

## March on Friday

Photo of gathering of students with signs

Agrarian images including wheat and bee hive

## Editorial

March on Friday for Adequate Bursaries

Friday's march for a bursary cost-of-living adjustment is only the first step in what looks like shaping up to be a long hard struggle.

Last year it was simply a matter of walking down town to Parliament Buildings, putting on a bold face, and Phil's your uncle - one standard tertiary bursary!

This year the Government is counting on students being content with last year's handout and having been sucked in with the "we've all got to tighten our belts" propaganda.

Don't apologise for asking for a decent living wage instead of the miserable handout we get every election year. Fulltime students have as much right to a share in the wealth of this country as anyone else and if everyone in New Zealand is to have the opportunity of full time university education then bursary levels must keep up with the cost-of-living.

At the moment two-thirds of Victoria students receiving bursary assistance are expected to live on \$13 a week, while most are paying \$20 a week for rent and food. Many full time students don't even receive the token \$13, and so cannot apply for a hardship allowance. Doctorate students (apart from the few who are on fellowships and study awards) get no assistance and because of the size of their workload have very little time to earn large sums during the holidays.

Problems of assessment and workload - everyday encounters at this university - are intricately tied in with bursary levels. If students aren't receiving enough to live on, they either take on a part-time job or stop eating. In both cases their work and health suffers, and academic pressure rises as they struggle to gain enough units to retain their bursaries, which haven't risen since last election year.

You may not be caught in this treadmill. Many students are. March on Friday to prevent it catching up with you.

— John Ryall

## VUW MUSOC SGM SGM

Wednesday, July 21st, 1pm in the Music Room.

— to discuss next year's major production. If you have any suggestions for a work, consider its feasibility (eg availability of parts). and bring along your ideas and yourself. All Welcome.

We invite you to a Greek Evening on Friday 23 July Student Union Hall 8 - 11am.

Enjoy Greek food, wine and dancing.

Price: \$5.00 double

\$3.00 single

tickets now available from Studass office.

## Salient Notes

Salient staff saying for the week, coined by David Murray, is 'a march a month keeps the cobwebs away'. Anthony Ward suggests a march to Hiroshima and downs a pint of beer. Gerard [*unclear*: Couper] swipes a beer from Mike N.Z.L.S.A. (flop) Stephens. Tony Ward walks in with another three pints of beer. John (mobiliser of the requiem masses) Ryall standing on his editors typewriter asks where the beer is coming from. Leonie Morris, Lindy Cassidy cannot understand this conspicuous consumption by students struggling on the STB. Patrick Mulrennan trots across the room passing through the invisible record reviews editor, Ben Smith, totally ignoring Bernard Randall and Jane Kelsey, hitting it off together.

Gary Lewis and the Zionist collective are trying to mobilise the masses, although not necessarily for a decent standard of living, unlike Mike Wilson, Richard Mays and Ann-Marre Drake (a recent addition to the Salient clique inspired no doubt by the 'student says' on bursaries.) Meanwhile, in a small people's republic adjacent to South Korea, Peking correspondents Rachel Scott and Tom Duggan report a strong local feeling for the march on Friday 23rd.

Strong and vocal support for the oppression of the multitudes is heard from Pat Bartle, Kevin Swann, Leigh Thompson, not to forget Big Lenny Martin Doyle, John Bowden, Goudy Extra Bold and Palatino Semi Bold. Mention must be made of Kingi for the vital part he plays in redistribution Lynn Peck hard at work on the light-table, Geoff Saville, and Lionel Klee in the darkroom (don't get that wrong folks). Actually the revolution is really a plot called Gyles Beckford.

PS. Rose Desmond cannot expect to get her name in the Salient notes if she only comes in on Fridays.

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### Action on Bursaries !!!

You can't take it lying down —

- No Bursary Increase
- Education Spending Cut
- Rising Living Costs

You are Entitled to More — Demand it !!!

Support Protests Against Government Inaction

Show Your Dissatisfaction with Present Government Policy

### Victoria University Rowing Club

Annual General Meeting - Monday 19th July 7.30pm Smoking Room.

This meeting is to form a committee to organise the club for summer tournament next year.

## Green Room Coffee Bar

The Green Room Coffee Bar has now been in existence for five Fridays. Those who have managed to find us have supported us with much enthusiasm, so our original pilot scheme has now turned into a full scale project.

Many people have suggested that we move our music up to the Union Hall where the people are. However this is contrary to our aims as we don't want the "Pub atmosphere" which was created last year when Jean McAlister sang at Alfonso's. We are trying to provide a more relaxed personal atmosphere. For those of you who can remember the "Chez-Paree" in its hey-day this is what we are aiming for. The green room is a place where, if you're tired of the big open and impersonal space of the Union hall or Cafe, you can come, buy a cup of coffee or tea and quietly sit and talk with your friends (bring your lunch) or if the spirit so moves you to sing along with the performer.

Everyone is familiar with the Hunter-side entrance to the Cafe. Well, just as you are going out of these doors there is a garage to your immediate left. Next to this garage is a green sign saying 'Stage Door'. In that door is the Green Room.

The Green Room is the traditional room of a theatre where the actors go after being dressed to await their call. (if they are not stars of the show). Well, this room is rarely used, so the club decided to take advantage of it and are now using it as a folk-music coffee bar.

So far the atmosphere has been very casual. People drop in, eat their lunches, buy a cup of coffee, tea, listen to performers or jam along with instruments they bring.

The structure now will be more formal. There will be "performers" from noon until three, and after that there will be the normal come-all-ye.

Well you can no longer say that you don't know what it is, or where it is. There's bound to be music to please everyone - and as the cliché says:

*"There's bound to be something in it for everyone". I think it's time that people branched out from their own idiosyncratic groups and came together to experience in music and culture not in the "intellectual" stand-offish manner you would approach orchestral music but with true involvement that folk music offers.*

Lynn Peck,

VUW Folk Music Club,

President.

# Varsity Radio at Victoria

by Gary Lewis

Are you helpless in a wasteland of AM pop. What do you do when left with a 'choice' of listening to the inane chatter of health food and aborted fetus talk back on on Radio Windy or the top 20 teeny-bopper, juke-box noise of 2ZM over and over again.

There are alternatives and the possibilities are virtually infinite but tightly controlled by political bodies and government departments. Unlike North America where every university has its own 50 watt FM educational radio station broadcasting in stereo, New Zealand has some way to go.

Changes must come and just as TV eventually arrived down here, so too will FM come to be.

Don't despair. This year the Post Office issued temporary licenses to Radio B in Auckland and 3XB in Christchurch to broadcast during orientation from their respective campuses. Low powered, non-commercial stations; they transmit alternative and progressive music, campus and public affairs as well as orientation week information programmes to an audiences of grateful students.

Wellington is devoid of such a facility, Until Now. The Victoria Radio Club has been formed. Plans are already underfoot to take Windy off the unions PA system and play the music you really want to hear. Next year the club hopes to go on the air. With your help its going to work. This is one of the few institutions where complaints aren't necessary. All you do is get in to it yourself.

Pretty soon students will realise what they have missed and a reletively cheap operation will bring pleasure to millions (*except women with unwanted pregnancies perhaps, whose situation isn't helped by smart men like you - typesetter*). At this stage religious and political programmes are just not on. Fair enough. Rock, Jazz, Classical, Ethnic, whatever you demand, you'll get. To give you some idea of what is envisaged but subject to change imagine listening to a show of the type "2ZM does on Sunday nite crossed with your favourite indulgences.

Its quite a thought... I think it deserves everyones support.

Well, there's the rhyme, now heres the reason - the cost will be limited to the payment of record royalties and rights. Records are free as are generous offers of help and services, its good solid student initiative at work. Even the quality of reproduction will be improved when the club begins its service to the cafe only.

Yes, Murray Forgie will be but a forgotten nightmare as August sees a constructive effort to do something about our environment and quality of lifestyle.

In a way this is total community radio. Yours....

Only a name has to be thought of. Suggestions are welcomed.

Talk about a worthy cause, Trev.

## Bursary Week

*We asked everyone what they thought on:*

- *Is your bursary adequate for your living costs?*
- *Will it be adequate in 1978?*
- *Are you marching on July 28?*

## Activities

### Education Action Calendar July 18-23

Education is a right! Give us a cost-of-living increase!

Stop the Education Cut-backs!

Those are this week's themes, as we spread the word about the inadequacy of student bursaries, and protest about the huge inroads the Government is making into education.

On Friday we have the chance to make cur protest known. It was only by assembling protests of 10 000 across the country that we forced the Government to give us the Standard Tertiary Bursary, and only by applying the same kind of pressure can we make the bursary into a realistic income.

The message is: March on July 23!

The message is: March on July 23!

## Activities

The Activities room (top floor, Union Building) will be open all week. Call in, and help distribute publicity etc. We also need marshalls for the march: please drop in if you're interested.

## How Adequate is Your Bursary?.

### John Coutts

Adequate? What bursary?

1978? No, its ludicrous to expect it with no increase.

March? Oh, yeah.

### Josie Bullock

Adequate? Well, I wouldn't survive on it alone. I've got a part-time job. No-one could ever survive on just the \$13 or \$24 — you've always got to supplement it, with something else. It's terrible.

1978? No it won't

March? Yes.

### Bruce Thomas

Adequate? No, \$13 a week just isn't adequate. I'm living at home, out in the Hutt, and for a start off I spend most of it on travelling, not to mention food and essentials.

1978? No, if it doesn't now.....

March? Ah, I'm working, so I can't but I would have otherwise. I'll probably go to the public meeting on Friday night.

### Rosemary Parker

Adequate? No, its definitely not adequate. I'm on \$13 a week and living at home. I spend it mainly on travel and board, clothing etc And books as well of course.

1978? Definitely not.

March? Yes.

### Tessa Svensen

Adequate? No, it's not adequate. I'm getting the STB of \$13 a week. I'm living at home with two part-time jobs, but I'm still broke.

1978? Hell no, I won't be here. Anyway, I think you should abolish the distinction between the rate given for people living at home and the rate for those away from home.

March? Probably, depends what sort of day it is.

### Phillip Walker

Adequate? No, I get a B busary plus \$13 a week on the Standard(?) Tertiary Bursary and I'm living at home.

1978? No.

March? Yes.

### Timothy Faisandir

Adequate? No. I get the \$13 a week and I live at home. I spend most of it on transport as I live in Silverstream. So it doesn't leave much.

1978? It doesn't even cover costs now, so it won't in 1978.

March? Yeah.

What are Students Going to Do?

March on July 23

# The Money

## Case Study of a Poor Student (Kathy Rose)

Are you on a bursary?

No.

Why don't you qualify?

I don't have U.E.

Did you get Special Admission to come to University?

Yes.

What year are you?

This is my first year.

How many units did you enrol in?

I enrolled in 3 but had to drop one. I couldn't keep up with the course because I had to work.

Did you have any money when you started varsity?

No. I had to borrow the \$10 Special Admission fee.

At the beginning of the year how many hours a week did you work?

15 hours a week, 6-9 every morning.

Did any course in particular cause you workload problems.

It wasn't so much the workload but for Psych I had to learn the basics before I could understand what we were doing.

What did this mean?

I was really worried about it at the time. It was a dreadful decision. I knew that I had to pass at least 2 units to qualify for a bursary next year so I couldn't afford to spend too much time trying to keep up my Psych 1.

Photo of Kathy Rose

Did it occur to you?

No because I knew what the problem was and what I had to do about it.

Did you try and get some sort of financial assistance from the University?

No. I couldn't qualify because I haven't U.E. I could have applied for a grant from the Maori Education foundation but I didn't like to because I felt there were more needy cases than me.

Did you see an academic advisor?

No.

When did you drop Psych?

At the beginning of June.

Are you still working 15 hours a week?

No, I'm working 30 hours a week now that exams are over because I've got bills to pay down at the book shop. I got laid off at the morning job and now I have to work 4 nights a week for 7 hours a night.

Why did you get laid off?

I became redundant.

Have you got any other debts?

Yes, personal debts to friends.

When do you think you'll have paid them off?

Should be able to pay them soon now that I'm working 30 hours a week. Then I can start bying myself some of the many things I need - like a raincoat.

My room is cold and I can't afford any curtains. I've got no carpet and a borrowed heater.

Do you feel you can live a full varsity life?

No, I can't go out at night because I work. I can't afford to buy clothes or even all the books I need for my varsity courses. Because I work 30 hours a week I get more than I would if I was on a full bursary - so I can't see how even those students manage.

What changes would you like to see in the bursary system?

I think that Special Admission Students should qualify for the STB. In fact I think all students should get a large enough bursary so they can devote the necessary time to their varsity work.

Will you be marching on Friday?

Yes, because its the only way us students can show the Government how we feel on the issue.

## Or the Bag

*This interview will have to be anonymous because legally this student shouldn't receive any bursary because he works more than 6 hours a week.*

How much do you receive from your bursary?

\$13 a week. I'm a 23 year old final year law student. I'm flatting but only get \$13 a week because my parents live in Wellington.

How much do you spend a week?

I pay \$3 on transport, \$10 a week on food (because I have to eat out a lot), \$12 a week rent, \$3 on bills and about \$10 on general living expenses. So I would need a bursary of \$38 a week to live adequately.

How many hours a week do you have to work to supplement your \$13 a week bursary?

It varies, sometimes none sometimes up to 30. I do contract work.

How many credits are you doing?

Forty-five law credits.

Has your varsity work suffered through having to work?

Yeah, obviously. I try to be super organised so that it doesn't, but it is still impossible.

Do you think you'll pass your courses?

I'll be struggling.

What changes would you like to see in the bursary system?

I think compelling students to live at home is ridiculous especially if you are an older student - as I am. Living at home is a real strain on students and families of students. Anyhow, to gain the most benefit from a full varsity life, it is essential to move away from home.

Photo of a person with a bag over their head

It is particularly damning and ironic that as a law student, I actually have to break the law to survive at varsity. That is - I have to work more than the maximum 6 hours to ensure an adequate supply of money to keep me going.

I'm lucky because I'm living with non students whom I can bludge off - but I feel a bit of a bastard about it.

The way the bursary system presently works it excludes university people who can't afford to supplement their bursaries and consequently we are in danger of losing free entry to University for all New Zealand citizens.

Will you be marching on Friday?

Shit yes.

Anyone interested in being in a Victoria team to take part in a T.V. 1 university quiz programme during the August vacation please contact Gyles Beckford at Studass Office.

goethe's urfaust A performance in german Thus 22 Fri 23 Sat 24 July 1976 Tickets at door: Students 60c Others \$1.00 memorial Theatre, Victoria University 8 pm MATHEW E. CONNOR "ATTACKS THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT" Memorial Theatre Tuesday 12-2pm

## Education... Who Suffers?

*The Student Bursaries Campaign is intricately tied up with the general cuts being foisted upon all parts of the Education system by the National Government. Last week Salient reporter James Robb journeyed down to Newtown School to ask the school committee chairman David Robinson about the effects of the cuts on primary education.*

How have the education cuts affected Newtown School?

There are two separate areas. One is the cut in staffing - the availability of relief teachers and ancillary staff. We've had two ancillary workers who do such things as taking lunch money, running off newsletters and other minor administrative jobs in the school. But the number of hours they are allowed to work has been cut by about ten hours a week. Their jobs have still got to be done, and so the work falls on to the regular teachers who are again taken away from the classroom. This is on top of the problems associated with the cut in relief teachers. If you have a teacher away you have the headmaster looking after a classroom and also somehow struggling to keep up with the administrative work. It adds up to a poorer education for all our pupils.

These cuts perhaps affect Newtown School more than other schools. Although you can juggle around and get someone standing in front of the class, you can't continue on with the programme that you were doing.

Why do you think Newtown is suffering the most?

The special emphasis on a place like Newtown is because of the high number of children who do not speak English at home. We try to on occasions divide the classes up into smaller groups and take some of them out on special language projects. If in fact you don't have the normal relieving staff coming in and the children are left in a group of 35 with the Head coming into teach them, then they do not receive the individual attention that

they need. We are caught in a trap then. On one level the Government recognises the school as being in a special educational area (and so we have two or three extra staff in the language field), but the recent cuts have not allowed us to make effective use of the extra aids we have been given.

The general cuts have affected most schools - relieving teachers, teacher aids and ancillary staff - but Newtown is again singled out because the school is scheduled for rebuilding. The primer block at Newtown was built in 1893 and has been condemned for about 20 or 30 years. It was meant to be rebuilt this year. It is fairly substandard in that the windows don't open and it's a very dingy 90 year old building. Because it was going to be rebuilt there has been no maintenance done. There are holes in one or two of the walls, the paint's peeling off and the heating is very poor. Newtown children are sitting in a building which is gradually falling to pieces. At the same time, presumably because of the education cuts, the Wellington Education Board hasn't got enough money to put the job into this year's works programme. It was meant to be starting sometime during this financial year. They drew up draft plans last year when the school committee and the teachers met with the education board.

As well as the primer block, the toilet block was also to be rebuilt. There is only one toilet block for Newtown School and that is an outdoor one, which is about 100 yards from the nearest classroom. We had the Medical Officer of Health down to the school last week and he noted 12 things that needed immediate attention in the toilet block. We feel particularly hard done by. There was a film made for Gallery in 1969 outlining the poor conditions in Wellington schools particularly in the toilet areas. I was shown a copy of that film two weeks ago and all of those schools have been renovated except for Island Bay and Newtown, which are both in the less affluent areas of Wellington.

One thing that has made the Newtown parents particularly unhappy is that they have raised \$10,000 from house evening, but this is sitting in the bank. A letter has been sent to the Wellington Education Board offering them \$10,000 when the school is rebuilt to provide a larger than normal library. The parents are becoming a little cynical. We hope to get the work on this year's building programme. The Education Board say they may get it on next year's.

## ***The Victims of Education cuts***

The thing that has finally got most people pissed off in Newtown is the impression that the state of some facilities existing in New town would not be tolerated by people living in more affluent areas. The system that has been devised regarding priority being given to providing buildings in new areas (and school halls to those who can raise a certain percentage of the money beforehand) means that Newtown will always be pushed to the bottom of the list because of its socio-economic nature. It doesn't matter whether it is a conscious decision of the Education Board or not - the net effect is still the same, that in the areas of greatest need you find the worst facilities.

If the Government was concerned not just about education but about a whole range of related social problems then it would be doing something positive to tackle it rather than hiding behind regulations which say that something is a priority and something else is not a priority. When you get the headmaster of the school saying that they're the worst conditions that he's taught in for 30 years, when you get the chairman of the Education Board saying the buildings are a top priority, and when you get the Medical Officer of Health saying that it is vital that the toilets are rebuilt, then you wonder why you can't actually go ahead and put it on to the programme. Whether this is a fair criticism or not, the people in Newtown feel that they are being kept at the bottom of the list.

The problem is firstly that there is no money coming from the Department to the board and secondly that the priorities are, according to the board, always given to building new schools. So if the area doesn't have one, a school must be built. Unfortunately, the areas that need new schools tend to be the newer better-off suburbs. If you went out to Crofton Downs or to Whitby you'd find nice new primary schools fully up to standard with all the facilities, teaching aids and playground space. But if you have a look at Newtown, Clyde Quay or Mt Cook, you will find that they are very under provided with play space and that they have got completely different populations than they had 10-15 years ago, with probably greater needs than those at Whitby or Crofton Downs. But because this area is not seen by the board as a new area it is put at the bottom of the list. This results in the facilities becoming less and less adequate as the population using it becomes more and more demanding.

What does the School Committee intend doing about the education cuts?

The committee had a public meeting on 28 June to raise the issue. One thing that we were particularly fed up with was that not only did the Minister of Education not appear. All he sent us was a letter saying he couldn't attend and a copy of National's election policy on Education. The Wellington National MPs did not attend

neither did the requested "Government spokesman on Education". We did have Trevor Young, a Labour MP, who has offered to take the case up at Parliament, but it was particularly bad because the meeting ended up abusing the Education Board, which shouldn't have had to accept responsibility for the Government's actions. It is the Government that has decided to cut back not the Education Board. So, in retrospect, it was a very frustrating meeting. But at the end of it we did pass a resolution that we would send a deputation to the Minister, ask for Newtown School to be made a special case, and ask for money to be made available immediately for building purposes. So far we haven't even had a reply from the Minister to the letter.

As far as the teachers are concerned, it was interesting that when they had the demonstration outside Parliament, there were 15 teachers from Newtown School there (the school was closed during that day), with full support of the school committee and the headmaster and staff. The staff have also had two special meetings of the New Zealand Education Institute at Newtown School. They have secured a report from the Wellington branch to make Newtown a special case. They have done their bit at the moment. The question is. - "what do we do if there's no response?" So far we've had the parents, staff, Education Board and Health Department all agreeing that this should be a top priority, but we seem to be getting no response from the Government.

Are there any other groups besides the non-English speaking children who are affected by the cuts?

All of the children at Newtown School are affected. The local kindergarten had to cut back earlier on its development programmes, this follows through to our school, and now we see Wellington High School (where most of the kids will go) is also having to curtail some of its activities. Everyone in a class suffers equally. All you've got to do is to go down to the school, walk through it, and then go out to one of these newer primary schools - then compare the difference.

What are the long-term effects on the pupils?

The long-term effects are merely to keep people in the situation that they find themselves at the moment. It contradicts the Government's education policy (a copy of which we received from the Minister when he couldn't attend our meeting) which was a very optimistic document that talked of special provision for Polynesian education, problems of Pacific Islanders, helping Maori education, and improving facilities in the inner city areas. It promised to put education in its place relative to other policies, such as social welfare, unemployment and the Police.

It seemed to be an accepted fact that it was essential to provide education opportunities especially in areas of stress. In reality this policy has gone straight out the window and they're simply delaying things so that in future twice as much will have to be spent on the areas which they're ignoring now. It's quite interesting to see that the only department that hasn't had a ceiling put on its personnel is the Police Department. And at the moment I understand that the Police Youth Aid section has just been permitted to recruit another 14 staff members - it seems a rather back-to-front way of doing things.

## Women and Change

### National Women's Abortion Conference:

31 July - 1 August,

Cafeteria, Auckland University.

*"No woman can call herself free who does not own and control her own body. No woman can call herself free until she can choose whether she will or will not become a mother."*

Over sixty years after Margaret Sanger, the famous American birth control pioneer, said those words New Zealand women are still denied that right.

The 1975 National election manifesto stated that National's plans for women's rights would go beyond the window dressing of other parties. This "window dressing" under Labour had resulted in the passing of Wall's Hospitals Amendment Bill and the trial of Dr Jim Woolnough. But what has National offered? A promise to make Wall's Bill "water-tight". (Legislation has already been drawn up which will close the Medical Aid Centre). And the possibility of a retrial of Dr Woolnough. Do we yet again have to watch the hypocrisy of male politicians deciding the abortion issue according to their "consciences"?

After some of the largest pro-abortion demonstrations yet seen in this country, and with poll after poll showing an increasing majority of the population favouring a woman's right to choose, the coming Women's Abortion Conference is extremely timely.



Some kind of national strategy is needed to fight back against the attacks being made and to win a positive victory, thus part of the conference will be concerned with proposals for future action. The conference programme also aims to bring out points of debate and discussion between different groups involved in the abortion campaign. This will be the first time there has been such an opportunity on a national scale since the National Women's Abortion Action Conference in 1973, and a lot has happened in those three years.

1 The tentative conference programme is as follows:

Saturday 31st July - 9am-10am Conference registration (\$1.00).

From 10am:

- speaker from the Medical Aid Centre (Auckland Clinic)
- speaker from Australian Women's Abortion Action Campaign.
- Panel discussion with representatives from major political parties and commentators.
- Debate on reform vs repeal with WONAAC and ALRANZ.
- Talk on strategies for the abortion campaign.
- discussion of proposals to come out of conference.
- Workshops

Evening: social event with performance from travelling theatre group, focussing on reproductive control.

Sunday 1st August

- Area workshops
- Talk on contraceptive methods, good and bad points.
- Further workshops on strategy
- Plenary session (afternoon)

Delegates from many different women's organisations are being invited, and all women who are opposed to the present restrictive laws are urged to attend this conference.

Subsidised transport to the Conference is being arranged from Wellington. A bus will leave Wellington Railway Station at 7.30pm on Friday, 30th July and return on Sunday evening to arrive in Wellington early on Monday morning. The cost is \$11 return.

The Women's Abortion Conference Committee in Wellington is meeting every Wednesday at 8pm, 1 Marion St to organise fundraising activities etc to subsidise transport costs and to publicise the conference. All women are very welcome to come along and help.

For further details please ring: Pat Bartle 858-534 (evgs); Helen Wilson 848-541 (day & evgs) or Claudia Mason 899-797 (evgs).

— Gillian Goodger

## Report on the First Women's Study Group

About 20 women and three men attended the first meeting of the Women's Study Group on Wednesday, 7th July.

Petra Van Munkhoff gave a seminar on Women in the Third World. She was the N.Z. delegate to the Asian Students Conference held in Thailand last year, part of which dealt with the subject of women in the Third World Countries. Included in the Conference was a tour through both urban and rural areas of Thailand and Hong Kong, to study the position of the women there.

It was obvious that the women were very oppressed both at work and in the home. There is an extreme scarcity of jobs so they tend to hold on to what they have got uncomplainingly, although the wages and conditions are very bad.

Discussion then moved on to whether or not a women's study group was necessary on campus. When it was decided that we did want a regular forum for discussion each individual gave her or his ideas regarding aims and objectives for the group.

Some interesting ideas for discussion were brought forward, such as:

- are women oppressed by men as well as society?
- sexism on campus, especially in Salient.
- how the group should act upon what it discusses e.g. bringing working class women into the movement
- a discussion on abortion (not seen as a priority of women's liberation by many of those present) to investigate its place in women's liberation.
- an analysis of the psychological conditioning women are subjected to by society e.g. sex-roling generally, women's place in the family and at work.
- expressing solidarity with our oppressed sisters overseas e.g. writing them letters of support, writing to N.Z. MP's re attacks on them by their governments.
- working out ideas of our own on the position of women, and also discussing other people's theories e.g.

Juliet Mitchell, Shulamith Firestone etc.

The question arose as to why not many of the people present attended Women's Choice Club meetings and involved themselves in the abortion, contraception and sterilisation issue. It transpired that not many people in fact saw abortion as a priority in the liberation of women, and also that Women's Choice Club was a radical group of "bitter" women. These misconceptions were quickly explained - it was stressed that the W.C.C. is not a consciousness-raising group (it has both male and female members, and that it merely deals with the issues stated above).

A wide range of political opinions and shades of opinion on women's issues was represented so it looks as though discussion is going to be lively and, hopefully, productive in the future.

We would encourage as many people as possible to come along and gain from the experience. The next meeting is to be held on Monday, the 19th of July, and every alternate Monday thereafter, at 5pm in the Lounge/Smoking Room.

Susan Jarvis

Kathy Rose

ANNUAL SALE NOW ON 19-23 JULY HALF - PRICE DAY - FRIDAY 23 VICTORIA BOOK CENTRE 15 MOUNT ST. PHONE 729.585

## **SRC... Votes on Principle**

By Salient Reporter John Bowden

### ***Super Beck***

### ***Attentive Underwood***

### ***Eric Freedman***

The usual SRC started off with the minutes of the last meeting. We were reliably informed by our most illustrious President that executive had affirmed the last SRC's decision to donate fifty dollars towards the expenses of the abortion campaign.

Moving on to reports, Gyles Beckford told us all about what Council had been doing recently. They have decided to rid themselves of all interest in Tarewa Lodge and are now looking for someone to take over their share in it. The next thing from council was about bursaries: they have given full support to the bursary campaign accepting Prof. Board Bursaries Committees report in full, and giving instructions for this report to be sent to the University Grants Committee.

Tony Ward then called for a report from the Union Management Committee - which Gyles gave. The cases of the four people who allegedly assaulted a member of Gay Liberation at a Women's Choice Club Wine and Cheese evening had been handed over to the Discipline Committee of Prof. Board as Union Management decided that their disciplinary powers were too limited.

It was then on to catering, where we found that the cafeteria had made a loss of \$32,000 over the period up until the end of May, and that everyone who ate chicken was causing a loss at the rate of 47c piece. The ubiquitous Mr Ward then said that "students must take cognisance of what happens in the cafeteria" and said that more reports on catering should be in Salient.

The next report was from Commerce Faculty where discussions about internal assessment have been going on between staff and student reps. Accy 211 and Accy 212 will be scrapped next year because of lack of staff and finance and Accy 101 will probably have a limited enrolment. Student reps have been voicing disapproval over the proposed limitations in numbers and are to use their words "waiting for action".

Gyles then gave a report on the bursaries situation. Anyone interested in helping on the bursaries campaign will be very welcome in the activities room at any time. The final report was on the book-shop where a profit of \$11,000 dollars had been made up until May.

## **Underwood Asked to Resign**

After the masses of reports had been delivered the shit finally hit the fan. There was a procedural motion by Finlayson/ Skinner that the motion by Ward/Ryall "that noting the conflict of interest between his roles as Man

Vice-President, and as an employee of the Victoria Book-centre, this SRC request Steve Underwood to resign from the position of Man Vice President."

Tony Ward got up (to the sound of boos and hisses) and stressed the fact that the motion was in no way meant to reflect upon his performance in that position, but that there was a matter of principle involved and that he wanted to see just how important SRC thought the conflict of interest was. He also pointed out that the motion was a recommendation only, and that SRC did not have the power for a vote of no confidence. He said that Steve Underwood's work on the bookshop was excellent, that in his executive position he had worked far beyond the call of duty, and that this was very laudible, although the conflict of interests still remained. He pointed out that he would be in a very invidious position when something occurred involving bookshop staff.

Next person to speak was John Ryall who didn't get quite so many boos and hisses as Tony Ward. He said that Victoria University had always attacked NZUSA for having its paid staff manipulating the political officers. Adding to that he said that when paid staff become political officers a power bloc can easily occur.

Martin Doyle, the next person to arise from the depths of the Union Hall thought that we weren't just talking about a principle. He felt it was also a point of practice as could be seen by two serious incidents involving staff which had already occurred this year, and gave as an example the ever-present Goodall affair. He said that it was dangerous to persist in the present conflict as the same thing could easily occur with regard to the bookshop.

Somebody then wanted to know if Messrs Ward, Ryall and Underwood had discussed the matter in private and were told that the motion had not been discussed at length, but the motion was really only meant to gauge student opinion, and that the motion was only a matter of principle, not expulsion. John Ryall pointed out that it was up to students to decide, and not Ward, Ryall and Underwood alone.

Gyles Beckford was asked just how much influence the executive has over the book-centre. It is run by a board of five, consisting of President of Students Association, Treasurer of Students Association, Company Secretary (Steve Underwood), Company Lawyer and one member of the Academic Staff.

## **Underwood "Can't See Conflict"**

Steve Underwood finally got to the microphone and said that he couldn't see that there was a conflict at all. He said that Messrs Ward and Ryall thought there was a conflict, but that they didn't know what it was. He had a vested interest in maintaining the book centre as a viable interest. He also said that as Man Vice President he had decided to concentrate on three broad areas, those being Social (hops, SASRAC etc), Catering and Union facilities (such as lighting, sound, the installation of a lift and so on). He said that as he was not directly employed by the Students Association, but by a wholly owned subsidiary of the Association, which for some strange reason didn't count.

Mr Ward then summed up the case for the prosecution and the jury came up with a verdict of not guilty.

Then, it was back of item five, a motion dealing with sexist terminology used by SRC, particularly the use of Chairman. This motion came to the floor amid a mass exodus of the right wing supporters of Steve Underwood who had just come along to make sure he stayed Our beloved chairman, who was about to become a chairperson told them off for not participating in democracy, and it was on to the motion.

Ms McGimpsey said that protesting against the use of chairman was not a petty complaint - "wouldn't people complain if it was Chair white ruling out any Blacks?" Even if it was petty, that was no reason for voting against the motion. Anne Dwyer said that Chairperson might be an awkward word to use, but because of its awkwardness it made people think twice. There were a few fairly insignificant comments from the floor, and the motion was carried with acclamation

## **Women's Commission Discussed**

On the subject of Women's Rights - the NZUSA Women's Commission was brought up again and a motion supporting its work was passed. Conflict centred over the performance of Victoria's delegation at May Council, as they had not supported the Commission, believing that a sub-committee would be more effective.

Next, it was the Zionists turn when a motion recognising the state of Israel as a sovereign and independent state came up, supposedly with the aim of clarifying Victoria's position on the Middle East. However, the motion seems to have made matters worse. Allegations were made that in effect the motion was supporting Israel. As Bob Drummond pointed out, the motion recognised the sovereignty of Israel over the territories gained since the 1967 war, although Lewis, Adler and co seemed to think that the motion only recognised Israel in principle, and not the actual boundaries.

A little light relief was added when local Moonist Chris Barker moved an amendment "congratulating Israel on a successful rescue of hostages from Entebbe Airport, Uganda. The amendment was ruled out of order

by the new chairperson Gyles Beckford, as it wasn't in the spirit of the original motion. Mr Barker then made a new foreshadowed motion, but failed to find a seconder

It was then on to the Moonists in general and a lively argument ensued. However, due to the number of people moving out of the Union Hall there was [*unclear*: n] longer a quorum and the meeting closed at around 2.15pm.

## ***Anti-Zionist Mulrennan***

## ***Chairperson 'Dwyer listens to Beckford***

## ***Moonist Barker***

# **Germ. 202 Critique**

I feel that a critical review of German 202 (Contemporary German Life and thought is necessary because if it was not for the unforgivable lapses of the senior lecturer this could have been an interesting, informative and enjoyable course.

## **Course Content**

German 202 is a four credit course taught in the first half of the year. Classes are held on Mondays from 12-1. It consists (theoretically) of the study of 2 set texts "Soldaten" (Soldiers, a play by Hochhuth) and "Fahrt mit der S-Bahn" (a collection of East German short stories) an individual project (refferat as the lecturer calls it) and the study of additional cyclostyled extracts provided by the lecturer.

## **Assessment**

In a 2 hour exam students are expected to answer 3 questions. There is a compulsory question dealing with either a set text or the extracts. The mark for the refferat replaces the mark for 1 question on the final paper if it is higher than marks scored during the exam. Under this system the research project might not count at all despite the fact that most students spend a great deal of time on it - I feel that in-term assessment should have been worth about 40% and the exam 60%. Students were never informed about the mark they received for the research project and therefore had no idea of how well they needed to during the exam. At the end of the course the lecturer put up a list of grades on Monday July 5th then took it down as he was not satisfied with his marking system. The amended list appeared on Thursday July 8th.

## **Work Covered in Class**

The inadequacy of this timetable is clearly illustrated when one considers that the average length of a refferat was 45 minutes (this does not include question time, handing out pamphlets, putting up diagrams etc.) 17 students obviously needed 1 hour (and were told at the beginning of the course that they would be given 1 hour) each to deliver their refferat. The total course time was 26 hours (13 weeks of a 2 hour class per week) leaving only 9 hours for the study of a difficult play, short stories and extracts - clearly a ludicrous situation. Eight double classes and 1 ordinary class should have been allocated for the refferata. The first refferat should have been given on 15-3-76 (not 12-4-76) and the last on 24-5-76 each double class being devoted solely to refferatta. The cramming of 4 refferatta into 2 hours forced students to rush through their material, discouraged questions (the lecturer managed to find time for a 15 minute monologue at the end of each talk), and some students were cut off in mid - sentence with "excuse me - would you finish now please."

## **Extracts**

Apart from the first 2 which were completely unrelated to the preceeding work, all extracts were in German. The lecturer first read these then translated (extremely well I must admit) and asked for comments.

Needless to say only a superficial understanding of Nietzsche was gained and the representativeness of the extracts studied is open to serious doubt. (The lecturer admitted he had great difficulty selecting the extracts). 4 extracts dealing with the horrors of Nazi Germany and the speeches of the Kaiser were handed out but not dealt

with due to lack of time. There were no references indicating what books the extracts came from and the lecturer did not provide background information or suggest books which would provide this information.

## Set Texts

### 1) Soldaten

5 hours were spent discussing the play. The lecturer did not allocate a certain number of pages to be prepared to reach class and "jumped" from the beginning to the end of the play during the discussion, pulling odd points out of the hat and confusing students. Once again no background information was provided.

### 2) East German Short Stories

Due to lack of time this text was not studied. The lecturer however had the cheek to suggest that 202 students attend the honours class. This was impractical and unfair as most students had timetable clashes.

I challenge the lecturer to refute these criticisms as they illustrate the dissatisfaction of most if not all 202 students, encourage other students to give "public expression" to their so often voiced criticisms at the end of the lessons, and advise intending students to ensure that they do not enroll for German 202 if it remains in its present form.

Pissed off 202 Student.

## New Sheet

Monday 19 July 5-6pm SEXISM ON CAMPUS - Study Group on Women's Rights. All Welcome. Smoking Room. 7.30pm A Tour of the Physics Dept - a look at some of the owrk & research carried out by the Physics Department. Start from Stage 1 Physics Lab. (5th End, Middle Fl. Hunter Bldg) 7.30pm A meeting to form a committee to organise the club for the Easter Tournament next year. Smoking Room. Tuesday 20 July 2.15pm Film: Memorial Theatre. The Poseidon Adventure. 5-7pm Scottish Country Dancing. Come along and join in. Its easy and its fun. Every week at this time. Union Hall. 7.30pm Psyc Soc Midwinter Party! - Music, Mulled Wine, Beer, Supper, good company. Admission \$1.95 members. \$1.75 non-members. Lounge & Smoking Room. Wednesday 21 July 12noon SGM Union Hall. Matters to be discussed; increased levy to NZUSA to pay for research officer. 12noon Psyc Soc. Speaker & Discussion. Andre Maurer - from Educational Psyc Services. RB821 Stage 1 Psyc Lab. 2.15pm Film: Memorial Theatre. Steve McQueen as Bullitt. 7.30pm International Club - Eddy Powell and Vimal Madhavan speak on Fiji. Coffee Room. 7.30pm NZ China Society - Documentary film evening. All welcome. LB1 Thursday 22 July 1.10pm Beethoven's Cello Sonata in G. minor performed by Margaret Nielsen (piano) and Farquhar Wilkinson (cello). Robin Thane and Jan Preston will play Stravinsky's Sonata for Two Pianos (1943-4), and Jan Preston will also perform Three Impromptus D 946 (1828) by Schubert. Music Room Hunter Building. Admission Free. 2pm VUW - Carp Meeting and discussion "The fallacies of Marxism and the faults of capitalism - searching for alternatives". Lounge. (CARP = Collegiate Association for The Research of Principles). 5.00pm Film: Memorial Theatre. Robert Redford as Jimmy Carter.... oops! Sorry, as The Candidate. 8pm Thur 22 - Sat 24 German Play "Urfaust" by J.W. Goethe, presented by students of the German Department with the assistance from the Drama Dept. Tickets available at Box Office on night of performance only - school pupils 60 cents, others \$1. It will be performed in German but an English programme and synopsis will be provided. Memorial Theatre, University Union.

## The Real Israel

*by Peter Murphy*

In recent years, motions supporting the Zionist state of Israel have been passed with very little trouble. Very little is known of the internal nature of Israel especially concerning the status and rights of its Palestinian citizens.

In this article, Salient attempts to examine some of the lesser known features of this war-torn and controversial country. It relates to events which happened 2 months ago and yet received no coverage in our press or media.

In the past months a mass uprising has taken place among Palestinian Arabs in the Israel-occupied West Bank and Galilee. Nearly 700,000 Palestinians have joined in this struggle, the most powerful and sustained protest against the occupation of their land since the Zionist victory in 1948.

The leading force of the mobilisation has been young Arabs who have rejected the collaboration of the traditional, conservative Palestinian leadership with Israel. In January, Arab students at the Bir Zeit college, near Allamah, went on strike in support of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO). Teachers at the college backed the students and issued a statement demanding the release of West Bank Arabs imprisoned in Israeli jails without being charged or tried.

Militant mass demonstrations then spread throughout the West Bank region and into areas inside Israel's pre-1967 borders. The explosion of Palestinian dissent was touched off by the US veto of a pro-Palestinian resolution in the UN Security Council. On January 27, thousands of Palestinian students and workers marched in Jerusalem raising slogans supporting the PLO and condemning the US veto and the continuing Zionist colonisation. Israeli police attacked the demonstrators with clubs and rubber bullets and dozens of Palestinian youths were arrested.

The same day in Nablus, hundreds of students from the city's three high schools protested in the streets and were joined by many Palestinian workers. When Israeli police attempted to disperse them with fire hoses and swinging batons, the demonstrators broke into small groups and fought back with stones. In Ramallah, students did a mass leafleting with Fateh material, urging Palestinians to intensify their *[unclear: resistance]* to Israeli occupation, and in Hebron angry demonstrators burned a military car in the public square.

Following that, demonstrations became almost a daily feature, erupting in every major town on the West Bank, including Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nablus, Jericho, Jenin, Bir Zeit, Hebron, Al Bira, Halhoul, Tulkarn and Beit Sahur.

On February 25 and 26, hundreds of Palestinian students were arrested in Nablus. The student strikes closed schools in the city and surrounding areas and all business activity was brought to a halt. Political prisoners, meanwhile, throughout Israel, began a hunger strike to protest the inhuman treatment they receive in Israeli jails. The prisoners demanded an end to administrative detention under which Palestinian activists are often held for as long as a year or more without charges or a trial.

## Brutal Israeli Response

The response from Israeli authorities to the protests has demonstrated, in dramatic fashion, the brutal nature of Israeli colonisation. The mass upsurge among the Palestinians has been met with mass arrests, beatings and terror tactics, with troops breaking into Arab houses and shooting above demonstrating crowds. The Zionist authorities have also threatened to arrest people, to fire them from their jobs, and even to blow up their houses to stop them participating in the revolt.

On March 7, Israeli troops stormed into the Kadri Touqun school in Nablus, dragging pupils from their desks and beating them. Seventy-two students were injured because they dared to chant slogans against the Zionist occupation. The Palestinian population responded at once. Nablus was paralysed by protest strikes, and the entire town council resigned in protest.

An even more brutal attack occurred on March 10, resulting in the immediate resignation of the mayors and city councils of Ramallah, Al Bira and Bir Zeit. In the village square of Bir Zeit, 12 miles north of Jerusalem, 200 students of the local college demonstrated peacefully, chanting pro-PLO slogans. Suddenly they were attacked by a detachment of Israeli soldiers. Twenty-five chased the students into the college dormitory, smashing windows, overturning furniture, clubbing and beating the students. Of the many students injured, 14 required hospitalisation, while 5 were arrested and fined the equivalent of a year's tuition.

In the small town of Anabta, the same brutality. Here, "reporters saw Israeli soldiers drag youths from their homes... and beat them with batons after the youngsters blocked the road" (AAP Reuter cable in the March 13 *Sydney Morning Herald*).

As demonstrations continued, the Israeli occupation forces imposed 24 hour curfews on Ramallah, Al Bira, Hebron and Halhoul. According to New York Times correspondent, Terence Smith, in Ramallah, "Soldiers fired bursts of machine gun fire into the air to clear the streets quickly." On March 17, when an Israeli soldier opened fire on a crowd that had built a street barricade and stoned an Israeli military vehicle, an 11 year old boy was killed and two other teenagers wounded. A few days later, a 45 year old man in the village of Salfit, who was arrested after a violent clash between villagers and Israeli soldiers, died of a heart attack after being beaten by soliders. "Security forces were under orders to put down disturbances with a mailed fist," reported a UPI dispatch in The Australian on March 19.

## How The West Bank Was Won

Since 1967, when Israel annexed the West Bank, the Zionist authorities have gradually "integrated" the region into the Israeli economy. The West Bank has provided Israeli business with a new market for its

manufactured goods and a source of cheap labor and, for a few years at least, helped slow the stagnation in the Israeli economy.

Today Arab workers from the West Bank are concentrated in the most menial and poorly paid jobs in Israel, and earn on an average only 40 per cent of that earned by the average Israeli worker. To justify this discrimination, the Zionists rely on racist ideology. Dirty, back-breaking, un-skilled work is "Arab work, fit only for Palestinians to do". As well as pay discrimination, Arab workers in the West Bank do not receive unemployment benefits or other rights enjoyed by Israeli workers, such as health and welfare benefits.

Israel's rule in the occupied territories denies Palestinian Arabs the most basic democratic rights. They have no right to organise. All committees, parties, trade unions or other Palestinian organisation is completely prohibited in the occupied territories. It is forbidden for Palestinians to demonstrate or to go on strike. But the repression of Palestinian opposition does not stop there. Dr Israel Shahak, chairman of the Israeli League for Human and Civil Rights, points, for example, to the Israeli practice of "collective punishments". In a recent statement, he explains: "The facts are well known: when the occupation authorities arrest a suspect, even before he is put on trial, sometimes even before he is officially 'indicted', an order is issued to destroy the house in which the suspect lived. Sometimes it is the house of his family, sometimes not. Sometimes 'refinements' are introduced. All the inhabitants of the village are forcibly concentrated on a nearby hill, so as to watch the 'educative show'. It must be stressed that such an act is fundamentally barbaric. People who, even in the eyes of the authorities, are innocent are outsted. Children, old people, women, sick, cripples, and all of them together are thrown onto the street regardless of weather... Aside from that punishment, there is a whole set of different collective punishments. Does one want to punish the area of Hebron? Grapes are not allowed to be transported on the roads during harvest time, until the 'notables' finally fall on their knees before the military governor. Does one want to punish the city of Ramallah? The sale of mutton is forbidden in that town for two months, or the municipality is not allowed to receive contributions from natives of Ramallah abroad and sent for purposes of municipal development. Does one want to punish the town of El-Bireh? An order is issued to take pictures of Palestinian folklore off the walls of the city hall and to hide them in a cellar. I could go on indefinitely and give innumerable examples of this kind."

## Confiscation of Arab land

The most distinctive feature of Israeli colonialism is the confiscation of Arab land; and it was this practice that led to the 24 hour general strike on March 30. The strike was called by the Committee for the Defence of Arab Land to protest an Israeli Government decision to appropriate 5,000 acres of land in Galilee cultivated and used by Arabs for generations. This land grab forms part of the Israeli Government's declared plan to "Judaize" Galilee. The Zionist authorities are anxious to reinforce their territorial control over the area by establishing and expanding exclusively Jewish settlements and Jewish-owned agricultural and industrial projects, the "problem" as the Israeli government sees it is that Galilee is predominantly Palestinian. They want to alter the population balance, reducing the number of Arabs to a minority, in order to entrench their colonial administration. This racist policy is deeply resented by the Palestinians.

The general strike was clearly successful, despite the intimidation of Zionist authorities and employers. According to a World Cable Service despatch: "The strike in Galilee was effective and Nazareth was almost shut down" (The Australian, April 1). In many areas of the West Bank shops and schools were closed, while 40 percent (the official estimate) of West Bank Palestinians employed in Israel stayed away from work, despite threats that they would be fired or would possibly lose their job permits to work in Israel.

The Zionist authorities sent hundreds of troops, police and units of its notorious Border Guard into the occupied territories in reply to the Palestinian strike. Six Arabs were killed and more than 50 hospitalised as Israeli army and police moved in to break up Palestinian demonstrations. Los Angeles Times reporter, William Drummond, observed: "Many of the old assumptions about the nature of Arab-Jewish relations inside Israel's pre-1967 borders died as Israel unleashed the fury of its soldiers and other security forces on people who are considered to be full citizens of the Jewish State. The idea that Israel's 518,000 Arabs are basically docile and want to remain outside the wider Arab-Israeli conflict appears now to be quite untenable."

Another eye witness, Eric Silver of the London Guardian, watched the pretence of Israel's "humane" administration crumble: "At Kfar kana, two miles north of Nazareth, the main road was blocked with rocks and burning tyres. I saw the border police use clubs and tear gas to break up a march of schoolgirls chanting 'We will save Galilee with our blood'. One border policeman was armed with a combined club and whip, with which he flicked a young man on the forehead when he refused to go home. It immediately drew blood, but seemed to cause as much shock as pain."

"The road leading to the three villages under curfew was closed to reporters. But we were able to talk to 15 men from Dir Hanna who had brought out the morning's wounded. One man, Amin Halifah, had a cut scalp and

arm. He said the police had dragged him from his bed early that morning.

"Hussein Diab, 34, a member of the village council, disputed the official version of events in Dir Hanna. 'About a dozen of us met last night with the council chairman,' he said, 'and decided to support the strike, but without violence. We telephoned this decision to the police and asked them [*unclear*: o] keep away.

"At about 11 o'clock, 30 jeeps and three or four armoured cars came into the village. About 20 youngsters were in the street, and the police began shouting at them. A fight broke out and continued till 1 am, when everybody went home.

"At six in the morning, the police came again and took people from their beds to prison. The police were shouting, and the people threw stones at them. The police fired with their guns."

Perhaps the most telling comment of all came from the Palestinian who tossed his blood-soaked jacket inside a reporter's car window, explaining: "This is what the Israeli Government gives us."

Image of a person looking into a gun

## Political Economy

*The first Australian Political Economy Conference was held in Sydney June 18-20. Anthony Ward, who attended, here gives an outline of some of the ideas discussed. Another article next week will cover Women's Roles, Education and the state of the Political Economy movement at Sydney University.*

The first Australian Political Economy Conference was held in Sydney, June 18-20. With the capitalist world in the mess its in at the moment, in the economy, in environmental issues, in sexism, in racism.... There was considerable interest.,

Considerable interest. The organisers expected 600 to attend. 1500 turned up. Predominantly students, but many teachers and trade unionists of varying shades of political opinion (unless you believe Truth).

Unlike most academic conferences, there was a strong realisation of the need to relate theory to political practice. Not just to understand the world but to change it, as the sage said.

Most of the experience spoken of was Australia, but there are strong links to New Zealand. Both of our countries are outposts of the capitalist system, and are seeing concern over similar problems. The analysis suggested are of much help to the understanding of New Zealand society.

## What is Political Economy?

But what is Political Economy? Good question, and one not easily answered. Many of those at the Conference see it as a critique of present economics. A critique incorporating the things that orthodoxy does not consider: war, pollution, oppression.

Others see it more in the mainstream of Marxist theory. They see the trend toward Political Economy as a sure sign of disillusionment with the bourgeois explanations and pose the working class alternatives.

Within this two-line development there can be much sharing of ideas and of experiences. The two ideas are not contradictory, and can be complementary. Luckily the Conference avoided many of the problems that could have arisen from this conflict, or that between many strange left-wing groups.

Our of the Conference came the Australian Political Economy Movement. A movement dedicated to three goals: more P.E. courses in educational institutions, a greater development of P.E., and a strong relation to practice with the groups struggling for justice. With a recognition of the need for cooperation and sharing of ideas.

Drawing of a doctor listen to a money bag

The Conference itself was organised into major lectures and seminar sessions. Because of the number of people, the seminar sessions looked much more like lectures! There were four speakers flown in from overseas, and they gave the major lectures: Ian Grough on the state, Edward Nell on what is Political Economy, Sam Bowles on Education and Social Inequality; and Herb Gintis on work and alienation.

Beyone this, the seminars covered a wide variety of topics. From sexism and racism to the environment and the theory of labour value. From the state of student movements and trade unions to theories of imperialism and South Africa.

## Issues Discussed

Rather than give an outline of what particular speakers said at the particular sessions I attended, I thought it would be more interesting to briefly outline the basic ideas being discussed in various areas. There are two major problems: the treatment is very general and abstract - for more details please check the references.



Second the topics covered are necessarily limited because of space and time. Marxist economics, imperialism and the environment need study.

## Introduction to Structural Marxism

This part is, I'm afraid, much more complicated than the others. The topic is however basic to much of the material presented at the Conference, and much of the Marxist theoretical work being done at the moment.

The Structural Marxists stem from a group in France led by Althusser and Balibar. They also include Poulantzas and Godelier. The main impetus of the school is to reformulate Marxism in a rigorous and scientific manner. Only in this way, they argue, can left or right deviations be avoided. Left deviations place too much emphasis on the economic, thus having a rather dogmatic approach to society that can develop into spontaneity. Right deviations on the other hand place too little emphasis on the economic and tend to ignore the class struggle, leading to reformism.

Althusser argues that these faults stem from two directions: an insufficient theoretical understanding of Marxism as a science; and the strong influence of bourgeois ideas (hence his statement that "philosophy is the class struggle in the field of theory")

A return to the basics of dialectical materialism is urged, with the addition of insights from the structuralists in Anthropology.

Drawing of an economic well

Dialectical materialism, the science of society, comes from two bases. Firstly, it is materialist - it poses the supremacy of the real over the ideal, of reality over our perceptions of reality.

Secondly, it employs dialectics. This approach involves studying the sources of contradiction in things. All things are composed of the interaction of opposites. This interaction determines their development.

Further, things or events are not independent of each other - they are linked in various relationships. Thus you have an internal contradiction within a thing (eg between the 'left' and 'right' in the Labour Party) as well as external contradiction (eg between the Labour and National Parties).

The analysis of contradiction depends greatly on the framework one is using. A contradiction useful in investigating one aspect may not be useful in investigating another. Althusser and Poulantzas lay great stress on the need for a correct problematic in which to interpret events.

## Identifying Structures

Structuralism essentially holds that reality is structured. Although these structures are invisible, they are the underlying framework of society. The stages, if you like, on which events occur. However, the question arises of how one identifies these structures.

The combination of Marxism and structuralism answers this question - it comes from practice. From political and economic struggle we come up against the basic structures of society, and consequently your experiences of them. The problem arises - how do we transform this experience into knowledge of the structures? Althusser argues, rightly, that this transformation is a very important process and we have too little understanding of how it takes place.

On to Althusser's concept of the structure then. He argues from Marx's identification of an economic infrastructure and various elements forming a superstructure. The structure comprises various levels which are dialectically related. These briefly are outlined in the diagram below.

## Superstructure

- Theoretical
- Ideological
- Politico-juridical

Infrastructure Economic

These levels are related to each other through external contradictions. Thus something may be happening in the economic level, but our understanding of it will be affected by our ideology. Our actions to alter the economic will depend on this ideological understanding.

While the levels are thus dialectically related, the economic level is determined in the last instance. This means, not that everything in the superstructure is dependent on the economic, but that changes in the economic will affect the other levels. The distinction is primarily one of how the dialectic is used. In the simple mechanistic model, there is no room for dialectical relationships - there is a one-way effect. In the non-Marxist structuralist concept however there is no material base for the structures.

The Althusserian approach thus avoids both of these problems - by having a dialectical framework

determined, in the last instance by the economic level.

Beyond the external contradiction outlined here, within each level there are internal contradictions. The dialectic work within the levels through contradiction between instances in each level. Thus in the economic level the contradiction between the forces of production and the relations of production (in capitalism, industry is increasingly social, but ownership is increasingly in one or two hands) will lead to developments independent of the influence of other levels.

## Relative Autonomy

This argument has a very important implication in the other levels.

This is that developments in the superstructural levels can be independent of developments in the economic - the levels have relative autonomy from the economic. Thus in the political level the contradiction between two forces (eg two political parties) has its own dynamic, beyond that given from the economic base. For another example, in the realm of ideas (the ideological level) ideas from a previous historical period can still be important despite the fact that their economic base has disappeared (eg the campaign in China to criticise Confucius).

The concept of relative autonomy is a very important one for much of the discussion that follows.

Drawing of smoke coming from factory chimneys

In concluding, two points need to be emphasised. The first is that Althusser's [unclear: he] Conference had its hassles as any [unclear: ch] a size must. Yet the ideas thrown [unclear: nd] and the general spirit of people [unclear: ding] made the experience a most [unclear: erating] one. There was a trend to [unclear: actness], but I suppose that's a problem [unclear: ademic] approaches face! Overall, [unclear: y] successful start to the Political [unclear: omy] Movement.

[unclear: ne] topics covered in the following [unclear: outlines] are: a brief guide to Althusser [unclear: ench] Marxist who had considerable [unclear: ence] over many of the speakers); [unclear: cr] of the state; the role of education [unclear: pitalist] society; women's position in [unclear: ty], and the present situation at Sydney [unclear: ersity].

[unclear: ere's] a lot of Political Economy [unclear: around]. Hope you catch it soon.

[unclear: ments] are normally very complicated [unclear: hard] to understand. This had led many [unclear: te] to dismiss them. The point on the [unclear: to] clearly understand concepts and [unclear: relations] through study is however a [unclear: important] one.

[unclear: he] second - the valid criticism of [unclear: usser] - is the need to relate these [unclear: ries] to concrete practice. Marx wrote [unclear: to] now philosophers have tried to [unclear: rstand] the world - the point is to [unclear: ge] it". Unless these theories can be [unclear: lid] to practice, and are somehow [unclear: r] in helping that practice, the [unclear: cise] has not been a useful one.

[unclear: the] rest of this summary of the [unclear: cal] economy conference, I have [unclear: to] outline how I feel these ideas of [unclear: usser] are useful and helpful.

[unclear: id] finally, because of the complexity [unclear: ny] of the arguments, I have [unclear: undoub-misread] Althusser on many points. There substitute for the real thing.

[unclear: ences:]

- Althusser "For Marx" particularly the [unclear: ays] "Contradiction & Over determination" [unclear: on] the Materialist Dialectic" and " [unclear: farxism] and Humanism".
  - Poulantzas "Political Power A Social. [unclear: uses]" especially the introduction.
  - [unclear: ce] Godelier "Structure & Contradiction in [unclear: pitaj]" in Robin Blackburn fed) "Ideology [unclear: d] the Social Sciences"
- [unclear: setung] "On Contradiction"

## The State

A major difference between orthodox and political economists is their analysis of the state - the government and the multitude of bodies that surround it.

Orthodox economists are split into two camps. The neoclassical tradition, stressing the beauty of the "free market" sees the state's intervention as a necessary evil to sort out imperfections. Keynesians stress the role of the state in regulating the economy - producing full employment, balanced overseas payments and stable prices.

The problems facing present capitalist economists suggest that these ideas are not enough. Leading academics admit that economics has little to suggest beyond "hold on and hope"

There is another similarity, in that both sides treat the state as neutral, as not favouring particular groups. Orthodox political science has developed this into a fine art. Government power is fought over by various

groups. This is the pluralist approach. There is no inherent bias.

Political economy does not treat the state as neutral. As we noted in the general overview of political economy, this treatment varies. On the one hand we have Miliband pointing out the inconsistencies and errors in the pluralist approach. On the other, writers such as Poulantzas and O'Connor approach the subject in a more rigorous Marxist fashion.

Miliband in pointing out the shortcomings of pluralism is a vital introduction to the debate on the state. It is an introduction that needs to be stressed more. In convincing people of the superiority of a different theory, it is surely necessary to start from where they are at the moment.

However, many Marxists, including those at the Conference, took this sort of basis as understood. The arguments of Poulantzas etc have thus an assumed framework ('problematic'). This problematic involves a break from previous ways of thinking and acting.

Because of this emphasis on rigour and on a radically new approach, the arguments often tend to be very technical, abstract and difficult to follow. The reader must decide for him/herself if the effort is worth it.

In my view it is. It is important to have a clear analysis of the role of the state to assist in political struggles against it. From this point we get into it.

## Function of the State

There are various views on the functions of the capitalist state. All agree on the importance of the state as reinforcing bourgeois rule and mystifying class conflict. Thus the state is a class state, an instrument for enforcing the rule of one class over another. At the same time, it has important political and ideological tasks in persuading people that exploitation is not going on.

So the roles of the capitalist state break down into two levels: in production and in social control.

In production the state faces a contradiction. It must both ensure production and ensure the accumulation of capital. It must be involved in production of goods and services because even the capitalist class sees the need for social production of defence, some levels of education, welfare benefits etc.

This task is confronted with the need to ensure the private accumulation of capital - to ensure profits are maintained. In the capitalist mode of production, new investment (which is vital to the continuation of production) comes largely from profits. In providing social goods however, the state tends to threaten this process, as these goods are not produced in the profit nexus.

The way out of this contradiction, as O'Connor argues, is through state purchases for private firms. What this essentially means is that taxes are redistributed to bolster firms profits. But, both in the theory and in practice, the state runs a larger and larger deficit in doing this. This O'Connor calls the "fiscal crisis of the state".

## Social Cohesion

Apart from its role in production, the capitalist state has also an important task in enforcing social cohesion. As Althusser argues, any social system must:

- Reproduce the forces of production.
- Reproduce the social relations of production.

Much recent work has concentrated on the social cohesion aspect. One of the most notable is Nicos Poulantzas. He argues, in part, that the inner tendencies of capitalism organise the working class and divide the capitalist class (into class 'fractions'). To ensure social cohesion then, the capitalist state must both divide the working class and unite the capitalist class fractions.

Division of the working class is achieved primarily through ideology. There are the overt methods of control - the police, the army, repressive legislation; but the covert methods are more important in advanced capitalist societies. Such as the stress on "individualism" (eg in individual houses, in competitive assessment systems). Such as the emphasis on working through "proper" channels.

Organising the capitalist class fractions is achieved essentially through regulation. By ensuring fair practices the state can unite different groups. Antagonisms between class fractions (e.g. between industrial capital and financial capital) can be lessened if the state can ensure that each group is behaving 'properly'.

A criticism of both these approaches, which have been very baldly put here, is that they are too mechanistic. They suggest that the state is purely an agent of capitalism - or at worse that a conspiracy is going on.

Drawing of a military tank

Poulantzas argues forcibly that the conspiracy theory is wrong - the state is what it is because of the objective structure of the capitalist system, not because of the wills of individuals.

## Relative Autonomy

But the state does have relative autonomy. It is affected by its own contradictions (eg the tendency for bureaucracies to perpetuate themselves), and by two other very important factors. The first is that the state is the object of class struggle. The organised working class struggles to ensure that unemployment is reduced, that we get decent wages, that social welfare is available.

The fact that these reforms do not challenge the system that gives rise to the problems is not the point. 'Reforms' they are, but this doesn't mean they can be dismissed arbitrarily. Having decent hospital care is important, no matter what the social system.

The other non-economic factor influencing the state is war, and preparations for war. Historically, wars have had an immense effect in increasing state power over the community. Wars do often arise because of economic factors but they affect the state in different ways to normal economic developments.

So from these three factors, and others, the state is not determined mechanistically by the economic level. And there is considerable interactions the other way (after all, this is dialectics). State adventures, or failures (eg Russia and Germany in 1917-18) have profound effects on the resulting economic patterns - even threatening the capitalist system itself.

Marxist theories of the modern welfare state started only recently. The field is an exciting and continually expanding one. The need for a developed and integrated theory would be a considerable help in combating both the state and the capitalist system beyond it.

In this task, however, the theory has its own contradiction. To gain greater understanding, there's strong tendency to be more abstract and technical. This very process "turns off" the people we are trying to assist. It's a contradiction that must be worked on.

## References

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*Laclau in Economy and Society Vol 4 No. 1 1975 N. Poulantzas in New Left Review 95 1976*

employers' visits: TUESDAY 27 July, 1976 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH Science (Microbiology, Chemistry, Physics & related areas), Social Sciences, History, Political Science, Education, Economics, Mathematics/ Statistics, Computer Science. THE TREASURY Accounting, Economics, Political Science, English, History, Mathematics. WEDNESDAY 28 July, 1976 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FISHERIES Physics, Zoology, Botany, Chemistry, Bio-Chemistry, Biometrics, Mathematics, Commerce. TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING BRANCH - MINISTRY OF WORKS Geography, Economics, Public Administration, Social Sciences. IVON WATKINS-DOW LIMITED Science, Commerce, Engineering, Business Administration. THURSDAY 29 July, 1976 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Economics, Accounting, Mathematics, Statistics, Information Science, Sociology, Education, Architecture. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS - DIPLOMATIC SERVICE Good Honours degree in History, Law, Economics, Political Science, Modern Languages, NEW ZEALAND STEEL LIMITED Head Office in South Auckland employing 1100 staff. Accounting, Commerce, Economics, Science, Business Administration, Engineering. FRIDAY 30 July, 1976 SOCIAL WORK SERVICES - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. Social Sciences, Preferably Sociology, Psychology, Education, Anthropology. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS - DIPLOMATIC SERVICE (See Thurs. 29 July). DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY Accounting, Economics, History, Geography, Political Science, Business Administration, Law. MONDAY 2 August, 1976 LIBRARY SCHOOL - NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NEW ZEALAND. Graduates from All Faculties. STATE SERVICES COMMISSION Graduates from All Faculties. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE Social Sciences - Education, Anthropology, Psychology, Sociology. TUESDAY 3 AUGUST. 1976 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Accounting, and social sciences. STATE SERVICE COMMISSION Graduates from All Faculties. WEDNESDAY 4 August, 1976 STATE SERVICES COMMISSION Graduates from All Faculties.

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## Super-Powers Debate

### Preliminary Reply to Mulrennan and Parker

by Terry Auld

I will reply in more detail later to "The Mirage of Soviet Imperialism" by Mulrennan and Parker. For the moment I will deal with their charge that I engaged in quotation juggling when I quoted Engels concerning state ownership of the means of production.

One of the difficulties in debating with Lane, Mulrennan and Parker lies in their undeveloped powers of analysis. For example, I speak of the Soviet state being the national capitalist, Mulrennan and Parker say that I try to prove that the Soviet Union is the national capitalist. There is great distinction between state and country. For Marxists the state is an apparatus used by one class to suppress another. Anyone with an elementary acquaintance with Marxism knows this.

Another example: Mulrennan and Parker cannot distinguish between trade (e.g. Chinese trade with Japan) and export of capital (e.g. Soviet shipping cross-trading between Japan and Australia) and aid (e.g. Chinese aid to Tanzania and Zambia) and export of capital (e.g. Soviet exploitation of the Singaporean working class in Soviet-owned factories). I will also deal with these points later.

Mulrennan and Parker claim that Engels in "Anti-Duhnnng" referred entirely to the conversion of certain industries (e.g. railways) into state-owned property. I will quote the whole relevant passage.

Engels says: "In any case, with trusts or without, the official representative of capitalist society - the state - will ultimately have to undertake the direction of direction. *This necessity for conversion into state property is felt first in the great institutions for intercourse and communication - the post office, the telegraphs, the railways.....* But the transformation, either into joint-stock companies and trusts, or into state ownership, does not do away with the capitalists nature of the productive forces. In the joint-stock companies this is obvious. And the modern state, again, is only the organisation that bourgeois society takes on in order to support the general external conditions of the capitalist mode of production against the encroachments as well as of the workers as of individual capitalists. The modern state, no matter what its form, is essentially a capitalist machine, the state of the capitalists, the ideal personification of the total national capital. The more it proceeds to the taking over of the productive forces, the more does it actually become the national capitalist, the more citizens does it exploit. The workers remain wage-workers - proletarians. The capitalist relation is not done away with. It is rather brought to a head." (My italics).

Anybody with an elementary command of English will understand that Engels is saying that capital is a

social relation of production, that the mere conversion of property into state-owned property does not do away with the capitalist relationship and that the development of the productive forces will increasingly force greater state ownership in the capitalist economy.

Contrary to Mulrennan and Parker, Engels says clearly that this is felt "at first" in enterprises such as the post office, the telegraph, the railways. If this is "first", what is second, third, etc? - anyone with a scientific approach would ask himself this question. But not Mulrennan and Parker; they can quote the italicised passage and fail entirely to grasp its significance.

Marx and Engels were perfectly aware that a ruling class (and the Soviet bureaucracy is a bourgeois ruling class) could own the means of production collectively. They often analysed its existence in earlier social formations.

For example, in "Capital" Marx pointed out: "Wherever a part of society possesses the monopoly of the means of production, the labourer, free or not free, must add to the working-time necessary for his own maintenance an extra working-time in order to produce the means of subsistence for the owners of the means of production, whether this proprietor be the Athenian aristocrat, Etruscan theocrat, Roman citizen, Norman baron, American slaveowner, Wallachian boyard, modern landlord or capitalist." If Etruscan theocrats are a ruling class, then so are the Soviet bureaucrats.

During the Middle Ages the Church was the biggest landowner. Was its land, on which the social relationships were no different than those on land owned by Norman barons, collectively owned? But who got the surplus: the Church hierarchy or the priests as a whole? One only has to pose the questions to see the answer.

Mulrennan and Parker end their charge of quotation juggling with a quotation from Lenin. I will also. In reply to the followers of Mach, Lenin stated: 'By all means lie, but don't overdo it!'

Drawing of a ship

NOTHING HERE ABOUT "PIG-FACE" BEING A SWAHILI TERM FOR MATE!

## Theatre

Kennedy's Children & Lenz

*David Groves as Lenz and Chris Dillon as Scheidecker in Lenz by Mike Stott, directed by Phil Mann. This brilliant production should not be missed. Runs at Unity Wednesday to Saturday.*

Photo of David Groves and Chris Dillon

*Ken Blackburn as Christie in "Christie in Love" by Howard Brenton (about the last man to be hanged in England). Directed by Stanley Harper. Late Night at Unity (11pm) July, 21-24th.*

Photo of Ken Blackburn

Little needs to be said about Wellington theatre at the moment except that it's never been more exciting and that fuck-all people seem to know what's happening. I'm not talking about amateur theatre, nor the University Drama/Soc (once madly active, now asleep), nor Downstage (see the hilarious article by R.T. in the latest Spleen about Sir Raymond de Boyce's expansive wank of a set for The Three Boring Sisters of Mervyn Thomson). No, I mean professional theatre - Unity and Circa.

Here's a little test for you - you should be good at tests. Do the following people mean anything to you? J. F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Marilyn Munroe (clue Candles in the Wind by Elton John, "Oh yeah Elton John"), Jimi Hendrix, Bob Dylan, Castro, Janis Joplin, The Beatles, Jim Morrison, Abbie Hoffman, Donovan, Lee Harvey Oswald, Fay Rey ("Oh yeah Fa..."). One of these is a trick question. If you answered Yes to more than two of these you must (i.e. have to) see Kennedy's Children at Circa. If you only got the last one, go back into your closet.

Kennedy's Children is quite simply the best piece of theatre I have ever seen. It's the only play that's ever made me scared to say hello to anyone afterwards in case I burst into tears. I think I was moved, it wasn't only the excellent production, the beautiful set and the superb acting... it's a shit-hot play. It's about the sixties - Jesus, a play set in our own time, about us, we were living then..... we were living then.

I'm not going to delve into the intricacies of Kennedy's Children - just urge you to see it. The play is (amongst other things) a plea for action, so I'll leave it at that... "sure, the people are hungry, and tired and weak and disillusioned but isn't that a sure sign that something's crumbling?.... this is the time for action of some kind, the time when leaders are needed...." After you've seen it, you'll want to make some kind of sense out of the sixties. So come around to my place and we'll discuss how to get rid of Piggy for a start.

After you've seen Kennedy's Children and the adrenalin is still pumping, go to Unity and see Lenz. For a start it's a virtuoso performance by Varisty's own David Groves. At last the rift between the academic and the artistic has been closed. David acts with his head and his heart. The result is hilarious and heart-rending. Lenz

describes himself as "a Gentleman Loony", and we are as entertained by the outpourings of his teeming mind as we are horrified by the shadows which close in upon it.

Both the director (Phil Mann) and the designer (Jim Spalding) have realised the need to create an arena for Lenz to stalk about in, and the result is an expansive, clear-headed, sweeping style, and an unfussy, beautiful, breathing-space of a set.

The effect of seeing both these productions within a short period of time, leaves theatre over the past five years for dead.

- *Mike Wilson*

## Films: VUWSA Films Coming - Memorial Theatre

### The Candidate

Thurs 22 July 5.00 pm

The manufacture of a politician. Bill McKay is plucked from his obscure, idealistic law practice and persuaded to stand as Democratic Candidate for the Senate. Bemused, he is steered towards victory and is finally seen at a loss as to what to do next.

Michael Ritchie has been involved in campaign filming, Jeremy Lerner, the script-writer for Eugene McCarthy; together they uncover a little of how it's done. The film is styled to give the feeling of an inside job, allowing the audience a glance at the machinery.

### Bullitt

Wed 21 July 2.15pm

A straightforward, craftsmanlike thriller, about the duel between an incorruptible policeman and a politically ambitious district attorney for possession of the key prosecution witness in a racket-busting hearing.

Highlights are: one of the most violent screen killings at the time the film was made (yet throughout the use of violence is controlled and economical), a long car chase, among the most exciting ever filmed, and the superb use of San Francisco.

this page next week neil rowe versus mervyn thompson

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## Rock

### Beginnings

### Fish Out of Water

### Ramshackled

- Chris Squire
- Steve Howe
- Alan White

Atlantic. Running Time: 36:52

Atlantic SD18159.

Running Time: 42:48

Atlantic SD18167

Running Time: 38:21

1976 will go down in Rock history as The Year of the Solo Album. So far we've had these three, plus Steve Hackett's, and yet to come are solos from Anderson and Moraz of Yes, Tony Banks and Mike Rutherford

Rutherford of Genesis (not to mention a possible album from Phil Collins' band Brand X), solos from each of Emerson, Lake and Palmer, and two or three from various members of Roxy Music. And Then there's possible solo albums out of other supergroups. On top of all this there are to be group albums from these bands - a double album in ELP's case. For connoisseurs of (ahem) technoflash, 1976 is going to be an expensive year.

But to the albums in hand. Beginnings is passable, but disappointing. Most of the songs are weak, and Steve Howe has to be one of the worst singers I've heard. Any unknown presenting singing like this to a record company would be told to sod off. But Steve Howe is with a supergroup..... 'nuff said. Right down to the Roger Dean cover, this seems to have been marketed as a third-rate Yes album. Howe would have been better employed making a guitar album, for he is unquestionably one of the world's finest.

The guitar work on this album is for the most part unremarkable, but there are some nice moments, e.g. in "Australia" and "Pleasure Stole the Night". The instrumental tracks are very good, however, and the chamber-music-like title track, orchestrated by Moraz, is one of the finest mixtures of classical and rock idioms I have ever heard. Far and away the best track.

Chris Squire's Fish Out Of Water, on the other hand, is by and large very good indeed. Squire is undoubtedly the backbone of Yes, and were he to leave the group (heaven forbid!) would be well-nigh irreplaceable. Fish Out Of Water, is well-structured, the only weak point being "You By My Side", which is truly awful:

*"You know I love you  
I can't be without you".*

Get the idea? Right. Also, "Silently Falling" drags on a bit towards the end.

The rest of the album, especially the whole of side two, is first class, however. The bass playing (which after all, is what a Squire solo album should be all about) is never less than forceful and dynamic, and at times is absolutely brilliant, confirming Squire's status as Rock's No. 1 bass player, along with Jack Bruce.

The orchestration is excellent - in fact, I think it's probably the best rock/ orchestra combination I've ever heard. Bill Bruford is on drums throughout, and it really is great to hear the original Yes rhythm section together again. Bruford's best moment is on "Lucky Seven" - sounds like Crimso all over again. This track also features the best playing from Squire on the album, and the best orchestration, a beautiful, expansive section that blends into the last track. I would rate this album 9 out of 10.

Alan White's Ramshackled took me by surprise. I really wasn't expecting such from him, just a lot of boring funk/reggae songs, the sort of things most drummers like to do in their spare time. Brother, was I wrong. White takes such a back seat here that to call it an Alan White solo is something of a misnomer. None of the tracks are written, or even co-written, by him, and he plays as part of a group, which is really great because as a group drummer. White is one of the best.

He doesn't sing either, which is a relief (I should also mention here that Squire's singing on his album is a helluva lot better than Howe's). A guy called Alan Marshall handles most of the vocals, and he has a fine voice, sounding at times not unlike Chris Farlowe. The recording quality is immaculate too (thanks WEA for importing the masters as well as the covers - how about doing that all the time, eh?)

Some of it is pretty standard rock, such as "Ooooh Baby" (not Lou's little ditty?) and is not bad at all. There's some jazz, such as on the instrumental "Avakak", a really excellent track with good guitar and sax breaks "Darkness" is bluesy for the most part then changes into a quiet piano/strings/ flute thing. Henry Lowther then comes in on trumpet, underscored by the strings and flutes, and the whole thing gradually builds up towards the end.

The only real lapse of taste is "Silly Woman", a totally forgettable reggae number. I loathe reggae. It is the worst form of music ever invented. I think I'd sooner have the Bay City Rollers than Bob Marley.

My favourite, track, probably because it is the most Yes-like, is "Spring: A Song of Innocence" (which, for those of you that haven't taken Engl 304, is a poem by William Blake, set here to music.) Jon Anderson handles the vocals here, and Steve Howe contributes subtle, restrained lead guitar. The tune is very pretty, perfectly matching the mood of Blake's poem, but it is never twee. The instrumentation is beautiful, with rippling piano, subdued guitar and bass, and nice flute work. It is a relaxing, happy piece.

All in all, not a bad album at all. I feel, however, that the best of the Yes solo albums is yet to come: either Jon Anderson's concept LP Olias of Sunhillow (which will be either very good or very terrible), or more likely, Patrick Moraz's I, which has received very good reviews overseas (do hurry up with this one, Phonogram, and



please, do it properly!).

*David MacLennan*

Image of a dove holding an olive leaf

## Inner Worlds:

John MacLaughlin and the Mahavishnu Orchestra

The non-aligned MacLaughlin is back. The man who crafts his own special brand of jazz/rock rather than following the tracks of any other musician or school.

"Inner Worlds" is certainly no exception. The Mahavishnu Orchestra has been cut from eleven to four. Ponty has gone - the vacuum is clearly felt. The two wonderboys of jazz are still there - Ralph Armstrong on bass (19 yrs) and Michael Walden drumming (20 yrs). The new man is Stu Golberg who has brought into the new band many tons of electronics to make up for the reduction in musicians.

Do the electronics used by Goldberg on keyboards and by MacLaughlin pay off? The acoustic and simple tracks are far superior - they are warm and relaxed. The others are lightning fast and well worked out but they lack something. I somehow get the feeling that MacLaughlin has done such a record to get electronics out of his system.

Still the record is a progressive work to the homage of a man who has the courage to constantly explore new realms of contemporary music.

MacLaughlin himself is unfailingly brilliant. His guitar is sharp and swift a further proof of his place at the very top of the guitar hall of fame. In some cases his work is breathtaking and he seems to be mellowing and diversifying his style to suit the players around him.

The lyrics and vocals are as usual, bloody awful. Gayle Moran was the only one to bring off vocals on any of the Mahavishnu records ("Apocalypse" and "Visions.."). When John MacLaughlin made the record, he was still into the Sri Chimoy thing which means listeners have to put up with idiotic metaphysical lyrics and ultra - silly names for the players e.g. Narada Michael Walden.

MacLaughlin, since, has given up this silly religion, left his wife, and gone back to his old secular ways. He is now making a new record with his new group Shakti and this should be something different again, as it is dominated by Indian musicians.

"Inner Worlds" is an interesting album but reflects MacLaughlin's transience. It is especially good in places ("In my Life", "Inner Worlds") and should delight those who love to delve into electronic music.

Not as good as the last last (but what is?).

- *David Murray*

## Evening Star

- Fripp and Eno

Evening Star is the 2nd album produced by Robert Fripp and Brian Eno. It is a logical follow on from their first album together 'No Pussy-Footing', which is not surprising. When you consider their development as individual musicians, Fripp and Eno appear to have very definite directions. Here they play more as individuals, but their relationship to each other, musically, is even tighter than on their previous album.

Both artists have come along way since their entries into the music world. Comparing Eno's early work with Roxy Music, and his later material (Warm Jets, Taking Tiger Mountain etc), it is easy to see why he left. Aside from personal clashes with Bryan Ferry, his musical advancement made it necessary. Robert Fripp was the driving force behind King Crimson, and when it finally disbanded he was the only original member. The difference between his work then (i.e. In the Court of the Crimson King, Lark's Tongues, etc) and his latest albums with Eno is so profound that I wonder if it was the same artist. Because of their similar directions and approaches, 'partnership' was inevitable.

To say the album is instrumental (Fripp plays guitar. Eno plays loops and synthesizer) implies there is something missing from the lack of vocals, but there is no room for vocals. Avante-garde art (as this is) is sometimes an exercise in obscurity and self indulgence, taken to an extreme. When this happens it can be appreciated for what it is - shit. Whatever this album may be, it is not shit.

It is very demanding music, to appreciate it you must really listen to it, and not just once. When I first listened to Evening Star, I sat down and waited, expecting instant brilliance. I was disappointed. A little pissed off, I put it on again a while later - not much better good conversation music. After listening several more times, I began to appreciate it a bit more.

The music is essentially themes on a note and the associated harmonics. These themes are introduced in the first track 'Wind on Water' which flows directly into the title track Evening Star. These themes are developed

and built on by each succeeding track.

Side one reflects Eno's playing a lot more than Fripps, and is Eno's interpretation of the basic themes.

Side two is one track entitled 'an Index of Metals'. This reflects Fripp, it's his interpretation and contribution to the piece. Fripp can reinforce, neutralise, or even override the basic tonal themes. And Eno is also a master of this, the result is a complex, sympathetic chord structure. There is a limited number of variations in the basic notes, but the different ways in which they are arranged gives body to the composition.

If you are an Eno/Fripp freak then I need not recommend this album to you, you'll have it already. If you aren't, but have diverse tastes, and enjoy new forms of music, then I recommend Evening Star to you (this is my category by the way). If you are a person with very confined tastes move onto the next review, this one's not for you.

- *Jon Grainer*

## The Blue Ladies

Review of Colin Heath's Workshop

Many people know Colin Heath from his association with the Port Nicholson Bluegrass Band in 1975. He has played at the university often in such bands as the 'Last Chance String Band' and 'The final Opportunity Duet' with 'Incognito Jack'. Colin has always maintained that his speciality was Blues music so we invited him to share his knowledge as the club has a strong blues support.

Colin's lecture was based on the women Blues singers of the 1920s. These women were more prominent than the male singers in their field, and were the best loved singers of their time. He shaped his lecture round a series of fascinating old recordings of these singers. Many of the recordings were extremely rare. Those people who had decided not to go to the lecture because they had heard Colin before missed out these recordings as well as a vast amount of interesting information never incorporated in any of his lectures before.

Part of the audience found the musical examples the most interesting facet of the lecture, other enjoyed the history of the singers and their music. But everyone was fascinated by the background of the recording methods and the stories of how they came to be recorded.

Until the late 20s recordings were made through a horn. The musicians would stand in front directing their music into it. This method of recording was not like the modern day microphone which picked up any acoustic sound and therefore the singer had to move away from the horn to allow solo and other instruments to record, and vice versa. This explains the fading effect of a voice between verses. These recordings had a propensity to have a rice sifting effect in the background, and on one especially amusing track the tuba drowned out the singer, dominating the song.

Even the length of three hours didn't deter anyone. This time span was to prove necessary to explain to those of us who attended that there were many more women Blues singers apart from the universally known Bessie Smith.

The lecture was well worth attending. Those who didn't attend, who were all but fifteen people, missed out on a mind-opening evening.

— *Rachel Patrick*

*Lynn Peck.*

## A Circus Of Wrath

Sosc 301 Report on Staff/Student Meeting

Sixty-two stage 3 students and 6 staff members showed up to do battle at the Sosc 301 class on Monday afternoon. You might say the armies were equally balanced.

People attended in such unusually large numbers to witness and take part in the debate on three proposals drawn up by students the week before:

- That the staff explain the aims and purposes of 301 and its place in the overall course structure of the department.
- That the workload be reduced by dropping one methodological essay.
- That a word limit be placed on a major essay.

Proposal 1 is the most relevant to other sociology students and all of the discussion was devoted to it. Much of the time was spent by students and staff giving vent to their wrath and frustration (not necessarily respectively) and was constructive only as release for adrenalin build-up.

However, certain aspects were made clearer and some concrete suggestions were made.

## **A) On Theory**

The major student criticism about theory in 301 was its superficial nature, which the staff did not deny. Lynn White explained that in designing this half of the course, the choice he and Alain Levett had, was whether to give students a wide variety of theoretical knowledge or to give them a narrow, but deep, range of theory. Apparently, depth and variety are mutually exclusive, and the staff opted for variety.

## **B) On Methodology**

Charles Crothers gave the aims of this section as 1) giving the student a smattering of research skills and 2) outlining the appropriate conditions under which these skills can be used, 3) giving guidelines in the literature so that students know where to look to increase their research skills.

The main student criticism of the methods was the artificial, contrived and non-relevant nature of the pracs, which the staff did not deny.

The students gave the opinion that in order to be motivated about pracs, they had to be involved. In order to be involved, they had to be 'doing' or utilizing their research skills in a problem that was relevant to them, i.e. they wanted to collect their own data in some useful piece of research. The staff pointed out ethical problems of primary data gathering, using the survey or questionnaire method which Sosc 301 is presently studying. They were also bound by university regulations concerning disturbing the public by unleashing untrained researchers on them. Two problems arose concerning theory and methods together.

## **C) On lack of connectedness**

Both the paradigmatic approach of theory and breaking up of methodology into separate little pracs give rise to the 'bitsy' nature of the whole course. Students apparently were at first confused then frustrated at the lack of connection. The staff promised it would (or should) all come together and crystallize into a logical pattern at the end of the course. The students reacted with more frustrated noises.

## **D) On Lack of integration of theory with Methods**

Arising from the approaches mentioned in C) the students heavily criticised the staff on the lack of relevance the theory had on methods and vice versa. The staff did not really reply to this as the problem apparently lies in administrative organisation i.e. manpower distribution of who should teach what and when.

Other criticisms concerning assessment were relevant only to 301 and need not be reported here.

Two constructive suggestions were made:

- That seminars should be conducted (on a tutorial basis) in order for students to cover one or two bodies of theory in depth.
- That students should design a study programme themselves (individually, not as a group) and submit it to the staff for guidance.

Both these measures are to be optional, but should give that degree of flexibility to allow those students who want to, to choose and study in depth areas of theory and methods that are particularly interesting to them.

It was acknowledged that many of the problems experienced in 301 would hopefully be resolved by the introduction of Sosc 208 next year. Staff urged students to consider this. Students pointed out that next year's 301 class would not have had the benefit of 208 and abhorred the prospect for next year's 301 students.

I would like to offer my own opinions here. Firstly, the viewpoint of the staff is to turn out a saleable B. A. in Sociology for the job market. Thus they need to give the prospective employee a wide grounding in theory and methods to prepare that person for a wide variety of positions. On the other hand, students are looking for personal satisfaction in their course which does not altogether coincide with the Department's "marketable-produce" concept of them. It is these two conflicting definitions of what a Sosc student is or would be, that causes most of the frustration.

My suggestion for 301 for the rest of this year and next year, as a "stop gap until 208 comes into full effect, is that optional tutorials be run and that students choose the staff member who best represents their theoretical interests as their tutor. I suggest also that 301 students have a research project as a major piece of written work in which they have to overview the literature, develop a theoretical framework, develop a research design and implement it as far as ethically possible, on a topic of their choice, perhaps run in conjunction with one of their other Sosc 3. options. This would give in depth study of a body of theory and the opportunity to effectively utilise research skills, as well as integrate theory and methods. It would also focus on a problem area, the lack of which is a major factor in 301's superficiality.

The manpower shortage could be filled by honours and thesis students conducting sessions with Stage 2 and 3 students, thus freeing staff for tutorials at Stage 3. These senior students would not be paid for teaching (the purse isn't big enough) but many would agree to teach in exchange for undergraduate students doing work for them.

For instance, a thesis student would train some Stage 3 students in interviewing and use these students to do interviewing for the thesis. Anne Meade, a thesis student, set a precedent for this last year. The manpower shortage reason becomes an excuse when other sources are taken into account.

Finally, the one good trend that is coming out of the whole debate is that staff and students are voicing their feelings and thoughts to one another. These have been suppressed for too long on both sides. Congratulations to 301 for speaking up on Monday and congratulations to the staff who had the courage to show up.

Chris Chan,  
(Sosc honours student).

WE MUST EDUCATE THE MASSES SO THAT THEY MAY SERVE THE SYSTEM! HUFF PUFD  
THE MASSES HAVE BEEN EDUCATED, NOW THEY WANT TO ALTER THE SYSTEM STOP THE  
EDUCATION!

## NZLSA Conference Success

Judging from the Salient article of - 6 July, on the 1976 New Zealand Law Students Association Conference, it appears that those not directly involved with this organisation are ignorant both as to its objects, and as to the particular difficulties faced by N.Z.L.S.A. in convening this Conference.

N.Z.L.S.A. was originally founded some twenty years ago, with the four New Zealand law schools as its constituent members. Among its stated objects are:

- the protection and fostering of the interests of students of law in New Zealand;
- the provision of a liaison between the students of law in New Zealand;
- to do generally such things as may be deemed fit or necessary for the provision of better facilities for students of law in New Zealand;
- to function as an informed and principled pressure group in matters of legal education, law reform and the welfare of law students.

Unfortunately throughout its relatively long existence N.Z.L.S.A. has failed to achieve its full potential. The main reason for this was, up until recently, the dual loyalty the member faculties owed to N.Z. L.S.A. itself, and to A.N.Z.A.L.S. (Australian and New Zealand Law Students Association). Otaco and Victoria have recently withdrawn from the latter organisation, regarding the benefits of membership as not warranting the expense involved, and are now concentrating on reviving N.Z. L.S.A.; however, Canterbury and Auckland are still members of both organisations, and consequently are not as fully committed to N.Z.L.S.A. as the other two Universities.

As a result of the resurgence of interest in N.Z.L.S.A., the birth pains suffered by any organisation when it is getting off the ground are once more being felt by N.Z. L.S.A. The 1976 Conference reflected these difficulties, but was by no means a 'dismal failure', as Salient reported. It is regrettable that the author of that article saw fit only to report on the seminar held on legal education, which was, in fact, only a minor part of the Conference as a whole, and to relate his criticism to the rest of the events. The seminar referred to in the article was, admittedly, the least successful part of the programme, but this certainly does not reflect the tenor of the rest of the events.

The annual mooting competition was held at the Supreme Court on the Saturday afternoon, and was surprisingly well patronised for a moot. This is considered to be an integral part of a conference, as it provides true interaction between the various faculties. The Annual General Meeting held the next day brought forward many constructive remits, and a large amount of business was discussed among the delegates, and approved. This, to N.Z.L.S.A. was the centre point of the Conference, in that it provided a solid basis on which to build in the future. From this aspect alone the Conference was highly successful, and the large amount of positive activity since then is evidence of this.

Apart from administrative reorganisation of the affairs of N.Z.L.S.A., liaison has been set up with N.Z.U.S.A., through which students may receive assistance in research projects on topics which may be of special importance to the student sector of society; moves are underway for representation on the Council for Legal Education; submissions are being presented on behalf of N.Z.L.S.A. before various Government committees; with other other possible areas in which N.Z.L.S.A. could participate for the benefit of its members being investigated.

In terms of the Conference as a whole, it could in no sense be considered a 'dismal failure', but was, to the contrary, instrumental in aiding the consolidation of N.Z.L.S.A., and highly enjoyable for those taking part. These achievements become more pronounced when the circumstances of this particular Conference are taken into account. It was originally set down to be held in Otago earlier this year, but the untimely resignation of President Jeremy Waldron two weeks before the Conference was due to be held meant that plans had to be dropped. Rather than see no meeting of N.Z.L.S.A. this year, Victoria stepped into the breach and offered to hold a mini-conference in June. With only some three weeks notice the events outlined above were organised, and to the credit of the Victoria executive, went off without a hitch. This sudden change of plans was responsible for the small attendance of law students from other Universities.

As the internal politics of the Victoria Law Faculty Club are nothing to do with N.Z.L.S.A., it is regrettable that the author saw fit to include criticism of that body in his critique of the Conference. All that N.Z.L.S.A. can say on this matter is that without the enthusiasm and co-operation of the Victoria Faculty, no Conference at all would have been held this year, and the Association is indebted to the Law Faculty Club for its assistance.

It is hoped that any future criticism of N.Z.L.S.A. may be taken up with the executive members who are all too willing to have students propound their views, and will listen readily to any suggestions which will make N.Z.L.S.A. a more representative and effective body. Contact with N.Z.L.S.A. may be made through Jane Kelsey or Michael Stephens, of the Victoria faculty, or by writing to P.O. Box 6368, Te Aro, Wellington.

Jane Kelsey,  
President, N.Z.L.S.A.

# Tackling Assessment

## English Assessment Meeting

by Martin Doyle

On Monday, July 12th, a meeting was held at lunchtime in the Union Hall, to discuss assessment within the English Dept. This was a progressive step towards understanding and changing some of the structures in the Dept and came as a result of recent combined meetings of staff and students.

The actual meeting entailed three brief speeches by John Clift (Teaching and Learning Institute), Peter Franks (NZUSA), and Stuart Johnston (Chairman of the English Department), followed by an hour-long free-for-all.

Lately everyone has latched onto the idea that both staff and students are involved in a common pursuit and they should thus submit to the structures they have mutually agreed to work under. This sounds likely, but has never existed in reality since decisions about assessment have always been made 'up there' amongst the staff without students being consulted. But there is now a willingness on everyone's part to discuss things and take part in discussions.

This new atmosphere of a "classless Department" is catching some people on the wrong foot - it was noticeable at the meeting that a large number of staff were present (as at the other two meetings), and yet only a couple spoke their minds, and not one addressed questions to the speakers. This was obviously not due to antipathy, but rather a feeling that they were "sitting in" on a student affair, rather than something where everyone had an equal interest and right to speak. The hunt for a round table goes on. No doubt we all need to make each other feel much more welcome if worthwhile dialogue is to become the norm.

Leonie Morris chaired the meeting, and got things started by quoting a recent survey which showed that 93% of the students in one Stage 2 course had expressed dissatisfaction with the running of the course and wanted some kind of change. Then away we went —

John Clift thought assessment was used to 'motivate' students i.e. "If I don't give a mark no one will do it.", and consequently there were marks to everything. It was also seen as a means of measuring teaching effectiveness. He tended to skirt all round the department without actually having a go at it, but he did give two reasons why we have such an emphasis on exams:

- 'Decisions on campus about assessment are not always based on educational principles, but on administrative purposes.'
- A lack of real faith in internal assessment (Depts thought there was more validity and reliability in exams.).

He chopped the wood clean, there. Even when staff and students agree on an idea, there always seems to be some runty piece of bureaucracy to say we can't do it. John Clift thought before we could reach an ideal

situation, there has got to be a change of attitude in both staff and students. The student must say "This work is for my own good" and the staff must say "It is not the end of the world if this student does not do the work." But compromises would be needed before the end, and even within the present exam system more use could be made of alternative forms e.g. longer periods in which to sit papers, oral exams, open book exams, variety in the form questions take etc., just to make life more fun.

Peter Franks suggested there were two purposes behind the present assessment system -

- A pedagogic purpose i.e. to increase ones understanding and skills.
- A social purpose i.e. to stratify and select students for highly paid jobs. Thus the university had become 'an agency for social selection' and 'an institution for the manufacture of under-dogs'.

These comments caused much tittering and nodding amongst the groundlings, and Mr Johnston's jaw dropped about ten feet. Peter Franks offered an alternative in the French Department's 'double chance' system where a student's final grade is derived either from the final exam, or the in-term work, whichever yeilds the better grade. 'This flexibility merits careful consideration.'

Stuart Johnston introduced his speech with a quote from Milton about how exams would not be necessary in 'an un-fallen world'. It was uncertain if he was alluding to the moral fibre of student life, or to some high metaphysical matter, but he attempted to clarify this by adding This is true, and proves the necessity of reading the later books of Paradise Lost.' My head got so notted up that fifty boy scouts couldn't undo it. His Miltonic imagery surfaced again later when he talked of 'meetings down below with students' in previous years.

Mr Johnston claimed that internal assessment would demand more teaching hours, organisation and regulation changes, than was possible for the department. He thought the 'double chance' system of the French Department was impractical for the English Department since it was so much bigger, and placed severe demands on the teaching staff (an aspect of internal assessment that is often overlooked He supported this by referring to the mountainous essays that were being attempted by 'a team of markers that set out last week.'

He listed other negative aspects of internal assessment from the student's point of view:

- The added strain it would put students under to read all their set texts during the year ("Are we supposed to read them all just before finals?" cried one).
- 'too final status' on essays, thus cramping students in midstream.
- Other courses that were not internally assessed would receive less attention from the student.

He suggested that exams were more in the student's favour, since each paper was marked by at least two markers, and the tutor was also consulted in an attempt 'to see the person behind the work.'

Mr Johnston appeared to be making a virtue of necessity i.e. because the double chance system was impracticable, he was trying to prove how the exam system was in fact better anyway. But this is just part of his trench by trench style more than anything else, because he proudly went on to show how 4 courses were totally internally assessed, 13 partly internally assessed, and only 9 were assessed totally on exams. He is to be seen as a Chairman acutely aware of the practicalities of assessment but equally keen to 'blend and organise what is appropriate.'

In the aftermath, questions were fielded by a large number of students, mainly to Mr Johnston. He replied to some questions by saying 'We are working on it' which raised the crucial questions of whether student views are presented when vital decisions are made about courses. Helen White announced that the staff used tutorials as sources of student views, which is true of her and no doubt the whole staff, but the feeling of the meeting was that a greater chance for expression should exist.

Then - and this was the only practical proposal to come out of the meeting - it was decided in the time honoured New Zealand tradition to form a student/staff committee to enable staff and students to work together for constructive change in the Department. It's exact makeup will be determined in a meeting between Mr Johnston, Gerard Couper and others. Whether it will be able to effective tap the opinions and experience of the 'grassroots students' will of course be one condition for its success. But another will be its ability to institute real change. It is hoped the Department will not consider the committee simply a sop to keep students quiet; but rather a bonafide policy making body

Leonie Morris blew the final whistle and the meeting closed on a positive convivial note. Poetry welled up in my heart -

*"The world was all before them, where to choose  
Their place of rest, and Providence their guide:  
They hand in hand with wandring steps and slow,  
Through Eden took their solitary way."*

I think it is now essential for students to register their approval of the courses that have been improved by

gallant tutors, and join with staff in searching out better forms of assessment instead of simply councing back and forth between a treacherous final exam and spine-curving in term work.

## A Dissenting Opinion

Sir,

For seven agonizing minutes the lecturer and class at Friday's lecture for English 213 were obliged to observe the painful progress of Gerard Couper's sloth-like chalk across the blackboard of LB1.

That Mr Couper felt his information to be of spell-binding significance was indicated by his failure to have the word of democracy already displayed before the appointed hour of noon.

My objection is that time to be devoted to studying Hamlet was wasted on an issue entirely separate. The attendance at the lecture suggests that I am not alone in my eagerness to learn about Shakespeare and I hope I am not alone in objecting to this abuse of the meagre time allotted to assist such learning.

I ask only that those of us who wish to learn of the plays of Shakespeare be left to do so while those who would wrangle over assessment and terms requirements do so in their own time.

I am, etc.

Peter Hall wright.

## The Candidate

The U.S. Socialist Workers Party Vice-Presidential candidate, Willie Mae Reid, will be in Wellington July 24 - 27. She will speak to a lunchtime (12 noon) meeting in the VUW Union Hall on Monday July 26.

Thirty-six year-old Reid is no ordinary candidate. When she ran for Mayor of Chicago on the Socialist Workers ticket in 1975, she became the first Black woman ever to oppose Mayor Richard "Boss" Daley. And she was the first candidate outside the Democrat or Republican parties to gain ballot status in Chicago since the 1930s.

A civil rights activist for 18 years, she joined the rideins and bus boycotts protesting segregation in her home town of Memphis, Tennessee. Born when segregation was legally enforced, she has firsthand experience of the "Jim Crow" system. During her childhood, she spent three months a year picking cotton in the blazing sun.

After moving to Chicago and working for several years, Reid enrolled at Loop Junior College where she took part in the struggle to get Black studies on the curriculum. In 1968, Reid began working in a West Side Chicago Black community group, Together One Community.

While continuing her work in the Black community, Reid also became involved in the women's liberation movement. She was a founding member of the Illinois Women's Abortion Action Coalition, and is currently using her campaign to push for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), a constitutional amendment aimed at guaranteeing legal equality for women. On May 16 this year, Reid participated in an 8,000 strong demonstration in Springfield, Illinois, organised by the National Organisation for Women (Now). They marched on the state capitol urging legislators to ratify the ERA.

A member of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP), Willie Mae Reid has *[unclear: marciéd]* in and helped organise demonstrations to support racial desegregation of schools, and to demand that the United States government and local authorities enforce busing in Boston and other cities. In response to the racist upsurge in Boston this year, Reid has continued to support the right of Black students to equality in education. She has also spoken at a number of rallies to defend victims of racist police frame-ups, including Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, and Joanne Little - a Black woman who was charged with murder after defending herself against an attempted rape by a white jail guard.

Willie Mae Reid will speak at Victoria on "The US Elections in the Aftermath of Watergate" and how the candidates of the Democrats and Republicans in the US Presidential elections have largely ignored the real issues in American politics today - massive unemployment, racism and sexism. Reid's party, the Socialist Workers Party (SWP), is confronting these threats by calling for the ratification of ERA. the enforcement of busing laws, and the adoption of a Bill of Rights for Working People.

The SWP has gained considerable public attention over the \$37 million lawsuit it is bringing against the US government for the forty-year campaign of harassment and disruption carried out by agencies such as the FBI

and CIA against the SWP. In the course of this suit, the government has been forced to turn over thousands of FBI and CIA files held on members of the SWP and to disclose that the FBI regularly broke into the headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party.

Described by the Chicago Sun-Times as "a fiery Black candidate", Willie Mae Reid promises to be one of the most interesting speakers to have been heard in Wellington recently.

The main events at which Willie Mae Reid will speak in Wellington are as follows:

- Sunday, July 25, 6pm. Reception in VUW Union Hall with food and drinks. Reid speaks on "The Coming American Revolution". Tickets (\$2), available from the Young Socialists (Phone 846-669 or 759-557).
- Monday, July 26, VUW Union Hall, 12 noon. Reid speaks on "The US Elections in the Aftermath of Watergate"
- Tuesday, July 27. Wine and cheese meeting, organised by Women's Electoral Lobby, in the Lounge and Smoking Room. Reid speaks on "The Struggle to Ratify the Equal Rights Amendment".

Tickets \$1. 8pm. All women welcome

(Reid is also schedule to appear on the Brian Edwards show, TV 1, Saturday July 24)

Photo of Willie Mae Reid

## Letters

Letters header showing a family around a table

## Examining Exams

Dear Sir,

Now that all the poor souls have sat their mid-year final exams, I feel it quite proper to draw everyone's attention to clause 5 of the rules for examinations, below the printed timetable. This clause states that the candidate must not, in any way, communicate with the examiner. Infringement of this clause (as with any other) will result in cancellation of the candidates script and/or exclude the candidate for 1 or more years.

Most people would agree that writing, like in this letter, is communicating. I therefore issue a direct challenge to the University Powers-that be to declare all exams present and past null and void because of direct violation of clause 5.

This will solve assessment problems, because the only alternative will be 100% in term assessment, unless oral examinations (to be taken once a year for 3 hours, or twice daily) are introduced.

The whole set up of examinations are both unfair to students and ludicrous in their unsubstantiated claims of proving 'brains'. Scrap the lot!

Yours faithfully,

60654 Me.

## Another Silly Letter

Dear Sir

Why oh why has Victoria University lost so much of its character lately? I feel that the vanity is becoming much too straight, like certain other similar education institutes (Polytech, Teachers Training College) - will mention no names though.

Recently I have been observing at close quarters this "place of learning" and silly things (supposedly); and I must say I am appalled at the torpidness I have concluded VUW runs on! I spent no less than 1 hour and fifty minutes strolling around the campus in an effort to find something and/or someone interesting but no such luck I found the Wombles more interesting. What has happened to the good old days when you would be flashed in every dark alley by a grubby old man in a plastic raincoat; or when girls were being raped left right and centre on Hunter lawn; or when there was no room in the gutters for rainwater because of the vast numbers of



alcoholic people lying there in drunken stupors? As yet I have seen no nudity - total or partial; and no blatantly obvious homosexuality or lesbianism.

Is Victoria University of Wellington slowly dying? Perhaps we should call this institution "Victoria Cemetery of Wellington". The only attempt I have seen at a touch of madness around the campus is by such people as the Mug of Arloo and the Wizard, and by the recent hat day - well done you people, keep it up.

I am sure that if a thermo-nuclear device was detonated in the Rankine Brown courtyard, the majority of students would just step over the rubble and continue in a normal fashion to their destination, the sadists would beat naked females with whips and the masochists would beat themselves with wet tram tickets

Finally a pita from a genuinely silly person - "Students liven up, do something unusual, shed you inhibitions - or else!!!

Yours,

Damascus K. Stoatgobbler.

p s. I unclog my nose at you, I wave my private parts at your aunty and I fart in your [unclear: general] direction.

p.p s. "What the people said about this letter: - 'I laughed until I stopped' - W. Rowling. 'My brain hurts' - F. J. Gummy. 'We smirked a lot' - The Queen 'At least it made me snort' - R. Muldoon. 'It mad me want to eat my own [unclear: vomit]' - Guy The Gorilla ..

## Sports Officer Thrush Criticised

Dear Sir,

Having paid \$46.50 as my fare down to Easter Tournament, and having been unable to go, I would like to ask Peter Thrush publically when I will be getting my long promised refund back. I understand and accept that there will be a deduction of 10%.

Every time I have asked at the office, I have been told that they are waiting on the railways.

I have been asking for eleven weeks. I suggest Mr Thrush gets his arse into gear and explains exactly where my money is, and what it is doing there. Last year people had refunds within two weeks of returning. I suggest that it is not the railways fault but Thrush's incompetence.

Yours sincerely,

Rob Bargh.

## Motorbike Knocker Wanted

Dear Sir,

Possibly the person who knocked over my motorbike east of Kirk, north of Rankine Brown on Tuesday 6th would like to contact me to discuss replacement of the visor of my helmet as my old visor was broken in the accident..

If so, I can be phoned at Wn 887053 (if I'm home - if not, leave a message) or written to a Box 15149, Wgtn 3.

Thanks, and God bless,

Nigel Mander.

## More Complaints About Cafeteria

Dear John,

I am super pissed off with those rip-off pricks down the cafe Yesterday I paid over a portion of my valuable savings for a ticket and with hungry anticipation presented it today hoping to exchange it for a couple of greasy pies. The behind the counter took the ticket but then refused to exchange it for either the pies or its cash equivalent, and she also refused to return the ticket, saying it was valueless. I want either my money back or the equivalent in goods. The minimum I would expect back would be the ticket I bought.

The assistant manager explained that tickets that had been exchanged for goods were often used again resulting in losses for the cafe, crap! The losses are the result of ineffecient management - how can they make a loss on an oyster sized piece of fish they charge 25 cents for? If people down town can make a profit why can't the cafe? They have a monopoly on the place and who else can guarantee a custom of at least 2000 people? Perhaps Salient could include an article investigating the running of the cafe, and expose the inefficiencies in the place. The students association have to cover losses made by the cafe, including those resulting from managerial incompetence. Why is the cafe making a loss? It shouldn't be if they keep using the ticket system.

The ticket system is a thinly disguised method of ripping off hungry students in the manner I was ripped off. Sasrac tickets can be used at any time after their purchase because they are effectively destroyed after they are redeemed. Why not this system for the cafe?

I would suggest that those students without overdraft facilities boycott the cafe until things improve. Fuck the cafe! One of many dissatisfied, poor and hungry students.

*Thank you for your comments. There will be an article in next week's Salient on the Cafe situation - Ed.*

## **The Condition of the Malaysian Poor**

Dear Sir,

Over a week ago I wrote to the Dominion about the affair over the Malaysian High Commissioner's new residence. It appears that it has been rejected and I think the reason why is self explanatory in the following outline of that letter:

The letter in question was written in response to the query of a certain Mr Hopper from the Chatham Is., about the silence of Hart and Care over the racist remarks made by some Khandallah residents about Malaysians.

I pointed out in that letter that in order to be fair to Hart and Care the critic should have also asked why Malaysians themselves have been very quiet about this matter.

I then offered several reasons for this:

- Many Malaysian here were unsympathetic wit their government which pursued repressive social and economic policies. They could not support the effort of the High Commissioner to join upper class in Khandallah.
- Some Malaysians thought that the money that is going to be spent on the grandiose building should be spent on the poor at home, whose living conditions were reflected in two of the objections made by the Khandallah objectors. For e. g. the "drying of washing on poles" showed how crowded the living space of the poor was. They either have to live in slums or in congested high-rise buildings; neither of which are healthy for them. It would have been a contradiction for Malaysians to defend the privilege of their High Commissioner to live in some grand building while millions of his fellow men lived in miserable and insanitary squalor.
- Malaysians have lost their power of speech when it comes to defending their rights. It was pointed out that the repressive policies of their government was bearing fruit, in an unexpected way.

In any case, their silence has been very disturbing to the High Commission office, although soothing for others. Also few New Zealanders came out to their defence. Did they see it in the same light as this writer?

Yours sincerely,

unsympathetic Malaysian.

# Laughing At Malaysian High Comm. Letter

Dear Worried Students of Khandallah,

I was very much fascinated by the interesting factual accounts in the last Salient, Vol. 39, No 14, 5th July 1976, Pg 31. I had been spending sleepless nights trying to figure out where I could get bamboo poles to hang my clothes. I would be very grateful if you give me the location 'cause this would reduce my electric bill by at least half the amount. But like you, I'm too worried just in case the wind unintentionally steal my rather limited stock.

Now I'm beginning to realise how financially broke I am. I don't seem to be able to afford to cook every hour of the day like what Malaysians are supposed to do. Also I think I'm a poor cook 'cause no matter how hard I try and what recipes I use my cooking smell just doesn't seem to stay for at least 24 hours. The only reason I could of is I forgot to Shut my windows..

Thanks very much for the only compliment... 'B.E.A. U.T.J.F.U.L' Malaysia. You lot must be very fast travellers and good observers to make such a rapid conclusion just within a week's stay in 'Beautiful Malaysia'. Could I ask you how many states you visited? How many cities and how many streets you screen past? Mind you it's just pure curiosity since I have very limited knowledge of my 'Beautiful Malaysia'.

I'm now very confused as to which is worse to urinate outside pubs and post offices or into rivers and ponds. This is a great problem I need advice. Another secret of mine.... I remember how one early morning I had to go through hours of suffering from an almost bursting bladder because there was a drug addict serenading outside my door. I've also seen 'beautiful' prostitutes down the wharf sexily posing, much to my interest I've also seen some lopsided buildings I think you call... Slums. After all, it isn't too bad, at least we seem to share something common. Thanks.

Violence. Comparing myself with some unknown elements screaming at two in the morning, I think I'm rather Cool. This makes me doubt whether I'm a Malaysian since Malaysians are supposed to be quote 'prone to violence'.

What I should do next time I think is to jump out of bed, rush out, and do some of my flying kicks. That's violence.

Lastly I think it's high time I chase after fellow Malaysians for some 'cat and dog satay'. I've never tasted them before in my 20 years in 'Beautiful Malaysia'.  
From a Worried Worried Malaysian.

## More on Malaysian High Comm.

In reply to 'Worried Students' regarding M'sian High Commission Objection. Vol. 39 No. 14, 5 July 1976.

Dear Sir,

Bottoms up those 'prodigies', it amazes one to know how after a mere week's stay in Malaysia (if they ever did!), these imbecile masses of protoplasm could dare claim to hold valid findings about the country. "These people have no respect for modern conveniences and don't care about beautifying their country!! If they possess half a grain basic human intelligence, they would be able to tell that such concotive lies reflects fatal retardation of their deteriorating mentality. Yeah man at the state they are in, they ought to be 'worried' all right. As a Malaysian who holds a pretty high opinion of Kiwis as a whole (and still do), I'll like to believe you lot are just a handfull of ignorant vegetables groping to find roots - so much for your dull cheap baseless propaganda. Ahoping that you II be shit in your face, Insulted.

## Malaysia Well Under Hussein Onn

Dear John,

It would be rather naive for anyone to relieve that Salient merely reflects opinions and views towards

MSA; full stop. That would certainly be inconsistent with the policy of a "leftist-leaning" paper.

However for all that touch of your editorial subjectivism, it is good to note at least that Salient is not so radically political as the 'Malaysia Monthly Review' and 'Malaya News Service'. Being a student from a developing country where the censorship laws are by no means lax, your occasional articles on Malaysia and Singapore are significantly informative and interesting. Too much ideologically manipulative articles or radically distorted information or facts can only bring down the quality of a paper. For this reason, I would like to commend on your printing the article by Don Carson which I find relatively objective.

I can appreciate a student organisation or paper much more as a governmental watchdog. Malaysia apparently is restarted on the road to a (hopefully) corrupt-free, and a less 'closed' democracy under Hussein Onn. Singapore's problems are not problems isolated domestically. They are very much affected by the happenings in Malaysia. The situation in S.E. Asia is not exactly peaceful nor stable. With the recent change in the situation there I think it would be much more helpful, particularly to students from that region if issues relating to social injustices for example are discussed rather than vilifying Lee Kuan Yew or Hussein Onn in-toto and propagating the virtues of communism as in the 'Malaysia Monthly Review' and the 'Malaya News Service'. Perhaps this fear may be unjustified but if these magazines do truly reflect the present trend, particularly in Australia, I would think it is quite alarming. I would hate to see 'Vietnam' you helped to create on your consciences in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

EK Yap.

## Weir Resident on Applecrumb Anton

Dear Editor,

As a resident of that hallowed University Hall of Residence, Weir House, I would like to express a protest against the letter contained in a past edition written by the anonymous "Applecrumble Anton".

Firstly we are not fuck wits, we may be many other things but that we are not, and as for your correspondents rather poor attempt at wit ('potty training' etc) we can only express our sympathy.

It seems that Anton Applecrumble suffers from some illusion that the various projectiles emitted from our establishment are designed not to hit their targets. We in Weir House, along with John Vorster, Idi Amin and Mao Tse Tung (not to mention Rob Muldoon) are engaged in continual battle to curb the expansionism of Communist Russia. And if our poor Anton Applecrumble is picked as a target he should feel flattered that he has been chosen to help fight this over powerful enemy! Next time he passes underneath our great hall we would appreciate it if he would give us prior notice so that we could mobilise all our forces - with luck we'll do more than brain him!

Finally you need have no worries about frustration in our single sex environment - we girls just love it!!

Weir Resident

## 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 PO Box 1347, Wellington. Letters should be double spaced and on one side of the paper only.*

## Malaysian Comment on Godzone

Dear Sir,

My faith in New Zealand as a country untainted by racism and bigotry has been totally shattered in the last few weeks: New Zealanders are collaborating with the racist regime in S. Africa, definitely guilty of killing

Maoris, persecuting the Island people; and now attacking poor defenceless and dispirited Malaysians.

Before I came here to further my education, I was told by New Zealanders in my country that their country was unique in many ways. People of different races lived together in harmony, it was easy to make a living people were friendly, New Zealand was a friend of the 'developing' countries, they had a true parliamentary form of government, and if I were to carry on, the good Citizens here would be embarrassed.

But what did I let myself in for? I had to run the great obstacle race to get in here. I had to pass a series of exams to determine my suitability as a student (which I understand the NZ government and my government have connived to screen out 'unsuitable students'). When I passed the tests I was obliged to give an undertaking to my government not to participate in activities here which were critical of it (again the NZ government had a part in this limitation of my freedom of thought and action). Then I had to wait for an agonizing period for my entry permit to arrive, which didn't arrive until the day before I was to leave.

When I arrived at your International Airport, Wellington, I was searched from head to toe like I were a criminal. Then I arrived at "university" I slowly began to discover that what the New Zealand friends had told me at home were not entirely true.

'People' were not all that friendly. It was hard to relate to them. Some were openly hostile, others ignored foreign students as if they did not exist. Parliament was not called for over six months. (They do this pretty soon in our country to impress on us who the real powers are). When they called Parliament, the upper class was assailed with rotten tomatoes which cost 78 cents per pound to throw, and 20,000 cursing and booing people I didn't mind this as I regarded democracy as being practised as people were expressing their opinions so freely! (Actually this was one of the few aspects I like about New Zealanders in spite of their faults). Back home if we did the same we would probably have been shot. But it does not mean that I should not criticise you people after all you are quick to criticise us.

Then you have this guy called "piggy Muldoon" for a PM, whom you have changed into a "King Kong" doing damage to Parliament. This was a bit confusing at first but I got used to the political situation here. To get an honest opinion I must refer to Fred Dagg as regards your opinion on us "wop, niggers, Chinks, eyeties, strines, greasies, poms". "Poms" are really a bit of a mystery since I always thought you were all related to them, at least the white half.

Coming back to King Kong Muldoon, it seems very much a national sport to call people you don't like by animal names like 'Mouse' Rowling of the sell-out Labour party, which according to my observations even sold out the workers back in the Depression days (And then you have a Trade Union leader who has sold out the workers by joining the upper class. Which side is he on?). Muldoon is an incredible entity. We have a few at home but not as provocative. I can see that he is taking NZ a long way from the parliamentary democracy you are so proud of - back into the middle-ages. This 'union bashing' binge he is on, will certainly bring the long awaited revolution one step nearer!

Then you have the students, the epitome of New Zealanders who display all the qualities already cited above. It is hard to fathom this lot. At home we really do appreciate "freedom" in fact we have to shed our blood for it. So we use it in the most constructive manner we can, like going out to help the poor; getting to understand their lives and to learn from them as well as to share our privileged knowledge with them Of course it is hard. It is hard because our government beats the shit out of us if we try to organise the poor or support the peasants and working class. But here what do you do?! You have frivolous debates on Sex, Piss!?! You actually join in the Pig's effort to bash the workers. This is truly incredible. What are you? Who are you to commit such a criminal act?? Don't you real be that workers are the backbone of the country? Breaking your backbone is what you are doing when you indulge in your elitist cudgelling of the working people.

Well friends, I hope that you can swallow my comments as we have to put up with yours. The world is in a state of change. Very soon countries like S. Africa (whose regime you sympathise with so much) will be liberated. I hope you will wake up from your slumbers before then as people are waking up all over the world beckoning you to join them The first thing you can do, I humbly suggest is to examine your inner self and try to sort out your regressive views of other people. Maybe you will understand it all when the "free world" begins to collapse.

A member of the third world.

## **Criticism of Women's Choice Club Donation**

Dear Sir,

This is a reply to Sue Aitchison-Windeler's reply (Salient 16, July 1976) to my objection over the donation of \$50 for the furthering of the aims of the Woman's Choice Club (That sounds correct doesn't it Sue) Through the many words used, (424) including the usual drivel about guys and girlfriends, I did manage to ascertain that the \$50 was going to be a donation from the \$600 of Studass funds set aside for that purpose

I do recognise that SRC can recommend to the Exec how the \$600 should be donated. But the word 'donation' as opposed to 'grant' implies the giving of money to some charitable cause or institution. About one third of the students present at the SRC meeting held on the 16th June do not see the Woman's Choice Club or Abortion Rally Committee as a charitable cause or institution

When it comes to the point, I would rather give \$1000 to the "Piggy" Party than 50 cents to the Women's Choice Club, and the thought of giving one cent to "Piggy" makes me bring up. And I know it does the same to a great many other students.

Therefore, seeing that the issue over whether or not the \$50 is being donated to a worthy cause (i.e. Women's Choice Club aims) is the cause of so much ideological strife, why not give the money to another cause of which I can name a hundred more needy, and to which no one in their right mind could object. For example; St John's Ambulance, Foundation for the Blind and Corso to name a few.

Here we have a good example of the majority trampling over a minority group, which makes the pro abortionists just as guilty of the crime, which they claim is repressing them. Besides aren't students for the underdogs, or is that only when they aren't students.

Yours sincerely

Simon Romijn.

p.s. I love life, including Women's Choice Club life.

## Stones Review Under Fire

Dear John,

I am truly sorry if Phil Hay took exception to that letter but the fact remains he has not answered the points that were raised.

There is a clear cut and quite obvious dichotomy running through the Stones' Black and Blue. On one hand you have their reggae rip-off epitomised in such a track as 'Hot Stuff' and on the other there is the typical Stones track 'Hand of Fate' is an example. Neither of these trees that the Stones are barking up are highly original (and have you ever tried barking up two trees at once?).

First of all there is the steal the Stones have done from Bob Marley. Phil Hay defends the Stones and at the same time credits them with great skill, brilliance even. Anyone can copy another artist but to be given false credit by another is musical dishonesty. The reggae tracks on Black and Blue are blatant and poorly disguised Bob Marley. Phil Hay has not defended his opinion that this reggae of the Stones is so innovative - everyone can see where they get it from. It is acceptable the Stones copy other artists but to give them high praise is inexcusable.

Secondly the other tracks which are not reggae are typical Stones. The Stones have been stuck in a rock n' roll rut for most of the time they have been around. Not that there is anything wrong with this rut - it's really good when you're pissed. It exists however and this LP perpetuates it.. Richard's guitar riffs are becoming jaded and Jagger's vocals are mellowing and lack that earthy raunchiness of Exile on Main Street. There is hardly any basic difference when you think of such 'classics' as:

- Jumping Jack Flash
- Brown Sugar
- It's All Over Now
- Star Star
- Honky Tonk Woman
- Lets Spend The Night Together
- Sympathy for the Devil
- Gimme Shelter

(need I go on) I think it can be safely stated there is a high degree of sameness in the Stones music My second argument is that this LP only enhances the level of sameness. Thirdly, there is no 'skillful fusion' of the two elements of reggae or rock. The tracks on the LP are either or t'other. This is perceptible to even the most

unpracticed car The lyrics are not inspiring either. There is nothing subtle' about Jagger droning 'Hot stuff hot stuff, hot stuff....' or else 'Daddy you're a fool to cry, daddy you're a fool to cry. . .' The lyrics are not worthy of praise to the ecstatic heights that Phil Hays elevated them.

Those are the points that were made. Phil Hay did not reply to the contentions in last weeks Salient and the praise he bestowed upon the LP was sadly unsubstantiated. Blind allegiance to the Stones (much like my nine year old sister who follows the Bay City Rollers) seemed to impede his capability of an objective review.

To be truthful I quite like the LP but I can see its faults and the criticism levelled at it (that Phil finds so very hard to understand) is justified and what is better it is substantiated criticism. Jagger et al so glorious on Exile on Main Street are growing old. Their aggression seems to be involuntarily restrained - you can almost feel the group straining to break through the barriers their music has developed

Answer these charges Phil. They are widely held opinions entirely at odds with your own Do not think, either, that I have got anything against the Stones. It is just that your review Mr Hays showed a dearth of qualifications and substantiations and a plentitude of praise that most listeners would be at a loss to understand. The Stones do not stand on their own; they are a part of the rock n' roll trend that began in the '50s. Maybe they know they are in a rusted rut maybe this LP is an attempt to get out of it. Better still it is a case of trying to have your cake and eat it too.

Jagger does not take the cake but you do Phil. It's just another LP.

To wit one reply.

## **Accusations Against Sports Officer?**

Dear Sir,

Several of those representing this university at Easter Tournament paid out extra money (\$8.10) for a train fare from Christchurch to Dunedin. This we did because there was a mis-up in travel arrangements. The present sports officer, Peter Thrush, promised us all quite unequivocally that this money (less a small deduction) would be refunded when we returned to Wellington. It is now three months since we were given that promise and no refund has been made.

I would like to ask Peter Thrush publicly what has happened to this money? When, if ever, will we receive our long-promised refund?

Yours sincerely,

David Lawson.

p.s. I make no allegation of incompetence - yet!

## **International Club Speaks Out on Israeli Invasion**

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the International Club, I would be most grateful if you could publish in the next issue of Salient the statement below on which the Club's members, present and voting at its meeting on 7th July, took a unanimous stand.

The statement is as follows:

The International Club unqualifiedly condemns the act of invasion by the Israeli Commando unit on sovereign Ugandan territory with the result of death and destruction caused to Uganda and her people. The International Club in the same breathe completely disassociates itself from the New Zealand Prime Minister's (Mr Muldoon) statement on the issue and condemns his puerile jubulations at the Israeli banditry. The International Club sympathises with the families of the dead and wounded of Uganda.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

Minutes Secretary.  
Image of a bird in a circle

## Price Justifications Requested

Dear Sir,

Could someone in the cafeterial management reply (through the medium of our great newspaper, Salient) to this question - What justification is there for food prices in the cafeteria being increased yet again? According to the present rates of increase, a hot dish upstairs will cost \$1.20 by the end of the third term And measly pie's will cost 40c. Enclosed is a graph of prices of food as the year has progressed since March, with projected increases based on a linear relationship, not an exponential rate of increase which could be the case and would show even higher increases. Thus what cost a student 75c in March will cost \$1.65 in September!

The very fact of these prices increasing is causing people to buy less during the day, so just increasing prices won't solve the cafeteria management's problems, as soon only those who can afford to will eat on campus, the rest of us will find it cheaper to make our own, or go downtown to eat. How about giving us students a fair go instead of blatant profiteering!?

Remember, we'd all like to read the reply justifying these price increases.

Yours hungrily and starving.

Fat Fred and Joe.

*Thanks for your letter Fat Fred and Joe. There will be an article in Salient next week on the Cafeteria and its problems - Ed*

**KARORI CEMETERY HIT BY VANDALISM R.I.P off JOE STUDENT**

**BURSARIES: a big fiddle NO COST OF LIVING INCREASE IN THE BURSARY — ANOMALIES IN THE PRESENT SYSTEM WHICH THE GOVERNMENT REFUSES TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT — NO ASSISTANCE TO Ph.D STUDENTS AND LITTLE TO THOSE WITH COSTLY COURSES — AN UNJUST ABATEMENT FOR THOSE UNLUCKY ENOUGH TO LIVE IN A UNIVERSITY TOWN**

Bursaries under the National Government have been one big fiddle. Despite election promises to increase bursaries in line with price increases nothing is going to be done until the whole bursary system has been reviewed. When will that be? The Minister of Education says that it may be completed by mid 1977, which means no bursary increase or action until 1978. What will your bursary be worth in 1978? We can't wait that long. There is only one answer to a Government that refuses to take action. 0 Friday 23 July - Action Day forum 11.30 am UNION HALL march on parliament assemble on Hunter Lawn at 12 noon meeting in the CONCERT CHAMBER 8 pm. Published by VUWSA on behalf of WePSA, CITSA, VUWSA