was chronically lonely. In the main centre, an undercover policeman befriended her. He saw her regularly, over a period of two or three months. The undercover policeman expressed his interest in drugs and pressed her to get him some marijuana.

"The girl had come to be emotionally dependent on the undercover policeman, and he made his requests in this context. She resisted the requests but he persisted. Finally, in order to stop the repeated requests she bought an ounce of marijuana and supplied it to him at no profit to herself.

"Following this, the undercover policeman kept on at her for about another six weeks to supply more marijuana to him. Indeed he put her under considerable pressure, but nonetheless she refused to supply him with any more.

"Shortly afterwards she was arrested and charged with supplying. The girl said she had supplied for her "friend" under pressure. She would not have done so otherwise.

"Notwithstanding that, the Magistrate's Court sentenced her to six months gaol. This was reduced in the Supreme Court to a \$500 fine and two years probation.

"NZUSA objects strongly to the situation of a police agent encouraging a supply that would not otherwise have been made with a conviction resulting because of it, and urges that this Bill be amended to provide members of the public with some protection against this kind of Police practice."

The sort of protection suggested is contained in a section of the submissions contributed by Robert

Moodie, a former Inspector of Police, and now a barrister and solicitor and a lecturer in law at Victoria University. It deals with the corroboration ("confirmation") of police spy evidence.

Generally the evidence of an accomplice ("a partner, usually a subordinate in crime") must be corroborated. Police spies are exempted from this corroboration rule on the grounds that the public interest is said to demand that their uncorroborated evidence be accepted; that they are said to have nothing to gain, so their evidence can be accepted as reliable, and that they are said not to be accomplices in a true sense.

Moodie raises objections to this justification of uncorroborated evidence in which he criticises the tendency of police spies to fabricate or exaggerate evidence. He contends that the public interest would be better served if evidence had to be corroborated, to protect both police and the alleged offender against possible injustice. Also a police undercover agent can be under an implicit obligation to maintain his reputation. Therefore he has something to gain from the proceedings. Because of this obligation and because he is party to a criminal transaction (though not liable to prosecution) it is difficult to assess the extent to which he encouraged a sale to himself.

Police officers repeatedly involved in undercover work should be treated as accomplices. A successful sale to such an officer is often the result of protracted liaisons having as its only objective a sale. It is difficult to understand in such cases the logic that leads to the conclusion that this activity does not constitute abetting or conniving at the commission of a criminal offence.

For these reasons Moodie recommends that the Drug Bill be amended in two ways. That no person be convicted on uncorroborated evidence of another person who has connived at or encouraged the supply or offer of supply of a controlled drug to himself. And that the words "connived or encouraged" shall include the supply of a controlled drug to an *agent provocateur*.

In its submissions, NZUSA clearly defines its policy on drugs in general.



"We would make it clear that we do not encourage the increased use of these drugs. At the same time, however, we do not condemn the use of such drugs, because we recognise that with the present state of our society their use is inevitable. For instance, people who have no way of controlling their society will often seek chemical outlets for their frustration, regardless of what the law says.

"We believe, therefore, that an individual should have control over what he administers to his own body, provided there are no significant consequences for other people. Those who wish to limit the individual's freedom must bear a very strong onus of proof to show good cause why the individual's personal activities should be curtailed or prohibited. This is particularly the cause when heavy punishments are proposed against an individual for undertaking a particular kind of activity. A test that must always be applied is whether the potential for harm to society of an individual's use of particular drugs is sufficient to warrant the use of penal sanctions."

For these reasons NZUSA criticises the harshness of the penalties imposed on drug users under the Narcotics Act and the new Drugs Bill; and the symptoms of such excessive penalties revealed in the harassment described above. NZUSA is particularly disturbed by the rejection in the Bill of a number of the more progressive recommendations of the Blake-Palmer report on drugs. A report which is widely regarded as mod-

erate, if not conservative.

The harsh punitive approach of the Bill (with penalties, more severe than the Narcotics Act) is deplored.

Like the Blake-Palmer report, the submissions recommend that a definition of supply be made which distinguishes between an individual who shares a joint with a friend and a person who sells more dangerous drugs for profit.

NZUSA urges that penalties for possession or use of controlled drugs be reduced and that a term of imprisonment be imposed for possession or use only if the circumstances are exceptional. Jail sentences for possession or use of such drugs are often harmful. Because the offender is stigmatised, and forced to associate with truly criminal elements. A more humane attitude should be shown towards individuals addicted to any drug. They should be regarded as sick people in need of treatment. The stigma of criminality can interfere with rehabilitation.

NZUSA requests a reduction of penalties for dealing in controlled drugs (which are raised by the new Bill) and further calls for a complete review of all penalties provided under the Bill.

## Cannabis

Although the submissions reveal a predominantly moderate, rather than radical attitude to drugs by NZUSA, their attitude to cannabis is carefully thought out and realistic.

NZUSA feels that possession of the drug for private or personal use should be legalised. Supplying cannabis to another individual, providing it is for that individual's private or personal use, and there is no material gain for the supplier, should also be legalised.

The submissions recommend that individuals over 18 be allowed to cultivate a limited quantity of marijuana for their own use. Any sales of the drug would be controlled exclusively by a state agency.

Marijuana and its use are compared to alcohol. NZUSA finds it hypocritical for society to treat marijuana, alcohol and tobacco and the respective people who use them, as differently as they have done in the past and as proposed in the new Bill. The submissions suggest that the basic difference between alcohol and marijuana is that while alcohol is socially acceptable (to those who make the laws) marijuana is not. The injustice is illustrated by the law allowing individuals to brew beer or more wine for their own consumption, but awarding up to seven year's imprisonment under the new Bill for the cultivation of a cannabis plant.

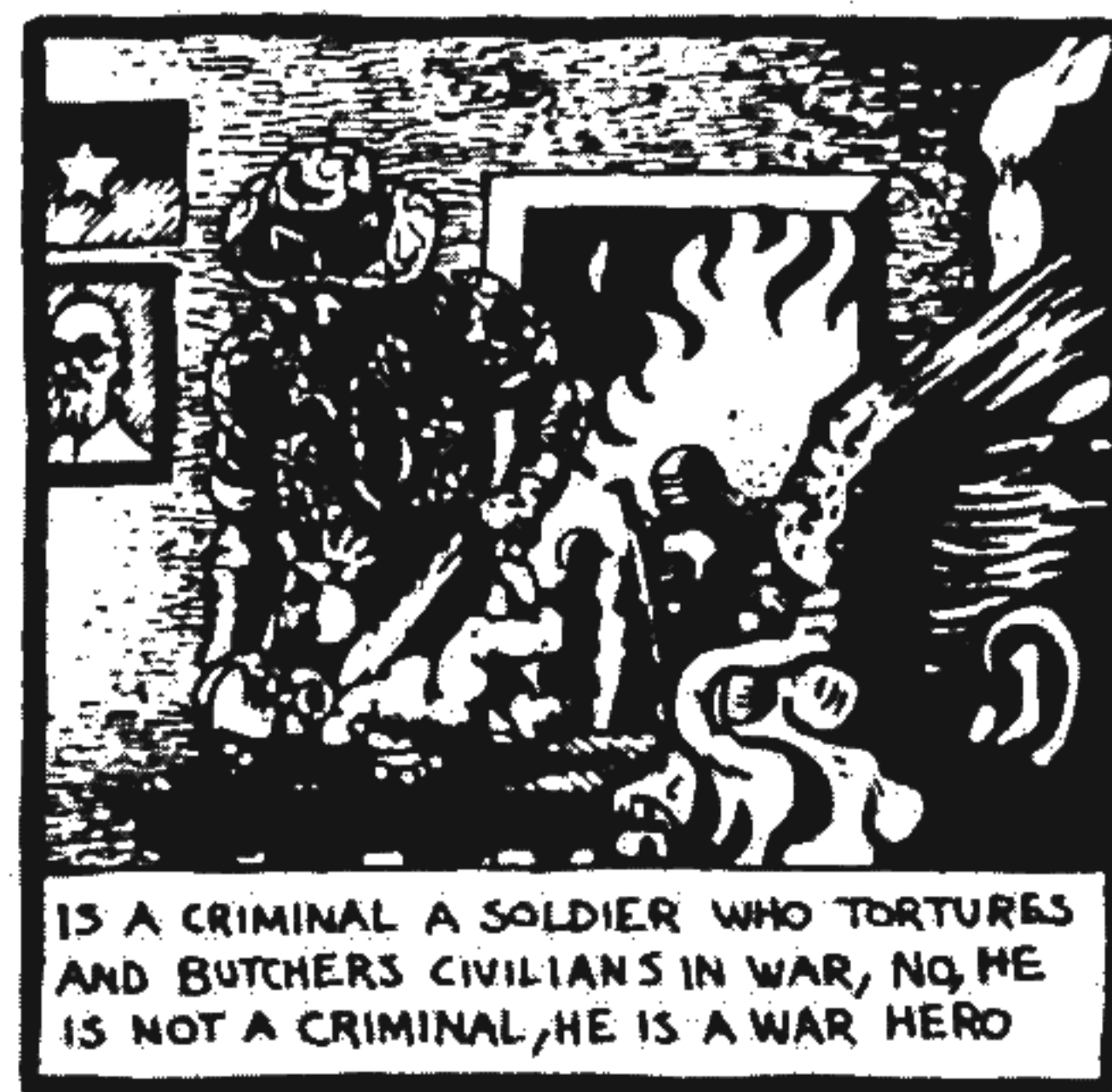
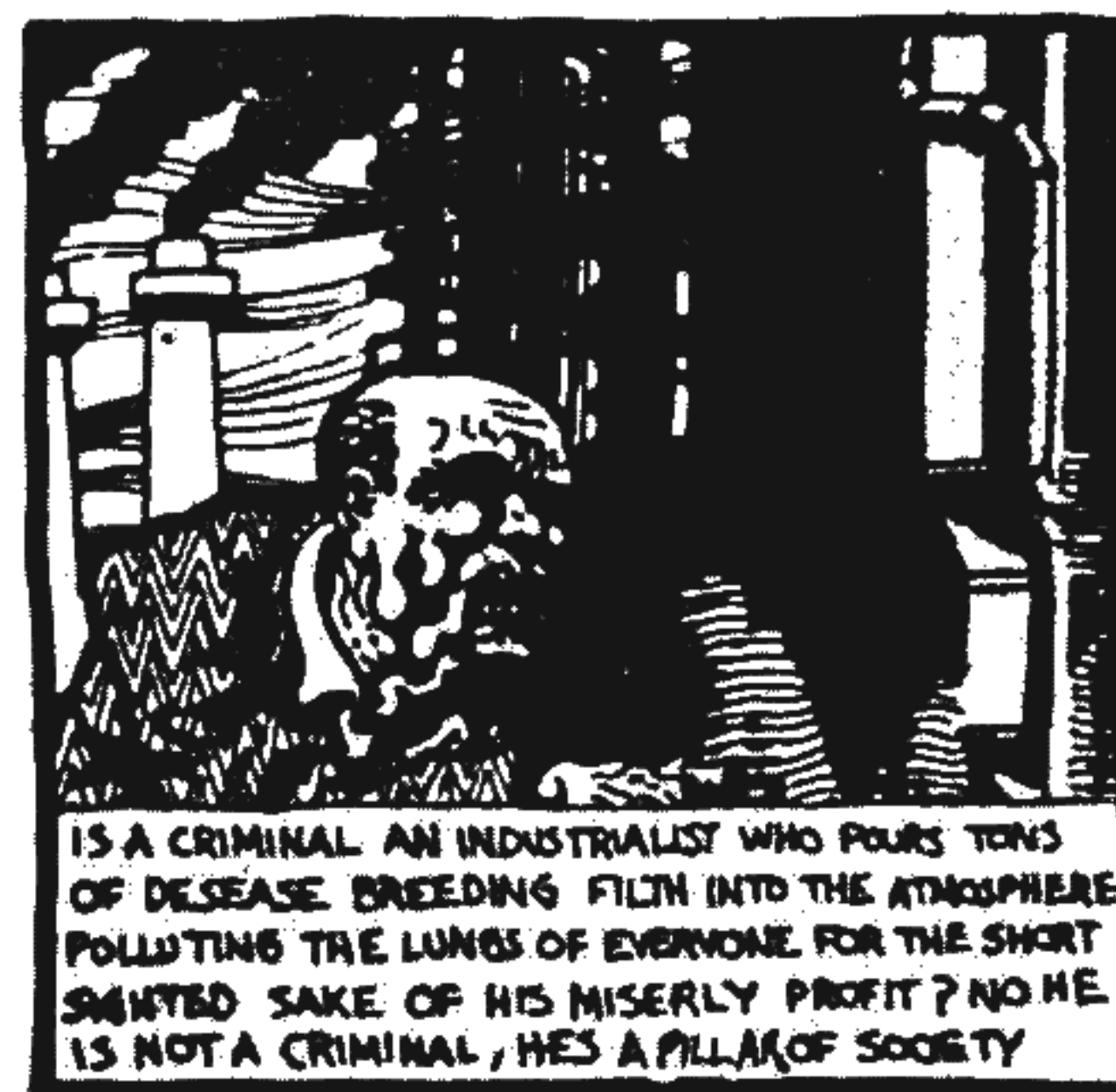
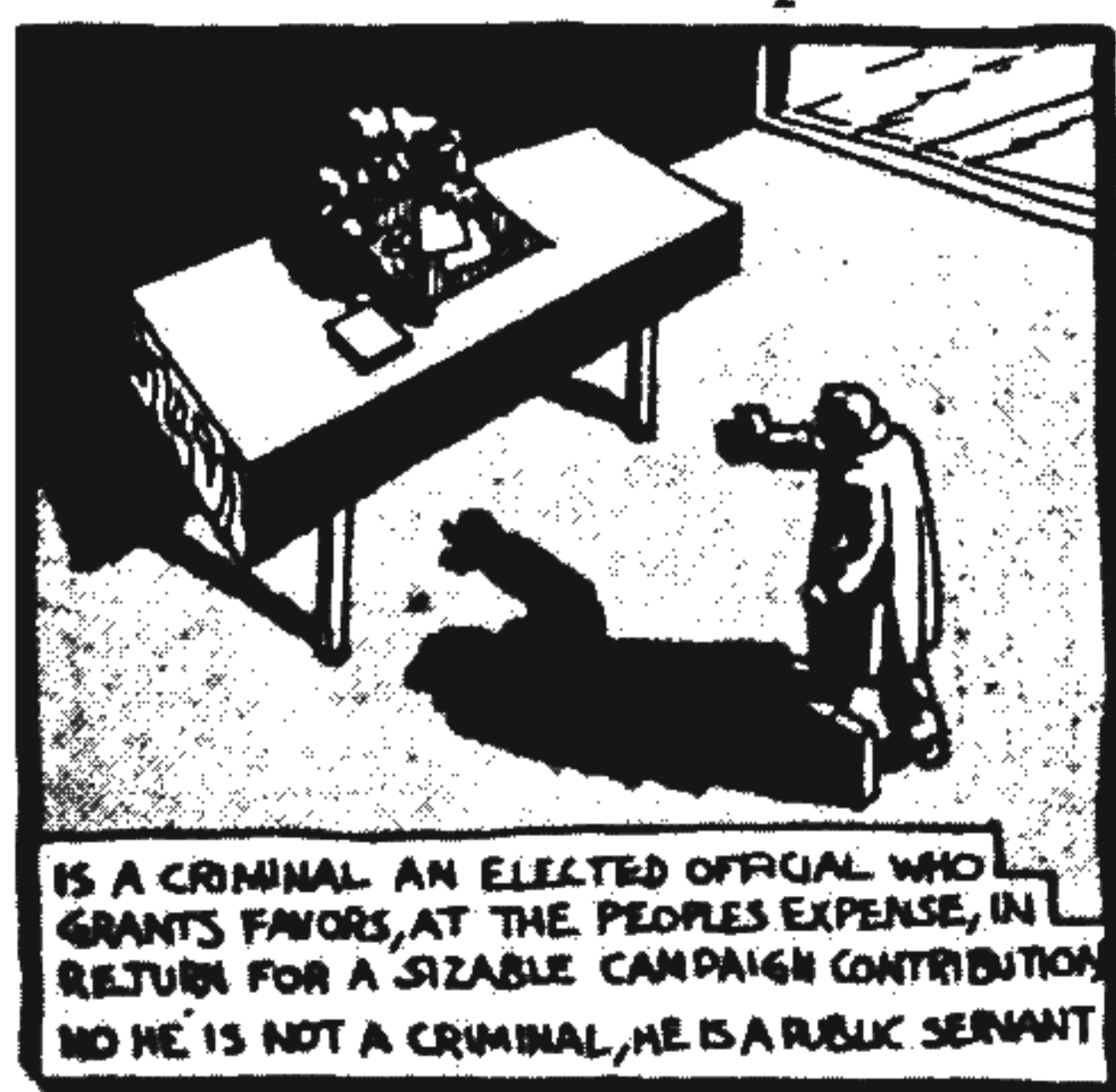
The Blake-Palmer report claimed that one non-pharmacological reason for treating cannabis and alcohol differently, stemmed from its social context: "Marijuana is not only a drug it is also a symbol".

NZUSA, however points out that "alcohol is not only a drug either. It is part of the fabric myth which swathes New Zealand consciousness. This it does not only by providing a readily available means of sedation and escape, and not only by blunting the individual's critical appraisal of society. Alcohol is a multi-faced mediator in our culture. It provides definitions of, and means of colloquially assessing, concepts such as maturity, manliness, femininity, sophistication, affability, hospitality, social standing, good living and life-style.

"Advertising ruthlessly fosters and exploits these concepts, with few and ineffective restrictions imposed by the Government to hinder them. Brand names of alcoholic drinks are still subtly advertised on radio in spite of a supposed ban; and retail outlets of alcohol are openly promoted on the same medium. A brewery strives to establish brand allegiance among teenagers by peddling a soft drug known as hop beer."

NZUSA also points out that many of the old myths about the "dangers" of marijuana have been shattered. The Blake-Palmer Report, for instance, had stated that "the belief that cannabis users inevitably progress to 'hard' drugs like heroin has been... thoroughly exploded"; that "few of those who take cannabis become heavy users of even that drug" and that "the once widespread belief that cannabis users are liable to commit violent or aggressive acts has not been supported by careful studies of various types; the users are indeed more apt to act

(Continued on next page)





# Te Huinga Rangatahi

A Victoria law student, Hakopa Te Whata, was elected to be the new Tumuaki of Te Huinga Rangatahi o Aotearoa at their hui (conference) in the August holidays. The title of Tumuaki replaces the Pakeha title 'president', just as the name Te Huinga earlier replaced what was called the New Zealand Federation of Maori Students.

This federation has been in existence for about 20 years, and has helped to fulfil the need for the relatively few Maoris who make it through the Pakeha education system, to gather regularly and share experiences and plans. Past members include many current leaders in the Maori community, including two Cabinet ministers.

This year's president has been Brian McDonald, an Auckland student, whose most notable achievement has been the production of the Maori newspaper *Rongo* with the help of Ngahuia Te Awekotuku, John Miller and others. Brian and co. organised the hui of Te Huinga at Mangere in May of this year, and the August hui at Whatawhata marae near Hamilton.

Hakopa Te Whata is from Ngapuhi mainly, from the North Auckland area. He has been active in Victoria's Te Reo Maori Society, and is a strong advocate of the Maori language. Ideally, he would like to see it learned by all New Zealanders.

"At this stage he is unsure of how he sees Te Huinga and what he hopes to achieve. He stresses that he does not see it as an individual effort. Policy will be shaped by a working party in Wellington and developed by all rangatahi at their hui.

Hakopa has inherited a loose-knit and diverse organisation. Membership ranges from University Maori clubs to politically oriented groups like Nga Tamatoa. It was between parts of these groups that a considerable division could be seen at the August hui.



After powhiri (welcomes) from locals, and after the first taste of the ample catering, the Whatawhata hui got on to business. Speakers from Nga Tamatoa gave mild speeches on the need for unity among Maoris and the need for social and political work. In particular they emphasised the need to spread Te Reo Maori as a vehicle of thought which also gives identity and understanding.

But Hana Jackson's pronouncement that "if you think you're not political you might as well dig a hole and bury yourself alive" was too much for some. People from the more isolated South Island wanted to concentrate on getting their groups together. They imagined that it was possible to work for recognition of Maori language and culture and still be non-political. "We are doing our thing," said one, "we do it our way, you do it your way."

A Tamatoa speaker brought the meeting back to reality: "We may have trodden on a helluva lot of toes, but the toes we have trodden on hardest are the leaders and those who have been spreading the illusion that this is the perfect, multi-racial society."

Much time was wasted at the meeting discussing structure and communication between groups. The more basic and often political issues should have been thrashed out at the hui to find whether there was anything to have a structure of, and anything worth communicating between the diverse elements.

Later discussion on Maori Language Week activities was profitable, however, as various groups discussed and co-ordinated activities. Wellington is holding its week from September 8 and finishing on National Maori Language Day, September 14. Auckland hopes to benefit from the publicity generated by Wellington and is having its week following September 14.

-R.W.S.

# Friendship with North Korea

Last week four representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea flew home after a successful three week visit to New Zealand. They brought with them an exhibition of Korean pottery, embroidery, lacquer ware, photographs and literature. They were here to make contact with the people of New Zealand who hitherto knew very little of them except as the "enemies" of the "United Nations" aggression in Korea in 1950.

The Delegation came at a particularly opportune time, as the anti-democratic excesses of the Pak regime in South Korea become more and more publicised and give the lie to the myth that South Korea is the bastion of freedom and democracy in Asia. Not only did the Delegation illustrate that the DPRK is streets ahead of South Korea economically, but they also gave a glimpse of the political system, which shows it is a grass-roots democracy quite foreign to the Western aligned regimes in Asia.

The Delegation vividly showed that the primary concern of the DPRK government and leaders is the welfare of all the people of Korea, in contrast to the prime motive of the politicians and business men in South Korea, which is to feather their own nests regardless of the welfare of the people.

The Delegation also brought with them several films, one of which "The Flower Girl" won two merit awards at the 1973 Berlin Film Festival. This film was based on a true story of landlords oppression in pre-revolutionary North Korea. A story which is all too often repeated in South Korea to this day. The other film showed the re-structured society under the leadership of Kim Il Sung, their respected and beloved leader.

Two officials of the South Korean Embassy in Wellington appeared at the exhibition. However they were outwitted by the North Korean Delegation and returned skulking to their lair.

While they were in Wellington the Delegation made many friends. Their warmth, sincerity and kindness impressed all who met them: The visit was also the first public occasion for the newly formed Wellington Branch of the NZ-DPRK Society, an organisation dedicated to furthering relations with the DPRK, New Zealand recognition of the Democratic Republic and the re-unification of the Korean people, so

## NEW ZEALAND— DPR OF KOREA SOCIETY

WE NEED  
YOUR DOLLAR

You may have noticed that this Society was formed recently. The purpose: to establish better relations with this important socialist country.

The DPR of Korea is a country which on 1st April 1974

- reduced prices by an average of 30 per cent;
- abolished all personal taxation;
- introduced universal, free ten year education plus two years pre-school kindergarten.

It is a country of which we know too little.

If you want to know more and if you want to assist in New Zealand establishing diplomatic and cultural relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) please cut out the chit below and post back to us:

The Hon. Secretary,  
NZ-DPR of Korea Society,  
Wellington Branch,  
Box 9792 WELLINGTON

Please enrol me as a member of the above society. \$1 annual subscription is enclosed.

\$ donation to make possible publicity for the DPR of Korea in New Zealand is enclosed.

Name .....

Address .....

long separated by the US controlled "United Nation" troops.

The NZ-DPRK society is launching a membership drive and plans many activities to bring the people of Korea and New Zealand closer together.

## NZUSA DRUG SUBMISSIONS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

"cool" than tough".

Further, the submissions contend that the use of marijuana is an established social phenomenon in New Zealand. The drug's use has extended to school pupils, not as a result of "pushing" but the inevitable adoption, of a drug widely used in society.

The use of the drug, though generally confined to the young, now extends into the mainstream of society.

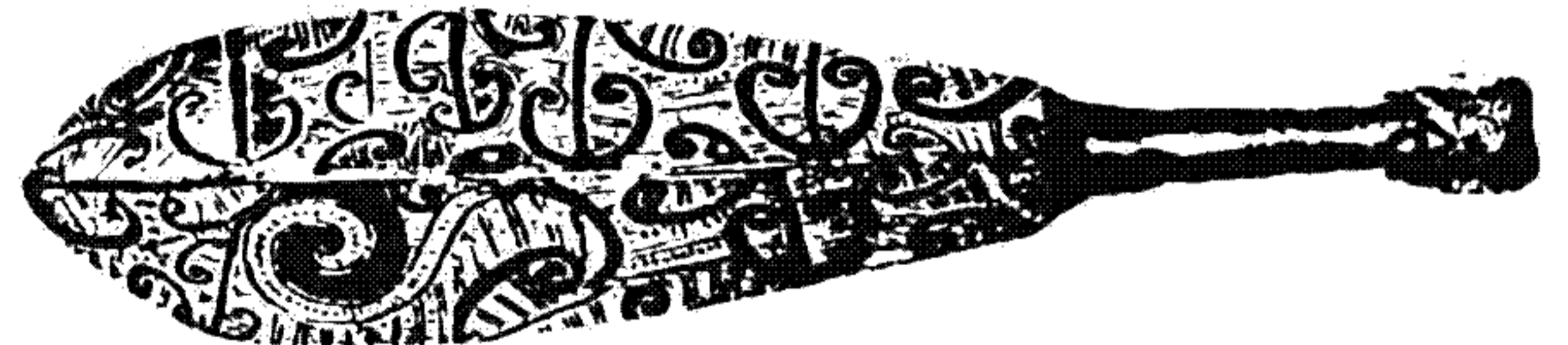
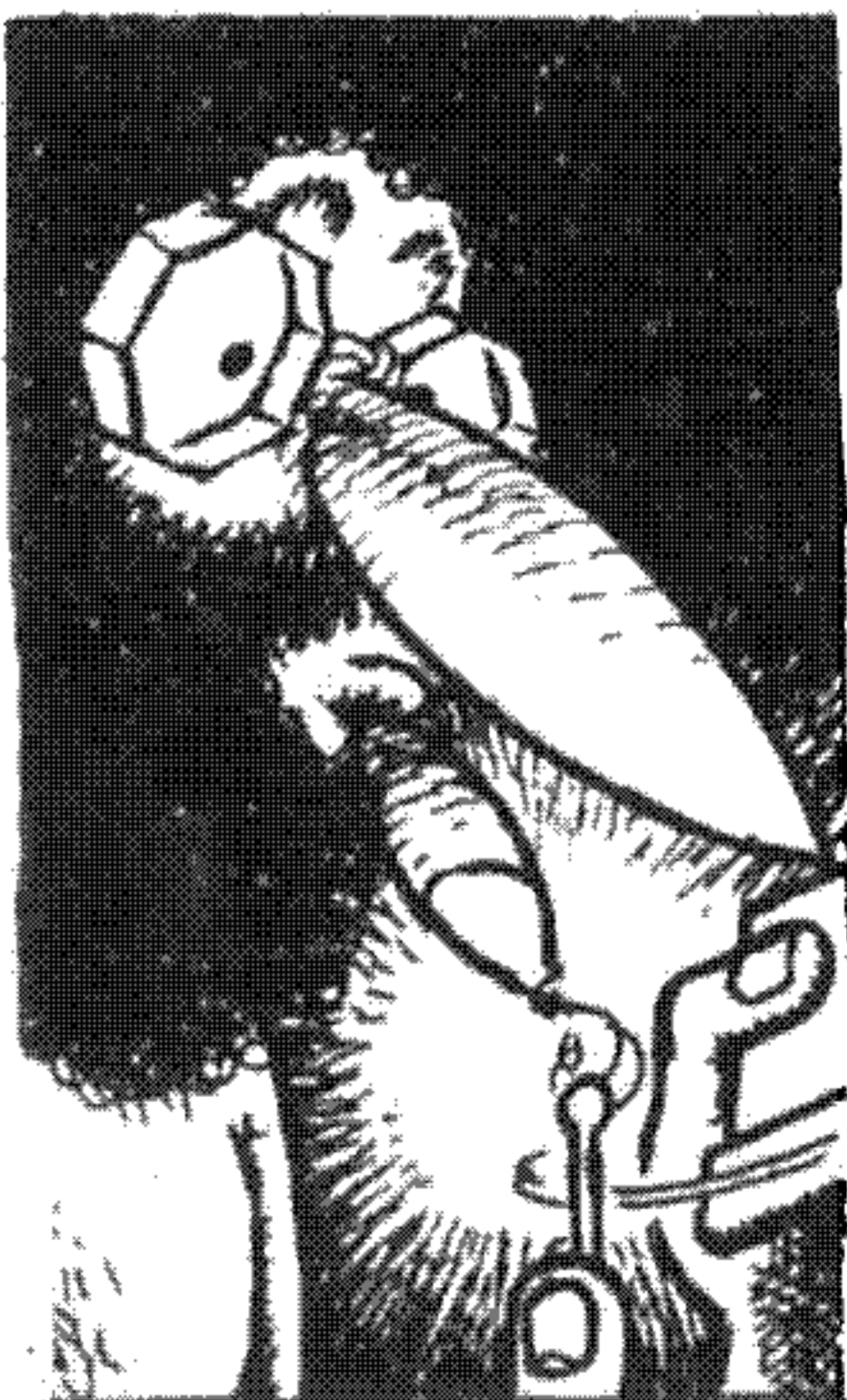
The criminalisation of cannabis use has been ineffective, failing to prevent usage, and counter-productive. It has contributed to the disrespect for the law and the police, especially among the young. This has been exaggerated by the tactless and excessive behaviour of individual members of the police force — harassment of drug users and suspected drug users for non-drug offences. The credibility of government agencies has also been undermined by the false and exaggerated claims that have been frequently made by these agencies about Cannabis. For example the Customs Department booklet "Narcotics — you can help us beat the Drug Traffic" speaks about "marijuana addicts".

Marijuana "addicts" are presumably included in the ringing affirmation at the end of the booklet: "A person involved in the illegal drug traffic is unworthy of any consideration, sympathy or loyalty."

NZUSA recommends that a separate Cannabis Bill be introduced to regulate the production, supply and use of Cannabis.

The association of cannabis with dangerous substances (in the Drug Bill) is inappropriate. It merely perpetuates the widespread confusion and misinformation about the real, relatively innocuous nature of the drug.

Legalisation of cannabis as NZUSA says "would enable it to be separated off from other serious social problems concerning the 'hard' drugs and would encourage more responsible attitudes towards them."



SUPPORT TE REO MAORI

# MAORI LANGUAGE WEEK

SEPTEMBER 8-14

Te Reo Maori Society calls on all its members, friends and supporters to help and donate towards its activities for Maori Language Week, September 8-14.

The Society wishes to undertake advertising on radio and in the daily newspapers, in addition to all its other promotional and educational activities. Now more than ever we need help and financial support. Even 50c would help, if we get it from enough people! Please hand in donations to Roger Steele at Salient, or post them to:

Te Reo Maori Society,  
c/o Department of Anthro. and Maori  
Victoria University  
Private Bag,  
Wellington

Any enquiries to our secretary Cathy Dewes — 767-730, or to Roger Steele, Salient — 70-319.



# MALAYSIA SPECIAL

FRIDAY 30: FORUM AND DEMONSTRATION

SATURDAY 31: MALAYSIA DAY - SEMINAR

## “INTIMIDATION IS A WAY OF LIFE”

*“THARUNKA” University of New South Wales Student newspaper recently interviewed Hishamuddin Ruis, the secretary general of the University of Malaya Students' Union while he was attending the Asian Student's Association Conference, held in Melbourne. In the interview, Hisham gave a very clear picture of what was happening in Malaysia after the so-called Independence since 1963.*

**First can you outline the current political situation in Malaysia?**

The current political situation in Malaysia is that the Alliance Government has managed to gain control of the other political parties which in the 1969 elections were the opposition but now with the formation of the National Front there is no effective opposition. All that is left is three political parties: the Democratic Action Party which I consider is the outburst of the People's Action Party of Singapore and racist in nature; the PEKEMAS which is inefficient and which was formed for the sake of the election; the third is the Partai Sosialis Ra'yat with its main leaders in detention. I can give a very clear example of this: in the 1969 state election two of its members were elected. Immediately one week after they had won their seats both were sent to detention camp. This is the situation in Malaysia now where there is no vocal opposition in the coming election which may be held sometime in August. I can foresee that the National Front will win with a large majority.

**Do you think this election will go on or do you think that there will be a repeat of the '69 riots and the result in the suspension of parliamentary rule?**

I don't think the racial problem will come up this time but it will inevitably. The Government has been giving the Bumiputras (Malays) a false hope that by 1990 the Malays will control 30% of the economy but right now what they are doing is to call for more foreign investment. Malaysia is a neo-colony of Britain at which 60-70% of the economy is controlled by Anglo-American investment so that it can never be possible for the people of Malaysia, be it the Malays or non-Malays, to control their own economy. Huge amounts of money are pouring into Malaysia because it provides a cheap source of labour, the existence of the incentive of pioneer status and tax exemptions. It is important to realize that because of the neo-colonial structure of Malaysia decisions are taken not by the people of Malaysia but by foreigners with vested interests in the country.

**What has been the response of students to this situation in Malaysia?**

So as I have told you the only one left is student organisation which is still vocal in nature and calling for change in the government. But in 1971 the University and Colleges Act was bulldozed through Parliament. This act is aimed at abolishing all students' organisations.

In the University they are attempting to appoint four students to represent the entire student body. These representatives are responsible to the Vice-Chancellor and not to the students. This we consider to be utterly ridiculous. Twenty two students and youth organisations have combined to oppose this notorious act. At present a lot of students' organisations like my students body are constitutionally operating illegally. Under the act we are not supposed to have our own student representatives elections. In fact under the Act the basic democratic rights of students to organise themselves were abolished under the "University Colleges Act 1974".

**What has been the response of the government to student resistance in regard to the University politics**

**and to the state of neo-colonialism in Malaysia?**

The Government realises that the students in South-East Asia are different to students in Australia and New Zealand, that students are well regarded by the people from the kampongs (villages). In this respect the Government has been worried about the students' vocal criticism of them. This was a clear example when we exposed the corruption of the Mentri Besar (Chief Minister) Dato Harun of Selangor, state of the capital city, a very corrupted man. This has shaken the foundation of the Alliance Government and we understand this. They are really worried about this and, in fact, what they are really doing is (i.e. their programme) is to divide the students on racial lines by projecting certain issues which are racist in nature so that students will be divided and quarrel among themselves (with the Malays, Chinese, Indians and the others) so that we can never get to sit at the same table to discuss the real issue which is neo-colonialism. One of my short-term plans is to make everyone aware of the structure of the country and the common enemy. After seeing these two things I think we will become very united.

**What sort of issues are the government raising to divide the students on racial lines?**

Well, in almost all their policies they portray the image that they are supporting the Malays but in the real sense, in the name of all the Malays, they are helping only a few. Because the economy is capitalistic in nature obviously you can't expect all the Malays in my country to become tycoons or businessmen. Only a certain group of Malays will become businessmen and this will at the same time anger the non-Malays who think that the Malays also have political power when in fact the economy is controlled by foreign powers. As such the political power will also be in the hands of the foreigners. This is what leads us to be divided among ourselves. They have managed for so many years to confuse the people and projected the image that the problem is one of racialism which must be looked into first. They have projected the theme of racial differences and claimed that they will correct the imbalance between the haves and the have-nots but, in fact, this is impossible. According to them by 1990 30% of the economy will be controlled by the bumiputras. Well, fair and square if they can do it. 60-70% of the economy will be foreign controlled, 30% of the economy may be controlled by the bumiputras but two or three bumiputras can control that 30%: this does not settle the issue. This is what we are questioning. As it is now we are seeing only the 2, 3, 4, 5 or 10 Malay families who have been controlling the Malay sector of the economy and enjoying the privileges of the Second Malaysian Plan. This is what has been criticised by the Malay students.

**What was the reaction of students in Malaysia to the event of October 14, 1973, in Thailand? That is, the success of the Thai students in defeating corruption?**

1: On the 13th we ourselves had an anti-American demonstration outside the American embassy during the Arab-Israeli war. The Government was really taken aback by the overthrow of the Kittikachorn regime and the 500-strong demonstration. On the 16th we came back with an even greater number of 10,000 which the Government couldn't really control. The Minister of Home Affairs, Ghazali Shafi, went to pacify the students. He was exposed during the demonstration, was booed and left. After that the students left and the leaders were called to a small briefing. Prior to this the American Embassy was bombed (this is my own analysis of the situation) and a placard was left behind. It was following that that the students were called to be convinced that the demonstration was being exploited. The Minister then went on to say that his Government

supported the Arabs but somebody has been exploiting the situation and therefore to call off the demonstration. To our own analysis that was just a part of the Government propaganda to pacify the students.

**In the case of the intimidation of students one well known case is that of Khoo Ee Liam. Do you know of any other cases in Malaysia?**

So far as my campus is concerned this kind of intimidation is a way of life. There are students working in connexion with the Special Branch (Secret Police). These informers look into the minutes of meetings to keep an eye on activities, the student meetings and union activities. Suppose we are having a meeting at the speakers corner and decide on a demonstration immediately the police in town will know and roads to the city are blocked in a matter of minutes. Recently the Minister of Home Affairs made a statement that police officers will be sent for further University training. We are not at all against anybody getting a university



education but not people with 'extra jobs'. Lately an expensive radio set was installed in the Uni and with each security guard with a walkie-talkie the 600 acres of our campus is controlled like a police state. What concerns us is that during any discussion, political forums, in the speakers corner or open debate they may just switch on the walkie-talkie, on to the main radio and direct to the police station in the city which is not very far from the Uni. In this we have the support of and co-operation of the academic staff because they know that this is part of the infringement of their academic rights.

**The case of Khoo Ee Liam was of course one of the intimidation of students while they are overseas. What do you think the Malaysian students in Australia can do to prevent such an incident from being repeated?**

First of all I appeal to them to the Malays to students not to fall into the trap of the regime, that is to fall into the trap of racialism and to understand the structure of neo-colonialism in our country - to understand the common enemy, i.e. neo-colonialism and imperialism. After that I hope they will co-operate with the Aust. students and the N.Z. to form a United Front because the struggle of the students wherever you are whether you are in Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Korea, Thailand, is the same thing. So if one student leader is suppressed, it means also the ideal of student has also been suppressed, so I appeal to you all to unite under this broad issue. You can come to a united front and to fight for your own right. If the victory of the Australian students will be seen as the victory the Thai students, as the victory of the Vietnam students as the victory of the Indonesian students, I hope they can see in this context, an internationalist context.

Hisham will be visiting New Zealand as a guest of the NZUSA for a tour of New Zealand campuses beginning at Victoria on Friday, August 30. His visit will show that the growing movement among Malaysians in New Zealand is part of a struggle among students in Malaysia for democracy and justice. All students are urged to take the opportunity to hear him. He is a powerful and courageous speaker and is in a position to speak with some knowledge about the problems of progressive students in Malaysia.



# Foreign investment — underdevelopment

This article is taken from the last issue of the Malaysian monthly 'Truth', which was banned last year by the Malaysian Government because it was too embarrassing.

Foreign investment and multinational corporations as part and parcel of imperialism, benefit only the imperialists and their local accomplices and not the broad masses of the people of this country. The continued reliance on foreign investment has only perpetuated neo-colonialism in our country whereby the politics and economics are still in the hands of Anglo-US imperialism and their hangers-on, resulting in a massive outflow of capital from our country, galloping inflation, increasing unemployment and acute landlessness. The imperialist and neo-colonial economic and political domination is the root cause of the backwardness of the Third World countries, including our country, and the deprivation and hardship of the vast majority of the people. To argue about the need for foreign investment and foreign expertise in order to develop the country is nothing but to rationalise the control, plunder and exploitation of our country and people by Anglo-US imperialism, comprador-bureaucrat capitalism and feudalism. Therefore in order to develop our country so that our people can live in prosperity, peace and harmony, the country must first and foremost be fully independent. Only then can an independent, self-reliant and progressive economy be developed which would benefit the broad masses of our people of all nationalities. This was the essence of the speech made by the General Editor of *Truth*, Sdr. Rahman Embong to repudiate the arguments presented by Encik Shahril Samad, the political secretary to the Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, and Puan Rafidah Aziz, a lecturer at the Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya, at a forum on "Foreign Investment and National Development" held on October 4, 1973 at Mara



Institute of Technology, Shah Alam. A capacity crowd of over 600 students, who were very enlightened and enthused by the scientific analysis given, punctuated Sdr. Rahman's speech with loud applause.

Similar points were also raised at a seminar on "Multinational Corporation: Its implications to Developing Countries" held two months earlier under the auspices of USIS at Hotel Merlin in Kuala Lumpur, when a patriotic Malaysian intellectual repudiated the imperialist propaganda spouted out by R.G. Hawkins, Nixon's advisor on foreign trade and two other imperialist academics, Jose de la Torre and Ingo Walters.

## Foreign investment to perpetuate neo-colonialism

The arguments put forward by Shahril, Rafidah, Hawkins and others are basically the same. They argued that foreign investment is essential for national development in developing countries because the latter are short of capital and lack expertise which is supposed to be provided by foreign investors. They further argued that foreign investment also helps provide employment, thus helping to solve the acute unemployment problem in these countries. However, because of the tremendous opposition against foreign investment in the country, and not to appear in total support of such a policy, Shahril and Rafidah had to make certain criticisms of foreign investment. But both of them still maintained that foreign investment has an important role to play in national development. What is needed, they claimed, is some form of control so that the cost or the disadvantages of foreign investment to this country could be minimised!

To refute this unscientific analysis, Sdr. Rahman took a brief look at history. He pointed out that after the Second World War, the tide of anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism was surging forward on the continent of Asia, Africa and Latin America threatening the very existence of the imperialists and the colonialists. Their fear was well expressed by the arch imperialist, the US Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles in his book "War and Peace" in 1950, when he recommended a change from direct colonialism to neo-colonialism if the West wanted to avoid recolonisation and defeat. A similar fear was echoed ten years later in 1960 by another arch imperialist, Harold MacMillan. Hence to avoid complete defeat at that time, the imperialist powers, weakened by the Second World War and the people's struggle were forced to change their form of rule from direct to indirect colonial rule, i.e. from colonialism to neo-colonialism, so as to deceive the people that they have obtained their independence! In reality, the imperialists still control the politics and economics of the country through their local agents. As an aspect of the Cold War that was officially declared by the imperialists in 1947 in order to maintain their interests, a new branch of social science, i.e. economic development and the sociology of development, was developed in the imperialist and neo-colonial universities. The most important component of this field of social science is the theory of development based on foreign investment, foreign 'aid' and foreign expertise. Such a theory argues that in order to develop, the developing countries must attract foreign investment, 'aid' and expertise! Such a theory therefore, is meant to perpetuate the Third World Countries as neo-colonies of imperialism, the kind of foreign idea which is harmful to these countries!

Sdr. Rahman then pointed out that Malaya is still a neo-colony of Anglo-US imperialism. The slavish reliance on foreign investment over these years has only perpetuated the neo-colonial set-up in the country. For example, over 60-70% of the traditional sector of the economy (i.e. rubber, tin, oil palm, etc.) are in the hands of British imperialism. At the same time the British imperialists own a vast tract of fertile land here. For example, Kumpulan Guthrie Sdn. Bhd. alone owns about 175,000 acres of the most fertile land in this country, which is equivalent to about 2½ times the size of Penang! In Negeri Sembilan, it controls one-third of the total cultivated land! A similar situation, if not worse, prevails in "new industries". Even the government has admitted that 62.1% of the share capital of limited companies in 1969 is in the hands of the imperialists. It is an undeniable fact that the principal aim of the foreign monopoly capitalists is to make maximum profits by exploiting our rich natural resources, cheap labour and the "incentives" such as pioneer status provided by the government. Therefore, how can there be any development for the masses when our resources and people are exploited to the maximum?

## Outflow of capital

On the contrary, the development of our economy has been very much distorted to suit the needs of the imperialists. Every year, there is a massive outflow of capital from our country to the imperialist countries. According to the estimate by J.J. Puthucheary, between 1949-53, an average of \$856.5 million flowed out of the country annually which is equivalent to about 15% of the GNP! Between 1957-61 according to E.L. Wheelwright, another \$3017 million were taken out of country by Anglo-US imperialism. During the same period (i.e. the first Five Year Plan, 1956-60), the government expenditure on the public sector amounted to only \$1007 million. Thus the amount of capital outflow was three times bigger than the government public expenditure in the same period! Has this outflow of capital stopped? Definitely not. In 1969, Edward Heath, the British Prime Minister admitted that every year Britain obtained 300 million pounds (\$2,200 million) in the form of profits and dividends from Malaya and Singapore! Hence, instead of diminishing, the capital outflow has been increasing over these years. With such a massive capital outflow, it is not surprising that the country is always short of capital!

## Inflation, unemployment and landlessness

Sdr. Rahman then pointed out that as an appendage of Anglo-US imperialism, Malaya also suffers the same diseases that Britain and the US suffer. In these countries inflation is rampant. Hence, the British and American monopoly-capitalists have been passing the bug of inflation to Malaya. Today, inflation is galloping in the country causing great hardship to the vast majority of the people, particularly the workers and peasants.

To refute the arguments that foreign investment helps to create employment, Sdr. Rahman stated that at the beginning of the "First Malaysia Plan" the unemployment rate in this country was officially at 6.5%. But, at the end of the Plan, after more foreign capital has moved in, the official unemployment rate has increased to 8%. The Second Malaysia Plan only hopes in the next five years to maintain the unemployment rate at 7.3%. Thus foreign investment has resulted in an increase in the rate and the number of the unemployed instead of reducing it as it is often claimed. The employment that it creates is only meant to facilitate profit maximisation. This is not surprising, said the speaker, because to maximise profits, the foreign monopoly capitalists deliberately have an army of the unemployed which they could use as a weapon to depress the wages and to break strikes. In addition, to minimise cost, they have also resorted to capital intensive methods. Therefore, an increase in the rate of unemployment is a logical consequence of a policy which relies on foreign investment.

Having made these points, he then touched briefly on another effect of foreign investment in this country, namely the growing landlessness among the peasantry which constitutes about 60% of the population. With most of the fertile land, which should be owned by the people, grabbed by the foreign monopoly-capitalists, it is only logical that the problem of landlessness is getting worse with each passing day. FELDA's efforts to overcome the problem are minimal because the few thousands that benefit each year make up less than 10% of the total that become landless every year!

## Independent, self-reliant, progressive economy

In conclusion, Sdr. Rahman said that the only way to resolve these socio-economic problems in our country is to struggle to achieve full national independence. We must get back what rightly belongs to us. Only when we have full control over our rich resources and the destiny of our country in our own hands that we can develop an independent, self-reliant and progressive economy which will benefit our people of all nationalities. Only then can genuine development to overcome national and class oppression fully be realised. This is the irresistible historical trend in the countries of the Third World today as reflected at the Non-Aligned Summit Conference held in Algiers recently. He expressed confidence that the trend for national independence and self-reliance will definitely develop with full vigour in the coming years in our country as well as in the Third World!



Malaysia's Tun Abdul Razak



## The privileges of the elite



*"The Malay elite was nurtured by Britain and installed and defended at the helm of independent Malaya. Such an analysis, crucial to the under-development argument, would examine the history of relations between Britain and the Malay elite; the whole gamut of institutions and political devices (like citizenship laws) that have protected their political lives; continuing British strategic interests in Malaysia (as in the composition of Greater Malaysia); and the value orientations of Malay Anglophiles (Scott's 'constant-pies thinking', 'social distrust' and the authoritarian philosophies of Government). 'Special rights', the keystone to the Alliance's communal controls and Malaysia's unique contribution to development theory, cannot however be overlooked."*

### 'Special Rights'

'Special rights' demonstrates in microcosm all of the dislocations, imbalances, and tensions of dependence and paternalism flowing from aid-agency sponsored development programmes.

'Special rights' is a system of controls developed by the British through land laws, public service admission and education policies, to preserve the traditions and structure of Malay society and so make the Raja class more effective junior partners of British colonialism; Expanded by the post-independence contemporaries of the same class, the same notions of rights and privileges are defended as an appropriate strategy for quite contrary objectives — economic uplift and the social transformation of Malay society. The 'control' component in the Alliance's special rights is however far more than latent.

### Corruption

'Special rights' tends to widen rather than diminish

inequalities in wealth and opportunity, generates unfulfillable expectations, and creates a variety of other unintended counter-productive social effects including the basic ingredients for corruption — irregular transactions made to trade political power for private economic benefits. The Western aid-development paradigm results in the case of 'special rights' in the usual deepening dependence and corresponding paternalism.

From the underdevelopment perspective, the irony 'special rights' is that this colonial means of control moulded to the alliance's communal-compromise survival formulae as an instrument of controlled social progress, has within it all the contradictions most likely to bring down the whole alliance edifice.

Fundamental to the 'special rights' strategy is the assumption that political and economic roles and functional relationships within 'democratic' capitalism can be separated by constitutional means (section 153 of the Malaysian Constitution). That by making 'special rights' more immutable than the constitution itself the Malay elite hopes to buy survival time for itself by the suppression of any political or even academic attempt to analyse (or even refer to) the problem. The two contradictory sets of expectations generated among the Malay and non-Malay communities as to the permanent and inalienable/temporary and transitional character of 'special rights' indicate that time is for the Malay elite, an expensive and scarce commodity. Furthermore, 'special rights' constitutes an ideological leverage for the Malay elite which both inhibits and binds the strategic options open to them.

Collective socialised development programmes amenable to Malay cultural values are precluded as ideologically dangerous (quite correctly) to the elite.

'Special rights' then, like all pay-off schemes for political loyalty, is thrust into a unilinear strategy. Continued loyalty requires a progressive upping of promises (and expectations) and hence a progressive widening of the expectation — achievement gap. The need for this unilinear strategy for survival is generated by the communal tension the formula controls and simultaneously generates.

The inherent instability of the strategy is apparent as the history of greater Malaysia and of May 13, 1969 demonstrates. May 13 testifies also the force of the above contradictions in preventing any frank account of the crisis, or firm action to meet it from the Malay elite other than 'more of the same thing' from the National Operations Council (NOC) and the New Economic Policy.

### Loyal compradors

The Malay elite are a remarkable example of loyal and solicitous compradors. They offer to overseas interest an excellent 'practical partnership', 'mutual involvement', and have succeeded almost ideally in 'maximising rewards and minimising risks'.

The events of the Malayan Union demonstrate the remarkable achievement of British policy from the nineteenth century on, in cultivating the Malay Raja class as effective junior partners of British colonialism. The response to the M.U. served to consolidate the Malay elite, enabling the articulation of Malay aristocratic values in more modern political forms, developing in U.M.N.O., the Federation of Malay Constitution, and the Alliance what was to both the British and Malayan elites a very satisfactory vehicle for the consolidation and preservation of their collective interests.

'Special rights', the keystone of the Alliance's communal controls, internalised by the British sponsored Raja class, survived independence with the dual functions of communal control and of economic uplift. 'Special rights' demonstrate both in its historic origin and in its symbiotic relationship with the consequences of Western growth-oriented development, how the Malayan elite have assumed comprador and exploitative roles.

The Alliance, as an inter-communal instrument of control representing the Malaysian bourgeoisie, is irrevocably committed to the neo-colonialist strategy that necessitates 'special rights' and repressive constitutional controls to attempt to counter the imbalances and dislocations caused by their neo-colonialist mentors, the owners and controllers of all significant sectors of the Malaysian economy. As such the Malaysian bourgeoisie is fatally compromised as an instrument of imperialist powers and is not possible to escape from the underdevelopment to which they have contributed so well.

—Abridged from W. Richards' survey  
"The Underdevelopment of West Malaysia"

Funds are needed to support the Malaysian students' struggle for freedom. Please send contributions to NZUSA.

### Malaysia, its Economy, Politics and Society

A SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Victoria University of Wellington Union Hall  
9am — 5.30pm Saturday August 31

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 9.00am — 9.15am   | Jim Crichton, President, NZUSA   |
| 9.15am — 10.00am  | Raj Vasil, Senior Lecturer in Political Science, VUW.                    |
| 10am — 10.30am    | Discussion   |
| 10.30am — 10.45am | Tea  |
| 10.45am — 11.30am | Frank Tay, Senior Lecturer in Economics, University of Canterbury        |
| 11.30am — 12.15pm | Discussion   |
| 12.15pm — 1pm     | Lunch  |
| 1pm — 1.20pm      | Alick Shaw, International Vice President, NZUSA                          |
| 1.20pm — 2.15pm   | Hishamuddin Rais, Secretary General, University of Malaya Students Union |
| 2.15pm — 2.30pm   | Discussion   |
| 2.30pm — 3.30pm   | Tea  |
| 3.30pm — 3.45pm   | Rob Pui  |
| 3.45pm — 4.45pm   | Panel  |
| 4.45pm — 5.30pm   | Dinner   |

Also a Forum on Malaysia will be held on Friday August 30, 12 — 1 pm. At 1.15pm on Friday there will be a demonstration at the Malaysian High Commission. Please show your support. All welcome!



# Kirk gets nasty over Khoo case

The New Zealand government has got cold feet over the case of Khoo Ee Liam. In a letter to the NZUSA Mr Kirk has made it quite clear that students can expect no further help from the Labour Government in protecting their rights and their liberty.

When NZUSA first approached the government they received some co-operation and this resulted in a letter being sent to the Malaysian government that asked some difficult questions. Recently a reply was sent to the government and this was the end of the matter as far as they were concerned. The letter from de Silva acknowledged that the charges had been laid but said that they were not sustained as final justification for the detention of Khoo.

The New Zealand government should be pursuing the question of the sources of the Malaysian's information but instead they did a deal with them. Jack de Silva has been a considerable embarrassment to the New Zealand government because every time that he commented on the affairs of Malaysian students in New Zealand he proved that they were subject to surveillance and intimidation by the High Commission. The New Zealand government requested the withdrawal of de Silva and agreed to stop their co-operation with the New Zealand University Students' Association in their attempt to achieve some measure of justice for their members who are Malaysian.

Until now NZUSA has refrained from attacking the New Zealand government on their lack of action. The letter from Norman Kirk to NZUSA demonstrates why the association must now reconsider its position. The Labour Government is now refusing to talk to the association on the question and is displaying a callous disregard for Malaysians in New Zealand. They are also being fundamentally dishonest.

In June, Alick Shaw, the International Vice President of NZUSA, requested a meeting with the Prime Minister. The meeting was organised so that Mr Kirk would have the opportunity of hearing

from Malaysian students themselves. Shortly after he agreed to meet the delegation Mr Kirk said that NZUSA would have to wait until he heard from Malaysia about Khoo Ee Liam. After a number of telephone conversations with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs NZUSA telegraphed the Prime Minister on July 29. The telegram pointed out the incredible delays encountered by NZUSA in trying to meet the Prime Minister and stated that to ignore the issue for any longer was irresponsible. On August 8 the Prime Minister replied that he would not meet the students and refused to discuss the central issue any further.

Kirk knows that the Malaysian government spies on students. He knows that they charged Khoo Ee Liam with offences committed in New Zealand, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has agreed that it is important to determine how the information was gathered against Khoo in this country yet they refuse to follow up the matter.

NZUSA has caused the government a great deal of trouble over this matter, they must now force Norman Kirk to reconsider his position. The departure of de Silva to South Korea will not lead to any improvements save in the Public Relations of the Malaysian government. The reality of surveillance will persist and the New Zealand government will do their best to assist the Malaysians in a cover up.

NZUSA must press on with the campaign and students must offer real support to them. It is now crucial that New Zealand students enter the campaign and begin to put pressure on their local politicians, form action groups on their own campuses and defend the independence of their universities and the sovereignty of their country.



Prime Minister,  
Wellington,  
New Zealand.  
8 August 1974.

Dear Mr Shaw,

I have received your letter of 29 July and your telegram of the same date about Malaysian students and related matters.

I have no intention of answering the sort of catechism with which you ended your letter. Nor do I accept the implication you presumably intended to convey by using the word "irresponsible" in your telegram. Indeed it seems necessary to suggest to you that you should consider more carefully not only the nature of your messages to me but also some of the other material about the topic of Malaysian students for which I assume you would claim a degree of responsibility.

I do not intend to enter into any further argument with you about the allegations of "spying" which you have made against the Malaysian High Commission. The Government is quite able to make its own assessments of this sort of thing and to reach properly balanced conclusions as to action that may or may not need to be taken.

I was surprised to read in your letter that NZUSA did not know why completion of a three-year university or technical institute course should be one of the conditions attaching to applications by overseas students to be allowed to stay in New Zealand. I am informed that NZUSA was represented at the meetings of interested parties when this and other aspects of New Zealand's immigration policy were formulated. I would have expected NZUSA to raise any points it wished when it had the opportunity to do so.

Concerning the cases you refer to in which permanent residence has not been granted to two overseas students, the Government cannot commit itself to do more than favourably consider such applications. The extent to which an individual may face persecution on his return home is of course a highly relevant consideration which requires to be carefully assessed. The Government believes itself to be in a position to make that assessment.

In all the circumstances I do not now propose to receive the delegation about which you have approached me. The situation has changed considerably since the approach was first made. In my view, there need be little room for complaint in future provided all concerned act with moderation and good sense and with the best interests of Malaysian students as the sole criterion by which they would want their actions to be judged.

Yours sincerely,  
(Sgd) Norman Kirk.



## Racist requirements

*The New Zealand Government is imposing the Malay Language requirement as a prerequisite for admission to study in New Zealand. In its reply to the question raised by the overseas students, the NZ authorities claim that the Malay language is not a difficult language to learn and students who intend to come to study here will have little problem overcoming the language requirement.*

*It is in fact not as simple as that. The new language requirement implies that the NZ Government is prepared to encourage the present Malay chauvinistic and racist education policy in Malaysia and wrongly introduces it into the NZ education system.*

*The following article illustrates how the young school students suffer from failure in their Malaysian Certificate of Education Exam which requires a compulsory pass in Malay language, the same requirement the NZ government imposes on students from Malaysia. The widespread student demonstration in early 1973 on the 1972 MCE examination result is an inevitable outcome of the present policy of education which concerns the future of the young people and their parents as well as the public. It is hoped that the New Zealand Government will review this serious issue and reconsider the Malay language requirement which does not serve to develop the New Zealand higher education and academic level.*

Reprinted from 'Forum'

To many young people, Black Monday struck on March 19, 1973. On that infamous day, many young hearts were pierced by the announcement of their failure to obtain the object of their entire school life — the Malaysian Certificate of Education!

In 1972, there were 37,126 candidates sitting for the MCE examination. Out of that number, only 16,065 students passed! The rest were unsuccessful. From that fantastic number of failures, there were 14,331 students who failed, simply because they did not pass one single subject — 'Bahasa Malaysia'!

Examinations are set to find out the ability of the students. The aim of public examinations is obviously not to reduce the number of students for promotion and thereby rob students of their opportunities for further studies! In the past years, English schools usually obtained better results in the MCE exam than Chinese schools. But last year, that record was broken. Both English and Chinese schools obtained their poorest results. For example, in the state of Penang alone, well-known schools like the St Xavier's Institution, Methodist Boys' School, Han Chiang and Chung Ling High Schools, all had pass rates of not more than 26%. The best result was from the Penang Free School which obtained a 50% pass! There was one Chinese school which obtained a 100% failure. On the other hand students in some Malay schools did extremely well in 1972's MCE exam. There were four Malay schools which obtained a 100% pass rate! In Johore, most Malay schools obtained rates from 80 to 97% pass.

Parents of those unfortunate students were very concerned over the future of their children. Many other people also showed their concern.

The press was busy with news. The Minister of Education, Dato Hussein Onn was 'most concerned'. But, what action was taken?

Peaceful demonstrations were organised — students and parents gathered anxiously outside the Ministry of Education. Banners asking for reasonable consideration were waved by young and old. Hope for the future filled every young face. They all waited together patiently.

The Minister of Education 'promised' to consider the appeals put forward by the student representatives. They asked for the lowering of the average passing mark for the 'Bahasa Malaysia' paper, to enable more of them to enter the sixth form classes, or to let them sit for another 'Bahasa Malaysia' exam. But, the answer to all these appeals was 'No!' However, the Minister of Education said that he would 'try his best' to allow the unsuccessful candidates to repeat another year. But, how many students is the Ministry willing to take? The student wondered. They appealed for information concerning the marking of their examination papers. They did not understand why they failed. But the Minister of Education knew the reason very well!

He announced that the failures were due to the 'poor attention' paid by the students towards our 'national language'. The students should have taken a serious attitude towards the Malay language because it is the most important subject in the MCE exam — the one that decided the destiny of the students. The Minister denied any injustice in the marking of the exam papers in 1972, because the whole exam system was in accordance with the Cambridge regulations. Nothing has gone wrong anywhere!

So, with the announcement of his last decisions, the Minister of Education has 'solved' the problems created by the exam results of the MCE of 1972! He has put an end to the hopes of many young people who wished to further their studies.

But, how far from the truth is the statement by the Minister of Education? Is it true that those Chinese and English school students failed because they did not pay attention to 'Bahasa Malaysia'? Every student's mind was instilled with the great importance of 'Bahasa Malaysia' long before the exam. How could they have belittled it when they knew well that they would never obtain a Malaysian Certificate of Education without a pass in 'Bahasa Malaysia'? No matter what has happened, the Education Ministry should shoulder the responsibilities! Were there adequate facilities for the study of the Malay language? Was there a shortage of teachers? Did the syllabus coincide with the exam questions, or was the level of the exam too high? And, most important, it is hard to believe that there should be such a great difference between the capabilities of Malay and non-Malay students.

Certainly, this whole event gave rise to undesirable racial feelings which is very dangerous in a multi-racial country like ours. The government knows it, and yet it allows the event to go its way! Is there something behind the whole event?

About 85% non-Malay students would have passed were it not for Bahasa Malaysia. Instead only 33.5% of students passed. The reluctance of the government to open new classes and the three ludicrous priorities set out by the Ministry for repeating students (the first two priorities are practically and deliberately planned in favour of Malay students), and the lack of any real effort and sincerity to find the cause (despite the hullabaloo in parliament) substantiates the claim that MCE result is a political manoeuvre.



没有文化的军队是愚蠢的军队，  
而愚蠢的军队是不能战胜敌人的。

## Theatre, for whom? the Chinese answer

by Chris Kraus, a member of the recent NZUSA delegation to China.

A steamy summer evening at the Cultural Park in Canton. Brightly coloured lights are hung from poles, and music pours out of loudspeakers as our delegation passes from fine arts exhibitions to basketball courts. After a quick game of pingpong and a look at the ferris wheels we are led past the refreshment stand to a large soundshell where a theatrical performance is in progress.

A huge crowd — perhaps 2000 people — is gathered, some seated in folding chairs, most standing around the edges in a semicircle, drinking bottles of soft drink, smoking cigarettes, restraining small children and talking in loud voices.

It is as if we have wandered onto a huge fairground where an annual carnival is taking place. The difference is that this carnival is continuous, for the Cultural Park is open every night of the week. If this evening was any indication, the public makes full use of it.

As we take our places in the front row seats that the holders insist upon vacating for us, we wonder what exactly is going on. This is a performance — but where is the hushed respect that we observe in our own theatres at home? People are behaving as if they are spectators at a small town rugby match.

Perhaps they are bored with what is happening on the stage...but the performance continues, and no one makes any effort to leave. Our translators later explain to us that it is customary for a Chinese audience to watch a performance with only one eye. The plays, or at least their form, are generally familiar, and the audience is able to combine play-watching with social gathering.

Perhaps the Chinese are able to watch these plays with only one eye, but our eyes are soon glued to the stage as we attempt to absorb fully and understand the strange movement and language and song that is being presented. The play, it seems, was written and performed by an amateur group of high school students. Its form and its content have fully answered the question raised by Chairman Mao 32 years ago at the Yenan Forum on Art and Literature: "Theatre? For whom?"

But what, ask jaded veteran patrons of Mercury and Downstage, can theatre hold for a factory worker, for a housewife, for a farmhand? The performance that captured the imaginations of 2000 people that evening in Canton held no universal themes. There was none of the elements of frothy bedroom comedy; no attempt was made to delve deep into the psychology or interpersonal relationships.

Instead, the group had adapted a local opera to depict a theme that is extremely important in China today — finishing high school and moving to the countryside for two years to "learn from the poor and lower middle peasants".

Makeup was heightened; voice and movement were stylised. Many of the conventions employed by the group were identical to those found in traditional Chinese drama. Only the content had changed. "We must temper ourselves in the countryside"... "Chinese youth can help build the new society with their own hands", was the rough translation offered to some of the lyrics. "Simplistic" we cry from behind our critical cool.

But the movement was intricate, the voice production was melodious, and the performance was presented with more conviction and confidence than one would dare to expect from New Zealand high school students stumbling their way through "A Man for All Seasons" or "The Mikado".

The performance we watched that evening in Canton was actually the indirect result of a conscious movement carried out by Chinese "theatrical workers" during the past ten years. Following liberation, Mao Tsetung and members of the Communist Party realised that the cultural revolution was failing to keep pace with the country's political and social revolutions. Unlike political leaders of the West, the Chinese have not failed to account for the importance of performance within a society. "An army without culture is a dullwitted army, and a dull-witted army cannot defeat the enemy," wrote the Chairman in 1944.

While Chinese technicians, peasants and workers were startling the world in the early 1960s with their innovations upon the technology of the West, Chinese dancers were sweating at the barre striving to emulate Anna Pavlova, and actors were hidden away in corners practicing Stanislavski's method. The cultural dominance of the Soviet Union was nearly complete and many artists, composers and writers began to decry their own cultural traditions as primitive,

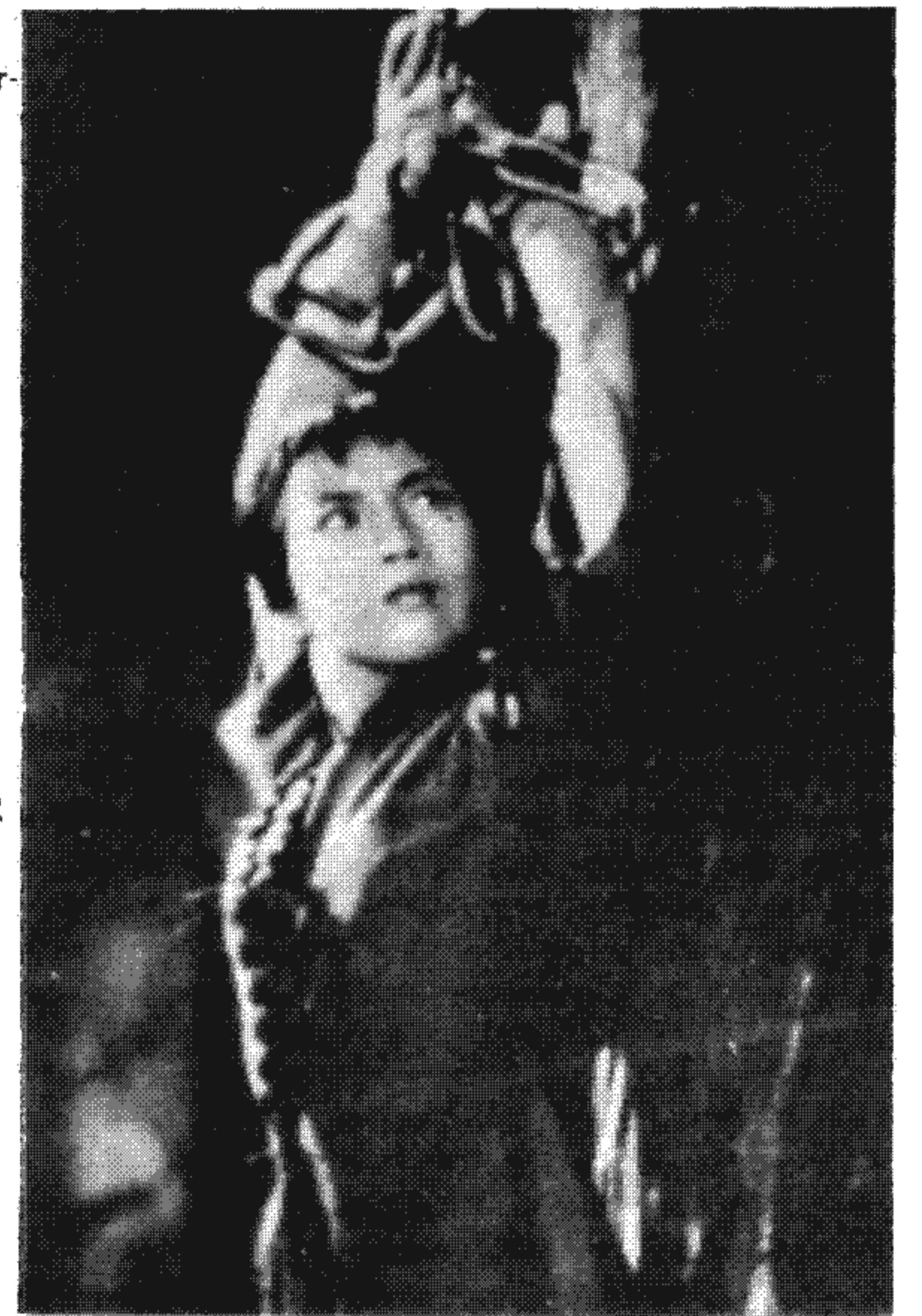
while striving to adopt a set of European conventions. Chinese music was temporarily discarded in favour of Dvorak and Liszt; Chinese theatre was left to die a lingering death in the countryside while professional actors worked on Ibsen, Strindberg and Brecht.

It was in this atmosphere that Chairman Mao reissued his call to the artists and writers of China: "Our literary and art workers must shift their stand; they must gradually move their feet over to the side of the workers, peasants and soldiers...Only in this way can we have a literature and art that are truly for the workers, peasants and soldiers, a truly proletarian literature and art."

In answer to this call, a group of actors and writers led by Madame Chiang Ching, a former film actress and now the third wife of Mao Tsetung, began to evolve a theatrical style which would incorporate the intricate conventions of traditional Chinese theatre with the needs of a modern revolutionary society. The group did not blindly hack away at 2000 years of Chinese culture. Following the Marxist/Leninist/Maoist dictum of selecting from the old what can be coupled with the new, Chinese opera and ballet troupes created such original pieces as "Red Detachment of Women", dealing with a young peasant woman who joins the People's Liberation Army during the revolution; and more recently "On the Docks" and "Azalea Mountain".

Working together for many months, combining rehearsals with research and training at communes and military bases, the Peking Revolutionary Ballet Troupe established a style of production for "Red Detachment" that quickly became a model for other ballet and operas. Rather than discard the traditional Chinese acrobatic movement in favour of naturalism, the troupe has adapted its stylised movement to suit modern times.

For example, the hand movements executed by Wa Ching-Hua, heroine of



"Red Detachment of Women", have been adapted from a traditional women's hand gesture, suggesting the languid tranquility of a summer flower into gestures of firmness and strength, suggestive of a clenched fist.

Understandably enough, that simple adaptation has done much to raise the previously feudal consciousness of Chinese women.

The major cities, however, are not the only places where theatrical innovations are being made. Although most amateur performers will admit that they receive much of their inspiration from the work of the Peking Revolutionary Opera Troupe, admiration has not prevented them from experimenting with original works of their own. At every school, factory and farm we visited, an amateur theatrical group presented a programme of original work. The workers at Sian's Number One Cotton Mill sang about the weft and the warp of the cotton loom that weaves the nation's cloth; peasant women in the Chi-Li-Yen commune of Chengchow presented a dance based upon the movements used to plant rice.

Performance not only draws its materials from everyday life experience in China, it is an integral part of everyday life experience. The intensified experience of theatre, with its bright colour and unexpected sounds has become a tremendous release from the self-restraining necessary in productive life. But theatre, rather than becoming an outlet of escape, has become a further avenue for channelling enthusiasts about the new society.

Concluding an article dealing with the necessity of technical excellence in the creation of popular art and literature, Chairman Mao once wrote: "A dull sword can never draw blood." The enthusiasm, the conviction and the absolute finesse of Chinese revolutionary drama makes us only too painfully aware of the absence of lifeblood in our own professional theatre.



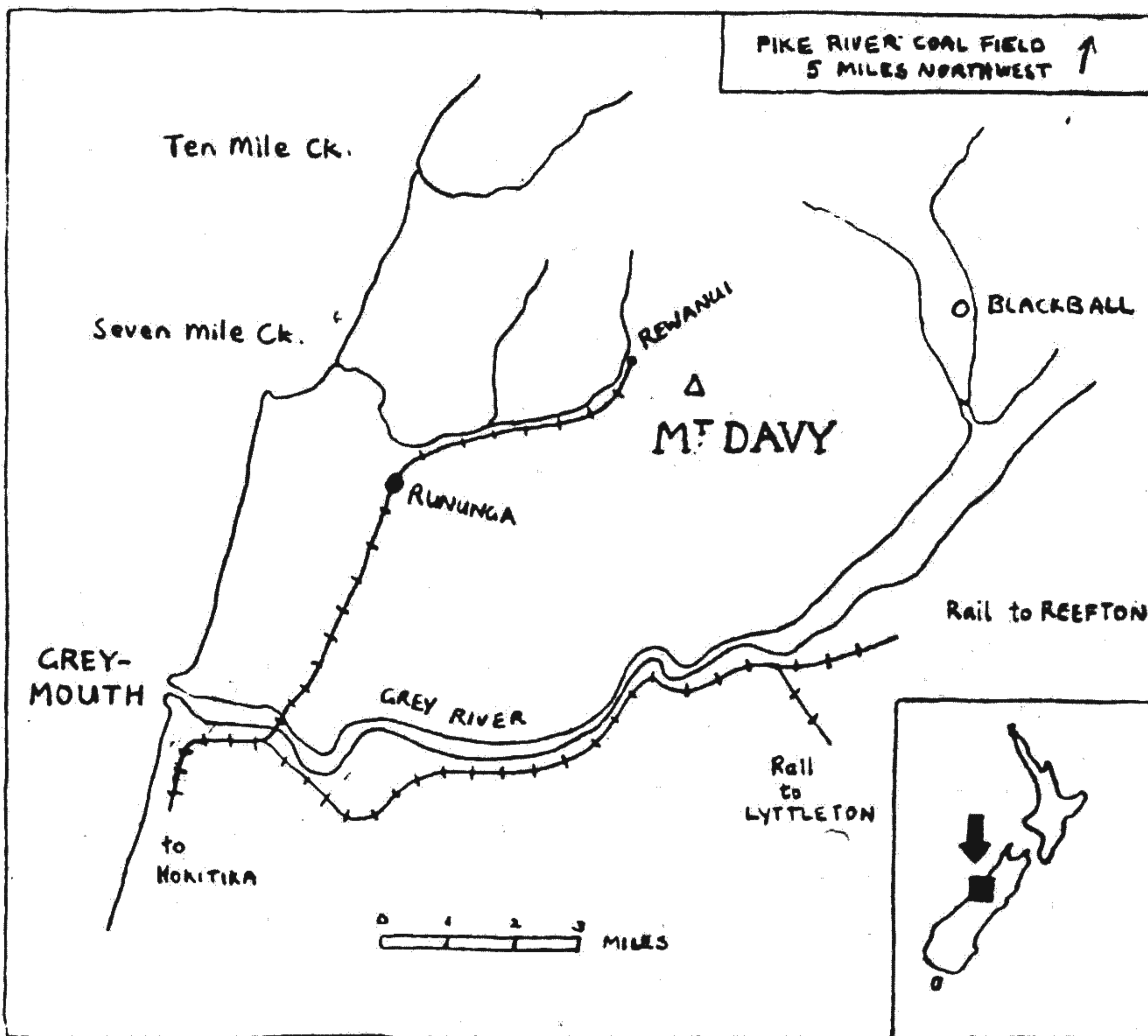


# japanese resource grab on the west coast

Mt Davy is easily visible from Greymouth on a clear day. It is about ten miles inland at the end of the railway line to Rewanui. For the last three years a consortium of Ataka & Co. Ltd of Japan (50%), and two New Zealand firms, N.Z. Forest Products (40%), and Odmins (10%), have been surveying their coal prospect; high on the exposed slopes of Mt Davy. According to reports in the Tokyo press, the survey has confirmed the presence of an estimated 22 million tons of high grade coal. Ataka & Co., when asked to confirm the report, declined to do so.

The Greymouth Coalfield is one of the oldest, best known, and most productive in N.Z. The first pakeha to discover coal there was Thomas Brunner, in 1848, on one of his early journeys of exploration from Nelson. By 1864 Brunner's seam was being mined, and the coal used mainly to fuel steamers bringing miners and supplies from Nelson to the goldfields of the Coast. By the time all the easy gold had been worked out in the 1870's, the Greymouth mines had established an important export trade to other parts of New Zealand. In the years from 1864 to 1963 the field had produced 30 million tons of coal from a total of 100 separate mines. As a result of competition from cheaper imported oil, most of the mines have now closed down, including the Blackball, Roa, Wallsend and Dobson mines, but the state-owned Strongman and Liverpool mines and several smaller private mines are still working.

The field has been extensively surveyed by geologists of the DSIR and reported on in the 200 page Bulletin No 45 of the N.Z. Geological Survey. This Bulletin records known coal reserves in the Greymouth field as being 11 million tons, with estimated reserves being as high as 30 million tons. The field is rich in coal of the very highest quality. In a report prepared for the 8th Mining and Metallurgical Congress of Australia and New Zealand in 1965, the then director of the N.Z. Geological Survey, Mr R.W. Willet, described the Brunner-Mt Davy block as the most promising undeveloped area in the Greymouth coalfield. He pointed out that "the particular importance of the Greymouth fields lies in the fact that it is the only field in N.Z. from which coal entirely suitable for gas making is produced . . . . In 1953 the field supplied 80% of the coal consumed by the gas industry; moreover the field contains the only significant source of coal suitable for the



manufacture of metallurgical coke. "That is, coke used in the smelting of metals. In fact, the Japanese are planning to use Mt Davy coal to make steel from South Australian iron ore.

According to the NZ press, the Tokyo report that mentioned the 22 million tons of coal at Mt Davy also said that "Ataka had already been authorised to develop and export the yields (of Mt Davy) on the condition that 100,000 tons should be supplied to cover (NZ) domestic needs." Apparently the prospecting agreement arranged between the National government and the consortium did refer to this 100,000 tons to be set aside. However the exploitation of Mt Davy cannot now go ahead until a new contract is arranged with the present government. The Minister of Mines, Mr Colman, recently stated that no decision will be made until the White Paper on coal has been published. It should have been published last year, but the effects of the energy crisis had altered the role of coal, and extra time had been needed to do the reassessment.

It would be wise for NZ to refuse to sell coal to Japan. It is important that we deny Japan the use of our resources. Apart from the fact that NZ will need the coal herself one day it would be dangerous for us to become a vital supplier of raw materials to Japan, as Australia has done. Japan, like all the rest of the over-developed western industrial nations (including little old NZ), is going to have to stop exploiting the world's resources sooner or later. If we want to export coal we should sell it, in due course, to poorer countries that might need it and benefit from it. There seems little point in continuing to throw our resources down Japan's guzzling maw.

*Abridged from Pete Lusk's article in Canta.*

## Coal for Japan 2/8/74

N.Z. PRESS ASSOCIATION

ONLY a Government decision is required to enable Paparoa coking coal to be exported to Japan.

The field has been proved, and only consent is needed for a new mining venture to be launched in the Grey field.

This information was given in Greymouth yesterday by Sir Reginald Smythe, chairman of New Zealand Forest Products Ltd, and Mr A. W. Mackney, managing director of the company.

They gave details of a New Zealand consortium in which Forest Products has joined with C. and A. Odlin and the Japanese firm, Ataka, formed to investigate West Coast beech forests and coal and mineral resources.

They said they were seeking a licence to export the coal to Japan for steel coking.



### THE PIKE RIVER COAL FIELD

About fifteen miles further north along the Paparoa Range from Mt Davy lies the Pike River coal field. Like Mt Davy, it has also long been recognized as a large deposit of high grade coal. The prospecting warrant for Pike River is held by Magellan Minerals (NZ) Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Magellan Petroleum Australia Ltd which in turn is 54% owned by the Magellan Petroleum Corporation of America, one of the smaller of the US oil giants.

In June of this year Magellan made a report on their Pike River prospecting operations to the Australian Stock Exchange. It was revealed that estimated reserves are 70 million tons of high quality coal. The Australian Financial Review made the comment that "last night's announcement may well herald the advent of New Zealand into the international energy industry and signify better times for the company's shareholders."

### THE LABOUR PARTY ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT

"The 1972 election manifesto of the Labour Party states "The major purpose of New Zealand's policy on foreign investment should be to permit all reasonable and necessary development of the country's resources while preserving to New Zealanders the enjoyment and control of those resources."

Most nations consider that an enterprise is foreign controlled when 25% or more of the capital is invested by an overseas firm. In the case of the Mt Davy coal, Ataka's 50% stake represents clear cut Japanese control.



# The end of the road to nowhere

by David Tripe



The proposal by the National Roads Board to stop the construction of the Wellington Urban Motorway at Ghuznee Street has aroused a lot of ire in Wellington over the last fortnight. Many local members of parliament, and the City Council, with the sole exception of David Shand, have joined the local press in condemning the decision. They have produced a variety of insubstantial arguments to justify the continuation of the motorway to the Basin Reserve and eventually to the Airport. They insist that the motorway must go the full distance without giving any consideration to the problems of where it is that the cars wish to go, or what to do with the cars when they get there.

The basic idea of the motorway, when the planning of it began nearly 20 years ago, was to enable the more rapid flow of commuter traffic from the Hutt Valley and the Porirua Basin into the Wellington central business district,

which in those days comprised the area of Lambton Quay, Willis Street, Manners Street, and Cuba Street. It was then thought in the latter part of the 1950s, that as Wellington City grew, the logical direction in which it would expand was up the Te Aro flat — i.e. the rash of high-rise building was to take place in the Ghuznee Street and Vivian Street area. And if this was where the employment was to be, it seemed sensible that there should be some quicker way to get people in and out from the Northern suburbs, rather than forcing them through endless sets of traffic lights up and down Willis Street, Lambton Quay, and the waterfront. If all the employment was to be available in the Te Aro area, why not build a motorway, such as befits any self-respecting capital city, to allow commuters rapid access by bypassing or otherwise avoiding the central city? Hence the rationale for the foothills motorway.

But as we are all aware, during the 1960s, Wellington has grown in a rather different way to that proposed by the planners. The government centre sprouted in Thorndon, and around the Railway Station area of the central business district. With the overthrow of a town-planning zoning decision in the courts, the Shell Company was able to lead the procession of high-rise buildings up the Terrace. Wellington's development of employment opportunities within the central business district has not taken place in the Te Aro area, but instead, almost without exception, it has been concentrated North of the Willis Street Manners Street intersection. It would seem that there was little point in even taking the motorway as far as Ghuznee Street — it might as well end at the Terrace on—and—off ramps.

But there is another problem common to virtually all urban motorways. There is hardly an abundance of car parking space in central Wellington on an ordinary weekday. All the main parking buildings are generally full, and kerb-space is rarely empty. The motorway, when it is completed as far as the Terrace and Ghuznee Street exit points will encourage more cars to be brought into the city by commuters. It seems a trifle anachronistic that the Wellington City Council should be continually haranguing the university for not providing sufficient car-parking space, while at the same time it encourages the Ministry of Works and the National Roads Board to complete a motorway which will create far more parking problems in the central city.

The only answer to the City Council's problems would seem to be the construction of a forest of parking buildings in the central city area. This must, at this stage of the city's development, be a very costly operation, involving the destruction of many sound buildings. Making the city an island in the middle of motorways makes nonsense of Councillor Fowler's plans to make the city a more human place — a place for people to be able to live in and move about in freely outside the normal business hours of nine to five.

A variety of arguments have been produced by the local politicians to argue that the motorway should proceed. One of the more interesting is that produced by the MP for Mirimar, Bill Young. He claims that the decision to stop the motorway at Ghuznee Street is giving undue favouritism to Auckland at the expense of Wellington. He proves that Auckland is getting 2½ times as much funds from the NRB as is Wellington. However, it is likely that Auckland gets 2½ times as much money because Auckland has 2½ times as many people.

Another argument for the motorway is that presented by W.G. Morrison, a former Wellington City Councillor and chairman of the town-planning committee, in a letter to the editor of the *Dominion*. He claims that at present, the only ways out of Wellington in time of earthquake lie between Stewart Dawson's corner and the sea, and that therefore Wellington must have the motorway as an emergency exist. A

substantial part of the motorway is built along an earthquake fault line in Shell gully, and thus its durability in time of earthquake would seem somewhat doubtful. Much of the rest of the motorway is built on reclaimed land along the shore between Thorndon and Petone, which might well disappear in an earthquake! So much for the motorway as an emergency exit!

Another argument concocted in favour of continuation of the motorway (this time from a *Dominion* editorial and from Mr W.G. Morrison) is that it will improve the visual appearance of the city. According to the *Dominion*: "The motorway is not a luxury or a transport extra, whatever may be said by some environmentalists who would prefer shabby old slums to easy movement of people." (August 15) Mr Morrison expresses similar approval of the improvement in the appearance of Thorndon, in the Hobson Street—Hill Street length of the motorway. No mention is made of the fate of the many people who used to live in houses pulled down ahead of the advancing motorway. No mention is made of the present housing shortage in Wellington, which is in large measure attributable to the motorway construction. The slums that the *Dominion* describes are considered purely for their visual impact, rather than for the people that presently live in them. And then, amazingly, the *Dominion* manages to condemn environmentalists for putting primary emphasis on the appearance of the city!!

And so the motorway is being stopped by the National Roads Board, along with a number of other motorways around the country. Even if it is being stopped for the wrong reasons — as part of a financial cutback, rather than for the more sensible reason that it is only the creation of empire-building planner — it is still a good thing to see it finishing. In answer to the question with which the *Evening Post* headlined an editorial: "What use is half a motorway?", I think we can answer that half a motorway is about as much use as a whole motorway — and many millions of dollars cheaper.

## Want some help to complete that degree?

Director-General  
Training Division  
Post Office Headquarters  
WELLINGTON 1

I am interested  
in a bursary in:  
Accountancy   
Architecture   
Statistics

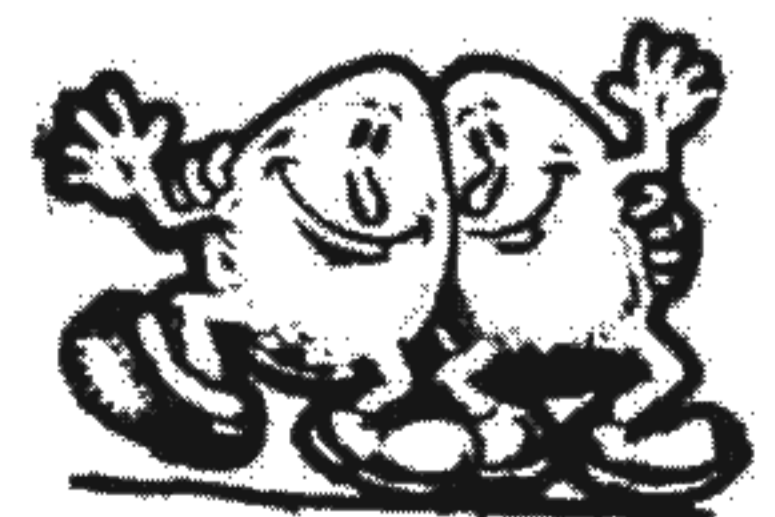
Please send me full details of your bursaries.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
University: \_\_\_\_\_



With a bursary in Accountancy (or Statistics or Architecture) you can make it to the top with the Post Office. Find out how we provide generous study assistance with yearly bursaries and other privileges. For the full story send in the coupon now.

**The Post Office offers more.**



**GRAB YOUR PARTNER for BARN DANCE**

Square Dancing Price — \$2  
Food & Drink inclusive  
BAND Maranatha  
Date — Friday September 6.  
Time — 8pm Place — VUW Union Hall  
Organised by Combined Religious Groups on Campus  
Tickets available from Studass Office



# GOOD BOOKS



**Islands 7: Vol. 3. No 1. Autumn 1974. Edited and published by Robin Dudding. Reviewed by Lynn Peck.**

It is high time that New Zealanders dispelled the myth that local literature is sub-world standard. Robin Dudding's quarterly, apart from being well established in New Zealand's literary scene, is capable of holding its own on world standards.

One of the most interesting contributions is a story by Malcolm Fraser: 'The Legend of the Lost Mythology'. Since the first man of letters stepped on shore, New Zealand has consistently complained of the lack of a mythological background. In this realistic story Fraser has suggested more of a possibility than

perhaps he originally thought. It would be well in New Zealand's interest to have more written on this subject.

After reading the book I was overcome with desperation. Yes, the stories are excellently written, packed with novel and diverse thoughts, yet the total effect is morbid and desolate.

One such story that catches the imagination is Anne Spivey's 'The Panther's Dream'. The story takes a worn out theme of a woman who lost her lover, and when her relations develop finds that she will never be able to forget him, and treats it in an imaginative, lyrical style. The theme is expressed in a dialogue between a panther and a dwarf in a hostile and vicious manner. The effect is psychologically shaking.

As well as keeping New Zealand informed on what has been accomplished the quarterly keeps current what major works are in progress. Autumn Islands contains two extracts from work in progress, C.K. Stead's 'Voiture d'Occasion' and Frank Sargeson's 'Brixton'. 'Brixton' shows promise of a good publication, yet it is 'Voiture d'Occasion' that is more interesting. This story has a supernatural element. Stead plays with a mixture of dream and reality, confused more by the constant disruption of time sequence. Here's hoping that the book is as good as the extract.

Michael Henderson's contributions stick strictly to the term 'short story'. Anyone who has ever read a short story and been put to sleep because of its length need not fear the same fate reading 'The Last News of the Day' and 'The Parrots Nest'. These stories indicate Henderson's versatility. Last News deals with the clash between a world of imagination and the practical life leaving the readers not too sure whether it is them or the characters that are insane, or just merely lacking a deeper meaning for life. 'The Parrots Nest' is a good political satire, shades of Chile. It gives a sense of unconcern brought to a concluding climax. 'Opera is banned, but the executions are good, if you're there to see them'.

Murray Edmond's 'Four Prose Poems' provide a welcome relief. The words flow lyrically and the images are powerful and emotive, yet one wonders just how much influ-

ence Janet Frame has over them.

A brief resume of the other contributors includes: Patricia Grace - 'Between Earth and Sky' which catches the moods and attitudes of a woman in child birth. Yvonne Du Fresne - 'Christmas', basically a moan about the lack of a husband by an old maid. 'Charity Chief' by Owen Leeming, which seemed overly preoccupied with sex. Fiona Kidman - 'The Torch' reflecting an immigrants lost world. Howard Press - 'Man in a Wardrobe' dealing with adultery and the attitudes to it showing a general lack of caring. Helen Shaw - 'The Gypsies'. M.J. Mcorrissey 'Raking Up the Past' - beware 'short' short story readers. Ian Wedde - 'The Porch' dealing with marital relations. And Lynda Scarth - 'Conflict' and 'Annunciata' another 'short story' contributor.

The climax of the anthology comes with John Graham's 'The Sotto Voce Man'. The story deals with that famous invention of Thomas Crapper and the attempts of Otto Brown to amuse himself while disposing of the 'ordure of time'. The graphic itself is guaranteed to hold your amusement for at least a minute. If dissatisfied with the guarantee read the story. Woe betide the completion of Otto's crapper bassoon.

New Zealand has much to boast of in her literary heritage, and should take a lively interest in her contemporaries. It is quite easy to look forward to the next publication of Islands.

**Freeway: Peter Olds. Caveman Press. Bound, \$3.95. Paper, \$1.80. Reviewed by Brian King.**

'Freeway' the latest collection of poems from motorbike cowboy Peter Olds. It's also the title of the longest poem in the book, an extended sex-drug-v8 narrative; a crazed speed-trip of words:

"Slept in your arms on Pohutakawa tree, Herne Bay, lushed on wine - cock out - dreaming for a fuck up - Woke in the boot of my v-8, that trusty graveyard friend on credit to demons - is this really the 20th century?"

Yes it is: Ponsoby, Grafton, Parnell, Grey Lynn, Boyle Crescent - the dirty side of Auckland, but also of every city; the life that begins at 3am and ends only when the vein gives out. Or in a black-and-red wreck, as in 'A v-8 Poem for Chris Howard'.

In 'Freeway' and other poems, Olds doesn't so much give us the poet's vision as the eye's sight, whether frenzied or simple, the lines are vividly descriptive. Language in

'Freeway' is fresh and often strikingly new. The uncompromising use of 'cock', 'prick' and 'cunt' make the landscape more familiar, while the drug spiel and jargon gives access to a world that is for most of us both repelling and enchanting. 'Freeway' itself:

3am the dead hour begins,  
the bells banged by the black angel  
of Nembatal. Murder Mile! Murder Mile!  
and Karangahape Rd, and Kingseat:  
"In Kingseat Villa 4,  
I withdraw for the 10th time  
The alcoholics wear the wooden floors down  
till their knees bleed."

But alongside the chaotic reality of crash-pad and drug squad the poet's ordering mind sits awkwardly 'At Wellington Airport' is a trendy bit of self-indulgence, and the dramatic 'Before the Wandering Wind Finally Dies' ("don't throw me anymore questions - I've had enough of your insane bedroom shithouse!") self-aborts with a touch of romanticism that is, nonetheless appealing:

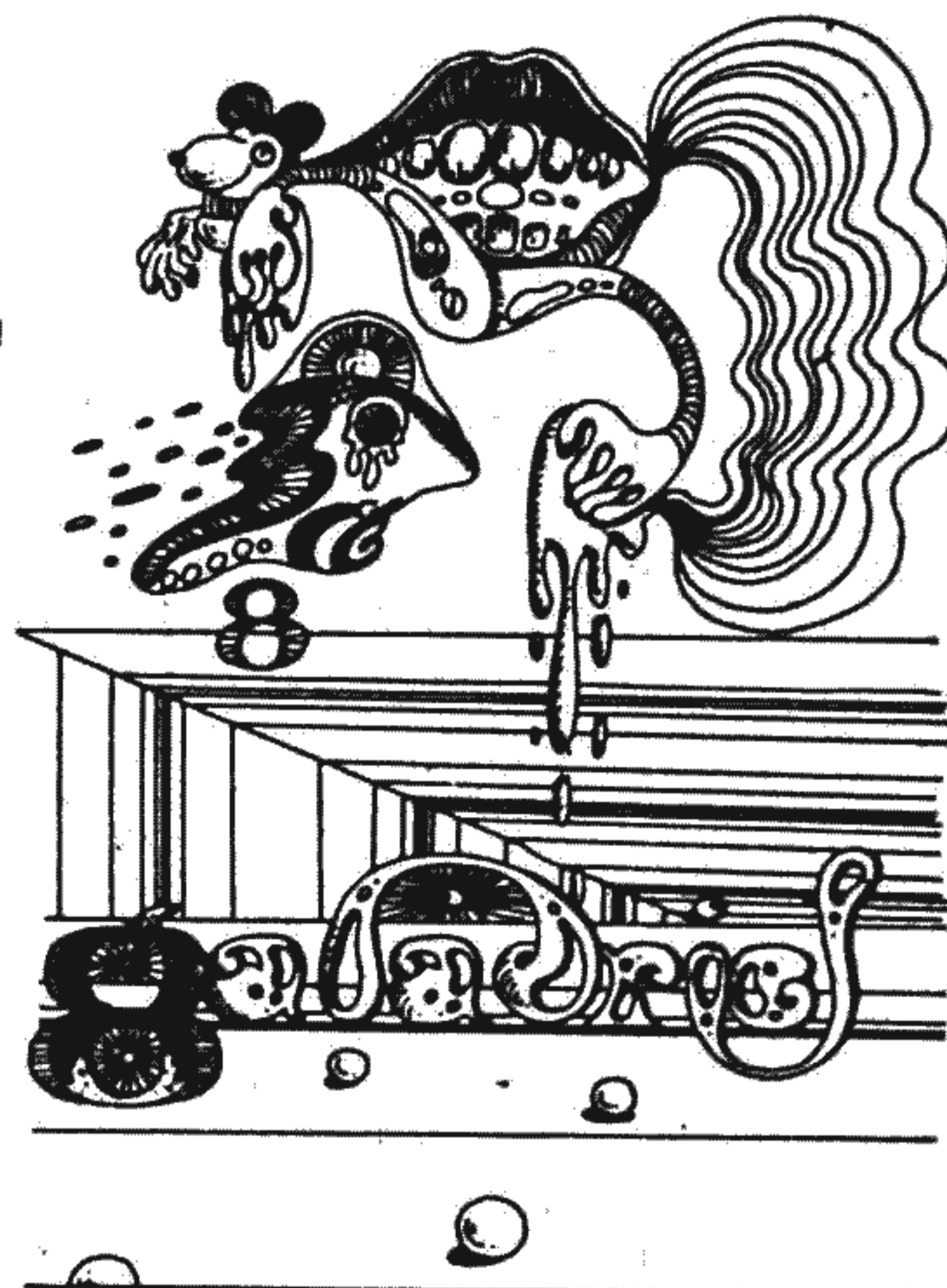
"Alone at last with my friendly friend Paranoia  
we dance  
before the wandering wind finally dies."  
No longer at street-level, the poet's eye is often less sharp. Olds makes clever use of simile in 'Beach Poem' to create a landscape that is attractively sensual, and there is a welcome note of beauty in the restrained and

delicate 'Huia Beach'. Experience has given the poet a savage honesty: regular visits to a mental hospital bear out the perfect truth of 'Girl from Ward Ten':

"15 & ugly  
cars, drug-fumes are out,  
a place in the city?  
no, she's too ugly."

Finally for Olds, 'Freeway' is 'a technological mistake': society's ("the 99 point 9 who don't understand") final solution to the few - Midnight Queen, Lady Moss, Eagle Angel, Nutmeg and Marie - who pop phensedyl, coedine and mandrake without prescription or care. The underworld-of-the-few that is described for us as vital and true in this mostly-excellent collection of poems. For Olds there is a sense of loss:

.....I cried 'where have  
all the mothers gone  
who swept blood, piss, laughter, gin,  
vomit, tears, broken noses, joy  
from gutter to new freeway & clay?'  
His only answer lies in embrace, an act  
which, like the poems in this book, offers no  
real solutions but which affirms life in an  
intense, almost paradoxical way:  
"we crawled under a Freeman's Bay house  
& loved -  
one eye on the howling road -  
the other on the shoulder of Freeway."



**Valdramar: A Gothic Rock Opera. Downstage Theatre. Reviewed by Gordon Campbell.**

These reviews are a bit of a game really. For the reader, they're meant to give some idea of

what the play is about, to enlighten, inform even; but mainly they should be a good read even if the reader has no intention of making it to the show. For the theatre, a review is an exercise in public relations; a review is simply the least painful, least offensive way of bringing in the customers.

There's a format; a round of applause, a summary of the plot, special mentions here and there and the odd bit of constructive criticism just to show that the critic knows his oats. If you can throw in a rhetorical question at the end, so much the better. Well, if in this review it seems that I'm not playing my role, not doing as a constructive critic should, then it's because those responsible for 'Valdramar' long ago abandoned their part of the deal. Despite their trumpeting that 'Valdramar' was "two years in the making" it looks and sounds as if it were thrown together in the last week before performance.

First of all there's the music. The Evening Post critic was quite right in saying that its main function is to "set the mood for the action" i.e. to do the normal job of film music. Unfortunately it never rises above the level of most movie music, being just a set of riffs thrown together to give a rhythmic backdrop to the dialogue that's sung, or rather chanted by the actors. The music is all played from scores written for the composers by Tony Backhouse, and the band do quite adequately what they've been given to do. It's

just a pity that they weren't made better use of. The composers, Val Murphy, Clive Cockburn and John Banas claim that "this is the best music we've ever written and we're not ashamed of a note of it." Glory be. If they did spend two years on this score then there's cause for real commiseration that they haven't managed to come up with even one decent melody in the whole of that time. Tenth rate Jethro Tull? Not quite.

Most newspaper reports have complained that the music is too loud. I found that this wasn't so much a fault of the band, more the singers. Very few in the cast seem to know how to sing into a microphone. The policy seemed to be to sing as loudly as possible and take whatever the microphones could add as an extra bonus. Not only did this render most of the lyrics completely unintelligible but I came to fear the appearance of Robin Simanaur as the bad wizard and his three devil assistants in a way that the composers didn't really intend - it's just that their manic shrieks and cackles delivered at full volume into hand held microphones were positively ear-splitting. It got to where as soon as Simanaur appeared on stage I had to restrain an impulse to dive under the table.

The special effects generally went off quite well. I'm sure that the wizard's disappearance at one point will be a topic of debate among the children in the weeks to come. But something will have to be done with that spinning sun. The prop is quite a good one, although the sequence goes on for too long. However, the sight of the sun being cranked slowly and jerkily out of sight tended to take away the drama of the preceding scene. Other technical problems; Corben Simpson bending to give a soulful ballad, and then whipping his microphone out from under his cloak with a thunderous graunch. The sacred stone, supposedly rekindled only by the light of the sun being continually rekindled as whoever picked it up seemed to unerringly put his finger on the "on" button. These and the other technical faults could be forgivable if the rest could compensate - here they are just one more element in the general chaos.

On paper, the plot has possibilities. A sacred stone needs to be rekindled on a dangerous quest. Evil sorcerers and a wicked prince try to steal the stone and its power. Good princes try to stop them. But the plot is 'developed' in a really confusing manner.

With the poor enunciation of the lyrics mentioned earlier, one comes to depend more and more on the narration to give some clue as to what is actually happening, and at times even that is not enough. After one song where the baddies rejoice at stealing the stone the narrator comes on to say that, ahem, actually the goodies have still got it. For all that the play could have succeeded as a good sort of fruity melodrama for the kiddies. That's about the level of its characterisation. At best, it would probably bore kids silly. The ones at my table were restless after one hour and positively mutinous by the second half. At one point, where Laspar is trying to escape from his cage, I heard one kid say "this is stupid, the bars are wide enough apart for him to walk through". Quite true! At worst, it will destroy their taste for quest mythology and fantasy altogether.

However, 'Valdramar' can never quite forget its pretensions. And it can only be morbid and violent when it tries to be something more. A "Singing in the Rain" sequence from "Clockwork Orange" is dragged in as evil Prince Tandros beats an old man. A camp villain a la Herod from Superstar is also featured.

And in the scene where Tandros temporarily prevails, a series of cardboard castrated corpses come down out of the roof, and the devil girls proceed to suck them off. Hey, sucking off a castrated stiff! Do you think John Banas is trying to tell us something?

I hope Pat Bartlett isn't silly enough to complain, and give 'Valdramar' a notoriety it doesn't deserve. I also hope the writers didn't have that in mind when they included the scene.

So that's 'Valdramar', an ugly morbid, pretentious piece of rank bad theatre - one wonders at the ease with which the Queen Elizabeth Arts Council money is made available for these travesties. One would have thought that after James Ritchie's disaster of a couple of years ago that stricter standards would have to be met.

However out of all this perhaps someone can write a real quest fantasy. About a little inbred, incestuous theatre group tottering toward its 10th birthday, and having being gulled through a combination of greed and stupidity to put on a scrofulous musical by a bunch of tone deaf posers. Who can save this little theatre group? Who cares?

## DOWNSTAGE THEATRE

A ROCK OPERA

### VALDRAMAR

by Clive Cockburn, Val Murphy and John Banas

Special performances each Friday throughout season at 6pm and 9.30pm (without meals) students - \$1.50

Reservations - 559-639

Hannah Playhouse

Cnr. Courtenay Place & Cambridge Tce.

Other performances Nightly at 8.15pm. (Dinner at 6.45pm)



# RECORDS

**Diamond Dogs: Bowie (RCA Victor).  
Reviewed by Richard Best.**

And here died a dog as punishment for boring thousands of teenagers who should at least be playing in the sun rather than popping sweat glands over "Diamond Dogs", quite appalling and so forth....

He that thinks deep would duly have branded a non-runner after "Aladdin Sane" and this seventh Main Man brat will serve only to wake those who missed personally foretelling last year's glitzy prediction.

"Rebel, Rebel" finishes the first side and provokes the thought that most rock celebrities - rather than rock musicians are born out of neurosis, hit the beeline quickly on making perversity languid and never know how to stop after they've wept their tears twice.

Thrice for Bowie in fact, since "Ziggy Stardust etc", "Aladdin Sane" and this one all seem to be the real nuts in a massive all-consuming disease felt by the man. Precluding "Future Legend" for its endearing English grossness, all ten songs are funeral epithets to the English Bi-Sexual Who Once Brought You "Life On Mars" and similar charmsongs.

People will buy this one and twist themselves really screwy to "Rebel, Rebel"....honest....I know three kids who did it last week....always blabbering about George Orwell and genocide now....quite appalling.

**The World Became the World:  
Premiata Forneria Marconi. (Manticore Import).  
Reviewed by David MacLennan.**

Several weeks ago, Phillip Hay reviewed PFM's previous album, "Photos of Ghosts". This was a fine review in all respects, as befitting such a brilliant album.

"The World Became the World" is a worthy successor to "Photos of Ghosts". It is quite different from its predecessor, but it's still PFM to the core. The line-up has changed slightly: Ian Patrick Djivas replaces Giorgio Piazza on bass, Flavio Premolis keyboards do not dominate as much as on "Photos of Ghosts", though they are still prominent, Franco Mussida's guitar work is brought more to the fore, and where "Photos of Ghosts" was a beautiful quiet, almost pastoral album, this one is more funky and heavy. Lyrics are once again by the one and only Pete Sinfield, the best lyricist around these days.

There are six tracks in all. Side one opens with "The Mountain", the longest and most unusual (unusual for PFM, that is) track on the album, utilizing the services of the choir of the Academia Paolina di Milano. The track that highlights Mussida's excellent guitar-playing. The next cut, "Just Look Away", is more typical of PFM. It is a sad little song about old age, and the depressing tone of the lyric is contrasted

with the pleasant, relaxing mood evoked by the tune, which contains a catchy little chorus.

The first side closes with the title track, the best on the album. It contains all the elements that made "Photos of Ghosts" what it was, e.g. Premolis surging keyboards work, rising and falling like a bird in flight. The louder this is played, the better it sounds!

Side two kicks off with "Four Holes in the Ground", which was released as a single in Britain. This jaunty little number starts off with some lively violin and synthesiser work, then quiets down again before coming back with a steady rocking beat. "Is My Face On Straight" follows, highly amusing lyrically, and containing some smooth accordion work from (I presume) Premoli, adding a continental touch to the song. Magnifico, as they say. The album closes with an instrumental, "Have Your Cake and Beat It", which starts off with the bass on its own (sounding like he was warming up before a jam), and just when you think it's going to be a nice quiet piece like "Old Rain" off the last LP, in comes the rest, with some blistering violin work from Mauro Pagani. A great finish to a great album.

PFM are destined for the big time, make no mistake about it. They are every bit as good as the likes of Yes, King Crimson and Gentle Giant, and I sincerely hope they get the recognition they deserve. "The World Became the World" is one of the more important album releases of 1974, and you would be well advised to get hold of it - when it is released here, which may be a little while yet. While you're waiting, though, there's still "Photos of Ghosts"... 10 out of 10!

**The Banana Boat Song: (Belafonte,  
Burgess, Attaway). Sung by Harry  
Belafonte with Tony Scott's Orchestra  
and Chorus with Millard Thomas -  
guitar. 78 RCA recording F2PB8702  
20-6771. Reviewed by Y.A. Weh.**

The beats had Kerouac, the liberals have Ginsberg but the black man has Belafonte. "The Banana Boat Song" is a 78 recording eminently worthy of attention as it brings to the fore the black man's struggle to throw off years of oppression and exploitation by the white man. One can see the generations of toil and misery of these people in the simple but powerfully moving line - "Daylight comes and I wanna go home". Well then, you may ask - why doesn't he go home. The answer to that comes very soon after - showing the brilliance

in composition of this masterpiece - he is barred from going home by the overbearing cruel and ruthless overseer who, typical of the white man in his disregard of the indignities and sufferings of these people holds this humble and honest worker in utter contempt refusing to come along and dismiss him - 'Come Mr Tallyman - tally the banana' is the plaintive cry born of hours upon hours of backbreaking labour carrying 'six foot - seven foot' yes even eight foot branches of bananas for little or no return.

Tony Scott's orchestra and chorus complement Belafonte's lament wonderfully well giving an undertone and beat reminiscent of a bantu folk gathering on a wild African night with perfect renditions of negroid harmonizing. Millard Thomas' guitar playing reflects a deep awareness and understanding of black man rhythm which goes far beyond other forms of music in its true mood and feeling which one could call soul. In all, on listening to this one wonders how it could even be bettered. The answer is simple, just turn the record over and discover 'Star-O' which like 'The Banana Boat Song' tells it like it was and is but goes further by suggesting that the black man is being even further oppressed and exploited than was evident in 'The Banana Boat Song' because the tally man never came along and now this black man weary in body and spirit cries that now that he has worked all night and all day - night is falling once more and still the tally man has not tallied the bananas. Will he tally the bananas? I don't know and by his previous record he probably won't but we must wait for Belafonte's sequel to this to find out. This is a record that is a must for all people of conscience - this should become the guiding light in fact the 're book' of all those concerned about freedom and justice and besides it makes a damn good ash tray when curled at the edges.

**The Adventures of Panama Red:  
The New Riders of Purple Sage,  
(CBS Recording). Reviewed by  
Thomas McGrath.**

I haven't heard any of New Riders' albums before this one. To succeed in playing music similar to that of Grateful Dead, demands enough musical skill and arrangement to sound unique. The music of the Dead is now widely known and perhaps a little dated. Quite some effort has gone into making this album as original as possible. For once, I see a team responsible for a very fine cover design and art, and also "album

concept". There's a superbly drawn Harold Hedd type cartoon folder enclosed in the record cover, which provides humorous reading while you listen to the music.

The first track is appropriately entitled "Panama Red". The melody is bright and the lyrics humorous. The vocals are well controlled and the harmonies are as tight as the Dead, yet seem more lively. The lead guitarist's performance, with that quick Nashville style melody, is excellent. It is those harmonious vocals and telling lyrics which make the best of less interesting tunes on the LP like "L.A. Lady" or "Important Exportin' Man". The instrumental togetherness of the group on this first track is consistent on every other.

The second track ("It's Alright With Me") is memorable for B. Cage's steel guitar solo - to be heard on many following tracks. In my opinion, track 3 side 1 is the finest. "Lonesome L.A. Cowboy" has a captivating melody and interesting lyrics. The song expresses the best features in the album - particularly the subtle but quite pleasant background of harmonica and guitar to the main vocal. It is this which redeems entirely, the somewhat pedestrian rhythm of "One too many stories", on the uptempo, commercial "Mexicali Clues" sound of "Teardrops in my eyes". The brass backing in several tracks, though tightly disciplined, brings welcoming variety. It is advantageous to avoid boredom, by breaking up those other technically very smooth tunes.

I should mention, "You should have seen me running", because it features Buffy Sainte Marie, singing the chorus (as she does in 'Cement, Clay and Glass'). This reflects the high standard of musicianship in 'Panama Red'.

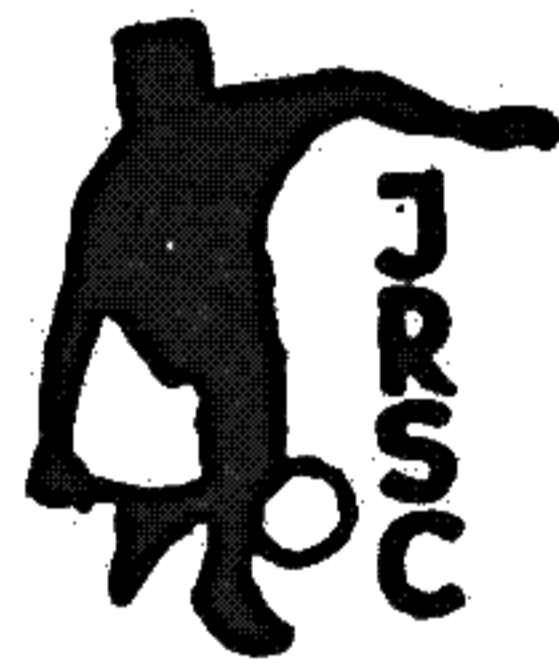
Before, I made a passing note on the 'album concept'. There's a definite sequence in these tunes. In 'Panama Red' the lyrics express optimism; adventure and the workings of the 'counter' American dream. I don't think 'Kick in the Head' followed by 'You should see me running', needs further explanation.

The final track of the LP is in contrast to the first - being lyrically thoughtful and melancholy. The melody is slow with the full strumming of acoustic guitar, rounded out with brass and keyboard backing. 'Cement, Clay and Glass' reminds me of anything from Randy Newman's LP - "Sail Away". It's rather cynical.

There's a rather subtle story to 'The Adventures of Panama Red'. I shall recommend it for that.

## TYPING TUTION

Learn to touch-type the quick, easy way. Wellington's first, most experienced, fastest and cheapest audiovisual typing tuition centre. World wide method of English origin. Reduced fees for students. SIGHT AND SOUND TEL: 43-618



## JOHN REIDS SQUASH CENTRE

### STUDENTS CONCESSIONS

SQUASH : 40c per half hour

(normally 75c)

Rackets half normal hire.

GOLF : 50c Bucket of balls

### CONCESSION HOURS

9 - 12 and 2 - 5

Weekdays

## True Canon quality. New Canon price.



The most capable palm-sized electronic calculator yet developed. The new Palmtronic LE-83 from Canon. Small in size. And now small in price. But still big on Canon quality, Canon ingenuity.

With all-floating decimal point system. Zero suppression system. Most significant digit priority system. Logical entry sequence. Easier operation. Battery or mains power.

The calculator that breaks the price and size barrier without sacrifice of quality or ability.

## Canon Palmtronic LE-83

Calculation in your palm. \$79.50

Available from:

KERRIDGE ODEON BUSINESS EQUIPMENT  
Auckland - 7th Floor, 246 Queen St., Phone 378-110  
Wellington - Majoribanks St., Phone 555-806  
Christchurch - Colombo St., Phone 60-222  
Dunedin - 1st Floor, 52 Princes St., Phone 70-126

### CAMERA HOUSES

AUCKLAND: 165 Queen St., Lorne St. 246 Queen St.;  
TAKAPUNA: 45 Hurstmere Rd.; CHRISTCHURCH: Worcester St.;  
DUNEDIN: 274 George St.; HAMILTON: Victoria St.;  
HASTINGS: Cnr King & Heretaunga Sts.; INVERCARGILL:  
28 Dep St.; LOWER HUTT: 96 High St.; NAPIER: Hastings St.;  
NELSON: Trafalgar St.; NEW PLYMOUTH: Brougham St.;  
PALMERSTON NORTH: Broadway; ROTORUA: Tutarekai St.;  
WELLINGTON: Willis St.; WHANGAREI: Rathbone St.

### AGENTS

HAMILTON: McNeill Office Equip. Ltd.; HASTINGS: W. Patterson & Son Ltd.; MASTERTON: Masterton Printing Co. Ltd.;  
NELSON: Trafalgar Supply Co. Ltd.; NEW PLYMOUTH: R. W. Lambert & Co. Ltd.; PALMERSTON NORTH: G. M. Barlow Electronics Ltd.; ROTORUA: H. A. Holmes & Co. Ltd.;  
TIMARU: D. R. Dowell Ltd.; WANGANUI: Devine Business Equip. Centre; WHANGAREI: M. M. Baigent & Co. Ltd.

## Hare Krishna Indian shop



Embroidered Dresses  
Long Maxis, Kurtas and Tops  
Silk and Cotton  
Brass ware and Jewelry  
Perfume and Incense  
All Indian Goods  
Wholesaler and Retailer  
6 PLIMMERS EMPORIUM





# Dear Salient...

## Pui Defeated.....

Dear Sir,

In the last issue of 'Suara Siswa' I was amused to read that two out of four articles printed were criticisms of my friend R. Pui. One made an indirect attack on him by saying "If the MSA has a radical president (say for example one with the convictions of R. Pui), then the entire policy of the Association will swing to the left."

What he has been saying as far as I know from my long time friendship with him since schooldays in Kuching, is that he is only extreme in the sense that he believes in democratic ideals. He himself has argued that if to hold such views means being a 'leftist' then it must be very trendy as all politicians here and elsewhere claim to uphold similar views! May God defend us from such people!

The second one was by Mr Ken Lim who is very short sighted to say the least. He said WMSA "just cannot condone the actions of Robert Pui....I am not impressed by the arguments that we should think of our future generations in the case because:

- 1) We are not certain how much we could achieve by this self-sacrifice.
- 2) Are we sure there is no other way of achieving our aim without sacrificing ourselves.
- 3) When one's action is strongly backed by the left-wing group, this is not independent nor wise, because Malaysian Government will immediately view it unfavourably even before one says anything, however reasonable it is."

I shall not set out the more derogatory things Mr Lim said of my friend. I think the three things he has said is enough to destroy any credibility he has left with the Malaysian students. His first statement shows his inward looking approach to life as opposed to Robert's more humane approach. In the second he asks a question without attempting to answer it. I would suggest that no one in history has achieved anything without sacrificing something. Only one type of person has managed not to sacrifice anything to gain something, that is the opportunist. It is worrying that someone who is supposed to represent the interests of such a large group of people should appear to be an opportunist. I hope Mr Lim will criticise himself and change his approach.

As for an alternative way to achieve 'our aim' Robert has put forward reasonable ways such as petitioning the home government to bring to its notice the concern of Malaysians here about the dictatorial approach it takes in governing the country. He has also suggested petitioning the UN. Are these proposals so extreme that we have to take a lily livered approach? I ask Mr Lim to give me some examples of 'ways' of changing the home government apart from voting it out of power which he knows is impossible to do.

In his third argument in defending his own lack of initiative he reasoned that he cannot back Robert because of his 'left-wing' support. I wonder what this means as I have been unable to find out in my conversations with him, that he has the support of the NZ Communist Party, Labour Party or the Young Nationals or even the October Club. That leaves the NZUSA. If we care to trace the history of this body, it has always stood up against injustice everywhere in the world. Ken Lim talks about his great achievements in organising social functions but has he ever supported wider causes than helping the handicapped? NZUSA in my opinion has been the only organisation that has so far sincerely looked after the interest of overseas students. Lim perhaps could learn from it.

Whatever he says some things are clear. He agrees that there is injustice at home. He agrees that something should be done about it. He has had to come out to condemn the Malaysian Government in the Khoo issue and also against the interference by the High Commission last year. He has committed himself this much and I do not think he can attempt to separate himself from his actions by declaring that he is against Robert. It is too late!

The conclusion to be drawn from 'Suara Siswa's' attacks seem to be based on a scare that Robert is going to run for next year's MSA Presidency. I urge you to do so Rob, MSA needs a strong leadership.

Keep up the good work,  
Old Mate.

.....and congratulated

Dear Sir,

I wish to congratulate Robert Pui on his recent success in the elections. I have always admired Robert for his courage and integrity. My best wishes to him when he takes up this position and for when he returns to a fascist regime in Malaysia which will treat him in the same way as it treated Khoo Ee Liam. Good luck Robert.

Silent Supporter.

## Cockies and WONAC again

Dear Roger,

A couple of points about two letters last week.

Kevin Wright seems to have missed my point entirely about the statistics. I argued that they were misleading — in reference to the two ending in 1971 he explains why they are misleading. That doesn't really help matters much. In relation to the farmers income graph I argued that the drop 74-75 was highly unpredictable, but seemed to be too extreme. Kevin's reply to this is to cite impressionistic evidence that prices are falling drastically. Agreed that they're down on the peak of the 72-73 season, but they're still far above those of the late sixties, which is where the graph would have them heading, given that output has increased. I entirely agree with Kevin's attack on PD's insane dribblings.

Debbie Jones' letter argues that pro-abortionists should not spend their time abusing people like WONAAC who at least get around to doing something. This is somewhat dangerous — my comments (not cracks) on WONAAC related to mistakes of organisation which Debbie admits in her letter. As my attitude to WONAAC at the Exec meeting showed, I am not rabidly trying to stop things getting done — I am merely concerned with their getting done reasonably effectively.

Further, no supposedly left-wing group should reject criticism purely on the grounds that it interferes with unity, which Debbie seems to be arguing here.

Anthony Ward



## Long service pension

Dear Roger,

In recognition of the steadfast devotion and unwavering dedication in pursuit of unswerving student interests the establishment of a student politician long service pension scheme is shamefully overdue. How much longer can we expect the senior members of our present executive to bear the burden of enlightening the too easily misled student? Their expose of the real Middle East villain, and the revelation that international affairs in Portugal involves more than wine exporting, necessitated exhausting effort. The group resignation of a recently re-elected president, vice-president and NZUSA Liaison Officer is a grim reflection of this wearisome burden. A retirement fund is the answer.

I nominate as recipients for this scheme:

- a) Barbara Leishman — a most deserving case, has contributed six years "of active involvement in a wide variety of cultural clubs:" (Barbara's re-election '73 manifesto) and presently aspires to a third year on executive.
- b) David Cunningham was dedicated to "an effort to reduce the runaway work load of the credit system" (David's re-election '73 manifesto for NZUSA Liaison Officer) as early as '73. David now wishes to keep his present position of SRC Co-ordinator and states if re-elected the limiting "of course work loads will need to be set".
- c) Lisa Sacksen, to date five years of involvement in student politics. Presently seeks a third year on the executive.

Barbara, David and Lisa are each standing against two other contestants for these three positions. The charge that students are apathetic and no else stands for these positions is obviously untrue. One wonders why they cannot depart with the gratifying feeling that their duty has been done.

Milan Lazarevic

[This letter was held over from the last issue-Ed.]

## Opposition to opposition to Rolleston

Dear Sir,

Opposition to the satellite town of Rolleston by Ron Johnston seems to be based on an intellectual distaste for low income subdivisions more than anything, and government-owned sub-divisions in particular.

While I agree the ugly despoliation of natural hillsides for more and more suburban growth is environmentally unsound, what can I ask is the alternative when the population continues to grow and SAC will not lend on older homes. After trying to borrow on several coastal cottages I too have ended up in a clay patch at the back of Porirua East.

And what is wrong with a "Porirua away from the sea" as Ron Johnston describes the prospective Rolleston? He considers low-income sub-divisions to be economically and socially deprived. Deprived of what — a library of the right books in one's lounge bookcase? There are few other suburbs in New Zealand where one can walk down the street at night and enjoy the tremendously endearing warmth of Maori and Island people singing along with all the family from babies up to grandparents poor or not, these people have a far richer culture than many at university can aspire to. Poverty, real or contrived breeds its own culture as Ron Johnston should know in his capacity as a geographer.

Has anyone who intellectually condemns Porirua East (for in fact Porirua itself is an area of old established homes and high-class private new sub-divisions) walked among the state houses and noticed how different they really are, in colour, style and materials. Some of the brick homes, in particular are of a quality much in demand in "higher-class" sub-divisions. Most residents have made a sincere attempt to cultivate their gardens, plant trees, shrubs, tidy lawns and build attractive fences. You will find it hard to match such a standard in rented private homes.

I might add, also that fewer Porirua people are poor in terms of wage packets. They just have bigger families and bigger generosity to other people than Mr Johnston's crowd can boast.

Love, peace  
Margaret Davey

## Malaysian storm over Vic.

Comrade Roger,

The political forecast for this weekend is imminent Malaysian storms over Victoria. Forum seminar, masks, eggs and broken windows will ensure a red hot recipe to jolt Malaysian affairs into life again. These events promise another battle front for rightists, leftists and liberals to crossfire, hack, curse and sue each other. Even the most apathetic of the Malaysian students can't avoid raising their eyebrows in awe or grunt their approval.

Whatever the aftermath, the events of August 30 and 31 will be the greatest ever, of unprecedented scale and impetus in the history of Malaysian students in NZ. Our Kiwi friends who devote great efforts and time to organise these events could only be appreciated by our unreserved support and full attendance on these two days.

While the atmosphere is electric, MSA top executives remain timid as ever, probably burying their heads into the sand. So far, there isn't a word about their participation. Where the heck is our President Kenny Lim? He is supposed to be the spokesman for the 200 odd Malaysian students out of some 400 in Wellington. Could he (holy cow! it just came to my mind) be comrade John MacDonald the Second! Who claims to represent the silent majority, and hence remains uncommitted to their affairs.

Never mind, we still got with us characters like

who shriek and scream erratic and discordant songs of praise and other pro-government stuff in Salient. And also the two clowns who squirmed when they spoke at the former Malaysian Forum. It would be a blessing if these noisy blokes would make the scene again. They will certainly add variety and humour to the occasion.

Pejuang

## A long way to get Byron

Dear Sir,

In one of your recent letter pages, the Union Manager, Mr Byron Buick-Constable mentioned that he was making provisions for the physically handicapped student. So far he has given them car-parks close to the Union Building. That's a great help, I'm sure. In his letter he invited me to come to his office and discuss it. Well, after jamming a wheelchair in the library doors, I found it rather difficult getting away from there, through two set of doors, two flights of steps, down a steep grade, through more doors and down more steps, and along the corridor and through two more doors to his office. Hence until his doors are widened and steps are flattened, it would be too much to compete in the obstacle race to see him.

Patrick O'Hagan

## Student money

Dear Sir,

Although it is clear SRC does not represent the student body, this group has taken to appointing itself to the management of students personal money. Removing money from the students' pockets by raising the studass fee amounts to no less than taxation.

The \$235,000 added to an already mis-managed \$148,000 or thereabout is intolerable. As someone specified in an election leaflet, about 70c of the studass fee goes towards club grants.

I estimate (perhaps unwisely) that Salient takes out a dollar or three, and building funds and maintenance compose most of the rest. (No doubt you will have the actual figures published).

Is the executive planning to raise the salaries it so generously pays itself? Must be. Perhaps the money will be spent on new buildings?

One quarter of a million is a large amount to be put in the hands of the relatively unknown (to most) and unstable (?) executive.

Sir, I suggest that this matter should be taken to the university population (or at least those who care about their pockets — which should be everyone) by including it anually on the voting forms for the exec. This would probably increase the numbers voting dramatically if nothing else.

Also I suggest Salient makes a lot more of SRC if it is so powerful. The particular meeting where the decision discussed above was made was not well advertised.

Salient is getting thin.

S.F.J. Doole

## Hard to get hold of

Dear Sir,

On numerous occasions I have attempted to contact in person one Dr Stephen Levine of the Political Science Department during normal working hours. Over the period of about three months I have popped in, to see if he was in the department, at least twice a week on varying days and times, but was only able to get hold of him once. Today (Aug 5) I asked the secretary as usual if he had replied to a note I had left him about two weeks ago and as usual she was only able to reiterate that he was never there and that he hadn't left a reply. She then told me to use her phone and ring him at home. I did manage to contact him at home as one might expect and I told him that I had tried to get hold of him for weeks (to justify my ringing him at home). His reply was: "Cut the excuses — you've got hold of me now. So what do you want!" I don't want to condemn this man, he may have been in a particularly stressful situation at the time. But what I do want to point out is that this sort of rudeness, discourtesy and almost complete disrespect for students is very common among a wide variety of the teaching staff at this university. My advice to those people who are knocked down in the corridors by some broad-shouldered staff-member as he attempts to walk right through you, or to those who are addressed as if they were naughty school-boys, is to demand an apology (and make it hurt!). Concerning the above mentioned Dr Levine again: the secretary of the PolS department tells me that they are continually annoyed over his absence. So my advice to students who are unable to see a staff member after repeatedly trying, is to ring him at home and inform him that he should be at university where he is paid to be located.

Rod Prosser

## Nationwide University Super Scheme: or NUS for short

Dear Sir,

Proposals have been put forward for a superannuation scheme for student politicians. This will be known as Nationwide University Superannuation or NUS for short.

This body will receive an income of \$1.10 from each and every student in New Zealand, and will make grants to retired student politicians in the vicinity of \$3,000 each. Other benefits to be offered include free overseas travel administered by the Superannuant's Travel Board (STB for short) and a New Zealand Superannuant's Annual Concert (abbreviated NZSAC).

Some difficulties are still to be overcome by negotiation. The most important of these is the matter of tenure. At present the grants will be for one year only and this leads to financial insecurity and personality disorders. To combat this a special ingredient called Superannuants Triple Appeal with New Zest (STANZ) will be incorporated. This contains a longevity agent known as dimethyl bromide peroxide (DBP) which is distilled from the livers of ferrets and stoats. This project is in the interests of humanity please support it.

Paul B.



## No contradiction

Sir,  
I am hardly raised to reply to PD's latest rabid ravings but one claim he makes deserves a reply. He claims I contradicted myself. This is not true. An examination of the facts will show in my original article I said "Many townies think that all cockies be they sheep beef, dairy or other type of farmer are well to do and get things pretty easy. Unfortunately this is the case with only a minority of farmers today." In reply to his letter I said "Firstly I would like to agree with him that many cockies have got it made pretty well and there is no question on whether they get things easy." What is contradictory about this? There are many farmers that are pretty well off but these are still a minority group. I would also take this chance to ask PD if he insists on writing this rubbish why does he not sign his name instead of hiding behind a pseudonym?

Kevin J. Wright

## Malaysian high life

Dear Editor,

Enclosed is a news report of the impeccably corrupt manner in which the Chief Minister of Sabah conducts himself. I hope you will print it, as recently there appears to be some political awakening among Sabahans — and this brief news report shows how outrageously the Chief Minister is misusing the country's wealth.

Pissed Off Sabahan

From the Far Eastern Economic Review, July 22, 1974:

"The Chief Minister of Sabah, Tun Datu Mustapha bin Datu Harun, is not a man who believes in doing things by halves. He is disdainful of public air transport — and boasts his own fleet of two executive jets to fly him around the world. The fleet is to be expanded with the purchase of a Boeing 707 which could fly non-stop between Sabah and London. A Hefner-type aircraft, it will feature two bedrooms, a sauna bath, an executive office — and seats for less than 40 people.

His recent — unpublicised — marriage to an Australian shopgirl, 21 year-old Helen Moore of Queensland, provided more excuses for generous splurges. The Tun has built her an \$1 million "modern palace" — an 11-bedroom, air conditioned house with indoor and out-door swimming pools, a sauna bath — and a chandelier in each room. The house is protected by an electrified fence costing \$85,000 with electronic "eyes" at all strategic points.

But that is not all. The Tun has bought up the venetian-blind factory where his father-in-law worked, and made him a director. And for another \$80,000, he bought up a lawn-mower business where his brother-in-law was a worker and made him its manager.

## Cafe closes too early

Dear Sir,

I wish to register my disapproval at the way Graeme Jordan has closed the cafe early. As a person who often has dinner there, I will be personally inconvenienced as will many others, I am sure. If Jordan can't think of a better way of making the catering pay why doesn't he resign and leave it to somebody else.

Hungry

## The study of women

Dear Sir,

In Salient July 24 you claim that Victoria could be in 1975 the first university to offer an integrated programme of women studies. This is in fact incorrect. Waikato University has two women's studies courses offered for full-time students, one in the Department of Sociology and one in the Department of Psychology. In addition the university offered an extension course on women in society. These courses covered the history of women, and the women's movement, women as people, women in society and both looked at the contemporary role of women.

Both of the above courses are to be offered again next year.

Sarah Calvert

## Assaulted by security guard

Sir,

Friday night August 3rd, three students, friends of mine were severely assaulted by an unqualified hireling of the National Security Service at the Rock concert held in the Student Union Hall. Nobody connected with the incident could ascertain a valid reason for the guard's actions, in fact when asked why himself the only response he made was to kick the questioner down the stairs. So much for this gorilla's aspirations to diplomacy.

However, apart from my disagreement with the government for allowing such an unscrutinized security system, my primary purpose, is to point out the Student Association's mistake in adopting such a banal and unskillful method of concert control.

Unskillful, because according to the well tested psychological principle: to expect and make accommodation for a certain type of behaviour increases the likelihood of its occurrence. Surely then, the employment of uniformed heavies as a remedy for violence illicit that very response.

Also, student policy as I know it is against such fascist enforcement principals as those represented by such methods. By hiring the NSS because of past problems at concerts we admit the inadequacy of our policy, and show society that we must revert to its methods of policing in such a situation. If we cannot handle petty internal problems without these measures does it not make a rubbish of any contrary belief, we may have about external maintenance of law and order?

Yes it does; but I'm sure that future concerts will see this mistake rectified by the cultural affairs officer.

John Mitchell

## Licensing of apartment buildings

Dear Sir,

A recent correspondent in your paper commented that I had dodged a question he asked me at a mayoral candidates meeting by the Students' Association. Indeed, he flattered me by suggesting I did so smoothly, but he is not right. I was interested in his question and undertook to have his problem solved.

I found that the Wellington City Council had not actively undertaken its responsibilities under section 317A of the Municipal Corporation Act, (a 1968 amendment) which requires all apartment buildings to be licensed. An apartment building is defined in the Act as any residential building containing more than two flats.

I am therefore grateful to your correspondent for his question, and advise that this position is now corrected. Council has now set the license fee payable, and inspections and licensing of apartment buildings has been instituted. This is being undertaken by the existing group of Building Inspectors who have been inspecting and licensing boarding houses. This group consists of a Senior Building Inspector and two Building Inspectors, and will shortly be augmented by two Building Inspectors from the Structural Branch who are nearing the end of the inspection of earthquake risk buildings.

Arrangements have also been made with the Chief City Health Inspector that Health Inspectors will undertake a complete survey of houses when carrying out their routine health inspection duties. When the establishment of the Health Branch has been strengthened a house to house survey will be instituted to complement the work of the Building Inspectors.

In the meantime, the Council will be pleased to receive advice of any property considered by tenants or neighbours to be below standard, be it an apartment house residential unit, of which there are over 3000 in Wellington, or a single unit dwelling.

I hope this information is useful, and the actions now being taken will right the situation drawn to my attention by your correspondent.

Michael Fowler,  
Chairman,  
WCC Works Committee.

## MSA independent?

Dear Roger,

The MSA Committee has repeated time and again that it is an "independent body", one would wonder why such an "independent body" should climax its activities every August 31 by a "Merdeka Ball". I am sure we all want independence and yearn for the day. When the three races of our country are bound together in firm solidarity and mutual understanding, but are we truly independent when more than 70% of our economy is in the hands of foreign capitalists? Are we living in racial harmony when the present fascist government is playing the racist policy of dividing our people into hatred and mistrust? Are we enjoying democratic freedom when we are deprived of our basic human rights?

Year after year, the selected new MSA committee always advocates the commandments of looking after the welfare of Malaysian students. Now the NZUSA has organised a forum to discuss the critical fate of our civil liberties and democratic rights, it would be interesting to see if the committee members chose to justify their empty promises or really show their concern for us.

Recently the students back home have staged a demonstration against the Universities and Universities College Act which prevents students from voicing their opinions on national issues that confront our country today. This act is stretching its evil claws on us here in NZ too. Following the rampant Malaysian student movements let us all work hand in hand with our Kiwi friends who have shown their esteem spirit of internationalism to fight for democratic freedom against the unjust authority!

G. Ong

by Anthony Ward

At its meeting on Monday August 26 the University Council received a report on the safety of the Hunter Building. After the minor earthquake last year cracks appeared in the building and engineers were asked to make a report on its general seismic resistance. Previously Hunter has complied with the various regulations covering unreinforced masonry constructions in Wellington, but the code was toughened in 1968 and it now does not meet them.

In a press release this morning the Council said it accepted the report and is considering how best it can be implemented. The consultants recommended that Hunter be progressively evacuated over the next three years with a view to its demolition at the end of this period. Particular priority is being given to providing alternatives to the main reading room of the Law Library and H312, the two areas with the highest concentration of users in the building.

The release continues "The strengthening of the building to extend its statutory life by a short period of up to 10 years would be prohibitively expensive, and it is with the greatest regret that the University Council has to face the removal of the building and its ultimate replacement.

"This regret will be shared by generations of former students, to many of whom this fine old building was the University in its entirety. It has for many years been a feature of the Wellington skyline and a landmark to the City. Nevertheless, the University Council must take note of professional advice, particularly because it has not only a legal but also a moral responsibility in the matter which affects the safety of students, staff and those numerous members of the public who use the facilities of

# SALIENT NOTES

Salient Office: Middle Floor, Student Union Building, phone 70-319.  
Published by Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association, Private Bag, Wellington.  
Printed by Wanganui Newspapers Ltd, Drew Avenue, Wanganui.

It had been a hard weeks work for the folks at the Salient People's Defence League. As a part of the new efficiency introduced after this year's annual self-criticism session, it was decided to go "professional" and enter the shadowy world of cloaks, daggers and the brigadier.

The first move was obviously to bug the opposition — that bunch of throw-outs from the police and army known as the "Security Intelligence Service". Using last year's Guides to Demolitions and Engineering as our trusty guide, we entered the premises of 175 Taranaki St and planted enough bugs to keep Nixon's men happy for hours. We also took the precaution of setting up tele-photo video-tape equipment in a strategically placed flat across the road.

Tired but happy, we returned to the offices and were settling down to a few quiet beers when our equipment went mad — the Brigadier was talking to Muldoon!!! What follows is an unedited transcript of their conversation:

Piggy: (Splutter) Have you heard about me nearly being killed in Auckland last night by that mob of commie drug addicts?

Briggy: Yup. Heard it on our monitoring equipment.

Piggy: Monitoring equipment?

Briggy: Yup. We was monitoring the NZBC.

Piggy: Well are you going to do anything about it?

Briggy: Yup

Piggy: Well for Gods sakes!? You're meant to defend private citizens like me from this sort of anarchist brutality aren't you?

Briggy: Yup. I mean well um that is what we're here for isn't it? We've already um, you know, traced the you know masterminds behind the um attempted you know assassination.

Piggy: You know who they are?

Briggy: Yup. It's that um raving bunch of you know nihilists up at the Salient offices dammit.

Piggy: Do you know what they were doing there?

Briggy: Yup. They've got a new sub-group called "Task Force". Jules Maher drove Margot Bourke, Christine Haggart, Mark Derby, John um Ryall, Lloyd Weeber and Claire you know Smith up to Auckland armed with brand um new flour bomb mortars and an AK-47's. They forced good National party supporters from Ponsonby at gun point you know — people who were really behind the um speculators and um landlords inside the meeting to come along and abuse you. And they had Robert Pui, David Waghorn, Pat O'Hagan, Richard Siegert and Derek Fikkers inside picking the speculator's pockets — their wages can't have come through from Peking this week.

Piggy: Well do you know what the others in the Salient office are doing?

Briggy: Yup. Graeme Simpson, Alison McKay and John Henderson were in the office manning the radio directing operations and Roger Steele — the Editor — Audrey Young, Anthony Ward, Colin Flesler, Grub, and Keith Stewart (photographer to the gentry) were in the office cleaning mortars and sharpening the pitch fork. They said it was for 'stage two'.

Piggy: You don't know what "stage two" is?

Briggy: Yup. We don't know.

Piggy: Well, dammit that's what you're paid for yaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaagggggg!!!!

Briggy: You there Rob? Rob? Rob!!! The swines have done it again. Covered the poor man with flour and eggs and turned him into a bacon and egg pie. The bastards!!

## EXTRA!

EVENING POST 26/8/74

Mr Muldoon said he had been kicked, punched, and hit by a flour bomb thrown by demonstrators.

stop press

# HUNTER TO CRUMBLE!!



the University.

"The University's accommodation problems are well enough known and this further loss of teaching space will call for concerted and heroic effort by all concerned if the University is to overcome the difficulties of the next few years. In the longer term the completion of the Cotton will give some relief. Further building will, however, be urgently needed to make good the deficiencies caused by the loss of Hunter."

Dr Culliford further noted to this when I spoke to him that more prefabs would have to be constructed and considerable dislocation would be caused in moving people around. LB3, now under construction, will hopefully be ready for the 1975 academic year, and thus replace H312, but the Law Library would prove more difficult to rehouse, possibly taking into the first term of next year. The staff studies and labs of Law, Education, Music and Physics will gradually be moved out as alternative, albeit temporary, accommodation becomes available. He stated that there is still a lot of hard thinking to do on the matter.

Dr Culliford stressed, as the Council stressed in its press release, that there is no cause for immediate alarm. Hunter is still as secure now as it has been over the past few years — it is just that the regulations have become more stringent and Hunter cannot now meet them. Its demise will sadden many, as Hunter is one of the few buildings on this campus that has any character, but in the weigh-up between character and safety the University Council has undoubtedly made the right decision. There is one troubling point — in view of the serious deficiencies revealed by this latest report, in terms of the 1968 regulations, why was the building not thoroughly inspected earlier?



# POOR, BROWN, FEMALE, CRAZY



James Ritchie, Professor of Psychology at Waikato University was in Wellington earlier this month to give a lecture on oppression and mental health. His lecture entitled 'Poor, Brown, Female, Crazy', outlined how these terms applied to psychology and how the people to whom they are applied are oppressed.

Ritchie gave statistics to show that mental illness in Maoris between the ages of 35-55 is higher than in European groups. There has been argument over whether it is not so much racial minority patterns that show up in psychology as class patterns. The advocates of this argument point out that the rich have better facilities for treating mental illness outside the institutions. They have the money to pay a psychiatrist of their own, and to be able to take more holidays. Ritchie said he would be surprised to find that the state medical service had changed these facts. Also, the rich do get better mental health care and are judged to be less incapacitated in terms of mental illness, he said.

Ritchie then moved on to women and mental health. The ratio for admission of women to mental institutions in the UK,

from Chesler's 'Women and Madness', ranges from 3(females):1(males) to the unlikely figure of 35:1, depending on who are classified as mental patients.

The figures in NZ are much the same. Ninety percent of psychiatrists are males



*Dr James Ritchie*

and they tend to judge the female as more likely to be abnormal than the male.

Something shows that women are probably less sick than they are thought to be. Two things back this up. Women spend less time in hospital than men and come back more often. In other words the psychiatrists who first sent them to hospital are more likely to repeat the process by sending them back.

Three factors therefore stand out; race, wealth, and sex. Either the brown, the poor, or the female, are more likely to be sick, or our system of judging sickness is biased. The mental health services in NZ are staffed by Pakehas with Pakeha ideas of what is normal.

Ritchie summed it up when he said 'the way in which we distribute mental service, the way we label and classify people as mental patients, constitutes oppression.'

He referred to Trans-cultural psychology, the study of the imposition of Western culture on Asian and African society. The major source of his evidence was Torrie's book 'The Mind Game' which discusses the introduction of Western medicine in Asia and Africa and its clash with folk-

healing and other similar movements. Torrie regards this as tragic because he feels they are doing the same thing in different ways. Psychiatrists claim that folkhealers are unscientific, yet they are highly effective. They are universal in their cures with no discrimination for rich or poor, black or white, male or female. Unlike psychiatrists, folk therapists come from the same background as their patients and this may be the reason for their success. We must consider whether our present way of deciding who make good therapists, that is, exams and university training, really give us the results we want.

We need to know much more about the unscientific, non-medical methods of helping people with mental problems. We should have as much diversification of healing as possible. Maybe the poor should have their own healers, the brown theirs and the female theirs rather than analysts who are alien to what is happening within their patients' worlds as at present. Ritchie's final statement was 'cures will come through people not pills and electro-shock machines.'

## LET'S LOOK AT FACTS

B.C.A. graduates and those completing a period of full time study in accountancy are looking now for employment opportunities.

Barr, Burgess & Stewart, now offering a number of positions on their Wellington staff, expect that your future objectives are directed toward certain facts. You wish to obtain the sort of training and experience that will fit you for your chosen career; opportunities for promotion and advancement accompanied by a salary that recognises your efforts; encouragement to use your talents and energies constructively and well; employment in an atmosphere where the accent is on high standards of quality and performance; and, by arrangement, the opportunity for assisted overseas travel and employment.

What are the **FACTS** on joining Barr, Burgess & Stewart?

**OPPORTUNITIES — FACT —** lie in the nature of the practice. Initially you will work under the supervision of an experienced senior. Your progress within the firm then depends on you; but we will give you the challenge, the encouragement and the opportunity.

**TRAINING — FACT —** is given within each sphere of the firm's activities to which employees are attached. Our practice covers auditing, accounting & secretarial work, E.D.P. and a variety of investigatory work. There are manuals, staff training sessions, courses and on the job training.

**WORKING CONDITIONS — FACT —** are excellent in a centrally situated and modern office. Leave is granted for lectures and examinations and you will be encouraged and assisted to attend professional seminars and meetings.

**SALARY — FACT —** is related to qualifications and any practical experience already obtained. Salaries are reviewed at six monthly intervals. Membership of both superannuation and medical care schemes is offered after a qualifying period.

These are the **FACTS** of what we offer you. If they are in line with what you are looking for, please telephone Mr Burns at 57-979 and he will be pleased to arrange an interview.