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Thou art a beacon, light-house, lamp that guides; A font of learning warning foolish men How mightier than the sword, the pen That praises knowledge, science, art and sides With Truth. What treasured pages have adorned Thy issues, lauding, glorying thy name And winning praise, applause, repute and fame. Wherever goest thou untruth is scorned. Thou art vivacious, bold, undaunted; years Full score, have passed away and yet thy youth, And strength and zeal remain untamed. Be bold, And forward forge thy way, dispelling fears, Relentless, fearless be thy search for Truth, That leaves of thine be more esteemed than gold. — T.J. KELLIHER. (SALIENT, 1958)

\$43 It is

SGM

Obviously attracted by the prospect of Paul Norman's 5,000 word motion concerning the constitutional relationship between VUWSA and the Environment and Peace Institute, 300 students crowded the Union Hall for what turned out to be the most enteraining show in that room since Rebbeca Perrott won a bronze medal in the 200 metres.

However, the whole meeting was taken up with a minor motion - that of the raising of the Students' Association from \$37 to \$43.

Cassidy/Underwood: "That the Annual Subscription paid by ordinary members of the Association shall be \$43 and shall be allocated as follows:-

- \$12 to the General Account (\$8.50)
- \$12 to the Union Building Fund (\$9)
- \$13.50 to the Union Maintenance Fund (\$11)
- \$2 to the VUWSA Trust (\$2)
- \$3 to a special account to be administered by the Sport Council (\$2)
- \$3.50 to a special account to be administered by the Publications Board (\$2.50)

Where does it go?

With the aid of a large blackboard, Lindy Cassidy explained the meaning of the various catagories and gave reasons for the increases.

General Account: The administration of the Association - campaigns, wages, overheads, levies to other organisations like NZUSA and Students' Arts Council.

Building Fund: Controlled by the University and used to build the Recreation Centre extensions.

Maintenance Fund: Controlled by the University it goes to mainaining the Union Building and the Recreation Centre - cleaning, repairs, overheads, staffing etc.

VUWSA Trust: This is a charitable trust where the Association keeps all its money due to the fact that VUWSA is a non-profit making body.

Sports Council: Administers VUWSA sport and gives grants to clubs.

Publications Board: Administers Salient and Handbook.

Due mainly to the tight control of VUWSA's finances and sensible administration by Treasurer Steve Underwood, the levy has not risen since 1976, although the Association is running a budget deficit this year.

One thorn in the side of VUWSA has been the University's interference in its finances. Although at first it appears that students control their own money, the University approves the levy, collects it, earns interest on it, and eventually hands it over to VUWSA in instalments throughout the year. This gives it considerable bargaining power over the Association, a fact graphically illustrated in the maintenance costs of the Recreation Centre. Although the SGM felt strongly that the University should provide the money for the running of the Recreation Centre as a necessary student facility (like, for example, the health service), the University insisted that 50% of the running costs must come from the students. In the final analysis, since it is the University that

controls the Maintenance Fund, the Association had no choice.

Next year the University intends to review the entire union financing and it is likely that students will be asked to fork out even more money for what are essentially part of their study conditions - health facilities, counselling, career advice, creche and the Student Union Building.

This is just another indication of the financial crisis in the University and the economic crisis in society. If students allow themselves to pay for what is their right, then that will provide the thin end of the wedge with more restrictions in faculties, in the library, and any other way the University can "save money".

The other aspect of the new fee which attracted attention was the lack of parity of the grants to the Sports Council and the Cultural Affairs Committee. In 1978, the Cultural Affairs Committee received \$3,000 from the Association while Sports Council raked in \$15,000. Chris Chapman, star of stage, screen and, somewhat unsuccessfully, University Challenge moved:

That the Sports Council levy not be increased for next year.

This provoked considerable friction between what Andrew Tees described as the "culture lobby" and the "sports lobby" during which the the Cultural Affairs Officer - elect, received a custard pie in the face from an unidentified punk rocker sporting swept round sun-glasses and clingy black leather trousers.

This pseudo-punker was probably a member of the culture faction as it was revealed that the CAO-elect in question, Michael Carr-Gregg, had consummated a secret deal with the Association Treasurer on the Cultural Affairs levy without the knowledge of the Cultural Affairs Committee.

Reason however prevailed, as did Paul Norman, and the motion was defeated, the culture faction vowing to seek revenge at the '79 AGM. After some two hours discussion the \$43 levy as was approved with only miniscule opposition.

Elections and a Great Honour

Two other items were dispensed with before the SGM closed. An amendment delaying the election of the VUWSA Executive in future to the third term was passed and a touch of humour was added when the Callinicos-Sowman clique succeeded in renaming all the remaining SRC's for the year "The Paul Norman Variety Show".

Many of the stoic qualities that characterise Paul Norman, a speaker who never lets audience reaction deter him, were extolled at great length. Such is the respect that the mover and seconder have for Paul, that they are thinking of further moving that he be preserved in concrete from the knees down and thrown into Wellington Harbour.

David Murray

Editorial

Who Writes the Script?

Drawing of a man being followed by a pig

Dr. Jekyll and Mr Hyde

In the National Issue on politics we featured a spread on a National Party publication entitled "Years of Lightning". Amusing as this document is, it by no means rises to the top of the quagmire of National propaganda floating around. There is a little pamphlet called "Doctor Muldoon: Miracle Maker" which really has to be seen to be believed.

It's all about this charming little fellow with an ever-so-engaging dimple in his cheek who has magnanimously undertaken to cure a dreadfully ill patient. Of course there are side effects, like unemployment, and the prescription isn't the sweetest of medicines for some of the taste buds to endure, and nor should it be expected that the patient will get well again overnight. For the plain facts of the matter are, the poor fellow has had a dreadful disease and his condition was very very critical for a lengthy period of time. It's cute, this pamphlet, that the only word to describe it.

The analogy is good too. The National Party has proved its respect for the medical profession this year in the utmost deference in showed over the abortion issue and the widely respected man they chose to watch over Health. What more fitting than that it personified its leader as one of those esteemed few?

A little after this pamphlet came out the good doctor started holding regular all night soirees in a

comfortable little drawing room he has a hand in running. Some people have become a bit disturbed at this, and others think it's because the worriers didn't think of it first or had been told not to stay out late or something, but a few people have started spreading a dangerous rumour. They reckon these soirees are mysteriously timed to coincide with the passage of the moon. In fact, at the mention of a certain phase they become positively weak at the knees and start watching the palms of their neighbours' hands.

There's another rumour some people are spreading too. It is sure not to be nearly as likely as the first, but it concerns congenital diseases, and fathers contracting them round the time sons are born, and fathers bying in psychiatric hospitals of them. An erstwhile King of England and the present King of Scotland are cited as examples. But there's nothing to worry about, because doctors know how to look after themselves.

Labour isn't into doctors, it's the family man image this party chases. Good, honest, noble, upright and above all, sincerely concerned. Labour is going to look after the family, especially the family which displays the qualities it tries to display. It may not sparkle, it may not rampage around getting a reputation for itself, it may not even align itself with a particular group in society (there aren't really any are ? there' Except the unions of course, and they re-only pretend to be).

There isn't a lot more one can say about Labour in this story, for in the fine tradition of such tales, sobriety, even when it is slightly marred by the odd personal scandal, rumour of drunkenness, etc. does not attract much attention. It's the evil side that counts, and if you want to be the forces of good, what better way than to convince people of your claim than highlight the follies of the forces of evil. Do it well and enough people may not even notice the relationship between the two. Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde? It isn't a real story.

Another Year in Godzone

So let's look at what is.

In 1950 Prime Minister Sid Holland visited the United States and declared that New Zealand would "stick to the United States through thick and thin, right or wrong". This wasn't because New Zealand has any deep seated love of the great American people. During the war, right in the midst of our best yet demonstration of the "truth" of this remark, there were riots in Cuba Street over the US servicemen's attitude to Maoris and New Zealand women. Many New Zealand soldiers thought they were fighting an anti-fascist war, and so they were. But our leaders leaders, by and large, have not seen it that way.

The 1966 Review of Defense Policy made the following statement on defense. The aim is "to establish a claim upon our major allies for consultations, a voice in important decisions, and in the last resort, and most importantly, military assistance and protection in time of need. This requires New Zealand to demonstrate willingness to make the appropriate degree of national defensive effort, and willingness and ability to assist our allies in matters affecting Their national interests".

The situation hasn't changed. Muldoon elaborated on this theme in 1977 when he said, "We press our case on beef strongly with our giant ANZUS partner because if we are to be militarily strong, in relation to our size, we need the military hardware. To buy that we must earn more from exports and we entertain the hope that even in the cold hard world of trade and the need each country has to protect its own producers, regard be had to this extra consideration."

In other words, New Zealand's military links with the United States are part and parcel of our economic links with that country and her allies. In both spheres, we are dominated by foreign interests to a significant degree. We have no heavy industrial base to the economy, and what raw materials we do have which could be utilised for developing one are either exported or left for foreign investors. Iron sands, coal and oil all fall into this category. In the agricultural sector, the slowly growing fishing industry is being stifled in its infancy by a number of countries.

Exporting into Dependence

As everyone knows, New Zealand faces a severe balance of payments deficit. Our exports just do not have the purchasing power they once enjoyed and it is unlikley they will ever regain it. The growth of light industry may be opening up some new markets, but the development of similar forms of light industry in the countries we are exporting to, and the threat of protectionist policies by those countries mean that we cannot regard light manufacturing as a secure prospect for solving economic ills.

Furthermore, many of the exports New Zealand manufacturers are being exhorted to produce do not have a stable home market. This means that any reduction in the overseas orders will have severe repercussions in the state of the given industry. With no capacity / to absorb fluctuations by turning to the home market, companies would be forced to lay off staff, increase prices and in some cases, even fold up.

Perhaps more significant than all this, however, is the role that overseas investment plays in New Zealand's

light industry. Most of our imports (about 75%) are in the form of raw materials, fuel, transport equipment, components, and capital goods. This means that the products of New Zealand industry which do have the little kiwi on the bottom have a significant import content in them. Furthermore, many industries are financed by overseas capital. Heavy borrowing (in both the private and the public sectors) has increased this dependency.

The result of this is that when we do manage to reduce import quotas, without developing our own industrial base to replace the goods lost, the light manufacturing sector is denied essential components and further recession follows. Far from protecting us from the vacillating international economic situation, the policy of semi-industrialisation means we are increasingly being drawn into it.

Foreign Monopolies in Control

Thus we can see that large scale foreign investment places New Zealand's economic security in jeopardy and draws us into military commitments (like Indochina) from which we cannot hope to gain any benefit. Foreign investment exercises a significant control over New Zealand in other crucial ways, through marketing outlets, research and technology and in its control of banks, finance houses and merchant banks. It is concentrated in monopoly industries and the finance sector, and its interests have become interwoven with our own domestic monopoly class.

Foreign investment and control has brought with it several obligations which run counter to our national independence. Our economic policies are subject to the needs of international monopoly capital, and the measures we invoke to deal with crises do not endanger those needs. Our stand on international issues is designed to suit our "allies" rather than reflect the concerns and interests of the people.

The ever astute National MP Keith Allen (the man who brought us "NZ is bankrupt" only one year ago) had an interesting thing to say the other day: protectionism, he claimed, would lead to a new world war. Somebody obviously forgot to tell him not to make last year's remark, and somebody else must have told him to make this one. He's nearly right though, for it is true that the increasing rivalry between the two superpowers and their allies/clients is based on a need to expand markets and gain greater control of the world economy.

It is into this situation that our present leaders are drawing New Zealand more and more. The National Party does it with impunity; people expect it to. And Labour is no different. From 1973 to 1975 NZ imports shot up dramatically while exports decreased. National has attempted to reverse this trend, just as Labour would have had to do. The result has been rising unemployment, falling wages, inflation and bankruptcy.

Neither party is prepared to commit itself to constructing an independent economy free from the directives of overseas investment and the crippling effect of an undeveloped industrial base. Because of this our economic situation will continue to decline, and the screws will continue to be put on our civil liberties to restrict people's rights to protest.

It's Going to Get Worse

It is fun to satirize the personal motives of our leading politicians, and with many of them there is certainly ample scope to do this, but it would be a mistake to ever think that New Zealand's condition at the present time is the result of paranoid delusions of grandeur alone. The fact that some politicians are more keen to ride roughshod over the democratic rights of New Zealanders than others does not mean that the latter have not and will not be forced by their economic, political and military allegiances to do the same. It's not what people say that counts, it's what they do.

Next year we can expect no improvement in the situation, and in many ways things will get a lot tougher. It doesn't really matter which way we vote this coming election. To protect our standards of living, our democratic rights and particularly to protect the rights of those groups hit hardest by government policies of the last six years (working people, women, cultural minorities), we must not fall into the trap of leaving "democracy" to the men and women sipping cheap gin at Bellamies. Their interests are not ours. We must organise amongst ourselves.

Wherever attacks on our living standards and democratic rights occur, the people must unite together to face them, and must be able to draw on the widest possible support in their struggle. In the attack on one group lie the seeds for an attack on others.

New Zealand is not a fascist country — yet. Events of this year, from the visit of the Pintado in January and the method used to disperse the protest fleet, through Bastion Point and the naked display of state power, through to the denial of speaking rights for some visitors to this country and the unprincipled attacks on Trevor Richards, leave little doubt in many people's minds about what could be coming. It is up to us, all of us, to stop it.

Simon Wilson

President

Photo of Lindy Cassidy

Passing Out

Most Presidents write their reports at the end of the year for consumption for the next Year's Annual General Meeting. However, I thought I'd write a few impressions of this and but year's experiences now so that the people who have contributed to the development and activity of the Students' Association can be thanked and those that haven't can be reminded (castigated?).

The primary role of the Students' Association is to look after the welfare and education of its members. This means, on the one hand, providing services and facilities such as SASRAC, Alms, cafe food, the efficient running of the Union Building and recreation centre. On the other hand it means fighting for a decent bursary, campaigning for compulsory lecturer training, lighter workloads and less onerous forms of assessment.

In the context of a broader definition of the word welfare, it also means closely monitoring Governmental activities, particularly the restrictions placed on civil liberties, for example, the SIS Act, Misuse of Drugs legislation and the Contraception, Sterilization and Abortion Act.

Another essential role of the Students' Association is to represent the opinions of its members, whether that is over the Wellington City Council's decision to build a Town Hall or over the invasion of Zaire. In order to represent the opinions of students, policy must be decided in the most democratic way possible.

Recently there have been attacks on the ability of the Student Representative Council, to adequately represent student views. Though I agree that it would be desirable that more students attended these meetings, at least students have an opportunity to decide Association policy. Not only does SRC give any student member the right to speak, vote, and move motions, it also gives students a forum where they can hear two sides and thus decide policy in an informed way. No other decision-making method that has been put forward can be as democratic.

VUWSA and New Zealand

Over the last two years New Zealand has started to feel the effects of the economic crisis. There has been a steady erosion of people's living standards, rising unemployment and increased restrictions on New Zealanders' civil liberties. This has meant that society generally and students in particular have tended to be more conservative and insular in their outlook on life.

Students can no longer afford to stay too long at University, so it is essential that they obtain a degree in the shortest possible time. However, in order to get a job in an increasingly narrowing market, the degree must be a 'good one'. The combination of continual assessment heavier workloads and increased competition has meant that students have had less time to participate in extra-curricular activity, whether it be social, cultural, sporting or political.

There is a tendency to wipe students off as completely apathetic, conservative and disinterested. However, over the last two years students have at times displayed tremendous interest and activity. The most obvious example is that of the SIS demonstrations in October last year, where a 1500 strong student march from Varsity joined the main demonstration, in spite of the fact that students were in the middle of studying for exams.

Students have also shown strong concern over the other questions of democratic rights, such as abortion and an education for all and not just the few that can afford it.

Perhaps the most promising event that has occurred is the formation of the Progressive Student Alliance which is the first real organised attempt to combat the growing trend to the right within the Students' Association and New Zealand society. It is to be hoped that the base that has been developed can be strengthened next year.

Leadership on Campus

It is a truism to say that the Students' Association can only be as effective as its membership but there is of course the other aspect — that of leadership. Leadership in our Association must be provided not only by the Executive, but also by the various SRC Officers.

According to the laws that govern bureaucratic committees, committees are composed of: Wish-bones — those that talk a lot but never do anything; Knuckle bones — people that knock things but do not do anything and back-bones — those that do all the work.

It is important to have backbones in all areas of the Association's work — culturally, financially, politically and socially. The acknowledged financial and administrative backbone has of course been the 1977 and 1978 Treasurer — Stephen Underwood. In 1977 the social backbone was Neil Gray who, as he so often pointed out, ended up doing a great deal of the shit work of organising socials, hops, concerts, etc. This year has seen a heavy turnover of Executive members due to vacancies existing at the end of last year being filled by interim people.

To their credit the Callinicos brothers (K & P) took their role as Executive members seriously from the time they were elected. They have contributed a great deal in terms of time and work, particularly in social areas and accommodation.

Politically with a few exceptions both 1977 and 1978 executives have been disappointing, particularly in popularising SRC's.

One of these exceptions is Caroline Massof, the Woman Vice President, who has worked hard and with a great deal of initiative in the field of women's rights. She too played an important role in the social side of the Association. The year's Sports Officer, Philip Sowman, was also enthusiastic - not only in his own area but also as a participant in Executive activities (especially after Exec. Meetings!).

On the whole this year's executive has worked more co-operatively and has achieved better results than 1977's. This is partly due to my own inexperience last year, but also to the personnel involved in this year's Executive.

The SRC Officers' work can often be assessed in the campaigns they have co-ordinated or failed to co-ordinate. The Association relies heavily on SRC Officers for political leadership in their respective fields. Overall I think the work of SRC Officers has been disappointing, particularly in the areas of international and education. This is partly explicable in the conditions existing on the campus, but also to the lack of leadership and initiative. Exceptions to this are in the fields of Women's Rights (Lamorna Rogers), Environment (Paul Norman) and National (Jim Brown). These officers have shown enthusiasm and initiative, which has been reflected in the campaigns or forums they have organised.

It is essential that students critically examine their elected officers and the work they do. This serves not only to remind these officers that they are ultimately responsible to students but also to help them in their work.

The Relationship Between the Students' Association and the University

On the whole the relationship between the Students' Association and the University has been fairly co-operative and cordial, except in some cases where high level University bureaucrats have showed art arrogant disregard and contempt for students and their representatives. However, next year, as the economic crisis deepens and money becomes tighter, the University will try to make students help pay for University services, such as Student Health, the Creche and Counselling Services. In particular next year, the Students' Association and the University are scheduled to negotiate the payment of the finances and running costs of the Union and Recreational facilities. The University will try and pass the bulk of the payment onto students. It is vital that the issue be raised with students and that they give full support to their representatives in the financial wrangle with the University.

Finally I would like to thank the real backbones of the Association - the Office Manager, Penny Booth, the Office Secretary, Anne Humphries, and Patsy Phelps our Telephonist who regrettably is leaving this year. Also the Union Secretary Nofa Falcalili and Jim Collins who give a great deal of assistance to students.

I would also like to thank all those students who I have worked closely with the Student Representatives, those students who regularly turn up to SRC's and forums, and Jo/Josephine student who's reading this in the library. Thank you for a thoroughly enjoyable year. Good luck with your exams and job hunting!

Lindy Cassidy

Salient Showdown

There is tragedy in the air as Simon Ironguts Wilson leaps onto his white horse for the historic last ride for 1978 down that dusty Main St of journalism that is called Salient. The tragic element is principally a result of his missing the horse completely and collapsing ungracefully in the dust on the other side at the dirty feet of Lamorna Rogers. Does she pick him up? No she laughs long and loud showing an equally tragic lack of respect that is picked up and developed by Vass Gavriel, Andrew Delahunty and David Beresford, to the point where they are laughing, howling, coughing and spluttering in a highly medically risky manner.

The White Horse walks slowly away sighing and looking at the sky. Down the road well, known Dark

horse Dave Macpherson turns to face the enemy. "Take this you son of a bitch", he says staring the Pale Horse in the eye and shooting a hole as big as a *[unclear: 50s]* piece in his foot. High above the whole scene the bloodshot eyes of Allan Hight stare from a roof guttering, and a shot rings out. The bullet passes through the unsuspecting neck of Marie Rogers, the left buttock of Bruce Robinson, drills a huge hole in the guts of Neil Gray to finally bounce off Mike Stephen's head and fall clattering into the gutter. It rests there for a minute or so and then leaps up again to rocket through half a dozen or so more people including such notables as Greg Cotmore, Sue Cairney and Karen Lyness.

Down the other end of the street famous Manchurian camel-thief and Ginseng Tea salesman David Murray is drilling for oil. Standing beside him is the business manager of the huge multinational conglomerate Rick Danko Green Vegetables Inc, Lorraine "Everybody wears greatcoats in Ireland" Robinson, more latterly blown as "Suprise Peas O'Reilly." Nearby a Texaco ten ton tanker waits for the big strike with its engine running. "Shouldn't be long now" says Murray, "we're down to twenty five feet and all indications are good." "I hope so", says O'Reilly, "we've only got the tanker for the day you know. Good about actually getting it right to the spot so easily anyway." "Well, that's why I decided to drill here" says Murray, "right on the road you know." "Bloody good thinking" says Jim Brown flying overhead, heading for the coast.

Outside the saloon Peter "Lamb for the slaughter" Beach tells Meg Bailey about the time he was sitting in the very back row during an English lecture and the guy up in front looks straight at him and says "maturity is the realisation that the world doesn't revolve around You", there and then; first, it wasn't true; and secondly there was a conspiracy afoot to make him think it was. So he dropped out an joined Drama School where he met John 'Othello' McDavitt and they got together to form a theatre group and toured the country. Don Wright, another member of the group, had just been hung that morning for wiping out three members of the audience during a moving performance of "Ned Kelly" in the Saloon the night before. Tonight new overnight sensation Ralph Proops is scheduled to play lead in "Hamlet", an obscure little ditty about this schizophrenic who can't decide whether or not To Be but not to worry, if he's no good this audience will probably decide for him.

The door of the saloon opens and out stumbles a red-nosed Jonathan Scott who sobbingly refused to ever write another Salient Notes and tried to shoot himself in the head with a half empty bottle of beer. "Bloody idiot" laughs Leonie Morris when the bottle suddenly goes off and blows Scott's brains out.

Inside the air is heavy with smoke, not from cigarettes but from the bar which is on fire down one end. Sean Tuohy enters just in time to see the unfortunately short-sighted Grant Liddell lay down five aces before a suprised Cathy Randall, David Beach and Harold Merriman. Speaking as a whole, he loses the game, and his frayed body is taken outside for a game of soccer. Local dancing girls Debbie Finberg, Debbie Brabout, Rire Scotney and Caroline Stephens put on a spirited performance of the Apache Shuffle, followed by the popular Las Vegas Pickup and culminating in the lesser known Audience Arousal and Gang Rape. "Encore!" shouts an infatuated Kevin Young, although quite incapable of acheiving such a feat himself.

"It being Saturday night, Hamlet is in for a bit of serious competition on the entertainment scene. On the other side of the street the Presbyterian Grandmothers Guild turn up in a blaze of dust on a fleet of Norton 850 Commandos and Triumph 750's kicking Peter Erlich and John Bailey out of the way and congregating in an angry revving mass outside the local dance hall. Yes it's their job to organise tonight's District *[unclear: Dance and they climb]* off their machines and totter on their walking sticks inside to begin decorating, led by 108 year old Committee President Sally Blundel and an assortment of well-known geriatrics including Kathy Moody, Sally Redman, Clo Taylor, Peter Cresser and Victoria Kennedy. There's a pretty cryptic history of pregnancy booms, crime waves and major losses of human life surrounding these dances, and in fact their future has recently been called into question, but unfortunately it was a question no-one seems prepared to answer. Anyway darkness is falling and up the road David Murray can be heard drilling for oil.

Those responsible for Salient this year. (From left to far left - front row) David Murray, Simon Wilson, Lamorna Rogers, Helen Aikman. (Back Row) Lorraine "Surprise Peas O'Reilly" Robinson, Jonathan Scott, Kathyne Fleming, Stephen A'Court, Peter Beach & Margot MacGillivray.

Photo of Salient staff 1978

"I'm coming to get you Jake", comes a voice, the door of the Barbers Office opens, and walking backwards out the door comes Double Barrel Doug Thompson. "I'm counting to ten Jake", he says continuing past curious onlookers Tom Duggan and Stephen Benbrook and walking backwards under a passing stage coach. "This is your last chance Jake", comes a muffled voice from under the stage coach which has stopped momentarily to let off three passengers (Ann Humphries, Michael Hamblyn and Nigel Wilson).

"Won't tell you again Jake comes a troubled voice from the road after the coach has left. "Who the hell's Jake?" queries Andrew Casey as he saunters out of the Saloon with his cronies Bruce McLay and Mark Derby. "I'll kill you Jake" stammers Thompson trying to drag himself off the road. Derby swings round instinctively and plants a bullet between his eyes. "What'd you do that for Jake?" he gasps, and collapses. Far off in the distance an oil rig hums.

Round the corner from the dance hall entrance Lindy Cassidy sits at a stall selling Avacado Pears. 'With or without?' she is asking prospective customer David Kent. 'Fair enough', says Kent, entering the crowded hall. 'Can you buy them singly?' asks Debbie Montgomery. 'Smart shit eh?' inquires Lindy Cassidy, turning to take a stiff shot of Tequila from a barrel at her side. Inside the hall things are really moving. Disco has hit the west and newly formed local band The Inane Lyrics are really pumping it out. 'Boogie!' sings lead vocalist James Morgan;

'Boogie yeah yeah'. 'Profound man, profound' sighs bassist Stephen 'Danko' A'Court. 'Relate to it man' insists Nitrous Oxide Norm ripping Helen Aikman's drum set with his guitar. 'Why are you doing that man?' asks spaced out keyboards player Peter 'Frampt on' Franks. 'Sounds much better than if I play it' explains Chris, throwing it affectionately out into the audience where it bounces off Caroline Massof's head, 'Why you beast!' she says slapping Andrew Beach her dancing partner, half a dozen times. 'Come with me mate', says Lisa Sacksen, the sherriff, grabbing him by the arm and shuffling him off.

Outside on the landing a couple sit close in the darkness. 'Oh you big strong hulk you', says Martha Coleman. 'I bet you get all the nice girls.' 'Pardon?' says Margot MacGillivray. Far off in the distance there is the sound of someone drilling for oil 'Sound like someone drilling for oil', says Katherine Fleming. 'That's better folks. Let's just hope he strikes it big in time for the first issue next year.

This historic last Salient of 1978 is edited by Ironguts Wilson. It is printed by Wanganui Newspapers Ltd, which is situated out back of the Saloon, Main Street, Wanganui, and published by the Victoria University of Touscon Students' Association.

The NZI Share War Continues

OKAY, YOU'S GUYS—THIS IS TOUR LAST CHANCE TO GET YOUR MOAN INTO THE ANTI-CALANDER. YOU GET TILL THE END OF THE WEEK. SO DO CLUBS Yes, concerning SOUTH AFRICA and RHODESIA — we have a lefinite policy of keeping business out of polities... er politres out of business... er...

The Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Insurance Company.

Since 1973 the Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Insurance Company has been the focus of anti-apartheid activity throughout t New Zealand. This campaign was initiated by the New Zealand University Students' Association, but it now involves a much larger group of people and organisations, including the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches.

However this AGM was different from the others. After five years of polite questioning, of proper behaviour and low key approaches with no effect it was deeded to institute a tactic of large scale disruption. The decision was taken to turn the AGM of the New Zealand Insurance Company into an anti-apartheid demonstration.

Those of us who were shareholders or proxy holders and who were embarking on this attack, met at 1 pm on Tuesday for the final briefing, just two hours before the commencement of the AGM. Many people there came from Auckland, but there were a fair number from all over the country. The Auckland people had been engaged in intensive practise runs and the whole plan of action was very well organised.

We were split into groups, each group with a leader who was supposed to take the main action and the rest to support him/her and stop them being interfered with. I thought this was a good idea until I found out that I was a leader.

We practised some of the chants that had been prepared; and rattles, black arm bands and face masks a la the lone ranger were handed out. We were informed by Regimental Seargent Major Dick Cuthbert (yes folks they're everywhere) that we would take control of the meeting in the first three minutes.

Inside the Meeting

'Fine' I thought as I walked into Trillo's and admired the thick carpet and the chandeliers and the top of the table decorously draped in green. 'Wonderful' I thought as I watched the masses of ordinary shareholders walking in and taking their places, about 400 in all. 'Excellent' I thought, 'How the bloody hell are we going to manage to do anything! Talk about an intimidating place.'

Mr Ross the Chairman of the Board stood up and welcomed us to the AGM, 'You're welcome to it too,' I mused still gripped in a paralysis of fear. Suddenly this large bloke with an enormous voice yelled out 'Why are

we here?' and the chant broke out all over the meeting. To say that the ordinary shareholders and the top table were surprised would be as much an understatement as commenting that the pope is mildly religious.

What followed next will probably go down in corporate history. People went and stood at the foot of the top table holding banners and placards about NZI's involvement in South Africa, radios were turned on at the call of 'Hauraki', whistles were blown, songs were sung, rattles were rattled. During the reading of the auditor's letter, which was conveniently placed in the annual report, we read along with the secretary of the meeting, always at least one second in front or behind him.

There were countless calls of 'point of order'. The Chairman said we could call him anything [*unclear: w*] we wanted. A poll, a type of ballot, was called for on every conceivable opportunity. As a poll involves handing round specially printed pieces of paper, checking peoples' share numbers and then counting them up, this of course took up some considerable time.

Fillerbusting

Dennis Rockell conducted some brilliant filler-busters, managing to make a question to a director take 11 minutes in the asking. There were a few people who offered to belt the demonstrators. One very military gentleman suddenly flinging aside his hat and umbrella yelled in a very broad Yorkshire accent 'I'll knock your bloody head off!' The police were called in at the beginning of the meeting, but when it was shown that they were not going to have the slightest effect on the demonstrators, they stood in the background.

Some of the Church people asked questions relating to the company's activities in South Africa and Rhodesia. The general answers that were given showed by the very terminology used, eg. Bantu, Coloureds, that they had been prepared by the manager of the South African Company.

Alick Shaw asked a series of questions relating to the company's activities in Rhodesia, and asked if none of the profits made in Southern Africa were leaving that part of the world, how could the company be complying to the undertaking given by them to the Minister of Foreign Affairs that their investments in that part of the world would not be increased. This line of argument caused quite some perturbation among the directors, and I have a sneaky feeling they realised that they were treading a very fine line in their dealings inside Southern Africa.

The meeting ended at approximately 6.20. We discovered later that in the confusion of the meeting the motion appointing the auditors for the next year had not been dealt with. Many people feel a bit squeamish about disrupting meetings like this, and wish that they could carry out their political objectives in a gentlemanly and ladylike manner. But in answer to those criticisms the basis of the opposition to the NZI's continued presence in South Africa has to be explained. They, like many other international concerns, exploit that apartheid system for profit. Because South Africa has a large cheap suppressed work force many big businesses flock there looking for ways of making their products less expensive and therefore more competitive by using this work force. The barbarism of the fascist state of South Africa is an inducement to them to stay there not a moral imperative to make them withdraw. The measures which make South Africa fascist are also the measures which retain the quietude of labour. During the 1964 disturbances foreign capital flowed out of South Africa, it was only after the laws were made even more repressive that it came back.

NZI is one of the few big New Zealand concerns which operate on a large scale in Southern Africa and it is because of this that it was singled out for attention. Those who feel squeamish about disrupting this meeting should look carefully at their own attitudes to apartheid, perhaps they are too nice to involve themselves in anything more than discrete lobbying and letter writing. While those activities are not to be decried neither are the activities of those persons who feel strongly enough about apartheid to take other actions.

Lisa Saksen

President NZUSA

Want to Follow Bob Jones ?

For many bright intelligent students the editorship of Salient has been the first stepping stone on the road to success. What is not widely realised is that from the position of Advertising Manager gifted individuals can scale the heights of the financial jungle. Bob Jones for example started his career in this position and now is the proud owner of a leaking, sinking poorly furnished lower block in down town Wellington, is a personal friend

of Mohamed Ali and victim of many abusive phone calls. Just think this could be you in 20 years if you take this position.

Payment is on a commission basis and competent Advertising Managers should be able to pick up about \$2000 in the course of the year. Any enquiries should be directed to the Publications Officer or to Salient.

Drawing of a ghostly dog

Interested in Lion~Taming !

Then perhaps the Wellington Zoo is the place for you. The headline is really quite misleading, as Salient sold all its lions some years ago. What we really need is a Treasurer for the Publications Board. The successful applicant would be expected to keep the books, write the cheques and all the things that treasurers generally have to do. The position receives an honorarium, and as an added bonus, we sometimes allow the Treasurer to train some of our pet seals. Any interested persons should enquire further from the Publications Officer, the Treasurer (Tom Duggan) or anyone in Salient. It is not recommended that you question the Bengalese tigers, they have an evil disposition.

Human Rights Cost Nothing

"Human Rights Cost Nothing" and "Gay Rights - It's Time" are some of the slogans being used by the National Gay Rights Coalition this year. The Coalition is running a campaign based on the General Election to inform the public about Gay people and Gay Rights.

The theme of the campaign "Human Rights Cost Nothing" was chosen because political parties will attempt to make the state of the economy the only issue during the elections. However, the NGRC is aiming to make the public aware that human rights are an important issue and the legislation to guarantee human rights will cost the country nothing. Indeed, Gay Right! legislation could well save the country money which is presently being spent on the victims of anti-Gay prejudice such as hospital care for the victims of queer bashing and unemployment benefits for those fired from their jobs for being gay.

A questionnaire on Gay Rights has been sent to all candidates, and the results have so far revealed an abysmal ignorance of what Gay Rights are all about. Many candidate! do not realise that Gay Rights extend beyond the issue of homosexual law repeal/reform and cover more important areas such as:

- The right to privacy in your personal life.
- The right to dignity
- The right to control over your own body and its functions - provided that this does not interfere with the rights of others.
- The right to children.
- The right to work.
- The right to accommodation.
- The right to access to goods and services, public facilities, etc.
- The right to protection by and equality, under the law without prejudice to yourself as a victim, eg. in cases of blackmail and assault.
- The right to recognition as a de facto couple in areas such as: taxation, mobility within jobs, loan and housing, inheritance from intestate deaths, hospital visiting rights.

So how is the NGRC Making the Public and Politicians Aware of the Human Rights Issue?

You will by now have probably noticed numerous nickers, poster!, and perhaps also observed pickets and news media coverage about Gay rights in Wellington. This is part of a nationwide campaign which will be further built up towards the election and will include a multi-media advertising campaign.

Also of late, a public opinion survey has been conducted by Victoria University Sociology Dept. to gauge attitudes towards homosexuals. This has shown that the views of the public are not being reflected by our Members of Parliament. The survey revealed that 80% of the voters of Island Bay and Wellington Central electorates consider that the Human Rights Commission Act should be expanded to include protection for people on the basis of their sexual orientation.

It also showed that homosexuals should have the right to any job they want provided they are qualified for it. On the question of the Crimes Act, 68% feel that the laws against adult males should be repealed, while only

21% feel that the law should remain as it is, or be enforced. 59% also feel that the age of consent for homosexual acts should be 16 years or under, which would bring it into line with the age of consent for heterosexual acts.

So, What are the Opinions of the Candidates? Replies to the National Gay Rights Coalition's questionnaire and follow up reports revealed the following:

It is interesting that despite Social Credit policy on homosexual law reform, their candidates do not appear to support Gay Rights, while many of the other candidates hold views that are clearly out of touch with the majority of their electors.

Gay Rights are Relevant to you! Experience has shown that candidates who are opposed to Gay Rights are unlikely to support legislation in other areas of social/human rights. Would you Trust an Anti-Gay Candidate to Protect the Rest of Your Human Rights?

For further information: contact Margo Field ph 796-953 or Gavin Young ph 738-358.

"Your seeming indifference to the matter of your past-due account is difficult to understand.

We have every confidence in you and believe that you intend to pay, but your account has now reached the stage where we can no longer simply continue making requests for payment...."

Drawing of two men by a brick wall

Election Forums

- Monday 2 October
- Island Bay Candidates
- Raewyn Good
- Gerald O'Brien
- Bill Nathan
- Frank O'Flynn
- Robyn Smith
- Values
- Indep. Labour
- National
- Real Labour
- Social Credit
- Tuesday 3 October
- Wellington Central
- Ken Comber
- Ron England
- Neville Pickering
- Karen Roper
- National
- Social Credit
- Labour
- Values
- Union Hall 12- 2

Which Side is the V.C. on?

The Library and Students vs. Law Faculty

So who cares about the library? Who in the University cares about the student needs for easy access to their books etc, or their study needs, or their needs for a comfortable place to study and research?

The Vice Chancellor will probably make a decision shortly which favours the Law Faculty and disregards the needs of the library and the rest of the University, by turning the 8th floor of Rankine Brown into offices for Law staff.

Rankine Brown was designed as a Library. The Library was to get additional space as it needed it (ie. ran out of space for books etc, or needed to develop services). It has reached a crisis point and needs more space

now. The Library has always been promised that extra space.

If the Library is restricted in growth by not getting the space it needs then:

- Students will Suffer! (but does the University care?)
- Some books and journals will have to be shelved where students do not have access
- Student access to information will be restricted
- The Library will not be able to continue to buy as much of the best and latest information because it will have no where to put it
- The Library will not be able to provide the services that students (and staff) have a right to
- Sometimes some students will have to sit on the floor to do their studies because there will be no spare seats or tables!

It is probable that if the Library does not get the 8th floor that relief for this situation will be 10 years or so away!

Three weeks ago the Accommodation Advisory Committee recommended that the Law Faculty get the 8th Floor - Why? You may well ask!

Because the Law staff is cramped divided and some of its staff are not near their books.

Considering the above arguments and the fact that many other parts of the University suffer from the same problem of division and separation from their books why was the original decision to give the 8th Floor to the Library changed?

The decision over the 8th floor is a matter of balancing inconvenience:

- Could the Law Faculty survive without the 8th Floor? - Yes.
- Could the Library function (serve the University and Students) without Floor 8? No!
- Is the Law Faculty to have precedence over the rest of the University and Student's needs?
- Should Law staff sit comfortably while the rest of the University suffers because it cannot get or doesn't have easy access to all their books, etc, nor have the services that it is entitled to?
- The decision will be made when the students are not able to protest because of exams, etc.
- If you are unhappy with this situation cut out this article sign your name to it and send it to:

The Vice Chancellor,
Victoria University,
L.H.

Let me help you make a little money go a whole lot further If you need a little help and advice on how to make your money go further while you're at varsity, see Errol Hanna at the Wellington Branch of the BNZ. Richard knows the sort of money problems you're going to be involved with as a student, and he'll be pleased to give you all the assistance and advice that's possible. Apart from the BNZ services like cheque and savings accounts, free automatic savings facility, the Nationwide Account travellers' cheques, and so on, there are two particular BNZ services that a lot of students have found very useful. BNZ Educational Loans The great thing about these is their flexibility You can take one out for a few days, to tide you over a rough spot till the end of term, or you can borrow on the long-term and, plan things out over the years you re at varsity. BNZ Consulting Service Free, helpful advice on practically any financial matter, from people who understand money and how it works. And just by the way, there's another good reason for banking with the Bank of New Zealand, it's the only trading bank wholly owned by the people of New Zealand Call at the BNZ on-campus office and fix up a time for a chat with Errol Hanna or phone him direct at the BNZ Wellington Branch Cnr Lambton and Customhouse Quays. Phone 725-099 ext. 702. Bank of New Zealand Wholly owned by the people of New Zealand

Can't Find a Job?

Below is printed a copy of the form students must fill in to gain the Emergency Unemployment Benefit. Note the great interest shown in your financial relations with your parents. And be reassured that, in spite of what it seems, women students are not forbidden to apply.

Vacation Work and Students

Traditionally, students have relied on summer vacation earnings to supplement their inadequate bursary allowance. However, with the present economic climate students can no longer take for granted well-paid jobs downtown or even jobs of any sort. What happens if you cannot find a job? A significant number of students will probably find themselves in this category, so don't fall into the trap of thinking that it is Your fault — half

the students at Victoria can't all be bludgers.

The first thing you must do is to register with the Department of Labour (District Office, 4th floor, Civic Chambers, Lower Cuba Street), for employment. You fill in a Registration Card, then you will be interviewed and told the next reporting date.

If and when you are placed on a benefit you are required to report fortnightly to the Department of Labour, to see if employment is available. Failure in reporting back could cancel the benefit. If you anticipate any difficulty in taking up available work or in reporting regularly to the Labour Department it would be advisable to discuss your problem with the officer at the counter. If you require any further information, do not hesitate to ask any employment officer from the Department. So long as you are enrolled, the Labour Department will try to find you a job.

Sitting with your fingers crossed after registration, and leaving everything up to the Department of Labour may reduce your chances of employment. You should continue to look for a job yourself. The Department itself says that a large number of enrollees are successful by their own efforts. Contact last year's employer — s/he may have a job for you. Quite a few students were employed by the Wellington City Council last summer, and could be again this year. Some of the other places to try are; State Services Commission, Federation of Employers, Post Office and private concerns. The 'Situations Vacant' column in the newspapers occasionally has a few vacancies.

There may be a job for you outside your University city. The Department of Labour will have some information about such jobs. The Department can advance the fare required if any student is referred to another district for a job. The University Careers Advisory Service (6 Kelburn Parade) has already published an "Early Warning" that employment this year is going to be tough. Keep in regular touch with them. They will have a list of jobs over on their noticeboard. The Students' Association will deal with the problems of student employment during their vacation. So it is advisable to inform the Association about any problems arising from your employment.

During the last summer holidays an employment scheme for students was arranged by the Ministry of Recreation and Sport under the Student Community Service Programme (SCSP). The same type of programme is also expected this year but is not finalized as yet. The Students' Association is in constant touch with the Labour Department and you will be notified as early as possible about any such programme or scheme. If you have any queries regarding employment problems or employment do not hesitate to contact Lindy Cassidy at the Students' Association Office.

The Emergency Benefit

If you are still without a job you can apply for an Emergency Benefit with the Department of Social Welfare (58 Tory Street, Wellington). An applicant must be a full-time student, dependent upon his/her earnings for support during the long vacation, unable to find work and must have registered for employment with the Department of Labour. Only full-time University students, technical institute students and seventh form secondary school pupils who intend to go on to the University or a technical institute are considered for an emergency unemployment benefit.

Emergency benefits are currently paid at the maximum rate of \$44.62 per week for over 20 year olds and \$33.80 a week for under 20 year olds (this amount is to be reviewed in January 1979 by the Social Welfare Department).

These amounts are All Subject to adjustment according to the student's income, assets and financial circumstances. The Social Welfare Department does not disclose how or by what standards it judges what level of allowance a student deserves. However, last year some students were ineligible for the Emergency Unemployment Benefit because they were living at home (and therefore officially dependent on their parents) and their parents earned a high level of income.

A student claiming for an Emergency Benefit has to complete an "Application for an Unemployment Benefit" along with the "Guide Interview Sheet" (16 questions to be answered). A seven day stand-down will apply from the date of registration or the completion of the student's last examination, whichever is the later. If you supply the proof of the date of your last exam it will result in quick payment of your benefit, so make sure you take your examination slip along with you to the interview.

Everyone getting an emergency benefit has to submit a "declaration of income and circumstances" every week. Any amount of income earned will be deducted from the benefit payment. At the same time don't forget to keep the appointment with the Department of Labour (Civic Chambers, Cuba Street). Failure in reporting results in the cancellation of your Emergency Benefit.

In short, to get your Emergency Benefit regularly, report regularly to the Labour Department and submit the declaration of Income and Circumstances to the Social Welfare Office (58 Tory Street).

In cases of sickness you can apply for a sickness benefit from the Social Welfare Office (141 Manners Street). A medical certificate must be produced. The most important thing to do is to get in touch with the Social Welfare Office as early as possible.

If at any time you run into problems, don't hesitate to contact the Students' Association (Phone 738-566) as soon as they arise. The Students' Association Office will be open right through the holidays except for the Christmas break from 23 December to 8 January. The President, Lindy Cassidy will be available to help you.

Surinder Kapila

VUWSA Research Officer

Special Work Scheme Reintroduced

Student Community Service Programme

The Ministers of Labour and of Recreation and Sport have announced that the Student Community Service Programme which last summer provided vacation jobs for students unable to find ordinary work would again operate this coming summer vacation.

Last summer around 2,200 students were provided with employment under this programme. It is expected that this year's programme will be at least as successful.

Under the programme, local authorities and community organisations, including groups of students, which provide temporary jobs to students on approved short term projects of a community nature can receive a 100 percent wage subsidy and up to \$20 per worker week for certain labour-related overheads. Community or local organisations acting on behalf of community organisations can also be eligible for up to \$25 per worker week to help purchase materials where they have no other source of funding for the particular project.

With the expansion of the Temporary Employment Programme last March so that it now covers the types of projects which last year were assisted under the Student Community Service Programme, this programme will this year be administered by the Department of Labour.

LET'S MAKE A GAME OF UNEMPLOYMENT WE'LL CALL IR HIDE AND SEEK WE HIDE THE JOBS AND THE KIDS LOOK FOR THEM BUT THERE ARE NO JOB TO HIDE SSSHH! NOT SO LOUD ...IF THE KIDS FIND OUT THEY WON'T PLAY

Organisations which wish to sponsor projects under the programme should therefore approach the nearest District Office of the Department of Labour which will be pleased to advise on the suitable projects.

Students eligible for employment under the programme must be full time tertiary students or be leaving school this year with the intention of studying full time at a tertiary institution in 1979. To participate in the programme students must be registered with the Department of Labour's Employment and Vocational Guidance Service as seeking work. Students should enrol with the Department as soon as they are available to take up full time employment.

The inaugural programme provided numerous opportunities for students to engage in worthwhile forms of community service from which they derived great personal satisfaction. Similarly, many of the organisations and local authorities assisted under the programme have recorded their appreciation of the help provided. In the light of last year's experience, it is hoped that many more desirable community projects can be carried out this summer.

How it Works Eligible Organisations

The Student Community Service Programme is open to all Local Authorities (territorial and ad hoc); Community Organisations including group of students which are non-profit making, serving community interests and financed by local authorities, public subscription or individual endowment; Education Authorities; and Hospital Boards'

Eligible Projects

- A specific project is to be undertaken.
- It must be a finite, short term project, preferably for less than four months.

- The work must not be at the expense of other, normal work.
- The work must not be part of the current year's normal programme although work brought forward or which speeds up work on a planned project is eligible.
- The project must not be eligible for any other government grant or subsidy.
- All organisations participating in this programme can engage staff Only from tertiary students referred for the job by the Department of Labour.
- Employers choose from those students referred and are under no obligation if none is suitable.
- The jobs available must be for full time work. Workers must be paid wages in accordance with the relevant award or industrial instrument.
- Employers must agree to make their wage records available for inspection, if necessary, by Department of Labour officers.

If a project is approved, employers will be required to complete a questionnaire on the project, which will be used by the Ministry of Recreation and Sport to evaluate the programme.

Example of projects that can be carried out under the programme include:

- Maintenance of parks, gardens, reserves, etc.
- Renovations of existing facilities, construction of new ones, eg. walkways, facilities for the handicapped, etc.
- Beautification projects, eg. clearing streams, planting native trees, etc.
- Specific museum or library projects.
- Holiday programme for school children.
- Research projects.

Referral of Students

- Students may be employed on unskilled, semi skilled or skilled full time positions within the qualifying project. Project supervisors may also be recruited through the Department of Labour.
- Only full time, tertiary students (or secondary students intending to study full time at a tertiary institution in 1979) registered with the Department of Labour for employment assistance are eligible.
- If insufficient tertiary students are available for a project, non-students eligible under temporary employment programme [*unclear*: criteria] may be referred.

Assistance Available

- Projects approved under the programme attract a 100 percent wages subsidy for each student employed from those referred by the Department of Labour. In addition, up to \$20 per worker week may be paid to help meet labour-related overheads such as ACC levies, necessary personal equipment and minor tools, machinery hire, transport, and accommodation, if necessary.
- Wages for project supervisors employed through the Department of Labour are fully reimbursed and this applies to additional wage costs incurred by an organisation temporarily promoting a staff member to that position.
- Organisations which need an extra person to deal with the administrative side of the project can apply for either student under this programme or another worker under the Temporary Employment Programme to be referred by the Department of Labour. A 100 percent wage subsidy can be paid.
- Up to \$25 per worker week may be provided to non-profit community organisations or to local authorities sponsoring projects on behalf of community organisations or groups of students to help purchase materials where there is no other source of funding for the particular project. Material subsidies will be available only where a genuine need is demonstrated.

NEW ZEALAND STUDENTS ARTS COUNCIL (INC) NATIONAL STUDENT DISCOUNT SCHEME
 WELLINGTON OCTOBER '78 WELLINGTON CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY Warsaw Philharmonic
 Orchestra 5th October. 8pm Wellington Town Hall Students \$4 Public \$8 50 WELLINGTON YOUTH
 ORCHESTRA Conductor Malcolm Geard Works by D. Farquhar, Stravinsky, Debussy, and the new work 'In
 Memorium - Charles Ives' by David Hamilton. 4th October, 8pm Maidstone Intermediate Upper Hutt Students
 50c Public \$1.50 \$2.00 also Sunday 15 October 2.30pm, wellington teachers' College. NEWZEALAND
 SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Schubert festival, conductor Handford 12th October, 14th October, 8pm State
 Opera House Students \$1.00 discount NEW ZEALAND BALLET COMPANY Sleeping Beauty 27 October - 4
 November. Performance times 5.30, 7.30, 6.00, 2.00 and 8.00pm State Opera House Students \$4.00 Public
 \$7.50

Special Work: the Other Side

After dropping out of Massey in May of this year, I registered for employment with the Department of Labour. The procedure of registering, fulfilling the extensive requirements for receiving the benefit, eventually getting the dole, the working as a special worker, has enabled me to see and experience the effects of the corruption and social ineptness of the special work scheme.

Trouble Looking for Work...

After registering, there is a lengthy and formidable procedure to endure before being considered for the dole. The Labour Department referred me to a variety of female intensive labour type slushy jobs. The Social Welfare Department, which pays the dole, requires that a letter of introduction to possible employers is presented to six such bosses within two weeks of application for benefit, for their signatures. This is supposed to indicate that work has "genuinely" been sought after. Hawking that letter around was an angering and frustrating performance. I knew that there was no work, the Labour and Social Welfare Departments knew there was no work and yet the farce had to go on before the Social Welfare Department would pay a cent! The stance of the Labour Department is that every job must be applied for, any offered must be gratefully accepted. It is very bad form to refuse interviews or offers of work from bosses. The notion of choice of work was exploded by the agency which is supposed to help people to find reasonably satisfactory employment.

After a couple of weeks I knew that I was supposed to feel owned by the Labour and Social Welfare Department.

As well as hassling with the system as it affects all workers, I had to battle with the institutionalised sexism of the Labour Department as manifested by the male interviewer who dealt with my case. Mr B's style and tone was accusatory, rather than helpful. All the stereotypical nonsense about bludgers and perennial students and women was trotted out. Since I didn't want to make tea, wait at tables or scrub floors, "I didn't want to work at all".

I was forced to agree to interviews for a variety of cruddy jobs. Several times it was made clear that the job was mine. I rapidly developed the technique of dismaying or annoying the interviewing boss by saying that I'd be bored silly and/or wouldn't stay long. This worked well. The Labour Department was getting heavier, so when a gardening job as special worker was offered I took it.

Ensuing conversations showed that established staff members were largely positively disposed towards unions. A job delegate was elected.

About a month after I'd begun the job, all the special workers were laid off. The departing supervisor was afraid to leave us for his successor, in case there wasn't enough work for us. Along with one other special worker I was reinstated the following week, but before that I had to front up to the Labour Department again. I was pissed off to find Mr B. waiting for me with open arms and closed mind. We spent 40 minutes talking. We went over some old ground, but more astounding prejudices emerged. I asked to be referred to some of the male vacancies. Oh, no, there aren't female toilets on male intensive labour work sites! We tossed that chestnut around. Mr B. was sure that most women "don't share my attitude and anyway "industry wouldn't condone it". I continued to assert that I wanted an outdoor job and did not want any of the female jobs, and that I was quite prepared to do the necessary hassling with bosses. The real reason for Mr B.'s refusal was that he feared bosses would not list jobs with the Labour Department if they sent women to try for "male" jobs.

Though I was happy to return to the gardening job which I enjoy, I still feel angry about the way the corrupt special work scheme is itself abused.

... and Trouble on the Job

Within a couple of weeks one of the other special workers was unfairly dismissed. He was unwilling to fight. I was intensely angry and stirred it up in the tea room. This earned me an invitation to "hear the super boss's side of things". The following day he wanted to see me and the only other worker who supported my rave, separately. We weren't having that on. Lesson number one — bosses use the different status of special worker and ordinary worker as a tool for intimidating special workers! During the interview with this new bureaucrat risen from the ranks of the workers, the whole gamut of anti-worker, divisive, patronising and authoritarian cliches and stances were struck. We talked about getting the union in. The big boss wasn't scared of the union. In any case, he said, "the union had nothing to do with it, the Job was an arrangement between the Labour Department and us. Special workers are taken on on the basis that they work while there is work to do, and can be laid off at any time with a few hours notice and sent back to the Labour Department." We assumed

him that he was sadly mistaken. By the end of the day our co-worker was reinstated.

Wrongs which Need to be Righted

- Since a special worker is paid by the Labour Department, two special workers are cheaper for bosses than one permanent staff member.
- Government departments and local bodies clearly manipulate permanent staff ceilings according to the number of special workers available to be exploited.
- The corollary of this is that special workers are utterly expendable, and are therefore signed on and laid off in bunches, in an erratic way according to the whims of bosses (heads of departments).
- The Labour Department interprets the right to work for a living as compulsion to work for a forty hour week.
- The person registered for employment is supposed to relinquish any preference for type of work, to be bought and sold backwards and forwards between bosses who want cheap labour and the Labour Department "worker warehouse".
- Though there are always many times more "male vacancies" than female vacancies, women do not have access to this far greater range of jobs, via the Labour Department (in this town anyway).
- The collusion between the Labour Department, other government departments, bosses in the private sector and the media which presents the "statistics" and describes the "bludgers" ensures that the system will go on without effective opposition.
- There are currently over 16,000 unemployed persons in N.Z., 8,000 of these persons are pawns in a game of fool the public. They are "special workers".

Karen Sutton

From Impulse Palmerston North.

Our thanks to Broadsheet for this article.

How Basic is Basic?

New Zealand Education and the "Back to Basics" Campaign

There is a movement in educational circles these days which aims to get New Zealand schools "Back to the basics". It has not received much support from those actually working in the education system, but it does have backing further up the political scale. In fact, from those elements who display particularly marked tendencies towards bigotry and reaction it has received a great deal of praise.

Is this just a coincidence? Is the back to basics movement an attempt to safeguard education from wishy-washy liberalism, or is it part of a concerted drive to restrict people's educational potential; to restrict their abilities to think, gain knowledge, question, and widen their economic prospects?

The Narrow Approach

No-one is going to claim that the New Zealand education system is perfect. Nor is anyone going to suggest that to be perfect, it would have to be 100% successful in turning out children who have reached "satisfactory" levels in reading, writing, music, etc. Yet it would seem that underlying the rhetoric of the back to basic pundits are these very beliefs. Find a child who can't read properly and you'd better find the teacher responsible, quickly. Find the teacher and the chances are you'll find the system has put her/him up to it in the first place. Worse and worse.

Some people involved in the "basics" movement have quite literally taken this tack. A Hutt Valley woman went on television a few months ago to tell the country she had personally met some children who suffered serious problems in reading. But she said, their school introduces a new course in "Values" nearly every week.

Quite apart from any speculation about what these courses might possibly contain, there are two serious points of misunderstanding that such an attitude immediately reveals, The first is that our education system is not in the business of operating such a flexible approach to the syllabus even if educators wanted it to.

The second concerns the attitudes of teachers, To assume that teachers are so out of touch with the basic schooling requirements of their students, so poorly trained as to have so little idea of what their job involves, and so irresponsible as to sacrifice basic requirements for "irrelevant frills", is to display a singular lack of understanding about what goes on in schools.

The State of the System

Let's look at the evidence. In July of this year the Department of Education published "Educational Standards in State Schools", a report commissioned in July 1977 by the Minister of Education. Drawing on reports of inspectors and other departmental officers, research conducted in some specific fields and various other recognised sources, it is already proving a valuable source document in the continuing debate over the aims and conditions of New Zealand education. Its findings are summarised below. (Thanks to Education News for doing some of the hard slog for us).

Reading

According to the report, reading provisions are now much wider, richer and more appropriate than they used to be, and "standards in reading are at least as good as they ever were" (p.25). Average and above average students do well and have better levels of achievement than their predecessors. Many of the below average readers had a significantly retarded level of language development when they entered school. Their rate of progress is slower than the more advanced students, but when materials match abilities the results are generally reasonable.

The trend for the least advanced in develop at a [*unclear*: lessen] rate than others is common to a number of fields, and must be counted one of the major problems of the present system. In relation to this, the report notes that, "At the primary level, some teachers are over-emphasising the recognition of words, and in the lower streams of secondary schools, too much emphasis is placed on interpreting factual material. A more balanced approach to the teaching of reading for understanding and pleasure would achieve better results" (p 26). In other words, the sort of approach demanded by back, to basics proponents has proven to be unsatisfactory.

The report lists 22 major developments in reading. These include:

- A better balance in the way reading is approached, the range of materials used and the way reading is related to either subjects, Teachers are now using a combination of approaches and materials.
- A marked increase in the range of books students read, and more teacher encouragement for students to read for recreation, use libraries, etc.
- More in-service training, long term in-service courses for "resource" teachers who will train and help other teachers in their schools.
- Some extra tuition for slow developers, expansion of remedial reading programmes and refinement of methods for identifying reading problems.

The report says, "All these developments mean that schools and teachers are better equipped to teach reading than ever before" (p32).

Riting

Greater extremes between the most able and least able students are also evident in writing skills. "Inspectors have not been able to detect any significant downward trend in the standards of written English. Students today are generally more versatile than they were in the past, and many can convey complex and subtle ideas with considerable skill." The report notes the broadening purposes of writing, and says, "the writing of poetry' has become an important feature of many primary classrooms. It is effective in developing a student's ideas and vocabulary" (p36).

EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS IN STATE SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WELLINGTON 1978

The teaching of English as a second language is g owing rapidly, and this has been recognised in the expansion of in-service courses, language programmes, and special qualifications. Spelling has not shown the improvements of reading and some other aspects of writing. "Standards remain much the same" (p37).

Standards of spoken English have improved, more students are being given the opportunity to improve their speaking skills, there appear to be fewer shy and reluctant speakers. On the other band, it appears that listening skills may be declining slightly. Handwriting, too, seems to be suffering in a minor way.

Back to basics supporters will be interested to learn that at least half the time set down for instruction in primary schools is devoted to work in maths and English, and in secondary schools much more time is given to these subjects than is required by regulation. Research shows that attainment is directly related to the amount of time devoted to the skill, and on this basis, students are being given every opportunity in mathematics and English.

Rithmetic

"The inspectors are convinced that the teaching of mathematics has made great strides during the last decade, and that there is much excellent teaching going on", states the report. It continues, "Students today have a better understanding of mathematical concepts and they are able to apply their knowledge in a wider range of mathematical situations. Their ability to understand and use mathematical terms correctly has also increased over the last few years." (pp47-8).

There have been problems with the introduction of New Maths, most notably in the fact that the early development of a wide range of concepts on which to base the course caters for the more able students at the expense of others. This is now being recognised, and in many schools the detrimental results of the new maths approach are being whittled away.

More students are taking maths to a higher level: 46.1% of candidates sat School Cert, maths in 1951; by 1975 the figure had risen to 75%. There have been striking increases in the number of girls taking maths to advanced levels. It is now clear that a combination of the new maths' aim to develop students' understanding of how and why mathematical computations work, coupled with a retention of teaching the basic arithmetical skills needed from day to day will see further improvements in this field. There is room for improvement in the examinations secondary students face.

Other Basic Subjects

I have concentrated on the three "R"s, assuming that these are primarily what is meant when people talk of the "basics". The report, however, goes much further, dealing with music, health education, science, art and physical education in a way that makes it clear that these too are considered basic components of the curriculum. Music revealed the greatest range of standards, chiefly due to the shortage of specialist teachers in both primary and secondary schools. In addition it is noted that the emphasis placed on English and maths has meant the downgrading of these other areas.

The stated aims of music education are worth repeating: "to promote enjoyment, understanding, sensitivity and discrimination, to provide opportunities for self-expression, and to develop skills through a wide variety of musical experiences" (p58). Similarly, it is claimed that "Art and craft activities help students to develop powers of self-expression, of communication, of perception and of appreciation. Art programmes play an important part in the balanced development of students' awareness, understanding, inventiveness and enjoyment of themselves and of the world around them" (p62). Clearly, these subjects are seen as crucial to the development of character.

Research throughout the world has reinforced this idea, and it has been noted that only in art can a child use his/her mind in concert with hands and eyes. (see "Frills are basic to learning", in National Education, August 1978). Still, there are other ways of building character as every Sergeant Major knows. "I was beaten every day of my school life and it did me the world of good," as some are prone to announcing.

Student Values

The report states that students today show greater independence of thought and action, more initiative, are more spontaneous than their predecessors and seem generally to enjoy their schooling.

Some of the common characteristics of students have a special bearing on the back to basics debate. The report says, "Most students, have decided views on justice, display a greater interest in the world than their predecessors.... In some schools, especially intermediate and secondary, students show a keen desire to participate in decision-making and administration" (p77). These are not the best attributes to have in a social system which would rather you voted once every three years and stayed out of trouble the rest of the time.

The report does not mean the above qualities to be taken as euphemisms, and is fully cognisant of the growing problems of truancy, "vandalism", drinking, "promiscuity", etc. Two points come up again and again in relation to this. The first is that it is often difficult to delineate between school, social and parental responsibility, especially when looking for causal factors. The second is that students are becoming increasingly less tolerant of teachers and/or a system which does not offer a challenge, is boring, repetitive, and contains little in the way of fulfilment or reward.

Weaknesses in the System

The report does not pretend that New Zealand's education system is without fault. If I have highlighted the positive findings and tended to gloss over the negative ones it is because in regard to the crucial question of

declining standards of the "basics" in schools, the findings are quite conclusive. Standards are not always improving as one might hope, but they are certainly not dropping. In the areas of reading and mathematics, considerable advances are claimed to have been made.

Education Minister Les Gandar has identified "four main messages" in the report. Firstly, that standards are being maintained despite many changes and influences that make it difficult for teachers to keep pace, let alone improve the situation. Secondly, that less able students are not being catered for as well as others. Thirdly, that schools cannot be held solely responsible for failure and low achievement. Fourthly, that significant increases in expenditure will be needed if problems of low attainment are to be overcome.

The Director General of Education, Bill Renwick, has noted five areas for improvement. In addition to Gandar's fourth point, he lists: better balance between teaching for understanding and regular review and practice of skills; more training of school staff in organisational skills; more attention for cultural minorities; and more publicity in the school system for work of a good standard. Renwick also states that the coming years will see a slower rate of development than any time in the last 20 years, as innovations are consolidated and methods of teaching are improved.

Defining Character Sties of the System

It has been said many times and with considerable justification that New Zealand has the best developed education system in the western world. Its most fundamental characteristics are held in common with those other countries, and are not directly educational matters. They include:

- The regulating effect of a fluctuating job market.
- The need for a quota of people who have not had their initiative and capacity for independent thought stimulated too much, in order that the menial jobs of society will be done without complaint.
- The lack of sufficient access to money in an economic system which creates super-profits for a few at the top, yet attempts to keep the working wage at a level where people will be able to survive adequately without threatening the system.
- The reliance on a one-income family which necessitates restricting the access of women to the workforce.
- In all these points, the necessity for an acquiescent work force.

Some of the traits of our education system, and some of the problem areas demanding rectification (as defined in the report), run counter to these basic characteristics. The need to improve the educational opportunities for the less able is the most obvious example of this.

Education Cuts?

As Gandar has quite correctly pointed out, if this need is to be answered considerably more money will be needed. Now one of the battle cries of the back to basics movement is that education is too often a waste of the tax-payers money. The cry is usually raised against "fringe" subjects, especially liberal studies and the like. If education spending is cut (and it always is in a crisis) this will certainly be one of the areas which suffers.

There will be less music and art, those subjects which it is claimed in the report provide valuable experience in character development. There will also be less informal teaching, away from the desk and the blackboard. In other words, the hierarchical structure in the schools (which reflects the hierarchical structure in society) will be kept more intact. Perhaps most significantly, there will be less attention given to the three great bogeys: sex, politics and religion. Thus a potentially very direct threat to the social value structure will be decreased.

DURING MY SCHOOLDAYS I WAS THEASHED EVERY DAY AND ENJOYED IT !

These appear to be some of the motives of parents and others who have adopted the back to basics slogan. But for those further up the scale of authority and power, additional motives emerge. For if education spending is cut, there is no way that extra and specialised staff, expanded resources and increased research will be allocated to increasing the levels of less able students.

In the universities we are already seeing the effect of potential graduate unemployment in restrictions being placed on entry to some courses, introduction of pass/fail ratios based on artificially deflated records of achievement, and the like. The same thing is likely to happen at the other end of the scale, among the working class (and particularly among Maori and Pacific Island school students). School Certificate failure rates are stabilised at about 40% for the economy still needs a large working force with the minimum education. It doesn't need any significant increase in the number of people wanting to gain university qualifications.

How Back to Basics Works

The back to basics movement is not common only to New Zealand. It seems to have originated in the

United States, and in fact has reached a high stage of organisation in that country. In Queensland, Australia (where Premier Bjelke-Peterson, the most openly fascist leader in Australasia rules supreme) the movement has virtual control of the education system. Teachers have very little freedom in their choice of materials and their syllabi are subject to tight supervision.

This is an important fact to remember; for given the developing enlightenment of the people working in our education system, attempts to revert to the old style would have to be accompanied by rigid policing, banning of books and effective action against teachers who do not tow the line. Such measures would undoubtedly lead to considerable resistance.

Just what are teachers up against? The following is taken from a paper given by a New Zealand inspector to an Australian education conference:

"These groups (back to basics groups) have set up vigilante SIS groups to keep dossiers on teachers who dare to initiate educational change. They operate a private textbook surveillance system and keep biographies of all authors. These groups are organised internationally and receive finance from an American oil company to sponsor tours by lecturers carefully trained to arouse the emotions of parents. The last international movement which initiated the practice of textbook burning was defeated with the assistance of New Zealand and Australian soldiers. I hope we can unite again to defeat a similar group of fanatics".

If you don't believe it, remember that if fascism comes to this country it will need to control the education system, and as in every other field where there have already been signs, its influence will not immediately be the most open-faced.

The Good Old Days

Finally, what is this good old system that Muldoon, Rowling, Gill and others have expressed such a yearning for? Forty years ago schools in New Zealand were ruled by terror. (Probably everyone reading this has come across a teacher who still believed that a little bit of fear went a long way.) Corporal punishment, often quite indiscriminately administered, was rife. And no soft flicks with the strap either. These kids were beaten.

Muldoon has remarked that fewer people entered secondary school unable to read or write. The fact is, proportionally fewer people entered secondary school at all. Many were held back until they were 14 or 15. Many couldn't afford a secondary education and had to leave. Until quite recently, most working class children went to Technical High Schools (even now receiving praise from the back to basics leaders). But guess what? These schools had limited facilities, offered limited educational and employment prospects and effectively ruled out higher education for the mass of the people who attended them.

Conclusion

Everyone has the right to be concerned about the education of their children. Everyone should have such a concern. If our education system is to develop, it must do so by taking account of this. The onus is on schools to involve parents in their children's education, and on parents to respond to such attempts on their behalf.

The back to the basics movement is not the voice of legitimate concern, but stems from narrow-mindedness and fear. Its leaders, who display many of the worst social qualities, are playing on people's legitimate concern, and seek to reassert the rule of reaction. The movement is linked to our economic system through the threat that liberal education poses to economic and social stability. It represents a dangerous attack on our freedoms and in its fully developed form bears many of the hallmarks of fascism. It must be exposed as such.

Simon Wilson

Educational Standards in State Schools (Department of Education, Wellington, 1978) is available from Government bookshops at \$2.40. Educational bodies should be able to get copies free.

Guess Who?

Photo of a man sleeping on a bench

Well, we haven't received the \$12 000 yet.....

So here he is — Peter Thrush in all his resplendent glory in the Women's Toilets on the first floor of the Union Building where he was found at 9.30 one night.

Who said Salient has no humour?

New Flowers of the Motherland

(to the intellectuals of Third World countries, especially M'sia)

So long in search of knowledge in an ivory tower
where its peak, its purposes unclear
In the wide world, we're at the cross-roads
demanding which direction, which path to follow:
Two roads lying ahead unfold themselves;
a crooked and treacherous one that ends in destruction and death and the other,
full of challenge to pioneer a bright new life, calling for sacrifice.

For those who have always been servile
their life is like birds trapped in a golden cage
pampered and showered with wreaths of paper flowers
their hearts are empty, their souls in chains
their song is only sweet to the ears in praise and cheer
of their masters
and, their voice is without melody
For those who are loyal to their hearts
that're sealed with peoples' aspirations and strength
their voice, rolling out sharp and far,
echoes that of the people, piercing like daggers at all falsehood
and firm in their conviction that to rebel is to be loyal
for rebellion against tyranny is loyalty to the motherland
and to the glorious new life that's being born

Today a voice frenziedly screams
(intellectual agitators are subversives!)
the whole state machinery is activated, it is claimed:
But another voice, small now steadily transforming big and far-reaching, asks
Why so panic-stricken, scare-monger?
Is it to quell them so that they keep deaf and mute
and prevent them from being known and to propagate the truth
that in the name of 'independence', you make the country
a pawn in the game
That in the name of 'prosperity', the masses are made to suffer
That today in the whole world, and here, people are deeply stirred
because men no longer accept slavery but are unifying
and deepening their ranks in the march to victory

For those who are like birds in a golden cage
go on, sing your songs to your hearts' content
'cause for you and your masters
dusk has already set in, night has fallen
and daylight shall shine no more.
For those who are loyal to this land and to the glory of
the new life that's being born
their path along the glorious road has been chosen
to pioneer a new epoch, ushering greatness looming large,
as firm and gigantic as Mount Tahan beneath its powerful
ranks develop in depth, fresh and vigorous:—

'the symbol of new flowers of the motherland'
For the whole world and this country
dawn has come
soon daylight shall shine!

Drawing of three people

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The New Zealand Students' Arts Council (Inc) PHOTO-ART '79 Submissions for this yearly amateur
photographic competition/exhibition are being called for in May 1979. Conditions of entry will be made
available in February. Watch for further details.

Settle for no superficial happiness

Neville Pickering Labour ~ Wgtn Central Women's Rights) Human Rights) YOU ARE LOSING THEM
Civil Liberties) Regain them by electing an electorate representative not just another cog in a party machine.
PICKERING for CENTRAL Labour

40th Anniversary Feature

A split developed in Salient's youthful personality. The spirit of free thought, a challenge to convention, the demand for reform was perverted to a one-sided expression of a codified, anti-social, political philosophy. That of left-wing Socialism.

The above passage was contained in the first Salient issue of 1952. The alternative the editor and staff of that year were to present to the students of Victoria was not right wing socialism, as might be inferred, but what the writer posed as a "return to tradition". He was in a bit of difficulty making a coherent case, for the tradition of Salient from its inception in 1938 up until 1950 was not the sort of dignified moderation he was aiming at.

Forty years ago this year Salient was born. World war was on the horizon, and Salient knew it. The war in Spain was at its height. Germany had absorbed Austria and betrayed Czechoslovakia; Mussolini had invaded Ethiopia and Japan had attacked China. In New Zealand, the depression was coming to an end and the first Labour Government was in office.

Within the bounds of Victoria College, student journalism was channelled into Smad, a light-hearted magazine covering events in and around campus and appearing six times a year; and Spike, a once yearly publication. A cydo-styled rival to Smad called Student was brought out by left-wing students in 1933, and although it was banned by the Students' Association executive it continued to appear for a while. Spike had its fair share of controversy, but by 1937 Smad seemed firmly ensconced in the idea that "the four walls of the College are the limits of our concern".

By 1938 there weren't a lot of students around who shared this view. Smad was laid to rest, and on the 9th March, under the editorship of A.H. (Bonk) Scotney, Salient rose from the ashes Proclaimed as "An Organ of Student Opinion at Victoria College, Wellington, NZ", it aimed "to link the University more closely with the realities of the world". The Spanish War provided one of the most constant themes (see editorial on this page) while a full coverage was given to New Zealand politics and University issues, sports, books and film. Poetry and lino cuts added an extra dimension.

Salient in 1938 was a four page weekly tabloid, and with the exception of 1940 (when it was gestetnered because of the paper shortage and censorship) it continued in this form for many years.

Salient on "Impartiality"

In issue eight Scotney ran a kind of stock-taking editorial in which he outlined the editorial policy:

"Another criticism, again not from a very large group... was the lack of impartiality in the Editorials, with special reference to the Spanish number. We are glad to state that in the instance complained of, the charge is true.

"The question needs [unclear: clarification]. Impartiality as I see it, and as others see it, may be very different things. Impartiality seems to be the 'summum bonum' of journalism, just as academic isolation from

the struggles of the world was the hallmark of the good student. Both these points of view are the offspring of the idea of 'learning for the sake of learning'.

"How futile they are in the world today! Of what use is learning unless it be to make the world a better place for those that come after us? The word impartiality is similarly suspect.

"The idea lingers that it is the function of the true editor to produce for discussion, a painless substitute for the real issues of the day, colourless, odourless, guaranteed not to irritate the tenderest skin.

"The answer to that is unequivocal. You will find no such thing in these columns... Salient is not, and does not wish to be, an impartial journal, or in other words, a political Micawber hoping that better times will somehow turn up."

This theme reoccurred in editorials right through to 1950, and picked up again in the mid 1960s. It has remained so this year. The criticisms, sporadic in the main but becoming very heated whenever someone felt him/herself personally maligned, have not varied much. Nor has the answer. In 1939 the editor invited his chief critic to take over for two issues, and the latter learnt all about the reasons for Salient's provocative function the hard way.

1938-1978

In 1939 and during the early part of the war Salient consistently analysed the imperialist character of what was happening, arguing that New Zealand need not be drawn into a conflict that was not ours.

As the anti-fascist character of the war became clear with the attack on the Soviet Union the policy changed. By 1943 Salient was playing a leading role in Wellington's Liberty Loan campaign, and it continued to proclaim the cause of anti-facism until the end of the 1940s.

During the early 1950s there was a dramatic change in policy and Salient developed into an in house gossip sheet with a heavy emphasis on unimaginative reporting of sport. The climax (and end) of this trend came in 1956; the editor of that year going on to work for Reuters in S.E. Asia, effectively a PR job for South Vietnam's Marshall Ky.

Salient in the 1960s relied a lot on a straight newsy format, reprinting or rewording items of interest to students. By the end of the decade radicalism of various kinds had firmly established itself. NZUSA had become a fully fledged national student body surrounded in controversy, and took up a good deal of news space.

In the 1970s Salient continued and developed issues from the 60s (Vietnam and South Africa in particular) and established considerable analytical strength. A campaigning approach to local issues brought legal action and threats of legal action on several occasions. Government has come in for consistently strong criticism, and the work of the SIS has been a persistent feature.

On the next few pages we have reprinted samples from every fifth year of Salient publication. The selection cannot do justice to the dedication and hard work put in by successive Salient staffs; nevertheless, we hope it will give readers some idea of our history.

Simon Wilson

Salient Editors:

Apologies for any inaccuracies. The University library is the source of most of this list, and its collection of the University's own student newspaper is nothing short of scandalous.

1938 A Lesson to Learn

We are told by our rulers in England that the war in Spain is a struggle between Fascism and Communism; that our role as English democrats can only be to look on at it in self-satisfied abhorrence. We are asked to look at it as if it were some dreadful natural catastrophe which has fallen on the Spanish people because of their temperament. "the cruel streak in their nature." "And anyhow," we are told, "civil war is always the most brutal war. The tale is wearing thin. An open invasion of Spain by European powers does not constitute a civil war. The butchery and savagery of the bombing of the peaceful historic town of Guernica by the German Air Force, the capture of Santander by detachments of the regular Italian Army, the free use of Moorish troops by Franco as the nearest approach to genuine Spaniards he can find to do his work for him, leave little room for belief that the cruelties of the Spanish war are due primarily to the Spanish temperament. On the contrary, the Spanish war contains for us, in New Zealand especially, a lesson which we will fail to learn at our peril. The view that it is a

struggle between Fascism and Communism in which the British people are not interested can only be maintained by a firm refusal to recognise the actual facts of what has happened in Spain.

Civil war broke out on 19th July, 1936, as no one can deny but as no "impartial" British paper such as "The Times" will admit if they can help it, because the legally elected [*unclear*: constitutioned] liberal Government of Spain was moving, timidly and with hesitance towards some long-overdue curtailment of the property rights on the Spanish landlords, army officers, richer clergy, and owning class in general. When the generals of the Spanish army led their men into the streets of six of the largest cities in Spain, they began an attempt to overthrow the legal Government then in power and establish a Fascist dictatorship: to drive Spain back to the Middle Ages with the help of tanks, bombs, and the radio. And what was the reason? The reason was that the existing social and economic order was challenged by a Government elected by popular vote. The choice before the owning class in Spain was the choice between acquiescence in the popular will, and armed revolt. They did not hesitate for one minute. The very idea of allowing the constitutional Spanish Government to proceed with the redistribution of land, the establishment of popular, secular education, and other elementary reforms, did not enter their heads.

This is the basis of the Spanish struggle. That struggle is being waged upon the issue of whether a people has the right to modify by popular vote the existing economic system. It is being waged to decide whether the people of a country are free to decide upon the economic and social system of their own country. It is being waged, in a word, to decide whether democracy such as you and I live in is an illusion or a reality. Can we decide by means of the ballot-box how our country shall be governed? Or are we, like the Spanish people, only allowed to hold the semblance of self-government so long as we do not infringe upon the privileges of wealth? The answer to that question is a lesson which we in New Zealand must learn from Spain.

Communists have for years asserted of course that once the property of "the Capitalists" was put in danger, those capitalists would have not the slightest regard for law and order, democratic principles, or Bills of Rights. That assertion has been universally denounced as a vile slander. We, the people, have been told in reply, that Britain is now a "real democracy": that the universal franchise for all people over 21 makes it possible to amend all the evils of capitalism as soon as a parliamentary majority has been won.

But what is the position to-day? To-day, when mildly democratic opinion in Britain evokes the principles of legality, democracy and constitutionalism on behalf of the Spanish Government, when liberals ask that the elementary usages of international law should be applied to that Government, they are blandly told that it is no concern of the British Government's; that since fundamental property rights are at stake in Spain, such things as legality and democracy have become side issues. No doubt the Communists reply: "Very well, gentlemen, that is precisely as we said it would be. But never again talk to us annul the power of the ballot-box nor blame us when we warn the British people that you will be loyal to democracy so long as they do not interfere with your property, and not for one moment longer!"

This state of affairs is unfortunate, but can we gainsay its validity? Has it no significance for New Zealand today?

The Government of New Zealand today is a Labour Government, legally elected, pledged to carry out an overdue programme of reform in health, education, and social services. The Spanish Government attacked by France was very little different. Attempts have been made to organise semi-fascist bodies in New Zealand—the "Defence League," "Freedom League, and so forth. Spain had its "Falange Espanola" and "Catholic Action" party. The Opposition to-day, consisting of 20 members out of 80, styles itself "The Nationalist Party." is addicted to garden parties, and entertainments at the homes of the owning class. The press talks the language of reaction and grows increasingly truculent. I have before me as I write, a sub-leader from a Wellington daily which bears the boldly lettered lie. Our Socialist Dictators," referring of course to the Labour Government.

In Spain, wealthy landowners refused to cultivate their land under the Liberal Government and discharged their agricultural workers. Manufacturers in New Zealand are discharging workers and beginning to refuse to run their business. The point is this. Our Government's programme must sooner or later challenge the property rights of a minority, as did the Spanish Liberal Government.

Then, oh watchman, what of the night?

Does this mean that no progress is possible without the appalling ordeal of civil war? On the contrary, the lesson surely is that civil war can be avoided but that it can only be avoided if the popular forces as a whole, and their leaders in particular, have shed every illusion that the owning class will "acquiesce" in the acts of a legally elected progressive Government. For once that illusion has been shed, then it is perfectly possible for such a Government to make it impossible for the forces of reaction to plunge their country into civil war "in order to save it from Bolshevism."

That, it seems to me, is the lesson we in New Zealand should learn—nay more, must learn—from Spain.
—A.H.S.

1943 Education for Death

The 'crudely presented overseas propaganda' mentioned in the letter was a description of Nazi atrocities in Czechoslovakia. The letter drew strong reaction for its remark about a "very very anti-fascist" group. The charge of extreme antifascism is one of the most curious forms of red-baiting Salient has attracted.

For twenty years in Italy and ten years in Germany the fascist ideal in education has been held up before the growing youth. Fanaticism, race prejudice and hate of all democratic and genuine working class institutions has been taught in the schools and colleges. Women have been allotted the place of a useful animal. Jews and political enemies have been considered as lower than beasts.

It is into territory that has this background that our troops are fighting their way. That is not to say that the underground movement is not very strong—there is no question about that, but also there is this point. Mussolini has resigned and Bodaglio is "taking his place" as asked by Victor Emmanuel Victor Emmanuel allowed Benito Mussolini to power twenty years ago. Bodaglio's name came before us in the brutalities of the 1935 Italo-Abyssinian War and he is a member of the fascist party.

Now is not a time for compromise. The guerillas in Croatia are already fighting on their own account, and in Greece and in Haute Savoie. "Conquered" Europe remains unconquerable because it is based on the people of Europe, and the majority of the people were never fascist.

But let us remember this. On whatever grounds we object to fascism, we must admit it is not a thing to pass in the night, to give up the struggle easily. Let us not be deluded into thinking we can make terms with the fascists. It is not enough for Italy to be out of the war. She must be free.

And no Quarter

Dear "Salient,"

Not being on the staff of "Salient" I do not know whether or not Messrs. Hayman and Witherford are justified in saying that "original material has been excluded from 'Salient'," but I must agree with them in their description of "crudely presented overseas propaganda which has the effect of damaging those causes it purports to further"—and many others with whom I have discussed the matter think the same. In this respect there seems to be in the College, at present, a small group, very very anti-Fascist conscious, who are making a lot of noise, and who, having deified Russia and all she stands for in their own minds, are trying by the use of much tiresome propaganda to bring the rest of the College to worship with them. However, possibly that is away from the main point, which is a suggestion that there may be [*unclear*: more student support] for Hayman and [*unclear*: Witherford then] was inferred by [*unclear*: editorial comment on] their letter.

Yours [*unclear*: faithfully]

[*unclear*:
Law Student
]

1948

The Library does not have any copies of the 1948 Salient (or else they are well hidden). We do know, however, that editor Alec McLeod was a committed left winger.

1953

The Des Dalghety who wrote the top right notice and is mentioned in the top left editorial is the same Des

we all know so well, seen here in all his bounteous goodness. He went on to become President of both VUWSA and NZUSA

Both editorials give a very clear idea of the approach the right has always taken on campus when it is pursuing credibility. Peter Dronke, who wrote the existentialist spoof, worked as literary editor of *Salient* for many years. His express intention was to find a non-antagonistic means of uniting left and right. His success is not recorded

A Call to Arms

WELL. here is the first *Salient* for 1953 and it is not the only thing that is going to be different around the place. Mr. Braybrooke's speech at Congress first sounded the key-note for what should be a new spirit pervading the University. At the last Executive meeting, on a slightly lower plane. Messrs. Dalgety, Gordon and Chatwin sounded the second note as the persons responsible for the Freshers' Welcome. The whole spirit is to be summed up in the policy of *Salient* for this year. In the Editor's report we wrote that greater emphasis should be placed on University affairs and particular on the corporate life of the colleges.

Mr Braybrooke called for a spirit of academic seriousness: Des Dalgety has called for a less academic spirit to make the Freshers' Welcome in the old style of varsity do's. What each is aiming at is to renew the corporate varsity spirit both in work and play. In no other college in the University of New Zealand is this so necessary. We are called a "night" college and there is very little we can do to defend ourselves against the charge. There are 600 full-timers at Vic, out of a student population of over 2300. and these full-timers are practically the mainstay of student life. Although many part-timers hold high executive position in the Association and in the clubs it is the full-timers who provide the solid core which generally ends up in doing the greatest part of the work. But worse still than this division in activity between part timers and full-timers is the dissipation of energies on extra university affairs.

It was Mr Braybrooke's contention (and one with which we concur) that if one is a student one should be only a student devoting all the mental and physical energy at one's disposal towards furthering the aims of the university. These aims do not necessarily conflict with even the most selfish of private aims. What he wanted was for students to work harder academically; this we want, too, but we want the student to help the university by helping the Students' Association as well. Too many students accept the label "student" when their thought and activity is orientated around their job, political party, or home. Such persons are not "students." as they are not part of the university but merely flotsam and jetsam on the outskirts.

—T.H.H.

Sentiment?

WHAT this College needs is a little bit of patriotism, or even parochialism, if you prefer to call it that. Such a spirit, if not carried too far, is good for any group or body. We are afraid to cheer the "Green and Gold" because we fear that we will be scorned as sentimentalists. We are self-conscious and adolescent. We fear that we will make ourselves into schoolboys shouting for school. Under the leadership of cynics we have wrapped ourselves in a cloak of pseudo-detachment, and scorn the enthusiasms of our youth. We attend Victoria, we play for Victoria, but, (save, perhaps in moments of hilarious abandon) we would not think of being proud of the fact. It is not a thing which has happened suddenly, but it is an outlook which has developed over the years, having its roots, in the materialist outlook of the 'thirties, or even earlier. We scorn pride, because we have been taught that it is beneath us, and in scorning pride, we have rejected self-respect.

In a sense it is a revulsion from the jingoism, and the "rah, rah, rah!" of the first world war years, and it has been bred into us in generations of "Salients," and formerly, "Cappicades." We have been taught to scorn the emotions because they lead us into war; we have been told that we must be guided by our heads, and not by our hearts; love, we are told, is an emotion, so love for Victoria must go. Its place is to be taken by cynicism and contempt for those who feel deeply about the University to which they belong. In this atmosphere, team spirit, and unity in the University, cannot live.

We are not told these things in so many words; it is something which has insinuated itself as a by-product of something else. It is the attitude bred from the slogan "we will not fight for King and Country." The leaders of student opinion in this college in the past have worked well. They aimed at criticising institutions which were "British" and therefore imperialist. They did not succeed in implanting a scorn for "the Empire," but they went a long way towards it. They shook our faith in patriotism and taught us that it was wrong. This faith, though alive to some degree in the higher level, has been destroyed in its lower levels, for they were not capable

of withstanding the sustained attack. Thus we have no patriotism for Victoria, for we feel that patriotism is false.

When we came here, we came to this tradition, already firmly established. We were caught up in it and accepted it. We look with scorn upon those who felt for "the old clay patch" and "the Green and Gold." and forget that they have made better citizens than any of us will ever make, and that their contribution to society is such that we can only hope to emulate them.

We do not suggest that we should abandon ourselves to an orgy of flag waving. All we do suggest is that we should think, occasionally, of Victoria as an "Alma Mater," and not just as "Vic." Some self respect would not go amiss.

—F.L.C.

Freshers' Welcome

THIS year's Freshers' Welcome will be held up the Upper Gym on Monday, March 9, following the Principal's address.

Six or so years ago Freshers' Welcome was one of the functions of the year; attracting more than 700 students. In recent years there has been a falling off in numbers.

In an effort to make things boom in 1953 your Executive have indicated that generous financial assistance will be given to ensure that this function is a success (it's your money anyway).

The following points should be noted:—

- The gym is the thing above the tennis courts.
- There will be coloured lights, fireworks and a loudspeaker to assist you to cover the territory leading to the gym. There will be arrows indicating the situation of the cemetery.
- The haka party and the bulk of Weir House will be in attendance.
- The Jazz Club are supplying a 7-piece dance band.
- Your Executive will be there one or two of them will be responsible for little talks (limited in time) as to the facts of college life.
- The gym will be decorated with a view to soft lights.
- This is your great opportunity to snaffle that attractive fresherette, gentlemen, and vice versa ladies (i.e., to be in a position to be snaffled).
- A supper will be provided. There will be prizes for novelty dances.
- It won't cost anybody a bean.
- A number of old hands are arranging large parties to swell the throng.
- It won't end until early in the morning.

—J. D. Dalgety.

An Existentialist Short Story

[unclear: (This story owes a debt to Jean-Paul Earth and Albert Camus that cannot cuase to cast.)]

GUIELMUS DE SAINT-PREUX, last survivor of his ancient family seat, was walking through the streets of Paris. Looking up at the sky, he felt plunged into the infinite depths of Non-Being. He tripped over a child, and it seemed to te saying to him "Are you your Existence? Are you sure that you are you. . . ."

"Yes," he argued passionately, "for Being is Non-Being. Aristotle and the famous medium Madame Blitheronsky, the prophet of Syracuse, have proved it beyond doubt. And, as my friend von Puffenhauser has taught me, this is the Absurd."

Guilielmus passed the shop Kierke-gaaldie et Stains. But biting into an apple he felt a sudden misgiving: is the Absurd absurd? The objective in-scape of the landscape prevented an e-scape. It was saying to him: The Absurd is the All, but all is not absurd. In fact that is why nothing is absurd. "But Nothing is," Guilielmus said to himself agitatedly, watching a prostitute walk past. Then he said "Nothing is not, that is, is-not," showing clearly by this that he at last understood the difference between the Existential and the Existentiel, and was now realising with all his ec-sistence that Being and Becoming, the En-soi and the Pour-sol, the Ego and the Id. were One.

[unclear: Sain-Prepk followed the prostitute] to her house. But at the door he went into a trance. He looked at it for two hours. Never had he been so aware of his insistence. He could see it—there, in that door. But what, he asked himself miserably, what was the in-ness of in? Was it in in, 'in,' or even perhaps in "'in'"? For that matter, what was the whatness of what. . . .

After waiting only four hours more it came on him like a flash. It was the door-bell! Frenziedly he rang it, but as the door opened he could at first say Nothing, for its having-been-openedness was reflecting the whatness of what. Of what? he thought, but, controlling himself, cried aloud, "We must love each other. We must, logically, and we logically must. For only then are we free!"

"Yes, for Being is Non-Being," was the solemn reply. And then Guilielmus remembered: he had met her in the Existentialist Cafe nine days before (nine, the mystic number), while the band had been playing "Heijegger Jig." Then, of course, her face and clothes had been completely black, as von Puffenhauser had made this compulsory for all existential embodiments of the [*unclear*: Eleternal] Feminine, which, as Goethe said, "lead us on."

"This is too perfect," said Guilielmus. "This moment is sheer Nothingness. We must vanish into the Inbeing whence it came."

They did.

—[*unclear*: Peter Dronke]

1958

Editor Terry Kelliher claimed in one issue that the politics of his staff were more diveres than any club could boast. He had a Presbyterian, two Anglicans, a socialist, a communist and a rationalist. He himself was a Catholic. The second editorial, printed here, drew a strong rejoinder from the rationalist, Hector Mac Niel. Both 1957 and 1958 were dominated by an endless debate over whether religious people should get involved in politics.

The Peter Munz of the bottom article is now Professor of History here.

Election Post-Mortem

The last General Election must go down in history as the biggest sham and the biggest waste of money we have yet had to put up with. What it will be remembered for was its complete lack of alternative party programmes. Both major parties promised P.A.Y.E.; both also offered numerous juicy baits of doubtful ethical value. As for the Labour £100 tax rebate—that was a positive bribe. The same can also be said for the National Party promise of £25 grants for secondary school children. Credit goes to Dr. Mazengarb for his criticism that present-day politics had degenerated into a calculation as to which party could offer the biggest offer of paper pounds to the greatest number of voters. Credit is also due to F. P. Walsh as the only man who seemed aware of the critical state of our economy. Perhaps we could do well to imitate the current Finnish experiment of having a Cabinet of experts. Inclusion of Dr. Mazengarb and F. P. Walsh would be a sound beginning.

Undoubtedly the most worthwhile promises were those put forward by the Labour Party concerning housing and banking. Labour's 3 per cent, housing loans and baby mortgages are among the most positive steps taken by any government to encourage home ownership. As for changes in the issue of bank credit, my guess is that nothing will be done about it. It was merely a sop to win the Social Credit vote. Probably much the same holds true as regards the Labour promises that worker participation in management, industrial co-partnership and profit-sharing will be promoted. No doubt this was a sop to the section of the Labour party which sponsored a remit along those lines at the last Labour Conference.

All three political parties passed over in silence the question of religious education in public schools. It looks as though the Christian ideal of life is to be permitted to give way to a pagan culture exemplified in our youth by "chicken", "stove-pipes", and spring knives. We must applaud those few Christian gentlemen in the National Party who gave a candid personal opinion (and not a party one) on the issue of State Aid for private schools.

No comment on the General Election is complete without a few words about some of the policies that could have been put forward, but were not for one reason or another. Decimal coinage and eventually the entire metric system along with a reformed calendar is one line that could have been taken. Another is the total abolition of useless unproductive defence expenditure and its re-allocation to the Colombo Plan. Again, a sound industrial policy could be the utilisation of our bauxite deposits and iron sands.

The moral in Orwell's "Animal Farm" does not seem to have caught on. No sooner were the Socialists in power than they took over the Tory mansions for their Cabinet and began to let their families drive around in ministerial cars. The worst offender is undoubtedly the Minister of Education, whose son was driven away from the National Bowling Tournament in a government car. Might I suggest that what the Labour Party requires is an examination of conscience and a complete reorientation of thought.

T.J.K.

Rationalism on the Decline

An examination of the figures of the last census show a marked decrease in the number of Agnostics, Freethinkers, Athiests and Rationalists in New Zealand. No doubt this trend will continue in the light of modern archaeological discoveries and the findings of historians.

A comparison of the figures for 1956 with those for 1951 show that Agnostics dropped from 2083 to 1748, Freethinkers from 3774 to 1661, Athiests from 1746 to 1316, and Rationalists from 2088 to 1188. This represents an overall decline of 36 per cent. in only five years.

In contrast to this sharp decline we find that the Catholic Church has increased its ratio to total population from 13.6 to 14.4 per cent. In fact, since 1945, the Catholic population has risen by more than 17 per cent. while the population of the whole country has risen by only 12 per cent. The three other main Churches—viz., the Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian ones—all showed a decline in their ratio to total population. These figures of religious affiliation must give a considerable satisfaction to those New Zealanders who are Catholics like myself.

T.J.K.

History, Truth and Peter Munz

Fresh from "the feet of the great at Cambridge" (as Mr. Tallboys so fragrantly put it in his introductory remarks), Mr. Peter Munz certainly put forward an idea of history when he addressed the Historical Society last term—even if at times his audience could grasp not one idea, but several. Owing to the recent date of his return. Mr. Munz pleaded lack of time for exhaustive preparation; this resulted in some unresolved contradictions, which were brought out towards the end of the meeting, and some improvised analogies in which Napoleon's digestive system featured heavily. Nevertheless, the "idea" had so obviously been thought through in the speaker's experience that it received an attentive hearing and lively discussion—from a good audience.

Briefly, Mr. Munz's idea of history hangs on the value of the relationship it establishes between persons. "History is an effort to understand other people in their own terms, and not in our terms." In this respect the novel and history 'both modern developments of the last century or so) are very similar; good historical writing should help us to see the world through other people's eyes with the proviso (as distinct from the novel that it should be verified as far as possible. Thus the main concern of history is with the individual historical figures and the understanding of them through their own feelings; this is the opposite of such a study as sociology, which is interested not in the individual but in the formulation of general laws of sociology covering general experience.

When he started to distinguish science and history. Mr. Munz bamboozled the audience for a while with his new terminology, specially prepared for his theory of knowledge. Natural science deals with the inanimate objects, which therefore can be known only in a "subjective" or at best, "inter-subjective" (what scientists "objective") manner. But history deals with historical persons, for whom thought was possible; the historian can enter into a mental relationship with them and thus get an inside understanding of the person in his own terms. This is true "objective" knowledge, and it is the historian's job, working through documents and background facts, to progress from merely subjective knowledge to a truly objective understanding.

All this alters the historian's attitude to Truth. It is not important to know whether Luther, for instance, had "true" ideas on Transubstantiation. What matters for the historian is to understand the ideas as he did. This produces in the historian an attitude of moral scepticism and also of positive toleration. By enabling us to see reality through the eyes of various persons, history brings us from a subjective to an objective view of the world. This is the real value of history—in making us tolerant, in giving us a moral education and thus producing better men.

For Mr. Munz. history could not be twisted to serve any directly "useful" ends, such as producing general philosophical laws or political techniques for organising society; Historical understanding sought for its own sake would produce better men. When asked whether this did not amount to an "ivory tower" attitude, he partly admitted the allegation, but did not regard it as particularly relevant: "What would you like me to say? I don't really think there is much hope for the future."

1963

G.W.R.P. is better known to law students as Professor Palmer. We have not approached him to find out if he still holds the views expressed here. Salient in 1963 ran a regular "Girl of the week" photo and other such pieces, and concentrated very much on snippety news.

Women and University

Women. That is what girls become at University. Exactly what type of woman a girl becomes at University depends on her personal attitude. But it would be fair to say that the University itself exerts an influence especially on the girl who is living away from home.

It is easy to sneer at the 'holier than thou' moralizing attitude with which staid provincial ladies regard girls who go to University. It is not the education they disparage, they do not understand that. The avant garde attitudes, the clothing, the lack of inhibition, the absence of respect, these are the things which those who have not been to University find it hardest to understand.

Salient" would be the last to attack the Independence and the liberality of University life; but we do feel there are hazards in it—at least for the girls.

George Bernard Shaw was among the first to detect the dawning of the "New Woman". And there is no doubt merit in the view that woman should be free and equal. Legally women have now had their claims recognised. They have the right to vote, the right to own property, and equal (almost) pay.

What the "femme moderne" does not recognise are the claims men have on her. For thousands of years men have expected women to be feminine, warm, even demure.

The "New Woman" is a hard and brash super-sophisticate, with dyed hair and drip dry morals. She can take her drink like a man and chooses who she will go to bed with. The one thing this woman does not have is the respect of men.

The female University student is in a better position than most girls to become one of these disillusioned bodies.

Every girl has a right, no doubt, to become one of those women. But each should be sure before she does that she knows what she is letting herself in for. At University it is very simple to slip into the easy routine of parties and high living. That is in itself a matter for no regret. The emancipation is a welcome relief from the almost, suffocating restrictions that inhibit a New Zealand secondary school pupil.

The adage a girl who is becoming a woman must remember is that New Zealand still suffers, to some degree, from a 19th Century morality. This morality has two edges. What is right for a man may not be forgiven in a woman.

This is not a question of virginity. It is a question of sincerity and self-respect. A man will take what he can from a body which attracts him. But he will marry a woman whom he respects.

Students cannot be students all their lives. While they can reject the standards of morality in the community while they are at University, they risk social ostracism if they persist in this too long. To be a student is a form of transition, not a way of life.

Girls who embrace wildly the party life, girls who think too much and sleep indiscriminately will not find adjustment easy after the last party is over.

The dainty and demure lady of the Jane Austen vintage had many limitations and this is not an invitation of her reappearance. By all means women should be intelligent and realistic. So should they be attractive and vivacious.

The most important thing a woman can do is to maintain her femininity. She must maintain her taste in clothes and makeup, while avoiding becoming loud. She must have considered what her standards are. It is easy for a University girl to lose her femininity and her dignity. If she does this she will never become a lady—G.W.R.P.

1968

'Post Early', one banner said

•University students demonstrating against the SEATO Conference outside Parliament last week One of their banners is rather incongruous. It says: "Post Early for Xmas!"

Photo: Murray Robb

Photo of people with protest signs

Salient's figures do not include the many entering the grounds before or after the main body of marchers. They were counted as they went through a narrow gate.

Vietnam 'Just the Beginning'

Peace March

By Roger Wilde

Nearly 500 people marched from Victoria University to Parliament last week to oppose the SEATO Conference.

The march, organised by the University Vietnam Peace Committee, involved about 450 students.

The rest were interested members of the public, including various trade union representatives.

The marchers were addressed by several participants when they reached Parliament.

Mr. Roger Boshier, a lecturer in psychology, introduced Mike Hirschfield as a "member of the NZBC Checkpoint team who is not afraid to speak his mind."

Mr. Hirschfield asked if "deceit and [unclear: hypocrisy]" could be accepted as Government policy. He said the peace offer from President Johnson did not detract from the need to oppose the Allied military effort in direct terms.

The next speaker was Mr Barry [unclear: Mitcalfe], a Training College lecturer and founding chairman of the Committee on Vietnam.

"Vietnam is just the beginning," he said. He rejected some opinions claiming that it was a small war. "If this is just a small war, pray God we never see a big one," he said "Some people do not think about decisions that seem too big. We are doomed unless there is a better understanding of the new world."

Owen Gager, the leader of the demonstration, asked if the Government, having followed United States policy when it was wrong, was going to follow it now."

"The United States," he said, "is climbing down, not de-escalating. Will the appropriate reductions in the New Zealand armed forces follow?"

Mr. Boshier then asked the demonstrators to leave quietly. About a dozen, however, joined a group of about 30 including trade unionists and members of the Progressive Youth Movement, the latter carrying Viet Cong flags.

This group was exchanging provocative remarks with the pro-SEATO demonstrators carrying flags of the Republic of South Vietnam.

No violence occurred, though police did attempt to separate the two groups.

They soon mingled.

A member of the public, Mr. H. E. Green, displayed several medals he had won in World War I "fighting aggression".

"I am still fighting aggression here today—American aggression." he said.

Another serviceman who declined to give his name said he had just returned from two years in Vietnam. He considered the Allied military effort worthwhile.

Opinions were exchanged for about 15 minutes after the main body of anti-SEATO demonstrators left. Finally, with verbal encouragement from the police, the grounds were cleared.

Owen Gager, leader of the Peace committee, said later. "For the bleakest day this year it was the best turnout we could have hoped for."

He said that a large number of students were against the war and a negligible number in favour of it.

Photo of people gathered outside a large building

Fight in Vietnam or Fight in Darwin?'

By Tony Long

"If we don't fight them in Vietnam we will have to fight them in Darwin." This view was rejected by Professor C. P. Fitzgerald at Victoria University last Tuesday.

China's basic "army training was for guerilla warfare in China itself" Professor Fitzgerald said.

China's logistic ability was limited to two battalions he said.

Because of this, China had a defensive complex.

It was apt to be nervy about war and its risks.

Professor Fitzgerald said estimates made by both the Pentagon and the Rand Corporation of America showed that the Chinese naval and air forces were not powerful enough to undertake overseas invasion.

In Vietnam, the Chinese had supplied less arms than the Russians.

China's development of nuclear power had been rapid. In live to six years China could have a ' fully-fledged nuclear system." Professor Fitzgerald said.

This could be used against its neighbours, but the Chinese nuclear testing sites were as close to the cities of Europe as to Australia.

"It is surprising that the Europeans do not lose too much sleep about it," he said.

In spite of reports about the violence and anarchy of the Cultural Revolution, which Professor Fitzgerald said were often untrue, exaggerated and grossly distorted. China's nuclear policy was remarkably moderate.

It frequently requested nuclear disarmament and assured the world it would never be the first to use nuclear weapons.

China's power must be respected, though this did not necessarily mean that it should be feared.

Chinese foreign policy. Prof. Fitzgerald said, was very much a non-event.

He could see no reason for believing that the Chinese had the "aggressive intentions accredited to them."

Since the Revolution, China had been particularly inactive. It had taken little advantage of the weaker surrounding countries—Mongolia, North Vietnam, North Korea, and Nepal for example.

This non-policy resulted from long experience which had taught China to apply political, cultural and economic pressure, rather than military pressure."

The immensity of China would subject Australia and New Zealand to economic pressure.

Already the Australian economy would be upset by any restriction on China's wheat and wool.

A major customer—China—could not be treated as an enemy by Australia and New Zealand. Professor Fitzgerald said.

Muldoon on the Cost of Failure

By Roger Wilde

Muldoon

What is the cost of examination failures by university students?" asked Mr. Muldoon at Victoria University last week.

He was expanding on previous remarks which had attracted criticism from Professors K. Sinclair and I A McDougall.

"It is impossible to estimate" he said.

Before reiterating information which had been provided by civil servants, he said: "I am not very happy with the theory behind it."

"A full-time student failing three units costs the country \$3000 or \$100 per unit."

"Last year," said Mr. Muldoon. "the country lost \$10 milion on this basis, give or take \$5 million or so."

"I am not suggesting this is accurate," he said. "All I am saying is that the cost is high."

"In 1976-77 the total University expenditure will have risen from \$32.4 million in 1968 to an estimated \$60 million.

"Allowing for a 2½% increase per annum it will reach \$77½ million"

"It will not be my job to find the money," he said, "but some Minister of Finance will.

"This will be a major problem."

"I suggest we focus our attention on ensuring our resources are going in the right direction.

"Should we continue to carry on as present and multiply expenditure up to the estimated figure, or should we investigate as to whether some change in resources is necessary?"

Mr. Muldoon said: "Some of our university students would be better off at technical institutions."

"I believe that in terms of a man's career he is far better as a successful technician than as an unsuccessful graduate."

He mentioned the field of computers as important for technical institutions, "not programming or how to work computers but how to apply them to every field of activity."

Mr. Muldoon said: "N.Z. has no future in the construction of computers but technicians could train every

graduate to appreciate the power of the computer in his own field."

In mentioning the National Development Conference (N.D.C.) to be held later in the year, Mr. Muldoon said: "the press, although they are very good people, will not print anything that has been used before".

He said any reference to N.D.C. had been wiped from reports of his speeches although he had always mentioned the conference.

"One sector will be on education," he said.

"Anything deserving that emerges will be followed up with committees or whatever is necessary, on a permanent basis, to work for its logical end."

Students Take to Leaf Power

By the Science Editor, Andy Easton

A small, but growing number of students are engaged in the unusual practice of chewing begonia leaves.

One of the students stated that "chewing begonia leaves resulted in a feeling of elation and had a definite stimulatory effect."

At cult members' insistence, I also tried chewing begonia leaves and found them unusual but not unpleasant.

To the uninitiated, begonia leaves taste bitter at first but about 15 minutes later a feeling of light-headedness and carefree abandon results.

Tests conducted by a senior biochemistry student revealed that begonia leaves contained "several unidentified substances, possibly stimulants".

Further tests are not being [unclear: ca out] on in an attempt to positively identify the [unclear: substances.]

Opinions differ as to [unclear: wheth he] practice is habit-forming but another senior [unclear: stud dmits] that since being introduced to begonia leaves [unclear: by close] friend, she finds it increasingly difficult to do [unclear: wi t] them.

A problem is posed [unclear: whether ot] begonias will now be classified as narcotics.

According to personal [unclear: reports all] species of begonia have the same properties.

The common garden or [unclear: bed befonia] is the most suitable and leaves of the [unclear: more wy] hiberous type less satisfying.

It is not known yet what [unclear: the al] attitude to chewing begonia leaves will be. Cult [unclear: m ars] appear unlikely to be perturbed by any possible [unclear: out].

In the words of one of [unclear: them: s] cheap, harmless and stimulating—some of us [unclear: have a] doing it for years and we won't be stopped now."

1973 SASRAC

by Peter Wilson

A very healthy development of late has been the establishment of student working groups which are looking into various aspects of university life e.g. assessment, the expectations of first year students and what they actually find etc. Information about these groups can be found on the fixed noticeboard on the left hand wall of the Union foyer as you go into the Cafeteria.

More recently an informed group of staff and students (Students and Staff Relations Advisory Committee — SASRAC) has undertaken to provide an opportunity for people from both side of the fence to perhaps cross it in an informal atmosphere. Basically SASRAC is a project whereby for one lunchtime a week (Monday 12—2) and one evening a week (Wed 5—7) the lounge and smoking rooms will be made available to all who wish to come and discuss and drink modest amounts of liquor while doing so. The aim is not inebriation but socialisation, so that the functions are open both to those who do and those who do not wish to drink.

SASRAC will come into operation from Wednesday. July 18.

Ask your comrades when they will be taking ARMED Struggle ENST FAT Noorm, JONES AND Trotskyites

Banned

Salient has been banned from the streets of Wellington. Despite persistent applications, its request for a box

from which to sell papers has been denied by the City Council.

Last year Salient applied to the Town Clerk for permission to be sold on the streets. This application was refused by the Town Clerk, Mr McCutcheon, on the grounds that the paper was not a "daily". When Salient argued that many weeklies, e.g. the Sunday Times and News, were sold from boxes, it was told that this was allowed because their publishers also published dailies — as if that were a reason.

No better reasons were forthcoming, and the matter was dropped because of the intransigence and absence of logic of the Town Clerk's department. The editors applied again early this year. The Town Clerk replied that he had turned Salient down last year, and that he could see little point in referring the matter to the committee again.

Not satisfied the Editors sent another letter to Mr McCutcheon pointing out that at present a large number of newspapers are sold or distributed on the city streets, including the Evening Post, Socialist Action, capping magazines and the various Jesus Freak publications. In view of this there seemed no reason for Salient to be denied a permit. The editors also requested that they be able to discuss the point with the Council's By-laws Committee before it made its decision. In their letter they stated that one of the main reasons for an application to sell Salient on the streets is their desire to bring the University closer to the community. In their opinion it was desirable for citizens to have access to the University's only newspaper.

Their request for a chance to present their case for city distribution was ignored. The City Council met on May 16th and confirmed its decision of the previous year, and the Town Clerk's decision in March not to allow Salient to be sold through honesty boxes or otherwise.

No reasons have been given since the spurious claim that only papers from 'daily' publishers may be sold on the streets. The council asked for and got some copies of Salient to inspect. But they have not publicly decried its content, nor have they granted a hearing to its editors or publishers.

They have acted unilaterally and suppressed the voice of a significant part of the community in a situation where they could have legitimately 'built a bridge' within the community. Unless they reconsider their highhanded decision, or at least give some real reasons for it, they deserve to lose the confidence of the people they "represent".

Assault in Lecture Room

At 10.04 a.m. on Friday March 30th a student was assaulted in a lecture theatre in the Hunter Building.

Students in a Sociology 200 level class had just started answering questions in a written examination when the student stood up, ripped up his exam paper and began to give a lecture from the front of the class: "What you are going to observe in the next 50 minutes is a social phenomenon. As students of sociology we are taught to observe and analyse such phenomena. But here is a case where we are affected by what is happening. We are the subjects rather than the observers of this action".

He was going to continue to tell the class that assessment was nothing more than a method of stratifying the class. It treated knowledge as a commodity like capital, which divided student from student. It encouraged people to have more; more marks today, more money tomorrow. It slotted people for a particular role in the capitalist machine.

While an older woman in the front of the class yelled out "druggie", the two lecturers (both of whom had rejected the functionalist theory of stratification in favour of the conflict theory) began to try and stop the student disrupting *their* class. With comments such as "get out son", "go give your lecture outside", they grabbed the student and attempted to drag him outside.

The student managed to escape and walked quickly around the room, continuing his lecture but closely followed by the two lecturers. Finally, when the lecturers saw that force would not remove the guerrilla lecturer from the room they remembered their sociology theory which predicted that the rest of the students would not question the system and would be against the disruptor. The lecturers called for a vote on whether the lecture should continue. Twenty students voted for the test, three students voted against.

At this stage the guerrilla lecturer left quietly.

Editorial

'Akona te reo Maori, n'est-ce pas?'

Editorial header design

This polyglot sentence I once heard spoken in jest by Hemi Potatau. He said it with neither explanation nor recrimination. But the jest had the obvious implication — that while a large number of people in this country would be familiar with the 'n'est-ce pas' part of the sentence, almost certainly a lesser number of people would understand the phrase 'Akona te reo Maori'. It was a wry comment on the fact that New Zealand schools concentrate on the teaching of French, German, Russian, even Latin — but so rarely Maori.

Or at least few would have understood the 'Akona te reo Maori' part of the phrase prior to the efforts of the NZ Federation of Maori Students which last year instigated the National Maori Language Day, Te Ra Nui O Te Reo Maori. Thanks to these efforts a large number of New Zealanders will have now become mystified by posters declaring "Awhinatia: Akona te reo Maori." 'Awhinatia' can mean 'assist, benefit or befriend', and 'Akona te reo Maori' means 'learn the Maori language'.

Since last year's successful Language Day the Maori students have consolidated their campaign and ensured that each year it will feature more and more prominently in New Zealanders' lives. This year the emphasis is on getting across reasons for everybody to learn te reo Maori.

Why should pakeha people, and for that matter why should Europeanised Maoris try to 'assist, benefit and befriend' themselves and others by learning the Maori language? In this issue of Salient we attempt to get across some of the answers to this question, and also to show how it is a realistic and feasible idea. Seven good reasons for pakehas to learn Maori, and seven more for Maoris to learn their own language, are set out on page eight.

In addition to these reasons, perhaps I might make a point or two that the Maori people propagating te reo Maori do not advance strongly, either because they are too polite or perhaps because my points are ill-conceived.

Firstly one reason given for pakehas to learn te reo Maori begins: "Many Maoris do not think that Pakehas seriously believe in a policy of integration..." But this states only half the story. In fact, many pakehas seriously believe in a policy of segregation, or apartheid. Such beliefs might not occur if at the earliest stage possible, children were given a positive understanding of Maoritanga, and a positive understanding of human and economic relations. Such understanding is not currently fostered in our education system.

Among those Pakehas who do profess to believe in integration, there is a trend almost as disturbing as the trend towards apartheid. It involves people who talk about the desirability of integration when what they really mean is assimilation. Maoris reject the idea that they should become brown-skinned pakehas and rightly so. The belief in assimilation stems largely from a mistaken fear that if a person hangs on to a characteristic of his race then he is a separatist. This fear reaction is evident among those who claim that Maori All Black teams or Maori churches for instance, are separatist. They aren't — they are merely a sign of a race proud of its traditions.

There is another area of doubt about the seriousness of some pakehas integrationist theories. So often integration goes only one way, so often a minority 'integrates' into a majority with no reciprocal bending from the majority. Maori language, for instance, has adapted hundreds of words from English — but how many words has English adapted from Maori?

Secondly, there may be a good reason for learning Maori, and getting involved in the Maori culture, that is not stated, perhaps because it is based on the failings or emptiness of white New Zealand culture. After the great white colonisation in the last century, New Zealanders set about building a dominion, even a nation, to free them from the uncomfortable feeling of being colonials. But if it is possible to summarise the twentieth century in a sentence, then New Zealand is progressing from being a colony of Britain to becoming a neo-colony of the United States.

Our culture, such as it is, reflects this, and reflects it worse and worse every day. I need only to instance the wonderful choice we have on television between Alf Garnett and "All in the Family", or the wonderful choice between a fish and chips meal and a Kentucky Fried Chicken. I could go on, except the signs of our neocolonial status become progressively more nauseating in terms of material culture, and progressively more impoverishing in terms of our economy.

If this brief sketch begins to suggest that white New Zealand culture, insofar as we have an indigenous culture at all, is pretty sick, then I'm getting my point across. And to shortcut further analysis and ignore a few potential but pale solutions, I suggest that in the Maori culture there is a great deal that all New Zealanders could benefit from. But they won't do it by paying lip-service to Maoritanga (often pronounced Marry tanger) and mouthing on about integration when it's really one-way integration if not assimilation. It would be a bit pretentious to suggest the right way to approach Maori culture, but learning te reo Maori might be a good way to look into it.

If you don't want to get involved in the Maori culture, or if you aren't prepared to try and look at your own culture from the Maori point of view, it may possibly be "good luck to you", but it is definitely good luck to the

social and economic forces that shape your life. It suits the ruling class of our capitalist society to have workers who adhere to a commodity-orientated culture rather than a people-orientated culture. It suits the ruling class that NZ workers are addicted to a "two kids and a car, rugby, racing, beer and bible" culture leavened by Hollywood and Disneyland and distracted by sex. They would far rather have all that than workers who were communalistic, non-materialist, 'happy-go-lucky', unregimented, and whatever positive Maori stereotypes there are that actually aren't too far from being accurate.

Maori culture even in the twentieth century has retained characteristics which could be the basis of a truly multi-cultural society in which there was genuinely equal opportunity for all and equal distribution of wealth, a society in which people had pride in themselves and a real say in the running of their lives. In struggling for the basic political, social and economic changes needed to bring about such a society, it is essential to foster what is worthwhile in our present society. Perhaps that is the most important reason why everybody should become involved in Maori culture.

—Roger Steele

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THE MOON IS A HARSH MISTRESS I When the sidewalk echoed me home last night I caught the two sides of lunar blue the first in the sky from a silent moon and the second inside from a T.V. tube that sculptured a smile to my beery eyes with the joy of having caught me too. This electrically transmitted laughter and warmth was embarrassed by a lack of response from me but self-pity had worked on my mind too well to allow this tin monster to claim charity from the Leftover Sympathy Bin that I kept for such evenings as this so I cashed in the scene for the frightening potential of a twilight grey screen. And I remembered the cold wind outside and the moon and I dreamed. And I dreamed of the concept of hot steaming sex of sex with a film-star of sex in my bed and I sighed and I woke and I lifted my head and I thought of her face and I thought of the dream and I thought of the phone and I thought of a scene that I'd seen on T.V. and I thought of the moon and I reached out of bed and I turned off the light instead. Jonathan Scott

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Solutions to Cryptic Crossword

Across: 1. Cotton 4. Reaffirm 10. Monitor 11. Created 12. Overcome 13. Azores 15. Kraal 17. Strontium 18. Outflanks 19. Water 20. Let out 21. Eldritch 24. Dodging 25. The Flea 26. Elsinore 27. Estate

Down: 1. Common knowledge 2. Tense 3. Optical illusion 5. Each 6. Freezing workers 7. Interdict 8. Mad as a march hare 9. Promising 14. Wristlets 16. Attitudes 22. Tulsa 23. Igor

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Poetry

Poems for the Red Engine

by Gary McCormick

Published by Piano Publishing (1978)

For many of us the sudden, sharp wail of a siren is the only thing that can start us out of ourselves; on any Saturday night after closing time people will walk right past a violent scene outside the pub or at the taxi stand: you get used to it living in the city. Even riding the buses across town can get pretty weird sometimes, and the weirdness just becomes part of the environment after a lot of exposure to it.

But the sirens: most of us will always stop and turn to watch for the police car, ambulance or fire engine. Of the three the fire engine is the most exciting; possibly its on its way to a big blaze uptown: siren, tires screaming - even the safety colours on the sides of the engine are a scream, the expressionistic reds and oranges reading Beware! and Make Way! We're caught there on the street corner, craning to see the engine with its valiant crew.

As children we realise the danger and excitement of the fire engine, and we retain it as adults. It is this primitive alertness to danger and excitement which gives the fire engine its symbolic power. Street-poet Gary McCormick has realised the simple worth of the fire engine as a symbol also for imaginative wonder and freedom, as well as riding it on a short-cut to the Human Condition.

This new collection of poems reveal McCormick's great strengths as a satirist and a lyric poet. Still in his twenties he is without peer in NZ where poets are published as frequently as false alarms to the local fire station, and often with as much skill as a new fireman trying to manage the shiny pole, two thigh gumboots, and an already exiting engine.

Poems for the Red Engine: the subject of these fire engine poems is often not fire engines but the illusions of romantic love, the sterility of modern life, male chauvinism and the oppression of women - themes which show a deep, compassionate concern for society. Like all good satirists McCormick lays pathos on the cuts made by his satiric pen as a kind of balm: and the effect of pathos, this gentle caring, is created often by just one or two finely lyrical passages at the centre or end of the poem:

The widows and the single
men of middle age feel the wind blow
like glass against their skin.
That is love, they say ...

(Love And The Big Red Engine)

...although we may never see each other again,

your memory lives on; this night adds
another silken thread to the history of love

(The Spider)

Like the butcher in O'Sullivan's Butcher & Co the values and attitudes of the man under the fire outfit are examined. In these poems firemen are seen to be hypocrites, murderously calculating and corrupt. And they underline the violence, childishness and the injurious crassness of the NZ male.

Another poem, "For The Engines Will Be Coming" brings up to date Baxter's lovely poem about disillusionment, "The Bay":

The fire station stood never far
from the post office
and the post office from the sea
where we young boys spent most of our
young lives
digging caves in sandstone banks
and when the sea came up,
surfing the large waves.

... The fire station stands next
to the post office, and the post office to the sea,
and as often as the young boys
tried to ignore the sound of the siren,
it could not be ignored.
If they stacked their houses high
with children and madness,
still it would not go away;
for the engine will be coming
for those who lie awake
and the best houses will quiver
in the orange light.

In "Sunset & Hill, Sunset & Hills" McCormick comes closer to the pulse, the temperature of the city environment than he has come before in his poems:

I have just come from a small house across the city...
which a young woman calls home...
When I left, the husband was out on the road, shouting
for his wife to come out, while the brother sat sharpening,
polishing his knife & the main road was full of people
doing their shopping: more knives, more slaughter.
The street roared off at either end into a mixture of sunset & hills, sunset & hills.
Every five seconds, the automotive heart gave out
one more vomit of steel into the blue horizon
and you wonder why I will not leave the city.

The spooky black humor of "What The Fireman Said" and "The Killers In Our Town" is reminiscent of Peter Olds, while "White Crow" darkly warns us away from politicians and bureaucrats as Sam Hunt did in "Beware The Man."

Poets like Peter Olds will we hope continue to rail from the psychiatric ward; meanwhile McCormick stands on the outside, between the madness of modern life and the psychiatric clinic, giving us the lowdown on life.

The poet, the street-wise lover of women, is capable of looking on all this activity wryly. He sees that:

The engine
is only
one form of destruction
in search of another.

(Firemen)

He is drawn to the people who populate these enormous fire zones we live in, these friends, strangers and lovers driven crazy by violence and speed. Without losing himself in their press he writes for their salvation in these poems.

Poems for the Red Engine tells us about ourselves - our society and the way we relate to one another - more truthfully than all the poems published in the last five years in this country put together.

Brian King

Eating Habit

Today in the library
you asked a
simple question,
and must have thought
I was crying, but
I was laughing too much
to stop;
to confess.
For when you asked me
was my lunch in my bag
on the second floor,
my imagination sparked a
vision of a meaty person
in suit and tie
— in retrospect; a plump
businessman —
and I wanted to say my
my lunch wasn't bagged yet,
but still walking around,
wild;
unknowing;
but I couldn't bring
myself to it, knowing
you'd find it hard.

And much later you'd lick
the last bone clean and toss
it over your shoulder
to follow the rest,
while still puzzling
— for all the feast of
explanation, my expert
Show-and-tell —
where my lunch really was,
and if it wasn't in

my bag, why that
was so funny.

Jane Odlin

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Rec Centre

The Sauna is here and hot and ready. It costs \$1 for a maximum of one hour's use including a towel. The maximum number of people who may use the Sauna at any one time is eight and users will be provided with a key to the Sauna which must be returned after the Sauna.

The Sauna timetable is available at the Recreation Centre and advance bookings will be taken.

The Recreation Centre timetable is changing rapidly and more free time for casual activity is available now the other parts of the building are opening up. Check the Centre noticeboard for details.

Classes now offered are usual for this time of year.

The Thursday evening mixed fitness is now being carried on for the third term. The theme this term is let sweat become sweat, or sweat with a friend you can shower after with!!!

Weight-training programmes are still available. Discuss your training need with Hugh or Diana.

Exams are close. . . Anxiety tension and worry. If you would like to learn a relaxation technique then come and see the Centre Staff about some of the rapid relaxation techniques now available.

Training notes.....

Is weight training any use? What does it do?

It does make you stronger.

It does not necessarily make you any bigger.

It can help you lose weight.

It will strengthen and protect the joints.

It does not slow you down.

It will make you faster.

It won't make you blind.

It will improve your flexibility.

It will strengthen your weak back.

It can be most enjoyable.

It does not work like a magic spell.

It will do nothing for heart lung fitness,

Come and talk to the Centre Staff about a few more home truths on weight-lifting.

Answers to the last Recreation Centre Quiz.

Questions 1-5 - yes: you are absolutely right.

Next Quiz.

Identify the following people:-

- Allan Laidler
- Bob Stohart
- Diana Jones
- Hugh Lawrence

Which is the odd woman out? (If you answer incorrectly libel suits will follow)

- Allan Laidler
- Bob Stohart
- Diana Jones
- Hugh Lawrence

I like Physical Welfare Officers because. . . pick from the following:-

- They taste nice
- They go snap crackle pop when you pour milk, on
- They do more sit-ups to the pint
- They drink good wine
- They think they drink good wine
- They help me with my recreation programmes

Text Costs

This suggests that staff need to consider carefully which texts they should encourage students to purchase. Also by not changing texts too frequently the effective price to students may fall as there will be second-hand copies available to students in the second and subsequent years that the text is recommended.

For some courses students can keep expenditure down by arranging with friends taking the same course to spread the purchase of books between them, so one copy of the book is available for two or three students to use.

I H Boyd

Director of Student Welfare Services

At the recent meeting of the University Council's Committee on Welfare Services, one member of the committee said that some members of the academic staff expect students to spend more money on the purchase of text-books than seems realistic, given the financial situation of many students and the high cost of books.

For the three years 1975-77 Mrs Mildred Brown, Accommodation Officer, has surveyed the income and expenditure of university students living in the halls of residence (mostly full-time students). The surveys show that the average sum spent by students on textbooks and class materials rose by 50 per cent between 1975 and 1977. Last year the average sum spent by students was \$132. The range of expenditure was large: 25 per cent of students spent between \$50 and \$99, 50 per cent between \$100 and \$159 and 25 per cent between \$160 and \$250.

When looked at on a faculty basis, there was also a wide range of expenditure within each faculty, although on average science students spent the most on books (\$160). On average women students spent slightly more than men except in the Commerce and Administration Faculty where the average was about the same (\$133). In Arts men spent on average \$102 compared with women (\$137). Most of the law students surveyed were in their first year and showed a similar pattern of expenditure to arts students.

It was suggested at the welfare services committee meeting that academic staff perhaps were not sufficiently aware of the amount of money students were spending on textbooks and possibly some academic staff need to give more thought to the cost of books when selecting texts. With many books now costing over \$30, it is clear that for three or six credit courses students cannot be expected to purchase several expensive textbooks.

The average expenditure of \$132 spread over courses totalling 36 credits is equivalent to \$44 for a twelve credit course, \$22 for a six credit course or \$11 for a three credit course.

Notices

PSA

The Progressive Student Alliance will be holding its final meeting for the year this Tuesday at 11am in the Lounge. Plans will be made as to what the PSA should do in the holidays and activities for next year. All progressively minded students very welcome. Those who can't make it but would be interested in activities during the holidays please see Lindy Cassidy. The PSA will be back fighting the right next year!

Not the SRC

The first Paul Norman Variety Show for 1978 (as SRC's are now to be announced, proclaimed and loved as) and in fact the last for 1978 will be held next Wednesday, the 4th of October in the Union Hall.

Anyone that has a motion(s) to be discussed, trampled on, upheld, lost, carried or revved should consider drafting it, and perchance addressing it to the Secretary (Honorable I claim) by Monday the 2nd of October, by 4.30 p.m. the aforesaid afternoon.

Till then, my fine feathered cocks!

John Hebenton
Secretary

SCM Second Hand Bookstall

We will be receiving books on the 4th of November from 10am to 4pm in the SCM Cabin (on the way to Student Health). Bring all the books you don't want. Fill out a card and we'll sell them for you. Ring 843-596 for info.

LETS TALK ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE PAL !!

FOR SALE 1) Philips stereo Record Player (GF560) \$190 2) Yashica Movie Camera (40K) \$180 3) Minolta Camera (7s) \$95 4) Soni Mini Tape Recorder (TC 45) \$80 5) National Portable Cassette Player (RG209S) \$50 ALL GOOD CONDITION Ring 897-570

GOVERNMENT BRINGS IN DEATH PENALTY FOR HEADS! Actually it's a scene from the election revue 'THE FLUPPET SHOW' starting on 16th October-in the VUW Theatre. Pictured are producer Dave Smith and Edith Macklin. Bucket by Pierre Cardin.

DOWNSTAGE THEATRE A FESTIVAL OF SHAKESPEARE FINAL MAINBILL BINGO by Edward Bond ENDS OCTOBER 7 CANDIDE Voltair/Bernstein/Sondheim "Best of all possible shows." OPENS NOVEMBER 30th for CHRISTMAS SEASON STUDENT REDUCTIONS BOOKINGS 849-639 DOWNSTAGE THEATRE SAME TIME NEXT YEAR International Smash hit Comedy by Bernard Slade OPENS OCTOBER 12 Playing a split season with THE NIMROD THEATRE of Sydney ON TOUR with Peter Carroll in THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS by Ron Blair A rare theatrical experience NOT TO BE MISSED Oct. 19-22 at 8pm and 4pm Dinner 6.30 Play 8.00 (NB)

PLAYMARKET Do you write plays? Would you like comments on your playscript? Playmarket offers a free script advisory service of new playscripts. Reports are sent to the writer and scripts of merit and potential are forwarded to professional theatre companies for consideration as productions. If you have a script you would like assessed send it to: PLAYMARKET PO Box 9767 Wellington

Photo of poeple in a play with a skull

Cooking

Breakfast Cereals

It would be misleading to think that fast food outlets were the only culprits in the overprocessing, overpacking and child oriented advertising lines. The numerous breakfast cereal marketers are of the same ilk. It is probably only a matter of time before fast food breakfast parlours, like those in the States appear in NZ.

If you enjoy breakfast cereals it is well worth experimenting with making your own. In the winter a hot plate of porridge takes a lot of beating. There are alternatives to the overprocessed "quick" mashes. True oatmeal (not always easy to buy), ground millet, wheat and rice can also be used to make nutritious and tasty meals. These are usually best soaked overnight and will require at the most 10 minutes cooking in the morning. Try sprinkling wheat germ on porridge if you wish to increase vitamin intake.

Meusli and fruit make a pleasant summer breakfast. Again if care is taken in shopping around and buying in bulk you can manufacture meusli considerably cheaper than any you will buy. Energy can be economised on by cooking meusli at the same time you use the oven for something else (eg. bread).

Muesli

Things you will need:

- 2 cups dessicated coconut
- 2 cups instant (rolled) oats
- ½ cup chopped nuts
- ½ cup sesame seeds

- ½ cup sunflower seeds
- ¼ cup brown sugar (or honey)
- ¼ cup dried milk
- ½ cup honey
- ½ cup oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon salt

Bake coconut on tray until brown (at 350°F) Turn frequently. Meanwhile melt honey into oil. Add other ingredients to browned coconut and pour honey and oil over everything. Stir well. Return to the oven for 20 mins or until evenly brown - turn frequently. Stir in a jar or plastic bag.

Alf Hams.

Cryptic Crossword

Empty crossword

Across

Down

Student Health

New Contraceptive Regulations

On August 1st new regulations came into effect concerning the availability of free contraception. The regulations also cover pregnancy tests which are now Free. (Previously \$2-3.)

Contraception is not automatically free. The discretion is left to the Doctor but it is available free if the Doctor considers it would be 'inappropriate' for the patient to pay. Most students in fact qualify for financial assistance. Cost of contraception should no longer be a deterrent to use.

The regulations cover all forms of contraception. A few of the more expensive oral contraceptive pills carry a part-charge but most of the commonly used brands are completely free. The injection is available free. The four common IUD's (the Copper 7, Copper — T, Lippes Loop & Multiload) are now free and can be fitted at the Health Service. Diaphragms are free although there is a shortage of some brands from chemists. The Family Planning Clinic is an additional source of supply. Spermicidal preparations can be bought without a prescription from chemists, but if you have an endorsed prescription under the new regulations the following brands can be obtained free:

- Delfen foam
- Gynomin pessaries
- Koromex, cream, jelly and foam
- Ortho creme
- Ortho-Gyne jelly
- Preceptin gel
- Rendell's pessaries

Spermicides should never be used alone but only as a backup to another method such as the diaphragm, condom or IUD.

Condoms are now free on an endorsed prescription. Technically this is known as a barrier method and we suspect that the greatest barrier will be the courage to ask the doctor for a prescription. At the Health Service we do our best to remove unnecessary barriers and we would welcome more requests for condoms.

All the Australia you can see in 35 days — for less than \$8 a day including tax Ansett-Pioneers routes. Use this to decide where to go on your Aussiepass adventure * An Aussiepass gives you unlimited mileage over 35 days for A\$225 (Plus tax). Travelling Ansett-Pioneer Express * Your Aussiepass gets you the Australia you want to see-north, south, east or west. * Aussiepass gets you 10% discount on selected accommodation, car rentals, and Ansett-Pioneer sightseeing tours. With an Aussiepass you can get on and off when you like, where

you like, for as long as you like. See a wonderful land, close up. From Sydney Opera House to Ayers Rock, Canberra to the North Queensland coastline, Perth to the Northern Territory. What's so great about Ansett-Pioneer Express Coaches? They're smooth, quiet, safe. Serviced before every trip. The temperature inside is a constant 22 degrees celsius, thanks to climate control air conditioning. The seats are aircraft style. Foam padded. Fully adjustable. With individual reading lights and footrests. You see Australia close up through big, tinted, non-glare panoramic windows. AIMSETT PIONEER A Division of Ansett Transport Industries Get your Aussiepass NOW from the Student Travel Centre or your local Travel Agent.

Letters

Drawing of a man in an envelope

If Only it were True

Dear Sir,

It's not surprising that few people at the Marxist-Leninist forum on the Labour Party supported Labour. If the Marxists didn't know it, then I can tell them that only a tiny proportion of Labour's electoral base, in universities or anywhere else, is Marxist-oriented; so I'm not surprised that few students were attracted to the forum to defend the Opposition. The story put about by Values and Marxist supporters is that Labour is no different to National, and hence should not be considered an alternative.

I don't know how Labour rates by Marxist standards, but I do know that most students are going to vote for the major party they consider best able to manage the present mixed capitalist system. It is according to this standard that most informed people must be forced to conclude that Labour is markedly superior to National. There are many reasons why I will vote Labour. National's tax scheme will force students to pay significantly higher taxes on their vacation earnings: — under Labour we'd pay less tax or no tax. Labour has promised to bring bursaries back to the 1975 level in real terms — a policy so specific that they won't be able to back down from it in government.

Labour stopped the raising of Lake Manapouri. Labour had a Clutha scheme much less environmentally bad than National's. Labour abolished compulsory military training. Labour had a moral foreign policy which meant New Zealand pressurised France to stop atmospheric nuclear tests on Muroroa Atoll, took a new independent and influential role in international affairs, and took a politically unpopular stand against South Africa. Long needed reforms in local government, health, and transport were started or prepared. A highly successful reform of arts administration was brought in. They brought in the second TV channel. Major improvements in early education and regional development were implemented.

By world standards NZ had very low domestic inflation and unemployment: under National there has been much higher unemployment and domestic inflation. The proven or alleged offences against civil liberties under Labour were minimal compared to what National has done. Private enterprise certainly did a lot better under Labour. And personnel? Well obviously Labour has lost a lot of its best talent, and probably could form only half a competent Cabinet out of their present crowd in parliament. But if they did get in, a lot of pretty bright and able people would be in parliament; and anyway, you couldn't get a crowd much worse than the bulk of Rob's Cabinet. Leadership? Rowling may seem weak, but I don't think he is really. He also has a fairly high academic qualification in Economics — and in this respect is better qualified than any other Prime Minister in NZ's history. I think he would overall be better than Muldoon — vastly better. Dr Rob (as they call him) is intelligent, but overrated economically, and a great danger to the future of democracy.

I disagree with Labour Club Chairman Phil Lewin, who curiously thinks his party are a load of old fogies. Only 5 in every 100 voters need to move From National to Labour to change the government, and no one who really looks at the record can say that such a change is not to be highly recommended.

— Anon.

(I presume that you are referring to Salient's report of the Labour Party forum two weeks ago. I think you make it very clear in your letter that there are no significant differences between the two major parties, albeit unwittingly. Continue the good work — Ed).

Limits on Creche Availability

Dear Simon,

In a recent issue of Salient you reported that the Creche Supervisor in her annual report claimed that there was no student demand for a day-care centre.

The Victoria University Creche provides a very high standard of child care. However most students would not be aware that the creche provides a service Only for Students that are Doing 12 Credits or Less. What about students who do more than a 12 credit course? The University creche does not cater for them. They must either drop some credits (and take 9 years to get a degree!) or they must find alternative childcare (not an easy matter).

The principle behind University's providing childcare services is that people should not be discriminated against because they have children. Obviously student parents at Victoria do not have the same education opportunities as non-parents.

At the beginning of the year, as Woman Vice President I organised a meeting on the Creche. One woman at the meeting told us how as an Architecture student she had block lectures for three hours of the day. At the beginning of the year when she approached the creche she was told there was no way her child could be catered for. How many other students are in this position? We don't know. It is likely however that there are quite a few. A survey of creche parents in 1974 found that approximately 60% of creche users were forced to find other sources of childcare to the creche to enable them to do their university work. The Creche Supervisor is probably not aware of the demand because students realise that it is useless to ask for more than two hours childcare a day. This does not mean there is no demand!

Yours Sincerely,

Leonie Morris.

A Challenge to all Thugs

Dear Simon,

In the September 25 edition of Salient on page 15 there appeared an article concerning a student who was disciplined for attacking another gentleman (apparently of the Vic Karate Club) who was acting in the capacity of bouncer for the Capping Dance.

I would like to rectify some points in this article in order to set the record straight. Firstly, the Victoria Karate Club was not approached by the executive in this instance for assistance at the Capping Dance. I understand from a member of the executive that the gentlemen who were appointed were in fact just a hodgepodge of various city clubs, with little, if any, association with the University. (The gentleman who was injured has no allegiance to the Vic Karate Club and it is doubtful that he has even trained on campus with any of the martial arts clubs.)

It is regrettable that the executive did Not approach the Vic Karate Club, as in the past when the club has worked in a security capacity for any function, no trouble has arisen. Also, it has been the club's policy to appoint only those members to perform such security functions, as are truly capable, thus avoiding such unpleasantness as occurred after the Capping Dance.

Further, the club has recently taken up the policy that violence breeds violence, and to have it be known that karate exponents are attending functions solely to 'keep the peace' May lead to violent incidents, such as the one that has occurred. (It is therefore a necessity to have people who are aware of this and are fully able to protect themselves.) In the past, Vic Karate Club has used diplomacy wherever possible in security work, always to good advantage. (Brute force alone does not the bouncer make.)

It is unfortunate that in a tertiary institution such as Victoria there could be such an appalling lack of intelligence as to assume that it is 'fun' to 'beat up a karate man', or to assume that two or three onto one is a fair fight because the 'one' does karate. I would therefore like to extend an invitation to the student(s) involved in attacking the karate exponent to attend any of the Vic Karate (Jul. training sessions. Since you obviously set store by your ability to punch and kick a downed man, feel free to come along and show us. Don't be shy,

introduce yourself at the door so that everyone knows who you are. I am sure that you will be given quite a welcome. Perhaps, however, facing One standing, able karate student is more daunting than having a friend to help you kick and punch a downed man. At any rate, the invitation is open to you, feel free to come along.

Yours,

R J Luse

(Sec.)

Victoria University Karate Club.

(The doorman in question is a member of the Rembuden Martial Arts Club and not, as I said in the article, of the Karate Club. He was not there in any official capacity associated with the club, but had been asked to do the job on an individual basis. I apologise for the mistakes in the article and any inconvenience they may have caused — Ed).

Society's to Blame

Sir,

I write this letter in disgust. I am but a simple student (sic-ed) who rides to University every day on a ten speed two-wheel pedal bike. I did, that is. And now? I walk, because some kind considerate person stole my bike whilst I worked in the Library.

It depresses me that my fellow students are such nasty, vicious people as to steal my only means of transport. I would be appreciative if the above person could put it back where he found, it, as it means life becomes rather more difficult without it, and I don't think I can afford another just now.

Beware all Cyclists, we have thieves in our midst. So be careful.

Your in anticipation,

J. Hebenton

Imperialism and Trotskyism

Dear Simon,

The report on the "Detente" forum written by Simon Wilson has created a new low in Salient journalism. Like the previous Progressive Student Alliance forum where various leftwing groups spoke, this report was written by a partisan of one of the viewpoints expressed. Moreover it involved the distortion of the other speakers' viewpoints. "Bias" in journalism, ie. the expression of one's own viewpoint is of course acceptable, but it is incumbent on the reporter of a debate, in particular if they side with one view, to report the views of the other side accurately and honestly. Simon Wilson's report of my views at the forum was totally inaccurate and dishonest.

In 9 paragraphs dealing with my views there is not One accurate presentation of what I said. There are no less than 12 deliberate distortions or lies. Unfortunately space will not allow me to deal with them all but I would like to take a few examples.

Wilson writes: "The main reason that war will not come, said Treen, was that there will be revolutions in second world countries (like France, Germany, i.e. Secondary imperialist powers) to avert it." Then further on he contradicts himself and writes that I said "that war was on the cards, but that it was likely to come from one of the imperialist countries (France, USA, Belgium even) invading the workers' states. Is it possible that Belgium is thinking of invading the USSR? Sounds ridiculous.... And if Belgium was attacked by the Soviet Union? Treen advises them to build air raid shelters."

Firstly I never said that war will not come. But unlike David Murray who also spoke at the forum, I do not believe world war to be Inevitable, that it cannot be prevented. I explained that the only way to prevent war is by working people disarming the imperialists through a socialist revolution. If you believe that war is Inevitable then the wisest thing would be to build atomic raid shelters instead of supporting the arms race of one side as

David Murray and China recommend.

China's position, which David Murray supports, is to promote the building up of the arms race in the West. They support NATO, France's nuclear arms programme, they oppose the "shelving" of the Neutron Bomb. This essentially means that you give up the struggle for socialism because you are in fact supporting the strengthening of the military establishment in the capitalist state.

I explained that the threat of war came from Imperialism as a system, that there are no "good" and "bad" imperialists. I explained the marxist view of imperialism and its war drive, which is that developed capitalist countries are driven to launch wars because of a compulsion in their economies to expand, find and guarantee markets and investment outlets. The bureaucratic dictatorships in the USSR, China and Eastern Europe don't have this compulsion in their economies. That is why I believe the war danger comes from the imperialist powers who seek to open up the "closed" markets in the USSR and China or to prevent the closing off of markets and fields for investment in colonial countries through socialist overturns.

Of course its absurd to suggest that Belgium will invade the USSR but the imperialist alliance NATO, is preparing for just that as well as opposing the colonial revolution. But even little Belgium has invaded its former colony Zaire (formerly the Belgium Congo) to protect its investments from a popular insurrection.

The second point I would like to deal with is the distortion contained in the following paragraph of Wilson's article when he wrote that I "accused China of betraying the revolution in the third world countries by pointing out that the Chinese leadership had diplomatic relations with some very reactionary regimes. This he said, was not a revolutionary foreign policy, ignoring the fact that at the same time as China recognised the governments it gave aid to the liberation movements in those same countries."

In fact I said that China has the right to establish diplomatic relations with any country. But that should not involve giving political support to those regimes or abandoning support for liberation movements which is what China is doing. For instance, as I explained at the forum, until recently China gave aid to guerrilla movements in Zaire against the corrupt dictatorship. Now China has a high ranking military delegation in Zaire training the Zairean army in counter-insurgency.

Chinese aid to the Eritrean rebels in Ethiopia ceased after the Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie visited China in 1971 only to be resumed after this feudal monarch was overthrown in a military coup and the new regime turned to the Soviet Union for aid. Aid has also ceased for the Front for the Liberation of Occupied Oman in deference to the Shah of Iran who has troops fighting them. The list can go on and on.

In fact as general policy China supports any anti-soviet government. They also support the strengthening of economic, political, and military ties between third world countries and the second world which includes all the major imperialist powers except the USA, ie. Germany Britain, Japan. That is, they in effect support imperialism's continued domination of the third world. This policy leads them to supporting French, US and Belgium intervention in Zaire.

These points I have made were all explained at the forum in some detail and go to show how far from reality Wilson's report was. I can only conclude that Wilson's dishonest reporting was an admission that he could not counter my real viewpoint which only confirms for me the weakness in both his and Murray's arguments.

Mike Treen

(You may complain, Mr Treen, that I have not reported you fairly, but to be quite honest I found it exceedingly difficult to discover a consistent logic in your argument. I'm afraid to say your letter doesn't help much. You agree that world war is possible, but suggest that the only way it can be averted is by socialist revolutions in the European second world countries. The important question is, which will come first, revolution or imperialist war? Looking at objective reality there can only be one answer.....war.

I do not, as your fellow Young Socialist, Patrick Mulrennan, simply put it, fall back on the wishful thought that revolution "just has to come". It is this singular ability to confuse desires with reality which underlies your attitude to the question of a third world war.

Your understanding of the marxist ...alysis of how imperialist war develops suffers from this same attitude. It is true that developed imperialist countries "are driven to launch wars because of a compulsion in their economies to expand.....", but you overlook the fact that rapidly developing imperialist countries have a similar compulsion. These countries are at a disadvantage in that the world has already been divided amongst the other imperialists, and therefore they must be all the more aggressive in their search for spheres of influence.

The last world war made this quite clear in the case of Germany. The Soviet Union today is in a similar position. In my view, if we were not to recognise the clear signs of global expansion and the threat of war they bring, we would be taking up a policy very like that of Chamberlain and others in the 1930s.

Right up until 1939 Chamberlain was able to convince himself that Germany's actions in Europe were not a threat to peace. When war came, the anti-fascist United Front was that much the less prepared. Bearing this historical example in mind, it would be absurd to claim that the Warsaw Pact troops and weaponry lined up on

the NATO border are there for defense purposes.

As to your other main point, I am not, as you would be so happy to make me do, about to become an apologist for Chinese foreign policy. But I do suggest that your method of analysing the circumstances of China's foreign relations leaves a lot to be desired. On the question of Iran, for example, you and other Young Socialists have argued that the anti-Shah forces should be supported because they are anti-Shah. The fact that should they win an even more reactionary regime would be imposed on the country is neither here nor there. It is ways necessary to analyse the nature of political events, and not proceed from abstract notions about what should be. The situation in Zaire could do with a little more such analysis. The invasion of that country by the Cuban and Soviet-backed FNLC (mercenaries who have fought for the Belgians and the Portugese, among others) was anything but a "popular insurrection".

It is your opposition to the theory of the three worlds which underlies most of your argument. The thing you seem not to grasp is that this theory is a strategic method for countering the main threat in the world to the development of socialism. It does not subvert the class struggle, but places it in a context where it can be most profitably fought. For make no mistake about it, Soviet domination of the world would do more harm to the international proletariat than any other event in the history of capitalism —Ed.)

Premonition

By Rennie Gould

At last, the moment at least seven people have been waiting for. Salient announces the winner of the Great Salient Short Story Competition, held to commemorate our 40th anniversary. The winning story is Premonition by Rennie Gould (your book voucher awaits you at the Victoria Book Centre). Our thanks to the judge, Bill Manhire of the English Department. Entrants who wish to retrieve their scripts can do so at the Salient office.

Photo of a woman leaning against a wall

Sometimes I think the worst thing is not knowing whether to do something or not, even when it's just something little. Like this time I was going to tell you about.

I knew it was silly, all in a rush and just before we rode the bike into town. But you do things like that anyway, because its easier. And, I thought, Jane would like it. She'd only just arrived and there I was going out.

We were talking about riding on the backs of motorbikes, how you have no control, just get carried along. I don't think any of them thought it was quite as precarious as I do, though I like it a lot, too.

How, I asked, can you be sure you won't fall off?

Once in the rain I'd turned my face to the left bank of the motorway, my right cheek against Michael's oilskin, and dreamed my way there. But I was still riding that time, riding with him, because I was awake. What if you fall asleep? Couldn't you slump right over to one side and drift down, down to the hard gravel-spitting road road? In my head I felt its grit rip through me.

"I hate Ngauranga," I said, "It's so steep. Imagine, coming off. It's not that I think we will. It's only, but if we did how awful."

"Go the other way." Martin said, "The back road."

And I thought There are too many bends, you're always leaning out. But I didn't say that.

Michale hadn't been that way and it's a nice road to show someone. We turned off at the lights, and and I was happy about that except for the vague feeling I always have about choosing one out of several possible futures. It's better when you don't have to choose; when things just are.

I was feeling terrifically alive and free, calling out to him Whicker-style where the tip was and the pool and colleges and the new closed off sub divisions. Wide awake with sunshine and laughter. Like when you're a little drunk, but not too much.

We passed the wide sweep of bush. Now I talked less because I wanted to look at everything : busy swarming insects and a great rush of trees and flowers; gorse and flax and Kowhai creeping in golden ripples round the hills.

I started, to grow sleepy then, flet myself float off among the ferns and the soft stone houses. Telephone wires whirled above us, road below We stopped talking, no more words whirled round in the wind. I let my limbs lie about me, snuggled into his back.

A huge bolt of pain woke me, then shook me. Tort through me. Like a birth, I opened my eyes wide and howled to the world its assault on me.

"Michael!" I screamed, "My foot"

And then I felt him pulling us, pulling us both and the bike across to the roadside, far away, vast as a desert. And I felt spikey ferns and stones prick into me as I slid from the bike, and felt through the pain a creeping of horror; my foot hit, cut off perhaps, and then, but it would not be that; it was just this raging pain which wasn't

real, not like anything I've ever known before.

My own foot being squeezed and crushed into tiny pieces. Still joined to me (I could see now) but cut almost right round the heel. I thought it must be broken to hurt that much.

I didn't seem to be still in the same place. I'd been hurled somehow across a boundary dividing safe warm city, which had vanished, from the cold hard curb where I lay. Michael standing a long way off, flagging down a car. A man standing over me, checking all my bones because he thought I'd come off the bike. Me wanting to say No, please, just my foot, my foot that got caught in the wheel while I was on the bike, nothing else. Only he wasn't listening, so I couldn't tell him right.

I saw the sky grow white, cloudy white, like China, and softly thick like a bed. My blood ran red on the stones and I knew then that I wasn't crushed, my foot not broken, only gashed. And I didn't know why my body felt so tortured, but couldn't they just get me out of this hard place to some place better, because I couldn't keep lying here any longer.

But then the man picked me up and carried me to his car and drove off towards the hospital. His wife sat in the back with me, letting me lie against her. Michael followed on the bike.

I could feel my blood beat up my side, rippling upward from my foot to the rest of me, as though my heart were down there, beating beating. I moaned on with my ridiculous pain which I didn't know how to contain, it was such an unknown thing, and thought What awful people they must be, keeping me here like this. Until suddenly rights by the Winter Show Building, it stopped feeling like that. My toes came tingling back and instead of the great clamour in my foot and the waves shooting up and down my leg fast as flashlights there was this nice ordinary pain, strong but real, so that I could sit up and laugh, and wave to Michael out there at the lights and think what nice people they were after after all, taking me with them and not minding the blood on their car rug and me carrying on.

I felt a little sheepish, now, about being hurried to hospital, when going slowly would have done just as well. There's an awful urgency about agony as opposed to mere pain.

In Casualty I can't stop laughing. I am so exuberant no one can believe I am in any pain. It is actually throbbing strongly again, but I can almost enjoy it now. It's real. The first thing I can think of is to grab Michael and ask, Should I tell? He says No.

"When you're finally ready," the reception nurse cuts in. Coldly disapproving. But I can't get serious. I giggle all through the form filling. I think it's because I don't want to start crying or moaning again. I feel so extreme.

But it must seem awfully rude. I'm surprised she doesn't throw something at me. When she says Occupation?, I remember to say Writer, not Mother or Student or Beneficiary, all of which I am equally much, just to help get it seen as a valid occupation.

I feel my mind start to float off again so I concentrate on reading the posters stuck up on walls all round:

Your Home is Poisonous

Ordinary Household Products are Potential Killers

Keep Them Out Of Reach Of Children....

If you suspect poisoning:

Note the poison and how much

Keep the container

Call the doctor

It's Going Around

V.D. is Catching

Confidential Treatment Is Available From Hospital Clinics.....

Do you Know? (No. 36)

There have been 224 Tetanus cases reported in the last ten years.

19 of these have been fatal

You can be protected.....

A plump nurse with a starched cap and face to match sweeps up and tells me off for taking up two wheel chairs (she'd told me to sit on one). But my leg is demanding to be stretched out.

I don't know where to put it. Why does she have to be so mean? She pushed me into a cubicle and tried to wash my foot but it keeps pulling away from her. She's trying to give it these tiny dabs, just to clean off all the blood and gunk, but it really is my foot not me that won't let her. I am as annoyed about it as she is.

She glares at me and demands to know why on earth it should be so sensitive (as if I think I'm the princess with fourteen mattresses) though you can tell she believes it is. Slightly disgusted but a little astonished as well. She points out that a five-year-old in the next cubicle has a worse cut and isn't being helped by my loud laments. I can't even feel ashamed.

Now she is insisting I tell her if I've had a Tetanus injection within four years but I can't tell her, I can't

even begin to remember things like that. She's exasperated and I'm puzzled. I want to tell her, can't she see? She just keeps saying they have to know.

Finally she asks, "Have you had any drugs today?"

"Why?" I snap back, dimly aware of having just assented and trying to remember how confidential hospitals are supposed to be. "What sort do you mean?" I add.

"Oh, I don't know." Casually. "Anything really. Aspirin, Cocaine....."

"Marijuana."

"That," she explodes, "explains everything."

And in a flurry of expertise she whisks me off the bed onto a chair and shoves my foot into a bowl of deliciously soothing stuff.

"Why on earth didn't you tell me before?" she goes on. "I was just about to sock you in the jaw for being so childish. I knew the minute I saw you anyway. You thought we were all being horrible, didn't you? You're always like that, you lot."

Now she was letting me be a baby and mothering me for it. No more scolding. In the hazy part of my brain, I wondered should I tell her I might be pregnant, too? It didn't seem to be relevant though.

"And that," she went on, "is why it's hurting so much, you nitwit."

"But-" I felt betrayed. "I would have thought it'd help." Isn't it supposed to be like alcohol? Euphoric and all that.

"Rubbish. It just trebles your awareness. What'd you want to do stupid things like that for, anyway? You're an attractive girl."

I wondered what that had to do with it, and whether it was the grass entirely that had made me fall asleep on the bike and let my foot get chewed and make so much fuss and feel so hostile towards people who were helping me. I wished I could just go home to think about it.

The doctor was young and pretty. I couldn't help thinking, in spite of feeling semi-sheepish and something of a public nuisance, that I liked the idea of a female House Surgeon getting sewing practice on a female law student.

She explained what she was going to do and that the local would take a couple of minutes and would hurt quite a lot, so did I want my friend to come in? I nodded and they produced him from behind a screen. I held on to him and squirmed about with all the part of me that wasn't right foot. But I was really trying to cooperate now.

The doctor left us alone while the anaesthetic took effect, only it didn't. Not all over at any rate. She put some more in the wider part and started stitching at the narrow end. All that raw muscle and gristle being tidily tucked away like frayed edges.

I felt every stitch and there were eight of them. The last ones were the worst. Michael could feel it too as I dug my nails into him, and he had to watch as well. He finally fainted mid-stitch (Penultimate) and the doctor had to tend us both.

The fat nurse bowed back in, glaring at him. Presumably for leading a Nice Young Thing astray. Marijuana and motorbikes indeed.

I'd already decided not to mix them again, even to give up grass. It's depressing, stuff like that. Seeing the other side of something.

First making me sleep, then making it hurt and stopping the anaesthetic working. It reminded me of how the Eucalyptus dominates parts of Australia, causing fires with its oil, and then being the only fire-resistant plant around.

And I'll never go on a bike without boots again. That's really dumb.

I got the stitches wet a few days later and they came apart. The cut got infected. It wouldn't go back together properly so it just had to stay unknitted and now I have a split-level heel. Anyway I'm having this baby in a couple of months and I can't think of anything better to go with feeding at nights and the long Summer days looking after it than lots of lovely new books. I wanted to try and tell this story anyway, so when I saw the "Salient" Contest advertised I thought I'd do it for that. Hope I can explain it properly.

Mechanic

by Lennard Grant

We may not have received many entries to the Short Story Competition, but they did display a certain diversity. The following story, which received favourable comment from the judge, demonstrates this very well.

Just before the planet Krypton, in the Rigellian star system, exploded into cosmic nothingness, an enterprising scientist, Jor-el, bundled his son into a rocket and set the controls for Earth. "Krypton and I will

die but a least my son will live!" he cried dramatically.

Unfortunately he miscalculated; the rocket missed Terra by 300 million miles and few screaming into the heart of the sun.

The baby be cane invulnerable in our solar system and was unharmed by the heat, but, as he was only 11 months old, he died of starvation within 37 hours.

And thus do our dreams die. And when we have no dreams, we have only reality.

- Imagine
- A world.
- Imagine a world where there are four people to every job.
- Four people.
- Forty people.
- Four hundred people.

Suppose you had a room. Into this room walk four people. Out of the room walks one person.

Walking to work.

Imagine that happening every month.

Now imagine you are one of the four.

and.....

There was a flat whisper of sound. Cursing, Jon threw himself behind the panel. Above him the air spat and crackled into a thousand glistening rainbow fragments that sparkled and danced as the air imploded. A laugh. Shrill and directionless.

"Hey, 3, you sure looked funny there. Nearly caught y'all at once. Would look real impressive when they come to pick up the pieces, eh 3!"

But I was talking to thin air; Jon wasn't listening. No, he was too good for that; he was already fifty metres to the right, swearing and planning a new strategy.

(Too slow, man, too slow, too slow.)

"An atomic imploder, Krisnos! That would have reduced me to a parcel of matter as big as my fist....."

".....what would become of Lori....."

".....I spent too much time with the kid."

He shuddered and melted into the shadow; a black man in a black land, and.....

A socio-psychologist was on the 'scan saying that "the regard for the value of human life is virtually non-existent." And he was laughing, and....

and.....

He'd heard it before he'd seen it; a low scratching noise, and out of the corner of his eye, as if in slow motion, a graceful cloud of miniscule crimson pellets of blood and flesh had risen defiantly to spatter the ceiling. (Practise, Training, Automation.)

He was there in seconds and had surveyed and evaluated the situation in less. (Experience, maan.)

2 was standing over 4; and 4 was dead.

2 was just a kid, about 15 years old. It tied in well. Young kids always went in for impressive but messy weapons. Like this one's grenade gun. (...great little piece this, you're going to love it, fires tiny grenades designed to pierce the flesh. The, kapow, explodes! Isn't it a little beauty! Just feel that action, son.....)

It didn't take long to learn that the clean silent weapons were just as deadly but oh so much less of a giveaway.....

and.....

It had taken Jon forty-five minutes to drive the two kilometres to the factory because of the downtown traffic but thanks to his new Asmen filters and Yano Aircycle Plant, he felt no discomfort at and stage of the journey. He parked in the fifty-seven storey Multivac car park, complete with its own supermarket and two pleasure parlours.

and.....

The shadows merged, shifted and were Jon/3. Standing there silent, unmoving, uncaring, the barest, faintest ripple in the background. Oh yes, Jon was good, very good; he'd been working for quite a long time. Relatively.

But it was all so relative these days. He smiled; 2 and 4 were dead, they would never work (again?). But I? Unfortunately, I was also good. Jon had seen them come and go and he could pick them. There were the green kids in all manner of shapes and sizes; fast, cocky, clumsy, lucky. Others were mad, some apathetic, still others tried to reason with you, saying "Between the two of us, we can screw the bastards up. Can't you see we're just the rats in a trap." And when they died they were smiling.

And then there were people like Jon. Professionals. Killers, Murderers, Survivors. Behind Jon stood the mercenary, the cossack, the barbarian, the knight; the cutthroat. Suddenly he felt very tired. "Fuck the system!" he thought; but of course he couldn't. He needed the credits: for Lori and the kids, for the car, the house, the

guns, the water, the filter system and for every other goddamn thing that being a member of civilisation entitled you to. He needed credits to move, to breathe, to think.....thoughts like "I'd better go and find the bastard."

(Yeah. Find him and blow his stupid head off, maan.)

and.....

World News Association:

A three-year-old boy, Patrick Neal Williams, died in a New York hospital today. Death - doctors say the boy died of lung cancer caused by a malfunction of his gasmask. "Unfortunately, this sort of thing is happening all too frequently," a spokesman for Filtagas said this evening.

and.....

The kid was just standing there, silent and unmoving, staring at his handiwork. His whole body was relaxed, floppy; as if someone had removed all his bones and thrown them in a corner. 4 was a red pool on the floor; a fat, corpulent body, unused to exercise, unused to working, unused to living. Where his head should've been, there was a greasy smear; Jon guessed he was a rich playboy whose credits had played out and who'd now had to choose between working and certain death, only to die in the system he'd spent years evading. Jon shrugged. The kid? Very inexperienced, very young, very shocked. His grenade gun dangled limply from his left hand; a discarded toy. (Fix it mommi. Kiss it better.) Probably his first kill.

"Not like on the 'scan is it boy?" Jon thought. "It smells, it's messy, it's happening to you. You can't laugh and say to your pals, 'Oh, didn't he make a funny squealing noise when he died!', and boast about it when you make your first kill. Well now you have and his brains are in your your mouth and it's not fun."

Steel blue fingers on a steel blue trigger.

The child's eyes glazed over.

then.

a flat whisper of sound.

and.....

Mark giggled and pressed the button; immediate response. The mini-comp picked out a random number. Five. A twist of the wrist, tendons tensed, and childish coordination moved the polythene counter five spaces on the Egopoly board.

Penalty Card!!

It screamed at him. Take me, take me, kiss me, I'm yours. I'm death. And Mark flipped it over and it was death.

There, in clean black type, precisely, clearly and very irrevocably printed was a black skull, and under it the word Poison.

Tears welled in Mark's eyes as he took the green tablet from its little box set within the board. His playmates felt a twinge of pity for him, but more so an overwhelming sense of relief; Mark had got it, not them, not this time, maybe next, but not this time. Mark... well, it was all part of the game. You accepted the risks when you played it made it fun. And it was fun, wasn't it?

Mark got up and walked slowly over to his mother, his chin puckering and lips trembling as he unsuccessfully tried not to cry. Another kid moved quietly to take his place. The game continued without a pause.

As the poison took effect, he was openly sobbing into his mother's thigh while she phoned for the Squad.

"How will I tell his father?"

Almost embarrassed, she turned to the mother next to her. "He always was a poor loser," she said.

and.....

Something white and very fast chewed past Jon's ear and buried itself into the wall. His skin crawled. Aproto-mech! There were better ways to die. A shift, a blur, and he was gone.

It was so simple. There was I in front of him. Jon stabilised and became sharp. I was gloating. I was safe.

"Hey 3, you like my little pet, very cute, knows lots of treeks, ees very cheep." He laughed, head tilted back and face wrinkled into a dozen troughs

Fool.

"Hello I" said Jon.

Krisnos he was fast! Jon moved his frame of reference fractionally, only a microsecond before I whirled, dived, rolled and fired in one fluid movement that made full use of the fact that his spinal column had been removed and replaced by flexible plastic. Jon felt the blast suck at his hair as the panel behind him shrank to golf-ball size.

"Hard luck I" said 3.

His first shot converted the imploder into alumniferous dust and reduced 1's hands into smoking,

blackened stumps.

Shot two removed the legs.

And shot three.....

Jon placed the muzzle on I's neck. And I laughed.

The Last Thoughts of a Dying Man:

Michael lay there, suprisingly devoid of feeling, cold steel death at his throat, his limbs charcoal and he thought of Lin. She was a good wife, and a great mother to the kids His four kids, or or was it three? Didn't one die the other day, or was it some other family? Somethimes he lost count. Haha, migod, that was funny.

"Hey, how many kids you got man?"

(Offhand.) "Oh, three.... or four....."

Hahahahahahahahahahahahahahahahahahaha

The last thing he ever saw was a pair of steel grey eyes. Very cold steel grey eyes. And so very, very empty,

and.....

The President of the World appeared on the 'scan dressed in a clowns outfit complete with a red rubber ball on his nose. He was high on Dalmathion 101.

"Aliens landed in Canada today," he was saying, "and migosh golly, are they fun....."

Stephen wanted to commit suicide. To spite his landlady who lived below, he used an atomic grenade and took the entire block with him.

and.....

A thief trying to break into a car fumbles and the anti-burglar device blows his hand off. A man passes, murmurs "What an interesting little gadget" while simultaneously filing it away for future reference.

and.....

The pycho-sociologist isn't laughing, he is crying.

and.....

A little girl stealing a small packet of vitamins from a grocery store is chased and cut down by the owner's portable flame thrower before she has gone fifteen metres. While half the onlookers are congratulating the shopkeeper's accuracy, the others half are laughing and pretending to warm their hands on the still burning corpse. "Best damn gadget I ever did buy," the shopkeeper is saying.

and.....

A man snatches a pink cyclamen from its stand in the Museum of Ancient History but is vaporised by the intruder alert system which unfortunately destroys the plant too. "Never mind," say the people, "the holograph is just as good and will require less care....."

and.....

The door clicks and and 3/Jon starts to walk through. "Congratulations, Sir," rasps the metallic voice. "Your machine is number 897554."

Jon stands at the threshold, drinking in the sight.

Imagine.

A huge workshop filled with repair machines. Filled with men like him. Real men. Men who'd fought for the right to use these machines.

The New Order.

Bespotted with gore, he starts to slowly and proudly walk to His machine.

"Just a minute!"

The foreman?) is standing there; a well-built woman in her early twenties, with cold black eyes and brightly polished quartz teeth.

His smile falters.

"You're fourteen minutes late, 3" she says, and devoid of any expression withdraws a laserlight from her chest holster.

The emerald light glinted and danced on her teeth as it neatly punched a hole through his heart.

Drawing of bugs in a pencil sharpener

How to Pass Exams Without Even (Really) Trying

A Few Quick Hints

Exams, as if you need to be told, are a hell of a business. We have it on good authority that General Sherman, who naively said "War is Hell", had never actually experienced University finals. The amazing thing is, it's not the exams themselves that produce this overwhelming desire in many people to swim out to sea, or hijack a DC10 to Nepal, it's the way you have been taught you must react to them.

Exams, because they are still, whatever your lecturers tell you, the assessment foundation of the entire NZ education system (that well-known endangered species) must be backed up by a well-organised structure of conditioning so that they may work effectively. Thus exams are as effective as the conditioning preceding them in each case: it people don't respond, if they saunter down to the pub in cold disregard for the traditional practice of living at desk 29754z on floor 5 of the library for a brief but intense period, then the exam system fails.

Unfortunately, this particular library-response is only one of the two most common reactions to exam conditioning. The second includes short-term alcoholism, child-bashing, paranoia, suicide, delusions of grandeur, and the molestation of little old ladies at night. In short, this is the group of people who respond to the cunningly calculated build-up of Exam Fever in their class by becoming thoroughly depressed and miserable without the actual additional response of the will to do any work.

It is these people this article is directed to, not those transitory. Casaubons whose excessive perspiration in the library testifies to their achievement of both levels of response. It must be admitted that these people are actually pursuing what is undoubtedly the rarest road to success—the safest way to be sure of passing is to sweat your guts out, to become a weak-kneed pasty faced little swot in high-wasted shorts with dandruff and pimples, and never get asked to dance, and most importantly, after it's all over and the holidays have begun, get sand kicked in your face by rugby players every time you go to the beach. But for those of you who aren't into that approach, there are other ways.

How to Avoid Depression

Firstly, since you've decided not to respond to pre-exam conditioning on that first level (work), it's important not to respond to it on the second either; ie. Don't Get Depressed. There are a great many ways of not being depressed. Some people get immense satisfaction from doing community work — helping people in society more needy and less able than themselves. Of course some people find it very difficult to find anyone in this category. A more popular approach is that of Drugs: amyl nitrate, heroin, marijuana, cocaine, banana skins, acacia root, crushed lettuce, almost anything will do if you're desperate enough. The general rule here is Avoid Reality at all Costs.

One of the most effective ways of prolonging this escape, from exam worry indefinitely is to actually get busted in the process — preferably with a kilo of heroin but in any case the new drug laws guarantee you at least a cool decade or so before parole for pretty well anything.

For some people the only sure way to avoid depression is not to ever get out of bed — for weeks if necessary. This is an attractive approach but not one of the most effective because, as you may realise, the key to avoiding exam-depression is to avoid thinking about them; so you must stay either busy or at least completely out of it. And do not think that these suggestions are mere escapism, a refusal to actually tackle the problem of passing. The Lord looks after his own.

Take Bruce Smith for instance. Last year Bruce decided that he couldn't relate to the Multiple Osmosis of Mutually Supplementary Chromosomes in Caspian Sea Dolphins, and to therefore embrace this approach and go and get utterly smashed in the pub instead. On his way home seven hours later he fell into a manhole and broke his arm. Two weeks later he was awarded an aegrotat pass.

How to Get an Aegrotat

This sort of thing is not at all uncommon. If you don't feel confident of such luck as Bruce, you can do things yourself to hurry the process along, jumping off a 300 foot cliff is probably the surest possible way of getting an aegrotat, but it has rather tricky side effects and is not recommended for the inexperienced; first year students for instance. A much easier way is to just get up tomorrow morning, go out into your back garden (make sure it's a sunny day), and stick your foot under the motor mower. This must be done within hours of the exam however, because you don't actually write with your foot (if you do you shouldn't be reading this article). Loss of blood will need to be your main grounds of argument.

For those of you who object to outdoor work, the kitchen offers a thousand opportunities for seizing the aegrotat. One method that is child's play requires nothing more in the way of raw materials than one onion. Take this common vegetable in your writing hand (do it on a day you're making curry or some other dish that requires onions), take a sharp knife and slash through both tendons and as much of the wrist as possible, leaving the onion intact. Then call a doctor (you can save time by calling him/her before you actually do it).

I have said this is just one of the simplest kitchen methods; the more ambitious will get excellent results by using a vitamizer instead of a knife, or sticking their head in an oven (only electric ones will do now since the introduction of Natural Gas) or an automatic dishwasher. The important thing is Be Positive, Don't Chicken Out at the Last Moment, and Make Sure you Get your Timing Right. Good luck.

One of the best and most popular ways of getting away from it all is a day at the beach; preferably with a group of irresponsible fun-loving friends and 8 or 9 dozen bottles of something alcoholic. To pass the time and keep your mind off exams you can get drunk and hassle people (throwing sand in their eyes is one of the best ways) preferably respectable citizens who will call the police and get you arrested, making it impossible to sit your exam.

Again, if you're going for the Ultimate Distraction you can swim out about 200 yards and then make a nick in your leg and wait for it to attract sharks. If this works, offer the shark your writing hand in friendship. Failing this you might be able to grab a passing stingray, or perhaps a moray eel, anyway the main thing is to have tried.

What to do in the Exam

Well, all these things can help you pass the time, but eventually, on a certain day, most of you will have to face the actual task of passing the exam. If you have followed this article and used its approach to replace the University system's conditioning you'll turn up to the exam healthy, happy, well-adjusted, well-rested, sun-tanned, and in complete ignorance about the subject on which you are about to be examined.

Of all these conditions, only the last is completely invisible, providing you play your part well. Thus the very fact of your vital vigorous appearance will severely upset most of the other candidates (your Competition) all of whom will be white enough to run for South African Prime Minister, and the examiners (your opposition).

Farting loudly as you walk into the room (casually, 20 minutes late) is a must. It probably won't affect anyone else but it'll make you feel really good and probably enrage the examiners. When you've sat down (loudly) look at the paper for a minute and then laugh loudly, in the manner of supreme confidence. Then apologise loudly.

By this time all eyes in the room will be riveted on you. Pull out your pen, hold it up to the light, put it down on the table and roll your sleeves up. Then write like blazes, trying to keep it relevant, but concentrating more on speed. Use only the middle four lines of each page until you've finished and then call loudly for a second answer book. Use this in the same way and then call for a third. By this time most of the room will be terrified and those who aren't will have completely forgotten the answers they have prepared for the questions.

Make sure you have picked a seat in the full sun by a window, and when you've got half way through the third book, tell the examiners it's disturbing you and ask if you can move. This will certainly upset a considerable number of people, especially the closet Casaubons who have been used to the silence of the library, and particularly the others in the room sitting in the full sun, who will immediately find it an impossible distraction and waste time toying with the idea of asking if they can move too.

Finally, don't forget that you are permitted to eat in the exams. Griffins' Krispies are usually the best for this although something like a multi-layered cream sponge will have the quieter effect of driving the people around you wild with desire. If you feel the need to cheat (if you've done everything I've suggested you probably won't) it's worth remembering that half a dozen Bycroft Crispbreads can take about a quarto page of notes. And of course if the situation gets sticky you can eat the evidence with a great deal of satisfaction, and a great deal of noise.

When you've finished eating, burp loudly and then apologise, explaining that you still haven't fully recovered from last night's pre-exam party. This will probably be the last straw, and your triumph will be complete.

When the results are posted there should be an announcement to the effect that the class' performance was disappointing, but the marks will have been upgraded (principally because the Department can't afford to admit that their exam conditioning didn't work) and of course you'll be up there in the A's somewhere. Then you can go back to the beach with the added satisfaction of having beaten the system.

Jonathan Scott

DID YOU KNOW YOUR HISTORY? EXAMS TANPOER WELL, I KNOW HOW NAPOLEON FELT

AT WATERLOO.