

Bursaries

'TOO LITTLE FOR TOO LONG' SO WE'RE MARCHING

Students will be marching today in at least five cities to protest at the Government's inaction on bursaries. A forum will be held at 12 noon today on the Hunter lawn if the weather is fine (or in the Union Hall if its wet), followed by a march on Parliament at 12.30.

Demonstrations will be held at the same time in Auckland, Hamilton, Palmerston North and Dunedin. Canterbury students are holding a protest rally on the Ilam campus, while Lincoln students will be debating the subject of bursaries at their Annual General Meeting at lunch-time today.

Technical institute students and student teachers in each city will be joining in the demonstrations and other protests. Speakers from the major teachers' organisations are expected to address meetings and rallies in most cities.

In Wellington the marchers will endeavour to present Mr Amos with a matching set of pale pink face cloths, as decided by the SRC meeting on March 12. There will also be a rally outside Parliament with speakers from VUWSA, NZUSA, STANZ, the Wellington Polytechnic Students' Association, the Pharmacy Students' Association and teachers' organisations.

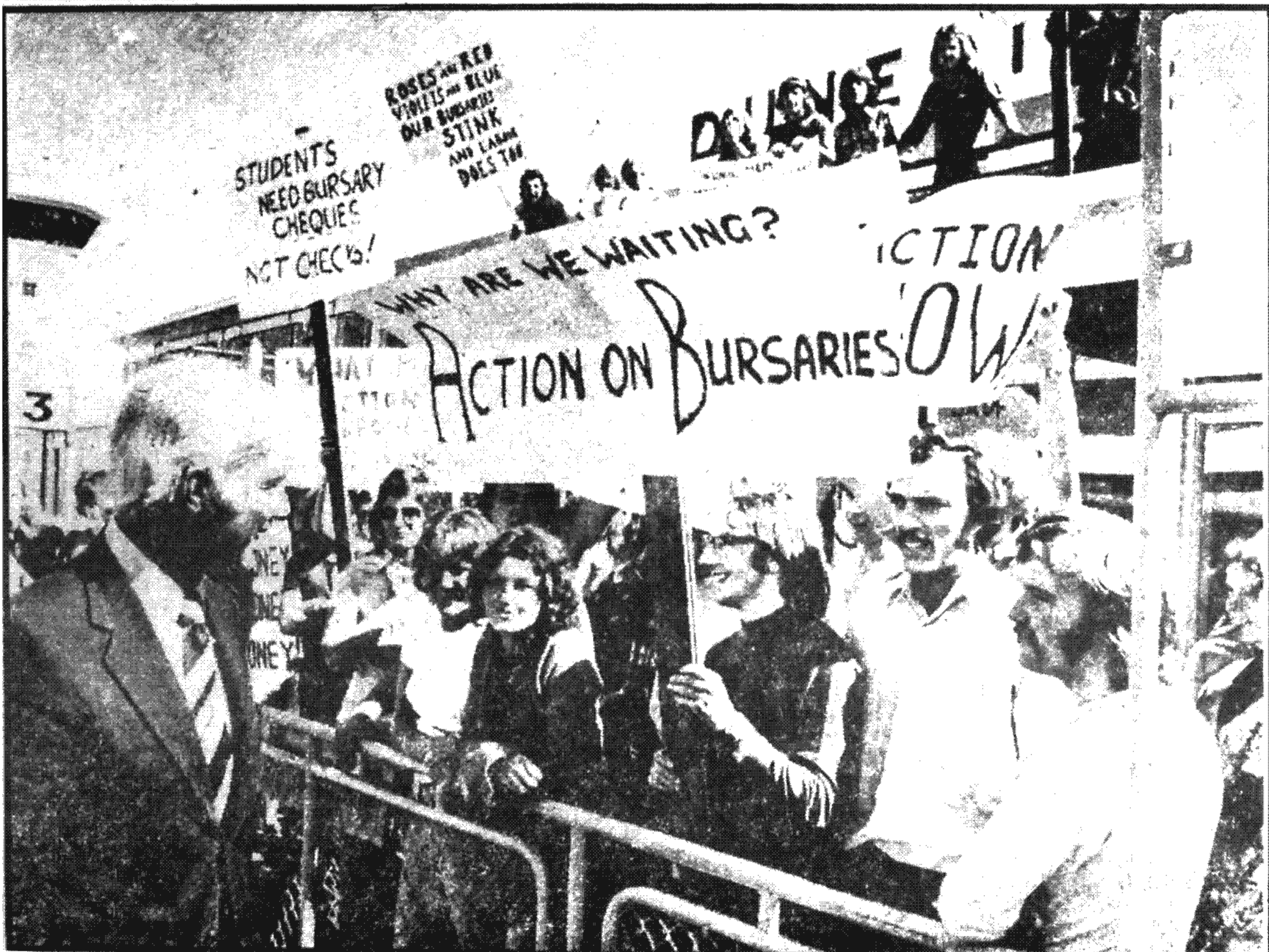
The aim of the demonstrations is to show the Labour Government that students have had enough of its failure to keep its 1972 election promise to provide students with adequate living allowances.

Last Wednesday the Minister of Education said in Dunedin that he hoped that an announcement regarding the Government's election promise of a cost of living bursary for students would be made in late May. Commenting on this statement, NZUSA Education Vice-President Sue Green said: "Mr Amos has expressed many hopes since taking office and students are still waiting for a positive result. They now feel

forced to take militant action."

While some people have expressed reservations about the effectiveness of demonstrations, the results of two similar protests last year show that the Labour Government has been forced to react quickly when people have taken direct action against it.

Kindergarten student teachers saw their four year old pay claim quickly resolved last year after they had taken direct protest action around the country. Similarly the Government did not agree to dental nurses' claims for increased pay until the dental nurses had marched on Parliament.



EDITORIAL



There are lots of things SALIENT hasn't done yet that it could be doing. There are lots of things students haven't done yet that they could do for SALIENT. This year's SALIENT (like the fabled tertiary bursary) is only just beginning. This is the first issue I have edited for this year and it will be a while before things are running smoothly.

The sort of SALIENT I want to see will be reaching out for student copy - either creative stuff or 'just' reporting on sports, culture, politics, etc. I'd like to see all sorts of people getting copy into SALIENT. There's no sports this time and we've missed out drama reviews, film reviews, we've only a couple of original graphics, and there still aren't many people doing the technical work. So there's tons of room for people to do things.

I'm going to try to timetable a bit more the erratic course of events involved in putting out SALIENT. Recently SALIENT put out more people with colds and 'flu than people were putting out SALIENT. I'll be putting the timetable on the door so people can walk past and see what's going on. I'm also going to try and get people to be in charge of various reporting areas rather than every story being a one-off effort and not followed up.

I don't plan to destroy articles through sub-editing and I'm reasonably receptive to any schemes you want to enact. So bring in your ideas.

Personally I'm very much interested in publishing and raising discussion on course content critiques and I have already arranged articles on how New Zealand historians view history.

The struggle to reduce course workloads back to what they were before interm assessment came in is still going on despite hard work by student reps and staff in the Arts Faculty. As students we are certainly privileged but our conditions of work are pretty lousy with inadequate bursaries, poor housing, bad food as well as increasing workload demands. I hope to see SALIENT continue attacking these sort of conditions.

Community issues in Wellington are many and varied yet even with papers

like *Downtown* news of these does not get around. When SALIENT gets a few more reporters on its staff we hope to investigate local issues a bit more to get in touch with struggles of Wellington people and to publicise them.

Of course it's also election year and I'll state my position already. I support neither major party and will be using the election fever to raise some issues I feel need raising. I think SALIENT should be looking at what's happening in New Zealand. When people are out of jobs (and that means students don't get them in the holidays) and nothing seems to be happening except that Watties' profits are reaching record heights, I think we should be looking at what's wrong. After all those running the country today mostly came from university - are we going to be any different?

Outside our borders the whole world's in turmoil. Not so long ago Henry Kissinger began his great mission to bring peace and order to this planet - now he's got job security.

Less frivolously, SALIENT will be publicising and supporting the struggle of the oppressed peoples of the world against the rotting corpse of monopoly capitalism. Recently New Zealand has sent troops to Malaysia to kill Malaysians - to Vietnam to kill Vietnamese and to Korea to kill Koreans. They weren't wanted by these people but the United States and the British needed New Zealand's services and got them. We are involved in military alliances with the USA and England as well as with various other nations. Our whole trading position can depend on our political relations with other countries and our trading position determines whether we live or not. We have then a strong interest in understanding what's going on underneath the confusion of the current world situation and at least a pragmatic interest in starting to associate with the ascendent forces.

So if you want to be involved in forcing 5500 students to eat your words over their lunches and you can put up with the political position of the editor - or perhaps support it - then come in and give us a hand.

STAFF NOTES

With the changeover of editors this week, and the continuation of several lurgies, SALIENT went through a bit of a traumatic experience. This gave rise to a great debate on the value of various methods of treating the patient. Adopting the 'it'll sort itself out sooner or later' approach were Brian King, Richard Best, Colin Feslier, and Lynn Peck. Opposing them were Chris Haggard, Lionel Klee and Tony Robinson, arguing for therapy and counselling. Sedation and massive quantities of pills were prescribed by John Henderson (who kept losing his notes on the case) and Quentin Roper. Stephen Prendergast (who did the photos with Lionel Klee and wants his dog mentioned in the staff notes), Anthony Ward, Don Wright and Liz Rowe asserted the value of a group-dynamic approach. Members of the Executive and the October Club wandered in from time to time to insist on the correct line. Treatment of the participants was carried out by the type-setters: June Strachan, Marty Pilott and Peter Franks.

The new editor, Bruce Robinson, rose from his own sick-bed to sort out the mess and somehow organise an issue. Advertising is carried out by Stephen Prendergast (552-469 home) and Christine Haggart (58-452 home). SALIENT is published by the Victoria University Students' Association and printed by Wanganui Newspapers Ltd, Drews Avenue, Wanganui.



MSA NOTICE

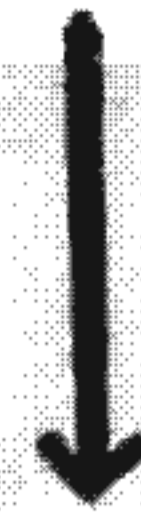
MSA invites you to join the Association as a member for 1975. Please contact -
Daniel Tan 51-319
Halim 559-248
John Chin 757-756

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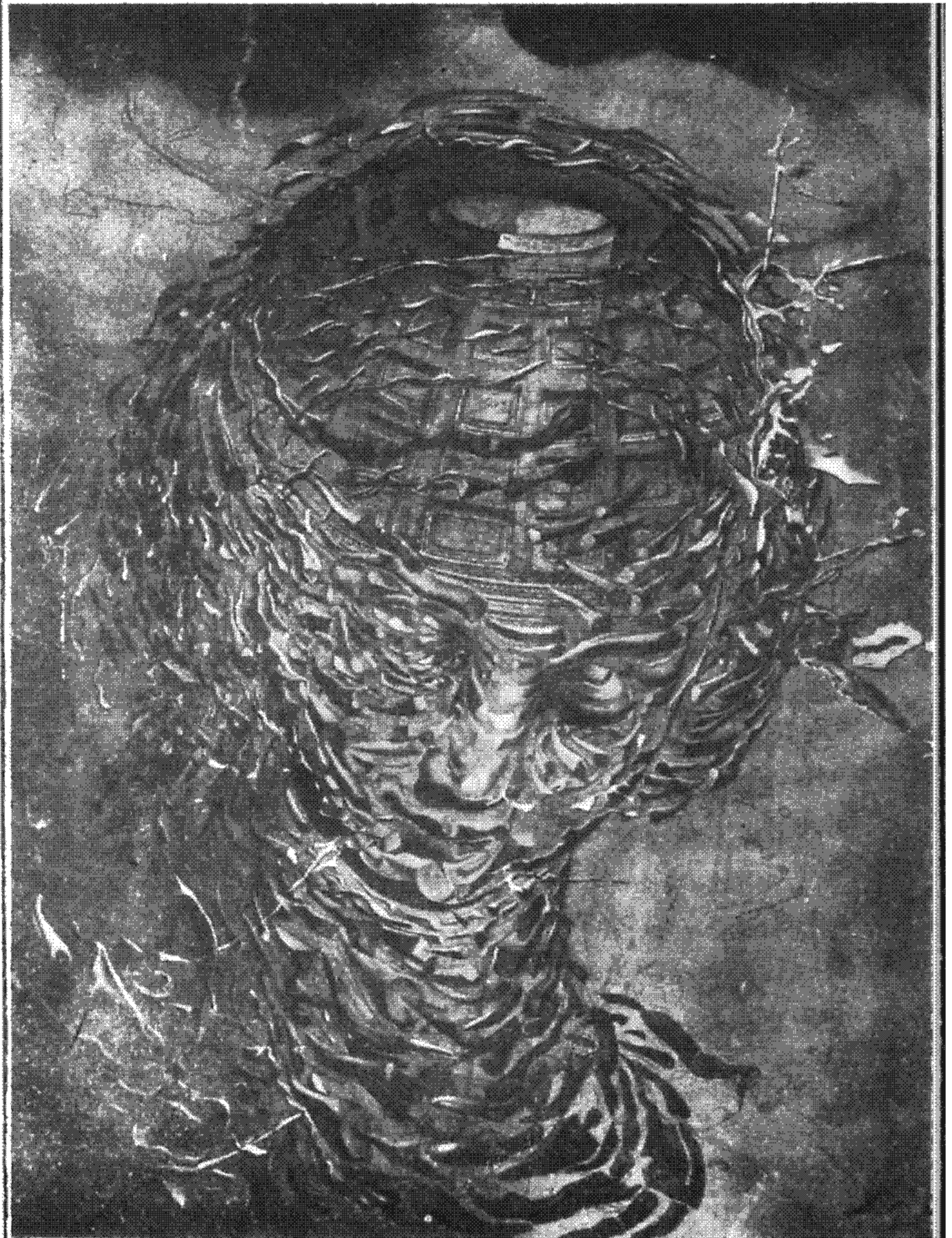
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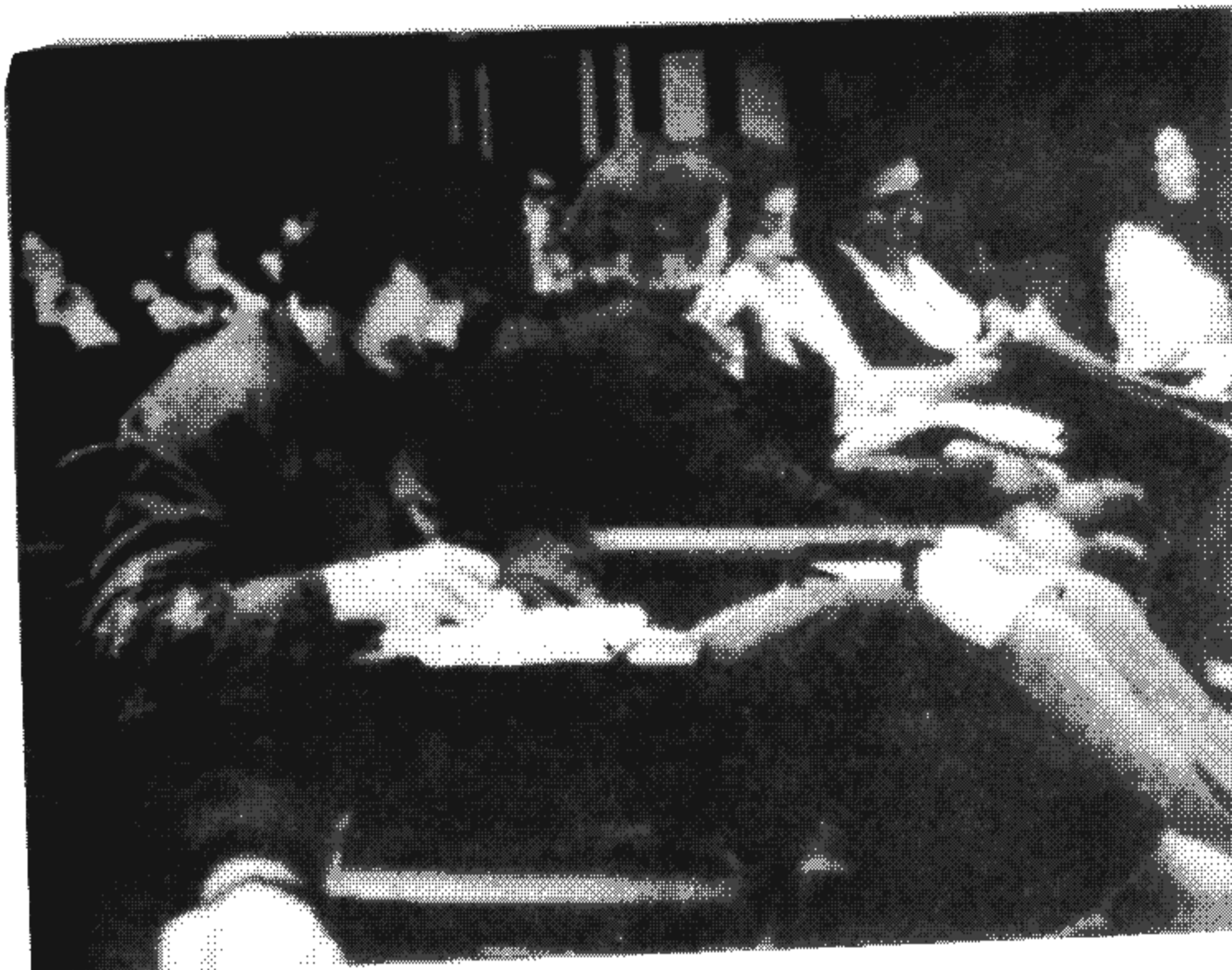
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John Henderson reports for Salient.

AGM

The 1975 VUWSA AGM was characterised by the enthusiastic non attendance of 5450 students. As such it was a surprise, as the initial 150 students favourably compares with the usual 100-odd. The first item on the agenda was apologies, which were accepted from various well-known people including the last year's President

MacDonald (who also apologised for his lack of report) and the entire MSA executive, who were at a meeting. Colin Feslier (Publications Officer) commented that they should have had their executive meeting some other time. Fair enough. The minutes of the last AGM were discussed, various people pointing out that a total of five or so motions did not have any record as to whether or not they were carried or lost. After much brain-cudgelling these were rectified and the minutes were accepted. There were then matters arising but because of the disgusting state of the SALIENT office my notes were lost and I cannot offhand remember what they were. The budget was then discussed, the most interesting point being the much-needed increases in the salaries of the executive members. These are now:

	1975	1974
President	2000	1000
Secretary	450	250
Treasurer	600	200
Others	300	50

The AGM then considered the march on Parliament this Wednesday. The motion passed was:

Moved Saksen/Clarke
That this Association fully supports a march on Parliament on the 26 March 1975 to demonstrate to the government our disgust over their lack of action on the Standard Tertiary Bursary.

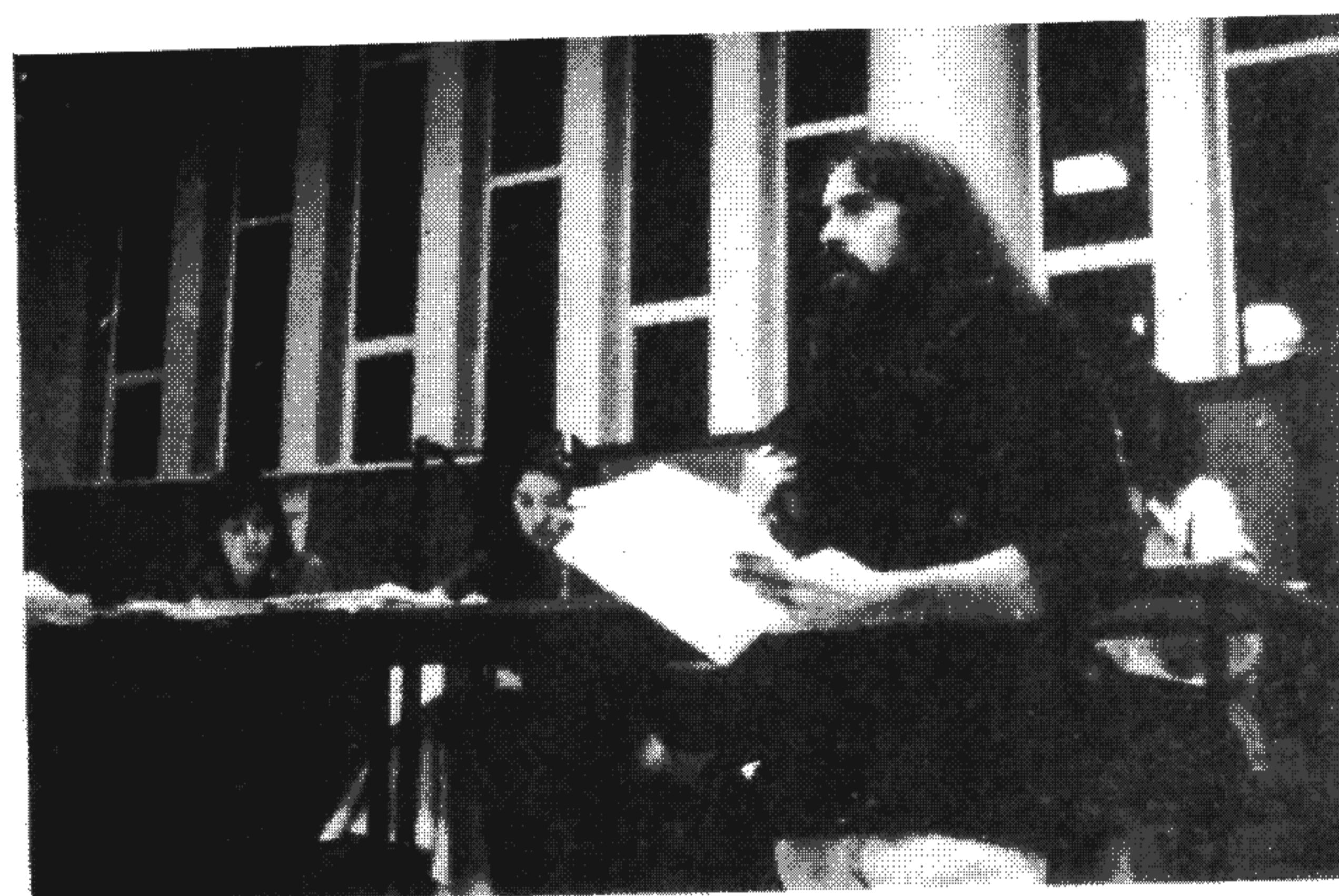
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ACCLAMATION

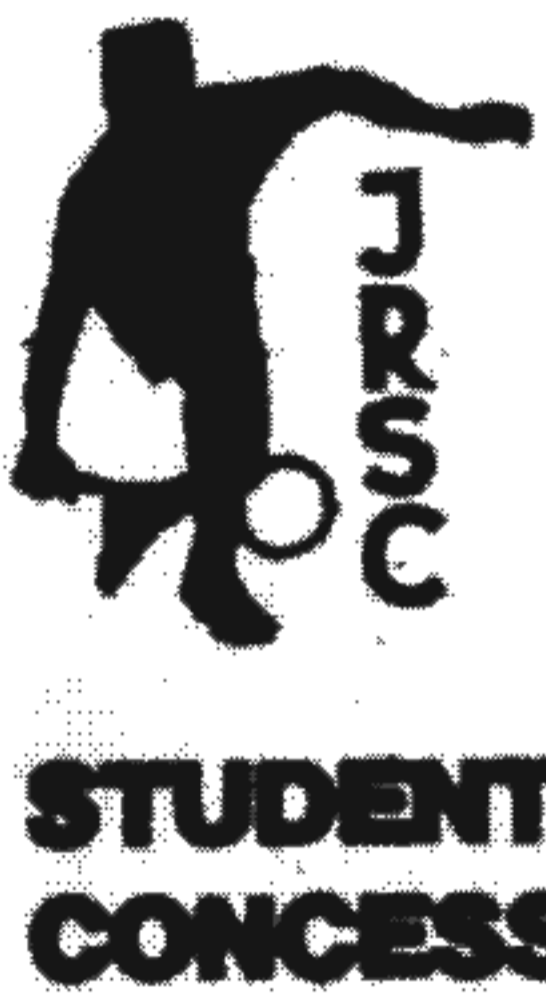
Another motion calling for a boycott of lectures on that day was lost by a substantial majority.

Speaking to the first motion John Blincoe, NZUSA General Vice-President, outlined the complete lack of responsibility which has over the last two years characterised the stand of the government in general and the Minister of Education in particular over the Standard Tertiary Bursary which they promised in their election manifesto and which has yet to appear. Also speaking were Graeme Clarke, former NZUSA Education Vice-President, Lisa Saksen, VUWSA President and Gyles Beckford, VUWSA Man Vice-President.

The next motion was on the revoking of the Students' Association fees on the grounds of hardship. It was decided to recommend to the University Council a shift of authority for such exemptions from the Vice-Chancellor to the VUWSA executive. This motion was hurriedly passed and the meeting then collapsed for want of a quorum.

John Henderson





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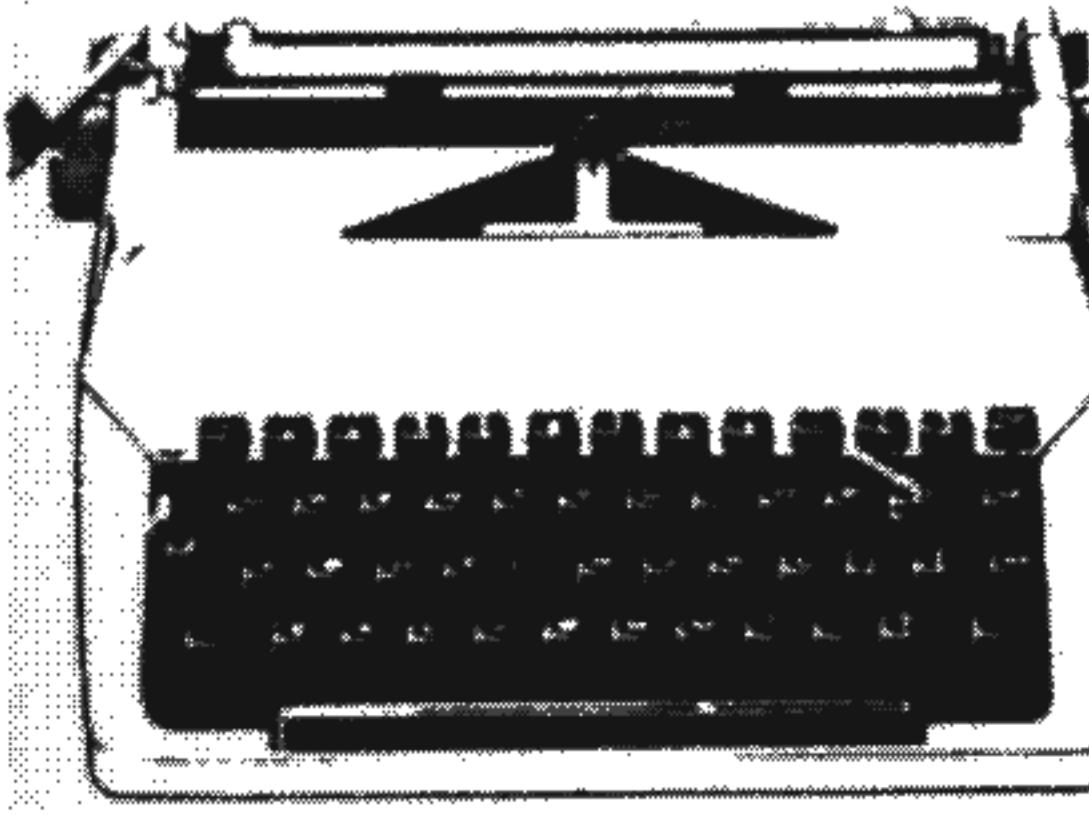
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by Les Knight

In front of Mr Wicks, SM a 68 year old woman was charged with shoplifting a packet of chippolatas which were found at the bottom of a basket under other things she had paid for. She pleaded guilty to the charge, but said she had simply forgotten about the chippolatas, which would be easy enough with a lot of groceries in a big supermarket for someone of her age. She had never offended before and seemed very distressed by the whole procedure, breaking into tears and needing the support and comfort of a police woman nearby.

It seems ridiculous that a case like this was ever brought before the court. The police don't like prosecuting in shoplifting cases at the best of times, believing that supermarkets by their design ask for it and should use their discretion to decide whether or not to prosecute. But the police can't refuse to prosecute when an actual complaint is laid. Why should some big rip-off supermarket cause such distress to an individual, who, like many people, may have only pleaded guilty to shorten the ordeal, which must have been traumatic enough for a woman of this age and state of health. A little common sense, but the manager could have saved someone a lot of anguish and perhaps even damage to her health which, to my way of thinking, is more 'criminal' than a misplaced bag of chippolatas.

Perhaps in confirmation of this view Mr Wicks ordered that her name be suppressed because of her health and eventually convicted and discharged her under section 42.

The duty solicitor scheme, introduced last year as one of Dr Findlay's babies was a good idea in theory. It was the result of quite a bit of prompting from various sources, the most influential probably being the Sutherland report in Nelson on disparity of the sentencing of Maori and Island offenders, which showed a definite trend towards lighter sentencing occurred when defendants were represented by counsel. As yet there has been no definite appraisal of the scheme, although a survey is being made in Dunedin.

FRONT THE COURTS

With just a superficial glance at the courts it appears as though having counsel is at least enabling defendants a chance for a remand and a probation report to be made. Some people, however, refuse the use of it, perhaps being ignorant of the way it works or sceptical that it will do them any good anyway. There are some defendants who appear that have not heard of the scheme and it is interesting to note that the majority of these have been in police custody up until their appearance in court. It was good to see that Mr Wicks, SM and Mr Sullivan SM at least made some attempt to help these people by having the cases stood down till counsel were obtained but on the other hand Mr Hobbs, SM was conspicuous by his failure to do so. The idea of the duty solicitor scheme is good but its effectiveness is coloured by individual discrepancies that occur among police and magistrates and also the effort which counsel takes over a case.

A young polynesian pleaded guilty and was convicted and fined \$25 for being drunk in a public place. He'd been drinking at a party and had lost his way and went to a house with its lights on to find out where he was and ring for a taxi. Exercising what can only be described as an unfounded racial fear, the occupants made no attempt to answer the door and rang the police instead, who arrested the guy who by this time had gone to sleep in the doorway.

Sentencing him, Mr Wicks, SM commented that he must have regard to the fears of ordinary people. He said nothing of how these fears are fostered and perpetrated by the media or anything of the welfare of an ordinary person who had lost his way.

Interestingly too, by the way, that someone's private doorstep can be construed as a public place, something that was not commented on by the magistrate or the duty solicitor in defence.

Within about 10 minutes of each other two cases were heard before Mr Sullivan, SM, each involving an excess blood/alcohol level while driving. There was only one definite material distinction between case 1 and case 2 in that in case 2 the driver ran into the back of another car causing some damage to the vehicle only. Both persons were disqualified for driving for 18 months but in case 1 the fine levied was \$100 while in case 2 it was \$400. Did the fact that damage occurred in the second case account wholly for the discrepancy in the amounts fined or was the magistrate swayed by the fact that in case 1 the defendant was a 'respectfully' dressed middle-aged woman with purple hair who lived in Oriental Parade while in case 2 the defendant was a 30 year old Maori man from Turangi. For both it was a first offence and in the second case the man had paid for the damage done out of his own pocket already. He had several children and while she would have high expenses living in Oriental Parade, she appeared as though she would suffer much less than he and his family would. Furthermore while he caused actual damage it was only her good fortune that she did not, having driven on both sides of the road and up on the kerb on three different occasions according to police evidence so the offence committed was essentially the same.

On Monday March 17, before Mr Hobbs, three men were charged with public drunkenness, having all been arrested the previous Friday 14 and remaining in police custody since. All three had alcohol problems and several convictions for the same offence previously. All three were convicted and discharged. Admittedly they weren't fined and weren't therefore forced to pay out money they didn't have which is the solution of some magistrates but is still no real solution to the problem. It could be argued that the cells were the best place for them on a weekend; at least they were warm and fed. But if the police are going to act in any sort of social welfare role there should be some other provision in the law so that 'aid' can be given without a conviction following as is necessarily the case now. These men need more than other conviction and an admonition from the magistrate to stop drinking.

Then there's always the fake company which takes your money and mysteriously disappears (rather like) and you never get those 17% interest rates. But if you know how to mis-programme a computer you are far less likely to be detected and this is supposedly the area for future expansion of white collar crime.

Sturt looks at white collar crime, its ease of execution and its mammoth profits and begins to wonder if justice is really just class justice. But he puts this in a way that would (a) completely confuse an ordinary person and (b) entirely please our academics of deviance and criminology. This is what he says: 'One could easily ask oneself whether the social control of deviant behaviour does, in fact, show a status selective bias.' - but I suppose as a policeman you can't question too obviously your own role.

Sturt concludes: 'I can quite validly claim that white-collar crimes have come to be synonymous with the crimes of businessmen and professional people, and that such crimes are as frequent as those in other areas of criminal offending. It is also a fact that the final cost of these crimes is several times as great as the final cost of all the crimes which are customarily regarded as the 'crime problem.'

If Sturt's figures on white collar crime are correct (and they are more likely to be lower than higher) then at least half of our police force should be 'set onto' the upper class and not the working class. We will need 'Task Forces' to keep an eye on deals concocted in the bars and boardrooms of the bourgeoisie. But what chance is there of this? Justice is class-biased in New Zealand - it's just they pick on the wrong class.

Crime in the Office

It's easy enough to associate crime with young working class hooligans, drifters, hippies, 'unacclimatised' Polynesians and just about anybody who comes from a background of poverty, neglect, or of different nationality. These are the people who fill our courts and fill our prisons and other detention schemes.

About every week an 'outraged' mayor of some city will castigate some vandals who destroyed the star local amenity. We grow up in the belief that if it wasn't for criminals we wouldn't need to pay out to keep a police force, we wouldn't need to pay insurance or set up burglar alarms and that if all these 'criminals' stopped being criminals then the 'country' would save millions.

At least that's what we've been told about crime - its poor people trying to get rich quick, or knocked-down people knocking back. But apparently it isn't. A recent report in the *New Zealand Company Director and Executive* Novem-



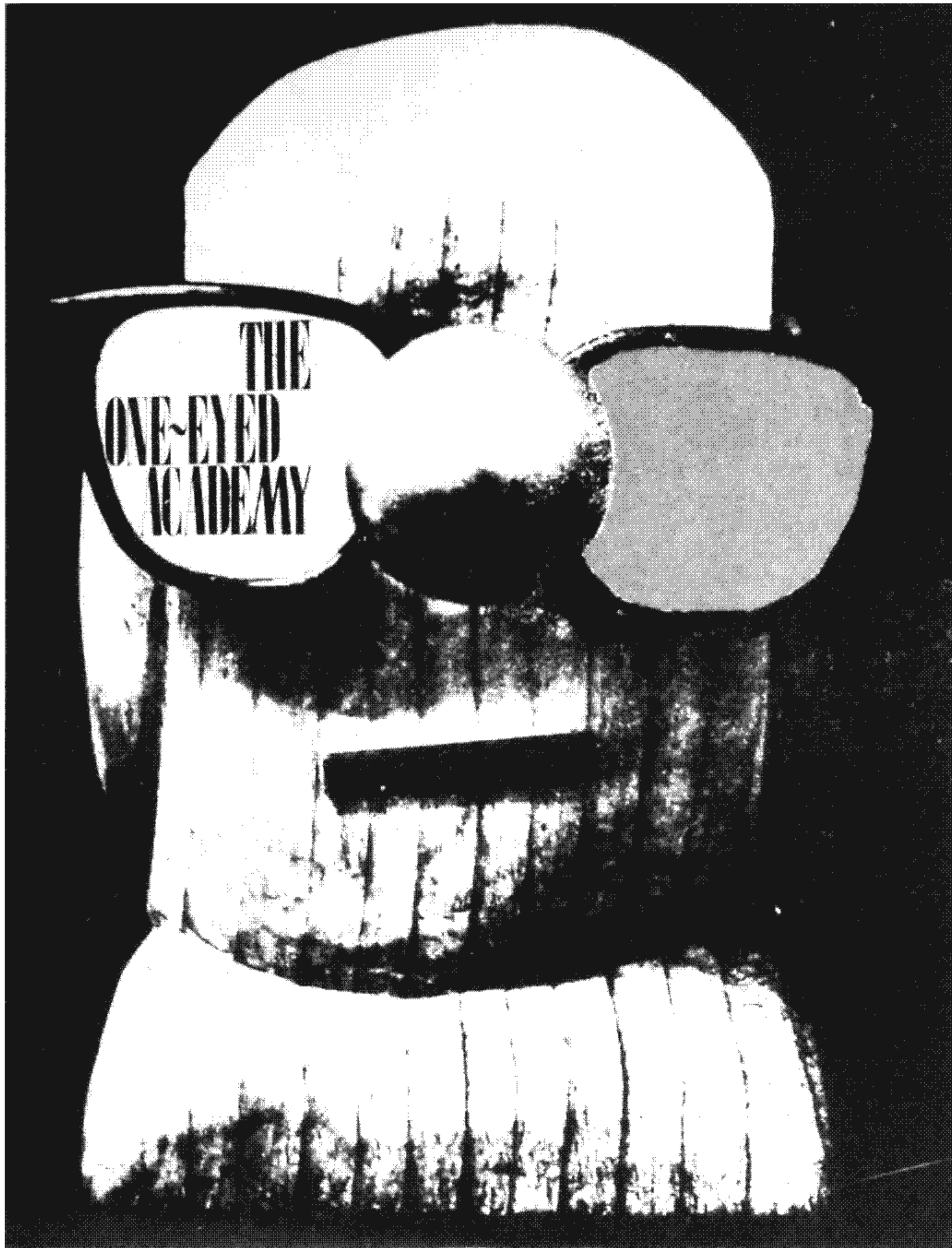
ber 1974 by Detective Inspector C E Sturt states that solicitors, accountants, and company directors are as frequent offenders as other people and that their crimes result in several times the loss of money as the total cost of those crimes we are educated to see as the real 'crime problem.'

Sturt investigated crimes committed by high ranking professional people in the course of their jobs - thefts and frauds. 'In a hasty and somewhat superficial research undertaken for the period 1966-1971 of offending by white-collar criminals throughout New Zealand in the categories mentioned, it was found that moneys in excess of \$2.5 million had, in fact, been dishonestly obtained. It should be noted that this research concerned only those convicted, and amounts proved to have been dishonestly obtained. It is also of interest that in many of these cases greater amounts were suspected to have been stolen, but were not provable because of a number of reasons relating to the deli-

berate muddlement or destruction of records, or through lack of proper records being maintained, such reasons being compounded by lengthy time lapse between the commission of the offences and the reporting of them.'

The main problem with getting detailed figures on executive crime is that nobody wants to prosecute them. Firms just want their money back without publicity. But also there is a great deal of the 'old school tie' comradeship that prevents many crimes coming to court.

Business men aren't all that imaginative in their methods - they all seem to boil down to variants on cooking the books. 'Teeming and Lading' is the most often used method whereby the executive runs off and spends today's incoming funds and then adjusts the accounts by paying back from the next day's incoming funds. However the process tends to snowball and can be detected quite readily.



Stretton and Friederike Taborn

For some time Friederike and I had wanted to come to New Zealand. We'd heard and read enough about the scenery to develop an insistent travel-itch, while the educational organisation which I worked for kept impressing on its employees how very useful it was for language teachers to do a course in linguistics.

Our total collection of artistically-embossed academic scrap-paper amounted at this time to three items. Friederike had the equivalent of a BA (including teaching certificate) in English and History from the University of Giessen, West Germany; I had a BA in English (mainly literature) and a teaching certificate from the University of Nottingham in England. Both of us had had some years of experience in teaching English as a foreign language, mainly in Germany.

So, 'Ah-ha,' we thought, 'Why don't we go to New Zealand and do linguistics there at the same time? Professor Pride of the English Department at Vic very helpfully arranged for us to take MA papers here, Friederike in linguistics and literature, me in linguistics alone. So in due course and

with great glee we packed our bags in the depths of winter and arrived in the height of summer at a little collection of shacks called Auckland International Airport.

Well, this article is about our reactions to the academic bounties poured forth upon us during our course, and not a general comment on New Zealand but having already explained why we came here for such a short time - on one could understand why two Europeans could possibly want to come to the country with no intention of immigrating - and to counter accusations of rampant antikiwiism - it's only fair to say that we never for one moment regretted coming for that first reason. New Zealand truly is a lovely country, with so few patches of dullness that the two months we spent touring round were times we shall never forget.

But that academic part was a different kettle of fish altogether. I guess it was no worse than my BA course in England, allowing for the fact that time mellow memories and a period of work makes one more intolerant of the escapist nonsense pursued by weirdly-motivated arts academics. At least the teaching staff here were incomparably

'nicer' people than I came up against at Nottingham. With the big exception of the guru-like director of the English Language Institute, who addressed interminable tedious monologues to us on his Philosophy of Life and Language as to a pad of sub-standard blotting-paper, we found the staff friendly and always prepared to help when we had problems. This is said in all honesty and seriousness, and with all thanks. Without this kind of support we should certainly have dropped out long before the end.

Alas, that's not all there is to universities, this world being still an imperfect one, and the first lesson we had to learn - or relearn - is that criticism is emphatically unwished for, particularly criticism of fundamentals, which is invariably interpreted as an unwarranted personal attack on the course-leader. There was never any time to discuss things that we thought worthwhile discussing: there was a schedule to be kept to. We were pupils again, in a benevolently authoritarian school where the Headmaster exhorted us to love God and honour the King, and Matron fed us with goodies to make us grow big and strong and obedient. In time we even managed to force ourselves to preface disagreements with 'Please don't take this personally, but...' or 'Excuse me, could I make a small criticism here?' This was really nothing new for me. It's all part of our great anglo-saxon heritage. For Friederike, however, it was totally surrealistic. In the three years spent at her German university she never encountered this stultifying reaction against reasonable and reasoned criticism such as she found here. The advanced nature of Ruskin's thought on female education was put before one of her literature classes. Her comment that Marx and Engels had had considerably more radical ideas ten years before produced an embarrassed silence from her fellow students and a hasty attempt to get onto something else.

She also made the discovery towards the end of this year that written exams are still used even today in some parts of the world as a test of ability at university level. In three years at Giessen she had never sat a written exam, though God knows German tertiary education is no model of progressive thinking. All assessment was internal (by essay and dissertation) and by oral examination. At least at Vic some degree of internal assessment was tolerated; at Nottingham it was entirely by written examination. Of course, all the academics will tell you that, yes, exams are a poor measure of a student's ability; yes of course he can't be expected to give any kind of impression of his knowledge or thought in three hours of nerve-wracking tension where the prizes go to those who can think fast and write fast. And yet it goes on, year after year. Everyone's against it, but it all goes on. A member of staff refused me the loan of a book urgently needed for a project on the grounds that it would give me 'an unfair advantage' over other students. What lunatic said learning was the end of education?

The third lesson we had to learn, the hard way again, was never to question the value of what we were taught. Have

you ever tried asking 'What's the point of it all?' On our first day we heard the sad tale of someone who had, and our own experience filled in the details. We still cannot understand how people can dedicate their lives to linguistics and imagine they're doing something valuable, and how they can defend with superior pose their high ethical purposes. Does it make any kind of sense that Noam Chomsky can claim to be politically left and produce a model of grammar - Transformational Generative Grammar - that is so insane that it defies all our concepts of what is reasonable and commonsensical, above all of what is valuable in life? Or does, after, linguistics have some military use? Large numbers of American linguists' 'research papers' are supported by grants from the American Army. Perhaps they hope to render those evil Reds sterile on a diet of TG grammar?

Can we even begin to set things right? We certainly made no effort in our year in New Zealand, but kept as quiet as we could, consistent with maintaining at least a modicum of integrity. We are convinced, having seen something of three European communist countries, that it is naive to view this university system as an outward sign of the inward rot of capitalist society. It is something more than that, something more universal. We can only look on it as a further monument, as if we didn't have more than enough, to our unwillingness to question established values, to ask what right we have to squander a country's resources and intelligence for a few scraps of official-looking cartridge-paper. Who's going to teach our children to think: asks the Education Department advertisement. The answers drop off the conveyor belt in neatly-spaced batches after up to five years spent in regurgitating numberless books and articles and lectures and journals in the form of hard indigestible pellets of Official Style essays; a fine inspiration for tomorrow's children.

We have no solutions. If fundamental criticism is penalised, then who's prepared to show enough moral courage to make a stand, to insist on change? Perhaps the only realistic thing students can do is to boycott courses like literature and linguistics, which in turn means that the student body as a whole must publicise the contents of such courses, with the comments of those who've been dragged through them. And who has illusions that that will ever be done?

We don't know just how typical these reactions are. Those who followed the same courses as ourselves were less critical, probably because they had been raised on these standards and had had no chance to look at them after a period in the real world. That's quite understandable, and perhaps that is just what the system depends on, why its destructive, soul-destroying inertia is self-perpetuating from generation to generation: it counts on silent ignorance.

HELP!

A meeting of students interested in the International/National Affairs Committee was held on Friday 21 to decide on the areas and methods of work for this committee.

We started by tentatively throwing in ideas of how and where we should be working, in which areas, on or off campus, and how. This resolved into the following:

Southern Africa, and the '76 tour was felt to be a priority for action, but one which was covered already by HART and other groups. Activity on Indochina is covered by RAVPOC and the Committee on Vietnam, although their activity needs to be extended within university. Two areas which need activity organised by

the committee are the South Pacific, including Pacific Peace Zone, migrant workers, etc. and the Malaysian issue.

Working on this, we decided to hold the next committee meeting to work on a programme of activity to highlight the Malaysian issue, to extend the issue from considering how Malaysian students are affected in New Zealand, to looking at the political situation in Malaysia/Singapore.

Anyone interested in helping please come with ideas to the Board Room (1st floor Union Building) at 10.00 am Friday 4 April, or leave name and phone number at the Studass office.

Bryony Hales

QUAKERS

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

Discover Quakers at 8 Moncrieff Street
every Sunday at 11 am.

POLITICAL SCIENCE SOCIETY AGM
Thursday 27 March 12 at 1 pm - Lounge.

All interested persons are invited to attend the inaugural meeting of the Political Science Society and contribute their ideas as to the appropriate objectives and functions of the proposed body. (As well as to elect officers, etc.)

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E.6/8b

CONFIDENTIAL

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PARENTS OR GUARDIAN OF THE APPLICANT FOR SPECIAL ALLOWANCE

This section may be left attached to Section 1, or it may be forwarded separately by the parents to the Liaison Officer of the university at which the applicant is enrolled.

1. Name of Applicant: _____
2. Number of parents living: _____
3. Names of parents/guardian: _____
4. Occupations: _____
5. Postal Address(es) _____
6. Average weekly gross income from all sources: _____
7. Have you any savings or investments? Please give particulars and amounts: _____
8. Number in family (not including parents): _____
9. Number in family under 18 years of age fully supported by parents (including applicant): _____
10. Number in family working and giving some support: _____
11. (a) What assistance are you giving the applicant?: _____

(b) State why you are unable to assist the applicant or to provide any further assistance: _____

12. Any other particulars you wish to supply in support of this application: _____

I hereby declare the above information to be true and correct in every particular and that no information which could have a material bearing on this application has been withheld.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Date: _____

The form that has to be filled out by students applying for the new hardship provisions on top of the Boarding Bursary is the same as that normally filled in by hardship cases (which are outlined on page 20 of Handbook). Above is the 'means test' form sent to parents of applicants - a particularly objectionable document. However, if you are in financial difficulties (and from VUWSA estimates this means anyone trying to board away from home with less than \$1 150 coming in from all sources) please do see either the Liaison Officers or the University bursaries section.

Salient's analysis of the Government's hardship allowance for students shows that the whole thing is a complete and utter farce.

The Government has refused to meet its obligations to students. It expects unmarried students' parents and even brothers and sisters to support students who are hard up before the state will accept any responsibility.

While the Labour Government is happy to sit by idly and watch giant companies like Watties get another price hike, it is making students and other low income groups pay for the economic crisis.

The Minister of Education has said that students have to tighten their belts. That is exactly the same message that the Government has been giving working people for months. The Labour Government is teaching students the hard way just how far it has abandoned its professed policy of educational

opportunities for all.

Salient urges all students facing financial hardship to apply for the hardship allowance. Don't be put off by the restrictive conditions attached to the allowance.

If hundreds of students apply for the hardship allowance it will show the Government that it has to take realistic measures to assist students. Make sure you get your application in today or tomorrow to the university Liaison Officer who will give you application forms. If you face difficulties in getting your application in by Thursday get in touch with the Liaison Officer or the Students' Association. They will assist you in making sure that your application is not ignored.

Attend the protest forum at 12 o'clock today. Join the march on Parliament. Show the Government it can't get away with ignoring students' difficulties any longer.

HARD UP ?

There has been an angry reaction from students around the country to the restrictive conditions of the hardship allowance announced by the Minister of Education on March 10.

The few students who are eligible for the allowance are finding that they will have to reveal complete details of their incomes before their applications can be processed. The parents of unmarried students will also be means-tested.

There has also been strong criticism of the Government's failure to publicise the hardship allowance and of the fact that applications for the allowance close on March 31. And the 240 pharmacy students at the Central Institute of Technology at Heretaunga, who are also eligible for the allowance, have been told nothing about it at all.

According to the Minister of Education's statement on March 10 a hardship allowance "not exceeding \$150 per annum" will be granted to "those university and pharmacy students, currently receiving a boarding allowance in conjunction with a fees and allowances bursary, who are able to prove financial hardship to the satisfaction of the Department of Education." This hardship allowance will be means-tested and it is simply an extension of the hardship allowances which are provided for under regulation 22 of the University Bursaries Regulations (1971).

Students who apply for the hardship allowance have to fill out an application form which asks them to state every detail of their incomes, including holiday earnings, all other savings and investments, assets other than money and whether an applicant owns a motor vehicle.

Question 6 of the application form for unmarried students asks applicants to state whether they receive any assistance from their parents or guardians and "why they are unable to assist you or to provide further assistance."

Parents of unmarried students also have to fill out a form detailing their average weekly gross income from all sources, their total savings and investments, the number of children under 18 years who they fully support and the number of people in the family working and giving some support to the family income. Parents are also asked to state why they are unable to assist the applicant or to provide any further assistance.

The questions on the application form make it clear that the Education Department considers that before a student can expect any assistance from the state, he or she will first have to call on their own financial resources, including their cars and non-monetary assets, and then seek financial assistance from their parents, brothers and sisters. This would appear to be the case regardless of a student's age, whether he or she lives at home, or their relations with their parents.

According to a statement released in Hamilton last week by NZUSA and the Waikato University Students' Association there is a glaring inconsistency between the criteria used by the Education Department to determine eligibility for this hardship allowance and the criteria adopt-

ed by the Social Welfare Department for students who applied for an emergency unemployment benefit over the last vacation.

In a letter to NZUSA dated December 16 last year the Minister of Social Welfare said that it had been decided to disregard the financial circumstances of parents of applicants for an emergency unemployment benefit "in all cases except where an unmarried student is residing at home with his parents."

The point is that only those students who qualify for a boarding allowance, i.e. who are living away from their parents' home town, are eligible for the hardship allowance. If they had been applying for an emergency unemployment benefit their parents' financial circumstances would have been disregarded. But in the case of the hardship allowance, their parents' financial circumstances will be rigorously means-tested.

Married students will also have to get their parents to complete a form detailing all the sources of their incomes. However, their husbands or wives will be expected to support them before they can call on the state to give any assistance. And it is clear from the application form that the Education Department will not consider the cases of solo parents or those living in de facto relationships as "married students". Nor does it appear that the Education Department will take into account the fact that some married students have children to support.

According to the application forms for the hardship allowances, applications will have to be completed and handed into university liaison officers before March 31. But as March 31 is Easter Monday, students will in fact have to hand their applications in by Thursday, March 27. The application forms only reached university registries on March 17 and the Education Department has not explained how it expects unmarried students whose parents live out of town to send their application forms home for their parents to complete and have them back in a maximum of ten days. Furthermore the Education Department has failed to provide the universities with any publicity about the existence of the hardship allowances. The universities have been expected to administer the allowances and some of them have been forced to hire extra staff to get applications processed quickly.

The administration of one university has already told the Education Department that it will ignore the March 31 deadline for applications. "Salient" understands that other universities are likely to follow suit.

The Education Department has made it difficult enough for university students to apply for the hardship allowances. But it appears to have decided to make it virtually impossible for pharmacy students to apply.

There is only one pharmacy course in the country outside the degree course at Otago University. This course is taught at the Central Institute of Technology at Heretaunga which is situated between Silverstream and Upper Hutt. 240 students are taking the three year course and as about 90% of them come from outside of Wellington, most would be eligible to apply for the hardship allowance.

But these students have heard nothing about the hardship allowance other than what they have read in the newspapers. The Education Department has failed to publicise the existence of the hardship allowance on their campus. The C.I.T. administration officer who handles bursaries works at the C.I.T. campus at Petone, a 20 minute train trip away from Heretaunga. The Education Department has not explained how pharmacy students are expected to get their application forms for the allowance from the C.I.T. campus at Petone when they are required to attend classes at Heretaunga throughout the day.





The Minister and the Bursaries

WOULD YOU BUY A USED BURSARY FROM THIS MAN? HE CERTAINLY WOULDN'T GIVE IT TO YOU

Mr Amos and his Department have been mucking around for some time over a standard tertiary bursary. They seem to have a remarkable ability to change their minds at short notice, as the following extracts show:

1. In a letter to a Hamilton student dated 18 February 1975 Mr Amos said: referring to university and technical institute bursaries: 'One type of bursary would not be increased without making a similar adjustment to the other.'

BUT on 10 March 1975 Mr Amos announced bursary increases of \$100 for all Tech Institute students, and next to nothing for university students.

2. In an interview on Checkpoint 13 January 1975, Mr Amos noted that the Standard Tertiary Bursary had been deferred but 'in the meantime I think some interim assistance must be provided to the students for boarding purposes.'

WELL - and what do we think of Mr Amos' MUST?

3. In a letter of 22 August 1974 Mr Amos said 'the government is working towards the early introduction of a standard bursary scheme.'

BUT at the meeting with NZUSA on 14 February 1975 Mr Amos had only a brief 'feasibility study' to show for two years' work since the 1972 election manifesto.

4. On July 4 1973, NZUSA was promised a white paper on the STB. May 1974, NZUSA promised 'broad outline proposals towards a policy' July 1974, a preliminary paper is circulated among teachers' organisations. May 1974, white paper in Labour archives.

The dreaded term 'position paper' has also been used at times. With

all these papers floating around one hopes the government is recycling - or is it backtracking?

5. 15 January 1975 - Mr Amos writes to NZTISA (Tech Studass) saying there will be no increase in tech institute bursaries this year. On March 10, after further correspondence with NZTISA Mr Amos announces an increase in tech bursaries.
6. In his March 10 statement Mr Amos said he'd be presenting a report to cabinet on the STB shortly. Later he has announced that this will be ready in time for the budget exercise. This is a short time period - too short one suspects for a full consideration of the scheme by interested bodies and organisations. Yet Mr Amos has always agreed that there should be full consultation. And Deputy Prime Minister Tizard has even used the fact of consultations with student organisations as an excuse for the government's delays over bursaries! In a letter to a student in New Plymouth on February 27 Tizard wrote: 'Discussions have been taking place for some time (sic!) with representatives of the various student groups involved with a view to securing agreement on the best course to follow in introducing a Standard Tertiary Bursary. Inevitably this has meant a delay in coming to a decision. However I consider it has been preferable to allow the student groups the opportunity of considering specific proposals rather than the government making a decision without this consultation.'

There's one thing quite cunning about Mr Amos' last announcements. The times are such that they couldn't be better designed to dissipate student annoyance and anger - by stringing us along to firstly May for the proposals and then June for the Budget. By then, with exams and stuff, we might be a bit too busy - or, who knows? - we might all have dropped out thru no money. Either way, the troubles diminish.

Amos won't give us anything for bursaries - let's show him how generous we are and give him arseholes.

Who will pay for Bursaries?

Peter Dunne & Dennis Rockell,
Presidents of GUSA and LCSA,
CANTERBURY.

Dear Peter and Dennis,

I have heard from a couple of sources that you have both decided to oppose the suggestion that a Standard Tertiary Bursary be financed by a corporate tax. This proposal was originally raised by me last year at some student forums, and I advanced it at the 1975 NZUSA Mini-Council. I wish to give you some of my reasons for advocating that corporations should foot the bill for a Standard Tertiary Bursary. I hope that these reasons will persuade you to reconsider the decision you have made.

But first, why raise the question of who should pay for a Standard Tertiary Bursary? I feel that the question of 'who pays?' is a legitimate question for any outsider to ask the Association, and that to give an answer the Association must have policy decided by its members. If we have no answer to this question it is assumed that the bill for the STB will be met from normal taxation revenue, as far as we are concerned. From my estimates this will mean an extra \$16 million per year that will eventually have to be found. If we advocate that taxes should cover the STB, or if we advocate no position, then we are placing the burden of paying for an STB on the majority of New Zealanders - the working people who pay most of the taxes.

My first reason for advocating that corporations pay is that the majority of New Zealanders can ill afford the present tax burden, let alone any extra to pay for the STB. I currently work in a large factory; the situation of the workers in this factory should illustrate why working people cannot afford to pay for a Standard Tertiary Bursary.

My second reason for advocating that corporations should pay for the STB lies in the very nature of our education system and society.

Those who own capital have determined the way in which our economy and state apparatus that services the economy is run. It suits their profit system very well to have technical and managerial skills monopolised by a few. The school system selects those who go to Techs, T Cs and universities to acquire these skills. People who have these skills get higher wages and salaries than those who don't - because of their monopoly over their skill.

A managerial and technical elite is not necessary. If our tertiary institutions stopped producing graduates, production and society would not collapse. Working people would be forced to learn the necessary skills on the job to keep enterprises running. This would be a dangerous situation however, as it would also teach working people that the elite is not necessary. Their dependence on this elite which they assume is necessary would be exposed.

It is for this reason that those who own capital want tertiary institutions, and want graduates who will perform skilled functions in government and business. This system suits profits very well. For example: General Motors was one of the first to cut its workers' pay - in November of 1974. While they cut their employees income by \$15 at one blow, their profits for that year amounted to 33% of the capital they had invested. These profits ultimately leave New Zealand for the United States. At this rate of profit making, General Motors recovers the capital invested every three years. Obviously General Motors and many others, are doing very well out of this system which the current education system serves.

Most workers in the factory where I work, and they are not atypical, have had wage cuts of \$18 - \$25 this year. All overtime has been eliminated and \$5 on the cost of living order has not been received. These measures have reduced the gross pay of 1000 workers to below \$90 per week. Although income has dropped, we are still paying between 20-25% of our income in direct tax (not to mention other taxes on the commodities we buy). This means that take home pay is under \$70 per week for most.

Before the pay cuts, wages were already so low that many wives had to work to make ends meet. With the current poor economic situation many married women workers have been laid off, or put on shortened weeks.

While income has been drastically cut prices still keep on soaring. For rented housing in Wellington it is now normal to pay \$20-\$30 for a single bedroom flat. One worker I know is paying \$54 for a three bedroomed house. There are three families living in this house (seven children) paying the rent. This is necessary to cover the bills and have some money left over to remit to Samoa to relations.

To advocate that a STB be paid for out of taxes, or not to advocate a position, is gross irresponsibility. In 1972 the New Zealand poverty line for a family with four children was \$71. In 1975 many of the people I work with have family incomes of less than this amount. If your position is that the people I work with should pay for the STB, then I will oppose it. If you have no position, and you require support from the unions to help press your claim (as you may well do), then I will oppose the giving of this support in my union.

The question of who pays for the STB is obvious. It is either the rich or the poor - I choose the rich. The demand that the STB be financed by a corporate tax is a way of highlighting the need for taxation reform so that the tax burden is placed on the shoulders of those who are getting the biggest cut out of the system.

In my term as EVP most of my efforts were directed towards a STB. I strongly believe in the system circulated by NZUSA Head Office. I support the STB because I believe in the provision for equality of opportunity at all levels of the education system. But if provision for equality of opportunity means taking more money out of the hands of working people, then I will oppose it. Because workers have already had their incomes cut in this crisis, their children will be more disadvantaged at lower levels of the education system. For students to advocate higher bursaries at the expense of workers' incomes and their ability to ensure that their children can continue in the education system is absurdly contradictory.

Any efforts I could make to oppose a STB that was financed by general increases in taxes would be of little significance. I would make these efforts though as I consider that such a bursary system would help compound inequalities and not reduce them.

Yours sincerely,
Graeme Clarke

P.S. I have forwarded a copy of this letter to student newspapers so that students may make a decision on whether to support the NZUSA proposal with some of my views before them.

CURTIS

Neville Curtis escaped from South Africa using a friend's passport. He was under a banning order as a result of his activities as a student and was unable to carry on any of his former work - even playing cards with friends was against the banning order. Neville is now based in Australia and continuing his fight against apartheid.

A white student with all the privileges of a South African white he found he could not ignore the oppression of the non-white people in South Africa. Eventually he found that the oppression of apartheid applies both to black and white when he himself found himself under the foot of apartheid repression.

Neville is touring New Zealand as part of his continuing resistance to Vorster's regime and while in Wellington granted an interview to SALIENT reporter John Henderson.



SALIENT: How did you come to leave South Africa? How did you get the passport which enabled you to leave?

CURTIS: My own passport was confiscated by the South African government so I borrowed the passport of an American friend - he booked a ticket for the passage and then we evaded the security police who were keeping me under observation then he went through customs and I went on board the ship - and then it was plain sailing.

Now that you are out of South Africa how do you intend to carry on the struggle against apartheid?

Well the major problem with apartheid at the moment is that apartheid has become an international issue - the white government can't continue to govern without the support of gifts from western companies, their government and the company corporations who operate in those countries. I feel that the only way this can be changed is by the people in those countries putting pressure on the corporations and their own governments and they can't do this until they are well informed about the situation in South Africa. My major job is simply talking to people, putting out exactly what's happening and counteracting the South African propaganda which is pumped into this country by the South African Consulate.

And turning now to the banning issue: what is it like to be banned?

It's enormously frustrating because a banning order restricts you to the company of only one person at any time - it is illegal for you to attend any meetings or gatherings or anything of that sort. Banning also makes it illegal for you to set foot on any university premises or any school premises or any factory or any place where anything is printed or published and it makes everything I've said illegal in South Africa - it can't be circulated or commented on or discussed at all. The newspapers, for example, will print a report of a meeting I've spoken at and say 'Neville Curtis spoke' - blank space - they can't print any more than that. The banning order completely cripples you as an organiser of any sort and it also makes you very vulnerable to police arrest because the police can arrest you if you are with more than one person so in my case I was arrested eight times in 18 months for breaches of the banning order. This is what happens to most banned people. And then you go to gaol for an offence like, in my case, having dinner with my family or playing cards with friends.

How many people in South Africa would be at present banned?

A total of over 700 banning orders have been served on people but not all of these are enforced at the moment. I'd say that there are about 200-250 banned people at the moment.

Getting now to the sports issue, do you see the cancellation of sporting tours and especially the 1976 rugby tour as a blow against apartheid? How will it affect the political situation in South Africa?

There are two ways in which New Zealand is at present giving support to apartheid - one is through international trade and the other is participation in sporting events with South Africa. I think the most important thing New Zealanders can do is stop the '76 tour and to cut down their trade with South Africa. Stopping the tour will have the effect that previous demonstrations and boycotts have had on South African sportsmen - to make them realise that countries like New Zealand are seriously opposed to racism. Most white South Africans don't believe this - they look on Australia and New Zealand and countries like that as a refuge for white people - as the last 'white man's countries' in the world.

There is an enormous emphasis on sport by white South Africans - it really does get through to them if people are prepared to point out to them that they are not prepared to play racist sport with them.

The latest move is this multinational sport. What is it?

It's a farce. The basic situation with sport in South Africa is that it's illegal - you can be arrested and sent to gaol - for trying to play mixed sport at school level or club level or provincial level. Only with the special permission of the Minister of Sport are people of different racial groups allowed to play against each other - not in the same teams, only against each other and only in special matches designated 'international competitions' by the Minister. So in fact what the Minister of Sport is doing is taking more control over sport. They've done nothing to remove the dozens of laws that govern multi-racial sport and prevent it from being played and make it a crime at all other levels.

Are multinational sports teams actually considered as not being of South African origin?

The theory the government works on is that there are eight nations within South Africa - coloured nation, Indian nation, white nation and all sorts of African nations and they allow these 'nations' to play against each other but they won't allow people from different groups to play in the same team. It's like for example saying that each of the provinces in Australia is a single nation and it would be illegal for Victorians to play with Tasmanians in the same team or Queenslanders. It's that sort of thing - it's quite ridiculous.

There's been a lot said about the appalling conditions under which the black people have to live. I wonder if you could give your viewpoint on this?

Well conditions are appalling - the first thing is that they haven't improved much over the years. The main reason for this is the government policy of apartheid itself which forces blacks to accept incredibly low wages. The other main reason is the enormous restrictions which are placed on the freedom of black people to sell their labour or move about the country and there are also apartheid laws that restrict them. The worst hit districts you will find in the rural areas where the average wage for black workers is under \$20 cash a month and where in some areas the malnutrition and starvation figures go as high as 50% rates for children under the age of five. In the urban areas things are not much better. Wages are higher - up to an average of \$60 a month but still well below the poverty line which is the so-called starvation line calculated at \$75 a month. So blacks are being paid grossly inadequately - their wages are between one-fifth and one-sixth, sometimes even less, of white wages and in the mining industry, for example, the wealthiest industry of all, black miners are paid one-seventeenth of what white workers are paid.

And the coloured people - what is the official government definition of a coloured person?

There are seven different categories of coloured people - the last of which is simply called 'other coloured' - basically they are people of mixed black and white descent and the government has chosen to regard them as not pure whites. It's in fact a false racial category because coloured people aren't a nation of any sort and the range of ethnic differences within the coloured people is far more than that of simply one group of people.

They are actually treated much less harshly than the black people?

Well they're treated much less savagely - pass laws don't apply to them but all the laws which distinguish between whites and non-whites do apply to them. They have to live in separate areas, go to separate schools, they get inferior jobs, inferior education and their careers are frustrated by segregation in wages - the best jobs are closed to them, things of that sort.

Southwest Africa: now South Africa has disobeyed several United Nations rulings by continuing to occupy that country. What do you think are the chances, in the near future, of independence for this country?

South Africa is in complete military occupation. The northern half of the country is zoned off and it's impossible to get into it. We only know two pieces of news: they've reintroduced public floggings of political opponents and over 5000 refugees have left in the last six months. The South African government at the same time has invited in enormous numbers of American and South African corporations and fantastic profits are being made from mining, from diamonds and in South Africa revenue goes only, of course, to whites. They're trying to set up eight separate black nations inside Southwest Africa as well but these are totally rejected by the black people themselves. They also have a very large military base - the largest in Southern Africa and I can see them intending to use Southwest Africa as a military base, a striking point to future attacks on black movements. Whether the UN can successfully persuade South Africa to leave the territory or not I don't know, but I'm very sceptical.

In other words, only military intervention would persuade them to leave.

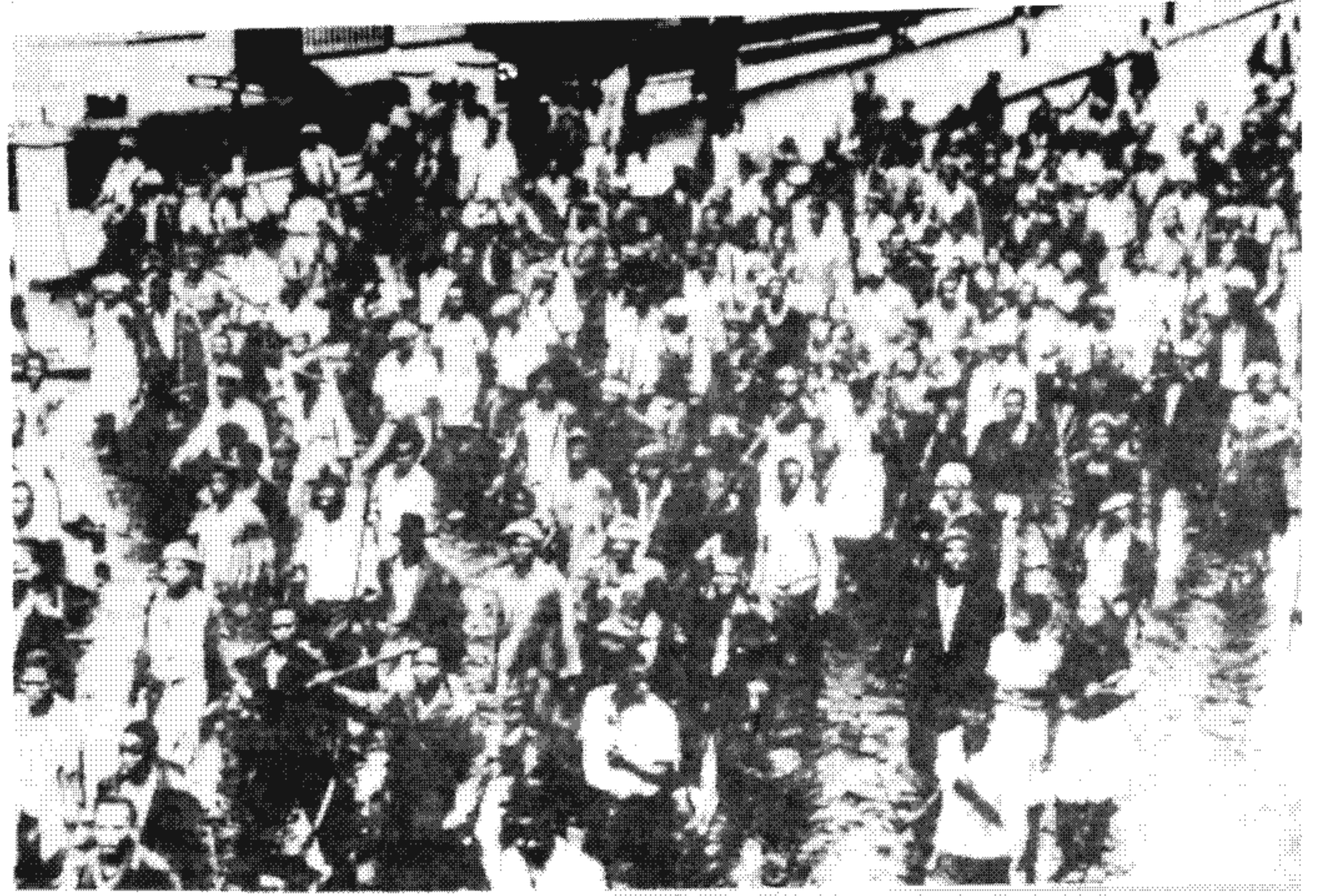
No, the major solution to the problem both of Southwest Africa (Namibia) and South Africa itself is to stop the white western governments and the white corporations from supporting the racist government and racist policies. If this happens, whites in South Africa will be forced to negotiate with blacks in South Africa and you might well get a peaceful settlement, but as long as the west goes on supporting the white government they're not only supporting the violence inflicted upon blacks every day, but they're building up a situation that can only lead to further violence.

What do you honestly think of the prospects in the near future of black majority rule?

This depends largely on the western governments and western corporations as I've said. It depends on what people do internationally to support the Southern Africa struggle. It also depends on whether the whites are going to be totally committed to destroying the country in war or whether they'll see the light of day before this has to happen. The present policy is becoming more and more repressive rather than less repressive - in the last 12 months they've entirely smashed the student movement, both black and white, and taken action against the churches, the press and the trade unions, and in the last two years they've doubled their military expenditure so the future from the white point of view in terms of what their intentions are, does not look very good. The struggles in each of the western countries goes on - sometimes battles are won, sometimes battles are lost. One such battle will be the battle over this 1976 tour.

You say that the student movement has been smashed. I understand however that it was pretty hamstrung anyway. What is the situation?

Over the last ten years the student movements have provided the most significant opposition to apartheid in the country at great cost to the student leaders and the organisations themselves. The government has now banned the majority of student leaders and they've detained another 30 African student leaders and ex-student leaders, and they're bringing through legislation to cut off finance for the student movement to stop it sending information overseas, they're busy making it illegal



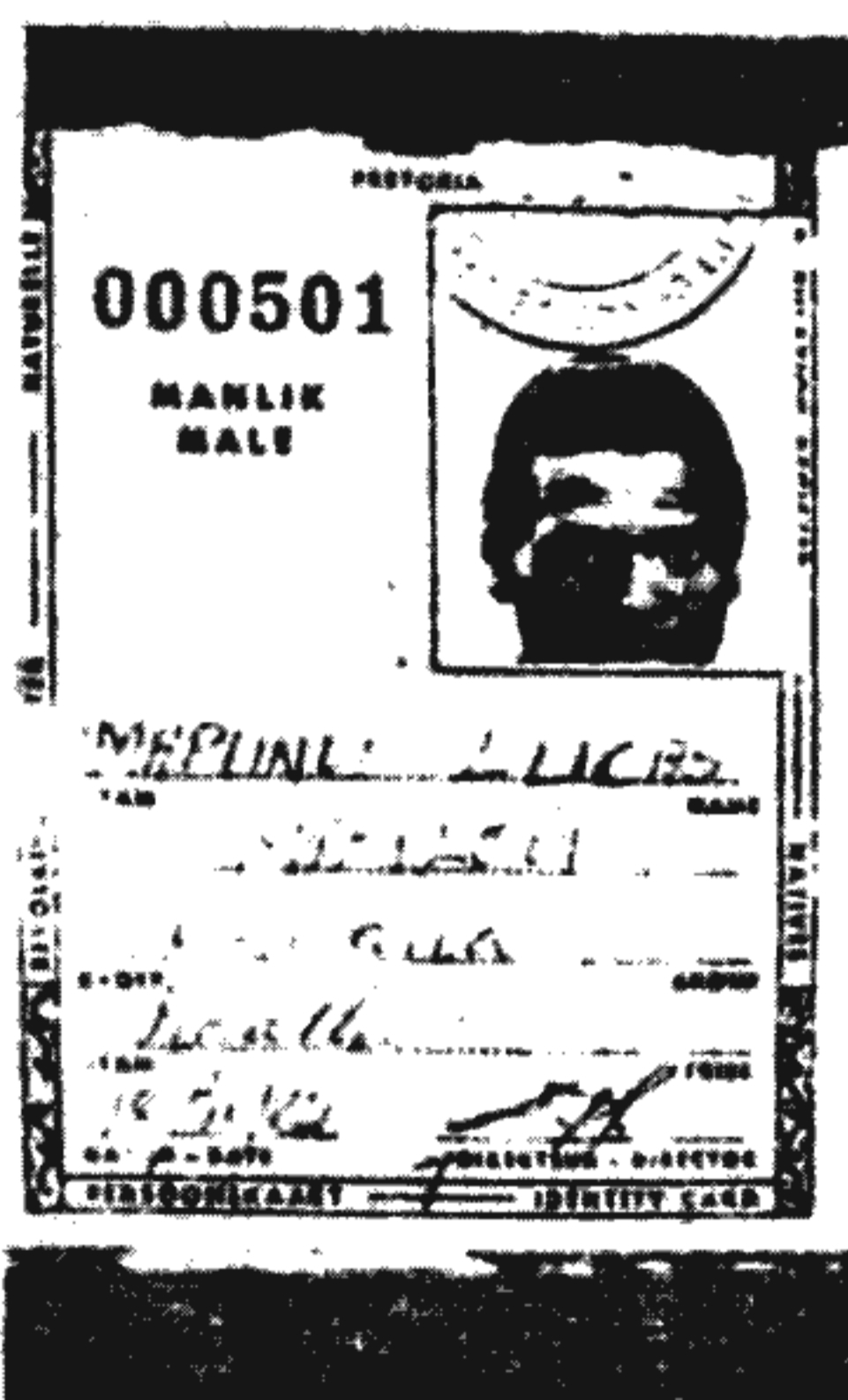
for students to demonstrate or leaflet at all and putting fines on the universities for every student arrested for demonstrating or leafletting, and a government commissioner's just reported back, calling on the government to ban the National Union of Students altogether.

And there's not likely to be much opposition from the South African Progressive Party?

The Progressive Party will probably register token opposition but it certainly won't do a great deal to help the students.

What do you think of the New Zealand anti-apartheid movements so far. I know you haven't seen much, but what do you think of at least the working base of these operations?

The working base seems to be very good - Trevor Richards has obviously put in vast amounts of work and he's got a good team of people working with him. A movement like this cannot succeed unless it has the broadest possible base of support, so I'd urge people to work with and support the anti-apartheid movement in this country.



Under Permanent Surveillance

- A. Labour Bureau, Effort and Incentive Control and Registration. Arbeidsburo, Untruoms- en Inspanningsbeheer en Registrasie. (For official use only.) (Alleenlik vir amptelike gebruik.)
- B. Employer's name, address and signature. Werkgever se naam, adres en handtekening.
- C. Union Tax. Unie-belasting. (For official use only.) (Alleenlik vir amptelike gebruik.)
- D. Bantu Authorities Tax. Bantoe-Owerhedebelasting. (For official use only.) (Alleenlik vir amptelike gebruik.)
- E. Additional particulars (including concessions in respect of curfew, Native law and custom, etc.) Bykomende gegewens (insluitende vergunnings t.o.v. aanklank, Nateurlike-reg en gewoonte, ens.) (For official use only.) (Alleenlik vir amptelike gebruik.)

C.P. 4-6-64-1952-2-3,000,000 S.



Police clubbing striking worker: Taking what the white man gives

And now for something completely different. Just to satisfy my own mind, if nothing else, I've heard a lot about the Rothman's empire. Just how extensive is it?

Well, Rothman's claims to be the first of the multinational corporations. It started off as a company called Rembrandt Tobacco, who's slogan was: 'These cigarettes are untouched by black hands,' and has grown to be a huge multinational corporation, but it's wholly South African owned and based in South Africa. The directorships, the interlocking directorships, might attempt to disguise this fact but this doesn't alter the fact that it's a South African corporation. Most of the tobaccos come from South Africa or from Rhodesia and in this respect they disregard UN sanctions as well. The people who buy them in this country are putting money into the pockets of white racists in South Africa.

Therefore you would urge us not to buy Rothmans or Pall Mall cigarettes. What about Benson and Hedges? I've heard heard rumours that there is some South African blood in there somewhere.

Not as far as I know. Dunhill do.



DOWNSTAGE THEATRE

Opening March 19:

PLAY STRINDBERG
by Friedrich Durrenmatt

Late Night Theatre

WAITING FOR GODOT

all women cast
Directed by Jean Betts

SHOWING:
March 21, 22 at 11pm
March 23 at 8pm

Student concessions available
For reservations phone 559 639

One Woman and a Revolution – Han Suyin

By any standard Han Suyin is a remarkable person. As the Eurasian daughter of a middle-class Chinese family, as the wife of a general in Chiang Kai-shek's army, as a doctor in Malaya, and now as a novelist, lecturer, and historian, she has witnessed and participated in changes of crucial importance to China and the rest of the world. In her historical and autobiographical books particularly, she has attempted to describe and comprehend her own life in the context of the revolutionary changes which occurred in China from the 19th century onwards. The result is a unique view of Chinese history which, while looking at history in human terms, nevertheless remains objective and factually accurate.

In 'The Crippled Tree', the first part of her autobiographical/historical trilogy, she has written: "I wanted to write a book about my father and mother and about China, and one day the idea took shape in action, and then it grew, as such seeds do, sprouting and then straightening into a distant shape, a tree of many branches; and as I too lived through years full of change and revolution, I too had to look back, look homeward, and write about that earth-changing time which took place in our generation.

"It was impossible to isolate either my father or my mother from history itself, the history of their period in China . . . We are all products of our time, vulnerable to history. I was born because there had been, in China, a Boxer Rebellion (as the Europeans called it) in 1900, and because of this event, which the Chinese call the Uprising of the Righteous Fists, my Chinese father, instead of becoming a classical scholar, perhaps a Hanling Academician, married my Belgian mother. The tree is known by its root. I had to go back to the roots."

It is in her role as historian and lecturer that Han Suyin periodically visits New Zealand, under the auspices of the New Zealand China Society. Below are extracts from her interview with Salient.

SALIENT: In writing the *Crippled Tree* you have drawn extensively upon the material written by your relatives and family. These writings deal with the political, social and economic problems of the time as well as with family matters, and they are written in a concise, accurate and interesting way. Is this kind of writing traditional? If so, does there exist a large body of material not yet translated or studied, or has this been destroyed?

Yes, there is a large quantity of these writings, there is an enormous amount of study of historical material going on in China. In 1963 Mao Tsetung launched a suggestion, which was a very good one, of writing what he called putting up the family tree of the proletariat, having the peasants and the workers writing their own histories. Why should it only be

wealthy families? Why shouldn't the poor families write as well. This is called the Four Histories of China and it took on very well. Usually it is the individual family, then the commune or the factory, and they get into groups and write these histories and then relate them to their political wholeness, so it makes for an enormous amount of primary historical material.

Our trained historians all had attitudes which were Confucian. Before historical material can be used there will have to be historians who come from the working class, who have got this attitude, and can see the past in this context. I tried to do this in the *Crippled Tree*.

Referring once again to the *Crippled Tree*, one important theme seems to be the hostility between races; for example,

Story and interview by

Christine Kraus

and Stephen Prendergast



the anti-European actions of Chinese towards your mother when she lived in China. Was this phenomenon unique to the time, or do you think there remain anti-Chinese or anti-European prejudices?

The Chinese are often accused of xenophobia, but there is a reason for it; it's the way they have been treated. I know many people in Europe who have studied the way the Chinese have been treated and they say My God, the way they have been treated they should be shooting every one of us. They don't, they've gotten over it, but it's taken the Revolution to get over it.

Right after Chiang Kai-shek they were as xenophobic as anything. On the one hand they took American money, and on the other they just simply hated the people they took it from. You will find the same thing in many areas of the Third World, this kind of ambivalence, or dependence and hatred. But when independence came, there was no need for these feelings any more. Sore feelings have disappeared against the Japanese although they invaded China and caused thirty million deaths.

But this has to be taught. You can't just leave it as it is because, as I say in my lectures, it isn't when you institute a new system that all the old ideas disappear, just like that. They are still there and anybody can utilise them to make trouble. But I think that on the whole there are no anti prejudices among the Chinese today. On the contrary, there is a great deal of friendship and curiosity, even with the Americans. I mean the Americans, after 22 years of ill-treating China, went of China and nobody did anything against them.

What were the greatest difficulties experienced by people of your generation in adjusting to the new society?

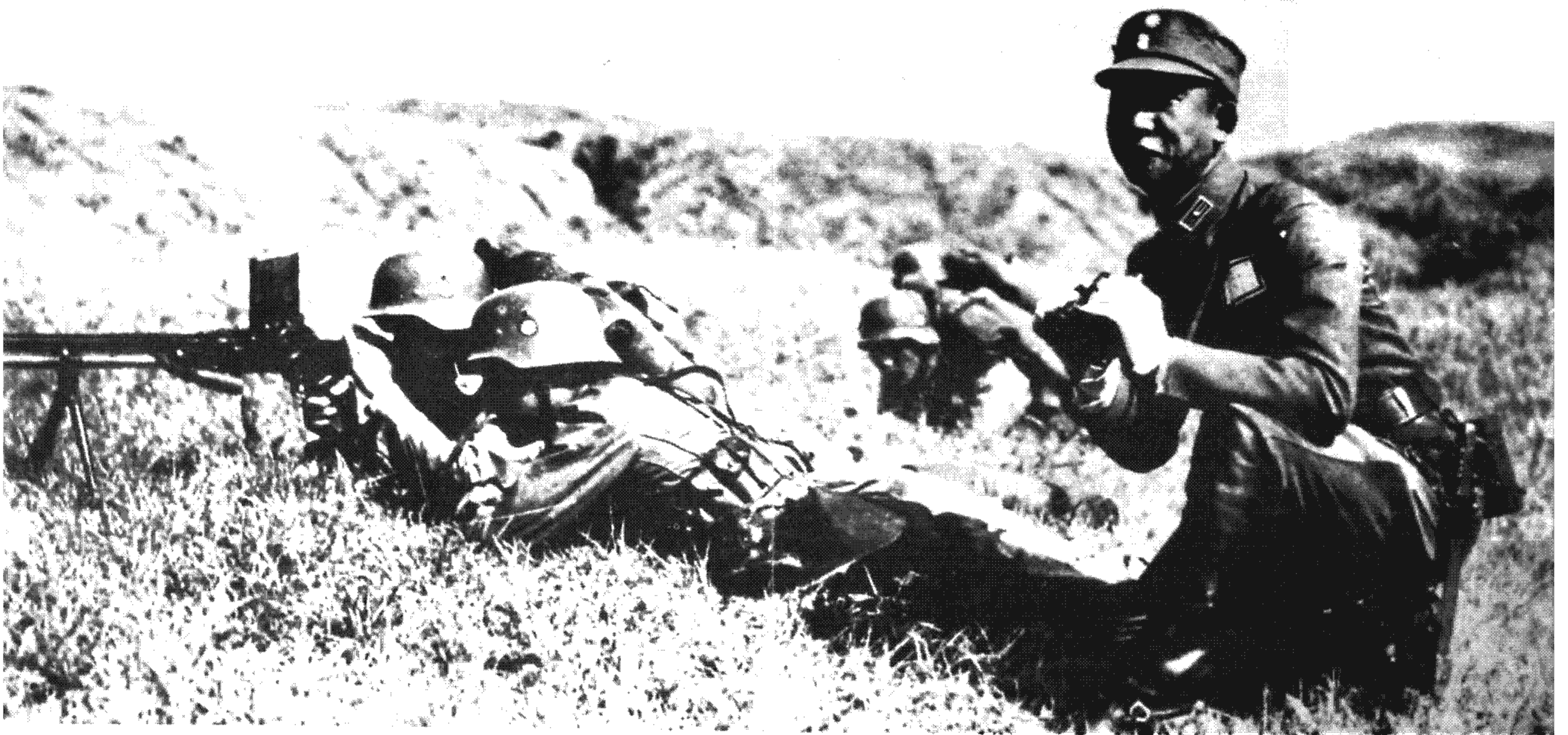
I think the feeling that suddenly I wasn't a sort of special thing but just one

among the many. A feeling of drowning, a terrible agony really, described by Mao in 1942 at the Yanan Forum on Art and Literature, when he said that it was agonisingly difficult for the old type of intellectual to get a really new outlook. It was terribly difficult, there's no doubt about it; anybody who says it's easy is just lying. It isn't easy to integrate, not to think of yourself and your class, but to think of the workers and peasants. I have noticed among some people who think they are adjusted, or think they are very radical, that they are not, that they are just talking. This difficulty takes time, it takes willingness, it takes self-awareness, it takes humility.

What differences do you see between the young people you meet in China today and Chinese young people of thirty years ago?

An enormous difference in health, in attitude, in everything. I see my nephews and nieces; they are workers, they don't count on becoming doctors or engineers – maybe they will, maybe they won't. They are interested in doing things. It is an entirely different attitude – what can I render of service wherever I am – that is most refreshing, most creative. It is not a feeling of do-gooder either. It is natural. Very often among young people in Europe they say 'What can I do for China?' I say nothing, they don't need you, and this is the hardest thing you can tell them. They have a feeling that they ought to be needed. It is much better to be there ready when the necessity comes, not to project yourself forward as a do-gooder, as a hero. That's the whole difference.

That is true for most young people, not all of course. I know a young man from a landlord family who is very brilliant. He wants to stay in Peking, he just wants a job in Peking. Of course you have those people who think they can get away with it. In China they do persuade them, give



Nationalist troops on manoeuvres. Coal scuttle helmets place picture before US entry into war



'Girl for sale' - common in Old China them a lot of time to make up their own minds, rather than arbitrarily deal with them. We have that kind, but they are a minority, no more than a few percent.

After liberation, the newly-formed People's Government was forced to change traditional institutions very rapidly, without waiting until social attitudes had changed completely. Twenty-five years later, how extensively have these attitudes changed, and in what direction?

Oh, this is such a large thing. I think that the social relations, the relations of production, have changed, but it is not quite true that they were changed by the People's Government. For instance, the collectivisation of agriculture, the industrial pattern, were changed with the mass of the people.

So you can't say the attitudes have changed; the attitudes were always there but they were suppressed. Now the

attitudes were released; I should think that 70% were more than ready for change. Mao said in 1955 that it was the party and the superstructure which were lagging behind the base, that the masses were forward and it was the intellectuals who were lagging behind.

And with the Cultural Revolution the people were ready for decision-making and some people in the party were really starting to be a brake upon them. There comes a time when every state has to decide what to do: to choose between using their anachronistic state laws to break the forward movement, or break the superstructure to allow the forward movement, and the Chinese have chosen every time to break the superstructure. Whereas I am afraid that in many countries of the West the opposite is happening. You know very well that your laws and certain institutions are anachronistic. But they are kept, they are sacred cows. What is being restrained is the creative movement of the people to devise other kinds of law, other kinds of institutions. This is what happened in China and is happening all the time. That is why there will be more Cultural Revolutions.

What obstacles are Chinese women facing while working towards sexual equality? Do you believe that it is easier for women to achieve equality in a socialist society?

I certainly do. I believe that equality is not possible in a society without exploitation. I think that the obstacles that the Chinese women are facing still are engrained attitudes, but they have on their side the fact that the society does not have exploitation. There is not the organised strength to hold them down that would be present in any other society. Actually, from the Cultural Revolution onwards one can say that the main battles are ideological, they are battles of the mind.

So you would say that it is impossible to attain the same kind of equality under

the western capitalist system?

I think you can achieve some kind of equality, but so long as you still have exploitation in a system it is not possible to achieve the liberation of woman. The liberation of woman is not directed against man, do you see, it is part of man's liberation.

So women's liberation must be a movement for socialism?

That's right, and that is my point: you cannot liberate yourself, otherwise it becomes a sex war. Why? What has the poor guy really done? After all, he is himself exploited. And this is where I confront the women's liberation movements in your countries with total misunderstanding. They feel this is all a question of sex, as if sexual liberation was the key to all liberation. Well, it is not. It can even become a new exploitation of women under another guise by making women more dependent upon man's sexual approval at all times.

What problems will confront Chinese society when Mao Tsetung dies?

Well, it's not a question of Mao Tsetung dying or not. It is a question of the Chinese Revolution. After all, if you think that everything depends on Mao then the Revolution has already failed because a revolution is not made by one man, for one man or for an elite. It is made for the people, and that is why in China the legacy of Mao Tsetung is millions of successors, not just one. If it is a question of handing over power only then the Chinese Revolution is no better than any king transmitting his crown to an heir. This view is totally wrong. The Chinese Revolution is something which for 25 years has tried to educate one quarter of humanity, and it can only continue, because the only thing that you can transmit is ideas, there is no other legacy.

Did Chinese students return from their studies overseas to fight with the Red Army? Did Chinese return to China after 1949 to live or visit relatives?

Mao Tse-tung in 1936



Yes, some did. There were brave people and there were some who were not so brave. There were some who were really infected by the propaganda. With some it was cowardice which they tried to inflict upon others: they would go around saying silly things like if I go back I will be shot, which delighted the Americans of course. When I went to America in 1965 a lot of Chinese came to see me surreptitiously, they were scared of being seen coming to see me. They asked me (pant pant) You've been to China? How is it? , and since then many of them have gone back and returned having seen their families and villages. I was told when I went back, Oh! but you will have your head cut off, you'll be shot - you were a wife of a general in Chiang Kai-shek's army. I said I don't think so. I'll go anyway, and if they kill me they will kill me. Do you know, people came and televised me on the train because they thought this is the last we see of Han Suyin. I mean it was crazy . . . crazy! Even I came to think Oh my gosh!, am I really making a mistake? Never mind, I'll go.

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IN LAMBTON QUAY JUST ALONG FROM CABLE CAR LANE

courting council

A joint ticket will be standing in opposition to present policies of the University Council when the Court of Convocation elections are held over the next two months.

At a meeting held just before nominations closed, it was agreed to approach three people to see if they would stand. Nicky Hill and Terry McDavitt agreed to do so; Graeme Collins declined on the grounds that having just resigned from the Council in frustration he was in too negative a mind about the Council to stand. However, along with former Student Association president and member of Council committees, Peter Cullen, he was prepared to nominate candidates.

The ticket is circularising a statement on the present position among graduates and hopes to draw up a complete policy platform for the publication later. It has arranged a meeting on Sunday 16 April in the Board Room of the Student Union Building to discuss policy and

campaign strategies.

'There are several areas of concern', said Terry McDavitt when SALIENT contacted him. 'Most obviously there is the building and planning programme of the University, which SALIENT backgrounded to some extent in its March 4 issue. In a context of stabilising rolls and changing patterns in adult education we believe an expansionist building programme is ill-conceived. What we would like to see is a complete review of the future of the university. We would therefore oppose any plans for expansion until this review was completed.'

This leads on to direct concern about the plight of present residents living in or adjacent to university land. People here are facing the dismal prospect of not being able to carry out improvements without university approval while at the same time knowing that the university probably wants to acquire their property eventually. Much of the housing, particularly around Te Aro,



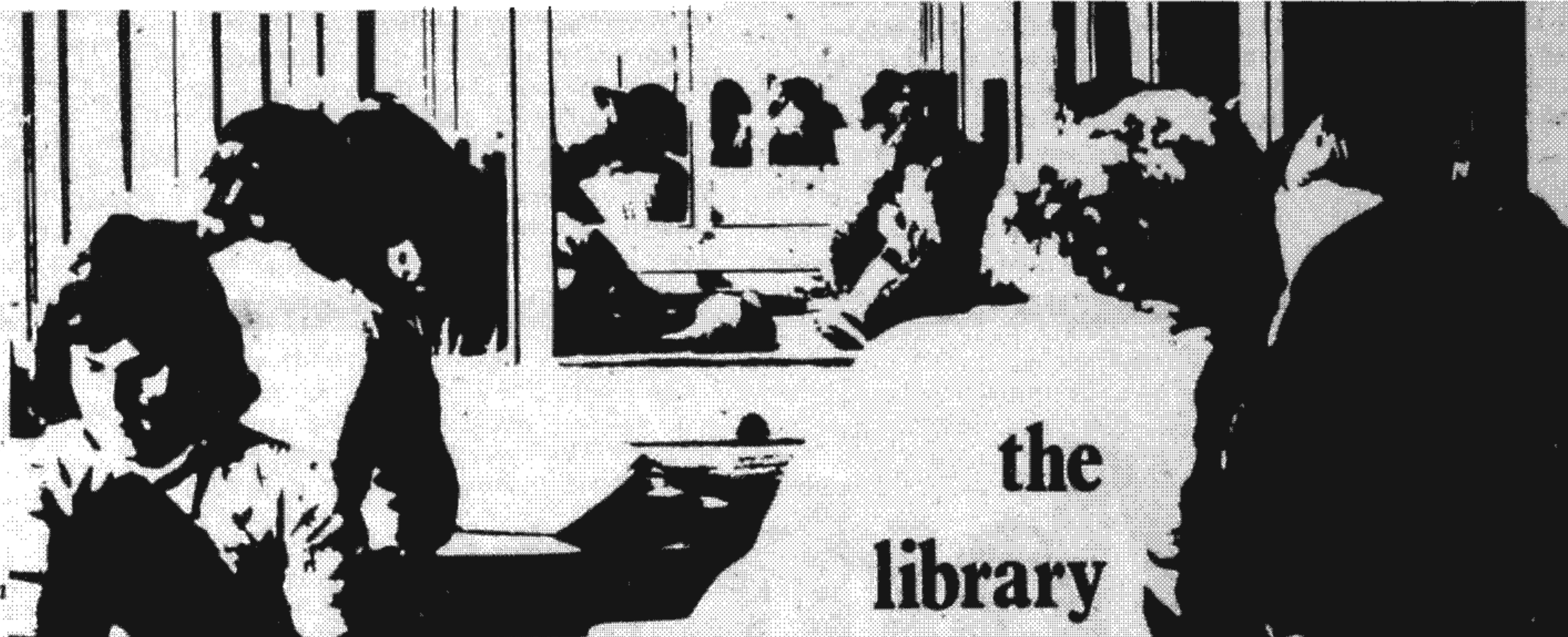
is rented, and landlords are not especially keen to invest money in improving conditions for the tenants on a short term basis. Either way, the present resident is on the receiving end of the university stick.'

'And that leads on to our concern with the abysmal public relations of the university at the moment. Relations with Kelburn residents have never been especially good, but the way the Council has handled the Von Zedlitz project is an extraordinary example of how not to do things. Much the same could be said

of the Hunter fiasco. We see the Council's performance over these issues as provocative and undignified, and are urging that the university immediately establish liaison with procedures with the local community.'

'Speaking more personally, I have a particular concern too with curriculum and assessment procedures. I think the present way that internal assessment is administered at Victoria is anti-educational in effect. It merely increases everyone's workloads without as far as I can see significantly helping the learning process. We must remember that this affects staff just as much as students. I would never recommend going back to end-of-year exams but I would recommend much clearer definition of objectives, and the tailoring of assessment procedures to such objectives. I think that students must participate in the planning of objectives and course procedures if the assessments are to be in any way valid.'

'I suppose all these issues come back to how you see the university. Well, I certainly don't see it as a big, high-rise, overly formal, elite institution. I see it rather as one of the agencies of post-secondary education with special responsibilities for the development and maintenance of academic standards. I think bigness, density, formality, elitism and institutionalisation all work against that. So I would oppose the building programme for instance on educational as well as planning and environmental grounds.'



by Anthony Ward with help from Danny Keenan.

Reports from Action Central.

Library 8.30 a.m. Monday March 3rd. ... Library quiet, ready for term. Some twenty people queued up outside waiting for opening ceremonies ...

Later Reports:

... very heavy usage of facilities - seating space in key areas overfull ... book clean-up in the evenings taking twice as long as expected due to large numbers ... strain on library staff readily apparent ...

The magnificent earthquake-resistant Rankine Brown building is beginning to crack at the seams. Space for the Library is at a premium, with overcrowding becoming more serious, and relief far away.

The main Library is divided into two areas, the periodicals (floors 0 & 1) and the rest (for want of a better word) on floors 2 through 5. The staff club also occupies some space (like well over half) on floor 3.

For the last few years the Library has been buying lots of books and periodicals and things to make our lives more interesting, and the strain has begun to show. In 1973-4 holidays floor 5 was taken over to provide some relief for the stack collection. This wasn't quite as good as it sounds, as at the same time the staff club cunningly occupied more of floor 3. Anyway, things looked reasonably good. Present prediction are that this space will prove inadequate by the end of 1976, which causes a few problems.

Previous ideas were that when the Library needed more space for its books, the occupants on the next floor of Rankine Brown would get marching orders. Hence in 1973 Economics got shifted out of the fifth floor, moving up to the sixth and displacing the English Department out into prefabs on the Lecture Block. However, this little arrangement has now been disrupted by a strange body known as the Law Library. This used to be in an equally strange building known as Hunter, which was declared an earthquake risk last year. The Law Library was deemed an area of much danger, and consequently got shifted out during the summer holidays, to the sixth floor of Rankine Brown, the Economics Department getting expelled to prefabs on the edge of the Cotton site works. Well, looks like the Law's there for some time, thus cutting off the sixth floor for the main Library's expansion. Of course, it is possible to take over the seventh floor (expelling Maths and the DSIR to prefabs somewhere?), but this will require either musical libraries as Law moves up from six to seven and leaves six to the rest; or a confusing arrangement of part of the main library above and part below the Law Library (ever feel surrounded fellas?). Either way it's pretty inefficient.

If you thought that was a hassle, hop into a lift and we'll go down (if it's working) to the periodicals section. Floors 0 & 1

look pretty crowded at the moment, and official feelings are apparently that it will be overloaded at the end of this year. The Librarian, Mr Sage, said last year that he hoped to be able to take over the rest of the space on floor 1 soon. This area is now used for teaching rooms. At first there was no trouble over this - as Cotton became available, rooms in that would allow this claustrophobic corner of Rankine Brown to become decorated with periodicals. The Hunter decision changes this a bit, as rooms in the doomed building are also used for teaching, and have to be replaced. And guess what's around to replace them? Either the rooms in Cotton which the Library's hoping for, or more delightful prefabs.

Well ... things don't look too bright on the library front in the long term. Things in the short term are a bit nasty as well, especially with respect to the Law Library. If you clamber up a long staircase, or take one of the two lifts to the sixth floor from outside the Library, you will come across a little sign telling you you've made a small mistake and have to (a) go down again (b) go into the main library (c) take the lift (which isn't working on Friday) to the fifth floor, (d) clamber the stairs to the sixth floor to get into the Law Library. And with that sort of experience to go through it's not surprising there aren't many students around in the Law Library whenever I've been up there (or did someone tell them I was coming?)

May a little lad make a humble

suggestion? It seems slightly ludicrous to have several hundred law students wandering through the Main Library to get to their own library six floors up when there's a much easier way. One lift serves the Main Library, and we got one hellualot of exercise last year climbing stairs when it either broke down or didn't want to go the same way. If you go up the stairs nowadays you'll see the call-lights on pretty well every floor - and few people waiting for the lift. Seems the lift service ain't improving. And while it isn't too much to expect students to climb a couple of floors, I suggest it is too much to expect a four-floor clamber.

On the other hand, there are two lifts serving the outside area of the Rankine Brown building, which do stop at the sixth floor. My suggestion is that the Law Library open up from the sixth floor. This will require some structural alterations to the sixth floor, e.g. shelving for bags, and possibly a rearrangement of the office, but this will save a lot of people a lot of exercise, and considerably free up the present high levels of congestion in and outside the library on floor two. One more inefficient aspect of the present scheme is that students leaving the Law Library are checked twice on their way out to ensure they're not flogging books - once (in a haphazard way) on the sixth floor and again on floor two.

Could the Library administration look into this idea? Or at least explain why it was felt a Good Idea to have Law students wandering through the main library?

Please?

NEW DIRECTIONS

A totally unique project, involving a new concept in educational technique, is being undertaken by Victoria University's Extension Department in the Belmont Regional Hill Park (see the map).

It is unique in two respects. Working for the first time ever in conjunction with - and sponsored by - the Wellington Regional Planning Authority, the Extension Department has put together the Park Project. The aim is to survey and plan the development of the 1 600 hectare (4 000 acre) area on the west Hutt hills - the proposed Belmont Regional Hill Park.

In a completely novel experiment, the project is taking the form of an adult education course. Ninety students, working in six groups under experienced research scientists and specialists from Victoria University and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, will research into such varied aspects of the area as its history, its geology and its biology. There is no need for the students to be experienced in any field they may be interested in.

The project is the brain-child of Richard Bagnall, of the Extension Department, and Ewan Henderson, Regional Planner for the Wellington Regional Planning Authority. Already it has been awarded a Mobil Environmental Grant of \$1 500, and a further \$1 000 from the Wellington Regional Planning Authority - as well as use of their equipment. The University has bought a long wheel-base landrover to ferry students around the large area involved.

Mr Bagnall, who is co-ordinating the

course with Mr Henderson, explained the idea behind this new system of learning: 'People find their own level of participation; the more experienced help the others where necessary. Here everyone will have the opportunity to learn about the subject under study and the techniques involved in research - they actually undertake research while learning the subject'.

The six study groups - working under the headings of history, botany, geology, freshwater biology, mammology, and ornithology - form up in March and by the end of November will have prepared draft reports to be studied by all the groups; a working plan for the park will be developed from these, and they will also take into account a sociological study of the recreational interests of the Wellington region which has already been completed.

The working plan will be presented to the Wellington Regional Planning Authority; and a book on the park area is also planned.

The park is very much in the planning stages. Even the boundaries have not yet been finally decided, but the basic objectives offer the Extension Department the opportunity to make a valuable contribution to a major community project.

The six study groups, each comprising 15 members, will try to cover all the objectives listed by the Regional Planning Authority. Their aim is to preserve and develop a large area of countryside, enhancing points of natural and historical interest, for the enjoyment of the ever-growing urban community. Each group will survey the area and make recommendations from its own viewpoint.

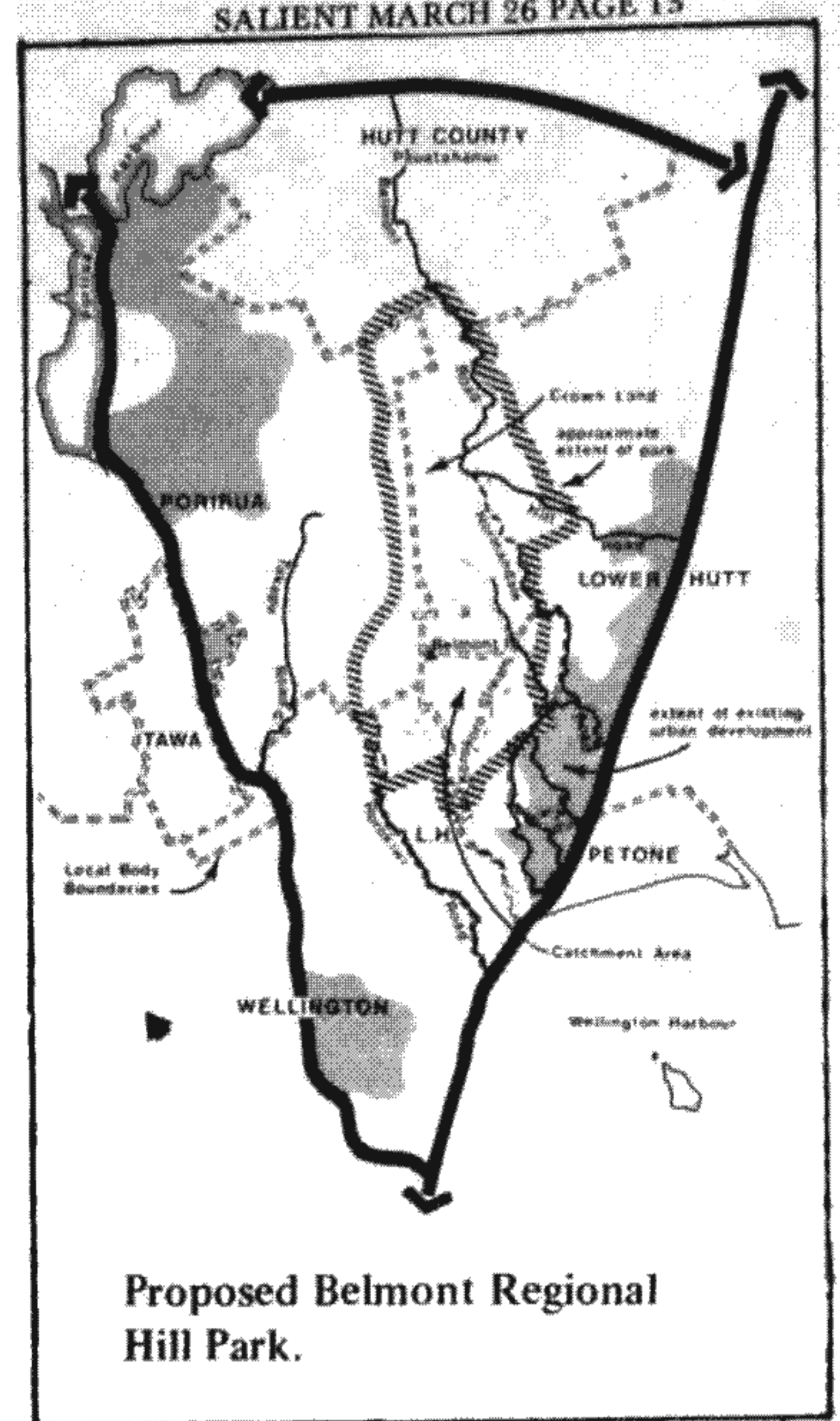
The Geology Study Group will examine such facets as slope stability and erosion potential under different forms of management, helping to protect and enhance the area.

The findings of the Freshwater Biology Group will help the development of streams for educational use.

The Botany Group's aim is to produce a botanical map of the area, which among other things will help to ascertain likely vegetation changes under different forms of management.

The Ornithology Study Group has the distinction of being the only group to demand a qualification from would-be students. They say they would like everyone to be able to recognise the local birds by sight and sound. They will try to determine the distribution of all bird species throughout the region, and to obtain information on the density of selected species; and they will make recommendations for maintaining and providing extended habitats for the rarer birds such as the wood pigeon.

The Mammalogy Study Group will try to estimate the number and whereabouts of opossums, hedgehogs, rabbits, hares and other common and uncommon mammals. They will go into the question of pest control, and depending on the results of their survey, look at the possibility of recreational hunting in the park.



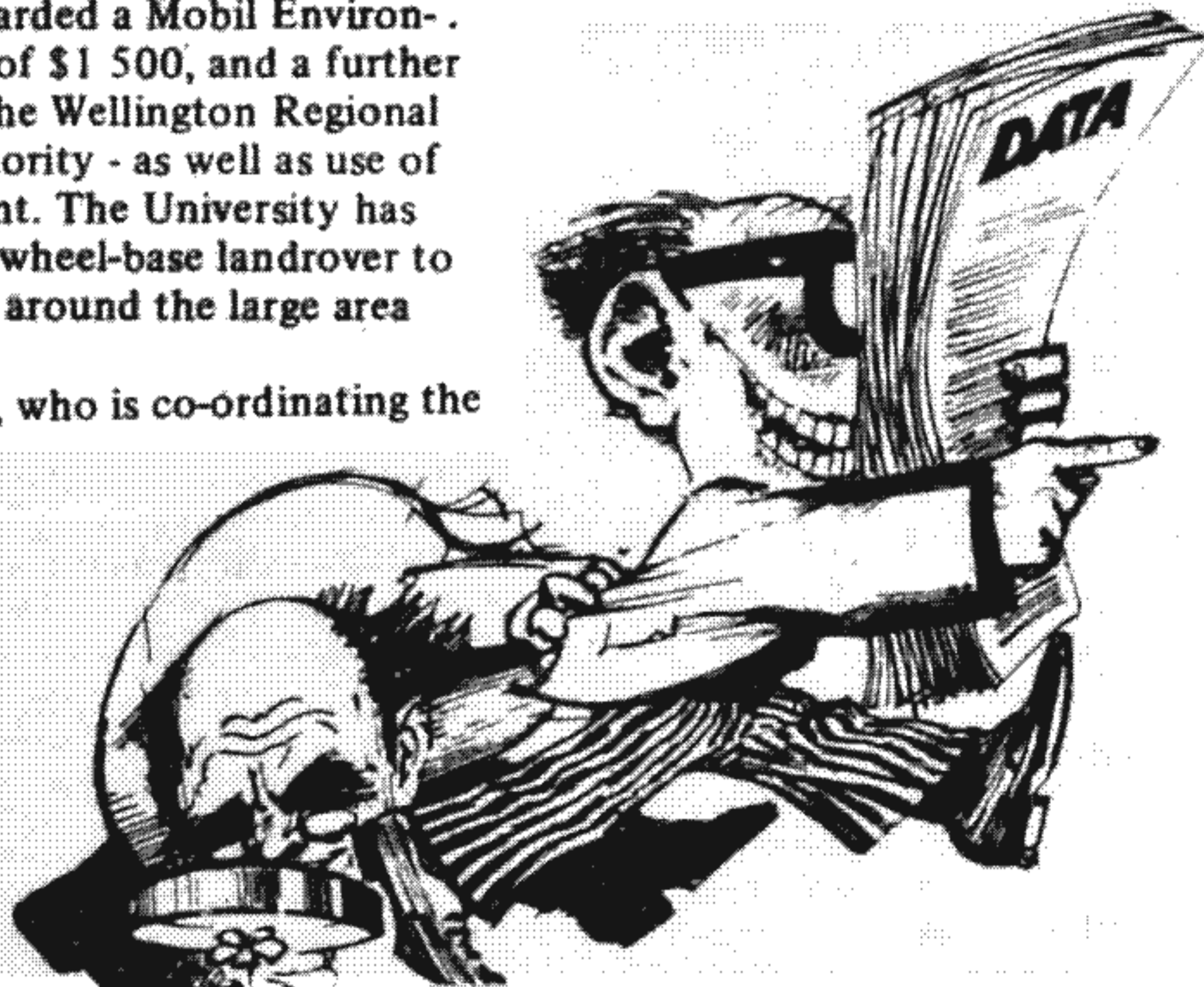
Proposed Belmont Regional Hill Park.

Because of the generous grants - and the hard work the students will be expected to put in - the tuition fee for the course will only be \$10. It is estimated that students will have to put in the equivalent of 20 full days' work.

It is planned that the park will offer facilities for scenic drives, picnicking, environmental education, walking, boating, bathing, horse-riding, fishing, adventure play areas and trail bike riding - and future expansion into such fields as go-karting, archery, small bore rifle shooting and scramble biking is being considered. But the main aim is to provide unspoilt country within easy reach of the expanding urban areas. The environmental diversity and the central location of the site make it so ideal for the purpose that this project has priority over all other park projects in the region.

With such a vast range of activities contemplated, proper planning and integration of activities is essential. The report of the Victoria University's Extension Department will be a vital contribution.

Lindsay G Wright
Information Officer



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RADICAL BOOKS

POLYNESIAN FINGERS

Your concern is very touching
But, as I hope you'll see,
The colour is quite irrelevant
To the management and me.
Safe work is always paramount
The foremen have explained
We tell the men to take good care
While they're being trained.
Of course, they must work quickly
We make sure that's quite clear
Well, every factory wants the best
From Tongans while they're here.
It's not the colour of the fingers
I've told you that already
And what with all the beer they have
No wonder they aren't steady --
I told the fellow how to stand
And what the buttons did
So how was I supposed to know
His English was no good?
Besides - between us two, you know -
One's just the same as the other.
(I fired one last week for some crime
Committed by his brother!)
And as for fingers, well,
They've plenty; breed like flies, they do
It doesn't hurt them, losing fingers,
Like it hurts me and you.
Not that I've anything against them, mind
They're fine whatever they lack.
No racial prejudice here, mate.
Some of my best workers are black.

marty

ROCK

RECORDS

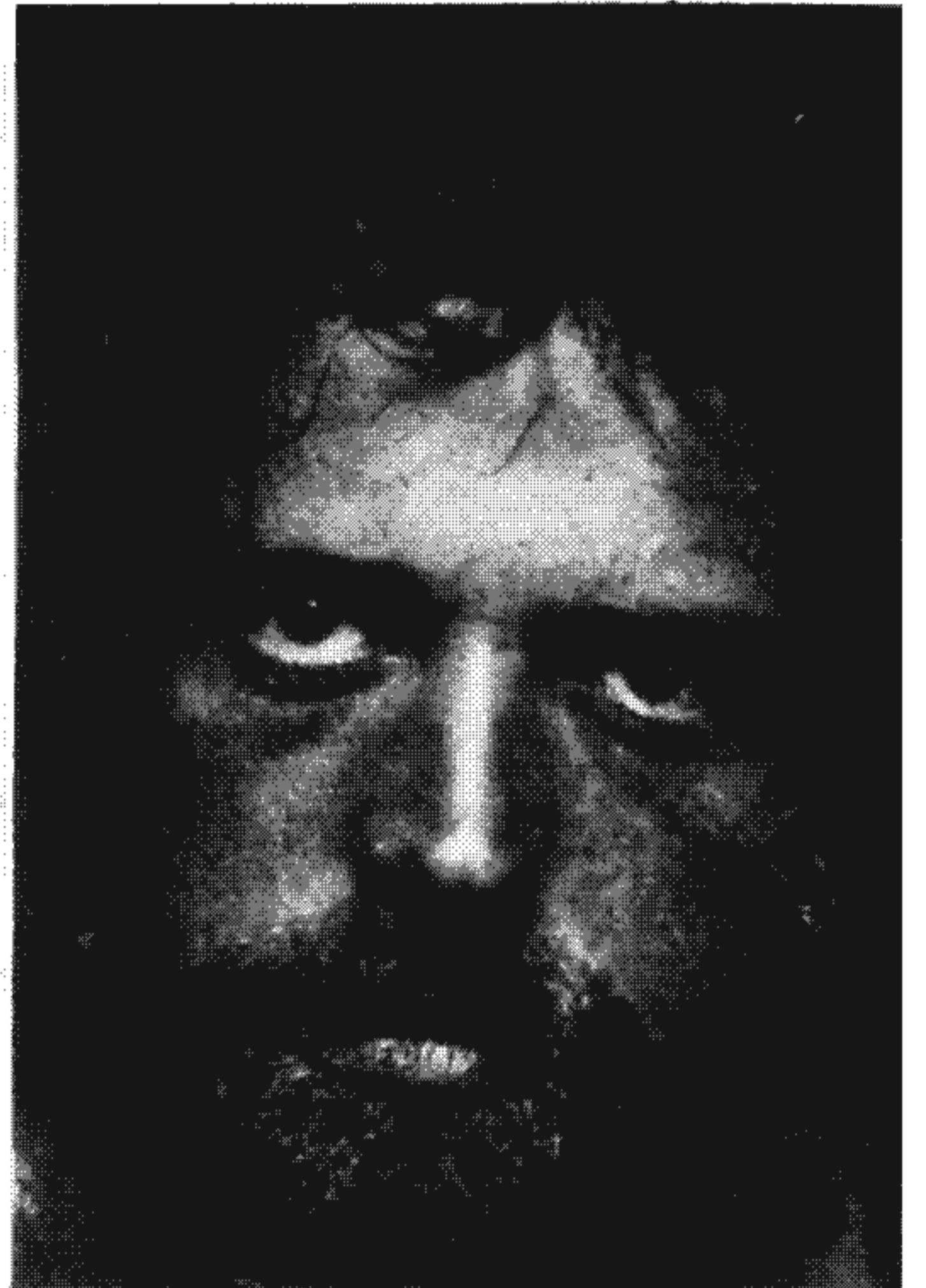
I Can Stand A Little Rain: Joe Cocker (A & M)

Joe Cocker is a star whose success has always been touched with sadness; a performer whose performing span was limited by the sheer destructiveness of the performance. Only singers of opera, surely, can sustain such an act: and then only by restricting their movements on stage and going easy on the whisky and cocaine.

So Joe was the jaded rock star of 1973/74; like John Lennon forgetting himself in a New York nightclub, Joe's music was going to seed. Only John claims it wasn't like that at all - and Joe didn't lose it completely.

'I Can Stand A Little Rain' features songs by different composers, including Billy Preston, Jim Webb, Harry Nilson and Randy Newman. It seems contrived or calculated it achieves a seeming contrived or calculated it achieves a stunning unity.

On this album Joe sings the blues: songs of loss, sorrow, ruin, love, making them his own. The songs are uniformly excellent and Cocker's interpretations are for once not merely animated, but inspired.



Two tracks, 'Put Out The Light' and 'I Get Mad' seem awkwardly placed beside the others which are quietly restrained. Yet their presence illuminates: the contrast between the old raver and the chastened veteran contributes much to the pathos - and there are some nice chords in 'I Get Mad'. The face on the cover, not studied or a pose; just Joe after too many three o'clock mornings: weary, exhausted. Not beaten.

Joe at the centre of the stage - you've seen him in Mad Dogs and Englishmen, in Woodstock jerking, weaving, almost-falling, screwed and screaming; the pathetic figure in the spotlight giving every energy, his whole body. And you saw him as the tour progressed becoming more and more lost, until finally he only nods, smiles. The boy from Sheffield, taken to the edge by Leon Russell on a body-and-mind breaking tour of the USA. And another tour. And another. And after this outrage the performer is too wasted to perform anymore; like a secret drinker exposed, the star experiences new pain: pity and even scorn.

It's good that there's not a trace of self-pity. On this album Cocker renders his failure triumphant simply by embracing it and going on.

'I Can Stand A Little Rain' is an album which confirms the axiom about great suffering producing great art. It's very honest, and it's very good. And while some may see it as the beginning of a new career, I think it's a statement about the end of a career and as such it's probably the best album that Joe will ever do.

Brian King

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There's a new contributor to the rock pages this week - James Barry - that's his drawing below. It's not his caption however: now we need someone with an extraordinary sense of humour to work with James so we can make his drawings a regular feature. And maybe some of you can draw as well, or review records and concerts (we can supply the records and the tickets). Even in interviews and articles relating to the rock scene. Anything.

Now that the editor for 1975 has been appointed we can begin making plans for the rock pages. For example, if you don't agree with a review you've read in these pages then write in and say so. Or review it yourself. I'd like to see a number of people reviewing the same album.

I'd like to see a number of people - period. At the moment it's down to about six of us, all hardened into our separate and narrow visions. So whatever you bring in will be a necessary and welcome relief. (One caution: make sure your contributions are double-spaced on one side of the paper only - and if your printing's not up to much, then type it.)

Brian King,
SALIENT office



... fishandchipsareupmanthiscountrysucks ...

ROCK OUT: PEGASUS

It could be that the potential of a review is only realised when the act being reviewed is really bad. Then a review can be a kick in the ass: a warning to audiences that they should beware, and advice to the artists to tighten up - and a way to avenge.

Four acts performed last Saturday in the Union Hall: Redeye, Shona Laing and Steve Voss, Pegasus, and Country Fliers. It looked interesting on the posters. In fact, all interest ceased after Redeye played their last song. And by the time Shona Laing had finished, even fascination had ended. We badly needed some rock and roll at this point: something to convince us that this was in fact Saturday night. We got instead three guys with a lisp called Pegasus.

Pegasus might be formidable at Training College and Polytechnic quadrant sessions, but at Victoria we need poor Neil Young/CSNY/America copyists like we need a tower on the Hunter lawn. It was a painful experience, boys and you all should be arrested for sexually assaulting the integrity of music.

So, somehow we had been duped into attending a talent quest and Country Fliers were to be last entry. Cursing, I woke Bronwen and we walked out leaving behind my fold-up umbrella and a hall full of refugees.



SPACEWALTZ

featuring Alastair Riddell (EMI)

Most music writers have completely missed the point as far as Alastair Riddell is concerned. He's a smart cookie: he wants to make good music, something which New Zealand has produced very little of up to now. However, he realises that a local artist cannot lay a 'head-music trip (for want of a better term) on the public, and be musically and commercially accepted; sadly, the New Zealand public has little faith in the abilities of local musicians. Therefore, he figures, he has to put himself in a strong position commercially - become popular and sell lotsa records. He looks around at the music scene and asks: 'What is selling at the moment?' The answer? - Bowie and lesser imitators. So he comes up with a strongly Bowie-esque single ('Out On The Streets'), has it backed up by strong airplay and a short tour, and the result: a No.1 hit. The first of many. Once he has thus established himself he can start laying the real thing on us. Which brings me to

Ladeez 'n Gennelmen, the finest album yet made in New Zealand.

SPACEWALTZ is undoubtedly the biggest step forward rock music in New Zealand has made yet. Yes, we can produce world-class material. This is, of course, Riddell's first album and as such is strongly influenced by the Bowie/Roxy school of vocalese and instrumentalism. Riddell's biggest handicap is that he sounds like Bowie and Ferry rolled into one. There is a certain sameness about much of the material on this album, which is understandable, but this in no way detracts from the music.

Side one opens with 'Fraulein Love', his current Big Hit Single. (A point: on the lyric sheet, next to the title, Riddell writes in brackets, 'Here I say 'ta' to Bryan' - no prizes for guessing Bryan's surname!) This is a perfect opener for the album; a strong, rousing rocker, a great chorus replete with heavy breathing, and some great guitar licks.

Next up is 'Beautiful Boy', which you've probably heard before. A good song, but it's too obvious who it's about and too cliched. Not to worry, next up is 'Seabird', Riddell's magnum opus on this album. A slowish number, starting off with a solid drum beat before Tony Raynor's keyboards come in (Raynor being better known as SPLIT ENZ' keyboard wizard). The song ends quietly with the drum beat again and choir-like vocals. Nice one.

Side one closes with 'Out on the Street' and it is a different (and better) version than the single, particularly on the chorus.

Side two opens with 'Angel'. This starts off with some stupid noises from producer Alan Galbraith's ARP synthesiser, which are really quite superfluous. The song itself, though, is quite good. Riddell's lyrics seem very much of the city in content, and the music reinforces this. Harsh, almost depressing in content, they deal with similar themes to some of Bowie's work. Actually, one criticism I have of Riddell is that he is too verbose lyrically and the fact that the lyric sheet is very hard to read doesn't help any.

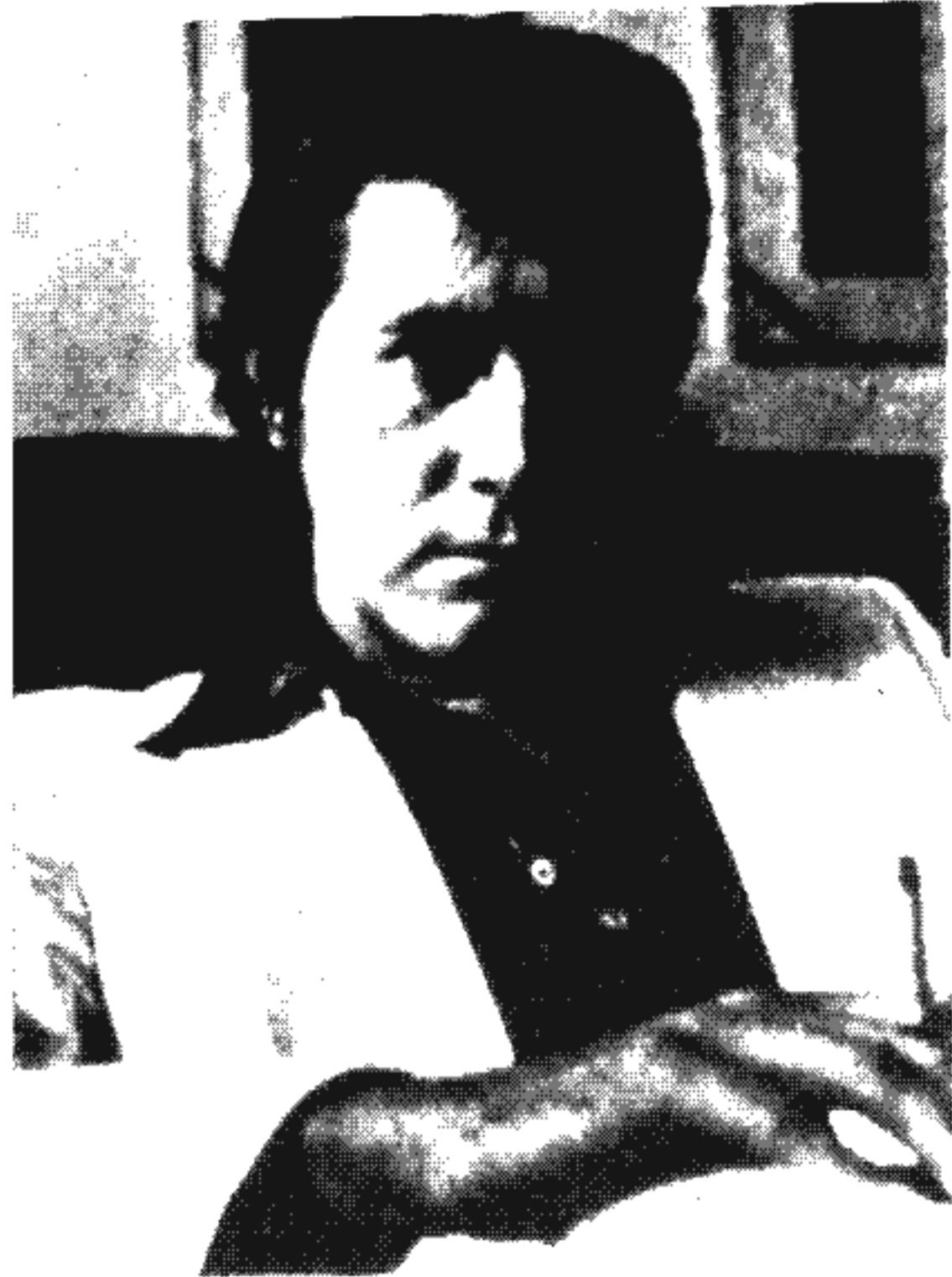
'Open Up' comes next, a slower number and a very full sound from the group. Nice mellow tone. Then we come to the finest slab of pure rock ever made in New Zealand - 'Scars of Love'. This song is simply marvellous. A strong, stomping rocker with an extremely catchy guitar line and a great chorus all of which is underlaid by a strong fuzz guitar/cowbell beat. This should have been the next single. Eats 'Queen Bitch' and 'Suffragette City' for breakfast!

'And Up to Now' is fairly good and features some solid guitar work and nice organ. The album closes with 'Love the Way he Smiles' which musically is the most interesting on the record. The last half of the track is best, featuring some lovely piano work from Raynor and some tight brass/piano interplay. There is an almost dream-like quality about this last section with its chorused 'hip-hip-hoorays' and the background vocals (courtesy of the Yandall Sisters).

Overall, a good first album. The next couple should prove most interesting. My biggest complaint about this one is the recording quality: some of the most unimaginative engineering I've heard since the Beatles. The drums stay in one place, the keyboards stay in one place - whassamatter with EMI? After all, 'Atom Heart Mother' was done, like this one, on an eight-track machine. EMI should send their engineers overseas to learn how to do the job right.

However the music shines through, and this album, I think, heralds a new age in New Zealand rock music. It's high time New Zealand produced something better than the blandness of Creation, Steve Allen and Co. Alastair Riddell is the best thing to hit New Zealand music yet.

David MacLennan



Roxy Music: Country Life (Island)

Bryan Ferry is 30. If you look hard into the eyes of the 30 Wellington kids who buy his group's LPs, you'll see (for each kid) a period of 365 days tattooed into the actual whites. They live this man's bygone birthdays, every foiled attempt at snuffing the candles and finding bits of string in the icing. Generally speaking, these kids have seen all. Everything. The Light, perhaps. Most, anyway of All.

For sure, these kids, upon request, can recite any number of lines from any Roxy chanson... and hum it just like The Master.

'In every dream home - a heartache' and 'I would do anything for you, sit in the garden, growing potatoes by the score.'

In the end though, they're OK. The big-think outgrowth of A Birthday Trip goes by the board sooner or later and they can just as easily take up a night cleaning job or play 'Mandy' on the piano by ear.

So hands-up for this week's party pooper. Who's gonna tell this dedicated bunch of dreamers their favourite bubble just burst? Could YOU tell them about the business of Finis?

Fair dinkum, 'Country Life' is a heavy 'un. The notion of spoiling England's no-snot-up-the-nose grande maison magazine is a groove but the reality is more than a little off-putting. I sway from piling too much meat into the idea that Roxy these days isn't happily hand-in-hand but the more I think about it, the less

happy I feel about the prospects of their listenability before too long.

Fact is while life rolls on, Ferry stacks it on thick. 'Country Life', the fourth album, is about as bloated a piece of music you could ever hope for. Moreso than, say, Procol Harum's 'Grand Hotel' and a lot, LOT more heavy-handed than the one before 'Life', 'Stranded' (and that was the start of this).

You can call the newest offering a pregnant cow and feel secure in the thought that pregnant cows drop (and get lighter) or, better still, call it an 'interim' and start waiting for the fifth album. Meantime though, you've got this LP and until such time as the cow starts screaming or the 'interim' theory is confirmed, it's mucho lusho and heavy dee-cay right through.

Thematically, 'Life' is 'Stranded Number Two' like four people have already pointed out, but a theme, per se, don't make good music. Most of the tracks here sound like note-for-note remakes of songs off 'Stranded' and that's disheartening enough (new ground, boys, new ground).

What really grates most is Ferry's voice and that's sad. On something like 'Three and Nine' he sounds so rottenly affected it hurts. On 'Bitter Sweet' it's 'Song For Europe' from 'Stranded' - all over again without the magic and a lot of 'This is such a sad affair (but haven't I said this before somewhere?)'

It's March 1975 now (a good three years since the first Roxy LP appeared) and Ferry walks the same cracked path (but oh, so tired now... and sluggish, even), hoe in hand, chip-chipping away at the couch-grass, a tear for every uprooted weed, a groan for every stubbed toe nail.

Most of the romance on 'Country Life' is neuroses and most of the psychoses is neuroses and a return to The Genuine Article ('Virginia Plain', for example and the first two albums) seems doubtful. It's chic all right but chic up the boohigh; special but only for its (fairly) dreadful uniqueness.

You want heartaches - you got it. Decadence? that too. Just watch out for the backlash, worse than decomposed Gruyere at hit-the-sack time and it's your Ego taking the punches.

Remember - YOUR risk.

Richard Best

TOM JANS : TOM JANS (A & M)

I have a number of reservations about the current tidal wave of singer-songwriters. Setting aside your Joni Mitchells and your Bob Dylans, most of the other ranks seem to me to lack wit and skill, although occasionally coming up with a pleasant little song.

From the first minute of the first track this album is clearly in another class altogether. To begin with, mentor williams' arrangements are clear, sparse and well-voiced. The tunes don't have the instant charm of say, Joni Mitchell, but they're not a collection of identikit licks, either. They've obviously been fitted to the words with attention to the dramatic rises and falls in story or atmosphere.

Jans' lyrics are the things which take me, though. I may be making a large claim (but I'd defend it) when I say that this is the first example I've found where the serious, poetic side of modern folk-pop has been tempered and sharpened by the wit and subtlety of Nashville lyricism. There are plenty of examples to choose from: 'Margarita', a paean directed at Jans' current love, the snappy 'Tender Memory' or 'Hart's Island', a song dealing with an archetypal 'Midnight Cowboy' character - 'The streets of New York city were his only friend / Fit him like a glove on a fighter's hand... The only thing that's worse than dying in disgrace / Is being buried there on Hart's Island.'

There are funny songs, love songs, dramatic monologues and others which manage to cram every American myth into their four-minute spaces. It's not just me, either. Artists to record Jans' songs recently include Elvis Presley, Dobie Gray, Olivia Newton-John and Helen Reddy. Of the previously recorded songs here 'Loving Arms' impresses me as a superior version, while the initially not-so-strong lyric of 'Free and Easy' benefits from being placed squarely within a sprung reggae framework.

Jans' voice, while not particularly forceful, retains an appealing quality which enables him to transcend the weaker lyrical moments. It skips nimbly from dry to sweet and encompasses a widely-scattered range of influences.

His vocal stylings are reinforced by some tasteful, often understated, lead and steel guitar work from Lonnie Mack and Weldon Myrick.

With their accustomed display of efficiency the record companies are releasing too many albums of this type - if not this quality - and

don't promote them properly. This one must be on the secret list because I've only seen it mentioned in one other place. It's maddening because it's such a good piece of work - sensitive, literate and accomplished. If you can persuade your dealer that it exists, please get it.

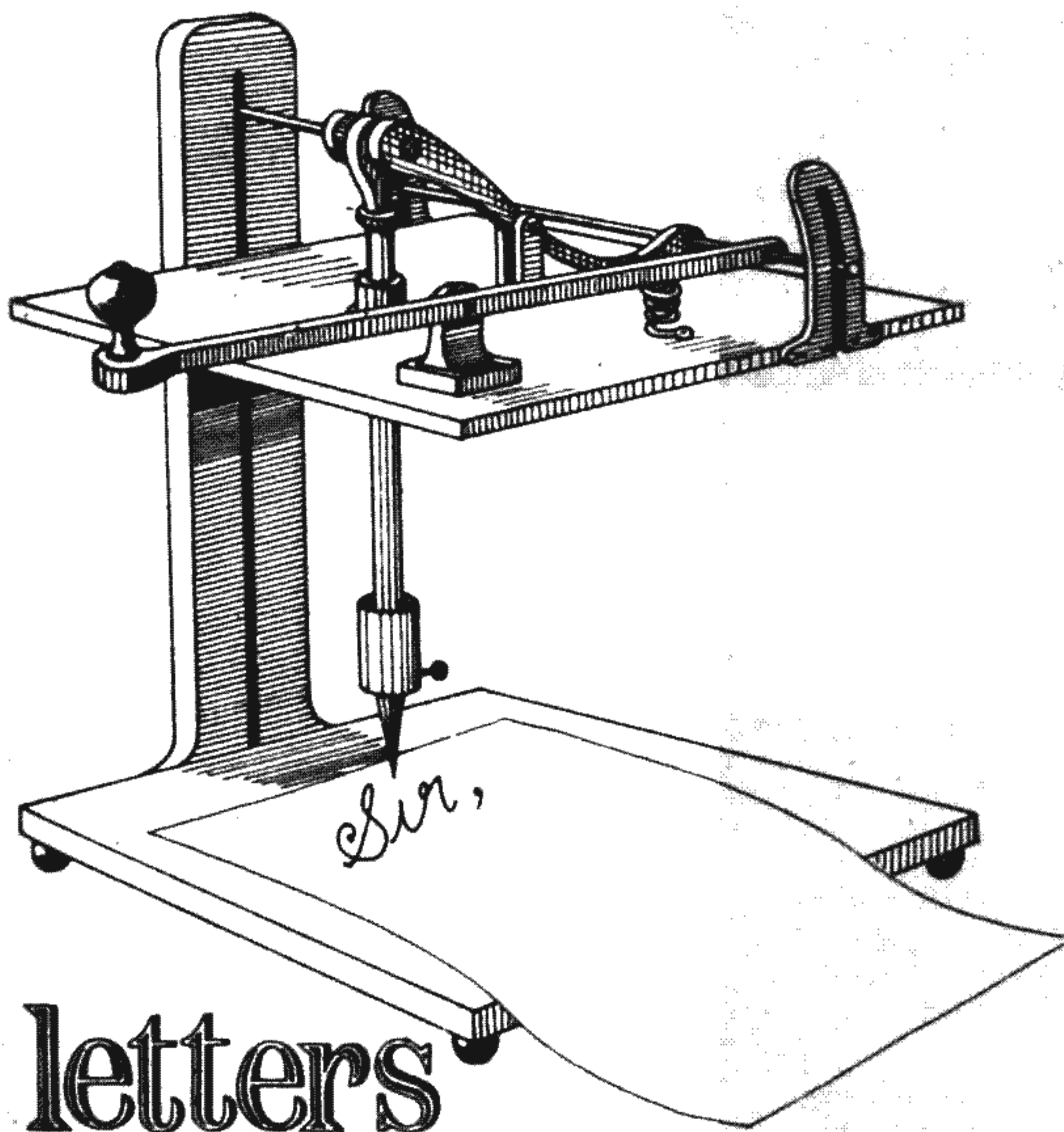
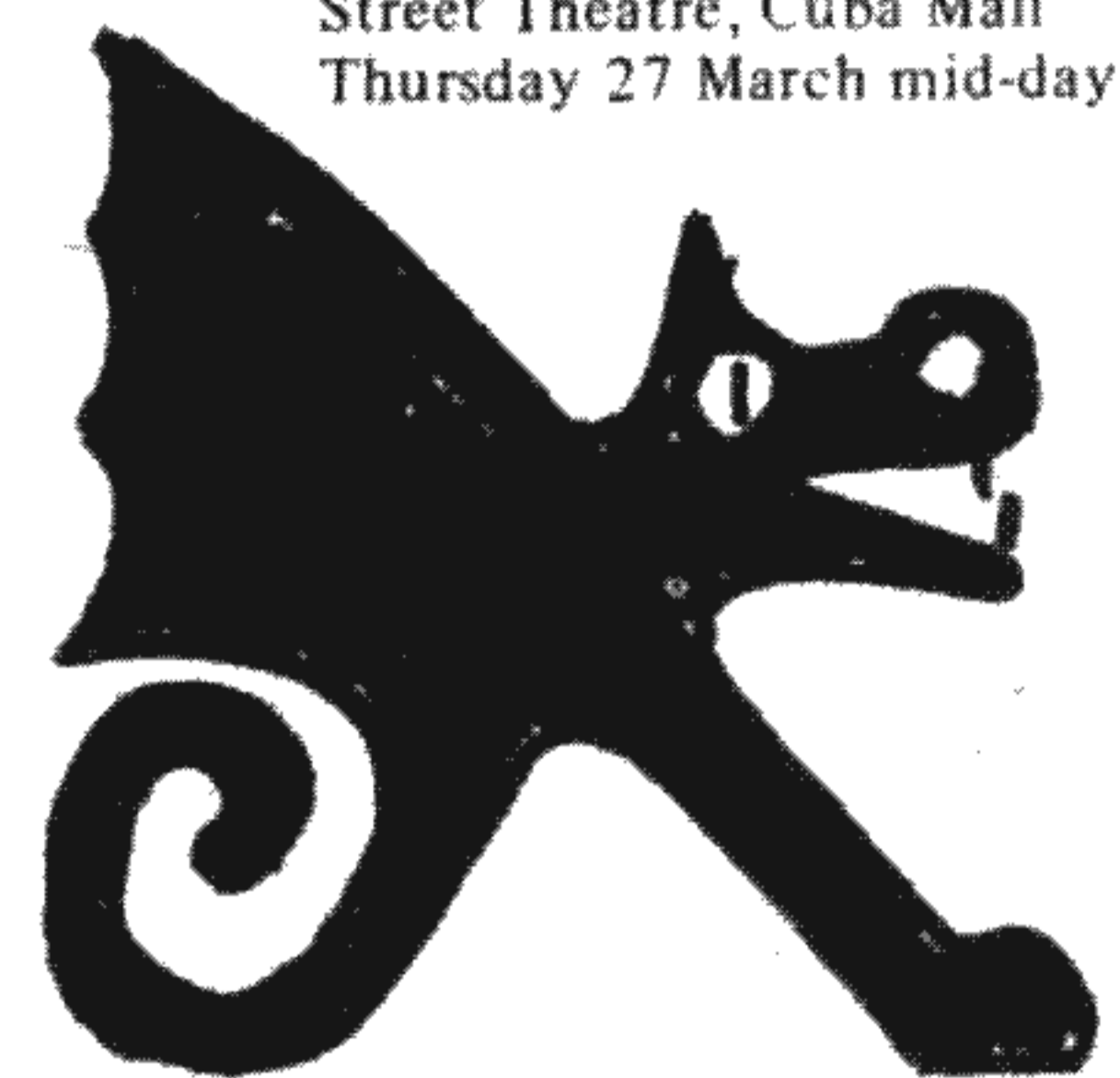
Patrick O'dea

'She's a Lady'



RED DRAGON THEATRE

Street Theatre, Cuba Mall
Thursday 27 March mid-day



Letters can be handed in at the letterbox just inside the SALIENT office or handed in to the editor personally. However if you wish to pay 4c postage then send your letters to P O Box 1347, Wellington. Letters should be double spaced and on one side of the paper only. We'll print just about anything you send in except we can't print libellous material. So keep them cards and letters coming folks.

ORIENTATION IS NOT OVER

Dear Bruce,
Now that Orientation is over, I would like to use the venerable pages of SALIENT to give a big thank you to all the people who worked on it, and without whom very little would have occurred! These people and groups include Catholic Society, the Folk Club, Dave Smith and The Revue cast, the Welfare Services staff, Peter Conway, the boys of Radio Prune, Lisa Saksen, the Debating Society, the gym staff, the White Sports Coat and Pink Carnation Society, Christian Union, Dale Stevens and the notorious duo, Mike Curtis and Steve Underwood who ran the bar and the Orientation Hop. Furthermore, the whole programme was earnestly worked upon by an energetic

group who are all so modest that the mere mention of their names would be an embarrassment to them. (It also saves me writing out another 15 names.)

But please remember that, although Orientation itself is over, this does not mean that you are immediately to retire to the library. Oh no! The aim this year is to bring you back to the Union building - a building which generations of students have paid for in their fees. The Union Building and its staff provide you with an amenity unequalled in Wellington, yet unfortunately too few people realise this and it is frequently deserted after the last restaurant diner has departed. It is not the job of an elected officer to run a programme of 'fun' activities to fill the building every night - leave such a function to a full-time activities officer.

The task of reviving campus life cannot devolve upon a single person or group - the movement has to be felt en masse before it is at all effective.

As Cultural Affairs Officer this year, I will do my utmost to stimulate activity on campus, but rather than impose my ideas and plans, I call on you to bring forward and execute your own plans. I should be acting as a resource centre and liaison officer, not an activities director. Even if you have no ideas of your own, nor the time to originate them, then at least join in what is going on!

Finally, if you have a contribution to make, and aren't quite sure how to put it into action, then come to see me in the Students' Association office or phone me at home 759-457. At this point, I could pause for a 'come alive' commercial break, only they're not paying me, so I won't. So I'll end with the entreaty to participate in what others organise, or bring forward your own ideas!

Barbara Leishman

Dear Comrade,

Listening to the late news the other night I heard that the anti-abortionist Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child had just held a march in Hamilton. After learning the sad news that Dame Ruth Kirk was unable to make it in time to lead the march, I heard that large numbers of school kids were present.

That made me wonder just how much opportunity these kids have had to make up their minds on the abortion issue. And while I was wondering about it I came across an old SPUC newsletter which left me in no doubt whatsoever.

I quote from SPUC's Newsletter No.10, May 1972:

'CONCERNING PANELS'

'We know that members all over the country are sometimes asked to present the Society's views on panels which also have speakers in favour of abortion. We asked several prominent members with experience in public life what they think about this form of activity, and they all advised against it.

'Many panels are arranged by secretaries of organisations who want to present an entertainment for their members, and what could be more fun than watching pro-abortionists and anti-abortionists tearing each other to pieces. Much depends on the fairness of the chairman. One of our members who spoke on a panel at

Auckland University was given only about five minutes, after a half-hour peroration by the Abortion Law 'Reform' Association, and was not protected from hisses and boos from the floor. Such panels are a waste of time, and do no good.

'If secretaries sincerely want to learn about the menace of legalised abortion, ask to have the stage to yourself, or at most take part in a symposium in which you have a definite time to present your paper. The argument about allowing abortionists to present their views so that the audience can make up their minds is fallacious. Would a surgeon invite a witch doctor to present his point of view about a clinical problem? Would the Professor of Geography let the Flat Earth Society lecture to his students? Do not think you are letting the side down when you prudently decline an obviously unfavourable invitation.'

It's worth pointing out that the current President of the Abortion Law Reform Association is Dr Margaret Sparrow of this university's student health service. And according to some fairly recent information ten out of ALRANZ's 19 Vice-Presidents are lecturers at medical schools, medical practitioners, psychiatrists or psychologists. Eleven out of the 16 members of ALRANZ's Advisory Council have similar occupations.

Yours fraternally,

Peter Franks

CHITEPO

Dear Sir,

The Afro-Asian Liberation Front strongly condemns the brutal murder of Herbert Chitepo leader of the Zimbabwe African National Union by the racist regimes of Rhodesia and South Africa.

This murder of Chitepo must not be seen in isolation, but must be seen against the background attempts by the Smith and Voster regimes to isolate the so-called radical element within the black liberation movement. Hence, the arrest of Ndabaningi Sithole in Rhodesia.

Further this is an attempt to divide the unity of the African people with reports in the news media of the free world that the barbaric act was perpetrated by Africans themselves.

The Afro-Asian people are united against such obvious lies. Historically it is inevitable that we will be victorious against all forms of injustice.

Yours fraternally,

THE AFRO-ASIAN LIBERATION FRONT

Dear Salient...

Dear Sir,

Writing in the March 11 issue of SALIENT about the first SRC meeting of the year, Mr John Henderson reports that 'nearly everybody agreed that the pre-set timetable... was thoroughly despicable'. This is somewhat surprising in view of the response to the Examination Timetable Questionnaire which all enrolling students were asked to complete. The Questionnaire was devised by the Registry in consultation with the Students' Association, and the response rate was close to one hundred per cent. Analysis of a ten per cent sample of the response reveals that sixty-four per cent of the respondents found the pre-set timetable 'helpful', only six per cent found it 'limiting', the remainder replying 'neither a help or a hindrance', 'not applicable' or 'don't know'.

If Mr Henderson correctly reports the feeling of the meeting then only two conclusions are logically possible: either a large majority of students are liars or SRC is wildly unrepresentative of student opinion. I know which of the two explanations I prefer.

Yours faithfully,

J D Gould
Professor of Economic History
Dean of Arts Faculty

ATTITUDES TO SECURITY

Sir,

Putting aside entirely all references to recent litigation Mr Marshall (an ex-Prime Minister and a qualified lawyer) spoke recently in general terms on the laudible functions of the New Zealand Security Service in preserving democracy and putting-down subversion. (He was on television).

Throughout the interview he kept using the word as if it was a perniciously-defective mousetrap or a corrosive toothpaste that should be instantly put off the market by all right-thinking citizens.

As I listened to him, I pondered whimsically on the late Bertrand Russell whom I understand was awarded the Nobel Prize a few years ago for resolutely persisting in the very activities that appeared to annoy Mr Marshall so distinctly.

In my opinion viewers these days are weary of inflammatory linguistics. New Zealanders are not illiterate; they have dictionaries on their shelves - and pressed hard enough - they will use them too. Perhaps Louis Pasteur was a 'subversive' in his day, and some Catholics think much the same about the late Pope John. I would like to take this opportunity to remind Mr Marshall that he should pause to thank sundry robust and fearless 'subversives' among his forebears in the British legal and Parliamentary system that he had the right to articulate in front of that television lens.

Brian Bell

ANOTHER VIEW

Dear Salient,

After reading David Tripe's review of Wishbone Ash, and having seen the concert myself, all I can say is his musical tastes and appreciation match his name superbly. When, for God's sake, is he going to take his car plugs out and appreciate some damn good muzak?

As for HUSH, well the sooner they line up to their name the better. Never in the history of man has such banal crap been forced down the throats of the unsuspecting.

There's the rub

Grant Cairncross

NOTICE

Would the person who flogged my leather coat from the Library please return it there or to SALIENT as it is of great sentimental value.

B Cook

Dear Anthony,

I've just been reading your gems of spontaneous wisdom entitled Editorial (Salient March 11 1975). Frankly I cannot see any hope of political debate in Salient if you intend to enforce your pre-selection of Salient news. Now we've got student newspapers censored - so much for your less antagonistic society. Please review your dictatorial traits and let's have some truly representative and balanced articles.

Best wishes.

D S Murray

Sir,

I was outside the Supreme Court on the morning of the arrival of Dr Edwards and the publisher Alistair Taylor when they turned up to answer writs. I noticed a rival publisher waddle past discreetly and prudently grinning sideways from over the road. Dressed as I was in my best suit - some personages no doubt regarded me as a commissar 'reviewing the troops', and by this I don't mean the demonstrators. However, one demonstrator eyed me dubiously. Both the press and the others did not - as they know who I am and where I stand. It intrigues me why demonstrators tend to make a point of sartorial rebellion, each time they go out to 'show the flag' for their causes. It is my view that I could gain great attention and a more sympathetic public ear for a cause like the 'Incest and Bestiality Law Reforce League' simply by hiring two dozen Salvation Army well-pressed suits.

I am pleased to say the television sequences I saw filmed of the two 'felons' arriving were dead-accurate non-truncated or pissed-around-with as shown on the 7 pm news that evening. I never knew that cameramen used sound on simple sequences like Supreme Court arrivals. My 'Good Luck' to Taylor as he passed the first bank of cameras was picked up by a microphone somewhere; so my dissident bleat which went out on network (a Christchurch block tells me it was distinct) made at least some contribution despite being a non-beardy who outrageously placed his radicalism into an ordinary suit.

The EVENING POST too even ran fair photomontage of the handful of demonstrators. That same photo was also in the GREYMOUTH EVENING STAR. Things are looking up, maybe. A friend told me when the EVENING POST finally came out against the Vietnam war it reminded him of a putrid leper walking onstage in a clean shirt and tie.

Brian Bell
Kelburn

Dear Bruce,

While returning home last Monday after working late on SALIENT I called into a burger bar in upper Courtenay Place, where I bought a milkshake. As I left the stand a police car GZ 1843 sidled up to me and the policeman in the passenger seat motioned me towards him. He asked me where I was going and I told him that I was going home and was about to catch a bus. He then asked me:

what time the bus was
where I was catching it
where it was going to
How long I had been in HART (I had
a HART badge on my lapel
whether or not I was at university
the degree I was studying for and
my major subject.
my full name: christian, middle and
surname
my age in years and months

I answered all these questions, as there are some very dubious clauses under the Narcotics Act 1965 and I have no great desire to have all my clothes torn to pieces in a search for non-existent drugs.

This experience does, however, raise a few interesting points. If the cops were acting under orders when they held me up, these orders were very close to being illegal. And if not, why did they stop me? Because they have nothing better to do? Because I have long hair, no shoes, and the emblem of a 'subversive' pressure group on my overcoat? No matter which, I cannot help remembering that 1984 is now only nine years away.

John Henderson

Sir,

As an overseas student at this university I am concerned that final exams do not insure the identity of the student is safeguarded.

In previous exams I have sat I was instructed to put my student number on every page and my name on the cover of the answer book.

What is the use of a number if the candidate's identity is revealed on the first page? Could not this practice lead to discrimination!

CONCERNED STUDENT

A LOUSY CONCERT?

Sir,

Since when did Rock Concerts that started at 8.40 finish at 10.15 and cost \$1.50 and \$2.00? And why does such a group as SPLIT ENZ not have a PA that can fill a hall the size of Union Hall and still be understood? And how is it that the support act is of such a poor standard that he is talked over by a large percentage of his audience? And why is it that such a group as SPLIT ENZ do not have a stage high enough that they may be seen by all the patrons? And what happened to their lighting and who was on the balancing deck, that sound? I would be pleased if the promoters could explain why the show was put on so poorly. A rip off.

Paul Haslett

... THE PROMOTER REPLIES

Sir,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the letter to the editor. I suppose I should defend the situation. But why should I say a two hour show is too short and that \$1.50 is too much to pay, when this person will probably pay \$6.00 for some sub-standard international smultz. Artists have integrity, if we rip off promoters do not. And how is it that four and a half thousand dollars worth of sophisticated sound equipment didn't fill the Union Hall when it managed to fill every other venue in the country (remember the days when a PA was a guitar amp and quad box). And why bother going any further when your own SALIENT review said 'the opening act was great' and '... that SPLIT ENZ are still New Zealand's foremost contemporary group, containing some of the most talented musicians in the country.' Shit the reviewer even thought 'the mixing was great - better than other live acts I have seen.'

We are just doing our best and capacity audiences throughout the country, who often went funny demanding several encores, suggest we're not doing too bad. It's not a piece of cake this business.

Bruce Kirkland
Director
New Zealand Students'
Arts Council

?

Dear Sir, Editor, Bruce, Tony, Colin Roger, or SALIENT,

Who is the Editor of SALIENT?

Yours in complete bafflement.

Mother of 5640

NOT SO FAR AWAY

Dear Sir,

I was sitting in Civic Square the other day, quietly reading the last SALIENT and munching my way through a packet of fish and chips.

I was part way through the story on the oppression of dissidents by Lee Kuan Yew's government in Singapore and thinking how far away and unreal it was, when I reached over to grab one of my paua fritters. Underneath the fritter was Muldoon's column in the March 11 issue of TRUTH and guess who the leader of the opposition was praising? None other than Lee Kuan Yew himself.

'Their sense of purpose in the cause of economic progress is an object lesson to New Zealand, as it is to most western countries' said friend Rob. 'Lee Kuan Yew can tell his workers there will be no wage increases this year because if Singapore does not remain competitive they will be out of their jobs. No wonder they are building the modules for the Maui gas platforms.'

I can't say I enjoyed the rest of my greasies all that much as I thought about the next Prime Minister of New Zealand and his affection for a man like Lee Kuan Yew. That night I made a point of buying a student from Singapore that I knew a drink. I figured that by the time he gets his degree and goes back home we'll be up against the same thing over here so we might as well get together and enjoy the couple of years we've got left.

Yours sincerely,

Max Routledge

let me help you make a little money go a whole lot further

If you need a little help and advice on how to make your money go further 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. Apart from the BNZ services like cheque and savings accounts, free automatic savings facility, the Nationwide Account, travellers' cheques, and so on, there are two particular BNZ services that a lot of students have found very useful.



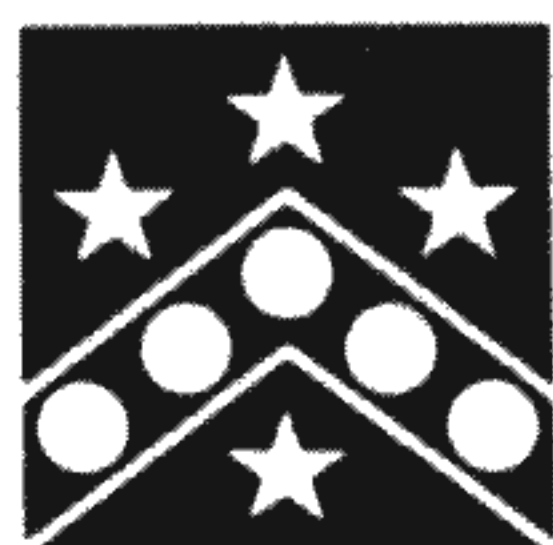
BNZ Educational Loans

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 the BNZ Wellington Branch, Cnr. Lambton and Customhouse Quays, Phone 44-070 ext. 823.



BANK OF NEW ZEALAND

Wholly owned by the people of New Zealand.