

Editorial

How the pro's do it

There is a trick that most editors use when they are stuck for an editorial; they read the crummiest, most extreme rag they can lay their hands on and then rip into the ideas presented in it. In New Zealand it is unquestionably the weekly Truth that tits all the requirements.

In actual fact I have been reading Truth more frequently than normal good taste permits because of their series of articles, ostensibly from the pen of reporter Tony Dominik, discussing VUWSA and Salient. Our study of these "reports" showed a lamentable lack of understanding on the part of the author of exactly how VUWSA worked and a very low standard of journalistic "professionalism". Thinking that perhaps Mr Dominik was making these errors simply through a lack of knowledge Caroline Massof, Paul McHugh and I went to see him, in an attempt to correct the legions of errors that had appeared in his articles. The interview itself was surprising, but the sequel was truly Amazing.

In last week's edition of Truth, Tony Dominik reported on our meeting with him in an article headed up "We're not reds, say student executive." In the article, which was close to illiterate (but perhaps that's just a good, choppy journalistic style), Dominik manages to credit me with making two statements. One of them was made by Caroline, the other by Dominik himself!

The interview was interesting enough in its own right though. For a start Dominik seemed to be under the impression that Executive and SRC somehow determined the content of Salient, that the views expressed in Salient's articles were the official policy of the Students' Association. He didn't explain where he got this quaint notion from. He then moved on to discuss editorial policy, saying that Salient clearly has an editorial policy of following the "Maoist" line, whereas Truth has an editorial policy of red-bashing. Well at least he wasn't attempting to claim that Truth was objective in its reporting.

In one of his earlier articles for Truth, Dominik has referred to a letter from the Association's lawyers. As he appeared to have misunderstood it, we asked if he had actually seen a copy of the letter. Surprise, surprise, he hadn't, but that hadn't stopped him from raving on for a paragraph or so about it. We also asked him where he had got the idea that the Executive was riddled with communists from. Again he was unable to answer.

The most surprising thing about the interview was certainly the lack of understanding that Dominik showed about how the Association was operated. While it is unreasonable to expect everybody to know fully the ins and outs of VUWSA, it seems not unreasonable to expect that a professional journalist, before publishing a story, would at least make a cursory check to ensure that he had the facts more or less correct. However Dominik failed to contact any official of the Association to check on any of the points raised in his articles. No wonder he had difficulty with his facts.

Salient has, in the course of the year, been accused of misrepresenting certain events and the views of certain people, and on some occasions these accusations have no doubt been justified, however we have also always provided those who feel themselves wronged with an opportunity to put the record straight, generally in an article. With the "free press" such as Truth, however, people get no such opportunity. Our attempts to correct Mr Dominik resulted in an article which misrepresented our views and twisted others with such lines as "red-ranting Victoria University student newspaper Salient doesn't push a communist line—at least not according to its editor, Peter Beach." Mr Dominik's conception of the "free press" seems to be a freedom to say whatever you like, and if you get it wrong you'll fight it in court. Indeed the only time that Dominik appeared at all concerned at our comments was when the possibility that some of his earlier comments were defamatory was raised.

It has been alleged that Salient does not fulfil its function as a student newspaper. I find it hard to accept that Truth fills any function at all, save of course as a voice for anybody who feels like a quick bout of red-bashing. It is surely an inspiration to the amateur student press.
Peter Beach.

Salient Notes

The moment the machine arrived, I knew we had made a bad choice. They don't call it a Compugraphic 4600 for nothing—this machine, embodying all the latest developments of computer technology, has a mind. Right from the beginning, the beast's powers were obvious. It started to bend the actions, words and indeed the very thoughts of all it came in contact with towards its evil aim of consolidating its position of power, and then spreading its tentacles throughout the university system until it controlled the minds of everyone in the country.

The first inkling we had of this was when Lorraine Wilson began calling the machine Sir, and giving it little bowls of milk and cookies. At first we thought this was just another product of Lorraine's unhinged mind, but when I saw Geoff Adams (that's right. Boring old Geoff) having an earnest conversation with the machine, I became concerned. Secreting myself behind a wall hanging, I watched him. Apparently in a trance, Geoff walked over to the old typesetting machine (significantly an IBM) drew a revolver and shot it three times through the golf ball.

I've been to all the right movies and I knew just what was going on. I rushed to tell Peter. When I found him, I was a bit surprised to see the electrodes leading from his head to the machine, but decided to make no comment. The moment I told him my story the machine started to buzz and whirr, and Peter marched towards me, gnashing his teeth like an emancipated armadillo. I rushed off in search of help.

"Fergus Barrowman" I cried—but he was busily drawing portraits of the machine, and didn't want to be disturbed. I glanced over his shoulder, and saw they bore the inscription "to Sir, with love and kisses, Fergic." Everyone in the office was beginning to look distinctly belligerent by this stage. Stephen A'Court had armed himself with a Compugraphic handbook, and even Virginia Adams had left off dusting the machine to rattle her key ring at me angrily. Andrews Beach and Ross are almost on me now. The stench of wet wool is nearly overpowering...

I would like to apologise for the ridiculous nature of this week's Salient notes. The person who wrote them is obviously a nutter. Actually the machine is a lovely thing. Jessica Wilson won't hear a thing said against it, and Jonathon Taylor thinks it is gorgeous. Graeme Robertson says he has never been as happy as he is now that the machine is here, and as for Mark Wilson, he can develop my, I mean it's, paper any time he wants to. So there.

Salient was edited by Peter Beach, but he could never have done it without the machine. The publishers, VUWSA, are also very impressed by the attractive looking copy. Wanganui Printers Ltd, who print the paper have even offered us discount rates because our machine is so nice.

President

A Mass of words

Drawing of people fighting with swords

During the August holidays NZUSA held the second of its bi-annual council meetings. Although delegates on the whole did not come back as full of inspiration and energy as they did after May Council, which was the basis for the nationwide Education Fightback campaign, it was an extremely important council in terms of defending students against future Government attacks, specifically in education. It was decided the campaign against education cuts would continue on a lower scale, - the third term concentrating on protesting against the new Tertiary Study Grant and the first term of next year, against education cuts on a broader scale, with some form of protest action of National Education Day, July 26.

Perhaps the most exciting aspect of Council was the NZUSA elections. Victoria's Simon Wilson was elected President with a vote 37 for, 5 against. After Simon's impressive effort as Education Fightback Co-ordinator, most students at Victoria, I am sure, will have every confidence that he will do the job well. Further details of the elections are in a Council report included in this issue.

The third term is always a busy one for students. With only six weeks to exams most students can usually be found in the library catching up on essays, preparing for exams etc. It will also be a busy term in other ways. In just over two weeks — on September 13, 14 the 1980 Executive elections and a special by-election for the position of President for the remainder of this year will be held. If you are interested in standing for any executive position, you have until this Thursday, 30 August, to put in your nomination. If you are slightly interested, come along to the Studass office, any time, and talk either to me, or another exec member a it. Being on the executive can actually be quite rewarding sometimes...

On September 19 VUWSA commemorates Women's suffrage Day. There will be a special women's issue of Salient coming out for that week — if any women are interested in contributing an article, or interested in the

layout, come along to the Womens Action Group meetings usually held on Thursday 12-2 in the lounge and smoking room, or see editor of Salient.

Last summer holidays saw the introduction of the Student Commis Service Programme. A total of 4,796 students were on this programme throughout the country by February 1979; in the Wellington and Lower Hutt area—830. With the introduction of the new Tertiary Study Grant, it will be even more imperative that this scheme goes ahead for the summer. Although there has not been any official statement by the Government announcing the reintroduction this year, it is extremely likely that it will be repeated.

Last term we saw sasrac's revised with banks, performing, this will undoubtedly continue this term, so if you missed them, give yourself a break from study, and enjoy a few beers and good music.

Caroline Massof.

JOE SPUTNIK AND THE MYSTERY OF RAVIOLIS FATHER EPISODE 17 ALPHABET SOUP WITH THE UNCONCIOUS MR. SPARKS IN A NET ACROSS HIS SHOULDER, JOE AND HIS COMPANIONSTRAVEL ONWARD AND UPWARD... We must escape before we all turn into mutants! There is a long journey ahead! I'm afraid that the odds are against us! STOP! WOOAH! THE OCTOPUS AWAITS large concrete letters! it doesn't maresense! BOLLINGER. no matter! we simply must continue! OOOPS... It's tipping ever! REALLY? I THOUGHT IT WAS ALL DONE WITH MIRRORSTHESE DAYS! CONTINUED

EXAMINATION STRESS can lead to DIGESTIVE UPSETS MIGRANES DEPRESSION SLEEPLESSNESS ULCERS HYPERTENSION ALLERGIES RELAX WITH BIOFEEDBACK AND REDUCE DRUG DEPENDENCE Relaxation handbook \$5 Relaxometers from \$45 Alpha meter \$205 Send Stamped Envelope for FREE BROCHURES Biofeed Laboratories Box 5136 Auckland ph 588-490 INFORMATION

Top of the Week

Teachers Sick of Wellington

[unclear: as]become vogue in various circles[unclear: d]the university to pretend that the[unclear: tion]Fight back campaign is [unclear: ing] centred only in the university, [unclear: en]more particularly only amongst student politicians" in the students[unclear: iations]of the universities. [unclear: more] those involved in the[unclear: tion]Fightback campaign have been [unclear: ed] for the attacks they made on[unclear: nment], particularly the Minister of[unclear: tion]. The implication is that[unclear: nsible]" groups would try to work Government rather than attack them.

[unclear: ere]the evidence for this view comes has never been fully explained, [unclear: ularly] as it ignores the criticisms of [unclear: nment] by such bodies as the [unclear: rsity] Grants Committee and the [unclear: Vice-ellor's] Committee and the support [unclear: e] Fightback campaign from various [unclear: tional] groups. At the PPTA Annual [unclear: rence] last week, another direct attack [unclear: unched] on Merv Wellington's policies President R. Hodge made his address. [unclear: g] only two seats away, Merv [unclear: gton] received a stinging, and well [unclear: ed] rebuke for his attitude on [unclear: dary] education. Below we reprint the of his address, which starts with [unclear: ents] on the effectiveness of the [unclear: A's] approach to improving the on of teachers and secondary schools[unclear: ally].

[unclear: s] obvious to me that the methods used [unclear: e] PPTA to acquaint the Government [unclear: he] critical situation developing in our [unclear: ls] over the past three years have been [unclear: y] a waste of time and effort. The [unclear: s] have been virtually nil when you [unclear: der] our employers' response to the salary claim and staffing proposals. It [unclear: ar] that the parents and public generally to be made much more aware of the [unclear: orating] state of affairs, before the [unclear: rament] will act.

[unclear: his] Presidential address in 1968, Bonk

[unclear: a] Association such as ours which has [unclear: ened] for years to one administration [unclear: ter] another, to one Minister of [unclear: ducation] after another, giving the [unclear: ficial] line, 'It's not as bad as you say, [unclear: d] anyway we are doing our best', may [unclear: e] pardoned if we say, as I do now, [unclear: our] best is Just not good enough'."

was in 1968! I seem to remember the [unclear: ent] Minister saying that 11 years later.

[unclear: r]Hodge then went on to outline the [unclear: v] history of the PPTA's fight to [unclear: ove] conditions in schools. He related following a delegation led by Scotney approached the Prime Minister[unclear: yoake]), a series of working parties were up which succeeded in improving [unclear: ditions]

of service between 1970 and 1979 setting staffing ratios, and setting up [unclear: lary] services such as Guidance [unclear: seilors] and special allowances for [unclear: pols] with special needs and large [unclear: pols]. However the wage freezes since [unclear: I] had destroyed the relativity of [unclear: hers]' salaries with those in other [unclear: cational] sectors and in the private [unclear: or].

[unclear: Thus] the effect of staffing and salary [unclear: s] made at the beginning of this decade evaporated by 1976. Since then [unclear: easingly] excessive workloads have [unclear: en] many of our best teachers from the [unclear: ndary] service. These workloads have [unclear: en] from the necessity to cope with the [unclear: ere] changes in social and economic [unclear: ditions]; the need to provide the [unclear: ortunities] which many families are no [unclear: ger] capable of; totally inadequate [unclear: ries] and teaching conditions and the [unclear: tin] of dealing with adolescents.

These same pressures and the resulting staffing shortages have increased the [unclear: vice], 30% more than in 1975, and this [unclear: ar] the loss on current trends, will be at [unclear: le-][unclear: 50*] higher, or over 1,900. 384 left [unclear: teach-g] for other occupations last year—the most [unclear: lement] of last year, while largely meeting the problems created by the 1971 [unclear: lement] for non-graduate teachers, did thing to improve relativities, or morale, reward the loyalty of those who remain the profession.

It must be said here too that in trying to [unclear: a] scapegoats for the general plight of the [unclear: untry], politicians and pressure groups [unclear: ve] made savage attacks on secondary schools and teachers for the decline in morals, increase in unemployment, decline in basic standards, in fact all of society's ills. Such condemnation, from people who should know better, and who make a practice of trading on the emotions of the community, only adds to the decline in morale and increase in the dropout rate.

Thus, gross losses to secondary teaching have been escalating each year since 1975. In 1978, 1659 teachers left the secondary service, 30% more than in 1975, and this year the loss, on current trends, will be at least 5007% higher, or over 1,900. 384 left teaching for other occupations last year—the most ever—making up 23.1% of all who left and 230 more than in that last good year of 1975. This was in 1978 remember, with unemployment running at record levels and an uncertain economic situation.

It must be emphasised too, that recruitment into secondary teaching is dropping dramatically.

The overall quota for secondary teacher training has been 1,460 for the past three years. It was lowered from 1,850 to this level because of predictions of falling rolls with a probable teacher surplus, but just as; obviously, as a means of saving Government expenditure. Intakes have been much below quota, this year some 25% below. This coupled with alarming reports of an increased drop-out rate during training, paralleling the increased drop-out rate of teachers, suggests that future recruitment from teachers' college looks very bad indeed.

So with recruitment dropping and losses escalating, the shortage of trained and qualified secondary teachers is rapidly increasing. At February 15 1979, according to the Education Department, there were 206 full-time positions actually vacant, and another 113 filled by long-term relievers, most of whom were considered unsuitable by their Principals. By June 19, in answer to a question in Parliament, the Minister announced that these figures had risen to 243, and 233 respectively—that is 476 full-time positions not filled by permanent teachers. Our own surveys confirm these figures, and show that resignations from teaching are 15% higher this year than last, and suggests a total loss for 1979 of over 1,900 teachers, an all-time record.

This then is the background to the very serious situation we find secondary education in today. Without doubt there will be a shortage of 800—1,000 qualified and trained secondary teachers at the beginning of 1980—an average of almost 4 per school. Many schools will be crippled by greater shortages, mostly in the critical areas of mathematics, science, commerce, technical and English. The extra burden on staff in affected schools will be disastrous. Who knows what 1981 or 1982 will be like? Rolls are not going to drop appreciably, and in fact are expected to increase again from 1983 onwards. Where are the teachers going to come from?

What has the present Government done to prepare for the worst shortages in history? After the election last year, and the formation of a new Cabinet, this Association found itself talking to a new Minister, a recent secondary teacher, and ex member who should know our problems and our language. His record in Parliament since 1975 had not been supportive of our staffing and staffing cases, or of our problems generally.

It was obvious that Education was to be downgraded in importance.

The Staffing Working Party, set up by Mr Gandar in 1977, had produced an Interim Report containing nine items, jointly agreed to by the Education Department, Secondary School Boards' Association and this Association, in time to catch the New Policy for the 1979 budget.

Mr Wellington assured the PPTA in January this year that although he was unable to announce immediate improvements for secondary staffing, from proposals put to him in December last year at his request, the Staffing Working Party recommendations would be considered along with other proposals for the budget. At the same time and at his request the PPTA provided the Minister with a list of schools to visit to acquaint him at first hand with the problems of secondary teachers, which had led up to our staffing proposals. The Minister

conscientiously visited most of these schools, and some others, where, we are informed, this aim was largely met.

Towards budget time, from rumours around the country, it became clear that Education was going to come under the pruning knife, with suggestions to cut Teachers' College Allowances, and Bursaries, cut school building programmes, just to mention the more obvious.

The Association met the Minister on a number of occasions, and were assured that Teachers' College Allowances at least for secondary would be preserved at present levels. The Government did approve an Outpost Training Unit for Invercargill and has recently approved of three more in the North Island, with a combined output for 1981 at the earliest of about 45 teachers!

As we all know, the budget contained no improvements of any kind for secondary education, and that the total Vote for Education was in fact only \$2 million more than the total amount expended in 1977-78, with no guarantee that supplementary estimates would provide the extra necessary; even to keep up with inflation.

When the Executive of the PPTA met the Minister the day after the budget, he indicated that a "package" of proposals would be put before Cabinet at about the time of the Government's offer on the Association's salary claim—proposals to provide time allowances for internal assessment, for ancillary staffing, and to deal with disruptive pupils—all confidential to the Executive at that stage.

We now come to the events of the last month. The Minister's staffing package appeared as Teacher Aides, a kind of para-professional staffing to assist teachers in the classroom - a measure not recommended by the Working Party. All of the other items of the Working Party recommendations had been completely ignored, because, as the Minister lamely put it in his press statement, they required additional teachers, who couldn't be found anyway! How our members would have welcomed a commitment in principle from the Government, to show that, at least, it recognised the problems confronting secondary teachers.

The salary offer from the Government was an insult to a profession falling apart by the day—\$3.5 million, to which must be added the 10.4% Annual General Adjustment, together providing some \$18 million; as the Minister said more than the amount claimed by the Association! I believe the Minister misled the country by this ploy and partially succeeded, fooling at least that well known morning newspaper in Wellington. What the Minister didn't say, was that, as we all know, the 10.4% applies to all State service salaries, and does nothing to restore the relativities sought against other groups in the State sector, such as Tutor Nurses. It is very clear that this Minister has lost any loyalty he may have had to his former colleagues.

At the time of the salary offer the Minister talked about the Government's commitment to recruitment and retention in his press statement, and I quote:

"The Government is concerned at the current problems of recruitment and retention in the secondary service. The Education Service Committee's response, reflects that concern."

How many teachers, who were thinking of leaving the service, would stay for an average increase of \$300 per year, or \$3 per week after tax? How many of our highest qualified and most experienced teachers at the top of the basic' scale would stay because they had been offered an increase of about \$200. How many students will be recruited to teachers' colleges by allowances, maintained at present levels as the Minister puts it, which by the end of 1980 will be devalued by at least 30%.

To be fair, he has announced improved allowances for Divisions M and W, and for Maori Language trainees, some 90 trainees all told, and this is welcomed.

How many teachers who were thinking of leaving will be seduced by the 9 minutes of ancillary help they may get per week next term, or of the distant prospect of 45 minutes ancillary help per week by 1985?

How naive the Minister must be when he says in answer to a question in Parliament, and I quote

"I am satisfied that if the offer had been accepted it would have led to an improvement in the recruitment and retention of teachers."

This Government seems quite prepared to sell secondary education further down the drain and watch the service disintegrate, probably because we have the courage to speak out, and criticise, and take action when need to publicise our plight, instead of lying down and taking it.

The Departmental publication Educational Standards in State Schools published last year, showed clearly that up until that time we were able to maintain standards compared with the past, and currently with the rest of the world. We will no longer be able to continue to do this, faced with the staffing crisis ahead, and with the reduced allocation of resources by the Government.

Earlier I suggested that the Association may need a new approach to obtaining fair conditions of work for its members, and to maintaining a satisfactory standard of education in the country's secondary schools to raise the morale of secondary teachers, and to turn the tide of teacher loss, and to make sure that every secondary pupil is taught by a competent, qualified and trained teacher.

We have tried by all normal methods of publicity and lobbying to make our points but we have failed. If we care about secondary education and if we care about giving the best by way of education to our teenagers—and

we do—we can no longer stand by while the system is allowed to crumble. No longer can we plug the gaps and paper over the cracks—putting whole classes on correspondence, doubling classes up, and covering for absent teachers.

We must take steps to expose the real problems facing secondary schools—shortages of staff, shortages of materials, dangerously low morale. To limp along and to pretend that no problem exists is both unprofessional, dishonest, and foolhardy.

The only way this Government can be forced to change its attitude to education and to provide the necessary resources is for parents to become sufficiently concerned to take the initiative. But parents will not appreciate the extent of the problem until the education of *their* children becomes adversely affected.

Only when their children go home at the end of the day, or earlier, or start school late, and report that they didn't have a qualified and trained teacher for a particular subject, or that there weren't enough books to go round, or that their extra curricular activities were cancelled, or that the school wasn't chasing truants any more, will their parents become sufficiently concerned to shift their criticism from the overburdened schools and overcrowded classrooms and underpaid teachers to the Government, where the responsibility rests.

Astronomy HALLEY'S COMET

HALLEY'S BREAKFAST

King Andrew Dethroned

Drawing of people praying to a deity

Once upon a time, not that many weeks ago, the people of the Kingdom of Learning were unhappy. King Andrew was a troubled ruler for his brand was not popular. Rival teas were being consumed by the populace in ever increasing quantities. "Freedom of Choysa is something we hold dear" the Princess of Milk Under Wood was heard to say one afternoon tea time while nearly choking on a piece of rather crumbly terry cake which had stuck in her craw.

King Andrew was struggling manfully to remember something his Third Form English teacher (actually she was from Scotland) had told his class. No that wasn't it he thought, for he couldn't see much significance now in her constant reprimands to the class for their not taking heed of the Form Captain. Ah, inspiration! Some fellow named John had donne a poem..."No man is an island..." was all he could grasp before the fleeting recall had fled. It didn't seem to apply here, thought Andrew. He seemed to be all on his own at most of the weekly tea parties.

Drawing of a princess and a toad

Then one eve Andrew obtained a blissful relief, he went off to pursue his love the lore. The remaining faithful lieutenants decided to install one of their number as ruler of the Kingdom. They settled upon the fair Princess Massive and were to crown her upon a Woden's day at high noon.

Alas for the fair Princess, the ordinary and common folk of the Kingdom thought her to be just that. They assembled and told her of their fears. Thankfully the fair Princess and her able lieutenants proved themselves to be good listeners and agreed to limit the fair Princess's reign to the monthly tenancy so much loved by many of her subjects. And all the while the new Queen's messenger Jack would go round the folk of the Kingdom trying to fit their views to his boot.

Things get Serious

It all sounds damn silly doesn't it? But remember the events of the last two weeks of the Second Term. Andrew Tees decided to seek out calmer pastures and was last seen busying himself on the 6th floor of Rankine Brown amid the shelves of leather-bound Law Reports. He was a president with a good deal of popular support as his election and then dramatic survival of a No Confidence motion showed. But he was a politician very much marooned amid an Executive of a rather different flavour.

The fiendish designs of those who vote at Studass General Elections and By-Elections in so producing such a mixture can only be marvelled at. The inevitable occurred and the rest of a sorry story is too well known to Victoria students and the other readers of a national weekly to stand repetition.

An inexperienced Executive was faced with the prospect of a headless future and acted with the best of intentions, bona fide and in good faith in trying to follow the procedure in Part K S.5 of the Constitution. That is, where a vacancy occurs on Executive, SRC may appoint a replacement. But when the vacancy is that of President the SRC may only choose from among the (elected) Executive. At this point the shit hit the fan.

No Choice for SRC

The remaining members of the Executive had come to some sort of agreement and SRC on Wednesday 1st August was told that it could have Caroline Massof. Even the usual alternative of no confidence wasn't open—apparently as we had to have someone to sign the cheques and chair committees.

Even the most blase attender of SRC's (such as myself) could see trouble brewing. Witness an Executive which for very good reasons could produce only Caroline Massof as a person with the time, motivation, experience and masochistic desire to put in the long hours of hard work that makes the Presidency of VUWSA the rotten job that it is. And witness an SRC not at all amused by the microscopic notice it had had of the pending appointment of a President. Indeed few people had absorbed the former President's resignation given the night before.

It was perhaps not surprising then that Motion 162/79, to appoint Massof as President, was defeated. I can only marvel at the inability of some of the people present at that SRC to grasp the feeling of a meeting or to know when the votes are on their side. For no sooner had they recovered from the shock of not getting their way than they were demanding that the doomed motion be recommitted. It was reput later in the meeting, and again lost. In the meantime other forces had been at work and something of an alternative course was hammered out.

As one of the people behind that alternative I am to blame if it casts the Association into peril... hence these words of explanation. (Oh the joys of blame-spreading!) Two unanimous SRC votes have set us towards a Presidential By-Election at the time of the coming General Election. Massof remains as Interim President till then.

Only one Choice

I believe that this is the best course for the Association to follow. It may be our only course. Of the members of the Executive only Massof is able to step in as President. Caroline Massof is just not acceptable to large numbers of students. Under the Constitution we cannot look elsewhere for an appointed President. Options such as Andrew Tees resigning but only with effect from the finding of a successor (thus allowing cheque signing to continue unheeded) were not thought of until it was too late—something for which I must share the blame. At this point Association politics self-destruct if no alternative is found.

I can't understand why Simon Wilson wants to be President of NZUSA, he'd be wasted on them. The ability of the person who ought to be our President was shown at SRC with the proposal for an Interim President and a By-Election. The merit a acceptability of it have been indicated those two unanimous resolutions.

I accept that there are legal proble raised by a By-Election. I (brief canvassed them at the first SRC. The [unclear: act] of the wise old men (and women-ed.) of Election Committee in seeking legal [unclear: adv] is commendable. That advice confirm that the By-Election was within the [unclear: pow] of the Association.

In that case I have no hesitation advocating a By-Election. That means [unclear: t] students will face both a General and a [unclear: l] Election on 12 and 13 September. They [unclear: v] also face the usual barrage of [unclear: poste] leaflets, speeches and what's-in-it-for-politics.

Advice to the Combatants

As a student who would like see return of quality to Association affairs [unclear: m] I be so impertinent as to give some advice the adversaries?

To the Right:

Forget the details of the Tees-[unclear: rela] friction, bringing out the dirty washing [unclear: d] more harm than good. Rather than [unclear: tilti] at a few choice windmills now and the why not make a better effort to get [unclear: gr] with Studass politics? Do your research, prepared to spend hours serving on [unclear: alm] useless University committees so you can present and productive when [unclear: someth] important finally comes up, canvass [unclear: s] dents to get the support you want at SRC Remember no taction has a God given [unclear: ri] to run this show. It's just a matter getting off your backsides and trying [unclear: ha] At least the five of you are an impress improvement on past years feeble [unclear: attem] at a viable right wing.

To the Left:

Try to remember that you don't have mortgage on administering 'his [unclear: pla] Students aren't silly and will let you [unclear: rem] in power only as long as you [unclear: perfo] properly in your jobs. Remember too [unclear: tl] for a good number of years now you [unclear: h] enjoyed power almost by default, as [unclear: th] has often been no alternative, let [unclear: alon] viable alternative. Don't seem to be [unclear: afr] of facing the electors with Massof—y have nothing to fear if you really [unclear: ha] student support behind you. And

unclear: plea] forget the silly argument that was put [*unclear: to*] that we shouldn't have a By-Election as [*unclear: th*] would mean that someone without [*unclear: curre*] Executive experience could get the job. [*unclear: I*] been at Victoria for five years now and [*unclear: t*] year's Executive is the most in experience in that time—only Massof has more [*unclear: th*] eight months on Executive. More than most year the undiscovered talent is like to be outside Executive. It I'm even faintly correct in that view let's all try a [*unclear: lit*] harder to seek that talent—we [*unclear: certai*] need it.

Leslie Brown.

Photo of VUW EXEC standing arm-in-arm

"Exec takes it up the arse, do-daht do-dah...."

Just one of the many photos Salient has of the Executive's performance at the end of term Victoria Club. Salient will print the remaining photos just as soon as OLSS agree to.....

Polling Officers Required

Polling Officers are required for the [*unclear: Exe*]

Polling Officers are required for Executive elections and by-election to run concurrently on 12 and 13 [*unclear: Septemb*] Officers will be required to work [*unclear: sh*] between 8am and 6.30pm on those [*unclear: t*] days. An hourly wage is paid. [*unclear: Perso*] interested should leave their names and [*unclear: te*] phone numbers on the form provided in [*unclear: t*] Students' Association office.

Kelvin J. Ratnam

Returning Officer

[*unclear: M'SIA*] & Spore News

[*unclear: Housing*] Problem in [*unclear: Malaysia*]

[*unclear: uty*] Housing and Local Government [*unclear: ter*], Datuk Samy Vellu, recently stated that [*unclear: ird*] of Kuala Lumpur's population are [*unclear: ers*], and that squatters are mushrooming in other new areas like Perak. "Overnight will be squatter houses there.....not just [*unclear: at*] several."

[*unclear: he*] same press release he described the steps [*unclear: vernment*] intends taking to overcome the [*unclear: ter*] problem:— the decentralisation of [*unclear: tries*] and more low cost housing schemes [*unclear: nits*] costing less than M\$20,000.

[*unclear: how*] true and sincere is the Malaysian [*unclear: nment*] towards solving all these squatters [*unclear: ems*]? Let us examine a bit in detail.

[*unclear: e*] housing problems in Malaysia are not They have been in existence for the past ten at least. According to the 1970 Population Housing Census in Malaysia, the population [*unclear: e*] country was 10,420,915. With an average [*unclear: y*] size of 5.5 persons, the estimated number [*unclear: milies*] 1,894,712. Hence Malaysia needs [*unclear: 712*] dwelling units but there were only [*unclear: 351*] living quarters in 1970, a shortage of [*unclear: 61*] dwelling units.

[*unclear: en*] the figure was updated to mid-1974, the [*unclear: age*] had increased to 618,961 dwelling units. [*unclear: s*] consider the situation in Johore Bahru [*unclear: e*] the squatter problem, the Tasek Utara [*unclear: in*]1974-75, has aroused much concern [*unclear: g*] the public and students at home and [*unclear: eas*].

1970, Johore Bahru's population was [*unclear: 03*] and this required 24,730 housing units [*unclear: he*] number of living quarters was only [*unclear: 0*], a shortage of 3,830. The squatters' [*unclear: em*] had been accelerated by the continuous [*unclear: se*] in population and the migration of [*unclear: le*] from the countryside to the town to work. [*unclear: 74*]-75 the Tasek Utara issue arose because [*unclear: e*] demolition of houses in spite of peoples' [*unclear: g*] protest, and the inhumane arrest and [*unclear: ment*] of squatters when they staged a [*unclear: ful*] demonstration asking for a decent piece [*unclear: nd*] from their stale government which had [*unclear: i*] to keep their pre-election promises.

1970, the population of Georgetown was [*unclear: 19*] which required at least 49,094 housing There were

only 30,855 housing units, a age of 18,345. With the increase of [unclear: lation] and the migration of rural folks to [unclear: n], the squatter problem was further [unclear: gerated]. The government of Penang has shown that it prefers to cater for foreign interests rather than solve the housing problem of the poor, landless and the squatters of the state. After the 1978 election came the demolition of squatters home in Jelutong.

Why so many Squatters in Malaysia?

Then why is this problem so accute in Malaysia. Is it because of the shortage of land, of funds and other resources in Malaysia? A wee look at the income distribution of her people and Malaysia's economy would reveal some of the causes of the squatters problems in Malaysia.

Income Distribution in Malaysia

Percentage Distribution of Households by income in Peninsular Malaysia 1970.

The table above shows 1.4% of the households earn more than M\$1500 per month while 84.4% of households earn less than M\$400 per month. The treasury report also stated that 40% of the population live on less than M\$25 (roughly NZ\$10) per month in 1970. From this it is clear that even the price of a decent low cost house (M\$10,000 to M\$20,000) would be beyond the reach of the majority of the people. For example it took one of the residents of Tasek Utara 30 years to save M\$10,000. With inflation rocketing up and the increase in demand for housing units, it is not surprising that many save the sum only to find the price of the house is many times higher than before. On the other hand we have people owning 2 or more unoccupied houses resulting in the wastage of a valuable resource.

The Economy of Malaysia

As many will be aware about 60% of Malaysia's economy is owned and controlled by foreigners. The foreign exploitation by multinational companies from United Kingdom, United States and Japan is one of the root causes of the squatters. The foreign corporate owners possesses 1,262,8 million acres, or 73.5%, of the total agricultural land and about 87% of the industrial land. This leads to a migration of rural folk to the urban areas in search of jobs. With low wages and high rents, these people have to resort to cheap shelter, living as squatters on government land.

Surrounded by FRO, Tasek Utara squatters watch with despair their homes being demolished.

Photo of homes being demolished

The foreign domination of Malaysia's economy and the unequal distribution of wealth in Malaysia are the main factors relating to the squatters problems in Malaysia. Unless these two defects are corrected in Malaysia, there are bound to be housing problems in Malaysia. But we are yet to know the next person to be blamed in the squatters issue...

We conclude this article with an article reprinted from Utusan Consumer June 1976. Official Publication of the Consumer Association of Penang.

Housing Outrage

West Malaysia today has 252,000 families who do not have a place called home—most of them live in slums or share crowded flats with other families while a good many rough it out on the pavements or in the fields.

Added to this huge number, another 140,000 houses need to be built this year to replace dilapidated houses to meet the requirements of population increase. But private housing develops, have said recently that together with government agencies they can only build about 60,000 units each year. With this state of affairs, current prices have doubled since 1970 and the cheapest three-roomed terrace house now costs \$25,000. This price is beyond the reach of anyone earning less than \$800 a month.

This is indeed a critical situation as decent shelter like food and clothing is one of man's basic needs and the average wage of a worker in Malaysia is less than \$200 a month and only 4.5 percent of the households have an income exceeding \$800 a month.

There is now an immediate need for the setting up of a national Housing Board to look into the question of public housing. This housing board must have the power, potential and means to generate massive housing projects to ease the existing shortage. This proposed Housing Board must build low cost housing of reasonable quality and the prices must be within the reach of the lower income group.

Housing and Village Development Minister, Michael Chen's recent disclosure that the government will build 12,000 units annually—if believed—is welcomed. But 12,000 units to be built is very insignificant when compared to the current annual demand of 140,000 and the backlog of 232,000 units.

Private housing developers have decided to join the bandwagon by offering their help. They suggest that the authorities relax the ruling on housing density per acre. The present ruling is 6.3 houses per acre while new development schemes have 10-12 houses per acre. Housing developers want to build 30 houses per acre. Architects say that they cannot plan cheap houses because of strict building laws. They want authorities to relax the requirements of room size, materials used and roads and drains constructed to minimum standards.

We thank these groups of public-spirited citizens no matter what their motives. But we have to say no, for their proposals contain the ingredients for making slums. The Government has already built low cost housing which has turned to slums and we cannot expect private bodies which are profit motivated to conduct themselves like charity organisations.

TO ALL STUDENTS STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE this is the opportunity for you to express your opinion about: workloads assessment half-year courses term and vacation dates TAKE PART IN THE STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE n 1972, the University introduced half-year courses, more internal assessment, and courses of varying credit value. n different ways all these actions affect the work of students and staff. The Professorial Board has asked for a comprehensive evaluation of the current layout of the Academic Year. As part of this review, you are asked to complete a questionnaire which will be distributed to several classes during the first week of this term. Copies are also available at the VUWSA Office. Student Questionnaire - available in several classes during the first week of term. or pick up a copy at the VUWSA office.

ALL NEXT WEEK 3-7 SEPT. VICTORIA BOOK CENTRE SALE SALE Victoria Book Centre

From the Courts

As a result of a number of recommendations by the Royal Commission on the Courts, the Minister of Justice has announced a number of reforms to the present Court system. Legislation will be passed during the remainder of this year and at dates later to implement reforms. The Minister hopes that these reforms will provide a court structure which will serve New Zealand for generations to come. The reforms in general move substantial amounts of work from one court to another in an attempt to remove delays and relieve pressure on the courts.

At present the court structure consists mainly of the Magistrate's Court followed by, in ascending order, the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal and finally, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council which sits in London.

The Privy Council will remain as the highest court of appeal for New Zealand cases.

The Court of Appeal will be restructured to enable one more judge to be permanently appointed, thus raising the number from four to five including the Chief Justice. The court will also sit in separate criminal and civil divisions.

The present Supreme Court will be constructed as the 'High Court', which will form part of the new Supreme Court, consisting of the Court of Appeal and the High Court. A substantial amount of jurisdiction will be transferred from the High Court to the District Court. The Crimes Act will be amended to allow certain accused persons to elect trial by High Court Judge alone i.e. without a jury. This will probably, according to the Minister, be exercised in complex cases. The right to elect jury trial in matrimonial matters will be abolished.

Magistrate's Courts will become known as "District Courts" and Stipendiary Magistrates will be given the exalted title of 'District Court Judges'. At a later date the District Courts Jurisdiction will be extended to include criminal jury matters. This jurisdiction must await plans relating to court facilities, procedural rules, etc. In Auckland and Wellington, new Supreme Court buildings are planned. District Courts will also have their civil jurisdiction extended from the present \$3,000 to \$12,000.

Family Courts will be set up as a division of the District Court. These courts will have flexible procedures and provision will be made for counselling and pre-trial settlements will be encouraged.

Small claims tribunals, already in existence in Christchurch, New Plymouth and Rotorua will be extended to all centres with the need for such a Tribunal.

Twenty four courts in towns such as Featherston will be closed. These courts account for only a fraction of the total workload of the Magistrate's Court and generally sit on only one or two days a month, these courts have only been closed in areas which have adequate transport to another court centre. This measure will also save money in maintenance and replacement of court-houses, estimated in excess of \$3 million.

Full-time interpreters will be trained in court practice, procedure and terminology and arrangements made to "improve, modernise and update language used in the courts". The mildly controversial matter of court dress such as wigs and gowns has been left for the lawyers and the judiciary to sort out for themselves.

The preceding information is just a summary of a paper prepared by the Minister of Justice concerning this matter. The paper is entitled A New Court Structure for New Zealand and can be obtained from the Department

of Justice.

One might hope that these reforms to the court structure of New Zealand are just the beginning of an entirely new legal system, because we could certainly do with one. On paper it would appear that these changes will certainly streamline the passage of justice, and that will be a relief to many. At the beginning of April this year there were 96 criminal, 56 civil and 2 miscellaneous appeals awaiting hearing involving several murder convictions and well over \$900,000 in ascertainable civil matters.

Speedy justice may be good, but only if that justice is fair, and to claim that in New Zealand at present is more than a little naive. Offences involving property often rate harsher penalties than those involving people, such as assault. No wonder violent crime is on the increase. Where is the justice in the Government bowing and scraping to the gangs while individuals are quick and easy meat. The law applies to all, but seemingly there is safety in numbers. Perhaps if the law came down as heavily on gang violence as it does on 'victimless crimes' it would be safer to walk the streets.

The judicial system is more attuned to victimising good citizens who smoke marijuana or have homosexual tendencies than it is to disturbing the gangs slightly. I have yet to see dope smokers or gays get free travel to Wellington to talk over their problems with the Government.

Chris Conway

Drawing of a person in a canoe

Abortion attacked

Temporary Palliative?

To the continuing debate on abortion I would like to contribute one viewpoint without recourse to emotive argument or rhetoric. Any debate on the issue inevitably begins with the classic question of whether the foetus is life or not. This article will not deal with this aspect of the controversy, as the medical profession has made a clear statement to the effect that the humanity of the foetus cannot be denied.

In 1967 the First International Conference on Abortion brought together authorities from around the world in the fields of medicine, law, ethics and the social sciences. They concluded almost unanimously (19-1) that "the majority of our group could find no point in time between the union of sperm and egg, or at least the blastocyst stage and the birth of the infant, at which point we could say that this was not a human life. The changes occurring between implantation, a 6 week old embryo, a six months foetus, a one week old child, or a mature adult are merely stages of development and maturation."

Improving Conditions of Life

But even granted this, is this where the issue ends? Even if the humanity of the foetus has been proved by science, does it automatically follow that abortion must be wrong in all cases? To my mind, life must be inviolate—instead of destroying life, we should destroy the conditions which make life intolerable.

Women do face tremendous pressures in our society and, to many, an unplanned pregnancy will be the thin end of the wedge. Pregnant school-girls are still ostracised, mothers of handicapped children are given little assistance by the Government, nor, too often, from their partner, and the poor are neglected in their continuing battle for equal conditions in life.

When faced with the unwanted pregnancy of their partner, men think for more of how it will affect them — economically, time-wise, or ties-wise, rather than the welfare of the mother who is having to cope with a far greater physical and emotional strain than they could possibly understand. But abortion is not the solution.

Temporary Cleaning

We are faced with a great social problem, but to suggest that abortion is the answer is similar to suggesting that to wipe the blood off a deep gash will remove the wound. It won't of course — the wound will look clean temporarily but unless it is stitched up completely, the blood will start pouring out again.

It is so easy for women who are oppressed by the patriarchal society we live in to turn to the abuses of men as justification for abortion. I believe their anger is genuine and well-justified but to argue for abortion on such grounds smacks too much of revenge.

Take the argument of rape, for example — probably the most emotion-charged argument of all and a point on which many conservatives turn liberal. Of course it is unjust that a woman should have to bear a child in such circumstances, but injustice cannot be combatted with further injustice. Should the child be condemned to

die for the crime of its monstrous father? Far rather that the rapist himself should die. It is also significant however, that pregnancy very rarely results from rape. A scientific study of 3,500 cases of rape over a 10-year period in the Minneapolis-St. Paul areas revealed not one case of pregnancy. (*The Educator, September 1979.*)

Wanted Children

Isn't it cruel to bring unwanted children into the world, people ask? Ideally, of course it is logical that every child should be wanted. But wantedness as a criterion for whether a person should be allowed to live or not is a frightening concept, as the logical converse conclusion is that it is justifiable to eliminate the unwanted—be they unwanted wives, husbands, elderly dependent relations, coloured people etc.

Even if a mother does not plan her pregnancy and at the time of birth is unable or unwilling to keep the child, can it automatically be assumed that this child has no future and would be better off dead? The growing waiting lists for adoption make a mockery of this suggestion. There is also little substance in the argument that unwanted pregnancies are more likely to end up becoming battered children than planned pregnancies. In a survey conducted by Professor Edward Lenoski in Southern California, 90% of battered children were found to be planned pregnancies.

I could spend much time in refuting the various arguments put forward in favour of abortion but I would like to turn instead to my earlier statement that instead of destroying life, we should destroy the conditions which make life intolerable.

So how do we go about "stitching up the wound"? I do not claim to have the blue-print of a perfect new society, where no-one would consider abortion as a necessity; I do believe that we must fight injustice: we must fight the patriarchy, we must fight exploitation of the poor, we must fight racial prejudice and all forms of intolerance and oppression. But in so doing we must not include the unborn in the ranks of the enemy—by destroying life we are achieving nothing in the struggle for a more humane society.

Books for Review

The great scheme of printing regular lists of books that Salient has been sent for reviewing seems to have fallen through somewhat this year (another black mark). But in one last attempt to put the record straight, we print below a list of books that we have at present. If you are interested in reviewing any of them, call in and see Peter Beach in the Salient office (middle floor, Union Building at the graveyard end).

Tidal creek by Rhoderick Finlayson

The Riddle of the Sands by Erskibe Childers

The Growth of Crime by Leon Radzinowicz and Joan King.

The Destinies of Darcy Dancer, Gentleman by J.P. Donleavy

People in Cages-The solution that failed by Ralph Harris

Gift from the Sea by Anne Morrow LindbergTaoi

Taoism-the quest for immortality by John Blofield

Under a Glass Bell by Anais Nin

Radcliff by David Storey

The Family Arsenal by Paul Theroux

Drawing of a weathervane

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NZUSA August Council

Photo of NZUSA Council meeting

National Office:

- President: Chris Gosling

- Education and Welfare Vice President: Grant Liddell
- General Vice President: Jim Brown
- Research Officers: Ian Powell Mike Waghorne
- Administrative Secretary: (vacant)
- Managing Director STB: David Cuthbert
- WRAC Co-ordinator: Lamorna Rogers
- NOSAC Co-ordinator: Daniel Ngieng

Constituents:

- Auckland (AUSA) President: Greg Pirie
- Waikato (WSU) President: Clemency Rogers
- Massey (MUSA) President: Felicite Jardine
- Victoria (VUWSA) President: Caroline Massof (interim)
- Canterbury (UCSA) President: Tony Stuart
- Lincoln (LCSA) President: Deryk Shaw Otago (OUSA) President: Paul Gourlie

The second Council of NZUSA for 1979 was held at Auckland University during the August vacation. If May Council this year was the "Time for Action" Council, August Council could probably be described as the "Navel Gazing" Council. Four days of, generally, directionless debate that made no real effort to move forward to meet the threats that 1980 will undoubtedly hold for university students and education generally.

For the first time in five Councils NZUSA has not had a withdrawal threat looming over its head and seemed to react to this welcome relief by earnestly looking inwards, examining its internal workings, the comprehensive nature of its policy rather than seeking to move forward to bring that policy to the members. There was a great fight to ensure that there was sufficient money for NZUSA to wage campaigns in the forthcoming year, but no real campaigns were planned, particularly regrettable as NZUSA has just come out of the most successful campaign in its history.

Council did, of course, have its interesting moments, none more so than the elections for the 1980 National Officers. Although all positions were contested by only one candidate, only the office of President was filled, by our own Simon Wilson, who countered the considerable opposition to his candidature at the beginning of Council, and was eventually elected by 37 votes to 5 no confidence, and by Denese Black who was elected WRAC Co-ordinator for 1980. The positions of Education and Welfare Vice-President and General Vice-President remained unfilled at the end of Council. Any candidates interested in these positions should contact Chris Gosling at NZUSA (ph 856-669) within the next three weeks.

In the following pages and in subsequent issues, Salient will be reporting on some of the events at Council—what happened, but more importantly, why it happened. It will not be comprehensive (one can't compress 4 18 hour days into a few articles in Salient) but it is hoped that it will give readers some insight into the workings of their national association.

Photo of Auckland University students protesting Bursary changes

A particularly stupid Minister of Education chooses a particularly stupid time to visit Auckland University.

Photo of Merv Wellington visiting Auckland University

One of the important tasks to be done at each August Council of NZUSA is to set the budget for the following year. This is generally done late at night in smoky rooms by bleary eyed individuals. But enough of self-pity, the more important question is; just what does NZUSA spend all its money on?

Where the money comes from and where it goes

Unsurprisingly, the vast bulk of NZUSA's income is from levies. \$3.53 of your next year's Students' Association fee goes directly to NZUSA. Multiply this by 39,000 fee paying students in New Zealand, plus a few sundry items of income, and NZUSA is budgetted to receive a total of \$140,000 for the year ended 31 December 1980. The way this figure is expended is shown in the table at the end of this article.

Is it all necessary?

The obvious question to ask is whether all this money is necessary, indeed whether a national student organisation is necessary. Hopefully the Education Fightback campaign, and the reports of planned action will convince people that NZUSA is not idle. And if you want a national student organisation, you have to be prepared to pay for it.

NZUSA is presently underfinanced, not only in terms of its long term financial problems (which will be examined in an article in next week's issue), but also in terms of what it can do with its budgetted income. In the last two years some vigorous efforts have been made to increase the allocation for campaigns material (the figure for 1980 represents a 25% increase on the allocation for 1979). A particularly significant decision was almost taken at Council (it was only deferred because of some confusion on related issues) which was to build an inflation factor into the allocation for campaigns expenditure, so that it is not continually eroded. The practice in the past has been to allow the Administration side of the budget to increase with inflation, and then trim expenditure on campaigns materials to fit the income level. Hopefully this unhappy practice has been stopped.

An important point was made however by Phil Cronican from Otago, who spoke against this "guaranteed" budgetary allocation, saying that "just because you spend more money on a campaign doesn't necessarily mean that you get a better campaign." While this is true, there is another side to the coin. We spend a large amount of money running and staffing an organisation that can, as one of its functions, co-ordinate nationwide activity on a given issue. It seems absurd to accept this administrative expenditure as essential, but not make allocations that will enable the officers to perform that work. Rather like a Government that spends millions of dollars on university buildings but then will not provide a sufficient level of bursary assistance to allow students to attend them.

Another problem that NZUSA faces is that our National Office is understaffed. There is an urgent need for a fourth full-time National Officer. One suggestion is that there should be a Media Officer who would be responsible for administering NZUSA's publications such as its Handbook, the Overseas Students Handbook, the Tenancy Handbook etc., as well as the publication of a regular national student newspaper. Such a paper would give students a far greater opportunity to see what their national association is doing and to become involved in those activities that interest them. It's a lovely idea. But it can't be done with the existing level of income.

There is a tendency, even from those long involved with NZUSA, to develop an "us and them" syndrome, which clouds the real role of NZUSA. For example NZUSA has two full-time, professionally qualified Research Officers, both working for not inconsiderable salaries. With the "us and them" syndrome, people tend to question that NZUSA needs two such Research Officers, or that it needs to pay them the amount it does. But look at it another way. None of the constituent associations have the resources (or the necessary amount of research) to warrant employing such people, so in effect they have all clubbed together to employ two research staff between seven of them. The Research Officers involve themselves both in work that affects all members of NZUSA equally, such as the bursaries negotiations, as well as looking at particular problems on the individual campuses, such as the Social Work students at Massey University.

If you look at NZUSA in this light, a pooling of resources where they can best be, pooled, the cost of running NZUSA really represents a saving of money rather than an extravagance. However at times the "us and them" syndrome distorts this, and NZUSA and its members pay the price through a forced curtailing of activities.

Peter Beach.

F&A watches in horros as.....

Photo of people sitting at a table

1980 Budget

Below is a rough sketch of the NZUSA Budget for 1980. It is only intended to give some idea of where the money goes. Anybody with further queries should see either Peter Beach and Margaret Underwood (the two F&A Delegates from Victoria).

A few explanatory notes on these figures.

Staff salaries: As well as a number of part-time staff, this figure includes the salaries of two full-time research officers, one full-time Administrative Secretary (who is employed basically to run the office) and one full-time typist-receptionist.

Nation Officers salaries: These are the salaries of the three full-time National Officers (President, Education and Welfare Vice-President and General Vice-President) and the honoraria of the coordinators of the two Standing Committees (the Women's Rights Action Committee and the National Overseas Students' Action Committee). It also includes various allowances, such as moving expenses, for the full-time National Officers.

Campaigns expenditure: This is an allocation for producing materials connected with the various campaigns that are run. Normally this is in the form of leaflets, posters, supplements in newspapers and the

like, although it includes allocations for other activities such as (for 1980) a survey to see how effective existing University welfare services are.

Office administration: This figure is the bogey of NZUSA, the figure that is always examined at Council, and then reluctantly increased. It includes a multitude of costs such as telephone rentals and toll bills, stationary, postage, office cleaning, freight charges etc. Just about all those things that you might otherwise forget about, thinking "well that won't cost very much!", accumulate in office expenses.

Rent: This is actually a misleading title, as NZUSA owns the building it lives in, and therefore by definition does not pay rent.

However the \$10,000 is the difference between the income derived from the building (in the form of rents) and the expenditure on it (including the capital repayment of \$5,000 per year on the mortgage), which is effectively rent. This figure is dramatically increased from last year due to a 600% (estimated) increase in the ground rent for the land the building occupies.

Travel: This figure includes the personal travel budgets of the three full-time national officers (between \$1,500 and \$1,800 per year each), much smaller personal travel budgets for the two standing committee coordinators, and allocations for travel by members of constituent associations to some of NZUSA's meetings (such as travel for the 7 constituent Presidents to the 7 National Executive meetings each year and travel of education officers to the various National Education Action Committee meetings through the year.)

Miscellaneous: This is where I became-lazy and stopped itemising smaller and smaller areas of expenditure. Included in it, for example, is allocation for the membership fee to the Asian Students Association (\$1,000 per year) and travel to their conferences (\$250 per year), allocation for payment to the Press Research Bureau for their clipping service of news items of interest to NZUSA, the cost of NZUSA's library and resource centre, depreciation, expenses from Council and the like.

Brian O'Brien [unclear: preaching]

Image of Brian O'Brien

Anyone for President

In many ways, the annual election of NZUSA's officers was the high point of Council. For, however much each candidate was to stress that NZUSA is 40,000 students, these same students tend to see NZUSA in terms of its national officers. The continued viability of NZUSA, let alone the quality of its operations, depends very much on the quality of its Great Helms persons.

The interest of student politicians up and down the country was also stimulated by the fact that Simon Wilson was standing for the President's job. Simon has never tried to cover up his political beliefs, and it is no secret that there exist people and groups in student politics who oppose Simon's views.

For the early part of Council, I felt that strong tensions — related to this opposition — existed under the surface of much of the business. It is clear that in the period between Simon's 'declaration of intent' and the elections themselves, small power groups of student politicians had been frantically discussing the issue and working out their attitudes to it.

This pre-election process is not unusual in any NZUSA election, but this time it was characterised by the polarisation of opinion on Simon's candidature.

Behind the Scenes

Thus; deals, lobbying and tactical manoeuvres continued right up until the eleventh hour. In fact, five minutes before nominations closed Paul Gourlie (President, Otago) and Dave Merritt (Editor, Craccum) were trying to persuade Peter McCombie ('average student', Canterbury) to stand for President of NZUSA.

So at 7-00pm on the second day of Council, the atmosphere was very tense when Simon Wilson, still the only candidate for the position, sat before about 90 delegates, observers and national officers. He gave a long speech about the role of President, his own experience and qualities and why he thought he would be good for the job.

Simon declared that the situation that education will find itself in in 1980 will provide a challenge to NZUSA. The Government's intentions are clearly opposed to the interests of both university students and education as a whole. NZUSA has responded well with the Education Fightback campaign so far, but it must continue especially next year.

He believes that, so far, 1979 has been a good year for NZUSA because it has worked well and therefore shown its value to students. Simon feels that NZUSA must continue this work, to involve students and co-ordinate action. Simon claimed that his work on the Education Fightback campaign has given him the

organisational skills 'required to do this. As editor of Salient he has gained the ability to organise people as well as action, to become aware of the issues in student politics and gained a knowledge of how universities work. He

From left, Research Officers Waghorne and Powell, Chris Gosling and Vince Burke (Chairman of the New Zealand Students' Arts Council. To the right Simon Wilson prepares to knock over a glass of water.

Photo of Waghorne, Powell, Gosling and Burke

Photo of Simon Wilson

[unclear: en] a member of various university [unclear: ucational] committees and has thus [unclear: perience] in working with academics [unclear: deational] administrators.

[unclear: claimed] that his political views will [unclear: event] him from carrying out the [unclear: of] the Association. He believes that [unclear: le] of President is to ensure that set at May and August Councils, is out. Policy comes before personal [unclear: w]

[unclear: all], it was an impressive speech — much for content as for its delivery on showed a strong personality and [unclear: ity] to put forward a point of view.

[unclear: n] gets Grilled

[unclear: r] this speech came questioning. [unclear: a onally] much depends on the [unclear: ses] to the questions. Equally a [unclear: tradi-] the searching nature of these [unclear: ques-][unclear: arnesily] designed to trap the candidate into a mire of confusions and insecurity.

With these fine principle in mind, Tony Stuart (President of UCSA) asked Simon whether he was a communist. Simon replied that he had never hidden his personal political views, but as President of NZUSA he would consider it his role to express and support only the policy of the Association.

Clemency Rogers, Waikato President, was concerned that the continuing Education Figh-back campaign would concentrate entirely on the TSG, to the detriment of the \$1500 fees issue. Simon's response was that this was an issue not to be overlooked in 1980. So far, so well.

Chris Gosling asked Simon what his response would be if one constituent decided to withdraw from NZUSA. Simon claimed he would be "shocked". But he does not expect this to occur. A withdrawal will occur "only if NZUSA is not working properly."

Felicite Jardine, Massey's President, stated that she was concerned about Simon's "aloof personality. She [unclear: ered] whether he was "approachable", [unclear: whether] he was able to work with [unclear: e] personalities. Simon cited the [unclear: tion] Fightback campaign as proof of [unclear: lity] to work with all kinds of people. [unclear: e] Tuffield, from Victoria, backed up [unclear: oint] later in the discussion — citing [unclear: wn] case, a newcomer to student [unclear: s], who found she could talk and work [unclear: imon] in the campaign

[unclear: role] of President

[unclear: ris] Gosling asked a basic, yet difficult [unclear: ion]; what did Simon consider the [unclear: sibilities] of the President. But [unclear: n], although extremely nervous, never the ability to "think on his feet" [unclear: atively]), and replied that a President 'from up, credibly for NZUSA", meetings, provide overall initiative for things, be aware of almost thing, be an overall co-ordinator, [unclear: reg-] the Vice-Presidents and always remain and accessible.

[unclear: ed] for bis attitude towards STB, Simon stated that STB provides a valuable service and is also capable of providing valuable finance for NZUSA. STB, he said, should continue after becoming "financially sound."

There were many more questions, where Simon outlined a strong support for WRAC and NOSAC, his attitude to firing an unsuitable employee, his support for women's rights, his support for a fourth national officer (when finances allow) and even NZUSA's responsibilities to secondary school students.

Wilson Discussed

After Simon left the room, discussion among those present took place. People from Victoria, expecially Caroline Massof and Joanne Tuffield, gave personal statements on why they supported Simon.

Again, Tony Stuart claimed that Simon "is in charge of the communists in Wellington", and that Simon wanted to turn NZUSA into a part of WMLO. However, Tony found little support for this belief.

Some more serious criticism came from Kevin Hague (Auckland President-elect) when he claimed that Simon's personality was "overbearing". Felicite Jardine believed that Simon was aloof and arrogant.

But clearly suspected personality difficulties were outweighed in the minds of the majority present, by

Simon's overall ability to do the job. At 9-50pm, almost three hours after Simon's first speech to the meeting, the first ballot was taken.

A Stupid Tradition

At this point some explanation of the voting system is needed. Each campus has a certain number of votes, depending on the number of students at each. These votes total 42, and to be elected, the candidate must obtain an absolute majority (ie 22 votes). In an election there are up to four ballots, and in each one a campus may split its votes or change its votes in any way.

In NZUSA tradition, it is not considered good for a candidate to be elected on the first ballot — it is seen to indicate a too wholehearted support. In Simon's case this particularly useless tradition was adhered to, and the first ballot was dutifully lost: 22 votes against and 20 for.

A second ballot was immediately called for, and at 10-05pm, Simon Wilson was declared elected President of NZUSA by a majority of 37 to 5. Such a sizable majority indicates that Simon has started with considerable support — but he will have to improve his diplomatic capabilities to work with National Executive members (ie the Presidents of the Constituent Associations) such as Tony Stuart.

O'Brien takes the Stand

The next position for 1980 to be filled was that of Education and Welfare Vice-President. Again there was but one candidate, Brian O'Brien.

Brian gave only a brief speech, telling us of his long involvement in political campaigns. He took over the job of Education Fightback Co-ordinator in Otago: in the July 26 demonstration there were 3,000 people in the streets of Dunedin — previously an unheard of figure. Brian claimed his main concern was the new TSG and he feels that it must be scrapped. He also spoke of his interest in assessment, lecturer training and welfare.

But it became more and more apparent that Brian was not good at selling himself, or responding under a pressure situation. Through the questioning period, Brian generally fielded questions poorly. He also showed that he did not know as much as he should have about the job — he had not discussed it with the present E&WVP, he admitted to having no previous education experience on campus and he had little contact with education delegates on the Education Commission.

A Poor Salesman

It was the general feeling that Brian would have worked as hard as he could at the job, but it was also the feeling that Brian had not been able to convince us he could do the job well enough. Quite frankly, Brian showed us only a basic understanding of NZUSA policy, gave only skimpy outlines of his qualities and failed to persuade, on the basis of his hour in front of us, that he could make an adequate national officer.

However once he had left the room and discussion was started, people were faced with a dilemma. It came in the form of several people from his home campus (especially Paul Gourlie and Roger Tobin) claiming that Brian was, in fact, much more suited for the job than he was able to show. Paul Gourlie cited Brian's excellent work on the Education Fightback campaign (he took over the job only three weeks before the day of action and had to do everything himself), he has great enthusiasm and he is a very good public speaker. Gourlie claimed that Brian is not good at selling himself, he is too modest, but he is very able when it comes to speaking to students about policy. Roger Tobin said he had every confidence in Brian to do extremely well; that when he says he will do something, he always delivers.

But still there were doubts raised: for example, how would Brian deal with politicians — Merv and others would "run rings around him".

So, delegates were left up in the air — should they rely on Brian's poor performance before them, or should they believe those who have seen him work.

But the matter was more or less scaled when Denese Black rose to speak. From Otago, Denese claimed that in the Education Fightback Campaign "we carried him a lot of the time", saying Brian lacked leadership and urged people not to vote for him. I cannot say what prompted Denese to say this but I know that I was disturbed to find someone standing for another National Officer's job (WRAC) willing to take such a stand against a fellow candidate. If both Brian and Denese had been elected, one would imagine that this episode would fairly much prevent a good working relationship developing.

The Ballot is taken

At ten minutes to midnight, the first ballot was taken: 12 for and 30 against. With doubts still in peoples'

minds, Brian was called back in to give him a chance of improving his performance. He didn't. Brian was still too ready to admit to a lack of experience and he showed again his lack of detailed knowledge of Education and Welfare policy.

After Brian left the room, it was Grant Liddell's turn to urge us not to vote for Brian. He too claimed that Brian did little in the Education Fightback Campaign in Otago. Liddell claimed that much of the organisation was his own doing. Paul Gourlie took strong exception to these statements, he said they were not Otago's opinion and came very close to calling Liddell a liar.

Understandably, no-one's opinion was greatly clarified after this display and, after caucusing, the second ballot produced exactly the same results as the first. Knowing that the voting would not change, it was decided to terminate the elections and re-open nominations. Brian O'Brien had lost, NZUSA was without an E&WVP for 1980.

On the Lookout for a GVP

At ten minutes to one it was Colin McFadzean's turn to try and convince people that he should be NZUSA's General Vice-President.

Colin has been involved in student politics for many years, most of them in Australia. In his year in New Zealand, he has worked as an archivist and a research officer for the Auckland University Students Association. Colin has a law degree and has worked with students' legal problems in the areas of drugs, marriage, mental health and in aboriginal rights. He has had close contact with the Trade Unions, has built up many contacts in this way and believes NZUSA and the Unions should become more involved in each others campaigns. He has organised many campaigns, including those on racism and international issues.

Colin showed he has a lot of experience behind him but when time for questions came, some disturbing aspects of his performance and personality were exposed.

It seems that on the Monday night before Council, Colin managed the feat of alienating almost all the people he had contact with. Without getting down to details, his actions portrayed blatant sexism—and this was admitted by Colin during questioning. He apologised for what he said and did and explained that he was "under medication" and drunk at the time. He claimed to be aware of his sexism and was trying to overcome it.

However, the point was made that "medicaments" and alcohol do not make one sexist, they simply allow the sexism to be exposed. It was felt by many people, especially these he had offended, that Colin's degree of sexism was unacceptable in a national officer. And so a split developed between those who thought the apology was enough and those who thought that it was a political consideration which precluded Colin from being able to do the job.

After much heated and oft repeated discussion, the first ballot was taken and lost (at 2.30am) 26 to 16.

The Split Increases

In the following discussion the split in opinion became more pronounced. It is probably best expressed by the points raised by Kevin Hague and Caroline Massof. Hague claimed that everyone is sexist, that Colin had admitted his specific problem and is trying hard to counter it. Massof replied that the issue was not a male versus female one, but a political one. In light of Colin's behaviour (which contravenes NZUSA policy) Colin's degree of sexism is unacceptable.

Just before 3.00 a.m., a split appeared in the Auckland delegation — previously Colin's solid base of support — and it was suggested that the split among all the delegates was irreconcilable. Colin would apparently never achieve full support—a large section of opinion would never be reconciled.

A second ballot was taken and resulted in 14 for, 21 against and 7 informal. A third ballot, taken immediately produced 13 for and 22 against. Since there was no chance of a successful ballot, the election was terminated and nominations re-opened.

Both the EAWVP and GVP positions will now be filled at an SGM of NZUSA in Wellington in September.

Colin McFadzean fending off attacks

Photo of Colin McFadzean

The Last Election

The last election, that of Women's Rights Action Co-ordinator (the only part-time position open) was again a one-person race.

Denese Black gave a brief speech, outlining her experience in Women's Rights and expressing her ideas of what the job involves and what she would like to do with it. Denese has been Women's Rights Officer at Otago and has had experience at organising abortion and Gay Rights campaigns, seminars and forums.

She sees WRAC as being an important position, for it allows a positive women's voice to student politics. She would use the position to co-ordinate activities on the various campuses, to help the local Women's Rights Officers and to increase the awareness of Women's Rights at every campus.

During both questioning and discussion, there seemed to be almost no opposition to Denese taking the position. She has, obviously had the experience, she is dedicated to NZUSA policy and she convinced those people there of her competence and ability to do the job.

The only form of dissent came from Lincoln delegates. They believe that WRAC is unnecessary and don't believe that Lincoln women need an awareness of Women's Rights. "Lincoln women are all equal".

After Denese left the room, there was nothing but praise coming from each campus. Going straight to the vote, Denese was elected on the first ballot 37 for, 5 invalid.

So, the situation at something after 4.00 a.m. on Thursday morning was that NZUSA has appointed two out of the four vacant positions for 1980. It is not a rare occurrence for positions not to be filled on election night and it proves that NZUSA, although instituting a harrowing election process, is ensuring that we get competent national officers. It is the money of students that pays these officers, and their quality corresponds to the quality of NZUSA's work—so students can fairly expect such a searching and critical process.

Stephen A'Court.

Education Falls Short

The Education Commission should have been the most important commission at NZUSA's August Council. The Education Commission should have been the scene of the greatest debate and discussion at Council. It should have discussed the strength and weaknesses of the Education Fightback Campaign. It should have discussed how the campaign could be best carried on. It should have formulated a concrete strategy to oppose the Tertiary Study Grant scheme. The Education Commission should have spent time working out a detailed list of priorities for the work of the Education and Welfare Vice-President in the third term and for the incoming E&WVP in the first term in 1980. The Education Commission failed to complete any of these tasks to a satisfactory degree.

This situation can be fairly described in somewhat stronger terms than "unfortunate". Right at the moment, 39,000 students see NZUSA in terms of work that it does in the field of education. At this year's May Council, it was agreed that the Government's attacks on education were a challenge to the very basis of NZUSA. A great part of that Council was spent working out, in detail, the organisational basis for the second term fightback campaign. A great part of the success of the campaign can be attributed to that organisation.

Obviously, the TSG is going to require a continuation of the Education Fightback campaign on the same sort of scale as we saw in the second term of this year. Basically, these sentiments were those expressed in the Education Commission; but before the theory could be transferred into practice, time ran out. The Education Commission did not spend enough time discussing these important questions.

What was done in Education?

The Education Commission was only allotted time for two meetings. In addition, there was a National Education Action Committee meeting allotted for the Thursday morning. NEAC is a standing committee of NZUSA and is charged with the task of actioning policy determined by May and August Councils. Quite simply, the two Education Commissions were taken up with the examination of old policy and the introduction of new policy. This process is a facet of all commissions, but in the case of Education, it took up too much time.

The blame for this can be apportioned both to Grant Liddell—who should have known that time was fast running out without great progress being made—and to the fact that it was felt necessary to scrap all the old financial assistance policy and introduce a whole new set. This task was undertaken by Auckland, who introduced a set of about twenty motions. The need for a new set of policy was brought about by the emergence of the TSG scheme and the need for NZUSA to determine a formal attitude towards it. But the 'new' policy amounted to little more than a re-wording of all the old policy, and each motion seemed to require a great amount of discussion and debate before it was put to the vote. By the time that time allowed for the Education Commission was exhausted, all that had been completed was most of the discussion on the state of NZUSA's Education policy.

Fortunately, delegates could count on the time available in the scheduled NEAC meeting. Unfortunately, because of the non-presence of the chairperson, this meeting started something like 90 minutes late. In something like two and a half hours, policy was finalised, a of priorities were drawn up and some elementary

proposals for action against TSG scheme were put forward. Frankly, this is a pitiful amount of time to be spent on points that were probably the most important of the whole Council.

For people concerned with the new developments in Education, and NZUSA's response to them, we will have to rely on the results of further NEAC meetings (there will be at least one in the third term) with the new procedure, instituted at this Council, for the allocation of money and time by National Executive in the first term of every year—we will find ourselves looking to both NEAC and National Exec (rather than NZUSA itself) for direction in the area of Education Fightback.

It is a dangerous precedent to place decision making power in the hand of these committees, rather than those people armed with Students Association policy at May and August Councils. But in this case, it was these people themselves (and the leadership of the Education Commission) who gave this responsibility away. One can only hope that the future success of the Education Fightback is not jeopardised by these failures.

Stephen A'Court.

Victoria Education delegates Geoff Adams and Rire Scotney keep an eye or two on the Education Commission.

Photo of Geoff Adams and Rire Scotney

World Vision loses out

Despite sending its executive director for New Zealand, Mr Geoff Renner, to try and refute allegations made against it, mainly of political and religious bias, the World Vision organisation remains in NZUSA's black books.

After explaining to the International Commission and a roomful of observers the aims of his organisation, Mr Renner was subjected to almost an hour of very close questioning, some of which he answered, most of which he evaded. The end result was that the commission passed a motion saying that NZUSA would give World Vision no support, financial or otherwise, because "it is not a genuine aid organisation in that it applies religious and political criteria in its aid programme." No votes were recorded against the motion and there was only one abstention, predictably enough from Lincoln.

A Recurring Debate

The question of whether or not NZUSA should support World Vision first came up at May Council in 1978, when it was reported that the AGM of the Massey University Students Association had defeated a motion to make a donation to the organisation, largely as a result of criticisms levelled at it. MUSA undertook at that Council to prepare a report on it. That report, prepared by Massey's then International Affairs Officer, Don Carson, was tabled at this Council's International Commission, as was a reply, prepared by Geoff Renner, to some of its main points. The criticisms in Mr Carson's report relate to administrative extravagance, political bias, religious bias coupled with a strong evangelical emphasis and an attempt to treat poverty without trying to treat its causes, especially political ones.

Mr Renner, speaking to the Commission, admitted that his organisation was a Christian one. "We make no apology for It," he said. "Our history is primarily a conservative evangelical history. But while we are a Christian organisation we don't give aid with Christian strings attached. That is our rule. Sure, there are people (in the organisation) who break the rules but you get that in any organisation."

Geoff Renner comes under the scrutiny of the International Commission.

Photo of Geoff Renner

He said that the main fault in Mr Carson's report was that it was a "snapshot" of World Vision in 1974, and that this does not coincide with World Vision in 1979. Like the Handy Andy, it seems, it's all been changed.

A Squirmy Question

With regard to politics, Mr Renner called this question a "squirmy" one. "Every organisation giving aid is a political one, but World Vision doesn't get involved in political parties here or overseas, (hough some of the groups we are working with are very political," he said.

Asked whether in giving aid priority to places with a Christian bias his organisation was not making religious distinctions, Mr Renner replied that "it may seem that way" but that the organisation acts on requests, and often requests come from churches. "We don't chase them, they chase us," he said. "We get a lot of requests for aid from churches and we don't have the resources to look beyond that, although there are some, as in Bangladesh, one of our biggest projects, which have no Christian contact. "If a Christian community asks us for

help but it is not as poor as some other community then we always help the poorer first, always," he said.

Lindy Cassidy then said that she found claims by Mr Renner that World Vision tries to tread a middle path politically, neither supporting nor opposing unjust regimes "hard to swallow", because "what that means is that you work to maintain the status quo, whether the status quo is any good or not."

Not surprisingly, Mr Renner said he disagreed with this view. "We don't set out to criticise governments or regimes. I'm not saying that isn't a defensible stand to take. I don't hold any truck for martial law and neither does World Vision, but we are interested in people." Reiterating a statement made earlier that there is a pluralism in approaches to aid, he said that "to say there is only one right approach to aid is to be very naive."

No CIA Connection

Asked to comment on accusations made during the Vietnam war that World Vision was connected with the CIA, Mr Renner replied that "there is not one single piece of substantiated evidence to support those accusations". He said his organisation did receive aid from the United States government during the war provided it supplied information in return "We were not so naive not to realise that it wasn't intelligence gathering, but we were working among dying children and we needed the money. It's all very well to sit here in a comfortable room and talk about government aid but you weren't there, I was, with children dying in my arms. We needed money, for food, for drugs and other supplies," he said.

Up until this point, though occasionally hard pressed, Mr Renner had been able either to field the questions or skilfully evade them, but he was truly put on the spot when someone quoted from a World Vision publication sent out to New Zealand schools which more or less condoned the Indonesian government in putting down the East Timor rebellion. In defence, he said that that opinion was not necessarily his own, at which David Cuthbert leapt into the fray.

"Whenever you're pressed, Geoff, you make a nice run for cover and draw a distinction between your personal opinion and what the policy of World Vision is. Why don't you nail your Christian beliefs to a masthead. Are your principle so flexible that you are prepared to waive them so you can stay on there (in Indonesia)? Why don't you make a stand and say that the slaughter of a sixth of the country's population is wrong?" he asked.

"You can't hang an organisation on one statement in a book," Mr Renner offered weakly.

"But it's not just one thing," continued Mr Cuthbert. "That publication bears your imprint. On the question of Timor it says it was an internal rebellion that's been fairly and genuinely repressed by the government. That's amazing! That's like saying in Nazi German "there's two sides to this question'." Mr Renner fell silent, and when the motion was put later in the afternoon it was passed.

Mark Wilson.

Film

Shocks with Style!

[unclear: Patrick]

[unclear: cted] by Richard Franklin [unclear: es].

[unclear: an] he love?' gasps the publicity. [unclear: an] he kill?' [unclear: ly] Kathy knows...

[unclear: n't] be put off by this second-rate [unclear: on]. Given the added information that [unclear: athy] in question is a nurse in a private somewhere in Australia, you'd expect [unclear: sort] of Mills & Boon-Police Story [unclear: d]. And how wrong you'd be.

[unclear: trick] is actually a fine film, a thriller [unclear: ted] with an intelligence and style that you by surprise I won't beat around bush: this film is based firmly [unclear: ycho], via Carrie. There are, in Patrick [unclear: n] clear allusions on the screen and [unclear: dtrack] to both these films. But, as was [unclear: ase] with Carrie, the film is neither [unclear: ative] nor a cheap rip-off; in drawing [unclear: stinctive] elements of a previous film, a [unclear: riginal] has been produced.

[unclear: try] to be more specific. The film's [unclear: a] premise is that of Carrie: [unclear: hokineses], or the (potentially [unclear: errous]) ability to move objects by [unclear: al] effort. Around this central idea, [unclear: klin] had developed a similar structure [unclear: a]; fairly classical lines within the or/thriller genre: the opening trauma, steadily developing characterisation, rowing threat, the close calls and the [unclear: X].

And (here the inspiration comes [unclear: tly] from Carrie), the final sudden [unclear: ent] of shock outside the narrative [unclear: e]. Within this structure, a good film will [unclear: r] time to do a number of other things [unclear: es]. Psycho and Carrie are models. In [unclear: s] films, and in Patrick too, it is what [unclear: irector] does with the essential elements [unclear: asic] structure of the genre that marks [unclear: s] difference between film as [unclear: tainment] and film as art.

[unclear: w] Qualifications

this point it may be necessary to call a If it were generally accepted by all [unclear: ested] Salient readers (all two of you)

Psycho is a work of an, and that Carrie [unclear: n] achievement of similar stature in [unclear: ame] field, is also a work of art—if [unclear: th] two facts were already accepted in [unclear: ple], then I could go on to make a case Patrick based on that acceptance But [unclear: usly], if I praise Patrick only in terms [unclear: ese] two earlier films—which is not just [unclear: im], as Franklin obviously made his with both of these as his starting [unclear: t]—if I do this, when readers have only [unclear: opinion] of Hitchcock and De Palma, got nowhere.

pause while I consider the problem. [unclear: o] I first do a rave about Psycho? That is, discuss it as far as I understand what is a very clever and rather complex film, open to a whole range of scholarly interpretations and every critical reaction from distaste to ecstasy? Do I then go into a shot-by-shot analysis of Carrie, with particular reference to its predecessor? And do I then attempt to describe what Franklin has taken from these films, what he's added of his own, and how these elements are synthesized?

Photo from the film 'Patrick' by Richard Franklin

I wonder if anybody's still reading...

I'll start again.

Unity of theme and motif. As good a place as any to start. Patrick has a very clever script. At the beginning of the film, Patrick kills his mother and her boyfriend. They're having a bath together, and Patrick lobs in the electric heater. A nasty shock for all concerned. The heater, by the way, is round—like the lamp and the pupils of Patrick's eyes.

Then it is three years later. Patrick has been in a coma ever since the 'accident', and Kathy's first job at the Roget clinic is to look after him. Pretty soon, she starts having boyfriend and ex-husband troubles. Of course, there's a reasonable explanation for all the things that happen, but Kathy and the audience begin to suspect something more sinister. Off the story goes, until it works itself to a conclusion, several dead bodies and audience screams later. And all the way, motifs of electricity and water dance a deadly tango, waiting for another moment of fatal union. Light bulbs, electric signs, mains switches, tram lines. Rain, dripping taps, swimming pools, intravenous drips.

Shock Treatment

The basic principle of a horror film is to shock the audience. The doctors treat the comatose Patrick with electric shocks. In a shot as clever and effective as anything in Psycho or Carrie, overhead tram lines spark in the foreground as Kathy crosses the road towards the clinic (a distinctive looking building that rings a few bells) in the background. 'Do I shock you?' the Matron asks Kathy, having introduced a theme of sexual perversion consonant with the twisted mother-figures in the Hitchcock/De Palma films, and thereby, in accordance with the intuitive logic of the rules of the genre, condemning herself to an ugly fate.

But Kathy Jacquard, as played (and played very well) by English actress Susan Penhaligon (you may remember her as the super-bitch daughter in TV's Bouquet of Barbed Wire), does not shock easily—in any sense of the word. Here we find an indication of the other major strength of this film. Its script (by Everett de Roche) gives us round, believable and independently active characters, seen either in totally credible situations, or reacting credibly in the face of extraordinary circumstances.

There's also a very appealing hard edge to the dialogue and to the plot's surrounding details. Patients at the clinic, for instance, do wet themselves and to get excretions; a man stuck in an elevator does have to excrete somewhere, etc. You could point to this as being distinctly Australian. That's possibly true—it's certainly a feature usually absent in the American product. And that's a shame, because it's a virtue that lends the story added weight by making it more 'real'.

In comparing Patrick to Psycho and Carrie, I have intended the highest form of praise—these latter two being films I admire to an almost ridiculous extent. In terms of style, Patrick is perhaps-closer to Psycho, at least inasmuch as it is a less sensuous experience than Carrie—none of the long, fluid crane shots, or the soft focus or slow motion. This is not to say that Patrick is not visually beguiling in its own right. Cinematography

(by Donald McAlpine) and art direction combine beautifully to give an effect, particularly noticeable in the opening sequence, rather as if a killer has been let loose in *Interiors*.

And so the Australian film industry is well and truly in full stride. With *Patrick*, it has already given us a genre classic. And at the same time, a lesson for film-makers here in New Zealand. In the rank garden of public approval it is the coarse and hardy weed that will thrive, not the effete artistic bloom that wilts at the first signs of a frost. Only when a good crop of noxious weeds has been established can they be coaxed into flower with any success. Entertainment into art.

For now, horror and art buffs alike will just have to wait patiently for the imminent advent of John Carpenter's *Hallowe'en*, which promises great things. In the meantime though, I'll go to see *Patrick* again. Paul Hagan.

The freight brake man's work, when the weather was good offered many pleasant interludes.

VUWSA Films

A Bridge Too Far-Wed 30th Aug.

One of the epic war movies of the seventies. A blockbuster about the allied assault on the Japanese Empire in the latter stages of W.W.II. Noted for its scrupulous realism and attention to detail, the film contains a cast that comes near to a roll of honour in modern cinema as you can get.

Slaughterhouse Five—Thurs 30th Aug

Combine the adventurous mood of late 60's films and the chilling bazzareness of Kurt Vonnegut and you're bound to get a good movie. Vonnegut's irony and cynicism transfers well into movies as this film testifies. Based on Vonnegut's personal experiences in war, *Slaughterhouse Five* shows the Dresden holocaust from an innocent point of view.

FOR SALE For Sale: one student body, slightly used, with many productive years ahead of it. Due to inadequate bursary assistance, I cannot see it being sustained at a healthy level in 1980. Would suit Karori businessman (or any other who can now afford a decent education). Price: an adequate living allowance — or near offer. Please contact: Desperate Student c/- No Fixed Abode PS Food scraps will always be appreciated.

DOWNSTAGE THEATRE THE RECRUITING OFFICER by George Farquhar Classic Comedy of Fun and Fancy ... "could take an honoured place on any stage in the western world"... Bruce Mason in *The Dominion*. Dinner 6.30 Play 8.00pm CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY THEATRE Aug 27 — Sept 1 THE STICKEST GLUE IN THE WORLD By John Banas Music by Stephen McCurdy A gloriously gripping musical play for all ages In the Hannah Playhouse during school holidays. MON 27 AUG — SAT 1 SEPT at 10.30 am and 12 pm \$1.20 for all Bookings now open

Books

Unbridled Power?

Geoffrey Palmer: *Unbridled Power? An Interpretation of New Zealand's Constitution and Government*. OUP, July 24, 1979

What needs to be done to make New Zealand democratic? Geoffrey Palmer, in his book, argues for a long list of specific reforms, none of them especially startling or sweeping, many of them not even requiring legislation. The central concern of *Unbridled Power?* is reform of Parliament. All bills (except money bills) should be referred to stronger and better-advised select committees. The number of MPs should be increased by half and some should be elected by proportional representation. Parliament should sit more often throughout the year. Copies of bills should be widely available to the public. The aim is to make the executive more accountable to Parliament.

But the book ranges far wider than Parliament itself. Most of the other important national government institutions (Crown, Cabinet, Minister and the Public Service) are examined in the first six chapters and detailed reforms are urged. The rest of the book deals with issues: how statute law can be made better, simpler and more accessible; how regulations can be curbed; whether a second house of Parliament is necessary; how to

reform electoral law; whether a proper constitution ought to be adopted how; and how access to government information ought to be ensured.

The book, as this list shows, is directed towards specific reform of fairly specific problems. That they are at present regarded as problems is the "permanent contribution of the first Muldoon administration to the history of New Zealand." For the last twenty-five years the latent power of the Government has not been so clearly seen as it is now — precisely because it has stopped being quite so latent. Since the book was completed (December 1978) political events, culminating in the "fiscal regulator" row, have vindicated its arguments. Even, perhaps, to the extent of winning parliamentary nomination for the author. "Constitutionalism" has become a live political issue. This political fact has made *Unbridled Power?* a more useful book, but less immediate in its impact.

It is more useful because clear argument and specific proposals which are not too difficult to achieve make this book a valuable campaigning tool. It reads at times, like a Royal Commission report; it even has a summary of all reforms at the end. This is good for campaigners; not too many of the proposals interlock, so one can pick up a specific proposal and then find suitable arguments in the text, with even a hope of political success if you batter away for long enough. One slight awkwardness comes from this. Palmer must first describe, then criticise, then recommend. Since the description begins simply (as it must), and since the reforms are described in detail, each section of the book changes gear quite markedly: from civics to sophistication in a short space. A campaigner cannot, as may a scholar, take knowledge for granted.

Political events have made this book's impact less than it might have been because its tone does not now quite suit the increasingly polemical atmosphere. There are a few ritual abusive references to R. D. Muldoon, but this is essentially a book for the uncommitted and aims for wide appeal. Someone seeking a clarion call will be disappointed; someone who has already heard that call, and wants to know what to do, will not be.

Don Wright

Music

Taylor-made

"Flag" James Taylor

On the cover of his last album he was baby-faced and wide-eyed. So was the music. On the album there's a photo of James Taylor looking like a prison inmate with a steely glint in his eye. One supposes the music is meant to reflect that change. From gentle soft-edged music to a rawer and crisper sound.

If that is what Taylor is trying to do then he is not successful. But that does not make the album a bad one. If you like James Taylor you will like this album—despite the increased use of electronics and pounding rhythm and bass the album is indisputably James Taylor.

James Taylor listeners have changed since the days he made the cover of *Time* magazine. The gentle flower people have largely gone and grown up. But James Taylor hasn't really changed, except that now a Karori housewife is as likely to be listening to JT as any dope-smoking hippy who rolls his own and calls himself a vegetarian.

Flag is a pleasant enough, even innocuous album produced by Peter Asher (who in the space of 3 albums took Ronstadt to the heights then threw her back down again.) But it is well-produced muzak of the first order. If J Taylor really wanted to get a rawer sound he should have gone back to his earlier guitar-plucking "You've Got A Friend" style. But no, Asher takes over and drowns the album in overproduced numbers.

The first side is what, in the modern jargon, might be called the "fast side". Instead of the willing *Handy Man* of the last album here is the hard rock businessman of *Company Man*. It's another song about what it's really like in the rock business—a statement all rock artists seem obliged to make these days just to prove they are still human. *Day Tripper* is a disco version of the Beatles song but like most of the album it is lost in the slickness of the production. *Johnnie Comes Back* and *I Will Not Lie For You* are a re-hash, in a slightly heavier form, of what Taylor has done before. The side closes with *Is That The Way You Look?* a dreadful and thankfully short piece that one suspects is meant to be clever. It is not.

Side two is much better. The songs are much more solid but, again, there is nothing new. *BSUR*, *Rainy Day Man* and *Mill worker* are all catchy, nice James Taylor songs. The Goffin-King song *Up on the Roof* is the single from the album. Again Asher is over-indulgent but this time it seems strangely appropriate, largely due to the skillful string arrangement by Arif Mardin. But it's annoying because this is exactly the type of song Taylor should be singing simply

*"And at night the stars they put on a show for free,
And darling you can share it all with me..."*

The album closes with *Sleep Come Free Me*, another prisoner in gaol song.

Like the last Ronstadt album this is a Peter Asher product full of slickness and the Californian freeway sound. Even the typeface on the lyric sheet is the same as that used on the last 3 Ronstadt, as well as numerous other Asher, records.

I do not think Taylor is a particularly great artist. He constructs his songs somewhat predictably and is unadventurous. Certainly he has not produced anything up to his *Sweet Baby James* and *Mus Slide Slim* days. Perhaps this album is simply a case of recognising limitations and trying to work within them. But James Taylor is trying within those limitations to be something he is not suited to—slick.

Still, if you are into James Taylor, if you like him playing whilst you do the vacuuming or drink coffee late at night, this album, or at least side two, will not disappoint you. It's nice to know you can yawn and rely on James Taylor to keep you going.

Paul McHugh

Record supplied courtesy of CBS Records.

Philby: The Long Road to Moscow.

by Patrick Scale and Maureen McConville

Penguin Books, 1978 NZ Price: \$3.20

Kim Philby is usually seen as the Judas of the twentieth century. A superspy, the man who betrayed Britain's secrets, to the Soviet enemy, for twenty years. As such the Philby phenomenon has not ceased to titillate. The subject of the gentleman traitor betraying the establishment of which he is an integral part continues to fascinate. It has inspired books, a play, a television drama, a feature film and numerous investigations in the British press. And in the media Philby's life is invariably portrayed as a particularly wretched example of despicable treachery.

But as the authors note in their foreword "much is wrong with this caricature". They claim that their task in retelling, yet again, the Philby story is "in demythologizing the superspy", in showing "that he was essentially an ordinary man in an extraordinary situation".

They have succeeded admirably in fulfilling this task. Philby emerges as more of a bureaucrat than the villainous double agent of popular myth. Although initially it appears it was an ideological commitment to Marxism that attracted him to the Soviet cause, as an agent of the Russian secret service he was unable to "back-track" as so many other left-wing intellectuals of the 1930s did, following the shocking disclosures about Stalinist communism. Philby's treachery was also motivated by the attraction of belonging to an elite machine, the Russian intelligence service. Once invited to join how could he turn back?

At heart Philby was a man of the mid-twentieth century; an ideological and organisational man. He fought his cold war in both the world of ideas and the land of the filing cabinet.

Robin C. Craw

Student Health

Thrush

Thrush is also known as *Candida Albicans* or monilial vaginitis. The culprit is a common microscopic yeast like fungus which is a normal inhabitant of the vagina but it is more common in pregnant women, diabetics and women on the pill. After a course of antibiotics thrush is likely to appear due to the alteration in the vaginal flora.

In the female the signs and symptoms are itching and discomfort around the vagina and a variable amount of discharge. Diagnosis is made by examining a specimen of the discharge under the microscope where branching threads of the fungus may be seen. A swab is sent for laboratory confirmation.

Treatment is by antifungal pessaries or cream inserted into the vagina and it is important that these be inserted even if menstruating. Recent advances have resulted in much improved antifungal treatments of shorter duration. Prevention is difficult but if attacks are recurrent it is preferable to use cotton pants rather than nylon and to stop wearing tight jeans and pantyhose.

Symptoms are much less common in the male but a rash on the penis may be due to thrush and treatment

is essential to prevent reinfection of the partner.

Trichomoniasis:

This is another common vaginal infection, colloquially called 'Trich'. The culprit here is a single celled organism with a powerful tail. It is usually spread by sexual intercourse. Once again males do not usually have prominent symptoms but they can transmit the organism to the vagina where it multiplies rapidly, causing a vaginal discharge. The vagina and vulva are inflamed, itching is often intolerable, and there may be pain on urinating.

Treatment is by oral tablets and a number are available, such as Flagyl. It is wise for both partners to have treatment even if the male has no symptoms. It is important to avoid alcohol during treatment with Flagyl because the combination causes unpleasant side effects.

Thrush and Trich are both common complaints. Although they are not usually serious they are uncomfortable and there is no need to put up with such discomfort. Treatment is readily available and really both partners should report for a check.

Don't let Thrush or Trich interfere with your sex life.

Rec Centre

It's the third term, time to drum up abit of enthusiasm; go on—have a moving experience; put your fool in it, all that jazz. All kinds of dance are being taught this term at the Recreation Centre; on Mondays, a technique and creative dance session from 5.30 to 6.30. Then basic ballroom dance. 6.30 to 7.30. During the six week term learn the waltz, foxtrot, quickstep and cha-cha. Bring a friend, solo waltzing is no fun. On Tuesdays 5.30 to 7.30, the Scottish Country Dance Club meets in the Dance Room; try that one for a bit of ethnic dance, fun and fitness.

Sue Jordan teaches for Vic Dance Theatre on Wednesdays, fresh from the Impulse Dance Company tour; Sue will be teaching a choreography and movement class 4-5, and then 5-6.30 an advanced technique and choreography class. Sue also used to teach dance at Auckland University.

On Fridays, Jennifer Shennan takes a movement exploration class, emphasising rythmn and relaxation All these classes are, of course, free to students.

This term sees a slight change to one of the yoga classes, with more emphasis on relaxation. Various tension, relaxation movements, breathing exercises and the Relaxation Response (a simplified form of TM) will be covered. No yoga experience is necessary and the Thursday class will run as usual. What else?

Beginners squash is on again but only on Mondays 2-3 and Thursdays 2-3. Get your name down at Reception. Badminton classes are now on Tuesdays 10-11 and there are two classes on Friday 10-11 and 11-2.

The fitness classes, Tuesday 12-1 and Thursday 5.30-6.30 are now established as the hottest and most active social occasion of the week. Be in, unfit or not. Perspire at your own pace.

How's your golf swing? Bob is taking all swingers in the Long Room at 11 a.m. on Fridays. If you have never played golf try the beginners only class.

For beginning joggers we, now have the route of the Glen Gambol:

Turn left out of the Recreation Centre and left round the Cotton Building past the English Dept. Cross to the right hand side of Glasgow Street running up turn left at the top into Upland Road. Right down Glen Road and at the bottom of Glen Road, enter the Botanical Gardens and turn right up the hill. Fork right again and climb the bush track to the Cable Car terminus, returning via Upland Road and Glasgow Street back to the Recreation Centre.

WELLINGTON CITY TRANSPORT 0000 ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT BUS CONCESSION CARDS ARE NOW SOLD AT THE STUDENT UNION OFFICE AND THAT A SPECIAL STUDENT \$2.00 CONCESSION CARD WILL SOON BE ON SALE TO USE ON THE NEW CABLE CAR. WELLINGTON CITY TRANSPORT

Letters

Drawing of a woman writing with a feather quill

[unclear: n] Open Clique

[unclear: ar] Sir,

I would like to try and reply to the letters and [unclear: cles] that there have been recently criticising [unclear: lient] and the 'Salient clique'.

Now, at least up until recently, and perhaps [unclear: en] now, I had little difficulty accepting that [unclear: re] was such a clique, and it was because of this [unclear: at] I did not support the motion of no [unclear: fidence] in Mr Tees at a recent meeting. [unclear: wever], I also believe in putting my money, as were, where my mouth is, so decided to [unclear: ually] come and work on Salient in order to [unclear: d] out the truth for myself.

Perhaps at this stage I should also clarify my [unclear: n] political position. I am not, firstly, a [unclear: munist] or a socialist: the genocide committed [unclear: ring] the invasion of Tibet and other [unclear: munist] atrocities have decided me on this [unclear: int]. However, neither am I right-wing. I think [unclear: m] a conservatist Buddhist, which includes a [unclear: ge] of opinions, some of which would be [unclear: sidered] extreme right-wing and others as [unclear: eme] left-wing in terms of current western [unclear: ught].

Having gone into Salient and 'blown up' [unclear: grily] at some communist articles printed this [unclear: r], I thought that I would have some difficulty [unclear: ng] accepted. Instead, I found that my [unclear: ons] and willingness to help were accepted [unclear: d] even welcomed. I found no evidence of [unclear: munist] 'blackballing'.

So, I would like to make one thing clear: I find [unclear: bturd] that a letter or article says that Salient is willing to tolerate or encourage alternative [unclear: wpoints], when I am spending hours helping [unclear: t], proof-read, lay out and so forth such [unclear: cles]. Getting Salient out may involve me, with [unclear: ers], staying up till one a.m. or over in the [unclear: rning] and spending a lot of time laying out [unclear: cles] criticising Salient in very objectionable [unclear: ms]. But I do it, and think that the others here too (and there are people of all political [unclear: des] here), because I strongly believe that each [unclear: son] should be allowed and encouraged to [unclear: we] his (or her) say. I would very much like to [unclear: e] those who criticise putting effort into the [unclear: gazine].

Your most humble and obedient servant.

Lady Crunch-Pikelet.

[unclear: Corporal] Punishment Defended

[unclear: Dear] Sir.

In Salient July 30, Kaye McLaren criticised [unclear: iris] Conway's defence of the moderate use of [unclear: poral] punishment. She seems to be one of [unclear: ese] confused liberals who are always eager to [unclear: rade] their exaggerated concern so everyone [unclear: n] see what nice people they are. In doing this [unclear: ver], she resorts to misrepresenting the [unclear: uation]. To take just one example, she says the [unclear: posed] legislation is to prevent the situation [unclear: here] adults responsible for the care of children [unclear: ve] carte blanche to hit them brutally, and as [unclear: quently] as they wish to." She's implying the [unclear: esent] law allows this to happen but it doesn't, least by any commonly accepted definition of brutally."

The last paragraph was the most objectionable [unclear: n] of her letter. She says, "it would do Mr [unclear: nway] well to remember that the child and [unclear: fe-beaters] of our society are usually those who [unclear: ve] been brutally beaten in childhood [unclear: emselves]." This standard piece of liberal cant dangerous because it would create a climate of [unclear: leration] if it was widely accepted. The majority [unclear: n't] accept it but there is a small middle-class [unclear: ment] in departments like justice and social [unclear: fare] who seem to. They do their best to courage leniency and thereby help to generate [unclear: ore] crime which, by a lucky coincidence, [unclear: arantees] they won't become redundant. The [unclear: possibility] for crime doesn't only rest with the [unclear: minal] but also with the middle-class liberal [unclear: no] stands behind him and finds excuses for his [unclear: haviour].

The main reason for wanting to stop crime [unclear: ouldn't] be a conviction that in some way it's morally wrong". The reason should be its cost everyone who pays taxes, and that it means [unclear: u] have to take steps to protect yourself and [unclear: ur] property which involves inconvenience and [unclear: pense]. The better off you are the better you [unclear: n] insulate yourself.

Chris Conway's article was a pleasant change [unclear: om] the views of the minority represented by [unclear: dividuals] like McLaren.

Yours etc.

G. Herrington.

A Question of Honour

Dear Sir,

What kind of a cad and a scoundrel is this B.G. Kelly? I am shocked... he actually expects a gentleman such as myself to mention a lady's name in this affair of honour? You bounder, B.G. Although my young lady no longer has eyes for me I will not stain her honour by making her name public.

Alas, though, I admit I have been defeated. Take her Sir, and treat her well. But be warned! If all you have to offer her is your nose, well, I'm sure she'll realize her mistake and return to me.

If I cannot have my lady-love I can only hope that she will not suffer. My poor sweet lady is she of the soft hair, the gentle hands (no snide comments from any of the morons out there please) and the warm heart. Look after her B.G. or I'll ruin that Picasso nose you're so proud of.

Yours in broken-hearted

resignation,

The Jealous Man.

P.S. She's the cuddly chick in the red and orange bush jacket.

Gays Condemned

Dear Ed,

Drawing of a man next to a photo booth

I have a confession to make. I'm angry at the fact that certain trendies think that homosexuality is Ok. I want you to know that they are absolutely in error. Why?

Consider the average man and the average woman (whoever they may be). Even a superficial examination of their biological structure will reveal that they are so composed that sexually, male-female relations are meant to be. Even if you can put aside procreation (and who can put that aside it mankind is going to survive), males and females are obviously equipped to function complementarily in the sexual act. If God had wanted anal intercourse, he would have put a vagina in the rear end of a man!

Where is our dignity men? Are we going to abdicate our role of looking after the fairer sex? I am angry because the so-called natural function is being twisted into depravity in the name of liberty. Who on earth said gays have the right to create an upside down society. Imagine being brought up by two dads. You wouldn't know whether you were coming or going. You can't stop homosexuality, but my suggestion is to let those who are so motivated do it, but may they keep it to themselves.

An angry liberated man
(liberated towards women)

A Variety of Gripes

Dear Sir,

I object in the strongest possible terms to the use of the heading *Get in while you can* in the Salient of 6 August 1979. This heading is a derogatory insult to Holy Islam and its marriage vows. Your caption thinker-upper is obviously a person of small brain and even tinier wit.

In future I suggest correspondents supply their own captions, rendering aforementioned wit unemployed.

While on the subject may I suggest your proofreaders be hung by the thumbs and stripped naked and lashed and beaten and whipped and kicked and left to lie broken boned in their own excrement while turkey-vultures hover overhead and squawk raucously andahem, excuse me, I got rather carried away.

May I also point out to those of your readers intelligent enough to follow my regular column that Kathy D. has found polygamy a bit too much for her and has rejoined the Convent. (May I wish her luck?).

I remain.

Yours Most Humble and Obedient Servant,
P. O'Donoghue

The only Interesting Part of Salient

Dear Sir,

In reply to the cretin with the ego too big for his brain (that's the one that signs himself *God*), it is only the efforts of I. B. Flapworth which make Salient readable.

Apologies and sympathy to hedgehog, gumboot maniac, his holiness The Pope and other regular contributors.

Irreverently yours,

Y. R. U. Soo-Dumb.

P.S. God is a woman anyway.

Too Sensitive about an Heritage

Sir,

As last week was Maori Language Week, I propose that this week be Tahitian Language Week, here after known as TLW (or Total Loss of a week). I'm not being racist, just practical. I understand some people are very sensitive about their culture and ancestry, my Grandfather was a Frog, and I'm very sensitive about it. It's not easy being quarter-cast Tahitian tadpole.

Sincerely,

Kermit Jnr.

Bored with VUWSA

Dear Peter,

I am bored. Throughout this year, I have observed and taken part in (on the extreme periphery) an incredible amount of political in-fighting in the Students' Association, mainly between the left and right wings.

Today I heard that Andrew Tees has resigned as the President. My initial reaction was one of surprise, then I felt bored. If Tees resigns - so what? What effect will that have on me? Will my life be radically changed? No! As far as I'm concerned Tees' resignation is just another episode in this petty, childish, boring, boring, boring saga. No doubt the Politicos will be discussing this intrigue and its ramifications for weeks to come.

Don't you, on both the right and the left, understand, that there is a large majority of students who just don't care? All they want is someone to do the work of the association and to do it well. No wonder apathy is rife. Why should I concern myself in an association with leaders that, on the surface at least, seem bound up in their own little political world.

Okay, so they represent me. So I should get involved and change things. I would like to take part. I would like to get involved. But this continual in-fighting about things that, to me, seem irrelevant to the business of the Association, is so off-putting. I just can't be bothered. There are so many things happening in the world that are important, that we could be doing something about. The Education Fightback campaign is ample evidence that students are more than willing to get involved in things that effect them, or that they feel strongly about.

Instead, we have to wallow in such irrelevant issues as the reforms to the Constitution, the threat from the left (Salient Marxism?), the threat from the right (Saxby — who is that man anyway?). It's boring, boring, boring. I'd rather go watch *Days of Our Lives*.

Andrew McCallum

A Word from the Computer

Dear Sir,

The following will make sense to INFO students of IQ70 and above, and is in reply to the Smart Arses in the Corner of Salient 6 August.

Love,

The B6700.

Unsure about Economics

Dear Sir,

As a beleaguered ECON 101 student I would like to make a few informed comments on his Reverence, the Professor (cough) Sheppard.

Talking about coughing, this guy is the only bloke I know who can lecture for an hour on coughs and ahems (approx. 5 a minute actually).

He is the only person I know who is in some doubt as to whether a cow is a cow or hedgehog, wombat or gumboot even. And to make matters worse he even makes Bertram look good.

Next on the agenda is, when will some cunt make some F. it (effort) on the mud slide that *could* be called an access to Salamanca Road. As with many others who frequent this last bastion of the outback I am sick of risking my neck and body when a minimal amount of upgrading would stop the risk of slipping under the wheels of one of the mental woman drivers in the area.

And CAM, I would like to say that women are only useful as sex objects, but don't worry dear as I somehow don't think you'd fit into that category ever. I have finally deduced that CAM stands for CAMel, as that is the amount of integrity and intelligence you have. Also you have malformed humps.

Yours seriously,

I. B. Flapworth.

Who's Aliterate?

Dear Peter,

Drawing of a man entering a photo booth

I must admit to a certain degree of alarm at T. Scotney's assumption that I am one of the female gender so I must now inform her that her assumption was not completely correct, lest any future confusion should arise on such a vital matter.

May I also assure her that I can (and will) happily withstand the strain of writing to her every fortnight for the next 3.5 years, as there is every likelihood that I shall be attending this wonderful institution of Higher Learning after that period of time has elapsed. Thus, as I see it, the only remaining variable which could put a stop to our regular correspondence is the patience of the Salient staff, and neither of us can speak for their attitude over such an extended period of time.

I feverently hope that "literacy" is yet another "accidental mistake" on your part, for it is unworthy of a generous, kind-hearted person such as yourself to continue to suspect the proofreader of perpetrating the errors which seem to appear so constantly in your letters. Thank-you for the apology, and I am fully aware that the world will not stop turning. I do not wish to correspond with Mr Wellington, thank-you.

Love,

E. Hamilton.

Silly Letters are Great

Dear Sir,

May the curse of a thousand Wombles shit infest Average Varsity Student's arse, ie. his or her backside, for the comments made in a recent Salient. Silly letters add to this highly respected rag. So there.

Yours above everyone.

The Lone Womble.

PS. What is a literacy test when it is at home?

24 HOUR SERVICE BRING THOSE HOLIDAY FILMS IN AND GET OUR: 74 Dixon Street, P.O. Box 11444, Phone 851513, Wellington. 20% discount on Colour Kodak developing and printing

Hermann Attacked

Dear Peter,

Heymann's contradictions are threatening to become legendary in Salient's letters columns. On the one hand he ridicules the Salient review's assertion of the uniquely massive scale of Hitler's death camps and then says they were "the most horrifying event in the history of mankind."

He pretends that the original Zionists never intended to drive out the Palestinians from their country, and then contradicts himself by upholding a racist right for Jews to constitute a majority in one country.

Team-mate Hochberg's reference to this rather than them living in the "graveyards of Europe" is just as much a travesty of logic. It is only Zionists who claim rights of citizenship for a country neither they nor their families have ever seen. Jewish nationalism is fascism simply because of this "racial" exclusiveness. Non-fascist nationalism is based on the people within a geographical area fighting against external control — not importing foreigners or expelling indigenous inhabitants.

Making the excuse that Zionism is a subjective reaction is no defence either. Just as the subjective response by Germany to the harsh conditions imposed upon it after World War I was Nazism, so too is Zionism an unjustifiable reaction to anti-semitism. Two wrongs don't make a right and La Heymann's appeal to the senses do not make the crimes of the Israelis any more acceptable.

Yours,

Barry Durruti

Holocaust Re-Reviewed

Dear Sir,

Drawing of photos being taken in a booth

Taking up a point discussed in an earlier Salient on the message of the Holocaust programme.

That programme must be seen as a reminder of the European Holocaust, and from that messages drawn and related to our present world, as well as a presentation of an important part of history that we must not forget.

One can think of many examples in recent history; Biafra, Pakistan, Ethiopia (Horn of Africa) and Amin's Uganda etc. Today that message is relevant to Vietnam.

Vietnam is (in effect) expelling the Chinese, partly because they are the merchant (capitalist) class. Part of Hitler's anti-semitic racism involved a similar labelling of the Jews. Both Vietnam and the Nazis tried to get rid of those they could not tolerate; except Vietnam is doing it by expelling the Chinese, and the Nazis did it first by total separation from their community (physical and social) and then by extermination of the Jews and other minority groups such as the gypsies.

The international community reacted in its usual constructive and sympathetic (?) way — by calling a conference.

Vietnam is discussed at Geneva. The conclusion: Vietnam is misbehaving; it should reform its ways, it is up to Vietnam to solve the problem in the first place (until it does we will punish it by withdrawing aid etc.). Until then, nations in the rest of the world will take quotas of refugees, thus N.Z. will take 2000 over 2 years—is that sympathetic; or generous, or humane? I'm sure the Chinese Vietnamese refugees are lumping for joy that they will spend 2 years in overcrowded, disease ridden, unsanitary camps.

Germany's treatment of the Jews was discussed at the Evian conference in 1938. Their conclusion—Hitler is misbehaving, he must reform his treatment of Jews, and treat them reasonably. In the meantime other nations in the rest of the world will take limited quotas of German Jewish refugees over a defined period of time. (New Zealand in its generosity and humanity look only a few.)

Even more concrete rejection of German Jewish refugees can be seen in the Hamburg liner "Saint Lois" with a 1000 Jews on board which was denied landing rights in Cuba, in the US, in England, and also by the rest of the world.

But let's not be deluded into thinking that this sort of racism takes place only in places distant from our shores. There are people and groups who are just as racist here in New Zealand. I know of a Liberal Studies teacher at a liberal Wellington High School who believes that the problems with Maori kids is not just social but also because of a biological inferiority! Similarly, let's consider the anti Malaysian sentiments expressing themselves at Massey University in the last few weeks. I have heard similar racist sentiments on this campus too!

The messages of the holocaust programme apply to all of us. The potential for such horrific excesses of racism exists here, now, in the modern world, including New Zealand. It exists in the personality of many people in our society; and this does not even take account of the political elements which could so easily be perverted, developed into fascism and used to attack, on racial grounds, minority groups in our own society, whether they are Jews, or Samoans, or Maoris.

The potential for the expression of such racist sentiments exists just below the surface in, not a few nutters, but in many people in New Zealand. I believe it only needs a focus, an incident, or a situation, for that sentiment to be drawn out. Note some of the racist fire that the reading of the television programme summary in Maori drew. Or some sentiments one hears about gangs. All it needs is a skilled political group to turn it into a powerful force in society.

The holocaust ought not to just serve as a reminder of a historical tragedy, but it demands us to be aware of those things, which set (that event into motion within our own world, and own society).

Yours,

La Heyman.

Selective Censorship in the Library

Dear Sir,

As someone who has been on the receiving end of a very sudden enforcement of library rules regarding printed publicity material, I would like to comment on the notice by J.P. Sage printed in the Notices Column of Salient Vol 42. No. 19.

J.P. Sage states that "The library has been the last bastion of uncluttered peace on the campus." This is patent nonsense. I have attended this University for 2 years and in that time have both distributed and received leaflets in the Library on countless occasions. As a member of several clubs I had never encountered any opposition from any staff member until a couple of weeks ago. This was when I distributed a leaflet advertising a forum and containing statements which questioned the necessity of abortion.

This is the first time since I've been at this university that a leaflet containing such views has been distributed-it is also the first time to my knowledge that the strict library policy has been enforced. The conclusion is obvious: the leaflets were promptly gathered up and disposed of merely because the Head of Circulation had no sympathy with the views expressed in them! Most would call it bigotry.

Moreover, the hypocrisy of "J.P. Sage for Library Staff" is obvious: both before and after the publishing of the notice on library policy in Salient there has been publicity material distributed throughout the reading rooms and several times, these materials have not been identifiable as belonging to any particular group within the Association.

I do not wish to criticise the library policy, but I question its selective enforcement. If it's good for some-it's good for all.

Yours sincerely,

Member of an Association Club.

Dear Salient,

Drawing of a photo booth falling apart

Okay you guys, the jig is up. I'm finally a fully qualified trainee reporter at the Journalism Course at Polytech with a licence to distort, so when I noticed the article entitled "How the Real Journo's do it" I immediately gagged on my genuine 400 year old Big Ben pie and whipped my patented "Supercool" mirrored sunglasses off my face (slashing my cheek open in the process). Wiping up the blood, I looked more closely at the article.

A copy of a Dominion story about the Education Fightback march was printed above an Evening Post article on the same event. Some paragraphs of the Post article were almost word for word the same as the Dominion's. The caption that Salient put with the two articles read something like "Compare the two articles and see what you think of the Evening Post's journalistic integrity". The inference (yes, they teach us big words like that at Polytech) was clearly that the Evening Post somehow lacked ethics in taking phrases word for word from the Dominion.

Now you university-academic-ivory-tower types may not know much about the way a daily newspaper

functions, so I shall enlighten you as to the probable circumstances surrounding the appearance of the Post article. Some poor, put upon reporter would have been rudely awoken by his Editor hurling a piece of paper at him that came from the desk of Simon Wilson. It would have had phrases in it like "Cuts", "Protest", and "Mass demonstration", all words clearly beyond the intellectual capacity of your normal journalist. The reporter would have shut the window to avoid being distracted by the noise of some unruly students marching in the street and sat down at his typewriter to knock out a story.

Not being able to decipher the typing, he would have looked at the Dominion to see if they had said anything on the matter. Mercifully it had printed a full report of the march and so our reporter would have happily set to and spliced the Dominion copy in with the Press Association reports of events in other centres. Then he would have tossed the completed story in the general direction of a copy box and gone back to sleep. The entire process might have taken about ten minutes at the most. The use of the material from another paper is called "recovery" in the trade, and is standard journalistic practice. You can't expect a busy reporter (busy sleeping that is) to spend precious minutes rewriting the same story that another paper has printed and that says all that needs to be said with economy of language and proper journalistic style.

Anyway, those two small bits of space are all march could have expected, I mean no windows were broken, no eggs were thrown, not one violent incident — how can you expect a reporter to write an exciting story about a peaceful demonstration? If the march had turned into an ugly riot, with Simon Wilson and his pals Police, then the Fightback campaign would have received all the publicity it could have dreamed of. All you need to do for front page headlines on New Zealand papers is to spread a little blood and gore around the place. Next time you have a march, issue everyone with axe-handles and petrol bombs to guarantee worldwide coverage and space in the editorial columns of every paper in the country. It's your choice.....
Yours in irresponsible,

gutter journalism, Bruce (Stuff the facts, get me the juicy bits—in your language) Hill.

P.S. If your ex-president Mr Tees wishes to commit suicide he can ring me and I'll send a photographer round.

A Real Blast!

Sir(s).

Drawing of dust and a sign reading 'Your photo-'

Ve haf ways of making you print our letters you know. So buck up your printing press and get to it!

The Author et al.

PS. Ve aren't kidding you Britisher-extracted pigdogs you (see attached hand-grenade.)

(Look. I can't accept a whole hand-grenade — it's too much! How about if I keep the pin and just return the rest? — ed.)

Racist Attacked

Dear Peter,

This letter is directed to "The People's Voice" in a recent Salient.

You dirty little racist bastard who is analogous to the unidentified racist bastard to stirred up the AWOC polemical issue in Massey University. You are a stupid rat trying to show your white superiority complex by degrading the good and charming Asian students at this university. By all means, as another white Kiwi, I am shamed by your stupidity and infantile behaviour towards our Asian brothers and sisters. If I find out who you are, I am sure going to chop off your two nasty balls and cook them with Maggi sauce to serve as a decent meal for my hungry pussy cat. You better watch up for someone who is going to carry a sharp scalpel from now on around the campus.

Yours sincerely,

Anti-racist.

Real Racism

Dear Sir,

Over the last few weeks I have been accused of being a racist due to my comments about the race-conscious attitudes of what I called the immigrant races of Malaysia.

Racism is a term which I generally dislike because it has been subjected to such a degree of abuse that it has been rendered ambiguous. On the one hand, a small group of label-happy foreign student-radicals might term the legitimate protectionist measures of the New Zealand Government, racist. On the other hand an unsociable minority of Maori gangsters might decide that a satirical show performed in good humour is racist. In fact, however, racism is a very different thing. It is the theory that human ability is determined by race and hence a belief that one race is superior to another.

Let me relate to you a very startling incident that I recently witnessed which I am reluctantly inclined to term as an expression of blatant racism.

At a certain dining hall used by students of variety of nationalities, person A (who was an ethnic Chinese -*not* from the People's Republic) was having lunch. Person B, a Negro, came and sat on the other side of the table, a couple of seats away from that opposite A. Suddenly A got up and moved to the next table with her plate of lunch, bowl of soup, and cup of coffee.

I know the attitudes of A well enough to be able to tell you that the only reason she moved was because of racial prejudice. I thought this was absolutely disgusting and find A's action very immature and low; infact lower than what she would have certainly termed as he the uncivilised table manners of filthy native B'. Mind you, the only outstanding qualities in B in terms of either appearance or manners were his dark skin-colour, negroid facial contours and pepper-corn hair.

It is customary to accuse Europeans of racism, nazism, apartheid and their associated evils. But during my five years of contact with people of various national, cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds I have found out that Europeans are not the worst offenders in this regard. Infact, the subtle racism that some people so often accuse the average European New Zealander of is very moderate compared to certain non-Europeans, both foreign and local that I have come across in this country. Racism was a new concept to me before I came to New Zealand as I come from a fundamentally non-racial Islamic nation.

Yours sincerely,

Abu Sajed.

Another Grizzle about Unpublished Letters

Dear Ed,

I was relieved to see that mine are not the only letters being left unpublished over the last month or so although I was surprised to see that the letter you published this week (Issue 19) was one I wrote four weeks ago. That's what I call stale news. What happened to the one I wrote on 31.7.79? (Actually, who cares?)

B.G. Kelly—you didn't mention your baby-blue eyes.

7244046699231—I didn't know you cared. I'll miss ya (I might, that is.)

Pity about Andrew Tees. Caroline's legs just don't match his.

Carol Addley.

P.S. To Michelle who likes to see her name in print — Hi.

Dear Sir,

Re P. O'Donoghue's letter 6th Aug Salient:

Paul is really fun!—So much fun in fact that I wish to make it public knowledge that I accept his offer. It is not his gallantry, charm, wit or lack of height that have led me to this decision. But it's his baby too!

Yours pausing pregnantly.!

C.A.M.

P.S. I think a harem's not really my style — Perhaps Carol Addley would find fulfillment in such an arrangement.

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)

[unclear: ger]! This one Slipped Through!

-spiritual Father,

[unclear: eeseech] ye oh guider of our destinies to print [unclear: etter] in the glorious and hallowed pages of fine newspaper so that I might publically [unclear: e] the Hell into you for the grow injustice has been done to my person by one of your [unclear: ons]. I refer of course to the fact that my last letters have not received the recognition that more than deserve i.e. been printed!

[unclear: greeted] the demise of Mr Grope with delight to note that during my enforced absence he [unclear: eared] his ugly head once more. I still exist as be proven by consulting line I, Psalm 44, 497, holy bible (Revised Standard Version) [unclear: ed]1881. 1901 and 1952 being the version [unclear: rth] in AD1611.

Yours in perpetuity,

Arthur P. Hedgehog ESQ.

[unclear: Donoghue] Correspondence Ended

Sir,

Sheikh P. O'Donoghue's announcement,

[unclear: s], Salient Vol 42. No. 19. p22 August 6. I [unclear: d] like to disassociate myself from the views opinions expressed by the afore mentioned [unclear: on](?).

[unclear: urther] correspondence will be entered into the said P. O'Donoghue.

Esther Tippet.

National Front

Editor,

[unclear: e] history of the National Front (Salient, 23 was given in an interesting and [unclear: comprehenarticle], article. However there were a couple of [unclear: inaccies]. The British National Front began in when the British National Party, the League [unclear: mpire] Loyalists and the Racial Preservation [unclear: ty] (not the Anglo-Rhodesian Society) [unclear: gamated]. But it was not until late 1967 when

unclear: all] and the Greater Britain Movement [*unclear: d*] that the NF had any organisational [*unclear: gth*]. [*unclear: e*] other point is that the New Zealand [*unclear: Nat-*] Front began in 1977, not in 1978 as [*unclear: d*]. The organisation collapsed in mid 1978[*unclear: a*] the chairman resigned and nobody could [*unclear: und*] to run the NF.

Yours,

Paul Spoonley.

A Helpful Suggestion

Dear Sir,

Re W. S. Lowe's letter in the last issue-try Karori or Khandallah.

Yours faithfully,

J. Smith.

Small is Good

Dear Ed,

I was pleased to see the Salient go back to its normal size after that extra large issue. I mean it was hard eating it without getting paper all over your clothes (mum was mad).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in making banners for the education march. They not only looked good but tasted good.

Cookie Monster.

P.S. Perhaps you could use the same materials that were used for the banners to print Salient.

A Travel Guide

Dear Sir,

How were your summer holidays? Not too much rain I hope. I worked all through my holidays; so, accurately speaking, I did not have any holidays, apart from a Christmas at home watching my Uncle from Wainuiomata eat two turkeys, a leg of ham, and approximately two dozen mincemeat pies, which my mother had spent a week painstakingly cooking. Of course, there was the four days (culminating in New Year's Day). I spent with five others on Waiteriri beach. We stayed in a little paddock, dotted with cowshit, called Peter's Motor Camp. Peter himself was a good sort, who made it his business to put all stray guests, making fools of themselves, to bed at 3 am every morning. He only caught me once, on the other three nights I hid in the trees.

Waiteriri is a spiffing place. There are two motor camps and a shop. Until I visited the place I thought every New Zealand town had several pubs (hell, even Tikokino has one). So after arriving we travelled twenty miles back to Levin and stocked up. Three days, half a gallon of bourbon a quart of rum, a dozen beers and a crate of coke later (not forgetting the coffee in the morning) it was New Year's Eve. Peter came to warn us not to rough his camp up (I had noticed that he had stuck us and our two tents approximately three hundred metres from the

other guests, over in the far corner of the paddock). To be fair, we only terrorised the good looking girls and stole a soccer ball off some little kids. That was the night Peter caught me and my friends. He reckoned we were creating a nuisance. We left it to the only Scotsman amongst us to explain we were out First Footing, but all the clod could say was, 'Give me back me Juice'.

If you think that this letter is too irrelevant to print; you could always print it as a travelogue to Waiteriri. In a few weeks I'll send you a similar letter about my holiday in Motueka, two years ago.

By the way, what the fuck happened to the table-cloths at Victoria Club? They were good value, we are still using the last one as toilet paper, we have only washed it twice.

Love and Kisses,

Phil (the pus sucker)

More Silliness

Dear Peter.

Drawing of a photo in a frame next to a vase of flowers

J.C. Grope has not been clear on one point, that being, that Jesus was a sheep, and presumably God is too, but many of his genuine followers are, in fact, gazelles. While sheep are undeniably worthy of demi-god status, it is the gazelle which is the epitome of grace, meekness and physical perfection and is therefore more likely to attain a prominent position in the Heavenly hierarchy.

Yours,

G. Roberts.

A Democratic Election Required

Dear Sir,

I am pleased to note that both my brother and my sister feature in your letters pages from last issue, this is of course most gratifying to me as Ian has been remarkably reticent about letter writing in recent months and I am pleased to see him reviving. VUNCC an institution which he participated in avidly while at Varsity. As for my sister Jillian, I only wish that my dear sister would not exaggerate our few domestic tiffs and retire to a suitable distance to let us get on with the business of running the world.

I must mention my disappointment with Mr O'Donoghue however with regards to his latest letter as it fills me with sorrow at his incipient demise. How many times must I tell you? One doesn't ask a woman to become one's lifetime slave one orders them to. I trust that I will have no need to repeat this advice Paul.

Although Margaret is apparently a woman (I suspect differently) I cannot help but agree with her comments with regard to the farcical SRC (the "R" stands for representative you know Exec) of August I and oh so respectfully suggest that a full election might be democratic at this point considering the unrest prevalent in "our" executive.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Stenwick.

Rising Price of Essentials

Dear Abby,

The purpose of this letter is to register a protest to, and develop awareness of, the threat posed to the essence of our lives, particularly our social and mental development. Please fall not into the trap of treating our words non seriously.

The aforementioned threat has taken the form of increased costs of ales and liquors. The last budget seemed like a bad dream when it was announced and its effects were ignored at first by our number. Our tolerance has reached its limits and we have a dire need for resuscitation. Unless relief, perhaps in the form of a subsidy on University related social activities, is close at hand the risk is run of student involvement and concern ebbing away, of cultural richness vanishing and our soundness of mind sliding away.

Think about it if you will.

Signed.
J. Moffat.

Notices

[unclear: Fugees] and Revolution; [unclear: at] is the Connection?

[unclear: rum] on the Indochinese refugees. What [unclear: e] cause of the problem? The solution?

[unclear: ker] — Terry Auld from the Wellington [unclear: ist]-Leninist Organisation

[unclear: s] — taken in Kampuchea just prior to [unclear: etnamese] invasion.

[unclear: y] 31 August, Lounge, Union Building, [unclear: a] 2 pm.

[unclear: nised] by the Student Branch of the [unclear: ngton] Marxist-Leninist Organisation.

[unclear: Ontrolling] Interest" —[unclear: ilm] on the Role of the [unclear: Nsnationals]

[unclear: e] dozen largest corporations control [unclear: e] of the world's resources than all the [unclear: ers] and workers, all the rich and poor even all the other business of two thirds [unclear: e] nations on earth combined."

[unclear: owerful] film on the strength of the [unclear: snationals]. Their role in the downfall of [unclear: nde], and in other Latin American [unclear: tries].

[unclear: sday] 28 August, Memorial Theatre, [unclear: n] Building, 12 - 1

[unclear: ussion] free.

[unclear: anised] by VUWSA International Affairs.

[unclear: Toria] NURSES' Society [unclear: Eting]

[unclear: rsday] 30 August, 7.15pm in the Lounge, [unclear: ent] Union.
you there!

[unclear: Y] University Students [unclear: id] Friends Group

group is holding its next social on day 2nd of September at 2pm. If you are female or male, student or staff, and [unclear: Id] like to join in our social activities, or [unclear: d] like to know something about our [unclear: p], then for information ring;

[unclear: leen] 721-111

[unclear: or] 862-449

[unclear: en] 721-167

[unclear: NCC]

propose to revive the above sadly [unclear: nct] Victoria University Night Climbing [unclear: b]. Those interested please leave names, [unclear: ne] numbers and a blank cheque at the [unclear: dents]' Association Office.

[unclear: iff]-raff.

Harrier Club

Saturday 1st September — Run from gym. Meet at 2pm in gym foyer.

Saturday 8th September — Invitation. Mike Bond and Des Eyre. 20 Gloucester Street, Silver stream.

All ages, sexes and stages of fitness are welcome.

Club of the Week

Liferight

Are you concerned with any particular issue at the moment? Is it the killing of seals or education cut-backs that make you feel incensed?

Issues are an integral part of our lives. There is always some sort of controversy whether its at local or national level. So for us the right to life is an issue, that while it seems very low key at present, we want to bring the issue to your attention.

Have you considered lately the issue of abortion? Is it a black and white issue for you - that you are either pro or anti abortion, or do you consider yourself neither for or against? Have you heard yourself say, I don't want to hear about it, or, let's get off this topic!

We read recently where the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child had been trying to educate the decision makers — parliament and so on. Meanwhile abortions continued and the public has become less aware of the issue. For many New Zealanders now, abortion has become an accepted fact.

At Liferight, we believe any individual has the right to lead a full life. To abort a potential child takes away that right — a person takes it upon themselves to decide that life isn't important for that other being.

Take time to consider that statement — to judge whether another being should be allowed to live. Decisions that were made by several world leaders and are now being made for Chinese and Vietnamese refugees.

It is important that you become aware of what's going on around you. Make decisions and stick to them. We tend to skirt some issues but we must be prepared to stand up for what we think is right.

Certainly in today's society where everything has to be convenient because we are moving so fast, abortion is the easy answer.

Make your decision today and stick to it.

Joseph Sheehan

(President - Liferight)

I BUILT IT JUST FOR YOU, DEAR!

BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR Stewart Macphersons proudly present **DIRECT FROM LONDON** LYNETTE DAVIES AND DONALD BURTON IN **NIGHT ANDY DAY** An award winning new play by **TOM STOPPARD** WITH **MICHAEL HAIGH RAY HENWOOD STEPHEN GLEDHILL GEORGE HENARE JOHN CHICO AND WILLIAM MANSON / MARCUS CALLEN** DIRECTED BY **CHARLES ROSS** DESIGNED BY **ARL TOMS** PAN AM The London critics wrote: **BOOK NOW FOR THIS SMASH WEST END SUCCESS!** October 29 to November 3 Book Opera House phone 843-842 Prices \$9.90 offer to groups of 12 or more best seats at sh

Exec Elections

Applications for positions on the 1980 Executive of the Students' Association are now open. The positions available are:

Each position carries an honorarium. Applications will close on Thursday 30 August at 4.30pm and should be lodged in the box in the Students' Association office. Any application can be withdrawn before 4.30pm on

Friday 31 August.

Polling will take place on Wednesday 12 September and Thursday 13 September from 8.30 to 6.30pm. There will be a polling booth in the Wellington Clinical School at times to be arranged.

Propective candidates for the position of Treasurer are reminded that Sections 22 and 23 of Schedule No. 2 of the VUWSA Constitution require that candidates for Treasurer must have, as a minimum requirement, passed Stage 2 Accountancy.

Further information on the positions is available from the Students' Association office and further information on the elections can be obtained from the Returning Officer. Anyone wishing to register an absentee vote should see the Returning Officer as soon as possible after all the candidates are known.

Kelvin J. Ratnam
Returning Officer

Presidential Vacancy

Notice is hereby given for a by-election for the position of President up to 31 December 1979.

Applications for the above position are now open and will close on Thursday 30 August at 4.30pm, and should be lodged in the box in the Students' Association office. Applications may be withdrawn before 4.30pm on Friday 31 August.

This by-election, arising from SRC motion 167/79, will be [*unclear*: hel] concurrently with the Executive elections for 1980. Accordingly polling will take place on Wednesday 12 September and Thursday 13 September from 8.30am to 6.30pm. There will be a polling booth in the Wellington Clinical School at times to be arranged.

Further information on the above positions is available from the Students' Association office and the Returning Officer. Anyone wishing to register an absentee vote should see the Returning Officer as soon possible after all the candidates are known.

Kelvin J. Ratnam

Returning Officer

General Secretary Stanz

Nominations for the positions of General Secretary of the Student Teachers' Association of New Zealand (STANZ) close on 21 September 1979. Nominations, in the form of written applications, should be addressed to:

General Secretary,
STANZ
P.O. Box 9712
Courtenay Place

Wellington

Further information, including a job description, can be obtained from the same source.

At last, your Bursary Cheque. You can bank it on campus. The Bank of New Zealand is right on campus to help you with banking services. When your bursary cheque arrives there's no need to wait until you're down town. Call into our on-campus office. If you haven't already a cheque or savings account with us we can very quickly open one. You'll find it so much more convenient to bank with the Bank of New Zealand. Because

we're right here on campus we understand understand student money problems too. We always have a sympathetic ear, backed by helpful practical advice. Anytime you'd like to talk things over just call and arrange a time. Call at the BNZ on-campus office, and arrange to see Ray Carman, or phone him direct at BNZ Wellington branch, comer Lambton and Customhouse Quays, phone 725-099. Bank of New Zealand Here when you need us - on campus