

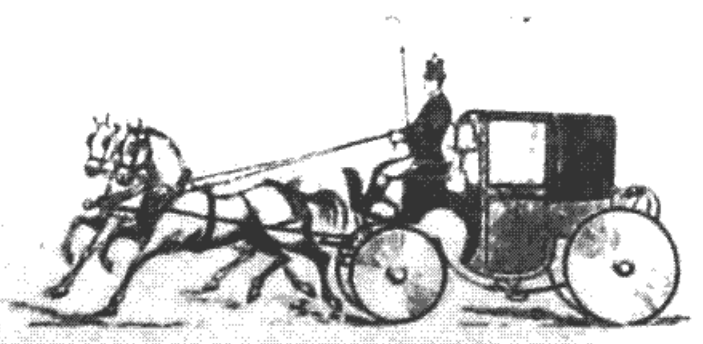
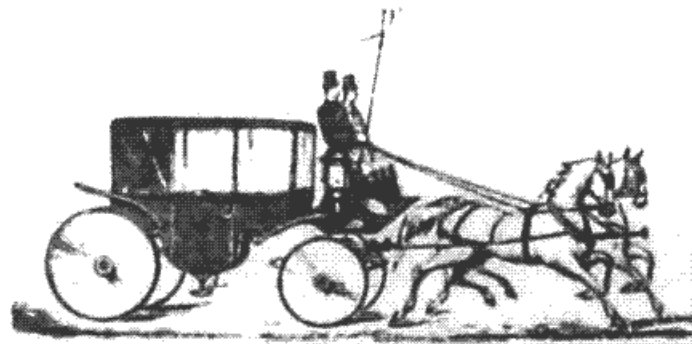
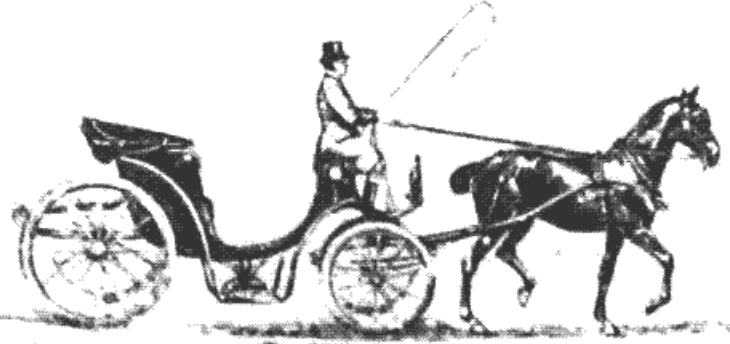
VICTORIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 39, ISSUE NUMBER 11, 31 MAY 1976

SALIENT



NUS — YES OR NO ?



EDITORIAL

NEW ZEALANDERS – RACIST OR JUST SLOW?

In the last issue of *Salient*, South African student Henry Isaacs asserted that New Zealand was probably the most racist country in the world.

If you had any doubts a week ago, then this week's issue must surely make up your mind. Pages 19 and 20 graphically illustrate the average New Zealander and his opinions on race relations both inside and outside this country.

It seems that it is all right when New Zealanders are giving people overseas handouts to ease their poverty problems, but when these same people turn around and identify us as the root cause of their problems, we accuse them of being ungrateful.

Those in the anti-apartheid movement encounter this type of thinking regularly, and over the past few months it seems to have spread to CORSO, whose National Office staff have also been guilty of these sentiments.

As the moment we can quite safely make these comments and get away with them. The oppressed in South Africa and Rhodesia will obviously win liberation with or without our help. But when the struggle comes nearer our doorstep, it will be too late to adopt a "martyr complex" - as Mr Muldoon so perfectly described it, we will "stew in our own juice".

— John Ryall

FILMS

You know how we keep telling you how magnificent the films are?

Well, you seem to believe us. We're playing to packed houses. Unfortunate that. It means more work for us. Getting more films.

So watch out for three (yes, THREE) films per week after study break.

In the meantime, we've some great films (If, Superstar - to mention two) coming shortly. New programmes are available from Monday (today).

So get with it! Years tickets still \$5 Second term tickets only \$2.50 (and that's a lot of great viewing) Single screenings 70 cents.

(please remember its just for members of University community)

All tickets available from Studass Office.

In last week's *Salient* in the story on the Executive references were made to the Union staff and security of the Studass office and the theatre. We would like to state that at no time has there ever been any *idea* that the Union and Theatre staff under Jim Collins have been negligent or lax in their duties. To the contrary, the Students' Association owes them a vote of thanks for their continued vigilance and service on behalf of students.

Salient Notes

A quiet week.

What with all the HART activity, we had a bit of trouble getting the paper together.

Not that *Salient* is a HART front (you don't believe me, do you?).

In fact, there was considerable debate whether a *Salient* should come out this week. Whether we should concentrate on HART and leave *Salient* to later.

Leading the struggle to maintain an issue was John Ryall, the editor, who is rumoured to make \$40 out of the decision. The central committee which debated the matter included Leonie Morris and Lindy Cassidy. They were subject to mass criticism by James Robb, Gerard Couper and Barbara McElwee. Big character posters on the issue (and criticising our own Teng Hsiao Pings Anthony Ward and Anne Dwyer) were written by Kevin Swann, Ben Smith and Bruce Robinson. They were then pasted up around the city by Patrick Mulrennan, Pat Bartle and David Murray.

As a result of all this activity, the international press (ably represented by Warwyck Dewe, Lionel Klee and Pat

O'Dea) reported that a major purge was in progress, and that Cambodia had disposed of another 50 million inhabitants. Rose Desmond, Lynn Peck and Leigh Thomson (who is facing severe criticism for taking over as films controller without informing the central committee) tried to show that the western press is as biased as the economics and sociology departments. Richard Mays and Mike Stephens didn't believe anyone could be that biased.

The strong line arguing against another issue of *Salient* came from Rachel Scott, in the midst of moving flats and going to China. This sounded remarkably like an Eric Freedman-delay until we've got all the information line and was thoroughly repudiated.

And with all this political debate going on, there was scarcely enough time to put together an issue and get it down to the bus before turning up to organise the HART demo.

Yes, oh beloved readers, *Salient* is not a HART front because HART is a *Salient* front. As is the Executive, the Bookshop and NZUSA. And now we're trying to take over the other students' associations.

Won't you come join us?

WELLINGTON FOLK FESTIVAL 1976

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND —
JUNE 4-7

This weekend, the Victoria Student Union Building will again be the venue of what promises to be the best Wellington Folk Festival yet.

Hundred of folkies from all over N.Z. will be descending on Wellington for a long weekend of jam sessions, workshops, folkdancing, concerts and anything else you can think of.

There will be something to suit all musical tastes. Workshops are running all day Saturday and Sunday and include:-

- Country Music - Colin Heath
- Blues - Alan Young
- Harmony in Traditional Folk Song - Pat, Bev and Colin
- Folk Lore of Lancashire - Joan Prior
- Songs of the '45 - John Sutherland
- Choosing a Guitar - Arthur Toms
- NZ Folk Song - Frank Fyfe
- Work and Leisure in Folk - David and Jean James
- Creative Writing - Dave Hollis
- Practical Participation in Party Songs - Mitch Park (Sat. Midnight to dawn).

Other planned events are: A Forum - "Can't help but wonder where I'm bound" - Where is folk music going?

- a Ceilidh (folk dancing) with the Canterbury Crutchings Bush and Ceilidh Band.

- two informal lunchtime concerts
- three evening concerts (two on Saturday, and a grand final concert on Sunday).

- an informal gathering at "The Barracks" Cambridge Hotel, from 11am - 11pm on Monday.

If you've decided it's too good to miss, come along to register for the weekend, and music-make from 6pm to midnight on Friday 4th (in the Lounge) and really make the 1976 Wellington Folk Festival happen!

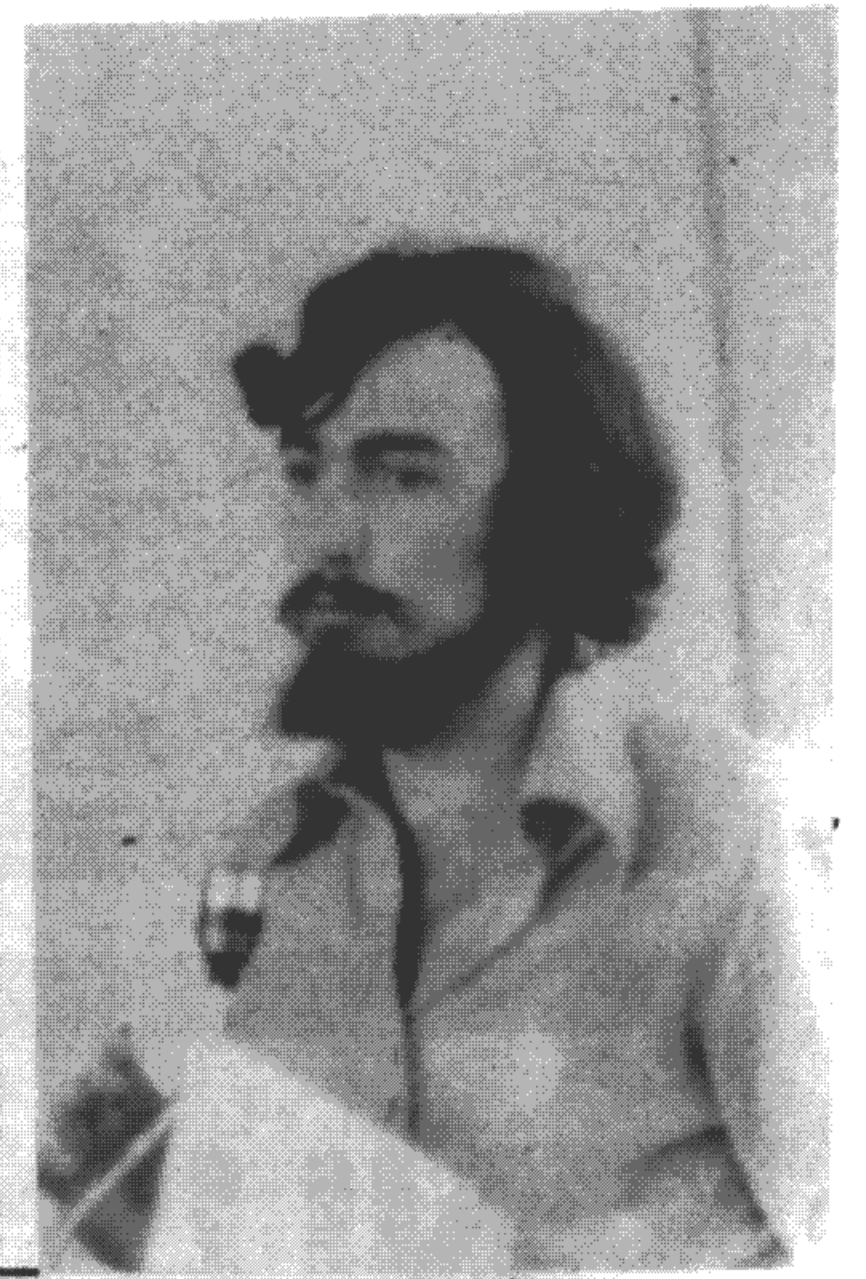
- Maria Stubbe

CAMPAIGN FOR NON NUCLEAR FUTURES

A nuclear petition is to be launched at the Inaugural National Conference of the Coalition CAMPAIGN FOR NON NUCLEAR FUTURES, to be held at the Y.W.C.A. Wellington 12th June 1976. The petitions aim is 1/2 a million signatures, it's nationwide and well underway. We need both helpers and donations. Write: Campaign Half Million, Box 6614, Wellington. Phone 769-733 Jackie Griffis.

STOP PRESS.....STOP PRESS.....STOP PRESS

The Students' Association Man Vice-president, Steve Underwood, and the Publications Officer, John Henderson, have both tendered their resignations from their positions on the Association's executive. More details in next week's *Salient*.



Salient is edited by John Ryall, published by Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association, and printed by Wanganui Newspapers, Drews Lane, Wanganui.

NUS The Ayes

NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS

Ex VUWSA President Lisa Sacksen gives her opinions on the new plans for a National Union of Students.

At the May Council meeting of NZUSA a motion was passed;

"That NZUSA invite tertiary students' associations outside NZUSA to become members of a national union of students and that the appropriate amendments to the NZUSA Constitution be prepared, to be dealt with at a General Meeting after Applications have been received."

This means that the three separate student organisations will cease to exist and a National Union of Students will be formed to take their place.

Some students may have been aware of the series of debates that have taken place on campus on the question of forming a National Union of Students. The first time that it came to my notice was when Peter Cullen was President at Victoria in 1972. Victoria then took the view that it was opposed to the formation of a body which all teachers college technical institute and university students could join.

The question was raised again in 1974 and again Victoria was against it. Why were we opposed to the formation of an NUS? VUWSA argued, and I think quite correctly, that the necessity for an NUS had not permeated down from the head offices of NZUSA and STANZ to the constituents.

It was nearly always a 'good idea' that the Presidents of NZUSA and STANZ alighted upon when looking at the various problems faced by their two organisation. It would be fair to say that the New Zealand Technical Institute Students' Association was not considered to be of any importance in the deliberations of the 'heavies'.

NUS from the Bottom

VUWSA always demanded that the recognition of the necessity of an NUS might come from the students

and not from the minds of the National Office hierarchy. It also said that while an NUS might be inevitable, there were important political questions as to how it should be formed. It said that to form an NZUS from the top down with a largely apathetic group of constituents would lead to really big political problems that could hinder the organisation in carrying out its objectives.

Fears were also expressed that NZUSA could use its commercial and financial powers to coerce non-university campuses into joining an NUS, and that the main thrust of a movement to form an NUS would not be a political one.

At the May Council meeting of NZUSA, a paper prepared by John Blincoe on how he saw the structure of an NUS was tabled for discussion. Instead of the long, rambling and largely disinterested debate that normally took place on this question, constituent delegate spoke briefly and eloquently on the need for an NUS now. The concept and the necessity of an NUS had become a political question for constituents!

"As someone who has always personally supported VUWSA's stand on the question of an NUS, I had prepared myself for the usual kind of debate long before Council. However at Council before the debate on NUS took place I sensed that there was a new feeling among the delegates about the matter. I was therefore not surprised at the way in which constituents looked at the question.

This was the first factor that changed my mind was the determination shown by the people at the Council that an NUS was to be argued on political grounds. The cause of unity was to be advanced only on its own grounds, not on economic expediency.

The third factor and obviously the one that made the change of heart possible for the constituents, is the present government and the present state of the economy. Without unity and good organisation, NZUSA, STANZ and NZTISA cannot separately defend their students from the attacks of the government.

Unite to fight Government Attacks

The present government believes that all areas of education expenditure should be cut, in order to decrease the overall public expenditure. We have already seen this happen in the cuts to the day relief teaching scheme. As more and more of these cuts are made, they will increasingly affect tertiary education.

This not only gives greater urgency to the continuing battle to obtain better bursaries and allowances for students, but also means that we must prepare ourselves to struggle against the government over such issues as entry restrictions to all tertiary institutions, staff/student ratios, increased payments by students for welfare and medical services. We must also prepare ourselves to struggle against the various tertiary administrations as they attempt to force students to bear the cost of their economic restrictions.

It is fairly clear that the government for all its blithe promises to contrary, is moving towards placing training college students on the STB. While it may be a good thing to have all tertiary students on the same level of benefits this must be a movement up to a living allowance and not down to a bus-standard and starvation rate.

While no-one could argue that all tertiary students are the same, or that they have the same interests, we do have one vital area of common concern, and that is trying to improve the quality of education and making sure that it is available to greater number of people.

With three organisations to deal with, it is easy for the government to play us off, one against the other, and thus place all of us in a dangerous and unsatisfactory position.

Unless we can show the government that we are united against it and that the old union slogan of "an injury to one is an injury to all" is going to become a reality as far as students are concerned, then all students are going to face radical cuts in their conditions and their pay, and we will not be strong enough to do anything about it.

We must unite now. I can see no other way.

merger was suggested, Vic once again moved in with the sledge hammer, alleging NZUSA detachment from real student issues, and more backroom bargaining between the boys.

In 1976 the mood has changed considerably, even from those who opposed an NUS so forcefully in 1974. Ex-student heave Mike Law said the latest proposals meet many of the disagreements that he had felt in both 1972 and 1974, because of the openness in their formulation and the chance that all students would get for a free discussion on them.

Studass president Gyles Beckford said that he saw the need for an NUS and that the latest proposal was an advance on the old merger formulas. He pointed out that Victoria was not actually opposed to an NUS in principle, but only to specific formation proposals. The only danger he saw with any NUS was that it could mean that the national union was another level away from the average student.

The opposition in 1976 will come very strongly from constituents of the Student Teachers' Association of New Zealand, many of whom see themselves as "employees" rather than "students" and will fight to protect this status.

Unfortunately for STANZ they are in a very weak position to withstand any drift towards an NUS. There are many teachers' colleges who are not members of the organisation, and the benefits that NUS offers may be more attractive than those offered by an organisation that is not famous for its stability and effectiveness.

If one student teachers' association joins NUS any power STANZ had to negotiate for its constituents will have disappeared, and it will be then a matter of how many others join up, or how many stay out.

The polytechnics are in the same situation, although nationally they are in even a weaker position and their interests are closer to those of the universities than are those of the student teachers.

The next couple of months will be vital if a national students union is ever to get off the ground. If constituent associations of universities, teachers' colleges and polytechnics can be convinced that a new National Union of Students is politically desirable, then it will come about. But, whichever way it goes, the decision will be in the hands of STUDENTS.

There will be a Special General Meeting on this campus on Wednesday June 24 to decide Victoria's position on the formation of an NUS, given the present proposals. BE THERE.

..... The Noes?

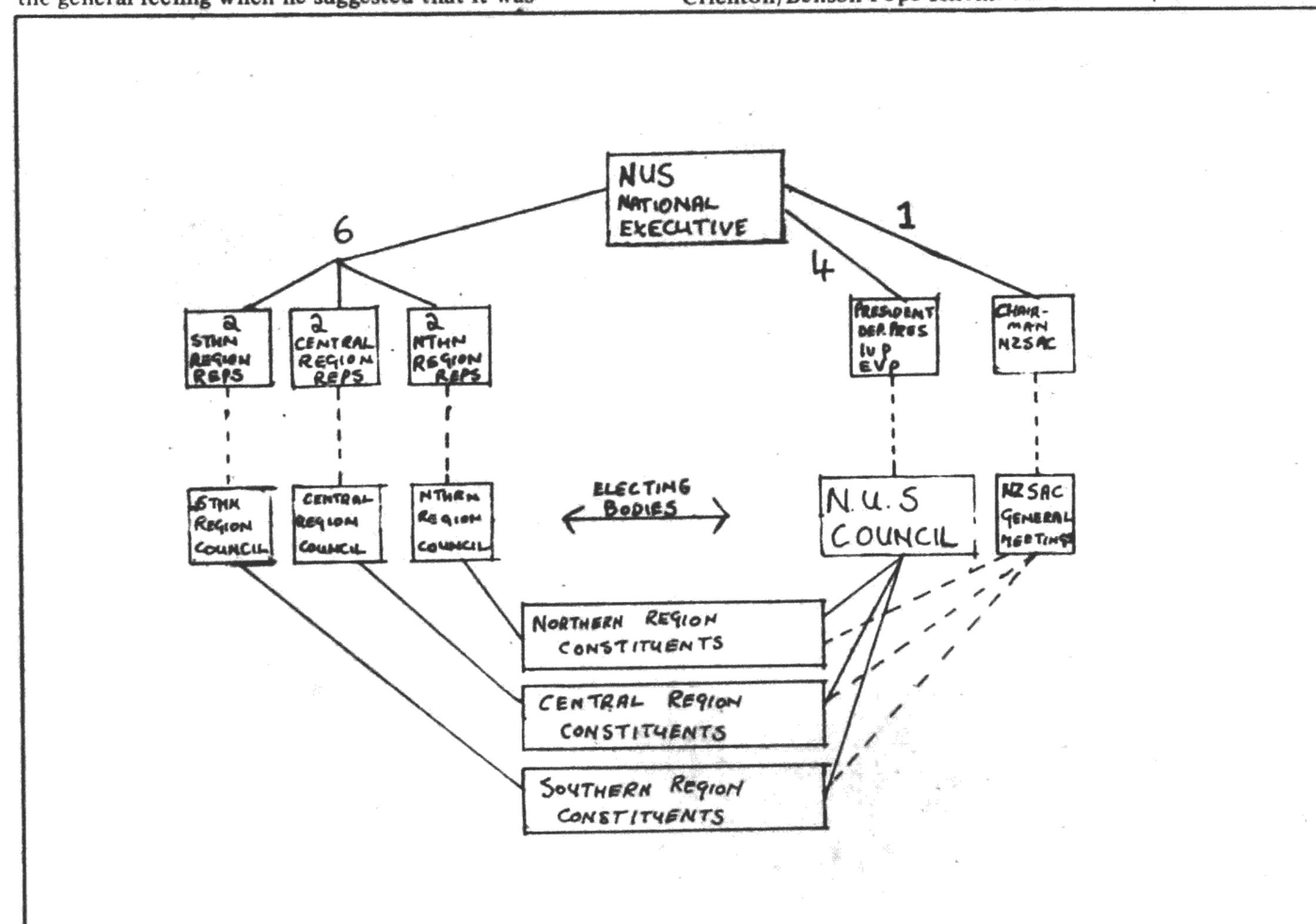
The formation of a National Union of Students has been debated strongly for at least 10 years, and yet, at May Council, in a matter of three minutes it was off the ground.

The move was so swift and clinical that few delegations seemed to realise the significance of what they had just done. Victoria was the only campus to vote against it, with Canterbury and Otago abstaining after enthusiastically endorsing the proposal.

Canterbury president, Don Leonardo, summed up the general feeling when he suggested that it was

essential for all delegates to return to their campuses and encourage their associations to get in and support an NUS. Victoria, through representatives Gyles Beckford and Anthony Ward, said that although their policy was against the formation of an NUS, they still retained the opinion that this must be done from a grass-root level.

So where has all the opposition gone. In 1972 Victoria smashed a STANZ/NZUSA attempt to amalgamate amid criticisms of "empire building by national bureaucrats" and "hegemonic schemes being handed down from the top". In 1974 when the famous Crichton/Benson-Pope scheme for a STANZ/NZUSA



Odds and Ends



Law Students: Abolish Terms Requirements

Last year the law faculty abolished in-term-assessment, so now your final grade depends entirely on the final exam. However, you still have to pass opinions and tests plus attend "compulsory" tutorials, in order to be granted "Terms". Terms should be abolished because:

- 1) The present system places a double burden of assessment on students. They have to complete satisfactory term work plus pass finals. Thus the abolition of in-term-assessment has not reduced workloads.
- 2) Students gain no positive benefit from Terms work being compulsory. It is used only as a threat - ie if you don't do it you may not be permitted to sit finals.
- 3) Students undoubtedly learn by researching and writing opinions - but they need not be compelled to learn. Opinions and tests ought to be "offered", not demanded.

For these reasons, if a grade is to be determined by a 100pc final exam, there ought to be no additional assessment burden in the form of compulsory work. If there is to be a compulsory terms requirement, term work should count to boost the student's final grade. This is the position in other departments at Vic.

Terms requirements have one valid function: in a course assessed by a final exam, the examiner may need some basis to consider aegrotat pass applications. This is a problem to be discussed, but not important enough by itself to justify a whole system of terms requirements. It can be solved some other way.

In the year of "SPEAK-UP ON ASSESSMENT" we do not have to tolerate double assessment. Law Lectures will soon be canvassed, to find student opinions. So in the meantime, think about ABOLISHING TERMS.

Inserted by John McBride.

May Council

Women's issues, nuclear ships visiting New Zealand, and recycling prevented the national commissions from being dull.

National commissions in the past have tended to pick up all those policy motions that are not included in the more prestigious International Commission, or the Education, Welfare and Accommodation Commissions which are directly concerned with student welfare.

Women's issues took the form of a surprise move to form a women's Caucus comprising all of the women delegates who were attending May Council. It was finally resolved to hold a women's commission at August Council, to discuss women's issues specifically.

Nuclear ships visiting New Zealand

was also a lively topic. With the now probably visit of nuclear ships, NZUSA has resolved via council to action their policy in this area and by the time that this report has gone to press this will have already started.

Kissinger's pending visit was also the centre of much debate, and it was finally resolved to express NZUSA's disapproval of Kissinger's/United States foreign policy. Victoria however, suggested stronger action in this area.

Environmental issues had a champion from the deep south, in the form of a dramatic display of beer cans and cartons being propelled all over the National Commission's room, in an attempt (successful) to highlight the problems of recycling that we have in New Zealand.

In conclusion, a valuable council, but as far as National was concerned to little time for discussing in depth issues on which there was disagreement, which resulted in the remaining issues (mainly environmental) being hurriedly dealt with.

- Kevin Swann

'Gym' Cassidy and the Dance-Room Kid

Further adventures of our intrepid duo in the Free Time of Victoria University.

Gymdate 31576-5676.....

'Gym' and 'Dance-room' feeling that they are lacking in social graces particularly after their recent disastrous night at the 'Empress' ballroom try the Ballroom Dance classes (Monday 1 - 2, Thursday 5 - 6 in the Union, and Friday 1 - 2). Within a week, (this week actually) they hit the Rock and Roll scene (Wednesday 1 - 2) and what a scene; hips and feet flying from some of the fastest "round-the-clocking" on campus.

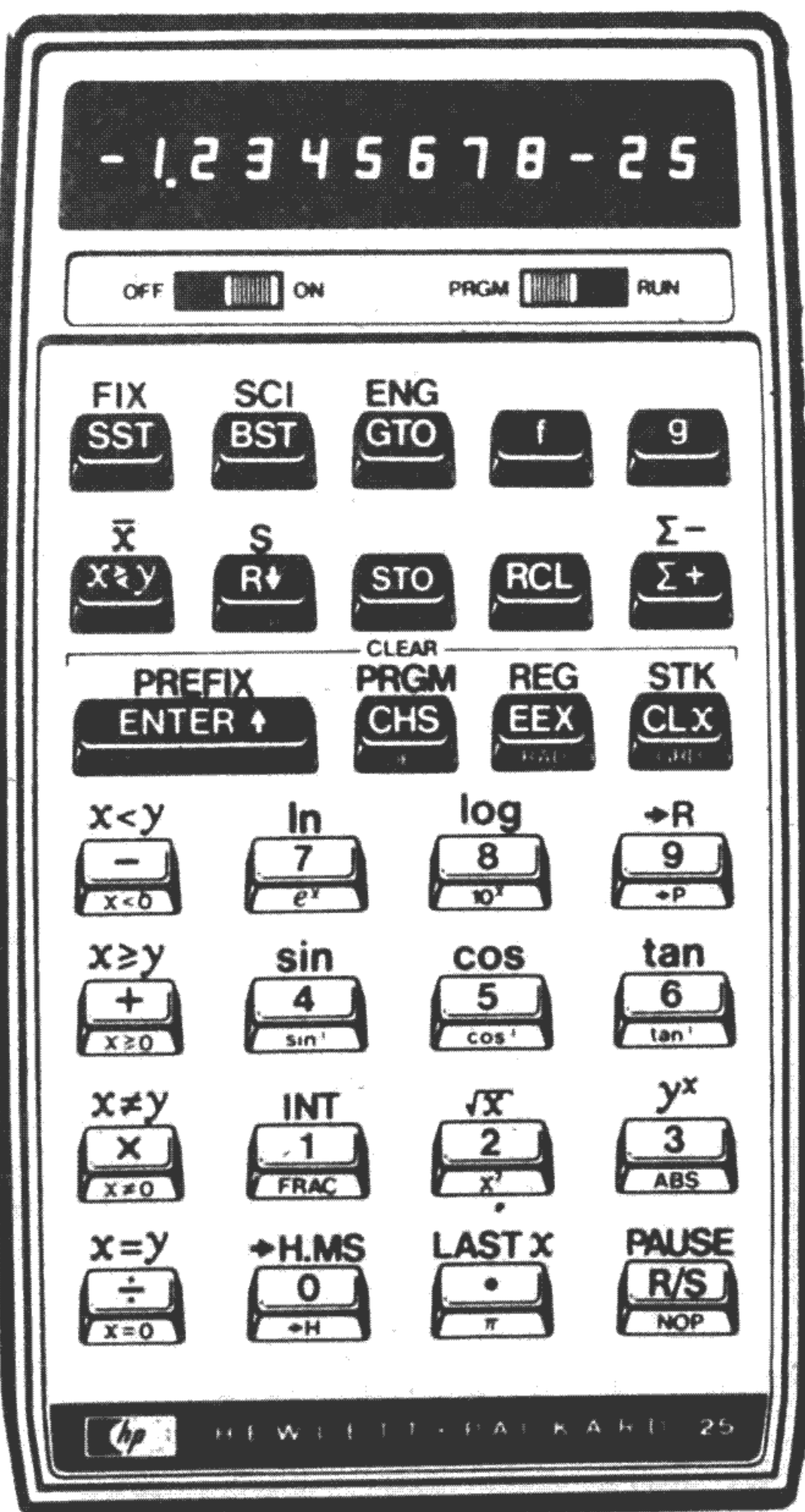
After their gymstorming efforts on the dance floor they relieve themselves (oops! sorry) with a relaxing game of Badminton

only to find that as it was Tuesday afternoon 2-3 that they were in the middle of a MIXED FITNESS CLASS; what a break, here was a fun way to get fit and there's another one on Thursday at 5pm Getting fit in a distinctly social setting.

Thwarted in their attempts at badminton they return to the scene of the activity on Thursday at 12noon; only to find that everyone is playing social basketball and "You've really got the chips stacked against you.....eh?" said 'Dance-room', "The ladies score double!!"

In desperation the dynamic duo stormed out of the Gym... "Damn these people!" screamed 'Gym', "all they want to do is enjoy themselves", and that dear readers is just what they were doing and from that moment onwards 'Gym' Cassidy and the 'Dance-room Kid' were sworn devotees of the cult of "gym users".

Next week 'Gym' and 'Dance-room' try Ski classes, and 'Dance-room' tries his hand at Yoga (Tuesday at 12 noon, Thursday at 1.00pm, and Friday at 9.00 am). Follow this space, or better still grab a space at the Gym while its still warm.... Lynda and Hugh still have plenty.



HP 21, HP 22, HP 25

HEWLETT-PACKARD

and

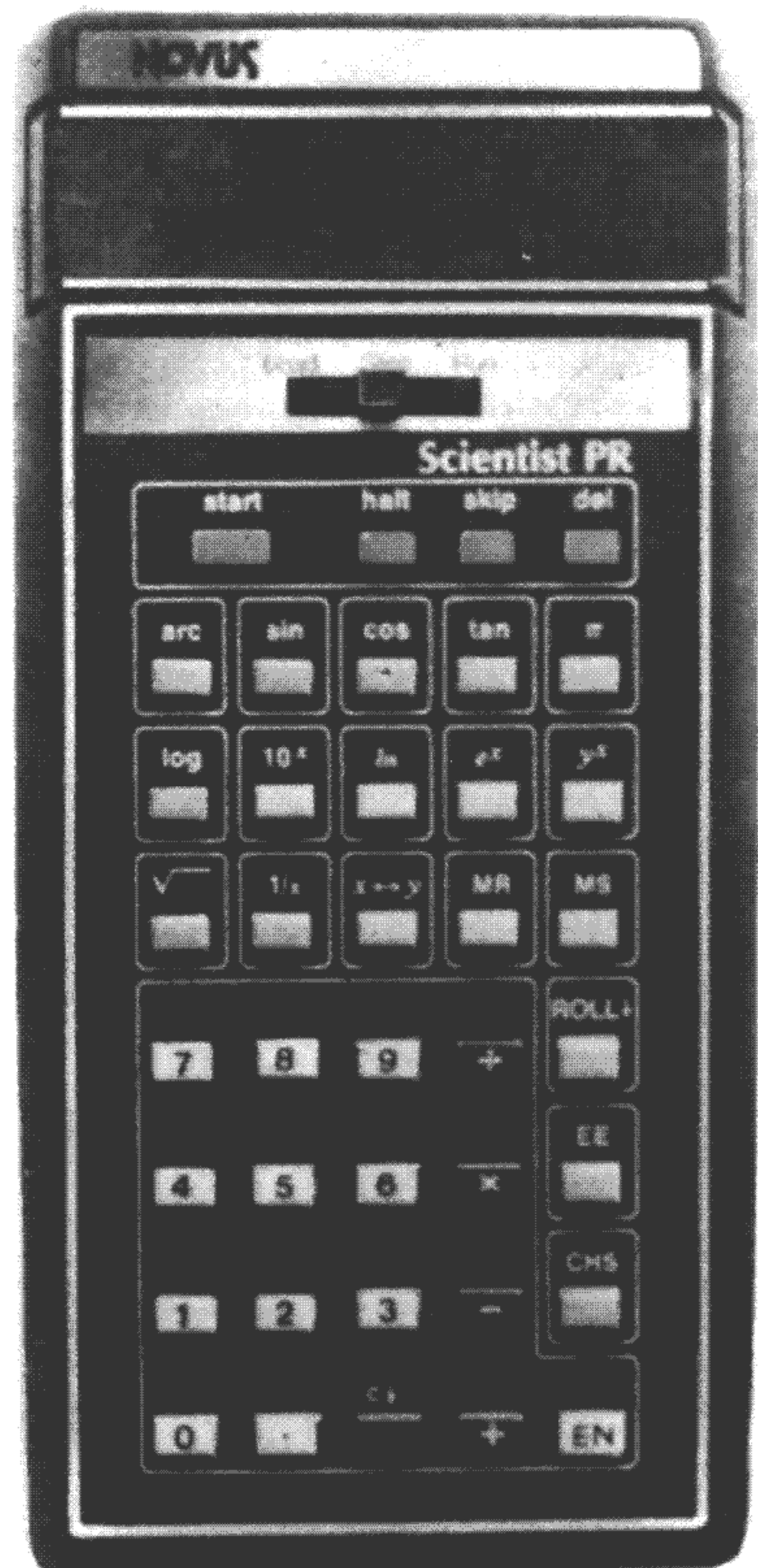
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ECONOMICS : LET US ASSUME.....

This article is part of Salient's desire to see students critical of what they are being taught, and how it is being taught. It is hoped that the issues raised here will find response from both students and staff. Salient's pages are open.

by Anthony Ward.

Three academics were shipwrecked on a desert island: a physicist, a biologist and an economist. All they had for food was a can of beans, but there was no way of opening it.

Said the physicist: I'll focus the sun through my glasses onto the can. That'll make the can more pliable and we'll open it.

Said the biologist: There should be some plants and fruits around here. I'll go search for them.

Said the economist: Let's assume we've got a can opener.

Everyone knows that economists are experts at the "Let's assume...." game. And that many of the assumptions are wholly unrealistic. Assuming that people are solely driven by the 'profit motive'. Or that perfect competition exists (with no firms big enough to control the market, and no state).

Yet despite these observations, there is great respect for economists. We all know the economy is in a mess, and look to the long-winded jargon of economists for answers. The jargon hides the fact the answer cupboard is remarkably bare.

Economics far from Reality

What is taught at VUW under the title "economics"? Do we really gain useful knowledge about the real world? Or are we chasing illusory can openers?

It is my contention that orthodox economics is not only unrealistic, but this "unreal-ism" serves a very important ideological function. Firstly, then, the lack of reality.

In times of dire economic problems one would expect economists to be loudly peddling their wares. Many of the VUW staff, in one way or another, are advising Government on economic measures.

Yet there is considerable disquiet amongst economists that there is no way of dealing with major problems. For example, the normal way of dealing with inflation is to increase unemployment. The normal way of dealing with unemployment is to increase inflation. If you have inflation and unemployment together (as we have at the moment) you're stuffed. Snookered.

More generally, there is a feeling that the basis of modern economics - the assumptions of "perfect competition" is inappropriate. Leading American economists have urged this - they even spent their annual conference in 1971 on such issues. The results are not very impressive for economics as taught at Victoria.

"Perfect Competition" a Joke

Let's see how some of the assumptions of perfect competition hamper investigations of economic problems. There are a long line of examples you can point to. For one: it is assumed there are no "externalities" - meaning that no-one is affected by others' actions, except through the market. If something is not paid for, it is assumed no benefits or costs are involved.

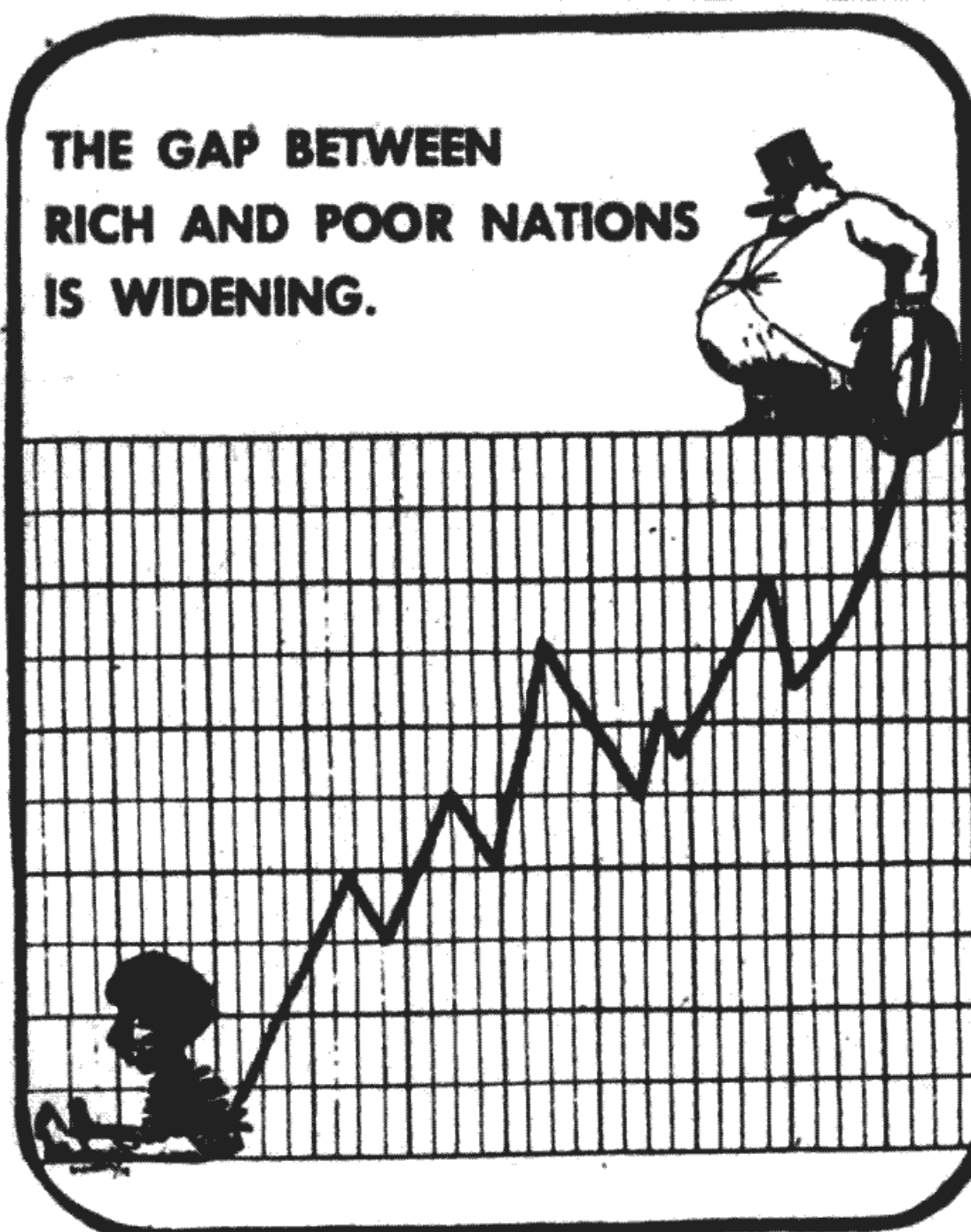
The silliness of this assumption is clearly seen in a world concerned about pollution, or about the "quality of life".

For another example, it is assured that each individual wishes to maximise his/her own 'profits'. And that everyone stays as individuals. When the benefits of cooperation (eg cheap vegies through Food Co-op) are so obvious, it is surprising that "economic man" is still an individual.

Further, a basic premise is that no consumer or producer is large enough to control (or even affect) any market. The unrealism of assuming away the Government, monopolies and Trade Unions is amply seen in the work of recent economists trying to fit these into the theory.

Yet there would seem to be a major contradiction in pushing a square monopoly into a round hole that pretends it doesn't exist. And the implications of these problems have not been fully investigated.

The best example of lack of realising implications comes in welfare economics. Two leading economists, Robbins and Arrow, have shown conclusively that it is impossible in a free-market system to have a social welfare function (ie some indication of the total desires of all consumers). Yet after noting these difficulties, most of welfare economics assumes that there is a social welfare function.



So in many cases we can see (or not see) imaginery can openers. We're not getting much closer to opening the can of beans, or to explaining the economics of the present system.

Why Ridiculous Assumptions?

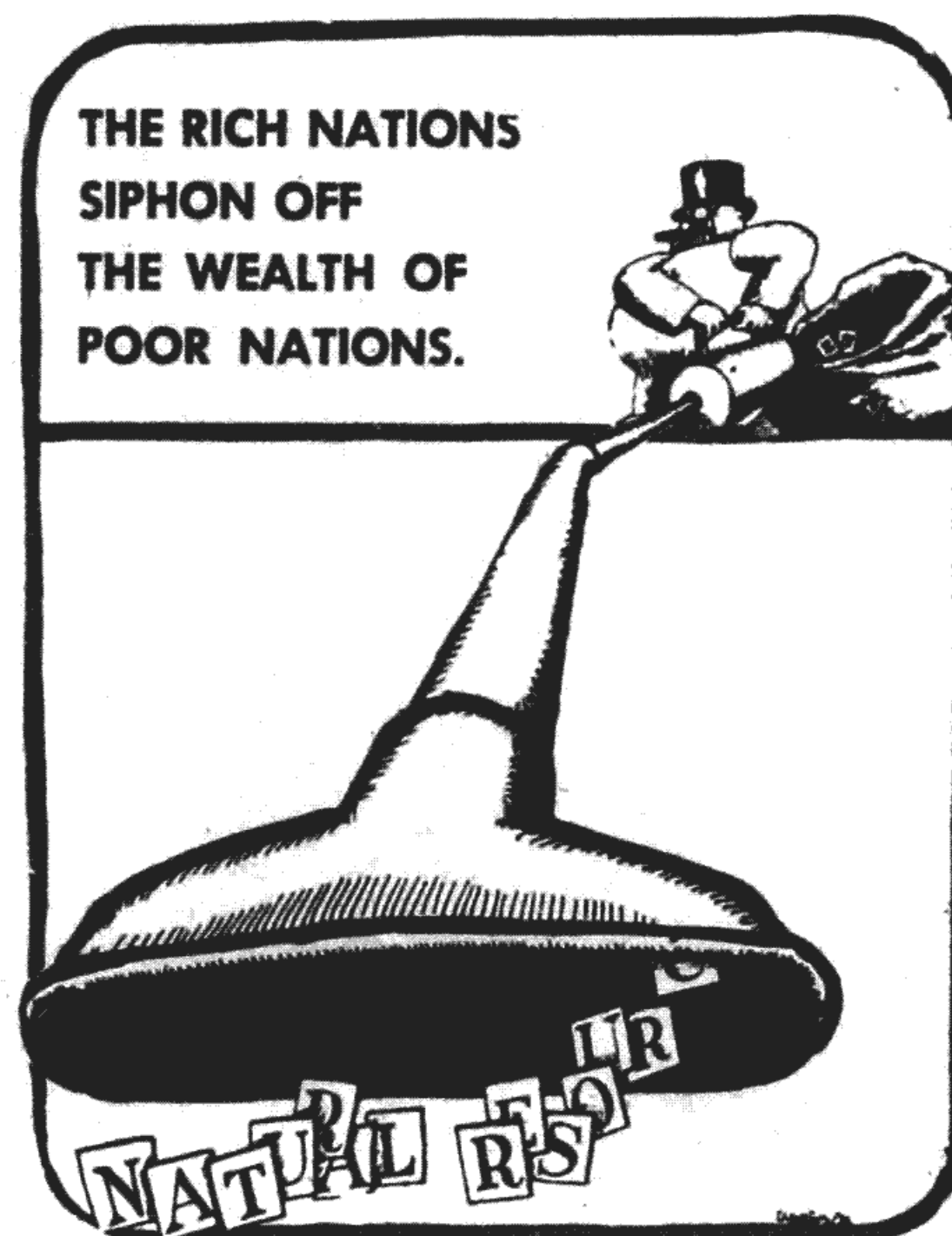
But why is this so? Why do so many intelligent people spend so much time making silly assumptions? It is interesting that economics has no way of answering this question. It is a non-question. Analytic economics has no way of analysing itself.

To answer the question, let's look again at the problem of pollution. If we are used to looking only at the costs of a factory in money terms, then it is obvious we won't look at the 'social' costs. Who does this benefit?

If the business firm running the factory paid for all the social costs (eg for cleaning up its sewerage), then it would clearly make smaller profits, than if it doesn't pay these costs. So if we assume no social costs, we are effectively increasing firms' profits.

Looking further afield, at development economics, a similar pattern emerges. Many third-world countries today complain they are "ripped-off" by the western world. Yet orthodox economics says no such thing is happening. There is no concept of "rip-off" in the free market system.

Again, look at discrimination against Polynesians and women. This is abundantly evident whenever one looks around. Yet discrimination doesn't exist in academic economics. People get paid what they are worth, no more, no less. If Polynesians and women get paid less, it is because they are worth less.



In these cases, and an incredible number of others, what is economics doing? In assuming perfect competition we are in fact ignoring immense problems of pollution, development, racism and sexism. We are tacitly supporting further exploitation and injustice.

These problems can be studied by economics. But not by traditional economics. As Joan Robinson, Professor of Economics at Cambridge University, argues, faced with the problems of inequality and development, orthodox economists have crept off to hide in thickets of algebra.

Definitions Explored

Even the very definition of economics shows this conflict. The definition normally used runs something like "the study of the allocation of scarce resources between competing needs". We are immediately diverting attention from the economic structures and development of societies to concentrating on minor allocation problems.

Because it concentrates on minor allocation problems, orthodox economics has no way of explaining or investigating injustice. It has no way of explaining historical change. 'Economic man' is not only stupid in his rationality, he also comes from nowhere and is going nowhere.

There is considerable emphasis, in all economics courses, that orthodox economics is "value-free" - that it is "positive" economics, describing what is, rather than "normative" or what should be. Yet it is clear from the above examples that economics, by the very tools it uses, is making value judgements on what is happening.

Several younger economists at the 1969 meeting of the American Economic Association told the Association: "The economists are the sycophants of inequality, alienation, destruction of the environment, imperialism, racism and the subjugation of women". And they claim to be value-free! Perhaps we're assuming imaginery can openers because someone doesn't want us to open the can of beans.

So what's the alternative? You wouldn't know it from the courses offered at Victoria, but there is a considerable body of work looking at economic structures and the way societies develop. It does not ignore discrimination, or pollution, but attempts to see them as part of an economic whole.

Political Economy as Alternative

This strange body of knowledge, looking at many of the problems that drew most of us to economics in the first place, is known as political economy. Most of its adherents, since they are dealing with these larger problems, tend to be more radical than orthodox economists. Many are 'Marxists'. It is not surprising they and their ideas are not welcomed by orthodox economists.

There's a basic conflict over what economics should be. One side wants to concentrate on issues of allocation, of marginal adjustments to a system that is not fully understood. The other takes a more overall look, attempting to focus attention on general economic structure and developments.

It is stretching belief a little to claim that one can "choose" one of these two approaches and then remain "value-free". For most students of course, there is little matter of "choice" about it. With the heavy doses of ideology in one direction, one soon begins to believe in the imaginery can opener.

To recap, many of us were drawn to economics because we wanted to know a bit more about what makes the system tick. All of us are supposed to look up to the economists who use long words and tell us how the country should be run.

What I have tried to show in this article is that not only is economics much less than it is cracked up to be, but that the long words also hide a very one-sided approach to problems.

Marx called the economists of his day hired prize-fighters for the bourgeoisie. This statement is still apt - it is doubtful if many economists could fight their way out of an imaginery paper bag.

So why study economics? Clearly the study of political economy is more helpful, if those are the questions that interest you. Even orthodox economics has some uses however - as Joan Robinson puts it: "The purpose of studying economics is not to acquire a set of ready-made answers to economic questions, but to learn how to avoid being deceived by economists". Let the learning begin!

SOSC — WHAT A MESS!

Dear Sir,

Charles Crothers, Junior Lecturer in the Sociology Department, has made the point for the "Committee of Nine" more eloquently than anyone else has yet been able to. In his last missive he demonstrates simultaneously an obsession with petty detail (nit-picking) and a total inability to grapple with the major aspects of the argument; i.e. that the Sociology Department lacks purpose direction and academic leadership.

Who cares about the intricacies of course designation and credit numbers if the ultimate result is a score of 48 useless units of knowledge(?) which stultifies rather than stimulates one to further application.

Mr Crothers has shown that those of us who would look for a larger view in the Sociology Department should be very careful about our choice of courses or - with greater chance of success - go elsewhere. (However Charles should not be too harshly criticised - he is, after all, a homegrown product of the whole lousy system).

Yours sincerely,
Despairing Sociology Student.

p.s. With regard to Charles' exhortation to keep the Sociology Department's business out of SALIENT he should remember that "man who stores up dirty washing gets to smell". [

Dear John

I have been following the Sociology debate with interest but I am disappointed that only Charles Crothers has attempted to raise a voice defending the Department's actions and policy. However his defence has been thorough - he has supported not only its past and present actions but also ones it plans for future students.

Unfortunately for such a thorough defence, he fails to refute any specific points of criticism, instead basing a counterattack on asking what he hopes will be embarrassing questions for the critics. The object of this letter is to show that the answers to his questions embarrass only himself and the Sociology Department.

In his last letter he outlined reasons why another theory and methodology course was necessary. His position appeared to be that more of the same-type course would raise students' understanding of theory and methodology. He suggests that the quantity not the quality of courses is the problem. He is wrong. I offer my proof with the following examples.

Sociology 301 was and still appears to be taught in two halves. In one of the first years of its operation this division provided a good commentary on the position of the department. The first half was taught by staff who made great efforts to get across the fundamental points of what they had to teach and to explain them clearly so that students would be in the best position to critically analyse these themselves. They openly encouraged students to take a critical approach to what they were being taught, not only in that course but in others too (Mr Crothers felt this to be the crux of university education).

In the second half, different staff, following the suggestion of a higher staff member veered from this teaching approach to the uncritical "shopping list" approach already described in *Salient*. The approach which implied student could actually criticise theorists rather than merely choose from a "shopping list" of high-and-mighties was frowned upon and openly criticised within the Department by top staff while the teaching style of the staff who taught in the second half of the year was actively praised and used as an example.

Sociology 301 has also been characterised by highly variable lecturing and the almost maniac desire of the Department to make lecturers teach things they have either never studied in sufficient depth or which they do not understand. There are many examples of this.

Nearly every theory-type course or theory section of a wider course taught in the Sociology Department contains some amount of material on Weber. Lectures on Weber are to be included in the planned theory and methodology course. In 1974 a member of the Department confided that neither he nor any other member of the Department then claimed to, or actually did, understand Weber's sociology (most because they found it of little use). Yet, naturally, undergraduate students must strive for degrees on the basis of their understanding of Weber (measured by whom?).

One lecture by a newish lecturer to a 301 class showed the contempt of students that is encouraged within the department. The lecture was ostensibly on a vague and fairly crackpot theory (like most taught in sociology only morso) but was so incoherent and illogical to be an insult to the intelligence of the students there. At the half way stage about 1/3 of the students left (mainly keener students) and attendance at the rest of lectures in this series was dismal. The lecturer had obviously felt that he could bluff his way through the series of lectures tuckily knowledge in this area was not essential

to passing 301 that year. While his lecturing has improved somewhat since then his attitude to students appears not to have. He is one of the lucky few to have been promoted in the Department in the 1970s.

The student attitude towards Sociology 301 has generally been one of 'passing through endurance'. The theory, which is born out in reality, says that as long as you do the work, attend some lectures and resist the overbearing temptation to drop out you will be passed.

Staff have failed to convince students that 301 is necessary for them.

While 301 is ostensibly on theory and methodology what is taught is a variety of mutually exclusive theories and a armful of methodologies. No real attempt is made to do more than lay out an array of theories and methodologies and say 'choose one of these' - of course for different situations you choose different ones. Very fine, you might say; unless you actually asked what social science should be about.

At the very least it should be about the understanding of social reality, ideally it should be playing a part in remoulding that social reality on the basis of that understanding. The understanding you are taught in Sociological 301 is one which says that depending on which side of the sociological bed you woke up on, the world is upside down or right way up, that Muldoon is a charismatic leader of the New Zealand people, that Muldoon is a representative of the small minority ruling class in its current attack on working class living standards, that taking rolling strikes against Muldoon's government is deviant behaviour, that being the Muldoon government is deviant behaviour, or as in Durkheim the whole society is deviant! Hardly the way to understand social reality! And putting up new theory cloudlands is not the way to solve it.

There is no codified theory and methodology in sociology. Sociologists are still arguing over whether a science of society is possible or not. But displaying a variety of run down and worn out theories and asking you to choose is not the way to solve that impasse. Far better that the Sociology Department teach courses students are interested in and that have practical application. There are far too few courses like this at present and far too much opposition to them among top staff.

In fact the other 300-level courses have been forced to devote time to 301 concerns because of student pressure. Often these discussions of 301 concerns elsewhere yield far more to students because of differing approaches (i.e. lively) and the more critical atmosphere. Students aim to do their learning in the other 300-level courses which are mostly their chosen interests and treat 301 as compulsory but strictly low-yield in learning terms. If something comes up in 301 which they don't understand or are actually interested in they will tend to discuss it outside 301 in their other courses. While 301 and the planned theory course are seen as the core of a Sociology degree by top level staff, students and (I suspect) quite a few lower level staff see them solely as a necessary drudge.

I must point out that it is not my belief that all of 301 is irrelevant and useless all the time to anyone seeking to understand society. However, as in my first example these 'problems' are dealt with or discouraged. Mr Crothers himself would know of the almost uniform hostility of staff to some of the things his practical group in 301 did last year. One of the things it did do was have the temerity to consider giving the results of a survey on Council tenants to the tenants themselves.

Mr Crothers says that to see if turnover was exceptionally high in the Department one would need to know "The average likely length of stay etc. etc." He should have checked this figure before he made his comments. A check made a year or two ago showed that in two indices of staff turnover the Sociology Department had significantly higher turnover than comparable Departments at this university. And this despite the fact that it was gaining a large number of its staff from overseas and part of their contracts stipulated that their fares to N.Z. would be paid in full conditional on their staying with the Department for three years.

Exceptionally high turnover is bad for students, it tends to perpetuate understaffing, leads to continual text changes, confuses students with differing approaches etc. Now that the department appears to have settled down a bit compared with its life in the period 1970-75 in particular I would like to comment on why there was so much turnover. I think there were two main reasons why staff left the Department. The first was the opposition to the 'critical approach' Mr Crothers lauds, and the second was in personnel policies; overworking, the fitting of staff to courses, the allowances made for staff's interests and specialities to be taught (and I don't mean more demography courses), and a lack of promotion on merit.

I have cited above one case of promotion in the Department. I will now cite a case which did not result in promotion. One person who was more on the rotten side of the department than the half-alive side was given to believe he would be promoted. He was widely published and it appeared a normal case of promotion. Somehow he got on someone's bad side, he was not promoted, he left the Department.

Other staff were also driven away from the Department by antipathy to their teaching approaches and sociological positions and by the sure knowledge that they would not be considered for promotion.

The standard Department explanation for turnover is that all sociologists (except themselves) are incredibly careerist and all who leave the Department do so to further their own nests. This position is no more than distortion. The original decision to leave the Department was arrived at in most cases because of events within the department not opportunities outside it. I know this and so do many of the staff still in it. Only after the decision to leave had been forced upon them did they look to further their careers. The difference in factors influencing the decision to leave as opposed to the decision where to go has been shown in a reliable American study. The book 'Academic Marketplace' says on page 55 "Only 18% of the departed men were reported to have been dissatisfied with their salaries when in the place, but 58% of them reported to have been attracted by a better salary".

GAY LIB

We wished to publicise the reactivation of Gay Liberation in Wellington. To add humour to otherwise heavy messages we invited the editor of a Wellington newspaper to give his views on the matter. We hope you will be able to publish this message to the students.
Gay Liberation V.U.W. and Wellington
29 April 1976.

Along with the victory of Muldoon, the appalling nuclear induced summer and various other signs and symptoms of a decaying society - that is, according to all the laws developed out of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire - we witness the recently revived and even stronger Gay Liberation Movement in Wellington.

This remanifestation when all Wellington was sighing at its previously short-lived existence suggests that the decline of New Zealand society is well advanced and its life span one of only a few short years.

Six weeks ago, an aggressively vocal group of people gathered in one of the Students' Association rooms to revive their insidious campaign to proselytise New Zealanders and rep havoc on the nuclear family concept, which is the strongest bulwark in the preservation of New Zealand as we want it.

This initial meeting has sprouted a powerful organisation that meets every fortnight to forward its campaign to smash the existing moral framework of this nation. The enormity of their plans can be shown by quoting a few of the ideas I heard them let loose.

They suggested that our psychiatric hospital system was anything but in the best state of health, suggesting that our hospitals attack the wrong thing when trying to cure mental illness in homosexuals. They dared to suggest that the problem of mental illness amongst homosexuals or other sexual deviants was not the sexual deviancy. In fact they even went as far as to claim there is no such thing as sexual deviancy and that mental illness was caused by the pressures of a deviant and repressive society.

They are going to attempt to infiltrate our psychiatric hospitals and take part in tutorial discussions with tutors and trainee nurses, and so hope to convert these people to their own views. They plan to launch similar campaigns amongst schools, educationalists, social welfare organisations, justice operatives, libraries etc and thus destroying the effectiveness of any laws, by converting these people to the belief that homosexuality is a normal activity in society. They are even discussing donating

It is ironic that now the problem of turnover has been seemingly solved by the increased uniformity of the Department and not by basic changes in the top staff and the organisation of the department.

I hope that I have answered a fair number of Mr Crothers questions indirectly in the comments on theory courses and turnover. I hope someone in the Department is going to have the guts to argue against these points in public - I have no doubt that they will call it a tissue of lies in private - because if they don't dispute this then they are letting it stand as a public record of their malpractices.

Lastly, I would like to assert that I have nothing against the majority of Sociology staff except their silence. They have no real say in the direction of the Department and are on the same end of the anti-dissent hammer as their students. It is my belief that no real changes can take place in the Sociology Dept. until the staff start to openly air their gripes (including Mr Crothers who has many) and/or the top leadership is radically changed. The latter would lead to all sorts of blood letting but can only be avoided by staff reasserting democracy within the Department and in particular re-examining the whole academic and pedagogic outlook of the Department. Unless something happens the Sociology department will become a pedagogic desert within the university

Yours sincerely,
A long-time sociology student.

books and other reading material to these organisations in an attempt to provide, what they feel, is the right view point on the matter of homosexuality in society.

And if that is not enough, they have shown no understanding of the responsibility needed in exercising the right of freedom of our democracy. They have rejected as inadequate the moves of our too often, too enlightened liberal elite, who were willing to offer them the freedom to practise their practices, without impinging on the freedom of others not to be so corrupted. They stated their determination to reject that compromise by insisting that the only satisfactory legal step is the removal of all legal discrimination against homosexuals.

They wish to extend this to job discrimination against women and men homosexuals. How am I going to protect the young on my office staff, whose tender care has been given to me by their trusting parents.

I will have to lecture these children on the disguises of homosexuality, for Gay Liberation, it seems, is not content with the above actions. It actually plans to compete with some publican friends of mine, who, in the most generous of moods, allowed homosexuals to use certain bars, perhaps risking their whole livelihood through boycotting by right thinking people.

Under the rules of gentlemanly behaviour I learnt, we would never have been so viciously underhanded as to attack our unique social life. They are attempting to provide an alternative set of social evenings. Dances, discos, coffee evenings, conscious raising are all been suggested as ways for homosexuals to meet in what they call a sexually stimulating environment.

All in all it is another sign of the rapidly changing times. There is little left of those honest, simple days which I was too take so much advantage of - which of course is my right of equal opportunity.

But, of course, the old men like myself are getting too worn to continue to defend the barriers, and there seems to be few people following who seem the same as us. More and more I am left to mourn for those days when men were men and women bottled peaches.

The Editor.

Note: Gay Liberation meets fortnightly to discuss activities. All gays are welcome. Our next meeting is Thursday 10 June. All enquiries welcome to:

Judith 899-797
or Richard 759-254

One Fine Day at SRC

Prologue

"Oppression" is a very "in" word these days. It usually has a starring role in any student vocabulary, and is bandied about with reckless carelessness along with other words like "workers" and "struggle".

People are getting sick of words, something more concrete is needed, so when "oppression" sprang from a most unexpected quarter, - a secondary school, and landed in our laps, people began to take notice. Eruera Nia's story caused last week's SRC meeting to carry on past two o'clock and, for once, nobody cared!

ACT I

In which student reps do their thing

The first meeting for the term ground into action with the delegates to May Council giving their reports. These have been, or will be, printed in *Salient*, so there's no point in reproducing them here. Just thought I'd let you know they're still on the job.

It was then the turn of your friendly local student reps, and the change was led by John Grainer on Commerce and Administration, who said there was a committee investigating the reduction of the BCA core from 60 to 36 credits. There'll be no real change until 1978 though, but at least it's good news for young brother or sister. He also mentioned something about motions on the books abolishing terms and the 40% minimum but it seems as though the books are where they'll stay.

John Ryall then gave a report on the Arts Faculty meeting, which can be found in last week's *Salient*. (The report, not the meeting).

Cultural Affairs Officer, Anne Dwyer, told the meeting that the Students' Arts Council had managed to get preferential booking on 500 fairly good seats for the forthcoming Littlefeet concert, and was hoping to do the same with other shows.

It was then the turn of Gyles Beckford, also known as Chair, to report on Council. The first thing was the \$37 dollar Association fee. Only \$34 was approved because the idea of \$3 for a building fund didn't go down too well. The next titbit was about a rickety old lodge on Western Ruapehu which the university seems to own. The choice was either get rid of it or spend \$10,000 on upkeep. There was a tie in voting, and since the chairman didn't really feel like using his casting vote, the choice still hasn't been made. Chair also mentioned the hasty appointment of a new chairman to the sociology department. When the reps questioned this, they were told (in private) that they could "bugger off to another university" if they didn't like it.

Reporting on the Prof. Board meeting, Tom Duggan brought the good news that motorbikes are out of the Easterfield quad for good, and followed this with more good news about possible slashes in the number of periodicals bought by the library, and cut in library hours. To cap off his glad tidings he said that the reps' attendance at Prof. Board was bad anyway. One of the other reps, Peter Aagaard, said he only took the position because no-one else would, and would resign if someone was prepared to take his place. Nominations are open and close two days before the SRC.



Hop-along-who????



Mark Sainsbury, welfare delegate to NZUSA Council.

ACT II

In which we hear an esoteric discourse on Union Management accounts by those in the know

The motion in question was that we express a complete lack of confidence in the caf's accounting system and get an independent audit done. The accounts suggest that the caf made a loss of \$14,000 but this turned out to be the overall loss, while the actual loss in trading is around \$4,000. Tony Ward accused the accounts of being misleading, making people think we need to cut back. He criticised the financial management and said the Union Management haven't got a big enough bomb under them.

Steve Underwood told how he had heard several versions of the original capital, which fluctuated between \$5,000 and \$7,000 depending on who you asked. Not very good from people who should know. Peter Aagaard said that an independent audit would be very expensive, but the meeting seemed to regard that as a minor point. The person responsible for the accounts, Merv Williams, came under a bit of flak from Tony Ward, who dragged up the history of the Weir House finance. The motion was finally held over until a second set of accounts was presented.

ACT III

In which we decide that Students' Arts Council doesn't know best

Ward, still riding on the crest of his last victory, moved a motion that we approve the appointment of a full-time chairman of SAC and take measures to call an SGM of SAC to discuss it. He outlined the role of SAC, dividing it into the arrangement of large scale tours, and the promotion of campus cultural life. It seems that small campuses don't get the tours and are considering pulling out of SAC because there's no point in belonging.

Lisa Sacksen (SAC chairman) said that while a chairman could not organise all cultural activities on all small campuses, she or he could encourage them to communicate with other campuses and get their own thing going. Some were very enthusiastic but didn't know how to go about it. All they needed was guidance, which is what Ms Sacksen is doing now. She said that with the possibility of a National Union of Students being formed, it would be unwise to put a structure on SAC which might become ineffective in the near future, and she wanted the motion changed to one of confidence instead.

Peter McLeod, accountant for NZUSA, NZSAC and STB wanted to see two bodies. One for promotion of tours and one for promotion of cultural life on campus. Bringing in rock groups, he said, doesn't promote the Arts on campus, it just makes Phil Warren rich.

Tony Ward replied saying he basically agreed with everything, but a chairman was still a very necessary step. The motion was passed, only just, 29-24.

INTERLUDE

In which we firmly reaffirm our firm affirmation

There was this motion from this Mulrennan guy which said we should support this anti-tour march on the 28th and encourage ourselves to take part in it. It was passed with flying colours.

ACT IV

In which we find that oppression isn't limited to South Africa

Eruera Nia was, until recently, a teacher at Porirua College. Last year he spoke to SRC about the Maori Land March, and he was given speaking rights again at last week's meeting to tell of his abrupt sacking from the staff of Porirua College.

Nia was brought up in Porirua, and has taught there for about three years. When he started teaching at Porirua College the headmaster told him not to involve himself in Polynesian activities because he might ruin the good race relations at the College - a rather difficult order for a Polynesian raised in a Polynesian culture. Most of the kids at the college are Maoris or Pacific Islanders, and most of the staff are European. Nia taught slow-learners, and seemed to have built up a good relationship with them. His teaching affirmed Polynesian things, and the headmasters were a bit dismayed when some of the students took part in the Land March.

On April 14th he was called to the headmaster's office and 15 'charges' against him were reeled off. They were not given to him in writing to study, and he was sacked, with two months notice. He went to his Post Primary Teachers' Association representative who directed him to the PPTA in Wellington, who said he should have gone to his representative. The proverbial buck! Nia was given no written reason for his sacking and no letter of dismissal was sent to the PPTS. The staff of the college still didn't know he was sacked, so, to call a staff meeting, he began collecting the required 20 signatures of staff members. Shortly after he had got them he was called to the headmasters office again and given an hour to leave the school grounds.

Now that the kids in his class know he had been sacked, they began to knock the place up a bit. The headmaster accused Nia of telling them to do it. On top of that, any student found organising a petition concerning Nia is threatened with expulsion.

The motion, by Mr Krisnasamy, after a couple of changes, stated that we support Mr Eruera Nia and request the Ministry of Education to conduct a proper inquiry into the whole affair. It was passed with acclamation.

EPILOGUE

.....And as the sun sinks low in the west etc etc casting the usual gaunt shadows and all that, we come to the close of a fine day at SRC, leaving the meeting basking in the knowledge that student apathy is not totally impregnable at all, and that O dare I say it - there is hope yet.



Ace Cub reporter, Gary Henderson, keeps up with the SRC goings

STUDENT GET-TOGETHERS

SOCIOLOGY ACTION GROUP

Sniffed the air lately? Something smells in the Sociology Department. Could it be No, it can't be Well I'll be Someone's burning red herrings!

Some vital fish in the history of sociological man:

1. Do you know what Sociology theory is?
Does the Sociology Department?
2. To compulse or not to compulse? - Who chooses in Sociology at Vic?
3. Do you enjoy Sociology 101? And more of the same in Sosc 208, 1977?
4. Do you feel confused, misused, abused?
You must be in a Sosc Class!

Fry a few a S.A.G. Wednesday, June 2nd,
5 - 7 pm. Smoking Room.

Wash away the taset with wine or beer.

AND REMEMBER:

bring your indigestion powder.



ENGLISH STUDENTS!!!!

WE ARE NOT ALONE!!

There are some 600 of us

Do you agree :

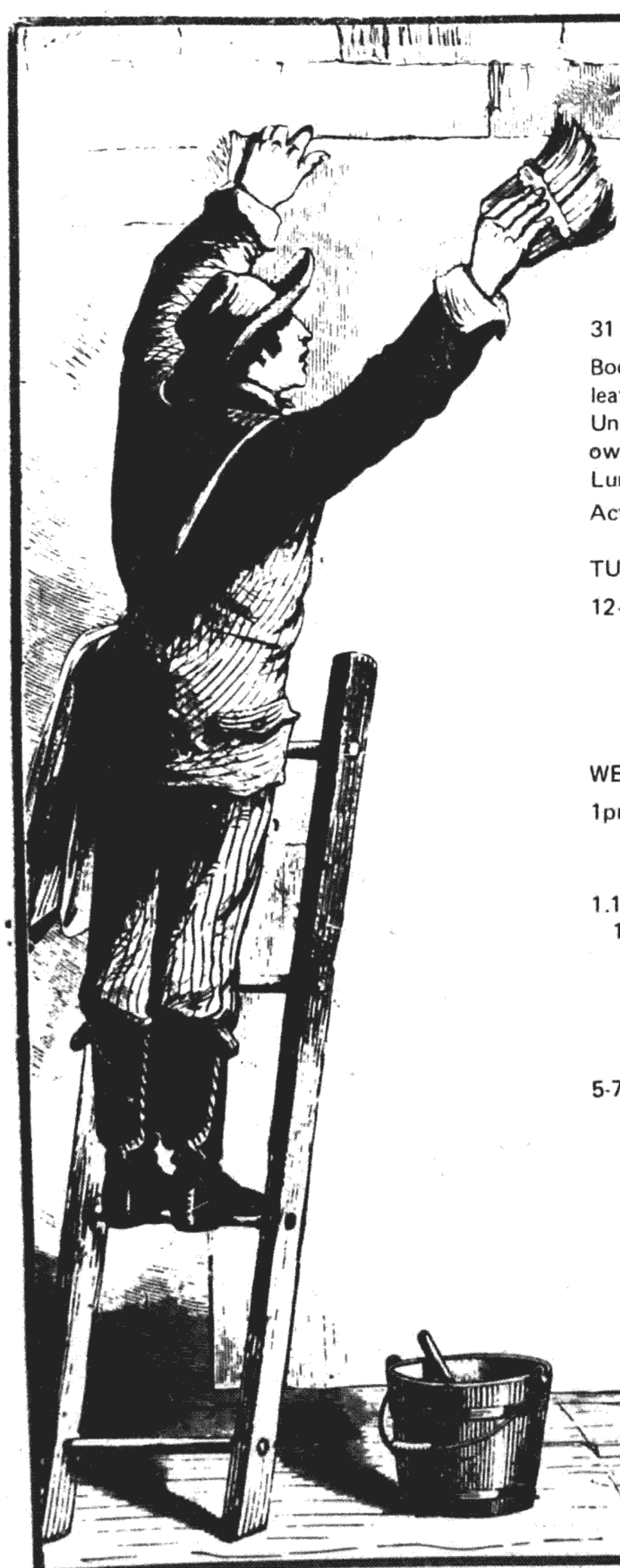
- 1) That an English degree teaches nothing about English because constructive thought is discouraged and often prevented by -
 - pressures of assessment
 - excessive material covered
 - superficiality of approach
- 2) And only teaches us a technique of bullshiting, i.e. how to be an academic?

What gripes do you have about your courses and/or degree

- what do you think of the requirement 44 credits (+ 12 lang) for a Major?
- what do you think about the existence of terms requirements and assessment based only on the final exam, giving us the worst of both worlds?
- what do you think about the refusal of the English department to invite or even consider student opinions on these questions?

COME AND MEET WITH SOME FELLOW STUDENTS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR WINE AND CHEESE.

Wednesday 2 June 7.30pm Lounge / Smoking Room.



NEWSHEET

31 MAY - 4 JUNE - ALL WEEK
Booked all week to organise publicity and leafletting for abortion rally at Parliament. Unite to fight for our right to control our own bodies. Come in and offer your help. Luncheon discussions every day. Activities Room.

TUESDAY JUNE 1
12-2pm General Meeting to discuss activities in preparation for abortion rally at Parliament on June 23. Activities Room.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 2
1pm Labour Club Meeting. All welcome. Smoking Room.
1.15 -
1.50pm Readings from the Bible and the Christian Science Text book "Science and Health" and discussion. Lounge.
5-7pm Sociology Action Group presents the Match of the Century "Non-theory in the Sosc Dept" Heat 2. Student reps in one corner, Sosc Curriculum Committee in the other. This match will determine who goes to next year's Sosc Olympics Support your home team - and after the stir, the cocktail hour.... Smoking Room.

8pm Victoria Ski Club. Film and Wine. and Stein evening. Marc Seltz, International promoter of Saloman Ski equipment will show a film on Sylvain Saudan - the man in the guinness book of records for the steepest descent. Films followed by questions and grog. Union Hall.

THURSDAY JUNE 3
8pm Wine and Cheese plus guerilla theatre. Women's Choice Club. Lounge and Smoking Room.

SATURDAY JUNE 5
2pm VUW Young Socialists Meeting - featuring a talk on high schools protest in response to the cutbacks. 76 Dixon Street. All Welcome.

SUNDAY JUNE 6
2pm "Introduction to Socialism" - classes informal discussion on "The Decisive Role of the Working Class. 76 Dixon Street. All welcome.

THE EAST IS RED

At May Council, in Auckland, there were two observers present from the Hong Kong Federation of Students. Salient interviewed one of them, HKFS executive member, Leung Pak Chung.

Could you give me a description of the present conditions in Hong Kong?

We are facing many problems at present. There is a struggle between the employers and the workers and on the students side, there is a fight for more opportunity for people to study in the universities. The workers are very concerned about the penetration of the Soviet Union into the area. They see ships coming into Hong Kong on the excuse that they need repairs, but in fact they stay there as long as possible. Most of the Russian sailors speak fluent Chinese and Mandarin, and what they ask for is things about China. The workers have raised public attention towards the Soviet penetration.

How badly have the workers of Hong Kong suffered because of the world economic recession?

The conditions of Hong Kong are very much determined by those in the Western world because of the economic system that it is locked into. In the past few years the inflation in the rest of the world has been so great that it has also been felt in Hong Kong. However, inflation has been kept under control to a reasonable extent because of the supply of cheap foodstuffs from the People's Republic of China.

What are the average living conditions of people in Hong Kong?

Hong Kong is a very small place. It has four million people the living conditions being very bad for the middle-class and poor people. A lot of them live in the resettlement areas - seven or ten-member families living in a 300 square foot house, with kitchens, wash-rooms and toilets being publicly shared. Some of the most horrible living conditions would be amongst those people living in squatter areas - rows of lean-to huts without adequate sewerage, water supplies or any form of heating. In February there was a big fire in one of these areas and because the huts are so close together, more than 10,000 people were made homeless.

Is there a government in Hong Kong?

Hong Kong has two councils, the legislative council and the executive council, with all the rules and regulations being passed in the legislative council. Most of the legislative council members are appointed by the Hong Kong government. These people are the owners of the Hong Kong public transport system, the tele-

phone companies and others like these.

Could you outline for me the structure of the Hong Kong Federation of Students?

HKFS consists of eight full members and two associate members including the universities of Hong Kong and the Chinese University, three colleges of education, a polytechnic and two other colleges. The membership of HKFS is 17,000, which represents 98% of the post-secondary school students population.

What role does the HKFS see themselves playing in Hong Kong?

It may be summed up by the slogan "be concerned with the society". We attach much importance to finding out how society functions and what are the real conditions of the masses people. So every year during our vacation HKFS organises students to visit the slum areas, to go to the villages and help the poor so that they may have a clearer idea of what is going on in their society.

What role does HKFS see itself playing with regard to China?

In the past we did not know what happened in China, but with China growing stronger the position of overseas Chinese has been of more importance. There was a group of university students who went back to China a couple of years ago to have a look, and since then students have begun to talk about China. This is incorporated in the slogan to "understand our motherland". We pay close attention to what is happening in China. Since 1974 we have organised an annual China Week, during which we held activities, exhibitions, and speeches to give us an understanding of the political struggle happening in China. And some of the member unions cross to China during the summer vacation to have a look. Most of the students say China is our country, so the fate of Hong Kong depends on China.

What difference do you see between the activities of the Hong Kong Federation of Students and NZUSA?

The two societies, Hong Kong and New Zealand, have different problems, and so the student movements will be orientated in different directions. The New Zealand students, though, pay a great deal of attention towards international affairs, as can be seen with the debate on ASA and the nuclear free zone in the Pacific, and the attention focused on imperialism, especially that of the Soviet Union. In many cases HKFS and NZUSA play the same role, for instance as regards Russian imperialism and its penetration of Asia.

What are your impressions of the New Zealand student movement?

At the very beginning I thought that New Zealand was a rich country and it didn't have the problems of Hong Kong. But, after attending May Council I can see that you have your own problems (such as the fight for better welfare and bursaries), which are of similar importance.

You attended the ASA Conference on "Women in the Third World" in Thailand. What did you think was the major achievement from that conference?

Although there were differences of opinion during the conference, we all agreed that women's liberation must integrate with the total social movement for liberation. Before talk about women's liberation we must ask for the self-determination and self-reliance of our country. Women's liberation must go hand in hand with men's liberation. Women can't liberate themselves without a liberation of their counterparts.

After the conference every country joined together in setting up an Asian women's commission, with a person from each country responsible for her local area, to organise activities and send information about women's liberation to ASA and to other member unions. This is the ongoing work of the conference.

Were there any differences between the second and the third world countries at the conference?

Yes, I think so. People in the second world and the third world are under different living conditions and under different social systems, so that they face different problems. The people in the third world see the oppression of women is not only from men, but is nurtured by the economic system. Students in the third world put much emphasis on women's liberation going hand in hand with the liberation of their country, and the opinion of second world students put far more emphasis on the fight for equality between the sexes.

How do you think the New Zealand students can support the struggle of the Asian students?

The most important way is to have close contact with other students in Asia, keep a close eye on what is happening in this area, and also support each other if any particular incident or campaign occurs. A good example was the New Zealand students response to the struggle of the Malaysian students in their home country. To support the Asian students does not mean just a financial commitment, but rather the contact and support which is far more important.



Leung Pak Chung - "oppression is not just from men, but it is nurtured by the economic system."

STUDENTS

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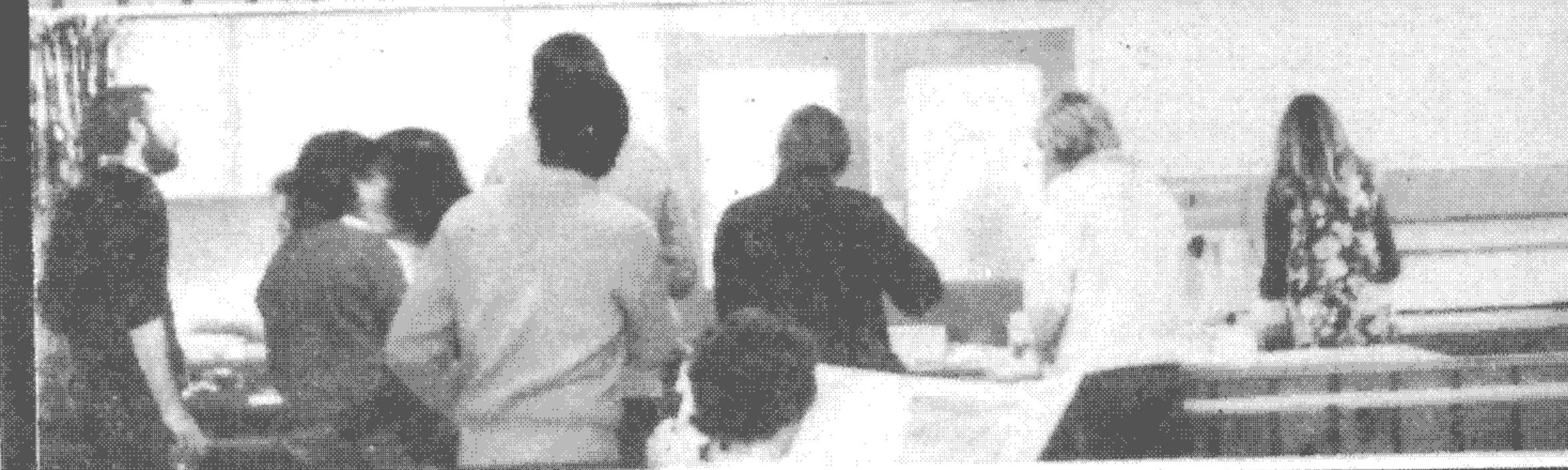
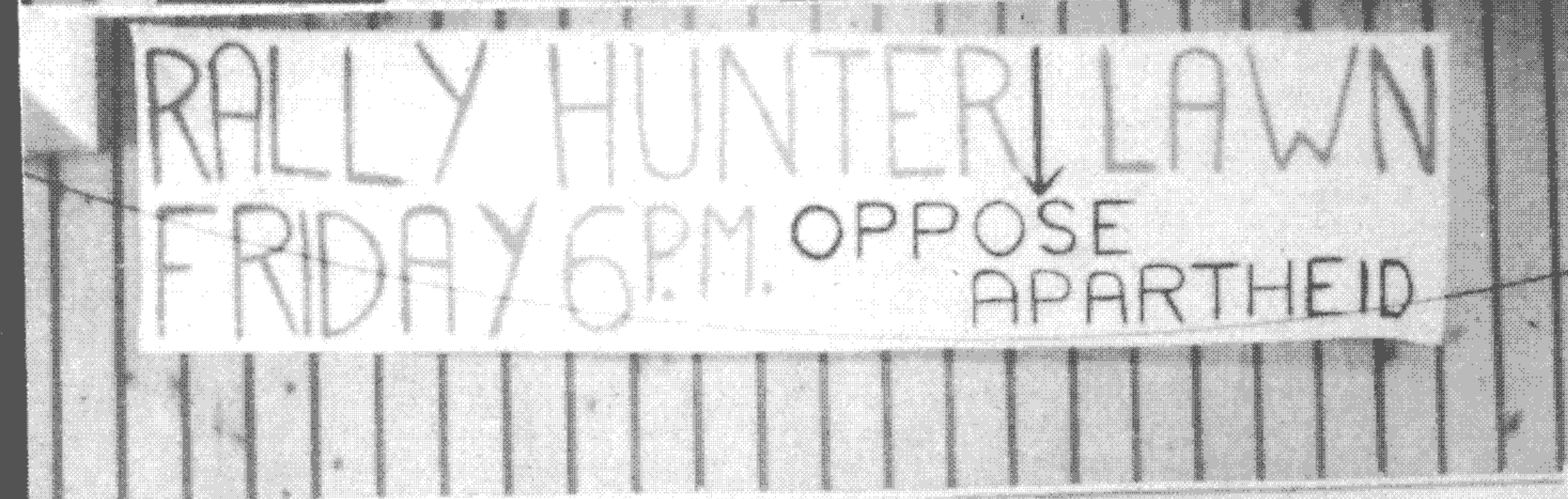
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AND JULY 31st



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APARTHEID



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CIGARETTES, WINE, AND RACISM: THE CONNECTION.

DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

"Every time a South African product is bought, it is another brick in the wall of our existence."

South African Premier: John Vorster.

And South African products are peddled so widely that consumers are not usually aware that they are often directly subsidizing apartheid.

Corbans, makers of your favourite Liebestraum wine are now 80% owned by the South African-based Rothmans empire. New Zealand is here selling out its own economic future, and selling it to one of the foundation stones of South African society.

Rothmans

Rothmans International is a major and integral part of the Rembrandt group of companies, one of the largest South African based multi-national corporations. It entered this country in 1956 at the invitation of genial Jack Butland, whose own tobacco growing interests were competing unsuccessfully with two other major cigarette companies.

Today, the key Rothmans firm in New Zealand, Magnum Investments Ltd, is 99.9% overseas owned and final control resides firmly in the hands of a few South African Cancer Barons. Such direct control ensures that their New Zealand directors are acting virtually as ambassadors for the apartheid system.

The complex way in which the Rothmans influence penetrates the New Zealand economy is representative of many multi-national corporations:

Rembrandt-Rothmans (S.A.)
through Rothmans International (U.K.)
owns 99.9% of

Magnum Investments Ltd (NZ)
owns 23% of

N.Z. Public
(over 6,500 people)
owns 57% of

Butland Tobacco Ltd
owns 20% of

Rothmans Industries Ltd

As shown above, the Rembrandt-Rothmans group exercises effective control over Magnum (formerly Rothmans Holdings (NZ) Ltd). This company, in turn, controls the workings of Rothmans Industries with its unassailable voting power - it holds the largest single block of shares. Of course Butlands can be expected to fall into line every time with the decisions of Magnums Board of Directors, with all three directors of Butlands Tobacco also sitting on the Board of Rothmans Industries.

The large public shareholding is far too diverse to threaten the major controlling block. (Some of the biggest and most offensive privately owned corporate empires in the world are totally controlled by groups holding a mere 5% of the issued shares).

Corbans

The interests of Rothmans in New Zealand extend far beyond cigarettes (smoked any Pall Mall, Rembrandt, Peter Styvesant, Consulate, Menthol, Rothmans, or Erinmore lately?). Transport (Brambles Burnett Ltd), property development, finance (Securiti bank) and even umbrella manufacturing, are all legitimate (sic) money making ventures for Rothmans in New Zealand.

Wine making is yet another example. Corbans is widely regarded as a family controlled firm but Rothmans now own 80% of the central company, A.A. Corban and Sons. Rothmans exerts its influence throughout the entire Corbans group by means of extensive shareholdings debenture issues (i.e. by lending money to companies in the Corbans group) and interlocking directorships.

Shareholdings - as well as its majority shareholding in A.A. Corban, Rothmans Industries own large blocks of shares in the Corbans group - debentures are an increasingly popular way of financing short term investment. In this case it gives Rothmans the same sort of power as the finance institutions and banks have. This is the power to determine the direction and pattern of capital investment.

(a) Corbans Holdings Ltd (share capital \$10,000) was issued a debenture in late 1972 to the value of \$25,000 by Rothmans Industries and the Development Finance Corporation.

(b) Corbans Building Ltd (share capital \$10,000) was issued a \$25,000 debenture by Rothmans Industries in September 1973.

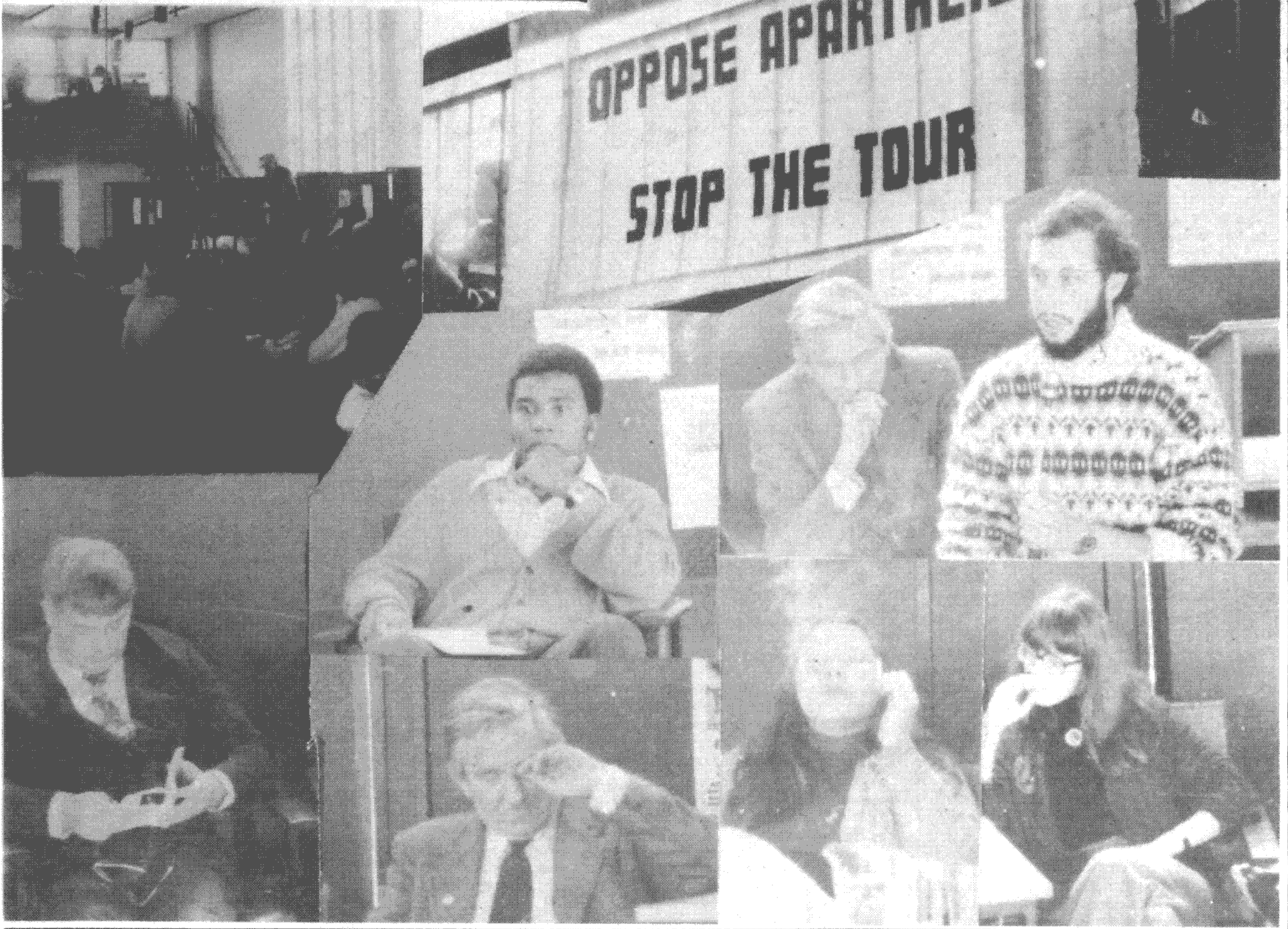
(c) Corbans Wines Ltd (share capital 2 million) was also issued a \$25,000 debenture by Rothmans Industries in September 1973.

(d) The history of A.A. Corban and Sons reveals:

- 1 initial share capital \$3,200;
- 2 in 1967 share capital increased to 100 preference shares and 49,900 ordinary shares;
- 3 in 1971, Partnership Investments (which later became Rothmans Industries after a simple name change) gave \$500,000 to A.A. Corban in the form of a loan;
- 4 in 1972 the Development Finance Corporation loaned \$812,500 as a debenture to A.A. Corban & Sons;
- 5 as recently as November 1975, Rothmans Industries increased its holdings in A.A. Corban from approximately 25% to 80% at

WEEK

photos by Lionel Klee



the same time issuing a million shares in order to assist in financing their latest expansion.

Interlocking Directorships (the retention of sizeable minority blocks of shares within the hands of a small group) is now an essential characterising aspect of corporate control both in New Zealand and overseas. Such control can normally be mustered by boards of directors. It is not, however, the role of directors as the overseers of individual corporations taken separately that makes them an economic elite. Rather, it is the fact that collectively they preside over all major segments of the corporate world in an extensive interlocking network).

As demonstrated by the simplified diagram below, the big names on the Board of Rothmans Industries have thoroughly infiltrated the different branches of the Corbans group.

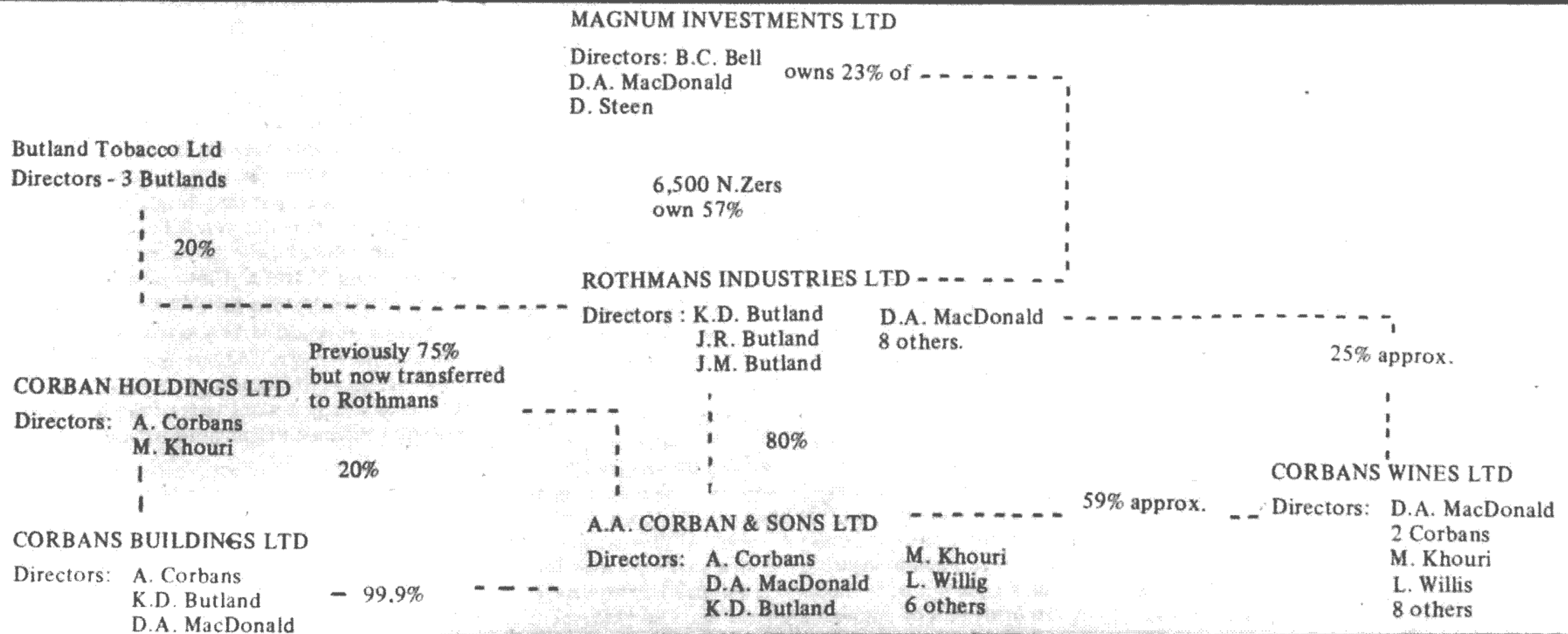
What are the implications for New Zealand of Rothmans control of what was formerly a New Zealand owned wine-making group?

Firstly, it is yet another example of effective control of New Zealand industry being placed in the hands of the giant faceless multi-national network. The sheer size and the international character of outfits such as Rothmans ensures that they can transcend all local control mechanisms. Manipulation of profit rates to avoid tax, the ability to raise capital on the international market thereby avoiding local control, and a whole host of other devices are employed by these multi-nationals to secure the most favourable trading (money and products) conditions irrespective of national needs and regulations. This is not to defend local capitalism however. One boss is as bad as another, whether he is a foreigner or a Kiwi. New Zealand needs to establish national ownership of the key sectors of its economy

if it is to have any say in its economic development. The Rothmans-Corbans case, although not involving key industries, is a typical example of the ease with which any foreign company can penetrate the local economy.

The second implication is of course, the extension of imported racism in New Zealand. Rothmans seems to be pursuing a deliberate policy of assimilating themselves into all levels of our society. Through sporting and cultural foundations, as well as making cigarettes, and now even producing local wines, they have established their good name in the minds of most

Remember, South Africa can only maintain its apartheid system through the exploitation of cheap Black labour. Rembrandt-Rothman's plays a central role in the South African economy. Rothmans is firmly entrenched in New Zealand. Can you see the connection?



Sihanouk goes . . .

by Wilfred Burchett,
Guardian staff correspondent.

Norodom Sihanouk has ended his role as Cambodian head of state with the same dignity and honesty with which he so long presided over his country's affairs.

Sihanouk resigned April 4, followed by his cabinet. Vice Premier Khieu Samphan succeeded him. His resignation, nearly a year after Cambodia was liberated from the U.S. - sponsored regime of Lon Nol by the Cambodian National United Front (of which Sihanouk was the founder-president), was not a surprise.

The Cambodian leader said several times during the heroic five-year liberation war that he did not expect to preside long as head of state. "The future is not with me," he told me at the height of the liberation struggle. "Far less is it with Lon Nol and his clique of traitors. It is with the young people, pure patriots who are directing the struggle on the spot and have earned the right to decide our country's future."

Phnom Penh radio announced on April 14 the formation of a new government in which Khieu Samphan would hold the post of chairman of the state presidium while the prime minister would be Tol Sat. Khieu Samphan, one of the principal architects of Cambodia's liberation struggle, was a deputy prime minister in the government of Prince Sihanouk. Deputy Prime Ministers Leng Sary and Son Sen will continue to hold their posts as foreign minister and minister of defense respectively.

Sihanouk's resignation was immediately interpreted by reactionary sections of the Western press and radio - which have consistently misreported everything connected with the Cambodian revolution as "fresh evidence" of his "disillusionment" with the new regime. Nothing could be further from the truth. His appreciation of Cambodia's revolutionary policies as stated in his resignation speech was essentially the same as that which he expressed to me at our meeting in Pyongyang last October.

"Concerning myself," he said, "I am extremely proud and happy to have accompanied, from March 1970, the beloved Cambodian people in the prestigious and historic voyage which has ended today with Cambodia's entry into a new era in which the people will be from now on the real and only master of their destiny of the nation and motherland; a new era which will certainly be the most radiant, the most glorious in our 2000 years of national history."

"When the coup d'etat of Lon Nol and his band took place on March 18, 1970, I swore to myself and I swore to the people of Cambodia that when I had succeeded in accompanying them to the point of total victory over U.S. imperialism and the traitors, and to the threshold of the new revolutionary era, I would retire completely and definitively from the political scene because logically my role would end at that moment. Today my dream of seeing Cambodia recover and consolidate for all time its independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, neutrality and non-alignment, to set up a regime capable of giving to the people and the nation an authentic sovereignty, perfect social justice, an absolutely clean national life (unblemished, without corruption and other social evils), this dream has been magnificently realized thanks to our men and women combatants, our

peasants workers and other laboring people of both sexes, under the farsighted leadership of our revolutionary Angkor (the name of the great Cambodian kingdom which flourished for a thousand years).

"Thus my most cherished desires have been realized. Better than that, our Cambodia, thanks to its revolutionary heroes and heroines, has achieved exploits which must be inscribed as among the greatest in the history of humanity. For example [we] have been the first to totally defeat, for the first time in history, the proud and so-called invincible U.S. imperialism, the world's most cruel and stubborn imperialism of all time...."

At our Pyongyang meeting, Sihanouk said he was very proud that although many other regimes had talked about it, Cambodia was the first to set about building a "classless society, where there are neither rich nor poor, exploiters or exploited." Such a society he said, was entirely in conformity with all that was best in the precepts and teachings of Buddhism. He spoke with warm admiration of the qualities of the "Khmers Rouges" leaders, their capacities for organization, their selflessness, above all their patriotism. "We have got to know and appreciate each other better during the struggle," he said. "I quickly realized they were absolutely sincere in their desires for true, national independence."

While we know little in detail what goes on in Cambodia, we do know that big efforts have been made to develop agriculture. The parasitical nature of Phnom Penh and other cities has been changed. Formerly the privileged and wealthy lived off the sweat of the peasantry, buying their crops at low prices, selling manufactured and imported goods at inflationary prices. The peasantry was in the double-pronged grip of the merchants and the money-lenders, a grip which was broken during the resistance struggle and shattered forever by the historic victory of April 17 last year. Many of those who formerly lived off the fat of the land had to go to the countryside and work for the first time in their lives to produce what they eat. Obviously many could not take it and headed for Thailand with self-serving tales of their sufferings.

In his farewell declaration, Sihanouk spoke of the "marvellous, innumerable and very important achievements, of which those that arouse the greatest enthusiasm are the new irrigation systems which...will developed in the field of agriculture."

"NO DESIRE TO WIELD POWER...."

Absolute monarch at the age of 18, changing at his own initiative to become a constitutional monarch, then abdicating (and in everything but the term voluntarily abolishing the monarchy) in order to devote himself wholly to affairs of state, Sihanouk has now abandoned the highest office in the land in order that the revolutionary leadership should feel less inhibited to reshape Cambodian society as they see fit. In his book, "My War With The CIA" published in 1972 [which he wrote with Burchett's collaboration], Sihanouk wrote the following regarding the future:



"As for my personal future, I had originally decided to retire as soon as the enemy invaders had been driven off and the traitors totally defeated. I have no desire to wield power any longer and I have repeatedly stated that the future will be in the hands of the young progressives, whose purity of motives and patriotism I have long recognized, but more than ever since we have become united in the resistance struggle....With our young progressives, the future of Cambodia will be in safe hands. But, in the response to requests from those who are directing the resistance from inside the country, I have agreed to stay on as head of state. The request has been made in such terms and with the backing from the overwhelming majority of the people that it became clear that it was my duty to stay on...."

And the final words in the book were: "My highest reward will be the moral compensation for having led my people to victory in the greatest trial Cambodia has known"

At our Pyongyang meeting, Sihanouk said that after so many years of arduous public activities, his deepest desire was to withdraw from public life at an appropriate moment. Expressing these thoughts in his farewell speech this month, Sihanouk said:

"It is with these feelings that, certain of fraternal understanding towards me by our people and our revolutionary Angkor, I request them to be kind enough to allow me to resign as from today, assuring them that I will remain forever, in all places and in all circumstances a fervent supporter of the Cambodian people: of the revolution; of the Peoples Assembly; of the government; of the State Presidium; of revolutionary Angkor and the revolutionary army of Democratic Cambodia."

If the enemies of Cambodia want to draw some comfort from Sihanouk's departure they are welcome to it! They have fabricated lies before about Sihanouk's "disillusionment" and they will continue to use this occasion to repeat them.

In the building of an original, revolutionary society and in keeping with Cambodian traditions, history and culture, the new leaders can count on Sihanouk's unswerving and loyal support. His outstanding quality has been to remain a staunch and militant patriot under the most difficult conditions.

. . . but the revolution continues

As Cambodia gets ready to celebrate the first anniversary of its liberation, imperialist agencies are still inspiring false press reports slandering the revolutionary government in order to detract from the crimes committed by the U.S. and its henchmen.

A spokesman of Democratic Cambodia said here April 13 that Time magazine's recent report of large massacres in Cambodia was totally ludicrous and that the life of the people was incomparably better than during the U.S. war of aggression.

Shortly before the Time article appeared, Minister of information Hu Nim announced three-day victory celebrations would take place April 15-17 throughout the country and he also reminded the people of the terrible cost of the national liberation struggle. Following are some of the statistics given by the minister:

Eight hundred thousand people of a total population of under 8 million were killed and another 240,000 were wounded. Forty thousand of the latter are total invalids. Of those casualties - mainly from U.S. bombings - about 400,000 lived in the liberated areas while the other half were in Lon Nol-controlled territory. Acreage of rubber plantations was 65-70%

destroyed and 80-85% of the rice fields and forests in the front line areas were destroyed. About 70-80% of the port facilities and 80% of the railways were demolished. Virtually all district capitals were razed to the ground. In the southwestern, eastern and northern regions 50-60% of all cattle were killed and in the rest of the country the figure is 30-40%.

"The destruction suffered by the nation and by the people of Cambodia caused by the United States and their valets is enormous," stated Hu Nim. "Almost the whole of our country has suffered from this destruction. Our territory is riddled with huge bomb craters, mostly caused by the B-52s....Present and future generations of Cambodia cannot and will not be able to forget or deny the enormity of this destruction which is engraved forever in the history of humanity...."

Hu Nim placed the present population of Cambodia at 7.7 million and referred to the immense efforts made by "people and the revolutionary armed forces" since April 17 of last year to repair the damage and get the economy moving again. "We have started reconstruction from zero," he said. "At present we have succeeded in insuring the means of existence for our people while, at the same time, strictly respecting the principles of remaining independent and sovereign

and relying on our own forces.

Reconstruction began the day after Phnom Penh was liberated. The two army divisions which liberated the capital on April 17 started to work the next day restoring the railway line linking Phnom Penh with the country's only deepwater port at Kompong Som (Sihanouk-ville) on the Gulf of Thailand. Tremendous efforts have been put into developing irrigation and it is expected that this year's rice harvest will be an all-time record. Over three million hectares have been planted to rice and the average yield expected for 1976 is three tons per hectare.

Time's story about "50,000 people massacred" since liberation was characterized by the spokesman of Democratic Cambodia as "complete nonsense" and he said that it was a part of the continuing U.S. sabotage campaign against his nation.

"The masses of the people even now live far better than ever before despite the destruction of the war," he added. "We do not imply there is opulence but no one goes hungry. Above all, for the first time our people feel they are the real masters of their destiny. And this is the secret of the remarkable victories on the economic front during this first year of liberation."

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Little Feat, widely hailed by critics and such musicians as Jimmy Page, Elton John and Mick Jagger as the Great American Rock Band of the Seventies come from Los Angeles.

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Santana sold out in four hours when they visited N.Z. in 1973. Current record industry predictions state that Little Feat will surpass this.

New Zealand Students Arts Council National Discount Scheme

Wellington Chamber Music Society - Wellington

Production: Steve Rosenberg will present a recorder recital accompanied by Anthony Jenkins on the harpsichord and Robert Oliver on the viol

Season: Thursday, 10th June at 1pm Union Hall. \$2.00 public, \$1.00 students.

Unity Theatre - Wellington

Concessions: \$1.50 students

Production: "Cheek" by Howard Barker.

Season: Wednesday June 2nd to 26th.

Downstage - Wellington

Concessions: Dinner and Show \$4.50
Show only \$2.00

Production: "Three Sisters" by Chekov

Season: From 5th July.

Independent Cinemas

Recently NZSAC has been in contact with all independent cinemas in the major cities in New Zealand. Already two lots of independent cinemas have replied. To keep these discounts and to improve the discount scheme, it is necessary for students to make good use of them.

Auckland: Northcote's "Bridgeway" Cinema
Public Price: \$1.40
Student Price: \$1.00

Christchurch: Masters Independent Theatres
Hollywood Cinema - Summer
Avenue Cinema - Riccarton
50 cent reduction for students

NATIONAL DISCOUNT SCHEME



The National Discount Scheme is organised jointly by the New Zealand Students Arts Council and the Student Travel Bureau Ltd. Discounts are only available on production of an International Student Identity Card.



STUDENT STANDBY SCHEME

STB is pleased to advise that Eagle Airways at Hamilton are now offering a 50% student standby fare. Eagle Airways operate schedule services between Hamilton, Wanganui and Palmerston North.

Remember that you can travel via Mt. Cook Airlines from Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin to Mt Cook and Queenstown.

A great way to travel cheaply to go skiing.

STUDENT FLIGHTS WITHIN EUROPE

STB sales office all now have copies of the SATA flights programme between May and October. The SATA network services over 46 European cities with savings up to 75% off normal fares. So if you are planning to travel to Europe in the next few months see your STB office and book your SATA flight ahead. Remember a valid ISIC card is necessary to book all SATA flights.

STUDENT FLIGHT AND TOUR PROGRAMME

STB announces that as from 1st June this year's programme of student flights and tours will be open for booking. This programme with flights to Australia, Asia, Europe and North America, with tours in these destinations and student cruises, offers substantial discounts. So if you are planning to travel this summer see your STB sales office for details now.

Again a valid ISIC is necessary to book these flights and tours.

rock

SWEET TRIALS : Mark Williams EMI

Mark Williams' debut album released last year deserved its kudos. The brilliant combination of pop-soul, the sheer panache of tracks like "Love the One You're With" and "Ain't No Sunshine" made it a classy production. Sweet Trials fails to keep the grade. By use of mainly homespun material, a determinedly 'rocky' oriented approach to the album and brass backing leftovers from Grunt Machine, the end result is an overall lowering of quality.

Reece Kirk's "Sweet Wine" is the only local song that draws significant attention and is at least memorable. Although it had a lot of airplay and wasn't very well received as a single, "Sweet Wine" is a product of fresh original talent and unreservedly highlights the album. Only a few other songs do justice to Mark's soulful vocals.

Kiki Dee's "If It Rains", one of the three foreign tracks on the album, is performed convincingly with strong vocal backings. However, it is Ann Pebble's "I Can't Stand The Rain" that allows Mark to be in his true element and stand out as a unique soul-artist.

The remaining tracks are all very commercial, the throwaway disco sort has a certain sameness to it on hearing for the first time.

The Rockinghorse composition "No Matter How Hard You Try" is an interesting boogie number but is no less wasteful than the hashed version of Bowie's "Watch That Man".

Alan Galbraith's handling of production is competent enough but seems to have come in too heavy on the brass, at the expense of some possible rich orchestrations. The backing does tend to be loose, loud in places and superfluous in others which makes one wonder whether the album was less a solo one than a vehicle for contract groups to remain in employ.

However, the album does have its highlights and Mark Williams does not disappoint. Hopefully, his decision to remain in New Zealand doesn't mean he won't look further afar for material that belie his talents.

- Suedo Nim

The Car Over the Lake Album : Ozark Mountain Dare Devils

In a sentence? A collection of harmless songs. I can't deny that at times the music itself is pleasant even good, but I must protest at the appalling lyrics which made this listener wonder if the Dare devils weren't laughing at the record company. To me it's almost incomprehensible that this is a serious album.

In fact some of the tracks, such as Cobblestone Mountain and Sypsy Forest are children's songs - seemingly adapted from stories they read as children. That would be excusable if this was an album for children. But it isn't. So the album



says no more than - we're a group of lads making music and so long as it sounds pretty, it's fine by us.

Pop groups can't however, hide behind the "subjectiveness of it all". Try to hide behind these cringing lyrics from the song "Leatherwood".

"country love gonna steal your mind and we aint never gonna be blue".

I should have wept when I heard that - but I didn't. Hardened by years of listening to commercial radio has conditioned me not to react too violently to bad music.

The opening track on Side One is a prophetic introduction to the general condition of this album. Called "Keep on Churning", its solid beat is ruined by a mumbled message about love and butter-making. Perhaps the N.Z. Dairy Board could pluck the song's kernel from obscurity.

In essence, this album lacks something. There is no spirit in it, all meaning is lost in vague sentimental references to love, nature and the countryside. This is the first Dare devils album I have heard so I am able to make comparisons.

Perhaps the kindest words I have are that some of the melody lines are strong and vital - the musical ability of the group is not in question. But on the whole the compositions lack overall depth and variation for the lyrics relegate the songs to their level of absurdity.

- Leigh Thompson

'Better Days and Happy Endings' - Melissa Manchester.

When an undertaking is made to review records, there must also be the realisation that there will be occasions when the record allocated is not one which you particularly like.

This is one such occasion. Melissa Manchester's "Better Days and Happy Endings" does not appeal to me. Bearing this in mind the task is then to attempt to write a review which while acknowledging the impressions gained, also presents the qualities of the record.

The problems involved become apparent immediately. Classifying the style of music is not in itself difficult but adding comments as to whether or not the record

is a good example is not so easy. How can an accurate appraisal be made when you do not like the type of music?

Melissa Manchester sings the soft, negro soul sound which has become known as the sound of Philadelphia. This is a recent and very commercial development. The music is light and smooth but with a few notable exceptions does not aspire to any heights in originality or quality of innovation. So with this record, there is only one track of any note - the big selling single 'Just You and I'.

The lady's voice deserves far better than the material she wastes it on. She appears to be quite capable of a provocative Chi Coltrane-like performance. The quality of her voice hints at something much more inventive than at present.

A number of the songs are self-compositions and others written in company with her backing musicians. Of these performers, such well knowns as Stanley Schwartz and David Wolfert stand out. Their easy paced electric lead and rhythm add a touch of sophistication that would otherwise be sorely missed. 'Just You and I' and 'Come in from the Rain' are the best examples.

The same cannot be said for organ and percussion. For all the interest they create a reversion to a simple time keeping beat would be preferable. (Witness 'Good News' and 'Be Her Days').

Originality is also lacking in the production and arrangement of the tracks on the record as well as of the songs themselves. There is little variation and I found the whole product monotonous. An avid fan would needless to say disagree, which again illustrates the difficulty in presenting a satisfactory review when you have no liking for the music.

All in all not a very memorable record but in company with others of its kind sells very well, so many obviously do not share the sentiments expressed here.

Melissa Manchester can therefore feel satisfied with her music. After all - if the people want it.....then it must be good.

- Mike Freeman

Another Green World - Eno Island ILPS 9351

There are two Brian Eno's. One is a writer of catchy, clever pop songs, the other wants to experiment. On his two previous albums, 'Here Come The Warm Jets' and 'Taking Tiger Mountain (By Strategy)', the latter as yet unreleased in NZ, the pop-song Eno has been to the fore.

They are no ordinary pop songs, rather they are pop songs which use the commercial-style song medium while at the same time attempting to extend/modify that medium (he really should release more

singles: Seven Deadly Finns was incredible). The balance between pop and experimentation on these two albums is very tenuous.

Not so with 'Another Green World'. With this album Eno emerges as a major talent to be reckoned with. A perfect balance between experimentation and pop songs is achieved. There are only a few songs, but these are far more polished and sophisticated than their predecessors.

Gone is the blitzkrieg, Velvet Underground-influenced sound of things like 'Blank Frank' or the incredible 'Third Uncle'. In its place is something much more subtle.

'Another Green World' is a strange record, but a very satisfying one. Most of it is instrumental, and there is more use of electronics than previously. Eno achieves a perfect balance between electronics and more conventional electric instruments in a way that no one prior to him has. Virtually every track on the album attests to this, but I would particularly recommend 'Sky Saw', 'In Dark Trees', 'Becaland', and the best one, 'Zawinul/Lava' (has our Brian been getting into Weather Report?).

Several tracks are very short, such as 'Little Fishes', an Eno solo featuring prepared piano (a la Cage), and the title track.

The songs are his best yet. There's even a love song! 'Everything Merges with the Night' is a love song in the Robert Wyatt mould, though there are definite shades of Syd Barrett too. 'Golden Hours' is played by Eno, Robert Fripp, and John Cale - how about that for a trio! If these three hit the road together all other bands might just as well pack up and retire.

This song is a killer, and features a great cascading solo from Fripp (and it sure is nice to have the world's finest exponent of the electric guitar on record again.) It is a shame Eno doesn't believe in lyric sheets: unlike those of many liggers masquerading as song-writers, Eno's are always interesting.

My favourite track is the last one 'Spirits Drifting', an Eno solo. It features beautiful, swirling synthesizer textures underscored by bass and organ. It has an eerie, other-worldly yet peaceful quality to it, and is a lovely end to the album, leaving one very much 'up' in mood.

'Another Green World' is far and away Eno's best album yet, and it heralds great things for the future. It would be a foolish mistake to write him off as just another berk fiddling with a synthesizer. Ignore at your own peril.

- David MacLennan

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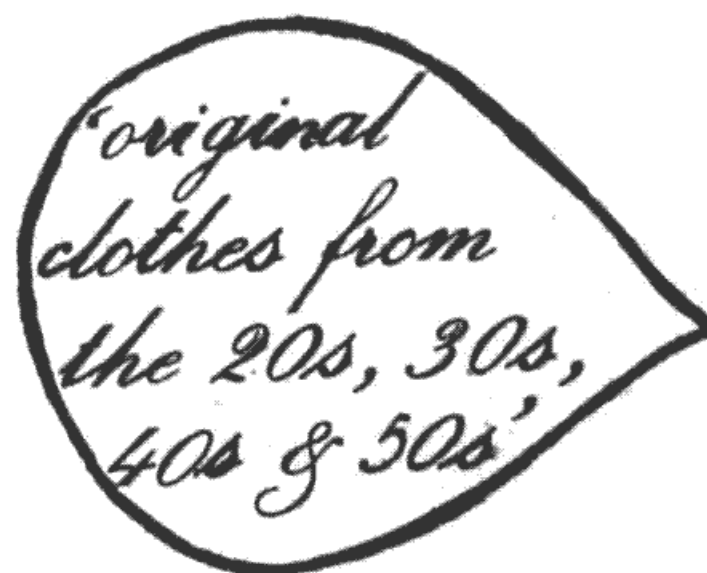
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'ALL THAT JAZZ'



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WARDROBES by Philip Clairmont

Elva Bett Galleries.
Reviewed by Neil Rowe.

Elva Bett has recently revamped her gallery and with the new paintwork, a more professional attitude and a tighter policy is apparent. Her exhibitions recently, particularly "Three Wellington Painters", "Allan Maddox Paintings" and this present show have been of a consistently high standard and have been generally better presented than her exhibitions in the past.

Philip Clairmont is a member of what can almost be called the Christchurch expressionist school of painters, with Philip Trusstum and Alistair Nisbet-Smith. He was taught by Rudy Gopas and his style is deeply rooted in German expressionism. Van Gogh and Max Beckmann are obvious influences.

Wardrobes is Clairmont's sixth one man show since 1969, and as in these previous exhibitions where he exhibited paintings of fireplaces, chairs, mirrors, wash basins, baths and beds, he reinterprets and transforms the mundane. The minutiae of everyday life is transmuted into highly subjective and visionary painting. Many of his concerns are obsessive, death and mutilation is one that rears its head in this exhibition. The pun in the title "wardrobes" is not unintentional and accordingly many of the works are loaded with social comment and a macabre particularly black humour. In his catalogue note he says "I have tried to heighten the element - surprise". Trying to surprise is not far from gratuitously attempting to shock, and in some of the drawings Clairmont comes dangerously close to this, and to a cliched banality, particularly in those portraying masturbating figures and crucified transvestites. However much of this is tongue in cheek and it is a minor quibble with an exhibition that is excellent overall.



"Magic mirror triptych with wardrobe reflection"

Eroticism plays a large part in Clairmont's work, and although the voyeuristic glimpses of his family in intimate situations, prevalent in much of his work in the past, is missing from this show, the clothes in the wardrobes are invested with wrath-like persona and dance fetishistically on their hangers, especially in the paintings "Wardrobe 1" and "Wardrobe 3" and in the oil, acrylic and collage "The Spectre of the Kimono Emerges from the Wardrobe".

The paintings are worked and reworked oils on acrylic base mostly on hessian. The colour is raw and vibrant, and the brushwork energetic to the point of violence. They have the tormented hallucinatory quality which is typical of all his work, achieved

by applying swirls of bright, almost crude colour on a dark background which gives the painting an eerie luminosity.

It is not my intention to embark upon an analysis of the symbolism of the wardrobe, puns such as "hangups" and "letting it all hang out" come far too glibly. Clairmont also is aware of this. Generally, however, the work transcends any lighthearted intention, and certainly attempts at cheap psychoanalysis.

In the catalogue note he refers to such associations as coffins and confessionals, and to his long "obsession" with painting triptychs. The wardrobe with both doors open revealing its mysteries is a readymade triptych for Clairmont. The cavorting shadows and the skeletal frames of coat-

hangers provide the shape for "The Resurrection of Lazarus from the Wardrobe", "Details of Breughels Crucifixion" and "Grunewald's Isenheim Altarpiece". In these paintings he borrows willy nilly from the old masters and from the ecclesiastical ragbag, but his work bears little relation to any orthodox religious belief. He converts standard iconic imagery to the needs of his own savage personal vision. Lurking constantly in these works is the theme of the artist as scapegoat.

Philip Clairmont's work is unfashionably passionate and intense. He fits into the same black spectrum as Lou Reed and Bukowski and in these terms a parallel with Blake and Van Gogh is not farfetched. This is a very good exhibition.



Resurrection of Lazarus from the wardrobe"

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 Richard Starke at the Wellington Branch of the BNZ. Richard 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 Richard Starke or phone him direct at the BNZ Wellington Branch, Cnr Lambton and Customhouse Quays. Phone 725-099 ext 702.



BANK OF NEW ZEALAND

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films

DOG DAY AFTERNOON

In this film, the director, Sidney Lumet, attempts to compromise the two aims of mass appeal and a meaningful work of art in much the same way as "One flew over the Cuckoos Nest" or "The Passenger". "Dog Day Afternoon" falls between the two in the effectiveness of this dual aim and produces a film which is enjoyable to watch but is not erribly satisfying because of the difficulty of producing such a film.

The film is almost entirely focused on the Brooklyn Bank which is held up by two amateur robbers. Everything goes wrong - and we see Sonny (the pivot character) and Sal (a beautifully tragic figure) in a situation they can't handle nor have any way of escaping from - the ultimate bad dream.

The 14 hours of the bank seige is traced with hundreds of cops with their guns trained on the bank and millions of Americans viewing the action on live television (as could only happen in America).

As the film goes on, Sonny emerges as a martyr - a symbol of the oppressed, a man struggling in every way. "Why don't you give yourself up?" asks the villainous newsman on nationwide TV. "Have you ever been in fucking prison", retorts Sonny.

Sonny and Sal are both tragic characters but are desperately funny as McMurphy was in "Cuckoos Nest". The acting is excellent, especially Sony (Al Pacino) who almost touches his performance in "Serpico".

The film goes some way to showing the worst features of hollow America - the confusion and hopelessness of people imprisoned in a modern society. It effectively mixes emotions in a similar way to "Cuckoos Nest" - it is a pathetic

film, well handled which tells a true and important story.

Originally the film was banned but now screens with a restriction, probably due to the fact that it contains long lines of fucks and shits. Watching the film makes me realise that film censorship in this country is more obscene than the thousands of metres of film they cut out of movies each year.

- David Murray



VUWSA FILMS COMING: MEMORIAL THEATRE.

W 2 June 5pm The Magnificent Seven R Ride Again.

A very popular Western - a follow-up to The Magnificent Seven Ride.

Stars: Lee Van Cleef being his usual tough self and is directed competently by George McCowan.

Th 3 June 2.15pm Let's Scare Jessica to Death.

"The thinking man's vampire movie, probably a secret dream for at least half the world's young filmmakers..." NY Times.

A young couple escape the New York rat race and live in an old house in the country where they encounter a 100 year old vampire.

This is one of the most popular horror movies and is a favourite of a certain mad-man I know.

Director: John Hancock
Star: Zohra Lampert as Jessica.

Andy Warhol's 'HEAT'

The movie ends; the lights come on, we sit motionless in our seats.

"I think Andy Warhol's just made a fool of me".

The committee of five ardent reviewers, still seated, ponder this profound statement.

Silence.

"Well, what did you think?"

More silence.

"I thought it was a fucking amazing movie". "It was really natural - gutsy and crude". "I thought it was really shit hot. People so vivid, so alive". The fifth member of our party had slept through the entire film and hence had no estatic comment to make apart from "My brain hurts!" My reaction was a little more reserved. Coming out of the film I didn't know what I thought of it. It is a film one experiences rather than comprehends.

For me the film had much in common with Bob Fosse's "Lenny". Both films deal with the experiences of a central character in what is a fairly decadent world, and explore his relationships with people around him. "Heat" concerns the unscrupulous efforts of a small time actor Joey Delasandro to get to the top in Hollywood.

But at the same time the film is a satire - a satire on films about small time actors trying to make big in Hollywood. And this is Warhol's joke. Events, action, people happen in the film and yet nothing really happens. It's a rip-off of an audience which expects things to happen.

"Heat" is a very good example of the underground film and for this alone it's worth seeing. Underground film is a reaction against conventional cinema - actors are amateurs, dialogue (in this case) largely unrehearsed, camera shots

imperfect and concerned almost entirely with faces.

Underground cinema is a "rough" medium. It is adaptable, low budget, works with what it has - very similar to street theatre (which is reaction to conventional Downstage type drama).

Underground cinema is usually antagonistic to its society. "Heat" highlights the decadence of people and the artificiality of Hollywood. It uses themes taboo to "the silent majority" - lesbianism, homosexuality, ball for bed etc - in an attempt to shock its audience into actually thinking for once. And it certainly shocked our censor. A world of warning here - if you're going just for the sex and violence don't bother - its all been cut out.

"Heat" is very much a home movie. It was written, directed and filmed by Paul Morrissey. Although the film is billed as "Andy Warhol's 'Heat'", he, in fact, did no more than supply the money for the production. This sense of home movie amateurishness adds to the film rather than detracting from it. It gives "Heat" a freshness and vitality - a quality of strangeness lacking from most commercial films.

Heat is quite an enjoyable movie. It's very funny in parts but one always has the vague nagging suspicion that it is the characters who are laughing at you rather than the other way round. It's also quite a sordid, decadent film in its own way - one that I wouldn't like to go to alone.

"Heat" is an interesting film, enjoyable for what it is, and worth seeing because it is one of the few underground films ever released on the commercial circuit. But comparing it (perhaps unfairly) to "Lenny" it lacks a sense of dignity or any power to move.

Interesting but minor. B2

- Ben Smith.

Victoria University of Wellington
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
WINTER TERM, 1976

THE ARTS OF THE PACIFIC FRINGE

A series of films which present something of the variety of Pacific cultures, and something of their common heritage will be shown on Mondays at 1 p.m. in the Memorial Theatre with the exception of Queen's Birthday.

Series I. Tangata Whenua

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Monday, 17 May : | Spirits and the Times Will Teach
In Those Times; Moko; Herepo's Place |
| Monday, 24 May: | The Great Trees
Putanaki; In the Shadow of the Ngata |
| Monday, 31 May : | The Prophets
Parihaka; Tuhoa Ringata |
| Monday, 14 June: | Waikato
Queen Te Atarangihaka; a Paukai at Tauranganui |
| Monday, 21 June: | Turangawaewae: a Place to Stand
Porirua's maras at Maraeroa; Nga Tamatoa |
| Monday, 28 June: | The Carving Cries
Maori culture in the modern world |



DOWNSTAGE

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THREE SISTERS

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Starts Thursday May 27 until Saturday July 3

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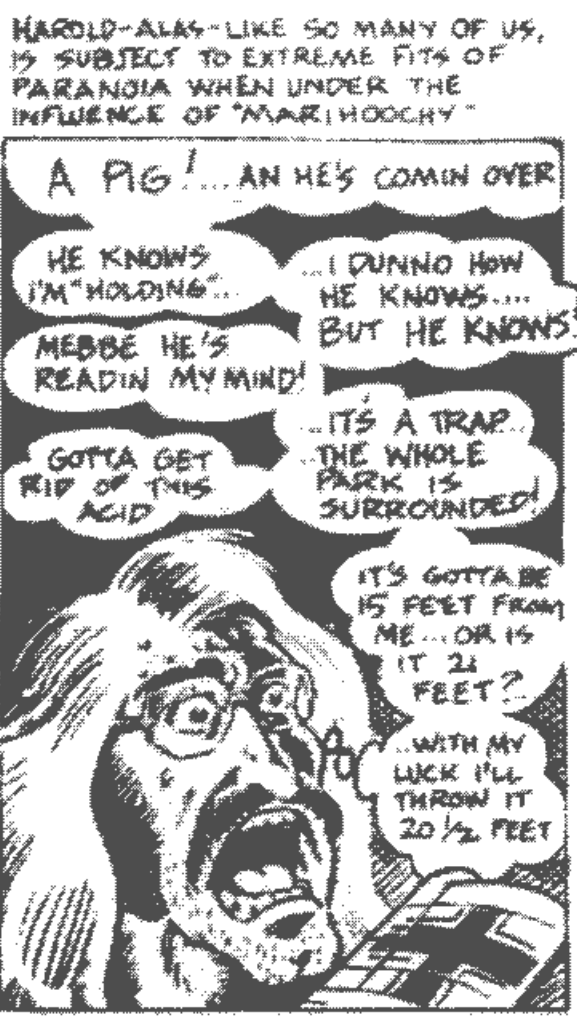
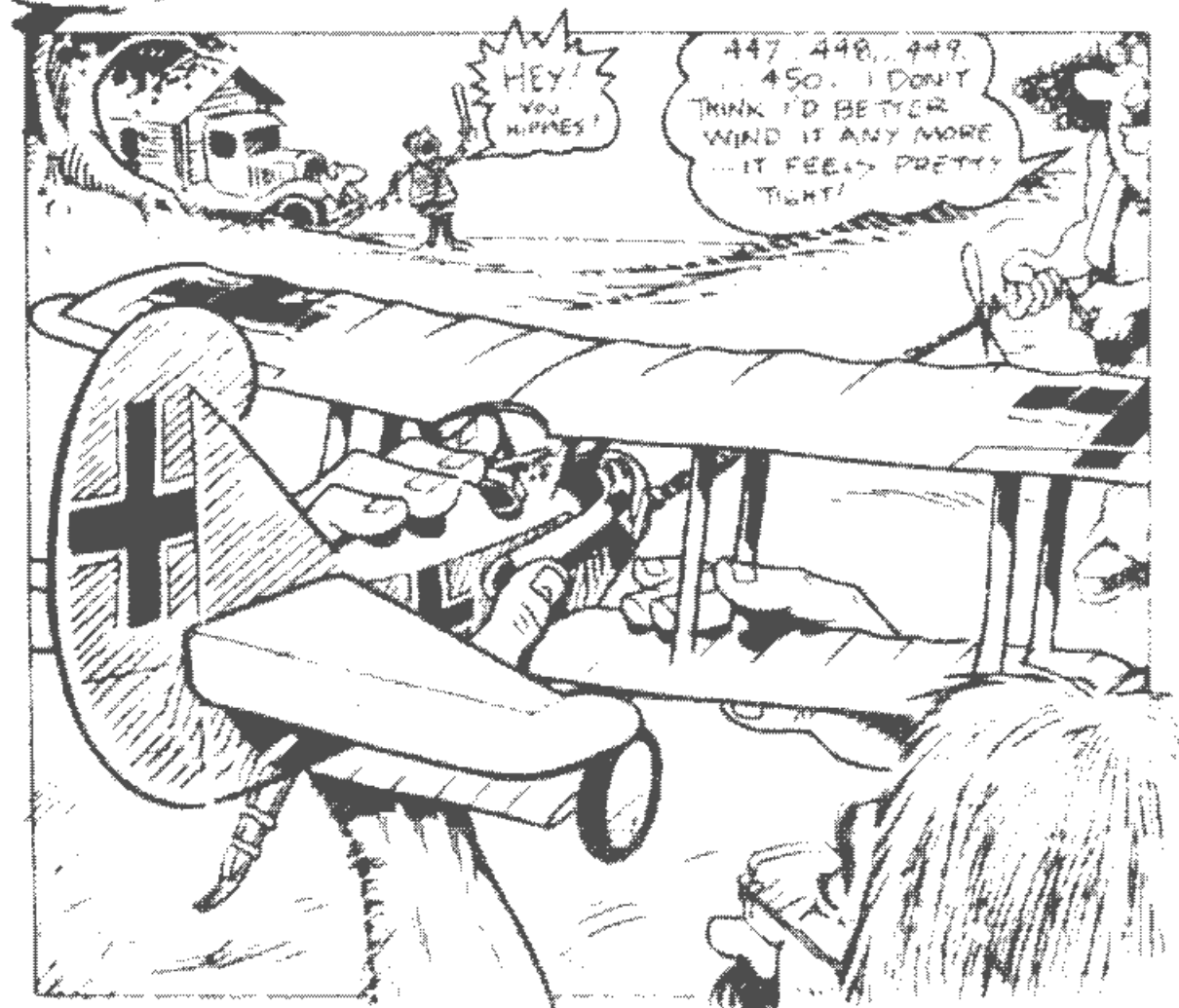
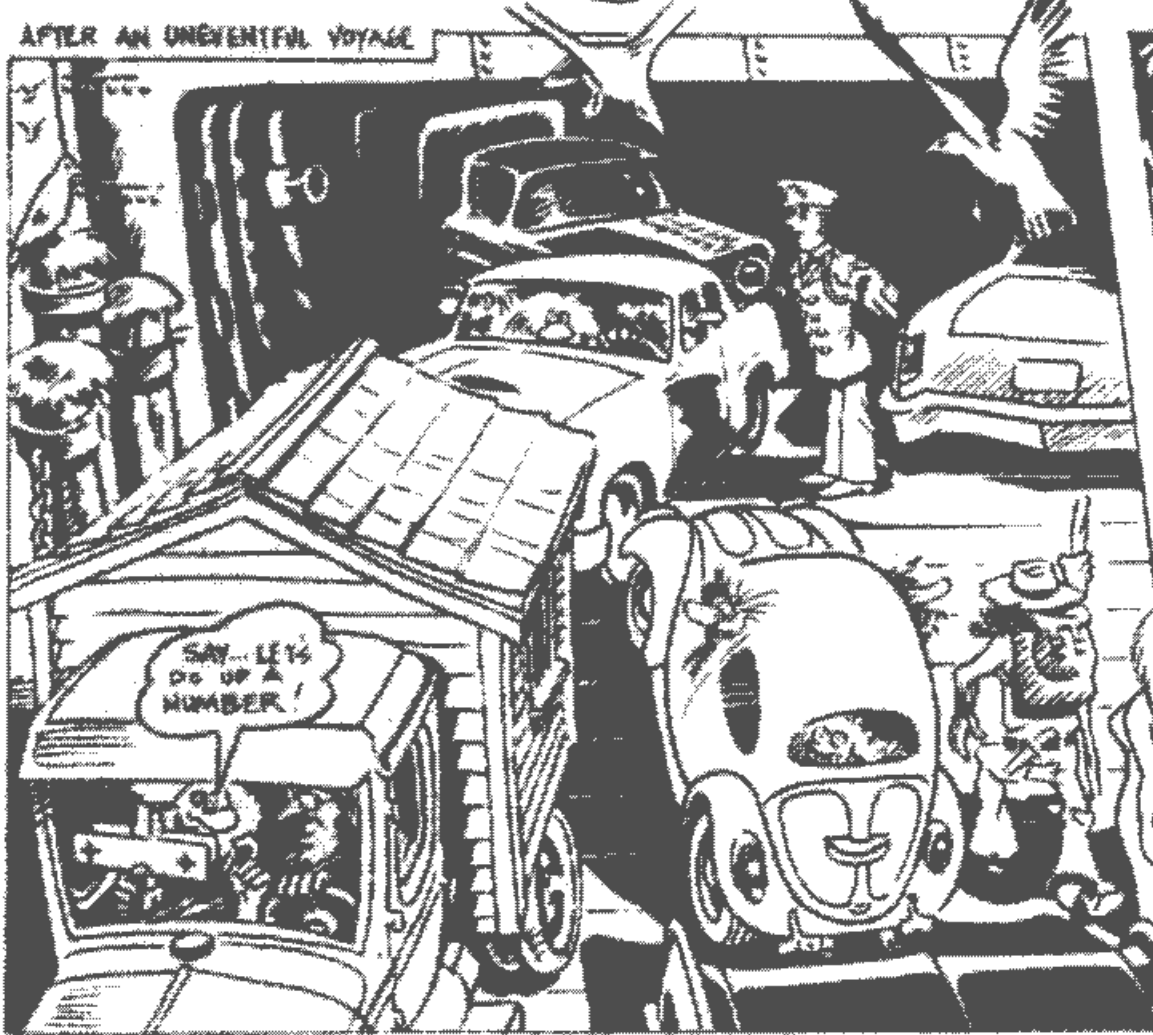
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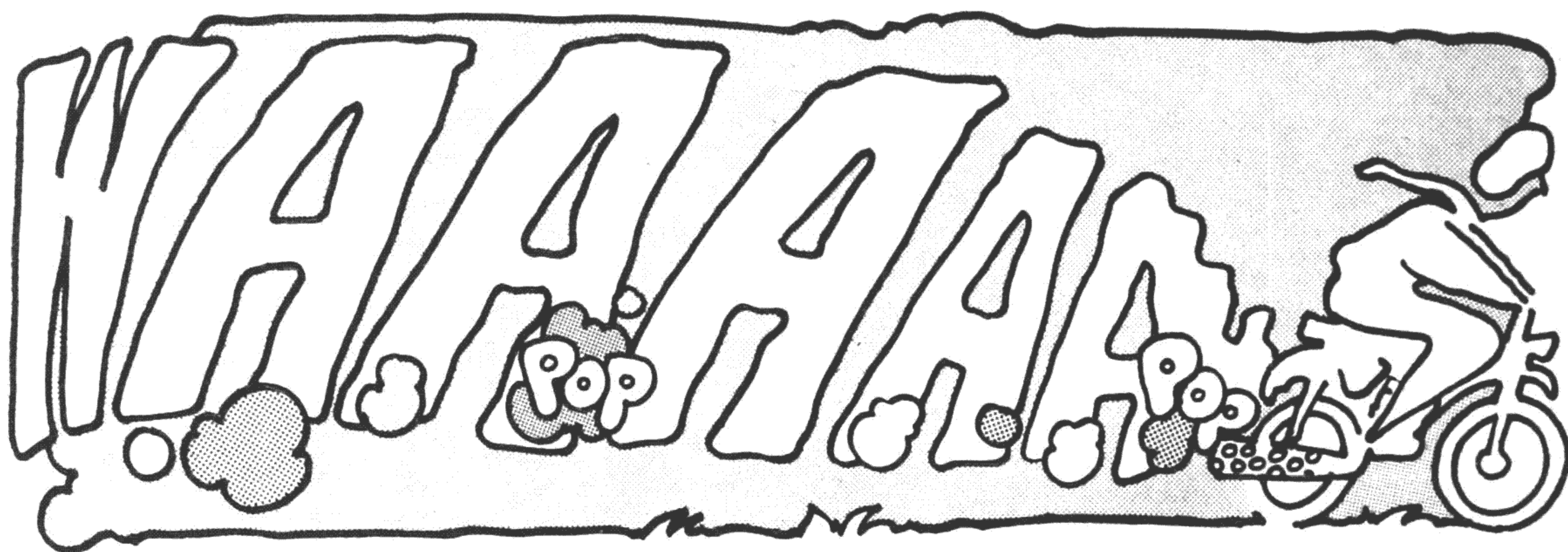
HAROLD HEDD

WRITTEN AN DRAWN FER YEW BY... Rand Holmes

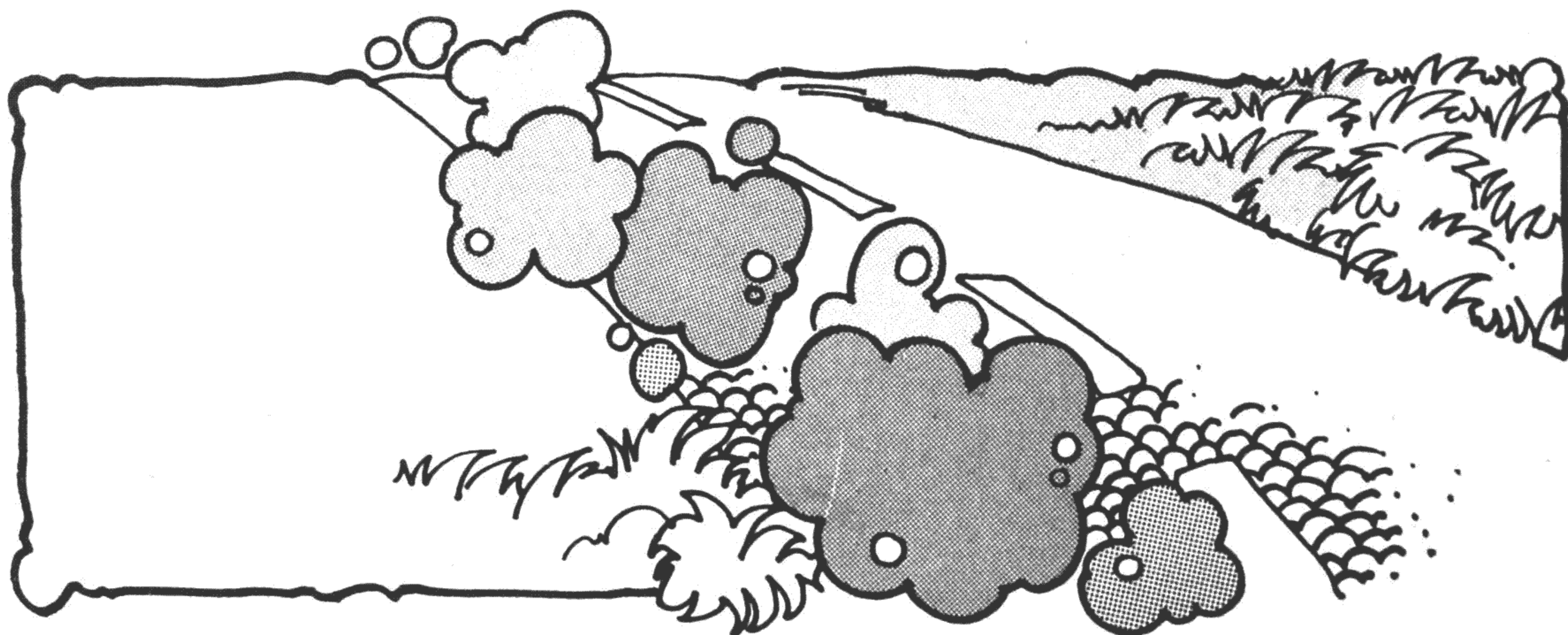


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give you the kind of quiet, clean
running that your ears, your neighbours,
and your environment will appreciate.

HONDA

FOUR STROKES AHEAD



Korean Defenders Bourne Back

Dear Sir,

We strongly protest against an article about Korea in the April 26 of *Salient*.

A newspaper is a mirror of society, and in this sense we feel that the *Salient* is a paper reflecting the opinion of Victoria University students.

However, the most important role of a newspaper is to declare the truth to its readers and present a balanced view. Thus, a report must be based on the truth, and on facts and information which are objectively reliable. When a paper fails in these points, it is little better than rubbish.

Mr Terry Auld reported that the wage of a worker in a factory in Korea is 95 cents a day. If he referred to the wage of a part-time worker, he might be right. Otherwise, this is a malicious distortion of the fact. Such a wage rate is simply inconceivable of our country whose per capita gross national product went up from \$US242 in 1970 to \$US531 in 1975 and whose exports increased from \$US1 billion to US\$5.4 billion in the same period.

As to his claim, "that the South Korean people have been stripped of all their democratic rights..." we cannot but laugh at his naivety and regret his failure to find and learn the truth.

We in the Republic of Korea are not under communism, where only dictatorship can prevail and where the democratic rights of the people are stripped to maintain the dictatorial regime.

It is true that we voluntarily restrained our freedom through our constitutional process because we face the constant threat of invasion from the communists.

What is democracy? It would be ludicrous to maintain that all democratic systems must be the same in every detail in every country. Geographical, historical and cultural factors, and above all the existing situation, all play an important part in shaping a country's political system.

With these reasons, we the Korean students of Victoria university join to strongly protest against the sweeping erroneous presentations of our country in *Salient*.

If Mr Terry Auld would like to know the real facts about Korea, we promise that we will help him.

The Korean students of Victoria University.

The Truth Always Hurts

Dear Sir,

What right has Mr Isaacs got to condemn the country that has given him amnesty and the people who pay for his upkeep. Isaacs' martyr complex and his arrogance of being an oppressed black does not give him the right to bite the hand that feeds him.

Because of his position as a political refugee he expects people to applaud when he maligns one of the most racially integrated countries in the world. It is conceded that N.Z. may not be a racial utopia but in comparison to the rest of the world its level of racial integration is far higher than most, especially the emerging Black African nations.

What does Isaacs expect to find when he searches the graffiti on toilet walls? The 23rd psalm? If he would expand his reading he would discover we have a Race Relations Act. A few scribbles cannot be indicative of the whole country and Isaacs cannot condemn us because of a small minority of bigots.

Furthermore I don't believe that any MP has suggested that NZ adopt an apartheid system and if one has I would thank Mr Isaacs to supply his name and the context in which he or she said it.

Isaacs conclusions are ridiculous and not

based on any real evidence. I suggest if Isaacs is so dissatisfied with this country that he return to his own

Good Riddance,
C.G. O'Connor.

It sounds like the old Muldoon line again. If somebody says something you don't like (especially if they happen to be Maoris, Polynesians or Unionists) you get rid of them. The truth won't run away, and in the case of South Africa the day of reckoning is advancing very swiftly - Ed.

Average New Zealanders Spits It Out Hey!

I'm dead against APARTHEID mate! I don't have any little black boy to wash my back and don't aim to have - got that straight?

Now, if those loudspoken bastards ripping shit out of that naive, rowdy racist in the S.U. building on the 24th May, are what stand for HART, this magazine and the VUSA must give full approval. Universities are schools of higher - now lower learning - aren't they? It's pretty clear which little group wrote letters to ensure John Walker runs against only his shoes at the Olympics.

I've worked with Pakehas and Maoris for the previous five years, some cool - some lousy - all damn conscious of how an outspoken - outdated reactionary group is creating sectarian conflict within an otherwise laconic (and who says it wrong) population. Man, along came HART and there had to follow a Dun Mihaka.

You bastards aren't fixing things - just causing tenderness where there was little before - namely here in New Zealand.

That VUSA Bursary Student from SA might have found some peace (piece?) here man - don't screw up his stay!!

Come to think of it - a reply to that chick in HART who said too much of nothing (a back bencher maybe) ref. 24 May BUSA building.

If you want to screw a racist white S.A. - no-one's going to notice any creaking bedsprings 10,000 miles away!!

Don't choke too much ed, we all know ya hate Piggy and thrive on HART (non-Partial)?

Signed,
Even Piggy had a mother.

It seems Apartheid Week has brought the racists out from the woodwork - Ed.

Another Average New Zealander On Racism

Dear Ed; re editorial *Salient* No.10

God, did that editorial of Henry Isaacs piss me off. Who the hell does he think he is? Here he is living in this country at the taxpayers expense (that's right lad, at the taxpayers expense!). Where does he think his scholarship comes from, not from trees I hope. Anyway here he is at our expense telling us how terrible and racist we all are.

As an "honorary" visitor to this fair land Mr Isaacs should be particularly grateful for the opportunity of getting an education for himself at the "white racists expense".

As for racist slogans Mr Isaacs should go down to the Periodical section of Rankine Brown and look in the men's loos - (Black racism pretty obvious on the walls there) it is Black racism all right - after all they are the "poor oppressed slaves of the white racist majority in New Zealand".

As a taxpayer booting many of Mr Isaacs benefits he enjoys in this fair land I heartily object to him telling us what is allowable to be written on walls or how to run our shops.

As for Rhodesian cousins, isn't it the same thing when Mr Isaacs calls other black people his brothers - What's the bloody difference - there is none.

One thing Mr Isaacs should not forget that as a guest he should not bite the hand that feeds him and learn to keep his mouth in a more diplomatic manner. After all he

is the representative of some Black organisation whose aim seems to be closely allied with the overthrow of a legitimate Nation.

Remember Mr Isaacs your views tend to polarise average New Zealanders more against your cause than for it.

Disgusted I,
(Mr) J. Lacki.

While it is editorial policy to print letters that differ from our viewpoint, I believe there are certain factual errors that should not be spread around without some sort of rejoinder.

1) The NZ taxpayer is not paying for Henry Isaac's stay in New Zealand. The NZUSA Southern African Scholarship is contributed to by individuals from all around New Zealand and by organisations sympathetic to the scholarship's aims.

2) South Africa is not a 'legitimate nation' and will never be one until the majority of people (whether white, Black or coloured) in South Africa and in neighbouring Namibia (South West Africa), which is illegally occupied by South Africa, are free to shape the present and future conditions of their respective countries.

Another One from the Woodwork

Dear Sir,

Since New Zealand is one of the most racist countries in the world, as Mr Isaacs would have us believe, it would be interesting to note his recommendations for the purification of our nigger-hating isles. Perhaps he would suggest that we should strive to emulate some of the well-adjusted, multi-racial societies in Black Africa. To cure our ills should we adopt the well-known African adage - "Kicking an Asian out a day keeps the witch-doctors away?" The solution to racial disharmony is simple in African terms - get rid of all the other races, a solution similar to Hitler's.

Mr Isaacs claim that the graffiti on toilet walls shows the true feelings of New Zealanders is nonsensical. Has anyone ever come across an example of graffiti that is complimentary to anyone? If Mr Isaacs station in life is to go hunting through public toilets for anything that mildly smells of racial discrimination, then I suggest that he leaves our shores for another land where his persecution complex will be less of a handicap. Mr Isaacs may very well have a secret desire to be crucified but I suggest his Clavary lies in South Africa not New Zealand.

L.D.

Young Nats 'nto the Letters Column

Dear Sir,

When I first read 'Salient Workers' reply in the last issue to S.P. Mark I thought what a lot of tripe this odd-ball is writing.

Out he comes with statements like 'authoritarian reactionary' 'capitalist welfare state' and 'bourgeois'. Then mixing these hackneyed expressions with his own crude analysis of Muldoon (probably masking a secret admiration for the man) he goes on in such a manner that the only conclusion I could come to is that he wants the return of "The Rump" or what some call Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition.

To use "Salient Worker's" own reasoning need I point out the borrowing undertaken by the Labour Administration was from some of the world's greatest capitalists: the international banks. Does he have to be reminded of the continual verbal barrage of Labour about the need to control inflation and yet the fact that it continued on its meteoric rise in an ever astonishing manner? Is 'Salient Worker' so filled with his own self interest and misguided concepts that he fails to realise that either something is done now or he and his comrades will wonder what has hit them?

Probably the reason why he thinks the present measures are so hard is because he is comparing them to the lack of measures by the previous Administration. Perhaps that is what S.P. Mark is attempting to get across to those still revelling in the free for all of 1972-75.

Yours faithfully,
Andrew Wierzbicki.

Poetry and Sheep-children?

In last weeks poetry page, "The Sheep Child" by James Dickey caught my eye. After reading the poem I was curious. I had heard about these 'mutants' before and last year, while working on a farm in Southland I saw one for myself. It wasn't covered in wool but it did have curious, sort of club-feet and a very large eye (only one). At the time I was struck by its resemblance to a human foetus.

Could a member of the staff (preferably someone who knows what they're talking about) please give me a straight answer. Could a sheep conceive a 'sheep-child' from a human? Thanks.

Yours faithfully,
T. Draw.

Comments on Pol Studies Conference

Dear Editor,

Having attended sessions on the Pol.Sci Conference I was interested to read David Murray's report in *Salient*, May 24th.

I would agree that the paper presented by Bruce Jesson was probably the highlight of the whole thing. This "bright new star" is actually a "bright old star" having been part of the radical movement for quite a long time and it was interesting to see how his quite thorough study of NZ's "ruling oligarchy" and the close links which they have always had, and continue to favour, with overseas capital, has led away from the view he once held that "NZ Republicanism" was a serious proposition in itself and that the NZ "ruling oligarchy" could play a progressive role in a struggle to achieve it.

Another speaker who presented an excellent paper was Rob Campbell who outlined some of the problems in analysing N.Z.'s class structure that result from its peculiar position in the world economy, having developed as a colony and then beyond that to one of the minor imperialist states, but still one with a relatively weak and unbalanced economy.

While a number of speakers criticized the N.Z. Communist Party's "Peoples Voice" for having a schematic rather than an analytical view of N.Z.'s class structure it was conspicuous that "Socialist Action" was not included in these criticisms by any of the speakers, some of whom are regular readers. I was therefore surprised to see that Mr Murray had lumped together the quite significantly different politics and journalistic style of "Socialist Action" and "People's Voice", and referred to both as "generalized diarrhoea" without pausing to give any examples to justify such strong language or such lumping together. I wonder if David Murray would care to enlarge on this. He may like to ponder on the point that "Red Papers on New Zealand" will include at least one major article previously published in "Socialist Action".

A point which I raised in discussion at the Conference was the importance of people who have studied Marxism making themselves part of the active Marxist movement. Whether it's the S.A.L., the N.Z.C.P., the S.U.P. or N.Z. Republicanism whose ideas you like best, these ideas can only be tested and confirmed or disproved by taking them into the streets, the social movements etc., and they are only of any value if this is what is done with them. It is this testing of theory through application that makes Marxism a science of politics.

If the radical intellectuals now appearing do fizzle out, as happened in the 30's, it will only be because ideas require the process of putting them into action to maintain their interest or to be effective.

I urge David Murray and everyone else who is beginning to see the failings of a decaying capitalism and the inevitable necessity of a revolutionary party if the human race is not to be dragged down to new lows in this process of decline, but to progress to a higher form of social organisation, to begin now following Lenin's urging to "educate, agitate, organise".

Fratemally,
Peter L. Butler,
Wgtn Branch Socialist Action League.

Apologies All Around

Dear Ed,

May I congratulate *Salient* on its prompt publication of correspondence to the editor.

It took a mere six weeks for my letter to finally appear; when it did the advertisement complained of would hardly be recalled by a single *Salient* reader.

Could the editor please explain this ridiculously long period of delay or offer the appropriate apology.

Yours in annoyance,
Pauline Dickson.

I certainly offer an apology. As you know Salient is snowed under with letters every week and it is very difficult keeping track of them all and trying to get them published the week they are submitted. Your letter and two others found their way to the bottom of my Letters-to-the-Editor File and were only published with the near-emptying of that file last week. Lengthy delays such as this one will not happen in the future -Ed.



Letters

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 8c postage then send your letters to P O Box 1347, Wellington. Letters should be double spaced and on one side of the paper only.

Woman V.P. Replies to complaint

Dear Annoyed Woman Student,

With regard to your complaint, I investigated the situation of Old Kirk which you considered to be a male domain as far as toilet facilities were concerned.

I must admit I found the toilet on the first floor rather hard to locate, but overall I was impressed by the cleanliness.

You remarked yourself on the unused hand towel - to my mind that indicates not that people prefer to go elsewhere because of delays, but is more indicative of a limited demand on these facilities. Perhaps you know better; when I visited them all twice during one day there was not a person in sight - definitely no queuing which I did expect from the tone of your letter.

Compared with the pressure on the toilets in other buildings I feel the facilities are quite adequate; indeed if overall cleanliness is a reliable indication, they are comparatively underused.

In regard to the Use of Old Kirk, as far as I can gather the ratio of Women to Men is as follows:

Ground Floor: Computing Services - Women only 30% of total number of Males.

1st Floor: Mainly Informational Science 32.9% plus some English groups (obviously more women than men in this group, though it makes up a part only the floor's total use).

2nd Floor: Mainly Buad groups - 16% Women plus some English groups - extremely fair allocation of toilets on this floor.

The statistics (university figures) show that the building as to Use not merely facilities is male dominated; obviously such factors were taken into account when renovations were begun.

Your complaint about the noise cistern is fair - the noise leaves no mistaken ideas about what is behind the door from which someone has just emerged; but as for the lack of a cubicle on the ground floor - I did notice a lock on the door to the corridor that would presumably ensure sufficient privacy.

I am sorry if this reply leaves you dissatisfied, but I for one was not convinced that your complaint had much validity. Such protests do not help solve the far more blatant and serious examples of actual sexual discrimination to be seen on this university. If you are unduly inconvenienced by the present situation then I suggest you make your own protest to the university authorities. I do not feel inclined to carry what I consider a rather unwarranted complaint any further.

Rae Mazengarb,
Woman Vice-President.

Reply to Musoc Writer

Dear Kathleen,

Re letter in last issue re non-response to Music Society Committee's musical efforts.

I am a paid-up member of this society, but you have not sent me a monthly newsletter as promised at your enrolment desk. Punch.

I am interested in helping with the dragon production (June 10th-12th). But there has been no soliciting of unskilled help. Fortunately I know some of those involved so that I can come forward and offer but what about those outside the semi-clique who in your letter you say that you're after?

Granted, classical music is not very popular in our varsity it seems. And you have been making a 99% effort at getting it to the people. But on Wednesday 26th (tomorrow at this moment) an ad hoc group under one Thomas Proctor is playing an original work written by the same Thomas Proctor. Also avant-garde electronic music will be happening. All this is under the auspices of

the same Music Society as far as I can discover. There has been no advertising by the Society (This is the 1% where you failed).

Is God against avant-garde or something. Sincerely,
Elton.

Exec Slackness Exposed

Dear John,

Several allegations have been levelled at this year's Exec members to date, but I wonder if the structural workings of the Executive itself leave a little to be desired.

If we are to create special positions such as Publications Officer and Accommodation Officer, then the holders of these positions should be looked at more closely to make sure they are doing just what they were elected to do!

As we all know the accommodation situation is quite disastrous and every year the same problems as we had at the beginning of the year reoccur. The Association I believe leases a number of houses, the rents from which come to the Association. But what other avenues are being worked on at the moment to help alleviate this growing problem?

It seems that our servide has reached the point where the Accommodation Officer has become complacent - is this position needed at the moment then, if the holder considers that the situation is OK to the point that no further investigation is considered?

I would like to hear from Scott Wilson on the sort of work that he is doing for this particular position - he is working on Accommodation I presume?

What about the other officers? Apart from the administration VUWSA are these other positions being used to their full extent?

I realise the unfairness of most comments levelled at Exec this year - they all appear to have spent a great deal of time defending themselves - but how about turning toward some constructive activity in some very vital areas.

Yours,
Tony Newton.

I suspect this letter was written by an executive member - Ed.

To Publish or Not to Publish

Dear Sir,

With anxious fevered eyes I have searched through Salient and...nothing! What could have happened? Why the fuck didn't you publish it, oh you miserable bunch of bastards devastating my chance to get in print. Holy shit, it's relevant to students isn't it? All these thousands of poor damned twisted creeps anxious to unload. What happened? Did it smack of chauvinism, stink of individualism, how ironic that it should be rejected because it reeks of righteousness, why wasn't it included in this weeks issue. I've been busting my balls in gleeful anticipation all weekend and poof! all the guts runs out on monday. Curse and condemnation. You could have at least left a notice with the article in the post box to inform me earlier.

Salient resembles the letters in Penthouse in it's literary policy, as if the whole bloody thing was written by the same person, excepts for some of the letters, wherein the imbecility is explicit. Explanations Explanations! Why was this done? Why I am being tortured you must explain, why you chose to reject a maniacal medley of impressions and frustrations as incorporated in the article and favoured instead a lot of little-red-riding-hood stories for the juvenile fetishists of Rhetorical Materialism. Oh the denied mind goes crazy in its imaginings, like some grieving parent when the daughter doesn't come home on time. I rage and scream. You didn't consider it worthy of print? Worthy? For fucks sake considering the percentage of asinine drivel that leaks off

these pages I would have thought that even if journalistically it lacked great merit at least shit could be disguised in a sewer! Ho Ha Pardon, you see rejection makes me bitter, I leap and defend my exclusion from paradise of the published with crude shields of slander. Salient isn't really too bad, after all 'you' have published things of mine a couple of years ago. So why was this perennial gripe not included eh? Not enough room? Balls. Perhaps the indulgent self-obsessed and satyristic tone nauseated you. But fuck it's true! "What a scoop" you should have shrieked, here at last an in depth expose of the mind of the average Frustrate. What a boon revelation. Like some guy who has left the CIA and vigorously denounces their myriad iniquities. A chance to see the bizarre machinations of the homo sapiens from the inside, chance to see the bizarre from the inside, like Bartlet's autobiography "Box on he run". Maybe it was too hot? Could one be so presumptuous as to think it was discomforting? That underneath this articulate exterior of youthful liberalis, oops sorry, radicalism, there is a seething undercurrent of erotic anxieties. That even given the apron strings of Mother Marx, not all in the world is right? I honour myself too highly with such suspicions, indeed I wasn't writing with a thought of anybody elses hang-ups, christ, my own alone are enough. So why the fuck didn't you grace me with the gift of pages, consolidate my ravings with a press?

Included with this elongated grizzle is another article much the same format as the former, a tirade written in such style as too amuse, titillate, rather than inform, lets not be so fucking didactic/polemical as you are with the presentation at the moment, include some of these incidental apolitical student articles. How many students actually read the rag, and how many dismiss it as lefty-heavy-crap? A lot. Unfortunately. You can even enhance your own proselytising powers by including such tit-bits to attract the readership. Look at Blunder Bros. take an example in marketing, and don't consider it as a compromise of principles.

Maybe you didn't clear your post-box out? Jesus it's true that we tend to run through the whole array of demeaning objections first. All those explanations that are most difficult to accommodate for the unstable esse are those it chooses first. Holy smoke what a bunch of fruitcakes, we are all banana republics. I mean Christ what might have happened is that you only discovered the things after it had all been set up and sent out perhaps shit who knows maybe it was all simple as that. I seem to see the rottenest possibilities far before the complimenting, perhaps you kicked yourselves and beat each other's breasts that didn't check the damned box before final preparation or whatever is the mechanism of ordering you follow. Yes perhaps that's it well shit anyway you could notify me, I realise I'm being a bit mysterious with this non-committal address but shit I couldn't tolerate being recognised and god knows what devastating repercussions it would extend to my already attenuated relations, my relationships would be scuttled. Perhaps you all thought that what I said was comically pathetic and unworthy of your scintillating publications, perhaps there wasn't enough room, time, magnanimity, patience, self-criticism, organizational acuity or fetid liberalism available, that has caused this sore denial of my brow-beaten tappings. Explanations! Explanations! etc!

I remain,
neurotically yours,
Maxwell Carrier.

Perhaps Salient readers will now be able to understand why Maxwell Carrier's two articles were not published. And at the same time I will gain some sympathy for the shit that I am forced to read every week - Ed.

I Love You Janet

Dear Janet,

I am using the public columns of this 'newspaper' to let you know something I have always wanted to tell you. I love you!!!

Please come back to the flat soon.

John xxx
ps Rover sends his love.

Piss off John

Dear John,

I am using the public columns of this newspaper to let you know something I have always wanted to tell. I hate YOU, STICK YOUR FLAT!

Janet
ps Rover gave me fleas.

Muldoon Fan Strikes a Blow for Laissez-Faire Capitalism

Dear Sir,

In his letter to Salient last week 'a Salient Worker' criticised Mr Muldoon for using his mandate 'to fix up the country and bash the Unions'. Surely this is not criticism but rather the outward manifestation of the responsible attitude displayed by the National Government.

Unions occupying vital positions in the New Zealand economy must be made to realise that they cannot exploit such position by holding the New Zealand public at ransom. The P.S.A. has recently been adopting the typical irresponsible stance taken by many of the Unions within this country, holding weekly stop-works which have disastrous results so far as the economy is concerned. It is high time that electricity workers and for that matter any able bodies person occupying a state house be made to pay a reasonable rent. The New Zealand economy can not continue to support these parasites living in subsidised housing. Only the sick and the elderly are justified in living in houses subsidized by the government.

'A Salient Worker' also accuses Mr Muldoon of knocking organisations such as HART. Whilst not denying the right of any member of HART to refuse to play sport with South Africa, surely this gives HART no right to interfere with the rights and freedoms of others by preventing them from playing sport with whom they please.

It is not hard to see why 'A Salient Worker' chooses to hide behind a cloak of anonymity when one reads the rubbish espoused in his letter.

Yours,
S.P. Mark
What About Uganda

Sir,

Halt All Racist Tours, HART, a bona fide society, black supremacist organisation, or a pack of bigots?

As a bona fide society HART would surely follow its purpose - trying to Halt all racist tours. However this is not what it does. There is no outcry about the racist tours by the New Zealand Maoris, or even those by Ugandan Teams, representative of the racist Ugandan regime.

In fact all the examples against HART following its aims indicates a pro-black racism stance. Moreover the society seems to be overstepping its bounds by trying to oppose the Vorster and Smith governments, I suggest a change of name for the group might be appropriate.

Even over-looking this change in role a double standard is still evident - while professing to desire the end of the racist regimes - equal rights for all nationalities, and, dare I say it, democratic government, at home they seek to advance their purposes by defacing other peoples property, intruding on privacy and infringing freedom and rights - I for one find this immoral, against what HART professes it is fighting for and damaging to the cause.

Yours faithfully,
M. Drake.

Another Letter We Forgot to Publish

Dear Sir,

If the demand for a commercial newspaper, eg Evening Post, is say 20,000 copies a day they do not go and print 30,000 copies. If so they're a pack of bloody idiots. In times of economic doom such wastage of paper, money, labour and other resources is not warranted, advisable or sensible.

So to get to the 'brief' point I wish to make - "You overprint Salient". Salient is run "by the students for the students" with money granted from the students wallets by the "shooting gallery" of the Associations Executive. The Association should be very interested in the optimum allocations of its funds. The Rubbish Bags, the toilets and the tables of the Cafe are full of Salients which bears witness to the fact that supply far outstrips the demand for Salient. Not all students are interested in Salient.

When \$2 out of \$30.50 paid by each student goes to Sports and \$2.25 goes to Salient (which is an over-budgeted piece of propaganda) this reflects the buggered-up priorities of the Association Executive.

Yours in writing-for once,
P.S. Bealastoki,

J.A. Martin,
Mike and Alexis Bugner.

A few matters need clearing up.

- 1) We produce one Salient per student, so that even if a student does not want to use the money he/she has contributed for publications, the opportunity is there.*
- 2) The \$2.25 publications grant covers the whole field of student publications, not just the production of Salient.*
- 3) Throughout the first term Salient conducted a recycling campaign. Used Salients were collected from the cafeteria and put out again for students to pick up and read. This way we can use our resources more efficiently - Ed.*