

Salient banner Salient Newspaper of the Victoria University Students ASSN. Volume 42, Number 5.
March 26, 1979

WELL KNOWN STUDENT HEAVY UNDY LASSIDY IS BRINGING A MOTION LONDEMNE THE VIETNAMESE INVASION OF KAMPUCHEA BEFORE SRC. PRESIDENT TEES DOESN'T LIKE IT: HEY BOSS, YOU SEEN THIS YET? YEAH. WHO GIVES A ELSE ABOUT THE POLITICOS? WE'LL STOP! ME! VIETNAM'S NAKES AGGRESSION IS A THREAT TO WORLD PEACE. A THREAT TO US ALL? AT SRC: CASSIDY KICKS OF... WHAT DO WE CARE? THIS'LL BE TOUGH WINTER PREPARES HIS ATTACK: USUAL BULLSHIT! SHE GOT IT WRON GIVIETNAM IS THREATENED BY EVERYONE! WHY DID THEY BRING HIM BACK TO WELLINGTON? HEY, GERRY! PM GONNA BUST IT UP RIGHT NOW! THESE PEOPLE ARE WASTING OUR TIME! SO ARE YOU! TREEN FOR THE TROTS: THE COMBINED FORCES OF GOODNESS STRICLE HIM DOWN. THE TRUSTS ARE ALSO ATTACKED BUT SOME PEOPLE GET SQUEAMISH AT THE TUSHEHT OF VIOLENCE: WE DON'T WHAT TO LISTEN TO— THEN SHUTT UP! STICKING YOUR HEAD IN THE SAND WON'T HELP DOWN WITH THE CHINESE! DON'T CAN'T LOOK SOVIET PAWN! AND CASSIDY WINS! THE FIGHT FOR JUSTICE WILL WIN IN THE END! MARXIST! YOU WON THIS TIME, BUT YOU BETTER WATCH OUT! YEAH? GREAT. JUST GREAT, THE GHOST OF SRCS PAST

This Week the Great SRC Story (Details Page 4)

Press Stop

Salient would like to apologise for the errors and omissions present in this issue. Late on Thursday night our typesetting machine broke down and we were not able to get it repaired until late Friday. Consequently we were not able to print all the Notices or all the letters. Nor were we able to correct all the mistakes.

We would like to thank however Elwynne Garvey of The Typesetter for consenting to do a lot of typesetting for us, at very short notice, on Friday. Also our thanks go to Avon Graphics Ltd who kindly allowed us to borrow their typesetting machine to do some of the corrections on. If it were not for these people it is unlikely that Salient would have come out at all.

President

This week marks the start of a build-up towards a national day of action by all students' associations on bursaries. Are you going to take action in order to secure a better, reformed Standard Tertiary Bursary?

This week on Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 March are two special deputation days when students will go down to parliament and tell individual MPs about the present state of student finances, the STB and student unemployment in the long summer vacation. The Association's representatives on the University Council will also be seeking the support of the University for the retention of the Student-Community Service Programme, or a similar scheme on a permanent basis for students who need jobs during the holidays. They will also seek support for the Association's stand for a new, reformed STB.

On Tuesday April 3 there will be a forum on the STB at 12.00 in the Union Hall, so come along and express your concern to the distinguished personalities who may choose to turn up.

On April 11 there will be a wee walk (ie a march down to parliament) to show students' concern on bursaries. The student teachers in Wellington are supporting us and have agreed to join us on the march.

More importantly you and particularly those of you who voted at SRC for this action should turn up and put your shovels where your months are. It is vital that we show the Government that students are concerned about the STB.

The reports circulating in the media show the Department of Education itself sees the need for an increase as it has recommended that the bursary be increased by \$9 a week. We must show the Minister of Education that we mean business.

Remember the two main issues which affect you so far as bursaries are concerned are the abatement and increases in the *[unclear: level]* of bursary payments - they affect you directly so why don't you take an interest?

Last weekend there was a national executive meeting of NZUSA as well as an SGM on the Sunday. The National Executive met the Minister of Education and discussed bursaries with him as well as generally discussing action for NZUSA on bursaries. The SGM discussed and rejected a proposal to distribute the shareholding of NZUSA in Student Travel Bureau Ltd to the individual members (ie VUWSA, MUSA etc) but did vote to suspend the voting and speaking rights of Canterbury until the signed their portion of the guarantees

for a \$125,000 overdraft facility made available to STB by the BNZ. On Tuesday evening the VUWSA executive will meet in the Boardroom to decide whether VUWSA should increase its share of the guarantee.

Well that's all for now and I hope lectures are going Ok for you.

Andrew Tees

Salient Notes

It's 5.00 am and the first stirrings of life are visible on the Salient Commune. Peter Beachleaves B.A. (Bachelor of Alternative Living) honours graduate from the West Coast opens his healthy eyelids. Refreshed from his 8¾ hours natural slumber, he leaps into his caftan, trots nimbly on his tiny goat's hooves out of his mud-brick office and up to the top of Union Hall hill. Flinging his arms open wide to embrace the first fingers of dawn he arises "Welcome" and begins his daily asana routine.

"Mind if we join you?" chorus Helen Aikman and Pascal Brown breaking the spell of his orgasmic ecstasy. "We love you!" cry Peter and his two auras, and proceeds to show his latest yoga posture pushing his right leg down his throat and out through his navel.

"Ooooooh how cosmic" giggles Kathleen Gallagher, tying her arms into a reef knot behind her back. Then it's a skip and a hop down to join the others in the communal sipping of jasmine tea and on to begin the day's work.

"Who's been building a hill on the light-table again?" demands Beachleaves. "We've got the Fifth Whole Earth Salient to lay out today. Geoff Adams guiltily carries it off and stacks it with his other hills in the corner. Soon the Salient Commune is pulsing with life. Lisa Saksen is quietly letrasetting her 211th "Comfrey". "No more" pleads Beachleaves, but she doesn't hear him.

"Hooooooo... Hooooooo... Hooooooo..."

"Wilson!" roars Victoria Quade as she bulldozes through four pages of mushrooms in gumboots. "I Know You're in here Somewhere Wilson". She spots him-trying to look like a cheese souffle on the recipes page. She grabs a trembling fetlock and rips him out. His red jersey does little to disguise the success Victoria has had in changing him into a Hereford Cow. Even his insistence on remaining bepedal does not deter her as she draws yet another 600ml of pasteurized milk for the Salient worker's cup of tea. "Much more useful than technical editor" she whispers consolingly in his ear.

"Quite agree. Quite agree" chimes Andrew Beachleaves looking up from his favourite pastime of plaiting the hairs on his legs.

"[unclear: Aaaaaaaacececeaagh]....." a screech from the top of Rankine Brown Peak and Kris Molloy swings down on a 4 foot supple jack, knocks Virginia Adam's head and shoulders off and plunges into a loaf of Mark Wilson's comfrey bread.

"Who asked you to speak?" growls Alan McArthur and throws him squealing into his mulch bag.

With a flash Kathryn Fleming darts out, gathers them all into her apron and scuttles back to feed Mulchy.

A commotion outside the darkroom door. "They won't let me in to water my mushrooms" whines Graeme Robertson. Inside David Murray and Stephen A'Court, in total absorption and state of oblivion to all else, are trying to teach their pet tapeworms to sing "Hit me with your rhythm stick."

"Here let me....." begs Lorraine "health-freaks-have-more-fun" Wilson. "Shut up" growls Richard Riddiford and is at the receiving end of a bunch of fives belonging to Chris Conway.

Six bowls of Mueslie, ½ sack of brewers yeast and 4 gallons of carrot juice rip through the darkroom wall. "I don't know my own strength" apologises a red-faced Lewis Holden. But too late..... "Cut out that light!" a despairing voice wails from within. As Stephen dazedly staggers out holding up a handful of limp worms. "Murderers" screams Murray and bursts into tears. Chris Heffor kindly crushes his thorax.

"Tea in half an hour" announced Kathryn Fleming as she cleans up the mess. Soon the weary but happy family are sitting down to a feast of spaghetti and mulch balls, the sound of Beachleave's evening message warm in their ears. "May comfrey give us strength and self-sufficient light up our path."

Salient Whole-earth catalogue was edited by Peter Beach (leave the leaves out this time huh), and printed by Wanganui Healthfood Ltd, Drews Ave, Wanganui. It was published by the Victoria University of Wellington Students Comfrey Association.

JOE SPUTNOK AND THE MYSTERY EPISODE 5 Raviolis Father Here's the plan: when I blow my race the door will open. On count of 3 we jump the man in the striped suit and enter from there on we shouldn't have any trouble. choo yes?... 1.2.3! swipe sock bop bap whoops! cough cough gas they don't miss a trick, the rascals! don't give in sputnik my friend keep your wits about you ...Not a cloud in the sky THE PLOT THICKENS...

Top of the Week

A Steady Hand on the Bar

Our Prime Minister can now pour his drinks right-handed again. This was the major piece of news to come out of the Evening Post exclusive interview published last week. Muldoon's new low profile style certainly isn't a passing whim. Asked questions on a number of economic and political matters, his approach was not merely low key, it was positively non-committal.

In a period of important Government announcements coming at us almost daily, the Prime Minister seemed set on doing his best to ignore the public. Here was a chance for him to provide some sort of explanation that tied together the many drastic measures we are being asked to accept. A chance to prove what he persistently tries to imply: that he knows what he is doing. Yet any Post readers looking for some assurance that the country was in capable hands would have been sorely disappointed. The interview produced, above all, a picture of a man in a muddle. A man with half his heart in it; a man, let's face it, who has lost his touch.

Knowing the Public, Fooling the Public

What made it worse was that Muldoon chose on several occasions to hide behind the claim that the public knows what is going on. Referring specifically to Broadcasting, he stated that the great majority of his correspondence suggested that the public preferred a one channel system to heavy increases in the license fee.

Now we are not faced with the simple choice as Muldoon was attempting to suggest. Even Ian Cross would be quick to point this out. The PM went on to suggest, in spite of what the ratings tell us, that the public wants TV2, not TV1.

The irony here is that later in the interview he accused the Labour Party of "trying to follow public reaction rather than trying to lead it". The last thing we need is a television service run in accordance with the wishes of people who like patting Rob Muldoon on the back. When it suits him, the public's demands must, in accordance with the sacred principles of democracy, be complied with.

When it suits him. Even Muldoon cannot ignore the fact that a large section of the New Zealand populations is protesting strongly at Government actions. When this happens however, his response is somewhat different: "... in many cases, their (people's) first reaction may not be the best". He is referring here to industrial matters, about which he considers "people take longer to make up their minds". What he seems to overlook is that people are naturally going to be more resistant to policies that they know hit them in the pockets. Underlying his belief that eventually we will come round to his Government's way of thinking is the muted implication that vocal opposition is going to be smashed.

Photo of Robert Muldoon frowning

On Broadcasting itself, he ominously informs us that "we might be able to suggest" the TV1 people come round to his Government's way of thinking. Broadcasting, as we all know, is one of the fields of so-called independence that comes under the greatest Government control already.

Decline and Fall

It was stated earlier that Muldoon is losing his touch. During the election campaign last year he surprised many who went along to his meetings or watched him on television with his relative inability to counter the strong protests he met. The unmatched master of political repartee that we had become accustomed to in earlier campaigns was actually struggling to keep his head above water. From the Wellington appearance on, he went under on several occasions.

The reasons for Muldoon's personal decline need not concern us here (although it was interesting to note that the regained ability to pour his own drinks was the first thing he mentioned when the Post asked him about his hand). They are of minor significance compared to the major reason why he is in a quandary.

The main reason for Muldoon's lack of response to the Post questions is that there just aren't any answers. The economic crisis we are now in is getting worse by the week as everyone who has to earn a living by the fruits of his/her own labour knows.

Asked about lifting the price controls, the PM had to admit that the immediate effect will be "a discernable increase in prices". Discernable means, in this context, something that one can't ignore. In other words, big price rises. Muldoon says "we don't want that". He doesn't say he won't give it to us anyway. At the time of

writing butter is the latest essential foodstuff to be hit. If it wasn't for the fact that the Government's "solutions" to the crisis is to hit wage and salary earners so hard, Salient might consider running a competition to guess the next five items that will rise in price by more than 20%.

Commenting on price rises in connection with incentives to foreign investment, Muldoon said that we can expect medium term changes in our balance of payments, a levelling out of consumption expenditure, etc. No mention of the fact that foreign investment comes into New Zealand for what it can get out for itself, not through any magnanimous desire to help a struggling young friend in the South Pacific. No explanation of the fact that "levelling out consumption expenditure" means people must be less able to buy things.

The one thing the Government is studiously intent on pursuing is cutting its own expenditure. In the Public Service, the sinking lid policy means that people are not employed to fill available jobs, while temporary workers are often brought in to do the full-timers' work at less pay. For all of us, it means the removal of subsidies on essential items.

Attacks on Social Welfare

Last week it was announced that social security benefits are next for the chop. The unemployment benefit may be taxed, with the inevitable reduction in its value. The DPB, sickness and invalid benefits may be linked to wage movements.

Currently most benefits are tied to the price index. Thus, with the removal of price controls and the relatively slow movement in wages, these benefits will also get smaller. The Government's explanation to the people at the very bottom of the income scale is that they are "on the periphery" and the subject of measures taken "in a practical and tidy way". Some consolation. For students, these moves could well presage the taxing of the bursary.

To his critics, who argue that in spite of and often because of the Government's tactics in facing up to the crisis, things are going to get worse, Muldoon says: "statements along these lines are made without knowledge of steps the Government may take". May take. It's a convenient way of opting out, but given the continuing attacks on our living standards, it's not hard to guess what sort of surprises he has in mind.

Simon Wilson

Bottom of the Week

All Black Magic

Some of our boys are missing. Two weeks ago a plane carrying eight strictly non-representative New Zealand rugby players to a non-official test match in South Africa disappeared off the coast of Madagascar, near the fishing village of Kaikouratoo. Yesterday a substitute pack of non-All Blacks met the same fate

Scientists are trying to unravel the mysterious circumstances surrounding both disappearances. The only real clue is the pilots last recorded message. We take up the transmission after the captain reported seeing a light show extrodinaire: "By Christ who the Hell has got into Venus, God damn the hostess mixes a mean Martini, the bitch she must have laced it.....Holy shit they're doing it again....." here the transmission becomes obscure. The computer is having some difficulty in processing this information. However, experts are confidently asserting that the phenomena is due to a rare eclipse of Mars and Venus causing turbulent conditions throughout the ether.

Here in New Zealand, aeronautical experts from the NZRFU are not so sure. A spokesman said, "I would like to see the facts in black and white. People are trying to colour the issue with astrological hog-wash. As far as I am concerned" he added, these calamities are the result of blatant victimisation and discrimination against us. Somebody or something is quite clearly prejudiced towards our lads merely because they have been chosen by God and Ces Blazey to be.....Men in Black." "It is not fair-play", he concluded, "to judge a man by the colour of his shirt".

Half-truth, the popular weekly newspaper, today published an article (p.5 opposite photographic study of 'sexy Sarah' and underneath the condom advertisement.) calling for an investigation of a citizen not above suspicion, one Mr. Trevor Hart. Rumour has it that Mr Hart has recently returned from a visit to deepest darkest Africa where he allegedly attended a seminar on advanced voodoo at the University of Ouagadougou in Upper Volta. Mr Hart vigorously denied the allegations, calling these reports, and others charging him with possession of little wax fug-by players, "vicious black lies".

Predictions that the country might soon be besieged by invaders known as the "Green Meanies" have come from an obscure sect known as the "Society for the Extinction of all Extra-terrestrial Creatures". Apparently their prophet Isaiah Spock has had a vision that both the planes were commandeered by these Green Meanies. "At least" he said, "we can take pride in the fact that they have got some prime specimens." He urged people not to speak to any of these Green Meanies in the street and on no account to sit next to one on a park bench.

Meanwhile, police report a wave of sightings throughout the country of aeroplanes filled with all blacks. Maoris and Islanders are advised not to take any flights until the matter has been cleared.

Of more immediate concern, the rugby union are having great difficulty in finding another replacement squad to fly to the match. After a plan to full-back on ex-All Blacks such as Fergie McCormack fell through a call for volunteers was sounded. At time of writing however, the sole respondents were three life-insurance salesmen, two television crews from Australia, one schizophrenic cricket player, a clairvoyant and Pinetree. Understandably most rugby players have been reluctant to respond to the call. Even the sturdiest props are collapsing at the mere mention of South Africa. Several rugby clubs have issued a proclamation to the NZRFU that in the interests of humanity these flights should be stopped.

The NZRFU are adamant, though, that nothing shall interfere with sport, vanishing aircraft notwithstanding. In a last ditch effort to save the tour, the union has decided to compromise their principles and change the colour of their shirts. Some suggest that an appropriate colour would be yellow.....

Richard Riddiford
Lewis Holden

Womens Action Group VUW Womens Action Group has organized an information forum as part of the activities surrounding International Abortion Action Day. Speakers from various Wellington Womens groups will describe their activities and positions including their stands on the abortion issue. Thursday 29 March 12.00 Lounge, Student Union. All are welcome discussion & coffee included.

Food Restaurant Opening Hours: 11.30 am - 1.30 pm Monday to Friday 4.30 pm - 7.00 pm Monday to Thursday Menu: Lunch Time-Toasted Sandwiches 45c or 50c Hamburger, 45c, extra filling 15c each Pizza, 30c Rolls 35c. 45c, 70c Cakes from 25c Dinner-Steaks \$2.20 Schnitzel \$3.00 Sausages Eggs & Chips \$1.80 Meal of the Day \$1.50 Salads \$1.75 Fish & Chips \$1.50 Patronise your Restaurant. Food is delicious and reasonably priced.

The \$9 Deal

Several weeks ago a report was printed [unclear: n] the Evening Post claiming that the [unclear: Education] Department had recommended a \$9 [unclear: per] week increase in the level of the [unclear: Standard] Tertiary Bursary, Shortly after the leak [unclear: he] Department began furiously denying it had made any such recommendation. At the same time a memo was sent to Departmental staff forbidding them from making any comment on the truth or falsity of the claim.

However the Department's attempts to discredit their own proposal have failed. It has been unofficially confirmed, by a very senior spokesperson, that a \$9 increase was indeed recommended. Below we reproduce a precis of the recommendation which has recently come to hand.

Objective: to Increase the Level of the Standard Tertiary Bursary and the Special Marriage Allowance

Following are the essential points of the document which outlines New Policy [unclear: Proposal] 1979/80: an increase in the level of the standard tertiary bursary and the special marriage allowance.

This proposal originated in the Department of Education and was drafted by PJ Cottier, Senior Executive Officer (Exams, Transport and Bursaries). It received endorsement from D Garrett, then Director of Continuing Education and now Assistant Secretary (Tertiary).

The Cottier paper explains that Government's policy is to keep under review bursary levels for tertiary students and outlines the increases in those levels since the STB was introduced in 1976.

The new (1980) bursary levels proposed by the paper are:

In other words, the proposal is for a \$9 p.w. increase for the first two rates and an \$18 p.w. increase for the marriage allowance.

Why was \$9 p.w. Chosen?

Cottier argues that the STB should be increased by \$7.50 p.w. to restore the relativity which existed in 1976 between the level of the bursary and students' living costs, using average university hostel fees as the basis for

measuring such costs.

RESERVE BANK OF NEW ZEALAND

The extra \$1.50 p.w. is claimed as additional necessary compensation for the tax changes announced in the 1978 budget. The reason for this is that the full impact of the 1978 budget changes will not be felt until the end of the 1979/80 financial year. This is in addition to the mid-1978 increase of \$1.50 p.w. which compensated for the phasing in of the new taxation scales and the wiping of the personal rebate.

What will it Cost?

In a full year the Cottier proposal will cost \$9,755,000. This is costed on the basis of 1978 statistics. \$7,631,694 of this cost will be for university students. \$2,123,306 will go to technical institute students. No estimate is made of the cost for teachers college students; a minimal number receive the STB.

There will be no extra cost for staff to administer the new policy.

Cottier is silent about the way the new policy will be paid for. There is nothing confirming or denying rumours that the new \$39 bursary will be paid to all tertiary students, (i.e. that Student Teachers will receive the STB rather than their present bonded allowances - Ed)

Thrills and Spills at SRC

In an effort to catch the house-wives market. Victoria University has introduced what is believed to be a world first: [*unclear*: serialised] SRC's, Last week saw the continuing story of The Many Motions, part 2. The wet weather had driven the crowds, lemming like, indoors so that there was a very sizable crowd to be cajoled, abused and amused by chairperson Andrew Tees.

A rather remarkable matter was brought up by Simon Wilson at the beginning of the meeting. I am of course telling you nothing new when I say the library is rather short of space. One way to alleviate the problem would be for the staff club room, currently situated on the third floor, to move out. The staff are, however, refusing to move out until they get new accommodation accommodation that is with a view of the harbour. Naturally, no student would wish to deprive our hard working academic oracles of any creature comforts, but the attitude of the staff hardly seems in keeping with the seriousness of the situation. Remember, boys and girls, we all have to make these little sacrifices.

A Meeting with Merv

Tees, our ex-officio member of the National Executive of NZUSA, then told us about the meeting they held with Merv Wellington over the weekend. He said this meeting was rather unsatisfactory. They had sought an assurance from Merv that the financial position of training college students would not be discussed until negotiations concerning the Standard Tertiary Bursary had been concluded. Gandar had given the assurance, but Wellington was unable to renew this assurance. Merv also [*unclear*: vetoed] NZUSA's recommendation that the abatement be removed for students over the age of 20. But this is early days yet folks. Don't forget there will be a Bursaries March on April 11.

Where's my Chocolate Chew, then?

More elections were then held, and these continued in a desultory way through out the meeting. Political bribery and corruption reared its ugly head here. All contestants for a position received a toffee, and those successful received a chocolate chew. Very yummy. It also attracted the contestants, and by the end of the meeting candidates for every position except that of Overseas Student Officer had been forthcoming.

By this time it was one o'clock and it was time to start discussing a few motions that had been left over from the previous meeting. Things started a bit quietly with a Tees/ Massof motion that read;

"That VUWSA supports the principle that the Student Community Service Scheme should be:-

- continued for the 1979/80 long vacation
- made a permanent provision to provide holiday employment for students
- given official Government approval at an early enough date or at least two months before the commencement of the long summer vacation.

Not even the stupidest of souls could find anything to say against this motion, and it was duly passed.

To Sell or not to Sell

Time for motion number 2. A product of the Tees/Edwards consortium, it read 'That this SRC recommends that if adequate alternative financial arrangements can be made for the debts and liabilities of NZUSA, that NZUSA should retain ownership of Student Union House, at 32 Blair Street, Wellington.

This is not the first time that this kind of thing has come up at an SRC. Last year a motion was passed saying the building should be sold, but then changing it's mind is one of the many liberties that SRC takes upon itself. Andrew said he was opposed to selling the building because it was the only concrete asset NZUSA has, and if it was sold, all the proceeds would be gobbled up by ever hungry debts. The "alternative financial arrangements" would be the taking out [*unclear*: of] a \$75,000 mortgage on the building which would incorporate all the existing debts.

Gerard Winter, who seemed to regard this SRC as a marvellous opportunity to sbot his mouth off on just about every subject (whether it was on the subject under debate or not), spoke next, saying that NZUSA was an organisation that consumed large amounts of our money and gave absolutely nothing to us in return. What assurances have we, he asked, that NZUSA will be able to find a financial backer. And [*unclear*: secondly], how do we know that NZUSA will remain intact for very much longer (at this time, Canterbury was debating whether or not to pull out of the organisation - it infact decided last week to remain in NZUSA Tees explained that it was silly to recommend selling the building now when the price we would get would probably be much lower than the real value of the building. Inspired by Andrew's stirring rhetoric the masses passed the motion with no further ado.

And on to Politics

But the big crunch had now arrived, in the form of a motion moved by Lindy Cassidy and seconded by Simon Wilson that read, in its amended form:

"That this Association condemns the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea and the Chinese attack on Vietnam and calls for the withdrawas of all forces within their territories.

This motion gave us an opportunity to observe the two branches of left wing thinking and also to see depths to which the bias of the chair can sink. During Lindy's opening speech, she was given shit from the audience, yet Tees made no attempt to bring the meeting to order. If, however, the speaker conformed to Tees' own rather contorted political outlook, every effort was made to maintain order.

The discussion on this motion progressed for the next hour along several distinct lines. On the one hand were the movers of this motion and their supporters who took the view that this was an unpardonable incursion on the sovereign rights of a country to decide its own political future, and was a blatant move by the Soviet Union to extend its sphere of influence in the area and in the world in general.

The pretense that it was a popular uprising by the peoples of Kampuchea was rubbished by these speakers, pointing out that there was no evidence of any popular support, many of the invading forces could not speak Khmer, and the Liberation group that purported to be staging this overthrow had been formed only 22 days before the invasion, hardly enough time for an organisation to get together the resources to stage a revolution. If this was a popular revolt, why are there still pockets of intense fighting continuing in the country. We were told that we must support this peoples fight against the expansionist aims of Vietnam, an everyone here has a moral duty to oppose this new imperialism just as against the U.S. in the past.

Against this view we had those who regard Vietnam as a beleaguered country surrounded by hostile enemies and crippled by western economic embargses. The Vietnamese invasion was really an act of self-defence, and was anyway justified by the atrocities (alleged) that the Government of Kampuchea was carrying out on its civilian population.

Gerard Winter Catching Communist Flies.

Another facet to the question was presented in the form of protests that we should be condemning all forms of aggression, and that killing and war, regardless of the circumstances were unjustifiable. While the emotions expressed are undeniably excellent, they fail to take into account the realities of the situation. Under some circumstances, people can only take so much and the only practical way to get any change is through violence. Unpalatable but true.

On with the Ostrich Brigade

And seperate from all this political discussion were the people who wished to pretend the whole situation didn't exist, and accordingly hid their heads in the sand. They waved their hands in the air, gave passionate and fluent speeches, and had the obvious and blatant support of the chairperson of the meeting. They also talked a lot of horseshit. Their main argument seemed to be that the SRC was not representative of student opinion, and

it was wrong that it should go down as policy when it wasn't democratically decided. They didn't seem to realise that this is a "fault" inherent in the structure of SRC's, but one that is easily remedied. All that is needed is for students to come and air their views.

Their other complaint was that no-one was going to take any notice of what the students of this institution were saying anyway. If they are genuinely so caught up in their own affairs that they are not interested in the fact that other people in the world are being persecuted and subjugated by others, then I guess they have a point. Myself, I'm glad this motion was passed, and the sooner certain elements of the university recognise that they do not live in isolation in this world the better. But don't listen to me. Come along to the next SRC and tell us your views.

Andrew Beach

NZUSA: the Dubious South

National EXEC

March 17 and 18 saw the second meeting of the National Executive of NZUSA for 1979. Although often very tedious to sit through, National Exec meetings are always interesting, if only to see how the presidents of the 7 constituent associations perform. Back on their own home campuses they all rule the roost as it were, chair most of the meetings they attend and are used to having their opinions taken seriously. At National Exec however they are not always in this situation, for at the start the meeting is chaired by the President of NZUSA, who exercised his own control and secondly each of the presidents considers that he has an opinion that is worth listening to generally more important than other's views. The result is lengthy debates with some violent clashes.

Of all the presidents, it is those of two of the South Island campuses that most clearly fit this bill. Tony Stuart (President of Canterbury) is most reluctant to let any matter be discussed without having his say, even if he has nothing to add to the discussion. Paul Gourlie (for Otago) on the other hand seems to make a career out of needling the chairperson.

National Issues Down South

If the performance of their presidents is anything to go by, apathy has been raised to new heights in the South Island campuses. There was a motion proposed that a speaking tour be arranged for a representative of the Mangere bridge workers, to go around all the universities informing students about the present dispute there. The South Island campuses weren't too happy about this proposal. "We don't get students along to forums" one commented.

This comment would have had more value if it were not for the fact that the South Island associations don't appear to care at all about forums. Several weeks ago there was a forum at Canterbury University on NZUSA at which two of the National Officers spoke. As Canterbury at that time had a motion on its books to withdraw from NZUSA (since rescinded) one might expect such a forum to generate a measure of interest. As it happened only 7 people turned up, 6 of whom were on the Canterbury Executive. Why? Well it was quite simple really, UCSA had arranged for a rock-concert to be held at the other end of the Union Building at the same time. Funny that no-one turned up.

Someone said that, in any case, the matter wasn't relevant to students. That anyone can seriously entertain that notion with the current level of graduate unemployment is astounding. But Tony Stuart countered this argument by pointing out that these redundancies didn't affect students while they were actually at university! In the light of this complete disinterest from the South it was decided that the speaking tour would only go around the North Island.

The \$9 Deal

As you should all have realised by now, Government will shortly be considering a proposal from the Education Department to increase the level of the STB by \$9 per week. It was therefore put to the National Exec that NZUSA do something to ensure these proposals become a reality. In the words of Research Officer Peter Franks "We must take action now unless the whole Bursaries campaign, built up over the years, collapses under us. Unless we do something now the Government will assume there is no support for the proposal"

Following Vic policy and the spirit of NZUSA's policy on Bursaries, Andrew Tees moved, and spoke

strongly for, a proposal that there should be a demonstration on the Bursaries question on 11 April. Surprisingly, considering their concern for 'student-issues', the South Island campuses were not keen on the idea. It is true that universities like Canterbury which are out of the city, have special difficulties when it comes to demonstrations, but the impression I got was that they were not particularly keen on doing anything which might involve any real effort.

Otago's problem, Mr Gourlie explained, was that there was no-one who could stand as a figure-head for any such demonstration. "I mean can you see me standing in front of a crowd of students advocating a rise in the Bursary?" he asked. One might ask why he was president of OUSA then.

Mr Stuart informed the meeting that he had turned over the question of fighting for the bursaries increase to the Progressive Club (loosely modelled on our PSA). When asked if he didn't perhaps feel that organising an activity such as this was more properly the function of the association, he replied that he thought not, "I mean they (the Progressive Club) are into that sort of thing".

Stuart on the Hot Line

It was eventually decided that there would nevertheless be a national day of action on Bursaries on April 11, and there will be much more information on this coming out later.

Wellington at National Executive

One expected highlight of the National Exec was the presence of the Minister of Education (Merv Wellington) for about an hour. Many people had hoped that this would be an opportunity to press firmly home in the mind of the Minister, student concerns about the whole bursaries issue. Sadly it was not to be.

Before Wellington arrived Gourlie had expounded his theory that NZUSA should try and grease up to the Minister, make him believe that NZUSA was on his side. As Research Officer Ian Powell pointed out at the time ".....when you try to grease up someone, there is a tendency to slip over". That is certainly what happened on Saturday.

For his part, Wellington was unwilling to step outside official government line. Yes he has an absolute commitment to education, likewise to continuing review of the level of the STB. He was unwilling to state however what the nature of this commitment was, for example he would not say on what basis reviews of the level of the STB were undertaken. The only definite thing he did say was that he could not give an assurance that no decision would be taken on Student Teacher Allowances until the report of the Commission set up to study it, had been released. By saying this he added fresh speculation that indeed the allowances are intended to be cut, possibly to finance any increases that do take place in the STB.

Fundamentally however the blame for the profitless exchange must rest with the National Executive. Wellington was plagued with some of the most idiotic questions. Tees asked about library facilities at Vic, something the Minister has no real control over whatsoever. But it was Tony Stuart who took the cake. He explained, in tedious detail, the situation at Canterbury where Union regulations were threatening some of the catering operations down there. What he thought the Minister of Education could do about this is a good question indeed.

Canterbury cut out of the Action

Day 2 of the meeting was a Special General Meeting of NZUSA, basically a National Exec under a different name, and with correspondingly greater powers. The matter at hand was the guarantees from the constituents to STB.

The Student Travel Bureau is currently facing huge debts. The only way that these debts can be paid off is if the STB can trade its way out of its present position. As the company is presently insolvent, the cash for this trading is coming from an overdraft. In August of last year, all the constituent associations agreed to provide guarantees to the BNZ (STB's bank) guaranteeing the overdraft should the company come unstuck. In total these guarantees run to \$125,000.

Since the euphoria of August Council however, things have changed and Canterbury, and possibly Massey, have refused to honour their promises to provide the guarantees. This meant that the other 5 associations who are willing to provide guarantee: are going to have to increase their liability to cover this shortfall. Understandably some of these constituents were a little upset that they were taking all the risks, while both Canterbury and Massey would eventually expect to reap some of the benefits.

As Canterbury appears quite intransigent on this point however, a compromise had to be reached. It was in the form of two motions moved by Otago. The first was to suspend all voting, moving and speaking rights on matters concerning STB from those associations which refused to underwrite their portion of the overdraft. The

obvious reasoning was that if they are not prepared to accept their responsibilities it is unfair that they should have any say in how the company is run.

The second motion was that, when STB starts to make a profit, that the first \$10,000 be divided amongst those constituents who did guarantee the overdraft. This had actually been amended by the Board of Directors of STB so that they will now pay a guarantee fee of 4% p.a. on the value of the guarantee, payable when the company becomes solvent. With Vic's share of the guarantee likely to be around \$20,000, this would give us \$800.00 per year for the estimated four or five years until the company becomes solvent and the guarantees are no longer required.

Understandably Canterbury is unhappy about these developments, and certainly they are very severe measures, but then again so is the situation in which UCSA placed STB and thus indirectly NZUSA and through them Vic.

Peter Beach

From the Courts

This week a 49 year old man appeared before Mr. Gilbert SM who fined him \$400 and \$10 costs on a charge of cultivating cannabis. The man was emphatic that the cannabis was for his own use. A week earlier another man was heavily fined for possession of cannabis which he said he used because it eased his asthma.

Whatever your attitude to cannabis it is clear that there is too much legislation in New Zealand which is repressive and undemocratic. One of the ideals of a liberal democracy is liberty, something which is becoming less evident in this country, especially as people are not permitted to live as they wish in their own homes. Until something definite is proved against cannabis the government and the courts should keep their fingers out of other people's private deals.

Just how much can you rely on getting justice dealt out fairly in the supreme court these days? This question may well be asked following the setting of a precedent in the supreme court this week when a post-verdict poll of the jury nullified the verdict. Two jurors admitted doubts over a verdict of guilty following questioning by the judge. One juror said she felt pressured into the wrong decision because she thought the others were more intelligent than her.

How many innocent people have gone to prison because of a doubting juror who has given way under the pressure of remembering a long trial and then deliberating the verdict for hours on end. It's about time that those who administer the judicial system realized that they are playing with people's lives and acted accordingly.

Chris Conway

News From M'sia & S'pore

Increase of Non-Bumis in Universities

The Education Minister, Datuk Musa Hitam announced recently that more places would now be allotted to non-bumiputra students in the five local universities. He added that, "The government trusts that this will reduce frustration and disappointment among non-bumiputras and will be received with goodwill and understanding by bumiputras."

The latest move by the government should be seen against the "Merdeka University" formation attempt by the Chinese community and the latent frustration and strong feelings about the education opportunities available to the non-Malays.

The figures for the new intake for the 1979/80 academic session had to be revised in the light of this announcement. The question of selection, quotas and processing of applications are done centrally for the five universities by the University Unit Centre of Kuala Lumpur.

The breakdown of the total students enrolled for the current academic session is:

80 Students Detained

The Menteri Besar of Johore, and Chairman of the Johore State Security Council, Haji Othman, said that up to the end of last year, a total of 70 students - including 26 girls from 7 secondary schools in Muar and Batu Pahat were detained for what he described as "communist activities". In addition, 10 students from Muar, Batu Pahat, Kluang, and Johore Baru were arrested at the end of January this year on suspicion of being involved in

communist activities.

Release Dr. Husin Plea

The Malaysian Government has been urged to release Dr. Syed Husin Ali, an associate professor in the University of Malaya and all other political detainees in the country.

"Despite the conditions and lack of facilities in the detention camp, Dr. Husin has managed to write several books, two of which have been published," said Encik Mohideen Abdul Kader of the Partai Rakyat.

He said Dr. Husin had also made a thorough study of the Quran and had prepared an annotated index of its contents which would be useful to the public and scholars he said in a statement on 6 February.

Another Border Operation

Malaysia and Thailand recently launched another joint military operation - condemned Alpha 792 - against communist guerillas along their common border. The last operation was held 18 months ago.

On 3 February, about 4,000 combined troops started a two-pronged attack on the areas of Sadao and Betong, both in southern Thailand. Earlier, the operational areas had been heavily bombarded by warplanes and artileries to "soften up" the ground, which was believed to be densely booby-trapped.

The Communist Party of Malaya has 2,500 guerillas lodged in sanctuaries in southern Thailand along Malaysia's borders, and another 500 operating inside Malaysia. There are also about 1,000 Thai communist guerillas in southern Thailand.

Meanwhile, there are reports that the first joint Malaysia-Thai air exercise will be held soon to standardise and coordinate various procedures used by the armed forces of the two countries.

Mangere Bridge Dispute

The lock out of 142 workers at the construction site for the new Mangere Bridge [unclear: n] South Auckland is now in its tenth [unclear: monh]. That makes it the longest-running industrial stoppage in NZ's history. It also [unclear: indiates] that this is far from an ordinary dispute [unclear: t] is one of the most important union struggles of recent history.

The dispute in the first instance was over [unclear: fedundancy] pay. Construction workers are [unclear: covered] by an agreement signed over two years [unclear: gc] by the Master Builders Association, the Federation of Labour, and the Labourers and Carpenters Unions. This agreement granted laid-off workers redundancy pay of one week's wages, if they had worked for 6 months or more, and 2 weeks' pay after a year or more. This agreement, [unclear: hardy] generous in the first place, was [unclear: obviousy] inadequate with the threat of a long [unclear: period] of unemployment. This especially [unclear: applies] to the building industry, which has [unclear: been] in a state of severe depression.

In the words of Zac Wallace, chairman of the Mangere Bridge workers job committee, when he spoke at Victoria on [unclear: Wednesday] March 7, the workers wanted to "[unclear: bring] it (the redundancy agreement) into line with the economic trends of the country today" Ray Bianchi, bridge worker and Vice President of the Auckland Labourers Union, told the AUSA paper Craccum that the [unclear: agreement] compared poorly with more recent settlements. He described "..... the Winstones agreement - it was about [unclear: 700%] better than the Master Builders agreement. The Winstones agreement gives you an accumulation of approximately 23 weeks redundancy after you have been with the firm for 20 years". Bianchi also pointed out that "Wilkins and Davies Industries have the same board of directors as Wilkins and Davies Construction, to the man. We have a copy of a redundancy agreement signed by Wilkins and Davies Industries in April of last year, just before we got the sack, which is as good as the Winstones agreement."

In February of last year the Labourers and Carpenters Unions approached the Bridge contractors. Wilkins and Davies Construction, and asked them to renegotiate the redendancy deal. This was allowed for by the original agreement which states that this agreement shall be renegotiate if desired by either party". Wilkins and Davies look three months to reply. When they did in May, they said no, and told the unions in the same breath that they could expect layoffs in August 1978.

Because of this, a job meeting of the [unclear: Mangere] Bridge workers decided to take a limited form of direct action, to pressure the company into beginning talks. Sections of the workforce were sent home for a day in turn. The company issued an ultimatum that if the job action wasn't stopped, everyone on the site would be sacked on a week's notice. The workers refused to accept this, and on May 30 they were sacked and locked out.

Construction Companies Won't Negotiate

Since then the company and the Master Builders Association have remained intransigent. They have refused to have meaningful talks with the unions involved. In December, after 16 days of negotiations, they presented their "final offer" - which was a resumption of work under the former conditions, and a bonus of around \$400 per worker if the bridge was finished in 6 months. The workers say that it would be impossible to finish the job in that time. The Master Builders Association have also used the dispute as an excuse to boycott talks with the Labourers and Carpenters Unions on a new award.

Zac Wallace pointed out that originally it was convenient for the company to provoke a dispute. He said, "We've learned that the real reason for having us sacked was that Wilkins and Davies had a design fault in the bridge. The expansion joints on the bridge were built in Sweden, and when they came over here the temperatures were far too hot in New Zealand, and the joints nearly collapsed and melted, So they had to be sent away, and it's taken them months to rectify the error of the design."

The Government Enters the Dispute

With the weight of Wilkins and Davies, and the organisation of the construction employers, bearing down on the 142 workers, the stakes were obviously high. When the government entered the scene, the dispute assumed even greater importance.

From May 30 the sacked workers have faced difficulties from Social Welfare in getting the dole. The Department has used every regulation in the book to avoid paying the dole to some workers, and to minimise the amount it has to pay to others. Zac Wallace said: "They delayed the payments for as long as possible - some of us had to wait 12 weeks before we got anything. Then when we had to send some of the men out to get jobs, the Labour Department offered them jobs back on the bridge, which they of course refused. So.....their dole was cut for six weeks for refusing to cross a picket line."

Zac Wallace at Victoria

Drawing of a cigar-smoking man with workers and money on scales

In October of last year the government amended the Social Security Act. In words of Ray Bianchi, "The amendment states that if any members of your Union are on strike which is affecting your work, then you are not entitled to any benefit." This move was partly aimed at the Mangere Bridge workers. On February 11 of this year, all payments of the dole were stopped to the locked out workers.

Meanwhile, in August the government had decided to pay the dole to Wilkins and Davies. This was to the tune of \$30,000 a month for "maintnance" costs. Virtually no maintenance is required on the site. The total paid to the company up to February of this year was \$240,000.

The Bridge Workers Stand Firm

Against the combined hostility of the Master Builders Association, Wilkins and Davies Construction and the government, the 142 workers have put up a successful resistance. They have done this through their own determination and their strong organisation. Just as important has been the support they have received from other unionists, and from students across the country.

The Site Committee, which consists of representatives of both the Carpenters and Labourers unions, maintains constant pickets of the site. Ray Bianchi described the organisation of the resistance: ".....we tried to get a lot of blokes to leave and get a job and get a core of about 30 blokes to maintain the pickets, speaking engagements and the dispute. We are about the right number now with 36, There are 24 a day on pickets. There is six each side in the morning and six each side in the afternoon, and they work a four hour shift. That leaves another 12 for speaking engagements, finances and to answer the telephone."

The pickets have been successful. When Wilkins and Davies advertised for new labour, the pickets were strengthened. When a few workers turned up, the picketers explained the issue to them. All of these workers refused to break the picket line.

The workers have staged public protests in Auckland city to win support. The first was on May 31, the day after the mass sacking. There were others on September 22 of last year and February 2, 1979. Shouts of encouragement greeted themarchers as they passed other construction sites, and the representation of unions on the 250-strong February 2 march shows the depth of support: Labourers Union (Northern Branch), Paremoro Prison workers, Auckland Boilermakers, Auckland Carpenters and Related Trades Union, Marsden B Power Site Workers, and a group of Huntly Power Station Scaf-folders. Support has come from will outside Auckland;

the Ocean Beach Freezing workers, the workers in Kaingaroa State Forest, and a number of Wellington Construction sites. This is far from a complete list-and representatives of the workers are touring constantly to put their case and win support. The donations the workers have received have been vital in the survival of their struggle, just as the political support they have received has stopped the government and employers from taking even more extreme measures against the locked out workers.

What's At Stake at Mangere Bridge?

The fierce hostility of Wilkins and Davies and their allies in government, against the simple justice of the workers' case, shows that there is a good deal at stake in this dispute.

First, the Master Builders Association is acutely aware that if the Mangere Workers win a more just redundancy settlement, it will have a flow-on effect to all the construction sites, which are covered by the present miserable agreement.

The fight of the Bridge has even more profound political reverberations. It is the most determined and sustained resistance yet seen to the employers' principle that it is they and they alone who will decide the extent of layoffs, and the terms under which layoffs will be carried out. A victory for the workers in this dispute would set a precedent that could only damage the employers' interests, when they are trying to make working people pay, through unemployment and the rising costs of living, for the deep-seated economic crisis. As one of the placards carried in the march of May 31 read: "My job today, your job tomorrow".

The government's attack on the basic rights of these workers also has parallels in its attacks on a number of fronts. The most direct parallel is with the protesters at Bastion Point. And the similarity between the two struggles has not escaped the participants in both. The Mangere Bridge Workers, many of them Maoris and Pacific Islanders, were among the strongest supporters of the occupation of Bastion Point before the police and army invasion in June of last year. This support was reciprocated. Furthermore, the Mangere Bridge workers' job committee have used the same methods as the Bastion Point organisers in winning support, such as nationwide speaking tours. They understand that finally their success will lie in winning the public's support for their struggle.

In this situation, the support of students for the locked out workers would be a powerful force in their favour. NZUSA is organising a tour of the North Island by representatives of the job committee. This will be an excellent opportunity to show that we support their struggle. In words of one of the unionists there, "We want to win; not for ourselves, but for everybody in the building industry". We should add: "and for every body fighting for a better deal in this society."

GARLANDS RESTAURANT Phone 736-681 80 MANNERS ST UPSTAIRS Mon to Fri + COURSE LUNCH AND ROAST DINNER \$3.00 & EXTENSIVE A LA CARTE MENU SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FROM THE CELTIC ROOTS (PLAYING SCOTS AND IRISH FOLK)

Invasion or Counter ~ Attack?

Last week China withdrew its remaining troops from Vietnam, thus ending their counter-attack. Why was this attack launched in the first place?

Late on Friday, 16th February, the Chinese Ambassador to the UN, Chen Chu, handed an official note to UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim protesting Vietnam's military actions along the Chinese border, demanding Hanoi withdraw its forces from Vietnam and warning that otherwise "Vietnam should bear full responsibility for the consequences arising therefrom."

This was in fact notice of China's limited engagement inside Vietnam which it carried out for the next 4 weeks.

This week I will examine relations between the two countries and the reasons behind the conflict. This article dovetails into the Last and has to be seen in its context. The conflict is not limited to the Sino-Vietnamese border but is a reflection of many events and trends in the world today. The most important of these is the Soviet Union's aggressive bid to replace the United States as the world's dominant superpower. With the quickening pace of the battle between western interests and the ascendant power of Soviet imperialism, countries are being forced to choose whether they will side with the Soviet Union in opposition to western capital, or retain some measure of independence from the contingent war preparations.

It is in this context that the problems of South East Asia should be viewed - relating the general world situation to particular hot-spots.

As I tried to show last week, Vietnam has chosen to be drawn closer into the Russian camp. Not only is this action a diplomatic one, but involves large scale economic and military agreements.

No Appeasement

The primary reason I believe that China made its counter-attack into the northern part of Vietnam is that she wishes to direct a blow at Soviet expansionism in the region and to deliver a warning to both Vietnam and the Soviet Union that she is not prepared to see Soviet imperialism encircle her, or threaten the stability of the region. The situation in S.E. Asia is such that the Chinese attack has hindered Vietnamese expansionism into Kampuchea, China, Laos and any other designs Hanoi may harbour.

I wish now to briefly look at the changing relationships between China and Vietnam which were a prelude to the conflict. These are:

- territorial problems
- the expulsion from Vietnam of Chinese residents
- border clashes before the Chinese counter-attack.

Past Border Problems

Ever since the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam until 1975) in 1954 there have been disputes over the Sino-Vietnamese border. Small territorial conflicts, although rarely military, have plagued relations between the two countries. Although most of the disputed territory has been relatively insignificant and small in size, this in itself demonstrates the deep divisions in the countries respective attitudes to the border problems.

The main trouble spots have been areas adjacent to the Gulf of Tonkin, two sets of islands (the Paracels and the Spratly's) and some very small areas inland on the border. In 1954 and again in 1958, the Vietnamese accepted Chinese sovereignty over both the Paracels and the Spratly's. The Vietnamese leader responsible for those agreements was Pham Van Dong, then Prime Minister. However, in 1975, the Vietnamese suddenly changed their position, claiming the islands for themselves, probably because of their strategic importance and also the possibility of oil in the South China Sea.

Part of the border problem can undoubtedly be put down to the legacy of colonialism in S.E. Asia. Like Africa, S.E. Asia suffered from almost arbitrary divisions between rival colonial powers which took no account of geo-political history. But as in the case of the two sets of islands and small pieces of territory further inland, it has been the attitude of the Vietnamese leadership, in some cases going back to 1954, that has brought these hostilities out into the open.

Vietnamese Witch-Hunt

The main thing which caused the turnaround in Sino-Vietnamese relations, however was the treatment of Chinese nationals by the Vietnamese. Since early 1978, the Vietnamese leadership has initiated a cruel witch-hunt against people of Chinese background resident in Vietnam.

There are roughly 1.8 million Chinese in Vietnam and they come from three main groups. The first is Chinese living near the border area. With the increasing number of Vietnamese troops in the area and the attacks made on the Chinese border, these groups have come under special provocation. Seeing them as some kind of "fifth column" for China, the Vietnamese have conducted deliberate expulsions of those people.

Second are the Chinese living in North Vietnam. Of the estimated 200,000 Chinese expelled or forced to leave Vietnam, 95% have come from the North, primarily from the industrial cities of Hanoi and Haiphong. The majority of these were workers, although Chinese serving in prominent state and army post have been dismissed from their positions. A top ranking general in the Vietnamese army was treated in this way.

The prime justification of the Vietnamese for the expulsions has been that most of the Chinese occupied jobs as traders, merchants and other small capitalists. They say that in the process of "socialist transformation" such occupational groups are bound to be dislocated. If you look at the facts though, this simply does not wash. North Vietnam has already undergone its main period of socialist transformation - The socialist government took power in 1954.

Photo of people in the bush with guns

The third group of Chinese is that in South Vietnam, mainly living in Ho Chi Minh City. 90% of the total Chinese population come from the South. Hoang Tring, member of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party let the cat out of the bag at the press conference in Japan when referring to Chinese residents in the South, he revealed that "the number of working people makes up the overwhelming majority, about 100 times that of the capitalists".

A Refugees's Story

On a visit to China last July I had the opportunity to talk with a refugee from Ho Chi Minh City. We were walking down a street in Kwangchow (Canton) in South China when he approached a friend and I and announced he was from South Vietnam. He had been a teacher in Ho Chi Mini City but was forced to leave when conditions there became intolerable. Chinese, regardless of job were put on low rations unless they agreed to take up Vietnamese citizenship. All Chinese were issued with identity cards, which he produced for me, and ordered to report to the local police station each week. The identity card featured the racial background of the holder similar to those used in South Africa. Chinese were also subject to petty discrimination and public bullying.

The last straw however was the forced recruitment into the Vietnamese army. He told us that Chinese were being coerced into enlisting in the army to fight the "border war" with Kampuchea. In order to escape, our friend had walked and illegally bussted the 1500 mile journey to the Chinese border.

Two entire hotels in Kwangchow were being used to house the refugees, creating enormous problems for the authorities. It was no doubt the burden on the Chinese economy caused by the influx of massive numbers of refugees which encouraged the Chinese to atop aid to Vietnam.

The Soviet Union's Role

Bad enough the deranged witch hunt pursued by the Vietnamese authorities against the Chinese residents, with rumours of the impending closure of the Chinese border and China's orders for all Chinese to return to China, but even more amazing is the part played by the Soviet Union in the operation.

With every step the Vietnamese authorities took their ostracism and persecution of Chinese residents, the Soviet press chimed in unison making numerous false assertions, implying that China was responsible for the mass exodus. In one commentary, the Soviet news agency Tass, reported in all seriousness that ".....the present Chinese leaders have drawn up and are secretly putting into operation a massive scheme (to enlist) millions of overseas Chinese from Singapore to California".

Perhaps the main reason for the Soviet encouragement of the Vietnamese in this campaign is the role of the large Chinese minorities in other South East Asian nations. The campaign was designed with the Intention of scaring specifically the Asean nations, which Moscow is endeavouring to court with the fear of Chinese minorities acting as a "pro-China fifth column". In Malaya for example approximately 40% of the population is Chinese.

As for Vietnam, the campaign serves two main purposes. The first is that it is being used as a device to solve a number of internal problems. Its objective effect is to split the Vietnamese people and divert them from Vietnam's serious economic problems and the subservient role it plays to the Soviet Union. The Chinese are being used as scapegoats.

Vietnam as Provocateur

The second, and for us, a more important reason, is that the Vietnamese leadership hopes that by inciting ill feeling towards China and its own Chinese minority it can legitimate its role as provocateur against China egged on by the chief instigator, the Soviet Union. There is no doubt that even before the serious border fighting the Vietnamese saw China as an enemy. China is a big obstacle to their hegemonistic aims. They have been priming up for a war with China for more than a year now. Recent editorials in the Vietnamese Party press have called on Vietnam "to defeat China". Whether this charge has arisen from a natural development of the appalling attitude of the Vietnamese leadership, especially in their desire for an "Indo-Chinese Federation", or whether it is a 'rub-off from their close contact with the Soviet Union, is a difficult thing to say without knowing the interral workings of the Vietnamese leadership. Even considering territorial problems and other differnces between the Chinese and Vietnamese Communist Parties before 1975 there was no indication that the animosity of the Vietnamese toward the Chinese would result in armed conflict within the space of three years.

And yet open fighting along the Sino-Vietnamese border began in earnest in 19 78 accompanied by the barrage of militant anti-Chinese rhetoric on the part of the Vietnamese press. Military installments were moved to the northern regions of Vietnam and new efforts for conscription of people into the army were launched on an already war-weary nation.

The New Enemy

In a speech at Vietnamese Army Day, 21 December 1978, Defence Minister Vo Nguyen Giap announced that "Vietnam is determined to defeat the reactionary clique in Phnom Penh" (4 days before their invasion) but went on to say - "the reactionaries in the Peking authorities are practising big nation hegemonism". His aim was to key up the army for more attacks on China. He omitted to explain what the "big nation hegemonism" actually was. When his full statement was broadcast on Radio Hanoi, however, the reference to the "Peking reactionaries" was dropped.

The question must be, what is the reason for the Vietnamese aggression. The most hostile act that China could claim to have inflicted upon Vietnam was cutting off military and industrial aid, the support of the expelled Chinese nationals, and the opposition of the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea.

China Counter-Attacks

When the Chinese counter-attack did come, it was with more of a wimper than a bang. It consisted of Chinese troops walking into a stretch of Vietnamese territory, the capture of a provincial capital, and a standoff mutual bombardment of the two armies - what Newsweek described as a "sitzkrieg". The controlled operation lasted exactly 4 weeks and the Chinese made a great play of feeding their troops on Chinese produced goods, leaving crops alone, and returning grain destroyed in the fighting to Vietnamese peasants. The withdrawal of Chinese troops last week itself disproves Vietnamese claims that China is the biggest expansionist in S.E. Asia.

In contrast, Vietnam over the last year has strengthened its tight grip over Laos, invaded Kampuchea, carried out a racist witch-hunt against workers and peasants of Chinese nationality, reserved decisions taken on claims to territories rightfully controlled by China, and launched both verbal and military attacks against China - all with the collusion and encouragement of the leaders of the Soviet Union. When you look at these facts and then look at the world situation in general, only one conclusion can be reached. Vietnamese local ambitions and Soviet world hegemonism have been combined to create an unstable situation in S.E. Asia, a situation favourable to the region coming more and more under the influence of the Soviet Union.

Facts are very stubborn things. However much we have sympathised with the struggle of the Vietnamese against US aggression in the past, our thinking cannot stop at 1975. The Vietnamese leaders are exposing themselves more and more every day as petty expansionists under the tutelage of the Soviet Union. To be neutral, or to refuse to condemn these poisonous activities is to ignore the very things the people of S.E. Asia were fighting for in their wars of national independence against the United States.

David Murray

The next article will conclude the series and will deal with the long struggle of the Kampuchean people against the French the Americans, the Vietnamese and the Soviet Union.

Abortion:—a—[unclear: womans] right—to—choose

March 31 is International Abortion Action Day, 1979. It is three years since the concerted attacks on a woman's right to choose began here, and New Zealand now has one of the most repressive abortion laws in the world.

Attacks on our then 'liberal' abortion laws began in 1976 with the closing of the Remuera Abortion Clinic, which later re-opened as the Aotea Clinic. The Gill Bill entered the house with the design of closing the Aotea Clinic, by making it illegal to perform abortions in private hospitals. This was shelved in anticipation of the Report of the Royal Commission on Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion. At the time it seemed that the pro-choice lobby had gained a victory, if a minor strategic one. But with the publishing of the Report of the Royal Commission, this was shown to be no victory at all. The Report of the Royal Commission read like a SPUC publication with continual reference to the rights of the "unborn child" and a "women who play must pay" attitude to women and sex.. The members of the Royal Commission had been chosen for their anti-abortion views and the only doctor was Catholic.

In November 1977, the recommendations of the Royal Commission were enacted with the passing of the Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Act. An indication of the MP's determination to stop women from having abortions was the Wall amendment which ensured that physical or mental harm are only grounds for abortion if the danger can not be averted by any other means, an amendment making rape grounds was decisively lost, and a clause ensuring that foetal abnormality could not be grounds for abortion was included in the Act. The law was passed in haste and confusion. The Prime Minister admitted the next day that he did not know which way he had voted on some amendments.

Since then the Aotea Clinic has been closed down. Hundreds of women have been forced to fly to Australia and back street abortionists have reappeared in New Zealand. The effects of this repressive law can only worsen as time goes on.

Attacks Overseas

But attacks on a woman's right to abortion are not peculiar to New Zealand. They are part of a world wide trend. In every country where women have fought for their democratic right to abortion, they have had to continue fighting in order to keep it. On International Abortion Action Day, it is fitting to look at the situations in other countries, to learn and perhaps to take warning from them.

Changes in America

Abortion was legalised in America by a Supreme Court decision in 1973. It was only beginning to emerge as an issue when the Court, in a surprising 7-2 decision, ruled that first-trimester abortions were a matter between a woman and her doctor. In the second trimester, the Court said that states could impose restrictions to protect the health of the mother, and in the third it said they could ban abortion altogether, in effect recognising the "potential life" of the foetus.

Legal abortion is now very common in America. In 1976, doctors performed 1.2 million abortions - one for every 2.8 live births. The most common procedure - vacuum aspiration - takes about 5 minutes, costs an average of \$185 in a clinic and is safer than giving birth. Despite a reduction in Medicaid funding for the poor, legal abortion has all but ended back room abortion mills.

Drawing of a man at a desk and a woman covering her face

But abortion is now under greater attack than at any time since the Supreme Court legalised it in 1973. Justifying their actions on moral grounds and backed by the authority and money of the Roman Catholic Church, the anti-abortion lobby are terrorising women and organisations linked to pro-choice.

Around the world

In Portland, Oregon, two vanloads of parochial school children pulled up to the Lovejoy Specialty Hospital and Surgical Centre, which performs 75% of Oregon's 12,000 abortions. The students chased women leaving the clinic, shouting "Murderers, murderers". At the Alaska Hospital and Clinic in Anchorage, four anti-abortionists slipped into the operating room and chained themselves to a bed until police arrived and arrested them. In Ohio, Nebraska and Minnesota several clinics have been subject to arson and firebombings. These tactics have not been without success.

In 1977, the Supreme Court ruled that even though every woman has a legal right to abortion, the government is not obliged to pay for it. Since then, Congress has eliminated Federal Medicaid funding for most abortions for the poor, and only 16 states continue to fund on their own. Akron, Ohio, has imposed tough regulations on all abortions, including a controversial requirement that women take the foetal remains to a licensed funeral director.

No one has any statistics yet to show the nationwide impact of the Medicaid cut off and it is unclear whether poor women are having their babies or somehow finding a way to pay for an abortion, Pat Baird of the Maricopa Health Department in Phoenix, said she recently handled the case of a 19 year old who tried to shoot herself in despair over her difficulty in paying for an abortion. A family planning official said "I've seen ladies wait till payday, wait till a relative's payday, sleep with the landlord, sell food stamps, do anything to come up with the money."

All told, many more women are probably carrying to term and some are becoming increasingly desperate. The number of women who cross state lines to find more liberal abortion requirements is growing. Thirteen states have passed resolutions calling for a constitutional amendment to end abortions altogether. The struggle in America did not finish with the legalisation of abortion. It has only just begun.

Catholic Pressure in Italy

In Italy, women over 18 have won the right to abortion in the first trimester. They were given this in June 1978. This followed an intense campaign in which thousands of women took to the streets to demand their right to abortion.

The Pope and the Catholic Church however were not happy with this democratic decision, and instantly set out to sabotage it. The Vatican has told Catholics that the penalty for performing or having an abortion is excommunication and has urged all medical personnel to refuse to perform abortions and refuse to work in facilities where abortions are performed. A huge percentage of Italy's hospitals are owned and operated by religious orders, and a large number of nurses are nuns. The Church's campaign gives Italian doctors - many of

whom make huge profits performing illegal abortions-an excuse for refusing to comply with the new law.

Italian women have won their legal right to choose but the Vatican's campaign together with inadequate facilities may mean that women will still not have access to safe legal abortion and will be forced to continue to resort to expensive and dangerous backstreet abortions.

Across the Tasman

The law relating to abortion in Australia rests on the legislation of the states. In South Australia and the Northern Territories, limited reforms have been introduced. Abortions must be performed in hospitals and are legal if two registered medical practitioners assess that the continuation of the pregnancy would entail, a) risk to the physical or mental health of the woman, or b) risk of the child being born with a serious physical handicap or mental abnormalities.

In three states abortion is almost impossible to obtain, even for those with cash and connections. In New South Wales and Victoria abortions can be obtained provided you are aware of how to go about seeking one, have the money and are prepared to beat the rush at the few public hospitals where limited numbers of abortions are performed. Those special clinics catering for abortion are becoming increasingly overburdened and generally have long waiting lists. Nowhere do women have the unrestricted right to abortion.

Recently a Royal Commission was set up in Australia to investigate the abortion issue. Through surveys and data, they were able to estimate that there are over 60,000 abortions in Australia each year. They found that 30% of all abortions are performed on women under 20, a group which accounts only for 10-11% of live births. Women seeking abortion fell into two main groups: young single women with no children mainly aged 15-24, and married women with 2 or more children.

Restrictive abortion laws have not prevented the performance of abortions. The Report said that when legal abortion is refused, between one third and one half of the requesting women find other ways of terminating their pregnancies. Restrictive laws impede proper scrutiny of abortion services by forcing them underground. This leaves the patient without protection or legal remedy against malpractice. The Commission believes that the facilities for performing abortions should be improved and expanded and information made readily available to every woman who may seek an abortion. The Report of the Royal Commission, while confirming the views of pro-choice campaigners, has led to a backlash from the anti-abortion forces. Those states which have fairly liberal legislation are under heavy attack.

Other Restrictive Countries

Chile and Israel are in a similar situation to New Zealand as regards abortion. In Israel abortion is legal on the grounds of age, rape, incest or health. This is fairly liberal but new laws are proposed which will restrict abortion to those women only whose lives are endangered. In Chile a recent law has given human rights to the foetus: women prisoners raped by their guards are now refused abortions.

In Spain, Belgium, Ireland, Portugal, Switzerland, Holland and West Germany abortion is illegal. In Spain and Ireland contraception is also illegal and women must either make expensive trips to other countries or risk mutilation at the hands of a back street abortionist. Huge numbers of women die each year from having backstreet abortions when it is well known that abortion is a very safe operation when performed under good conditions.

In Switzerland, Holland, West Germany and Belgium abortion is still illegal, but tolerated in practice. Thus women are denied their right to control their reproduction, [unclear: whi] le such formal restrictions help to raise the price of the operation and keep it as a fearful and guilt-ridden experience. In Eastern Europe, it is now argued that a woman's right to choose should be secondary to the population and economic needs of the state. Rumania and Hungary have made contraception difficult to obtain.

In other countries women are being denied their right to choose, with forced sterilisation. Population control programmes are used in parts of Latin America, Africa and amongst oppressed minority and poor women in the USA to force unwanted sterilisation and contraception on these women. In Puerto Rico, for example, 35% of women at child-bearing age have been sterilised. Women are told the lie that poverty is due to 'over population' and economic aid from foreign countries carries with it a call for reduction in population. In many countries doctors are paid more to sterilise than to give information on contraception. Everywhere forced sterilisation is the sign of racist policies and imperialist domination.

Abortion services in Puerto Rico are legal but available only in private clinics at astronomical rates. However just in the San Juan metropolitan area alone there are nineteen free sterilisation clinics performing over 1000 sterilisations per month. In Queensland, Australia where both abortion and sterilisation are illegal except in extreme circumstances, abortions are almost impossible to obtain but sterilisation, particularly if you

are black, is quite another story. Talking about this a Puerto Rican feminist said: "While traditionally our ability to have children has been used to create myths about our inferiority in other endeavours, it is enlightening to see that when that ability is economically counter-productive it loses all mystique and becomes a function which must be disposed of."

The [unclear: dure]

Under the Contraception, Ste [unclear: abortion]. Act the following procedure must be undertaken [unclear: on]. The women must first see a doctor. S/he will then [unclear: rectifying] consultants (one of whom must be a qualified [unclear: naecologist]. The women concerned can be interviewed [unclear: of] the consultants but it is not necessary. She will than [unclear: on] operating surgen. The only grounds for abortion are: that cannot be averted by any other means to the life or [unclear: women] incest; mental sub-normality as defined in the [unclear: Cri] is under care or protection as defined in the Crimes [unclear: agree] are not grounds but may be considered.

As yet, there is little evidence of forced sterilisation in New Zealand but the first steps towards this have already been made. The Report of the Royal Commission on Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion included recommendations that Maori and Pacific Islanders be encouraged to practice contraception but no mention was made of other groups which have large families, such as Roman Catholics. Our restrictive abortion legislation is a warning to guard against the same sort of reactionary measures being taken on sterilisation.

We must also be warned by the events across the world relating to the pro-choice campaign. There is no room for taking abortion rights for granted. The anti abortion forces are highly organised, efficient and backed by church and state. The pro-choice campaign has suffered a defeat in New Zealand but united we can win. And when we do, for as long as we have a society in which rights must be fought for, and are not freely given, we must remain united and active.

Studies

[unclear: a]May of 1977 Sandra was a second [unclear: tudeitt]. She was unable to go on the medical reasons and became [unclear: prega] She was only 18, did not want to [unclear: it] herself to a permanent relationship [unclear: icr] boyfriend, was financially and [unclear: psgics] unable to cope with a baby [unclear: ould] have seriously disrupted her [unclear: student] she had gone through with the [unclear: pregna aking] these and other factors into [unclear: ac] — she decided to get an abortion. She [unclear: ile] to obtain one at the Aotea [unclear: Abor-linic] and although very distressed [unclear: afrds] the felt that she had made the [unclear: ri cision.]"

[unclear: dra] had the choice but only 6 months [unclear: rd] the Contraception, Sterilisation [unclear: bortion] Act came into effect. This [unclear: is] denied women the right to decide [unclear: cr] or not to go through with a [unclear: pregnant] and put the decision into the hands [unclear: tifying] consultants who are "nothing than a procedure of organised [unclear: profesional] peeping toms for which payment is [unclear: led] by the state - \$25 if the patient is \$10 if not." (Quote from Dr [unclear: Margaignow]) If Sandra were to become [unclear: pre-] now, she would be faced with a very [unclear: ent] situation from that in early 1977 were 'lucky' she might be able, like [unclear: rise], to get an abortion under the [unclear: pre-system].

[unclear: he] first step that Catherine faced, [unclear: afe] decided she needed an abortion, was [unclear: ivuce] her doctor that her case [unclear: cometed] with the necessary grounds for [unclear: abortion] When she had his agreement, his [unclear: relendation] went forward to two [unclear: appotment] specialists - the consultants who [unclear: final][unclear: approved] an abortion. She was then [unclear: o] see the approved operating surgeon, [unclear: lecologist] at a hospital licensed to [unclear: perabortions]. She had to wait two weeks [unclear: i] appointment, a critical length of time circumstances. And having finally trough to this stage, Catherine found [unclear: he] surgeon still had the right to refuse [unclear: form] the abortion. After an internal [unclear: ination], and an interview tending [unclear: to-] interrogation, in which she had to [unclear: at] herself in the worst light possible, [unclear: able] of coping with a pregnancy, a or even herself, the surgeon refused [unclear: lae]. A totally humiliating experience, [unclear: n] caused Catherine to break down in in his office.

Catherine then went, on the advice of [unclear: is], to a more sympathetic gynaecolo-who met her with warmth and concern [unclear: ie] first time in the whole procedure. He [unclear: d] to the abortion and the trauma at [unclear: ospital] began. First - a five hour wait [unclear: null] room, broken only by an internal [unclear: lination], blood tests and checks for the [unclear: ithetic]. Catherine's husband phoned [unclear: al] times, but the message was not [unclear: pasn]. The last thing she remembers is [unclear: is] wheeled away under anaesthetic, and waking up alone and scared.. Her [unclear: abn] felt raw and punctured and she bled [unclear: ely]. But no one explained to her what [unclear: happening], no one reassured her that [unclear: bortion] had gone alright, or told her to care for herself afterwards."

[unclear: Unjust] and Inefficient Law

[unclear: tether] or not Sandra would now be to get an abortion would depend on [unclear: iber] of variables such as where she lived, the faith of her doctors, the availability of certifying consultants and operating surgeons. None of these are factors which should affect a woman's right to abortion, but because of the present unjust and inefficient law, such factors have assumed great importance.

Hospital Boards restrict staff to seeing patients from within their own district. If there are no certifying consultants / operating surgeons in an area or only those who refuse to consider abortion requests seriously (often after a patient has waited weeks for an appointment) then a trip to Sydney is inevitable. This geographical inequality in the present system has been virtually ignored by the Supervisory Committee, who are rapidly becoming more and more farcical.

The case of New Zealand

The cumbersome delaying procedures of the new law and the inaccessible and inadequate services provided in most areas mean that women that are seeking abortions at a disturbingly late stage of pregnancy. Ideally all abortions should be performed in the first trimester but every month several women between 14-19 weeks pregnant are travelling to Australia. These women are victims of social or geographical isolation. Some have had inaccurate or confusing medical or other advice - others are physically isolated from counselling and abortion services.

The system works differently in Hawkes Bay from other parts of the country. The GP's and operating surgeons work as follows when the woman requests a termination, if their GP thinks they have good case s/he then refers her directly to the operating surgeon. If the operating surgeon agrees, s/he then arranges for another certifying consultant to 'rubber-stamp' the certificate. This has the advantage that the woman does not have to go from consultant to consultant only to be turned away by the operating surgeon, as Catherine was. The big disadvantage is that the GP's refuse to refer women to the operating surgeon unless they think the woman has a good case. There have been cases of women having to wait up to three weeks to get in to see the operating surgeon, and it is quite common practice for sterilisation to be performed at the same time as the termination. The Medical Profession in Hawkes Bay is a 'closed shop' with one or two exceptions, likewise the certifying consultants are all very conservative and very cautious. Dr Foley in particular is very anti-abortion, being a past President of SPUC.

"There are just a few simple questions we want to ask you, dearie".

Drawing of men with no faces

Drawing of workers holding up their fists

The Australian Connection

With the present state of the law, it is most unlikely that Sandra would be able to obtain an abortion in New Zealand and would have to join the other 6,000 women flying to Sydney each year. Since the Wellington Abortion Trust was established 14 months ago, approx. 540 women have flown out to Australia from Wellington. Of these less than half the women with Wellington Abortion Trust assistance have been from the large population centres of Wellington and the Hutt. The others were from outlying areas where certifying consultants and operating surgeons are non-existent or totally inaccessible. In Palmerston North 148 women rang SOS for abortion counselling between February and December of last year. Of these women only 24 were able to get abortions in New Zealand - the rest were forced to fly to Australia.

Such women are faced with raising \$550 - \$800 to seek legitimate health care overseas - at disturbing physical risk and expense. Some of these women are amongst the youngest who seek help and have been as young as 14. Even in Wellington where operating surgeons / certifying consultants recognise the need for abortion they are able to provide only a very limited service. The additional workload forced on them since the closing of the Auckland Medical Aid Centre means long delays before an appointment is given to discuss abortion (2-3 weeks is not uncommon). Limited operating time in the hospitals plus a refusal to terminate a pregnancy beyond the 12th week means that there is a steady stream of women who are unable to exercise their legal right to obtain an abortion in New Zealand. Fear, ignorance and the gross lack of accessibility extract a heavy toll from women in need of this important and necessary service.

Backstreet Abortionists

There is another very disturbing side effect of the C, S & A Act. In May, 1978, a backstreet abortionist was convicted for operating in New Plymouth. This was the first time since the opening of the Clinic in 1974 that a backstreet abortionist had been convicted in New Zealand. The method she was using was extremely

dangerous. She gets her patient into a hot bath which has dettol and lots of sunlight soap frothed up in it. She then uses an enema of the bath water which causes a miscarriage. For this she has been charged \$400. If the liquid is forced into the uterus under pressure it can cause instant death.

For the poor women of New Zealand, resort to these sort of methods may often be the only option. Working class women are often the women in greatest need of abortion, because they can't afford to bring up unplanned children, but are also often the very women who have the least access to abortion services. No women should be subject to the risks and hardships presently involved in seeking an abortion in New Zealand. The right to control one's own body is a basic human right and is essential to women's equality.

The Government's attacks on abortion rights is part of an overall attack on the rights of New Zealand women. It is designed to force women back into the home, where they provide cheap a labour reserve and can be used as scapegoats for the present economic crisis, just as they did with the overstayers. In times of economic crisis the Government will shoot down human rights first, and ask questions later. Over the past few years we've seen the S.S Amendment, the industrial legislation which imposes severe fines on 'illegal' strikes, the Broadcasting Act which allows for political censorship, the Judicature Act and the Domestic Purposes Benefit Review - which when put side by side with the Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Act reads like a new bestseller by Pat Bartlett "A Woman's Place Is In The Home - and Married".

Over the past few years, women and men have organised for the democratic right to abortion. We have marched on Parliament, made submissions to Parliament, written to our MP's. The Repeal Petition collected 310,000 signatures and was presented only to be shelved. This was a deliberate attempt by the Government to gloss over the abortion issue. But the women and men of New Zealand have not forgotten. Women are suffering under this [unclear: uijust] law and we will not rest until it is repealed.

Lamorna Rogers

NZUS A Women's Rights Action Co-ordinator

Punk, Man!

Anti-Propaganda (On Punk)

You'd think people would've learned some-thing from the rise of popular Music (Rock); from the reaction of the media and establishment of Rock Musicians, with money, fame and respectability (Grammy Awards).

But there are still some people (N.Z. a vast dull multitude) who seem unable to read between the lines, they accept the violent attack on anti-establishment and avant-garde music by the Media, and accept uncomplainingly the staid diet of monolithic, mindless, dull commercial fodder poked out endlessly by the Music Business (Disco).

The shallow and ill thought criticism of Punk; that it is mindless 'noise', that the music is meaningless, and that Punks can't play (ie that they have absolutely no musical ability what so ever) and that they degrade themselves by doing anything for publicity, could be and should be applied to the hypocritical music establishment (music magazines. Disco, Mick Jagger and Keith Richards, Abba, Bee Gees, Rod Stewart (who used to be a rocker but decided he wanted millions before credibility)).

Any Punk guitarist could have played belter thab Keith Richards on the 'trendy' Punk number 'Respectable' (as the 'Stones' are) on their latest album "Some Girls." Richards must have been too overcome after his trial (he got off a herion charge: because he's a recognised part of the establishment). The "Respectable" number shows how much; deiciation and commitment it takes to play Punk with any credibility, it's not an image you put on like a worn coat it's an attitude of disolusionment, cynicalism and anger at social injustice.

"Anarchy in the UK" (by those nasty Sex Pistols) is a single that has more devistating impact than any before it, its demonic intensity, its brilliant, searing, grating guitar and the evil, genius of Johnny Rottens (J. Lyden) vocals; "I am an antichnist, I am an anarchist, don't know what I want, but know how to get it" shows this.

The whole Album "Never mind the Bollocks here's the Sex Pistols" is full of though' provoking - emotionally laden lyrics (once you can hear them) and blasting energetic music that just can be calibrated to what ca came before.

The whole album spanned a blitz of new sounds and new groups and started modern music moving forward

again, after the stagnation of Heavy Metal and Heavy Rock, (Deep-Purple (of Ritchie Blackmore, Black Sabbath went to seed, Uriah Heep went to pop, and Led Zepphlyn never progressed ("The Song remains the same"0.

Someone once told me that the Ramones (brilliant, subtle, titanic) songs all sound the same. That shows that that person hasn't got a good ear and can't distinguish subtle rhythm idfferences when played at the incredibly fast, speed, fuss and metal power of the Ramones. (I know, at first it's like listening to a buss saw and its about as difficult to make the words out as it was to make out the words of Anarchy in the UK; that took me hours with a tapedeck). But underneath all that catasylicmic powerplay is a subtle hidden message (and some amazing vocals by Joey Ramone).

The Ramones message is simple, yet delivered in a way so that most don't see it. Their songs are social comments, demands for action over social problems. Their image of Moronic stupidity (which most take at face value) and their statements of cretanism (like "1234 Cretans want to hop some more, 4567 all good Cretans go to heaven") is actually saying your moronic for not realising thay what we are saying is that we are smart, Joey carries around a sign saying "Gabba Gabba Hey" (which means good to be one of us').

Their song like "Teenage Lobottoby" "Gimme Gimme Shock Treatment". "I wanna be Sedated" and the Punk classic "Now I wanna sniff some Glue" (now I wanna have something to do), carry a message of frustrated kids growing up unemployed in grotty industrial slums, where violence rules and politicians are corrupt hypocrites. (In this they are much like' the "Clash").

Each of their 4 albums is a subtle progression changes in power, style, message, vocals, that belies the initial and shallow observation that all their music is the same.

Young Punks (disillusioned kids, criminals and others) began around 1974-75 when people saw that music wasn't going anywhere, the Rock Myth was getting thin, (to quote NME "the myth of the rocker as a sage, spokesman for a generation, and a concerned human being, martyr and vicitm with just a whiff of sacrificial [unclear: gd] Mick Jagger was more concerned over wers droop' than poverty and social [unclear: ir] (Street fighting Man was [unclear: beginnf] sound very thin), hence the return to street with Punk Rock.

Theres an equation that goes like [unclear: t] the older, the richer, the most [unclear: succs] the more famous, the more [unclear: respectab] an artist gets, the further from reality, his/her/its ideals, values and [unclear: credibilty] the artist gets. (look at the Stones or McCartney, who wouldn't have anything do with "Lucy in the Sky with [unclear: Dian] now.")

Thankfully Punk isn't commercial Wave might be, but even Ramones [unclear: don] well) and Punk can achieve more by [unclear: b] under (the charts, your conscience society - politicians in particular) than being brought into the establishment [unclear: w] too much success.
David Telford

(This article is printed fairly much in [unclear: the] condition it arrived in. Because of [unclear: gratical] inconsistencies, sentences which [unclear: d] start or finish, it is sometimes hard to out exactly what the writer is trying [unclear: to] Of course, as with the music he [unclear: descr] it is generally possible with a bit of [unclear: effect] to understand the points he makes. [unclear: the] question is, more of the music than of article, does then end result justify the fort required? - ed)

RIGHT INTO IT MAN, RIGHT INTO IT!

STUDENT DISCOUNT National Semiconductor SCIENTIFIC CALCULATOR National Semiconductor calculators are a product of the National Semiconductor Corporation, U.S.A., and incorporate the latest developments of United States semiconductor technology. This special student offer is made possible by our status as direct importers. MODEL 4660: • Displays 10 Mantissa Digits 2-Digit Exponent (Calculates to 12 digits inlernally for accuracy) • Algebraic Logic Permits entry of calculation as you say it • Two level Parentheses Imperative for direct entry of complex equations • Three Separate. Addressable. Accumulating Memories Lets you do far more calculating, far less writing • Trigonometric Functions sine cosine, tangent, and the inverse trig (unctions • Mode Selection Angular calculations can be made in Degrees Radians, or Grads • Rectangular Polar Co-ordinates • Degrees Minutes Seconds/Decimal Degrees • Logarithmic Functions Log. 10x Ln ex • Scientific Notation or Floating Point Decimal System Handles numbers as large as 10xy with retormating capability from one system to the other • Statistical Functions # - and # Keys sum and Lets you calculate Mean and Standard Deviation adding to and subtracting from the summations at will And using the Factorial X1 you can calculate permutations combinations and probabilities Quickly and accurately • Metric Functions Pounds to Kilograms, Inches to Centimetres Gallons to Litres Degrees Fahrenheit to Degrees Celsius • Other Functions Automatic Square and Square Root Instant calculation of Reciprocals. Powers, and Pools, Pi entry. Change Sign Register Exchange keys Automatic Constant in all 'our arithmetic functions and Powers Roots • Operates on Nicad Rechargeable Batteries • Carrying Case and AC Adapter 'Charger Model 4660 Special student offer \$49.50 recommended retail: \$75.00 approx ALSO AVAILABLE. AT A SIMILAR DISCOUNT model 4640. which incorporates the same specification, but with Reverse Polish Notation Special

Student offer \$59.50. FULLY GUARANTEED FOR 12 MONTHS. To take advantage of this special student offer, return the coupon (or write direct) with your cheque (including \$1 packing and postage) to: Novus National Semiconductor Calculators Ltd 65-67 Birkenhead Ave. Birkenhead. P.O. Box 72-053 Auck. Ph 489-175. Novus National Semiconductor Calculators Ltd 65-67 Birkenhead Ave, Birkenhead. P.O. Box 72-053. Auckland. Name Address Please supply Model Calculators). My Cheque/Money Order for \$..... (including \$1 p. & p.) Is enclosed. I understand delivery will be made in approximately two weeks, by insured mail.

[unclear: Theatre]: In the shadow of history

Conference

David MacDonald [unclear: y] Tony Taylor

[unclear: Age]

[unclear: one] serious theatre at [unclear: Downnil] Conference is about fascism: [unclear: vt] national chauvinism, its [unclear: per-] propaganda, its corrupting [unclear: pooie] use it makes of the big bourgeo-not the use the borgeois makes specifically, it centres on a [unclear: eting] between Hitlers' mistress [unclear: nd] Mussolini's mistress [unclear: Clareetacci].

treats these women in the [unclear: shaoy] in various ways. Their [unclear: inabint] themselves except through [unclear: d] words of their masters (for [unclear: i] are) is counterposed to their at being shut away, forbidden of the greatness. Through both [unclear: ts] they also take on the [unclear: characrand] Mussolini themselves, so while its story follows the [unclear: woy] reveals the pernicious subtlety [unclear: ng] brutality of the two fascist

To Convey

Conference could have been play that wallows in a morass [unclear: ts] lonely protagonists. It could psychological investigation of [unclear: nderneaih] the roles they have [unclear: history]. But MacDonald has The "humanity" he has [unclear: allotsi] enough to convince us [unclear: ism] but it does not dull the mes-to get across.

problem is, the message is dul-factors. The playwright [unclear: cleari] expose the evil of fascism, this broad generalisation his [unclear: re] not at all apparent. For one [unclear: xt] it extremely complex. Bring-men on stage by proxy (through allows him some great dramatic [unclear: it] it doesn't help the action or Just sorting out the various [unclear: ch] events are taking place [unclear: reoncentration].

[unclear: n] this though, the actual [unclear: meett] number of the species is hard From go to woah we are asked as that seem terribly important little more than a general sense [unclear: ing] is rotten in the state of the powerful, but somewhat con-

[unclear: his] is because the play lacks a core, as if the playwright hadn't quite made up hismind what it was he wanted to say. Alternatively, he may have wanted to use fascism not just to demonstrate its own evils, but as an illustration of something wrong in the "human condition."

Drawing of a person with a hive for a head, and another with a flower for a head

A Stunned Audience

The night I went, the audience almost didn't clap. They were stunned. I think this was largely due to a sense of horror, but because there exists this level of thematic confusion, that horror could well have been mingled with despair. Certainly the question of fighting back doesn't arise.

In spite of this, however, the Downstage production is powerful and dramatic. Prue Langbein as Braun and Anne Budd as Petacci give strong performaces in exceedingly difficult roles. Remaining in one character while adopting the traits of another is no easy thing. If Langbein occasionally lets expression take the place of meaning and Budd maintains slightly too even a pitch, they nevertheless carry this play with intelligence, vigour and flair.

There are two factors that help them immensely in this. The first is Raymond Boyce' set, a masterpiece of pillars and floor to [unclear: ceiling] murals enclosing a large open spave that in turn confronts a steeply raked audience. The surrounds, all in austere grey, reek of fascism. The open space is a gift to the actors: the design doesn't impede their work, it feeds it. The rake of the seating sets us almost in judgement. All this in one show

is rare indeed at Downstage.

The second factor is the acting of the only other person in the play, Micael Mc-Grath (as a young German soldier waiting on and guarding the two women) It is on his shoulders that the play finally rests its burden of the "cry of humanity". He delivers himself of it with remarkable skill and in circumstances as difficult as any playwright could devise.

For its acting, for its design and for the sincerity with which it confronts its audience. Summit Conference is definitely worth seeing As an exposition on an important contemporary theme it also demands attention. If on this latter count it has a tendency to confuse, that may be because it needs seeing twice. And although that may be failing in a medium which should perhaps be directly communicable in one sitting, it is a failing worth bearing with. For this play gives us something rare in Wellington: theatre worth the effort.

Simon Wilson

Anne Budd as Clara Petacci.

DOWNSTAGE THEATRE BOOKINGS 849-639 SUMMIT CONFERENCE by Robert David MacDonald nstage in the whole country could set such an evening before the bravuere end command." Bruce Meson in The Dominion 30pm. Play 8.00pm. Student standby at 7.50pm, \$2.00 only. I.D. Card must be shown. AY KIDS' STUFF IN HALFWAY UP at 11am. 50c each of \$1 50 a family GS IN MIDDLE EARTH (2) goblins and elves. Tall tales end true from or 8 to 80's

Arts Festival '79

Between the 5 and 12 of May this year the 17th National Arts Festival will be held in Christchurch. There will be a number of acts going down from Victoria to the festival, but no less important is it that students from Vic shoot down south and participate in what may well be the best festival yet. VUWSA is currently trying to arrange transport and accommodation for any Vic students that want to go, and Salient will in-from you of these arrangements as they are finalised.

But the next four issues before the festival we will be running little excerpts from the programme to try and get you all interested in actually going down to the chilly south. This week:

A Feast of Poetry

Some of the best poets in New Zealand will be in Christchurch over the eight days of the festival.

A programme of formal, and open readings is planned, plus displays and workshops, and will begin on Sunday at the Canterbury Society of the Arts Gallery. Reading will be Jan Kemp, Russell Haley, Ken Hudson, Jeff Cheyne, Stephen Higginson, Lyall Benjamin and Craig Dixon. At the 'Opening Day Spectacular' there will be many local poets wandering through the crowd reading where and when they feel inclined. On Monday, again at the CSA Gallery, is a reading co-sponsored by Landfall one of New Zealand's leading and oldest literary magazines. Almost all of the poets have appeared in the pages of Landfall at some time. Reading will be Nick Messenger, Alistair Paterson, Pat White, Jan Kemp, Russell Haley, Trevor Reeves, and Lewis Scott.

May 9 The New Poetries

Hamish Thompson / Rob Jackaman / Michael Harlow.

A graphic display including panels, talk and discussion, occasionally utilising sound: ape. Included will be design work by Hamish Thompson based on poetry by Rob Jackaman.

May 9 Poets on Video

Tapes of New Zealand poets reading their work compiled by Christchurch Teachers College. Sound Tape. Ernst Jandl.

May 9 The Womens Movement

Readings and discussion, looking at and listening to the fact that there are 'competent woman poets (writing) in the country. Chaired by Riemke Ensing, poet, lecturer and editor of Private Gardens: the first (ever) anthology of New Zealand Women poets.

Reading will be: Riemke Ensing, Lauris [*unclear*: Et] Edmond, Rachel McAlpine, Heather Mcpherson, Jan Kemp, Alistair Paterson et. al.

May 9 Open Poetry Reading

An informal reading with interludes of Folk and Jazz music, wine and cheese. All poets and the festival are invited to read, whether they are on the formal programme or they are carrying a couple of poems in their back pocket, or even if they have never been in a reading before. Of course any one is invited to read at the Opening Day, in the Square, The Arts Centre, a hotel or wherever.

May 10 The State of New Zealand Poetry

A discussion on where New Zealand Poetry is at today, where it is going and perhaps where it should be going. Speakers include C. K. Stead, Lauris Edmond, Ellen Loney, Michael Harlow, Peter Simpson, Ian Wedde, Alistair Paterson.

May 10

As part of an all day display of his own work Ellen Loney will give a talk on Private and Small Press Printing and Publishing. Ellen is the poet, publisher and handcraft printer who operates through Hawk Press, the most renowned of the private presses in New Zealand. Anyone interested in Poetry will find this session of immense value as New Zealand poetic tradition is closely tied to the private press. International Room.

Friday 11

The poetry programme of the Festival ends on a high note with a reading in the Conference Room of the Christchurch Town Hall. Some of the top names in New Zealand will be reading: Lauris Edmond, Ellen Loney, Rachel McAlpine, CK Stead, Brian Turner, Ian Wedde and Michael Harlow.

As with the rest of the Festival, we hope that the presentation of various art forms will extend beyond the fixed programme and people will give spontaneous readings at various places throughout the city.

Books Stodgy Romance

Clayhanger

Arnold Bennett Penguin

Bennet's warm approach to writing (seen especially well in this novel) does a lot to make 'Clayhanger' easy and enjoyable reading for the most part. Life, to Bennet is kindly, warmly and observable in the setting Bennett portrays.

The story is set in the later Victorian years and reflects the drab, perhaps sterile quality of life in a small semi-industrial town. Industrial as in two clay factories and two printing shops as the centres of business. The setting is a picture of Bennett's own life so that the lesser characters with their mannerisms and quaint turns of speech, constantly add actuality to Bennett's personal narrative.

With his realist approach Bennett deals with Edwin (main character) on a touching if sometimes unsympathetic note, Edwin forfeits his desire to be an artist in order to take over his ailing father's printing business. He becomes entwined with the Orgreaves family and through them, with Hilda Lessways, a penchant widow. While Bennett attempts to give a picture of Edwin's beloved, it proves a disappointment, not because it contains less detail, but because scenes from Clayhanger hold the romantic charm of the unsolved and so becomes a key to what baffles and enchants young Edwin. Yet, in a cruel move, Bennet removes the romance. The charm is gone and The Five Towns setting is in abeyance: emotion has been lowered to nil.

Emotion rises again with the final meeting of Hilda, yet it is a cold emotion so is gone forever. Hilda never divined the tortures which she had inflicted in his heart!

The narrative deals with the majestic Auntie Hamps, Mr Shushians (whose outstanding characteristic is his immense age). Edwin's sister Maggie, the Orgreaves family, the strange and explicable Hilda, Big James the printer's foreman, and many more. Above all is Darivs Clayhanger, Edwin's father, with whom his struggle in Darjus' health and sickness produces not only torment, but the reserves of character which help make Edwin's personal development dear to us.

The book, in short, centres around young Edwin; his vocation, his love, his freedom and his start in life. It

is the portrait of civilisation, the revelation of a young man belonging to that civilisation and yet apart from it; overawed by his father, struggling for independence, making and keeping his friends, learning to think, falling in love.

If 'Clayhanger' has any faults it is that it tends to become a little 'stodgy' in parts with revelations to Edwin that are now small and unimportant in our present times. Yet, then it was a revelation and should be read as such. A nice book if one likes Victorian novels and D. H. Lawrence overtones.

Kathryne Fleming

Drawing of a 'Game of Life' pinball machine

VICTORIA BOOK CENTRE Victoria Book Centre BARGAIN TABLE BIG REDUCTION IN BOOKS ON LAW - COMMERCE-BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION-INFORMATION-SCIENCE-GENERAL READING Victoria Book Shop, 15 Mount Street, Telephone 729585 / 6

Standoff Success

Paradise Illustrated

D.J. Enright

Hogarth Press

\$5.95

D.J. Enright allows his words to play as much to as work, so his poems are frequently funny. And invariably satirical: our language, public life, morals, the welfare state, the seaside, go under his knife. Sometimes, a great depth of feeling overflows the wryness, as in "The Verb 'To Think' ", but usually he keeps himself at a distance. As a result, the reader, though impressed and appreciative, is kept back also, not drawn into the poems to wrestle with the situation.

Being poems, them that speak for themselves, the best I can do is to quote one in full.

*Our Freud which art in heaven
Give us this night our nightly symbol,
Give us to dream of serpents and cups
Not of you know what.*

*Almighty Freud, ruler of night and day,
Give us dreams that are unmistakably dreams,
Lead us not into reality.*

*Deliver us from the Conscious,
That we waken bewitched by the workings
Of the unconscious. Grant us to wake
In pleasure and pride, not terror and sweat.*

*Give dreams in our time, O Merciful Freud,
That are worthy of thy name,
Lest the night be no better than the day.*

The title poem is a sequence of thirty four parts, retelling the Eden myth and projecting it into the present. Such a wide scan requires distance, so style is a perfect vehicle for it; attempt is extremely successful.

Derek Wallace

(This book has been around for some but, though I haunt bookshops, I have [unclear: e] seen it. So the

chances are you [unclear: woi] able to get hold of it, even if you [unclear: war] to. If therefore, your interest has [unclear: be] you could arrange to borrow the [unclear: booly] ringing me at 759-740 - D.W.)
Drawing of a persons tears filling a bucket

Cryptic Crossword

Empty crossword

Across

Down

Last Week's Solutions

Across: 1. Rankine, 5. Brown, 8.[unclear: Go] 9. Travels, 10. Embraces, 11. Star, 13. [unclear: A] 14. Bottom, 17. Gram, 19. Conjuror, 22. 23. Noise, 24. Cache, 25. In style

Down: 1. Rogoe, 2. Not a bit, 3. [unclear: Impl] 4. Entree, 5. Boar, 6. Overt, 7. Nosturm, Jones, 13. Angelic, 15. Terrify, 16. To [unclear: Ba] At Vic, 20. Reeve, 21. Ante.

[unclear: Lm es] Much [unclear: tter]

Laura Mars

by [unclear: Irvin] Kerschner

[unclear: kf] any notice of Michael Heath's [unclear: the] Evening Post. Ever.

[unclear: dividual's] response to any film contain some element of [unclear: subject] tastes differ. It's inevitable, [unclear: e] it into account when getting [unclear: band] information about a film or last night's TV. or what [unclear: Marau's] like in the sack, etc.). But one actually goes into print with [unclear: am] some sense of responsibility

[unclear: ase], Heath describes Eyes of Laura [unclear: trashy], lurid and totally unmemor-Evening Post, March 17). Quite being way off beam, nowhere [unclear: s] any reasons for this public con-The closest he gets is to say that [unclear: ns] on in vacuity" and that he "can't [unclear: ch] more about it at all". Great. [unclear: do] typical.

[unclear: at] me wrong. Eyes of Laura Mars [unclear: at] Film. But it is a good one. [unclear: ecause] its a stylish, complex, [unclear: ig] (though admittedly sometimes [unclear: iller].

[unclear: irked] some reviewers because [unclear: and] concentration on glamour, some more of Mr Heath's words, the oh-so-chic world of New York The point they miss is that the [unclear: ntegral] part of the film's [unclear: viewilot]. It is about images and the [unclear: ty]. To begin with, the human eye is the target of the murderer's knife. Laura, whose profession is photography, a purely visual medium, is connected to these slayings by psychic visions which are themselves visual, as seen by the killer's eye. The action occurs in a context of wealth and glamour - a world that lays great store by how things and people look, a world of largely surface appearance. Within this world, our attention is drawn time and again to the use of makeup and role-playing that is Laura's model's living.

And here's the rub, the key to the mystery the film, revolves around: appearances can be deceptive. For things are not always as we see them - or rather as we think we see them. Laura's photographs of posed 'murders' turn out to be photographs of real murders (or is it vice versa?), and her photography studio - chic and 'clean', the decor stressing white - is found inside grubby, decrepit dockside warehouse. This sharp division between interior and exterior extends to the characters: we can never be sure whether personalities and motives are indeed as we see them. At one point in the film, sexes swap clothes. Mirrors abound, and reflections are variously distorted, mistaken, and eventually substituted for reality. (The same type of confusion of appearance and reality dominates Antonioni's Blow Up, and indeed there is much in common between the two films.)

This deception and duality is in classic whodunnit syle, but in Eyes it is given complexity, and even artistic integrity, by emerging from a world itself founded on surfaces and superficiality.

Photo of two women with guns wearing bathing suits

Eyes of Laura Mars, as I've mentioned deals with murder by knives piercing eyeballs, and this central image finds echoes throughout the film. Eyes themselves, whether human, the lens of a camera, or the engraved

pattern on a door through which killer sees victim are repeatedly presented for our own eyes to view (we are often then, by implication, seeing an image at third remove from reality.) The actual act of violence on the eye finds its reflection in sudden patterns of light and shadow, and the shattering of mirrors and windows. The film's pre-credit sequence is brilliant, not only in its effective handling of a murder and its link with Laura (even her name puns on violence and maiming, and her initials are lent, ominously, to two of her models, Lulu and Michelle), but also in that it neatly introduces all these key motifs, upon which the rest of the film plays variations.

Laura, not surprisingly, is more and more confused and terrified by the cruel tricks her eyes play on her, and her total inability either to stop the killings or regain what she terms her 'control'. This latter concept is also basic to the development of the plot: Laura, stricken by a vision while driving, careers blindly through the streets - a metaphor for the behaviour of several of the characters "It's my birthday", asserts Donald, "I can be anyone I like!"; mirrors produce multiple images of the same person. Are we dealing with schizophrenia, or what? As Laura's confusion becomes more intense even her ears attempt to deceive her (her efforts to use the telephone are aborted by voices that deny her sense of what's real), and she seems to momentarily forget who she is herself.

It should be said here that Faye Duna-way an excellent in the title role. She's never been an actress I've had much affection for, but she won me over this time. Her performance has a conviction and authority that makes credible a few scenes with ex-husband and boyfriend that could easily have slipped into the ludicrous in less talented hands.

Credit also to John Carpenter, the co-writer (with David Zelag Goodman) of the screenplay, and writer of the original story. It's sometimes hard to distinguish what has been contributed separately to a film by its writer and director, but in *Eyes* the inspiration and shape of the finished product quite clearly stems from the writer. Director Irvin Kershner did a good job, certainly, but it was mainly, you get the feeling, just the explication of Carpenter's strong and clever idea. I'm looking forward, then, to *Hallowe'en*, a new horror film actually directed by John Carpenter, that's getting enthusiastic reviews overseas.

So there you are. *Eyes* is a much better film than some critics would have you believe. And who, you may ask, dunnit? Well let's just say it's no accident that the title reminds us of the Ides of March.....

Finally, to get back to where I started from, can *Eyes of Laura Mars* honestly be regarded as "trashy" and "lurid", groaning with "vacuity"? The first two epithets may just be the result of blind and high-handed prejudice, but "vacuity" is, as I hope I've been able to demonstrate, one thing the film ain't got. Not to put too fine a point on it, Mr Heath is, it seems to me, the kind of critic who wouldn't know his arse if he sat on it Paul Hagan

[unclear: Student Health]

[unclear: T] Think it Would Hap—[unclear: me]."

[unclear: Zealand] at least a third of All preg-[unclear: icknowledged] to be unplanned. [unclear: AMO-ger] age group and the unmarried the [unclear: s] much higher. Many of these are al[unclear: L].

the reasons for this seemingly [unclear: irratioir?] The topic is currently being aired Each weekday morning at 11.30 a [unclear: et] it discussed starring on Monday (you've missed that one) until April [unclear: inal] talk-back programme on April 9th. listeners four half-hour programmes [unclear: d] on Tuesday nights at 8.45pm. [unclear: Brog] details are available at Student Hea-

[unclear: unpianned] pregnancies occur in such oportions? The reasons are complex [unclear: mini] check-Hat will reveal some of [unclear: a] causes.

witching off completely remember [unclear: nmoneit] response of all is; "I Didn't Would Happen to me."

[unclear: ist]. Some Causes of [unclear: Unplannuicy].

Problems

[unclear: need] side effects on the pill.

- Afraid of side effect on the pill.
- Don't wish to take artificial hormones.
- Wanted to take a break from the pill.
- Doctor, mother, friend advised stopping the pill without advising on alternative methods.

- Stopped pill when we broke up then made up.
- Forgot to take pills e.g. when going away for the weekend.
- Didn't take pills carefully and according to instructions.
- Didn't realise you had to extra careful using low dose pills.
- Didn't realise that vomiting and diarrhoea can interfere with pill absorption.
- Ran out of pill supplies.
- Difficulty getting pill prescription or pill supplies.
- Afraid or embarrassed to ask doctor for the pill.
- Thought you were infertile after coming off the pill.

2. Relying on the Less Reliable.

- Something, anything, is better than nothing.
- Relying on unscientific calculations of the safe period i.e. "magic numbers". Infinite variations on this theme, e.g. My boyfriend knows when it is safe.
- Relying on spermicide only. (Plus a little hope.)
- Relying on withdrawal, "being careful" it's called.
- Using condoms "most times".
- Condoms not easy to obtain when you need them most.
- Too embarrassed to get condoms. (Did you know they are free on prescription?).
- Not very expert at using condoms.
- Using diaphragm but not always or not carefully.

3. Risk Taking Behaviour.

- To err is human.
- Have taken risks before and got away with it
- Can't always be prepared.
- Don't care.
- Didn't care at the time. Got carried away.
- Don't like planning and premeditation. Spoils the fun.
- We don't have sex often.
- Thought you couldn't get pregnant the first time.
- Didn't think you could get pregnant so easily.
- Special occasions are different e.g. Xmas, New Year, Easter, Exam celebrations, birthdays, holidays etc.
- It happened after alcohol, party etc
- Didn't know about the morning after pill or post-coital IUD.

4. Attitudinal Barriers

- Negative attitudes, such as contraception is unromantic, unnatural, messy, interferes with spontaneity. (An unwanted pregnancy can be pretty unromantic.)
- Always thought I could say "No".
- Difficulty coming to terms with sexuality, especially if brought up to believe that nice girls don't and young men must sow their wild oats.
- Religious, moral or aesthetic objections.
- You don't really know when you're ready to make a sexual commitment to someone.
- Using contraception might precipitate a sexual relationship.
- Using contraception might make me promiscuous. (Whatever that is.)
- I would feel foolish "being prepared" if nothing happened.
- Have always had difficulty discussing such things with my parents, my partner, my doctor.
Communication breakdown.

5. Infertility Issues.

- Fears of infertility in either partner e.g. I didn't get pregnant easily so I began to wonder whether I was sterile.
- He told me he was sterile, had never fathered a child, had a serious illness which left him sterile, had a vasectomy etc.

- Doctor told me I wouldn't conceive.
 - I believed I couldn't get pregnant for a variety of reasons, e.g. after coming off the pill, after the injection, while breast feeding, approaching the menopause etc.
- These are just some of the reasons. If you think any of these apply to you, Do Something About it. At Student Health we provide a comprehensive contraceptive service.
- Love Carefully.

[unclear: Rec Centre]

[unclear: Aton Centre]

[unclear: dance], dance and more dance [unclear: se] of you who are into movement of [unclear: ve], interpretive, modern, jazz, [unclear: creaian] maybe our dance sessions are for [unclear: are] classes for raw beginners through [unclear: d] choreographers. Dance at the [unclear: Recitrc] is taught by Diana Jones and Paul [unclear: one] and ask about dance recreation [unclear: re] reception.

[unclear: g] room that long, long room is now extensively by the Wellington Men's [unclear: n's] Cricket Association. (They paid [unclear: nd] the flooring). However, at times ore the Small Bore Rifle Club are not in action, then why not try your own cricketing skills down there.

We have a bag or cricket gear available for hire at 50c. Richard Hadlee, Geoff Boycott and Denis Lillec are just some of the cricketers who haven't hired the bag this week. But not to worry they will (?)

The Clinic is a room on the reception level next to the Old Gym. In it we have fitness testing facilities which are available to those of you who wish to test your physical condition. Centre staff will do a fitness analysis for you by appointment. Also, in the Clinic, are the exercycles: those machines, so good for riding nowhere. Just hop on one and pedal at a speed you find comfortable for 15-20 minutes. Please, please, don't try to race the machines, already this year two of the machines have had to have major repairs due to molten metal created on re-entry. The machines are not designed to formula 1 specifications.

During this year you will see extra equipment installed in the Clinic to repair and mend broken bodies. We have some now, so if you have an old injury or a new one, see a Centre Staff member about rehabilitation programme.

Tuesday afternoon features the Centre Weight Control Clinic where those of you who are watching your weight can come and talk to staff members about those calories. The sessions will help you control what you eat and maybe assist in the nuking of a suitable exercise programme.

The Social Basketball competition is gathering momentum on Fridays 12-1, bring yourselves or your team along and be in.

Social soccer draw 18/3/70-

- 12.00 Maintenance v Geology
- 12.15 Victoria Champs v Mutants
- 12.30 Aro v Chemie
- 12.45 Greasies v Education
- 1.00 Eagles v Clarke
- 1.15 P
- 1.15 Pols v Economics
- 1.30 Ablob v Murrays

Have you tried yoga? Tuesday 1-2, Thursday 1-2.

Your Recreation Centre: be in. Recreation Centre Quiz No. 2

Answers to Quiz No. 1 - Yes, No, Possibly This week.

- Rearrange these words into a well known phrase or saying "Centre Recreation The" (one side of paper only please)
- Has John Walker got to be good? Yes/No
- for you? Yes/No
- Is the Old Gym related to Young Gym the Older? Yes/No
- How far does an exercycle go when ridden at a workload of 900 kilo pounds per metre, per metre, at 30°C by a 90.5 kilo rugby player for 10 minutes at 20 cents a kilo pond?

Answers by next week please.

Cooking

Alfred Cooks.....

I have some friends who live in a tumbledown flat in Newtown (or at least did until the landlord decided that they were not paying enough to live in his house while it fell down around their cars - but thats another story) In the backyard is a garden and some chooks. All round are other tumbledown houses. On the fair flesh of Newtonian suburbia grown a number of boils, one of these is the hospital, sprawling, technological cancer, another is an unnamable takeaway chicken bar. In this fast food edifice people are fed on fast grown chicken, chips, coleslaw etc all nice and clean and sterile.

In my friends kitchen (which is not all that sterile, the stove not all that new) vegetables are carefully prepared for a meal: green peppers,

mushrooms, fresh tomatoes (sometimes you have to cut out some greebies), crisp garlic, celery, unions and fresh herbs. No rush here, such a meal is worth waiting for, talking, laughing over. People who try to Convince others that eating is comparable with oiling a machine (albiet a ration one) seem less than human and their abodes cold and sterile.

Here is a recipe for a nonfast fresh vegetable type food that Jill first suggested to me.

Green Peppers

Green peppers are cheap now, so make the most of them. They are really nice raw with cheese. The following recipe makes them into an attractive cooked vegetable than can be cooking while the rest of the meal is prepared.

Stuffed Green Peppers (For 4)

Take 4 green peppers, cut the tops off and carefully scoop out the seeds and pith. Set aside.

The stuffing can be varied considerably (eg meat or vegetarian) herbs too can be altered to give a change of flavour.

- Combine 250gm of browned mince
- or
- 2 cups of grated cheese
- with
- 1 cup of uncooked rice (preferably unpolished)
- 1 cup finely chopped tomato
- 1 tablespoon minced parsley
- 1 small onion finely diced
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon oil (preferably olive).

if available fresh chopped mint & dill seeds

Fill peppers about two-thirds full with stuffing and replace lids. Place peppers in baking dish with water to about 0.6cm cook for 1½ hours at 325°C.

[unclear: Notice]

Law Faculty Club

Law Faculty Club AGM. Wednesday. 28 March at 7.30 pm in the Union Hall.

Come and meet this year law faculty club heavies and some brave staff members courageous enough to turn up. The beer will be flowing freely, You can drink all you like (within reason) for free! (Your committee is feeling generous this year.)

Law Faculty Bookstall Pay-Out

Would those (few) people who have not yet collected either their cheque or unsold books please phone: Leslie Brown (TWA 6516) to arrange collection.

Scottish Country Dancing

Our informal Scottish Country Dancing group has started once again - beginners and more advanced dancers meet every Tuesday evening for 2 hours a good way to take your mind off your studies, and to give your legs a bit of exercise!

Meet us at the new dance room in the gym next Tuesday evening from 5.30 - 7.30 pm.

VUW Badminton Club

Club nights: Every Friday 6.30pm - 10.30pm

Caters for Social, competitive inter-club players.

Coaching for beginners in April.

SGM on Friday 30 March 1979 in Gym Seminar Room, 9.30 pm

Interested, contact Jack 720-450 (home) 736-079 ext. 894 (work)

VIC Dance Theatre Club

Paul Jensen is teaching for the Club this year in the past Paul has been with the Impulse Dance Theatre, but recently he has formed his own group called the Gallery Dancers. His classes run on Wednesday 10-11, 30, 4-5, 5-6.20. There are still places in each of these classes. If you would like further information ring 738-566 ext. 72 or ask at the Rec Centre. It's only \$2.50 to join the Vic Dance Theatre.

The AGM of the club will be held on Wednesday 28 March in the Seminar Room of the Recreation Centre. All welcome.

Liferight

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the AGM of Liferight has been postponed, and will now be held on Wednesday 28 March at 12.10 pm in CA116. We will have a guest speaker, who is a social worker. Come along and show your concern for the unborn child.

All SRC Officers

There will be a meeting of all SRC officers on Thursday 29 March in the lounge and Smoking Room at 5 pm.

We Are Planning Student's Association Campaigns!

Any students or clubs interested in contributing to our plant are urged to attend.

Gay University Group

A group has now been started for gay students. Our first social evening will be held on Friday 30 March at 8.30 pm. If you are gay, male or female, and interested in meeting other gay people, why not come along and join us.

For further information and all future enquiries ring Ken 721-167 or Trevor 862-449.

7Th National Gay Rights Conference

When: 15-15 April 1979

Where: School of Medicine, University of Auckland, Part Rd, Auckland.

Themes: The Gay Community - Life Styles; The Politics of being Gay; The origins of sexuality; Gay Welfare.

Registration brochures are available from: The Secretary, Gay Liberation, Wellington, PO Box 9561, Courtney Place, Wellington.

Progressive Students Allia NCE (PSA)

There will be an organising meeting on Tuesday 27 March at 12.00 in the Lounge. Topics for discussion include the next SRC, the Bursaries activities and related demonstrations, foreign control (particularly the German Industrialists' visit) and future activities. All welcome.

Bursaries Action Meeting

Lounge 12 noon Monday March 26. To discuss plans for fighting for the \$9 increase.

Table Tennis

Club nights have now started. We have use of the Dance Room at the University Recreation Centre from 7.30 to 10.30 each Tuesday evening.

We would like to see as many players and would-be players as possible there - especially those who want to play in the interclub competitions this year. Interclub commences in the first week in May, so team selection has to get under way now.

Varsity was the top club in Wellington last year, winning both the major trophies, and we want to keep it that way. Players of all standards (as well as those wanting to help with the organisation) are wanted, as we intend to enter teams in as many of the nine grades as possible.

If you can't get along to club night or want to know further details about the club, please phone Brian Read at work on 720.030 Ext. 448 or at home on 849-334.

Tramping Club

AGM. The Annual General Meeting of the Tramping Club will be held in the Coffee Bar, top floor, Student Union at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 28th March. All Club members are asked to attend and have a say in how the club will run in 1979.

Easter Trip. The Easter Trip will run as planned. More details are on the Club Notice-board, middle floor, graveyard end of Studass building.

Womens Soccer

Anyone interested, in playing for the two womens soccer team please ring LIZ: 768 403.

Soccer Coach Required

Womens Soccer Coach required for organising Sundays Games from 11-1 every Sunday. Please ring LIZ: 768403

Capping Controller

The Students' Association needs a Capping Controller, capable of planning and taking charge of the 1979 Capping activities in the latter half of the first term.

- All applications to be given to the Studass Office.
- An honorarium (\$) is available
- This can be a good 'fun' position depending upon how much work you put in and what you make of it.
- Ask any Executive member for more information.

Motor Cycle Club

There will be a club night on Tuesday 27 March at 8pm in the Lounge and Smoking Room.. Coffee and biscuits will be provided.

Extra Special SRC

12 - 2 Wednesday 28 March in the [unclear: M]

We have called another SRC to [unclear: c] the backlog of motions from last [unclear: SR] tions will not be accepted after [unclear: Mon]

Debates have been heated; [unclear: make] there to see that SRC is [unclear: representat] opinions.

The Executive Sub—[unclear: Committee] on Catering

invites students to present [unclear: constructions] on the whole question of the [unclear: c] vices in the Union.

Hand any material into the Studass [unclear: on]

A Strauss Ball

On April 25, Wednesday evening [unclear: to] Music Society Orchestra will take up ruments to play for the first waltz [unclear: to] danced at a social occasion at [unclear: Victcia] ly a decade. The ball, falling in [unclear: cap] is a fund raising venture to support [unclear: at] formers hoping to attend the [unclear: Stude tival] in Christchurch May 5 to 12. [unclear: ca] on the occasion Mr Michael [unclear: Carrgreg] said that the evening may be seen as [unclear: p] the cultural revival that VUW is [unclear: ex] at the moment.

Market Day

Just a week earlier the Cultural. [unclear: At] cil is also to sponser a Market day in [unclear: e] (Rankine-Brown) quadrangle, [unclear: organs] clubs on campus and other [unclear: communal] fit groups. The stall type sale is to [unclear: ass] sations needing funding beyond that [unclear: v] have been able to raise themselves.

To take place between 11 am and [unclear: 3] April 18, tressles and supports will be by the Association to interested [unclear: group] should contact the Cultural Affairs [unclear: Ca] the address below.

Club Reaffiliation

Clubs and other bodies affiliated [unclear: to] tural Affairs Council (and thereby the [unclear: tion]) should check that their [unclear: executi] reaffiliated for the 1979 year. The [unclear: affiliated] papers are available at the Student [unclear: Assn] office in the Union Building, and [unclear: shoul] filed wth the Cultural Affairs Council 1.

To assist re-affiliation, the Cultural Committee is meeting on Mondays and days (26 and 29 March) in the Board [unclear: re] 5 pm. Clubs yet to reaf filiate should [unclear: se] presentatives with their completed [unclear: forr] one of these meetings.

Campus Organiser

Patrick O'Dea has been appointed [unclear: t pus] Organiser for the Cultural Affairs [unclear: co] To take up the position on Monday the March, he is expected to be able and [unclear: add] C/A Council in promoting, among [unclear: othe] the Students Arts Festival to be held in church May 5 to 12.

Students Arts Festival

Tickets to the festival are soon to be available and to sell at \$15. This is an [unclear: all] price for all Arts Festival Events, with [unclear: o] tickets for social events (very cheap) to purchased, as required, on the [unclear: Christc] Campus.

Vincent Burke NZSAC Chairperson [unclear: n] addressed the CA Committee and the [unclear: VU] Executive. Along with John Page (the [unclear: fee] director) who accompanied him, he [unclear: expl] that there are no funds available to [unclear: set] performers to Christchurch in May. "[unclear: This] places an important responsibility upon Victoria campus to ensure that funding [unclear: i] lable to send our performers to [unclear: Christc] in May".

At outlined already considerable [unclear: fund] projects are being planned and [unclear: underta] the beleif of the Cultural Affairs [unclear: Comm] the students of Victoria will support [unclear: these] not only to help the Arts, but also for [unclear: the] will be a part of most of the events.

Pin Ball Machines

In a lighter view the Cultural Affairs [unclear: ttee] has been sponsoring a proposal to go VUWSA exec on Tuesday, for coin [unclear: opera] "pinball" table - machines (as in some [unclear: tak] away shops around town), to be [unclear: installed] is hoped that a considerable part of the [unclear: m] raised by these machines will be [unclear: chanelled] into the Cultural life on campus.

Anyone wishing further details on the [unclear: a] vities of the Cultural Affairs Council should write to:

The Secretary,
Cultural Affairs Council
VUWSA
Private Bag
Wellington phone— 758-566
or drop in at the students association [unclear: of] fice in the Union Building.
Paul Norman

KELBURN PARK STORE CONA COFFEE BURGERS TOASTED SANDWICHES GROCERIES
Kelburn Park Store. Salamanca Road (Near the Cable Car Route) Hours. Monday - Thursday 9.00 am - 9.00 pm
Phone 723-602 Friday 9.00 am - 6.30 pm Saturday 10.00 am - 5.30 pm

CAMERA ART Capping photos a speciality Academic Regalia supplied free. All students qualify for 10%
dicounts on photographs. Ronald D. Woolf Managing Director A.R.P.S. F.P.S.N.Z. SPENCER DIGBY
STUDIO 2nd floor Prudential Building Phone 725-315 332-340 Lambton Quay, Wellington After hours:
882-129

Your money man Richerd Starke Bank of New Zealand Wellington Branch Richard Starke at the Bank of
New Zealand is always willing to talk to you about your financial problems. He knows it's tough for a student
to make ends meet these days. If you've got a special financial problem call into our campus office and arrange
a time for a chat. You'll find an understanding attitude backed by solid, practical help and advice. You might be
surprised at just how much we can do for you. Advice is free at the Bank of New Zealand. So it there's a
financial problem worrying you talk it over with us. We'll do our best to help. Call at the BNZ on-campus
office and arrange to see Richard Starke, or phone him direct at BNZ Wellington branch, corner Lamhton and
Customhouse Quays, phone 725-099 Bank of New Zealand Here when you need us - on campus

[unclear: Letters]

[unclear: An] Attacked

Dear,

Bank of New Zealand advert

[unclear: article] in last weeks Salient "S.E. Another view" by Patrick Mulrenan [unclear: es] of lies,
contradictions and illogical [unclear: iones] Multenan's article states that [unclear: al] coflict that underlies the
situation Asia is the continued hostility of the States to the encroacment of liberation [unclear: as] on territory
that it considers its own." goes on the describe US alracks on [unclear: and] then claims that "The US found
[unclear: g] ally for these attacks in the [unclear: government] the Peoples Republic of China." [unclear:
Pattss] off a number of highly distorted [unclear: to] support his argument.

[unclear: chim] that the real conflict in S.E. Asia [unclear: continued] hostility of the US is abject
[unclear: ce]. True the US is waging an ideological [unclear: ht] on Vietnam by branding Vietnam as [unclear:
list] country (despite the decidedly [unclear: list] nature of its invasion and occupat-[unclear: Kampuchca]) and
has made much of the [unclear: ese] refugee problem in its continual to discredit socialism, but is political,
[unclear: tic] and military role in Indo-China is Further Patrick's argument totally the role played by Vietnam
and the [unclear: Jswn] in S.E. Asia.

[unclear: e] Vietnam leaned towards the Soviet [unclear: te] has committed on criminal act against
[unclear: lution] after another. In Democratic [unclear: chea] it fomented coups and eventually [unclear: in]
open aggression in order to attain its [unclear: ding] desire to form a colonial empire [unclear: he] "Indochina
Federation". Against [unclear: t] has reversed its stand on Chinese [unclear: ntf] over the South China Sea
islands, [unclear: ver] 180,000 Chinese (most of them [unclear: Kti]) to China, and begun armed [unclear:
nations] Towards the national liberation [unclear: ents] South-East Asia, the CPV has out one act of betrayal
after another, [unclear: ng] declarations that it would not support [unclear: ornry] struggle against the
Malaysian and [unclear: rean] regimes and placing wreaths on [unclear: ents] to the memory of puppet soldiers
[unclear: uring] the Malayan liberation war.

Soviet Union has backed Vietnam in [unclear: e] adventures because they serve Soviet [unclear: traiegy].
Part of the Soviet Union's [unclear: c] purpose at present is to bring all of [unclear: der] its influence so as to
control strateg-[unclear: luterials] and the sea routes to the West [unclear: le] oil fields of the Middle East.

With [unclear: east] Asia within its grasp, the Soviet [unclear: will] be able to threaten neighbouring [unclear: si] and control the Malacca Straits. It is [unclear: Mtnam] as its stormtrooper in this [unclear: type] so it has given Vietnam vast economic [unclear: itary] backing, brought it into [unclear: Come-ed] signed with it a fake "treaty of peace [unclear: aaianrp] which is disguised military

[unclear: these] facts are strangely absent from [unclear: this] article. Instead we are told that [unclear: pursues] the same narrow, nationalistic, [unclear: if] the Soviet Union" We are not told [unclear: it] means in connection with the Soviet [unclear: baa] China's crimes are apparently, [unclear: nam] was invited to China, the Chinese [unclear: off] all aid to Vietnam and the counter-[unclear: cm] Vietnam. Again Patrick fails to these actions. The visit of President [unclear: to] China was a visit of the head of one another. It was purely a diplomatic and does not in anyway imply Chinese [unclear: de] to state relations with the Philipines [unclear: t] the same time provide aid to the [unclear: nes] liberation movement.

[unclear: at] withdrew aid from Vietnam for a [unclear: for] of political and economic reason's in-Vietnam continuous armed provocat-[unclear: to] Chinnsese territory, and Vietnam's [unclear: on] of 180,000 Chinese from Vietnam [unclear: m] claimed the Chinese were all undesir-[unclear: sineumen], but in fact 95% of the Chin-[unclear: eescamc] from North Vietnam where [unclear: italia] class was supposedly stripped of [unclear: pfcauat] rights 19 years ago!) The [unclear: Chinnter]-attack on Vietnam was a limited [unclear: an] to show both Vietnam and her the Soviet Union, that China was not [unclear: d] to "turn the other check" to their [unclear: on].

[unclear: ick] then turns from attacking the [unclear: the] government to attacking the Pol Pot Government. He claims that "It set out to systematically depopulate the cities and thrust the country backwards politically and economically." and that "The complete disorganisation of the country and the lack of support for the Pol Pot regime was shown in the way the regime crumbled when earlier this year the Vietnamese troops invaded backing the Kampuchea United Front for National Salvation."

This paragraph is completely laughable. The Vietnamese have been hostile to the Kampuchean's for some time and the Kampuchean's were in fact expecting the Vietnamese invasion knowing they couldn't defeat the Russian-backed Vietnamese invasion, earlier on the Kampuchcan's adopted the very sensible policy of moving the people to the countryside to prepare them for a guerrilla war. The Kampuchean economy has in fact made huge strides since liberation in 1975. Before liberation 80% of the people were illiterate and starvation was rife. Through socialist reconstruction starvation has been eliminated and 90% of the population in now literate.

His last few paragraphs are incredibly confused. The logic runs something like we can't condemn the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuches because the invasion is a defensive move aimed against the economic blockade set up by China, Kampuchea and the United States. On the other hand we can't support the Vietnamese government because "it is schooled in the same style of narrow nationalism as the Chinese and Russian governments."

Patrick's arguments are patently absurd. They are based on many false assumptions, the main one being that the U.S. is the main threat to world peace. While the United States would undoubtedly like to interfere to increase its influence in many parts of the world because of its defeat in Vietnam and the increasing tolerance of the American people to continued expansionism, it is not in the position to do so.

For example, though Carter expressed a desire to intervene in Iran, he recognised the unpopularity of such a move and thus its menfolde failure.

The root cause of the conflict in S.E. Asia is, in fact, the intensification of superpower rivalry, stemming from the swift pace of Soviet expansionsm, and the regional ambitions of the Vietanese leaders.

Yours sincerely,

Leonie Morris.

The President's Abuse of Democracy

Dear Peter,

I would like to discuss several points raised by Andy Tees in last weeks issue of Salient. He seemed to be asking us on the one hand to turn up at a bursaries march, yet, on the other hand, he was criticizing us for wanting to protest about a 'secret' German delegation who have come here for 'industrial negotiation' (cheap

power?)

Maybe there is a line that we are not allowed to cross-politics until here, but after that, it's 'bullshit'. We are either a political organisation or else we are not. We are either concerned about our standards of living, the quality of our lives, and the way we can preserve or improve it or else we are not. What's it to be?

He also states that the German industrialist motion got passed at the very end of the meeting when only the political die-hards were there. I would like to let him know that there is a thing called a procedural motion, which may be used to change the order of the agenda i.e. bring a motion forward so it can be discussed earlier than originally proposed.

I would also like to inform Andy that I have never been a member of either the PSA or the SAI. What's more, neither had many of the people sitting around me. The most important point, is, of course, that SRCs are open and any student of Victoria University can move, speak, or vote on motions. This is to ensure that all points of view are represented.

As for the 'limited cross section of student opinion', if the rest of the students are so apathetic that they can't be bothered giving two hours a fortnight to make sure their opinions are represented, I don't think it's fair to say people are trying to shove ideas down their throats. They obviously have their mouths open quite a lot of the time,

Yours in the never-ending struggle for overcoming apathy and ignorance,
T. Scotney

Fictions — Donoghue?

Dear Sir,

I consider it high time you catered to popular demand and either gave this funny Drysdale person her own column in your publication or had her elected to some high and important office where she will be too busy memo-writing to bother you and your staff in your continuing efforts to make us aware of the higher things in life. To think of someone actually causing — dare I say it? — 'controversy' in our little band of aspirants to higher education (not to mention the odd jug on the side) seems to me a startling revelation of things to come. Who knows, someday someone somewhere might actually decide to run for office for reasons other than his/her desire to advance his/her viewpoint in whatever manner avails Itself — good God, what a revolutionary thought!

This conveniently brings me to the second part of my communication. Just who are these people purporting to be my representatives, anyway? Does, for example, Andrew Tees really exist, or is he a useful means of filling up space in your excellent publication? Why is it that the only time this Andrew Tees is in the public eye is when that strange group claiming to be fighting for our rights as good Socialists meets: even more importantly, why are these meetings always so stupefyingly boring? I realise a meeting is what one makes of it, but on those occasions they seem to be going a bit far in leaving it up to the peasants.

It might be a good idea if these people could be met with in some place other than their dens or the nearest convenience, and better still if they represented those other than the local extremists or the lucky few with the God-given talent of being able to stay awake in the meetings. On that inspiring note

I remain, your most Humble and Obedient Servant,
P.A. O'Donoghue

No FM for Radio B

Dear Ed,

This letter has been prompted by the last issue of Salient, in particular the article by Dave Campbell on Radio Active. In this article he stated quite categorically that Radio B (Auckland Student Radio) has transmitted Frequency Modulated Broadcasts illegally. This allegation is totally unfounded and could land this station in serious trouble if the Post Office were ever to find out for sure that Radio Bosom certainly had done an FM broadcast. So I would appreciate it if you could print something in your paper to the effect that we have

never done anything of the kind.

Yours faithfully,

Romi L. Patel,
Station Manager

Library Tables Disappear

Dear Sir,

Symptoms; Back-ache and Piles from sitting on floor studying, Diagnosis; Lack of tables on fourth floor of library. Cure: Bring our tables back! Please!

Although I appreciate there is a space problem for books, nicking tables needed for studying only compounds the problem. Why can't the books be stacked on the floor rather than using the tables? At least that's better than depleting study facilities.

This is already a concern for many students and the situation will only become worse as the year proceeds and study space comes under heavier demand. Please give us our tables back!

Yours faithfully,

An Agitated Student.

Saxby and Cants

Dear Salient Editor,

I have no intention of boring the pants off your readers by replying to 82 column-centimetres of tedious argument from Chris Gosling with 82 column-centimetres of tedious counterargument. Anyone (including Chris Gosling) who is genuinely in doubt about the very modest claims I made against NZUSA can write to me c/o Box 30-271, Lower Hutt as I advised in my first letter. A better plan might be to subscribe to the Canterbury students' publication. *Canta* (only \$6 for 23 brilliant issues). I will continue to write my weekly column for *Canta*.

It is already clear, after only three issues, that the standard of *Salient* 1979 is going to be abysmal — even worse than last year! I therefore choose not to lend credibility to your pages in future by treating them as a student forum and can only feel sorry for those whose position in the Students Association obliges them to communicate with and through *Salient*.

An old lady is supposed to have said of politicians: "I never vote — it only encourages them". To the readers of interminable articles by *Salient* ideologues, I suggest likewise: Don't react. It only encourages them.

Yours finally,

Phil Saxby.

Democratic Intellect

Dear Sir,

May I suggest that Ms Virginia Adams (*'Salient'*, 19 March, P. 4) make a comparative study of the social

backgrounds of New Zealand and Danish tertiary students? Denmark has for many years had a student loan system and its intellect is hardly less democratic than that of New Zealand.

Sincerely,

K. Haakonssen

Swine in the Cafe

Dear Peter,

Having attended Varsity for the past two years I know that the cafe is run under virtually impossible conditions. This doesn't encourage students to be well mannered, but I was appalled to say the least, when at 12 noon on Thurs 22 I witnessed a student drop half his chips on the floor, then casually bend down, not to clean up the mess, but to begin to eat them off the floor.

This points to the fact that any person can come to a university so long as the academic requirements have been met. However in my view the basis of our society rests not on the academic side, but on the way people relate to one another. It's time something was done. I don't like eating with Swine.

Yours

Michael S. Sutton

Thoughtful Thief

Dear Sir,

I wish to thank the person who helped him/ herself to the money in my pack, which was outside the library on Wednesday afternoon, for leaving my bus ticket.

I regret that, as I do not know your name or address, I am unable to thank you personally.

Yours sincerely,

Kathy Jennings

49 Famham St
Kingston

Course Anacronymism

Dear Mr Editor,

Please excuse such a short letter, but this is the first one I've written to you and I'm kind of shy.

Love

Carol Addley

P.S. Does Salient stand for "So All Utile Idiots Enter News Tournaments"?

"Christian" Organs

Dear Editor,

In his letter, "A Christian's Comment", Lawrence Law has admitted amateur converters being "insensitive" in their ways. These crude approaches undoubtedly brought embarrassment to the more subtle seniors. Such a confession must have been painful, but it is difficult enough to cover up after all the shit that had been strewn. To quote an example of such crudity, a Christian doing his rounds in Weir House posed this naive ultimatum to a first year student: "If you are not a Christian, then you must be a communist."

By "testifying" to his personal case, Lawrence Law was implying the help from Christians came with no strings attached, at least they didn't attempt to convert him! Nevertheless, today he has become a spokesman for their kind. Even simple Mr Beach could discern a Christian when he read one, by [*unclear*: aptly] entitling Law's letter "A Christian comment". I thought Christians are proud of their identity.

Lawrence Law concluded by dismissing T.S. Koh's allegations as "second hand opinions". I suppose only opinions like his and other Christians are first hand. What was conveniently left out of in his letter is the very essence of the issue, which is more than allegations and denials of such and such practices. I refer you to the questions posed by Salina, Salient No. 3, "Christian at University". S/he urged an open debate on the role that overseas student organisations should play. Such a discussion on fundamental issues and interest would hopefully give the first year students a better insight as to the objectives and practicability of each organisation.

An average Malaysian

A.A. Tan

P.S. The reference to Christians in this letter is confined to species like OCF, Navigators and what have you.

Woman in the Life of J.A.B.

Peter dear,

I am horrified at the rubbish you print. This J.A. Browning person — what does he/she/it know about women and their capabilities. I knew a woman once, and she seemed to be a perfectly adequate individual. On the other hand, J.A. Browning (and I should know this because I am J.A. Browning) has never known a woman in its life — in fact has never even seen one. So what I must ask myself is: why did I write such an inflammatory, ill-informed letter, if indeed I wrote it at all, which I doubt.

J.A.B.

The W.O.C.F. Approach

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Wellington Overseas Christian Fellowship (W.O.C.F.) which by no means implicate other overseas christian groups referred to in Salina's letter dated 12/3, we would like to take this opportunity to clarify the status quo of W.O.C.F, with regards to the 2 queries raised by Salina.

Salina's first question was directed towards political attitudes and in response we would like to reaffirm that we are a christian fellowship which is distinct from any student political bodies. However, we are not so

'spiritually minded' as to ignore worldly needs of humanity, poverty, injustice and human misery. In 1 Timothy 2, we are told to pray for kings and all who are in authority so that "we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty". In our capacity as responsible members of society it is our Christian duty to pray and work for social justice and good; this justifies and constrains OCFers to take democratic actions when necessary and appropriate towards good social structures and laws to improve and conform to their God-given functions. Hence, OCFers individually and also in unofficial corporate groups should act upon their political convictions in concert with other students whose views coincide.

To qualify Salina's comment that we had 'never dare make a stand, let alone do anything' on political issues affecting overseas students, there was evidence of OCFers who had actually participated in active student protests and demonstrations. But it is another thing for W.O.C.F. to enter into politics as an official Christian body. Our main witness is not secular and student political aims are inappropriate to our constitutional objectives. Moreover, political issues usually invoke divided opinions because W.O.C.F. comprises of students as well as non-students from various overseas countries. Therefore, it has never been the policy of W.O.C.F. to express political opinions in our official capacity unless it involves the clearest moral issue. For instance, our corporate prayers and signing of a petition pleading royal pardon for the 14 year old Malaysian boy convicted to death penalty in 1977.

With reference to Salina's second query, we are gratified that he/she appreciates the efforts of philanthropic organisations like CORSO, etc. We are very much aware of the possibility of religion being theoretically centred in the gospel with little result in real life. We see it our duty to be zealous of good works in whatever ways we can towards social good instead of merely indulging in talk and argument in heated political matters without lifting a finger to help in practical ways. Within our limited resources and manpower we have tried our best to put our faith in action and here are some instances for your enlightenment:

- OCFers contribute towards an annual Missionary Fund amounting to over \$1000 to be channeled towards needy areas e.g. financial support of an Indonesian orphan through World Vision for the past 7 years.
- There are OCFers who sacrificially devote their whole lives into full time service for the Lord;
John Ray (now an Inter-Fellowship Evangelical Student staff worker in the Middle East)
Max and Judy Middleton (serving in Japan under the Overseas Missionary Fellowship)
Alan Pang from Singapore left in 1977 to help in the economic development of Nepal under the Bible and Medical Missionary Fellowship.
Dr. Tan and family serving in the medical field in Zambia.
- OCFers have also undertaken to visit and minister in prisons, hospitals and old folks homes, etc.

We are positively and actively concerned for this life and society in its true balance: an undervalue would be disobedience to God in an important and public aspect of our life and witness while an overvalue may result in idolatry of this world and an eclipse of the gospel of our Lord and Saviour.

We sincerely hope that this letter will provide a better and clearer insight to Salina and anyone interested in W.O.C.F.

Yours in God's Service,

L.Puk.

Student Teacher Allowances

Dear Sir,

It was very pleasing to read in Salient, 5 March, of support for the retention of student teacher allowances, both in the Editorial and from your President. I also noticed that Andrew Tees voiced support for our continued allowances in the Evening Post. Although I'm aware that your Association does have policy supporting our continued allowances it is most reassuring to find that it is also actively supported, especially at such a worrying time.

Some of the reasons for our continued Allowance are:

- We receive a supportive Allowance in contrast to the Bursary paid to University students as a grant in aid;
- Teacher trainees are bonded, and are trained for one vocation only;
- Our holiday period does not allow for financially supportive secondary employment;

- Expenses during training for field trips, books, class room equipment, suitable dress while on section, and in gathering resources for leaching are substantial.

Drawing of a car driving off a cliff

Needless to say, the students at Wellington Teachers College give their firm support to the raising of your Bursary to the same level as our allowance.

Thank you for your support, and good luck with your increased bursary!

Yours faithfully,

Bronwyn Tobin,

President,

W.T.C.S.A

Tees Under Fire

Dear Peter,

I wish to reply to some of the points concerning the Progressive Students Alliance, raised by Andrew Tees in his "President's column" in your last issue. First of all, Andrew accuses the Progressive Student Alliance (PSA) of consisting of the "sort of people" who are "denigrating VUWSA" and "depriving SRC of any credibility" by proposing a motion concerning the German Industrialists' visit to New Zealand. What Andrew fails to point out - perhaps because he wants to gain credibility for himself (?) - is that all the bursary motions moved at the SRC were initiated from a PSA meeting that had been held the day before to discuss Bursary action and student welfare issues. The motions for the action on the bursary issue were all actually moved by PSA members, not the President.

Though Andrew may prattle on about his concern for student welfare issues, he has done little real work in this area. Perhaps his one sided attack on the Progressive Student Alliance, denigrating their student welfare activities, is to mask his own inactivity. Not only has the PSA provided the main force behind the bursary action, but it is also organising a petition to gain better library facilities, a seminar to make students aware of the possible University administration's attempts to cut student welfare.

However PSA is not only concerned with direct student welfare, but also issues that [unclear: cern] New Zealand society generally. We [unclear: mal] no apology to Andrew for this as we [unclear: tron] believe that students do not exist in a [unclear: vacti] and that what happens in society must [unclear: ulti] ately affect students. Consequently many our members joined with others, at the SRC meeting to express concern over the visit of the German industrialists. Many PSA [unclear: mere] saw this visit as hailing the encroachment [unclear: of] foreign control and capital over New Zealand resources. It is surely ludicrous to assert that foreign control of our economy will have no effect on students' lives. To bury our heads the sand, as Andrew would have us do, and more the trends in New Zealand society is a [unclear: di] gerous precedent for any section of the New Zealand people.

Andrew talks about SRC as "what is laugh ingly called a democratic meeting". It is [unclear: true] that it would be desirable to have a greater [unclear: le] of participation, but SRC is still the most [unclear: derr] cratic and representative way of deciding VUWSA's policy. This is not the first time [unclear: Ar] rew has made attacks on SRC's credibility. Would he rather that only 10 people (ie the executive) decided VUWSA's policy? At least. SRC provides an opportunity for anyone who feels strongly enough, to debate issues, put motions and to vote. If SRC were abolished it would lead to elitism, and a stifling of activity Andrew talks of shoving ideas down people's throats. At SRC these ideas can be rebutted and voted against. If you did not have SRC, you would have the Executive's ideas shoved down your throat and would not even be able to debate them.

As a \$43 fee paying member of the Association I also want to know what I am getting for it. That is why I and other PSA members will fight for a students' association that is truly democratic and representative.

Yours sincerely,

Virginia Adams

Chairperson PSA

Floral Boutique Your very own Florist in the Cubacade will send for you FRESH AND DRIED FLOWERS AND POT PLANTS. Also big selections of SILK FLOWERS, ROSES ETC. LONG STEMMED AND CORSAGES By "TELEFLOWER" within N.Z & Overseas NB: 10% Student Discount available except for "TELEFLOWER" FLORAL BOUTIQUE CUBACADE CUBA MALL WELLINGTON NZ Dorean Keith Phone 645-791

