

# SALIENT

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' PAPER

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## S.U.B. THIRD FLOOR BY 1966?

**THE construction of a new floor for the Student Union Building is not likely to begin until October, 1965.**

THE report of the Planning Sub-Committee of the SU Management Committee says it appears that sufficient funds will be available by then. The Students' Association will provide about £14,000. It is hoped to obtain a Government subsidy to bring the total to the necessary figure.

The new floor will probably be about 7200 sq ft, and the Sub-Committee has put forward recommendations for its use. Students will be pleased to hear that new toilet facilities are proposed. It was also agreed that the ground floor toilet facilities at the West-end of the building would have to be enlarged.

Other recommendations include: A Coffee Room where students could take sandwich lunches. This could either be in one of the existing Common Rooms, or on the new floor. In any case, a new Common Room will be necessary. The President of the Students' Association, Mr. Michael Moriarty, asked for a room with carpets and easy chairs.

A small dining room for up to 30 people, where staff or students

could entertain guests was an interesting idea put forward. It would be linked to the kitchen by a lift which would also serve the Coffee Room.

It is possible that the Student Welfare Service might be housed in the enlarged building. There may also be space for a bookshop, but at this stage of planning it is difficult to be certain, the Sub-Committee reports.

The report mentions the possibility of the rights for sale of sweets and tobacco being transferred to a hairdresser housed somewhere in the building.

No plans have yet been finalised for the additions, as the preliminary discussions with the architect are not planned to take place until August. First plans are not expected to be ready before February, 1964.

## New President



PETER BLIZARD

**IN a closely contested election, Peter Blizard was elected President of the Students' Association for 1963-64.**

VOTING totals were: Blizard: 649 (39.4 per cent); Perham: 557 (34.4 per cent) and Middleton: 327 (26.2 per cent).

From a total student roll of 3832, 31.9 per cent or 1263 voters went to the poll.

Peter Blizard, President-Elect, detailed what he would do if elected at a recent campaign meeting in the Memorial Theatre. He said he would do everything within his power to encourage greater student participation in student affairs. He wanted in particular more opportunity for everyone to take part in sub-committee deliberations. There is a tendency at present for the Executive to confine administrative matters to the selected few.

He also proposed to win student support for the setting up of a Health Service at Victoria University. He envisaged a Health Scheme being in operation by the beginning of 1964.

Blizard said he would form a special sub-committee to cater for the needs of our ever-increasing overseas student population. Such a committee existed before, but its approach was not successful. In Blizard's opinion, such a committee should be more closely associated with the International Club.

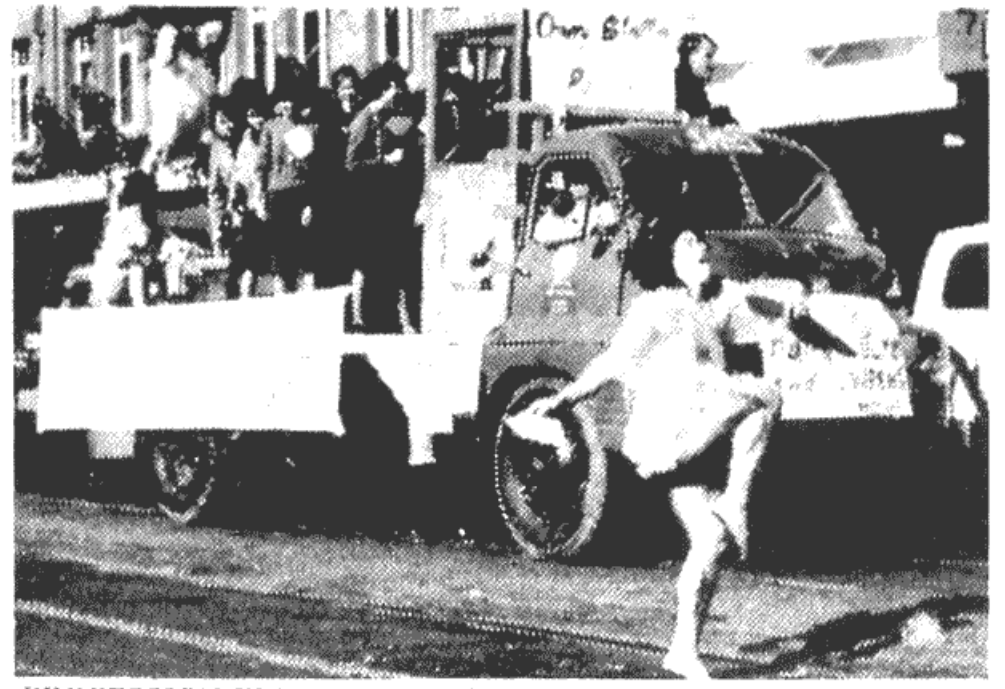
Blizard also urged the breaking up of the many select groups which now exist in the University. He wanted to see a greater integration of students.

## BAG SNATCHING

"DON'T leave valuables in bags and satchels." So the Registrar, Mr. L. O. Desborough, warns students.

Desborough told SALIENT of a spate of petty-bag thefts here at the end of last term.

Worst area was the foyer of the Hunter Building, he said. "Thefts seem particularly prevalent after training college pay-outs."



PROCESSION FLOAT PASSING THROUGH COURTENAY PLACE.

## CAPPING WEEK HIGHLIGHTS

**VICTORIA'S Capping Week provided the usual hi-jinks this year with plenty of activities to keep students on-the-go.**

THE 1963 edition of Cappicade hit the streets on Thursday.

No sales figures are yet available, but a Cappicade source reports that about 23,000 of the 27,000 have been sold "and we've still to circularise copies to the other varsities."

"Selling was chaotic, as usual," he said, "but we're quite pleased with the way things went."

About 100 students hawked the edition in the capital and in outlying provincial towns such as Napier, Palmerston North and Wanganui, earning some fat commissions.

On the Friday, about high noon, 25 floats rumbled through the downtown shopping area attended by mobs of weirdly-attired students waving placards and shouting slogans.

Weathering missile attacks (flour, eggs, tomatoes, etc.) from over-enthusiastic spectators (some students), the entourage chanted (and ranted) its way to Parliament Buildings and thence back to Victoria for ale refreshments in the cafe.

The "petrol war," run by the Chemistry Society, received the best float award; and this year's charity, Stepping Stones, an organisation which helps rehabilitate people after they come out of mental hospitals, collected over £450.

Degrees were conferred in person on 381 graduates by the Chancellor, Sir Duncan Stout, at the Capping ceremony on the Friday night.

Among the recipients was the former Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Nash, on whom was conferred an honorary degree of laws. This is Victoria's first honorary degree.

Sir Duncan spoke of a comprehensive development plan for the university (since released), and

mentioned the urgent need for more halls of residence.

The guest speaker, the British High Commissioner, Sir Francis Cumming-Bruce, told the audience that New Zealand could become a beacon for the Commonwealth and a model for what future Western society should attain.

But, he warned, this would not be achieved if her natural talent was chained by the enslavement to convention that threatened the West.

Among us there were pioneers and geniuses, men who did not conform, men of independence of mind, and he suggested to graduates that they had a special and essential function to encourage and support these people.

"Is not a main obligation of all of us graduates," asked Sir Francis, "to make a special effort first to identify these leaders in our midst, the lonely and unappreciated explorers, and secondly to do anything we can to make their work less difficult and more widely understood?"

Starting the following Monday, Extravaganza, "A Mid-November Night's Dream," ran six nights in the Opera House.

Houses were small the first few nights, but picked up toward the end. Attendances totalled over 3000.

It is understood the show lost about £700.

Extravaganza had an extra run in the Memorial Theatre from last Wednesday to Saturday, too late for SALIENT to obtain updated financial and attendance figures.

The re-run was partly to recoup losses, but as show organiser John Allan explained: "We'd had the idea to stage Extrav at Victoria for quite some time."

## SELLING CAPPICADE

SOME Cappicade sellers fared better than others. Two students out at the Hutt sold approximately 1000 each and a familiar figure in the city was the character who carried his Cappicades in a wheelbarrow and sold 1100.

The Judo Club also did a good job on the station, selling 3300.

As usual, there was a spate of amusing incidents. One student tried to sell to a woman on the station with a tribe of children. She stoutly refused until he told her that it was "Parent Approved" and showed her the relevant portion of the magazine. She quickly bought one, saying that the children would be able to read it on the train. It is hoped that the children found it nourishing literature.

One enthusiastic seller obtained clients with considerable success in a city hotel by shouting them beers.—D.W.



CAPPICADE SELLERS: HARVEY NAUSBAUM AND G. BERTRAM.



## Revue In Rehearsal



EXTRAVAGANZA'S MARGOT SUTHERLAND, JOHN KOOLMAN AND MALE BALLET PHOTOGRAPHED AT REHEARSALS.

## PRESS MONOPOLY ENDS

THE demise of the Manawatu Times is salutary sign of the changing pattern of New Zealand communications. There are now more broadcasting stations in this country than there are daily newspapers. Including television, broadcasting units number 42. The ugly death of the Times brings the papers down to 41.

The press and radio are the only significant media for the exchange of ideas, information, and opinion. The Press is, and always has been run by private enterprise. Radio and television are State monopolies. The diverse nature of the control of these two competing media must have an influence on what each presents and the way it is presented. Certain subject matters by their very nature suit the scope of one media rather than the other. In many cases the two complement one another.

The revitalised NZBC is demonstrating that its change to Corporation status is more than a change in name. There has been an honest attempt to present sensitive controversial issues in an imaginative manner. The news service is a welcome supplement to the daily diet of Press Association coverage.

There is good reason to suppose that the Newspaper Proprietors are perturbed about the serious entry of radio and TV into the newsgathering field. It is said that when Broadcasting made an approach to join the Press Association their application was refused. But the existence of two nation wide news services has much to recommend it. Unofficial censorship and slanting becomes much more difficult than it would be with one service.

Advertising is another important sector in which the two media must also compete. It is on advertising revenue that both must depend for their livelihood.

Newspapermen and those who direct newspapers would, however, be ill advised to become discouraged. American media research has indicated that radio and TV news in fact stimulates newspaper buying. Newspapers can cover more ground, and in a less ephemeral form.

What the Press must look to is not the laurels of its past but the quality of its future. No longer has the Press a monopoly.

Still New Zealand has no truly national Press. That is still a target to be aimed at; and one which should be achieved with quality. The flabby complacency of publishing what will fit between the advertisements will have to go. An aggressive Press, but a Press with integrity is required. Such an enterprise could fear nothing from competing media.—G.W.R.P.

## Salient Staff

### EDITORIAL

Editor:	Ian Grant
News Editor:	Dave Scoullar
Features Editor:	David Wright
Circulation Manager:	Jill White
Business Manager:	Dave Preston
Secretary:	Raewyn Dalziel
Sub-Editors:	Bill Alexander, John Murphy

### GENERAL

Reporters: George Andrews, Dale Ashenden, Warren Bourne, Lyn de Bres, Susan Cook, Roger Clarke, Stephen Chadwick, Jock Donovan, Anthony Holmes, Tony Haas, Murray Gray, Evan Grogan, Diane Farmer, Hugh Mill, Sue Neville, Pat Norris, Murray Rowlands, Ranjit de Silva, Burton Silver, George Quinn, David Taylor, Stephanie Webster, Stephen Whitehouse.

Photographers: John Bailey, Hugh Mill.

## Letters to the Editor....

### MISLEADING

Sir.—I hope that you will excuse this intrusion by a student at another University in another country, but I feel compelled to comment upon the article "Foreign Student News Usually Confuses" which appeared on page 7 of your issue of March 25th. Specifically, I am rather disturbed by the quite misleading character of the section on the I.S.C.

My reason for saying this is, briefly, that the writer of the article appears to be totally unaware of the tremendous change which has occurred in the I.S.C. during the last three years. This change has resulted from the historic decision of the 9th I.S.C., held at Klosters in 1960, to drop altogether the "students-as-students" Clause which had been so great a source of contention right from the days of I.S.C. genesis in Stockholm in 1950.

As a result of this decision we find amongst the Resolutions of the 10th I.S.C., held in Quebec in June of last year, a total of thirty-five "Statements on Colonialism, Totalitarianism, Imperialism, Racism..." etc.

Most of these statements are about specific areas and problems and are quite irrelevant to "students-as-students"—e.g. condemnation in very strong terms of the South African Government's racial policy; of "Imperialist Aggression in Cuba"; and of the conditions prevailing in the seceded member Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

Since 1960 the new I.S.C. attitude has gained more and more support, and is now accepted by nearly all participating National Unions. It was adopted by the National Union of Australian University Students over a year ago and since then has been approved by every one of the twelve constituent Universities—the most conservative of all at last capitulating in January of this year.

Thus, the article was obviously misleading internationally—but I have a strong suspicion that it was also misleading nationally. By this I mean that I am fairly certain that New Zealand also accepted the new outlook at the 10th I.S.C. ("Acceptance", I think, can only be determined by participation in or abstention from the discussion and voting on those Motions clearly lying outside the "Students-as-students" boundary-line). I would hasten to add, however, that I may be wrong on this point—as I say, it is a "strong suspicion," not by any means a complete certainty.

In any case this does not affect the main point which I have sought to make in this letter.

I should like again to apologise for this interference and, should you decide to make any amendment to the article in question, to thank you, in advance, for doing so. Yours etc.,

ROBERT McDONALD,

Assistant International Officer,  
Students Rep. Council,  
University of Sydney.

### CONCESSIONS

Sir.—On the first night of "Measure For Measure" I witnessed what amounts to discrimination against part-time students. In front of me in the ticket queue was a part-timer who as a matter of course proffered six shillings for payment of his seat. I asked whether or not students were to be charged 2/6, and, if so, why not part-timers? Neither the girls at the ticket box nor the part-timer were certain how much he should pay, so finally his six shillings was accepted.

Subsequent inquiry leads me to believe that this student was unwittingly cheated. A student is to be defined, in this case, as one who has paid his Students' Association fee and is thereby a member of the Students' Association.

Thus all carrying this status, which includes part-timers, should be subject to the same relevant privileges.

So I suggest that all part-timers make certain that, in the future, they insist on this right, and that all ticket sellers make themselves

acquainted with what prices they are to charge.—I am, etc.,

ANTHONY HAAS.

### BALL AWASH

Sir.—I wish to complain about the terrible organisation of the Tournament Ball. There was first the confusion over the different colour tickets, although I admit that as things turned out there was no need for tickets anyway as there was apparently no doorman. We wandered in at 10 and I might just as well have brought a cable-car ticket.

Whoever "planned" supper should get a few lessons in crowd control. I can't comment on the food since I never actually saw it, but it smelt okay. I spent most of the afternoon at the drinking horn wedged against the bar, but the crush was nothing compared to the scene in the supper ante-room. I hate to think what would have happened in the event of earthquake or fire.

The grog setup was disgusting. There were no soft drinks available, only beer on tap served in jugs; by one, parts of the floor looked worse than the aftermath of a Weir stag party, and that, I assure you, is something. To cap things off, one of the barmen was wandering around the hall picking fights and being generally objectionable.

In my view, beer, especially tap beer, is out of place at a ball; it is too messy and requires large quantities for effect, this in turn necessitating frequent retreats to the gents. I think a ball should be a smooth affair, not an extension of the drinking horn. I am, etc.,

P. T. NORRIS

### AN APOLOGY

Sir.—At the election meeting held on Friday 3rd May I was rather embarrassed to have a private matter concerning Mr. Afeaki, Mr. Smythe, and myself, made public.

In my anger at hearing this unwanted (and I feel, unnecessary), publicity I did not deal with the issue very cleverly and began to use an argument I should not have touched. In the event I exaggerated my argument and went further than was necessary or even true. This I regret because although it is public knowledge that I think Mr. Afeaki would not make a good President I did not mean to give the impression that he was not a good executive member. Mr. Afeaki has many exceptional qualities which have been of great use to this executive and many virtues, especially his sincerity and love for the job, which have made him in many ways an invaluable executive member. For the comments I made which were so exaggerated as to be quite untrue, and for the false impression I may have left with some people, I offer an unreserved and full apology both to Mr. Afeaki and to Mr. Smythe.—I am etc.,

M. J. MORIARTY.

### STATEMENT

Sir.—I resigned from the Executive because a majority of them lacked the courage to publicly express their convictions.

At the last Executive meeting I contended that a recent SALIENT editorial, entitled "The Ethics Of SGMs" had breached the unwritten ethics of journalists, in referring unnecessarily to certain past events in the life of a student of this university. All Executive members agreed with my contention that what was written was in fact unethical and—to say the least—"in poor taste."

I maintained that the prime function of the Executive is to protect the rights of the constituent members—the students; furthermore I maintained that what was stated in the editorial in question was an unwarrantable intrusion into the private life of a student. As such the Executive was bound to express its strong disapproval of the editorial and therefore to ex-

tend its support to the student referred to in that editorial.

The Executive agreed that the editorial was unethical; yet they failed to extend their influence and protect one of the members of their association. As such they have failed in carrying out their expressed convictions. In view of this I can no longer remain a member of such an Executive.—I am, etc.

PETER BLIZARD.

(The Editor apologises to Mr. Blizard for the story headed "Censure" which contained some errors.)

### STRIKE A BALANCE

Sir.—As I felt that some very astute observations were made in R.G.L.'s editorial "Strike A Balance," may I question some criticisms of the same by M. C. Rowlands.

Firstly, Rowlands connects "indissolubly... a complete and organised method of protest and artistic expression," meaning that the artist must necessarily be a rebel in some form or another, particularly as a student.

I think this is untrue, and an indication that he does not, perhaps, understand the basic function of the artist, which is, surely, to have a profound sensitivity and awareness of the world about him, and to transmute the ethos or quintessence of this into the form in which he is peculiarly skilled—this business of "heightened consciousness," I suppose. The artist may violently rebel against his social, religious or political ambience, but on the other hand he may paint, compose, or write quite happily within the accepted social structure, with possibly that anonymity, so despised by D. Billing.

We are all familiar with the status symbol of duffle coat, beard and black jersey without shirt, together with the slightly fey and abstracted air. A harmless form of social protest, and, no doubt there have been and still are genuine artists exhibiting this expression of non-conformity. But, and here is the crux of the matter, this is a manifestation of something coming from within, in the genuine case, whereas many of these people have adopted the external happenings, as it were, without the artist's vision or gifts.

The genuine devotee is rarely found among the poisonous cynicism of the mid-cult and I am always suspicious of those who vociferously proclaim their artistry from the rooftops, particularly when accompanied by a shoddy technique.

Rowlands also correlates "that amorphous thing—the beautiful" with the "pretty boys" who seek after it—making "pretty" synonymous with beautiful.

With a little reading and thinking on aesthetics he would discover that beauty means a great deal more than pretty, in the sense in which he uses it. While there are artists seeking to create the truly beautiful, the inference that this means "Ode to a Skylark" or Sankey's hymns, is nonsense.

The peroration, as Baxter has it—"For some artists, it is necessary to act, to explode and to vituperate..." A truism, no doubt, but my grouch is directed against the 90 per cent of these explosions which are nothing more than the effusions of pretentious and effete poseurs.—I am etc.,

M. GEARD.

### Replies To Correspondents

R. G. Benson: For your protection, and ours, we cannot print a libellous letter.

"Gut"-Seeking Student: If you're not prepared to sign your name, we're not prepared to print your letter.

N. Tantemsapya: Far too long, and peppered with slanderous remarks. Cut the length and the slander and we'll be happy to print your letter.

A. Haas: P. Norris's letter above covers all your points.

—Editor.

# 1967 DECIMAL SWITCH TO COST £4 MILLION

THE basic advantage of the change to decimal coinage lies in the relative ease and speed of calculation in decimals compared with pounds, shillings and pence.

Only one set of rules is required for calculation as compared with three under the present system, because no conversions are necessary in multiplication and division. Decimal notation requires fewer figures than notation in pounds, shillings and pence.

to a decimal system based on a major unit equalling the existing ten shillings.

They estimated that the probable outlay involved for Government would be between £3½ million and £4½ million in the money values prevailing at that time. But they saw the cost involved as a defined amount incurred within a relatively short period, which would soon be offset by substan-

tial benefits which would continue into the endless future. They asserted that, with the increasing trend towards office mechanisation and with the growth of business, the longer a change was delayed, the greater the cost of change would be.

Thus the decision of Government to follow Australian changing to decimal coinage is, I think, to be welcomed.

BY

PROF. F. HOLMES

Everyone will gain from this, and, in particular, there will be substantial economies to be derived in industry and commerce, from a saving of man hours in recording, calculation and checking, an improvement in accuracy, less fatigue and greater flexibility of office machinery.

Most countries of the world are decimal countries—of the major countries Britain will be virtually alone in 1966 in not having a decimal system. Some of the most important advances in business machinery have taken place in countries like the United States and Germany. Up till now their machines have had to be converted, at some expense, for use in New Zealand.

The conversion or replacement of existing machines, made necessary by the introduction of decimal coinage, is going to be a costly matter.

The New Zealand Decimal Coinage Committee recommended that appropriate compensation be paid by Government for the cost of converting office machines and cash registers and for the replacement of unconvertible machines. This committee reported favourably in 1959 on the change over

NEW ZEALAND LITERARY FUND

## SCHOLARSHIP IN LETTERS . . .

Applications are invited for the Scholarship in Letters for 1964. The amount of the Scholarship is £1,000. Applicants should apply by letter to the Secretary, New Zealand Literary Fund Advisory Committee, Department of Internal Affairs, Private Bag, Wellington, giving details of the project or projects which would be undertaken during the tenure of the Scholarship, and forwarding copies of published literary work. The holder of the Scholarship will be expected to devote all or most of his or her time to the nominated project or projects.

THE RESULT WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN DECEMBER, 1963.

The closing date for the receipt of applications is  
31 AUGUST, 1963

# Around The Campus

By El  
Crud

WENT to my first Executive meeting the other night and I can't say I was very brought on by it. Peter Blizzard holed me up in the Cafe and started railing about everything in general; said he liked my column, best in SALIENT (this I like, stimulation of the super-ego). Then he really got down to ripping up Executive. Now I, a product of beery, decrepit Weir, am, of course, suspicious of all varsity politicians, but there was something touching about his eager earnestness. I felt a bit guilty sitting there, not caring a damn about student politics.

JUST lately, I have been pestered, nay, harried to death, by people trying to get in this column. I am amused by tales of clots falling in the Kelburn fountain, or being chased across the park by the groundsman in their underpants, although I would point out that if one wanted to get caught with his trousers down, there are far better places than Kelburn Park. I take exception, however, to helpful hints on how to improve my column.

I did something rash last night. I swore off alcoholic liquor for the whole of the second term! Those of you who know me will appreciate the dread import of this decision, how its ramifications will manifest themselves as I move

through the baroque half world of varsity life. No more rum and cokes; no more cheery words with the slob who spills his ale upon me; no more the Midland's scrum-packed Saturday night, the fighting to get your grog; the safari to some broken-down flat in a mountainous suburb, the chorus line of dental nurses along the wall, each of whom has to be home by eleven; just a lemonade please, and yes, I do have a mother, thank you. 'Tis a hard world!

A strong directive from the Vice-Chancellor sort of emasculated Weir's capping, but the boys still had their fun. Footprints mysteriously appeared around statues and so did the gendarmerie. One intrepid fresher hung his mother's bra from the Seddon statue, only to have it removed by a copper with a thing about lingerie. The police also said a resident of the cemetery had complained of the noise. They dragged the Weir capping controller out of bed at four in the morning; seems they regarded him as the brains behind every clandestine operation in the city. Forgive me though for harking back to the glorious days of 1961: the chariot race through "Ben Hur" and the great hostel raids. Them were the days!

Had lunch in the George the other day; the food was excellent, but when I went for another jug the barmaid looked at me as if I was a potential gigolo and asked my age. What a blasted cheek! Me, El Crud, being asked my age by some mere bar-room bint. "Twelve," I said, "but I'm quite grown up for my age." It must be my eyes that bring them on so much.

## "AIR - HOSTESSING CAN BE AN EXECUTIVE CAREER . . ."



Miss Woodward, Hostess Superintendent

Yes, Miss Woodward  
**YOU'RE RIGHT!**

Hostessing has developed into a complex and demanding organisation. And naturally, women with executive potential find unlimited opportunities in administration, training and countless other senior positions.

"But—" you interrupt, and yes, we heard your interruption. We know the problem. You'd only ever thought of air-hostessing as a "glamour-job," a job for the girl with loads of looks and personality-plus. Well, that is true to some extent, but for the senior positions you could one day fill, these are the qualities we consider more important . . .

For your practical work:—

- ★ Poise
- ★ Sympathetic personality
- ★ Sophistication
- ★ Kindness

And these are the qualities which will single you out for special promotion:—

- ★ Good education
- ★ Initiative
- ★ Ambition
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Apply in writing to The Personnel Manager, N.Z.N.A.C., Box 96, Wellington, or enquire initially to Mr. Shires, Phone 38-600, Wellington.

Previous experience is not necessary, as full training courses will be given. If you feel you have some, or all, of the above qualities, then apply today, and discuss your future career.

**NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL AIRWAYS CORPORATION**

# ANOTHER EXECUTIVE RESIGNATION

LINDSAY CORNFORD resigned from the Executive at the 25th April meeting. This was in protest against President Moriarty's method of solving a deadlock on the Executive by the toss of a coin.

ATTEMPTS were being made by the Executive to fill the vacancy left by Public Relations Officer Peter Blizard, who had resigned at the previous meeting.

Seven applications had been received for the position. They were narrowed down to two possibilities. When the Executive came to vote on the issue six votes were cast for Brendan Walsh and six for Dave Beard. A second vote also tied.

Moriarty declined to use his casting vote. He preferred to settle the issue with a coin throw. Lindsay Cornford resigned immediately.

Cornford said: "It is undemocratic, immoral and foolish for a coin to appoint an Executive member who has the power to spend large sums of student money." Cornford wanted the students to be able to vote when such a position arose. His resignation made this necessary. (See Executive reporter's comment on this page). Realising that the by-election would cost the Students' Association considerable expense, he attempted to settle the issue with an SGM.

Consequently a by-election must be held early in the second term.

## PARKING PROBLEM

STUDENTS who park their cars across garage entrances in Kelburn Parade are liable to have them towed away.

THE Traffic Superintendent, Mr. J. Anderson gave this warning in a letter to the Registrar recently.

Anderson pointed out that cases of improper parking of cars, which caused serious inconvenience to residents in the area, were on the increase.

Most cases which had been brought to his notice concerned students.

The superintendent warned there was also the possibility of proceedings being taken, apart from the expense incurred by the removal and storage of vehicles.

## Moriarty Labelled "Unethical"

PETER BLIZARD labelled Students' Association President Moriarty "unethical" at the recent presidential candidates' meeting in the Memorial Theatre.

BLIZARD accused Moriarty of attempting to influence the elections. Moriarty had persuaded Smythe, prominent Law Faculty member, to switch his seconding of nomination papers from Afeaki to Perham.

Moriarty, explaining his action, said that Afeaki's record on the House Committee showed he would not be suitable for President.

Later, when questioned by SALIENT, Blizard said: "No student, more so the President of the Association, has any ethical justification for approaching a nominator or secondor of any candidate in an election, in order to change that nominator's or secondor's allegiance to any other candidate."

"Under the circumstances to which I took exception, the above occurred. This was rendered still more unethical since—

"(a) The student concerned was the President of the Association and presumably his voice carries somewhat more weight than most other students;

"(b) He attempted and was successful in swaying allegiance to his chosen candidate, i.e. the person that he, the President, nominated."

In reply to Blizard, Moriarty said to SALIENT:

"Mr. Blizard has continued to accuse me of 'unethical' conduct in trying to influence Mr. Smythe to nominate Mr. Perham rather than Mr. Afeaki. I don't think I have acted in the least bit 'unethically.' Is politics not concerned with influencing people to change their allegiance? There's not much left to politics if you take that out. As a financial member of the Students' Association I have every right to try to influence people to vote or second one way or another and I will not give up that right just to please Mr. Blizard.

"For political reasons (which haven't turned out very successfully), I preferred to see Mr. Smythe nominating Mr. Perham rather than Mr. Afeaki. I told him this and necessarily gave him my reasons. What commandment, what 'ethical' principles have I transgressed here?"

"Elections involve politics and if the honest assessment of merit and capability is to be banned from our elections they will become empty and meaningless public rituals, failing completely to fulfil the purpose for which they were designed.

"Nor do I think that honest people who realise they have made an error of judgment should be condemned to live with their error. What is the point of allowing frank criticism and open discussion if public disapprobation follows a change of heart? If I convinced Mr. Smythe it may well have been because I had strong arguments. I would always hope that a person who had the intellectual honesty to change his mind when he was convinced he had made a mistake would also have the integrity and courage to act accordingly.

"Consequently I view with considerable distaste (and some surprise) the atmosphere of pained disapproval that has followed this action. I do not like to see social pressure whipped up to prevent people from rectifying mistakes. Trying to stifle freedom of action in this field cannot be justified if one admits the right to freedom of political opinion."

"I can only conclude that Mr. Blizard's charges against me are not very well thought out. Certainly he hasn't convinced me. I would do the same again whenever I wanted to."

## THE POWER OF A COIN

Executive Reporter

CORNFORD'S resignation from Executive has caused considerable trouble. Not only were many students put out by the stillborn SGM, but now a by-election must be held a few days before the general election. As well, the position of Capping controller, which has caused enough headaches lately, was left vacant. This prompted Moriarty to call the resignation of a Capping controller one week before Capping the most irresponsible action he had seen. Perham called it a "shambles." Cornford volunteered to continue his Capping work but, even so, the Executive had no legal hold on his actions.

Although Cornford may have taken this issue as an excuse to get off Executive after all the unpleasant, and considerably unjust, criticism he has received lately, it is only fair to accept his denial of this.

Nevertheless, his method of furthering his principle is of dubious efficacy. The motions he was to present at the SGM were designed firstly to institute an SGM instead of a by-election after four resignations from Executive—the constitution requires a by-election after four resignations in a year; and secondly to have elections for the four positions at that SGM.

He has not insured against a similar position occurring again. When asked about this, he said that student opinion would be the required check. However this can only be so if students know what is happening.

If he is so concerned about the power of the coin, he should frame a motion requiring Executive to have an election in the case of a deadlock. Whether or not students feel they need this further control over the Executive they appoint to run their public affairs, can only be decided by them.

## The Student World

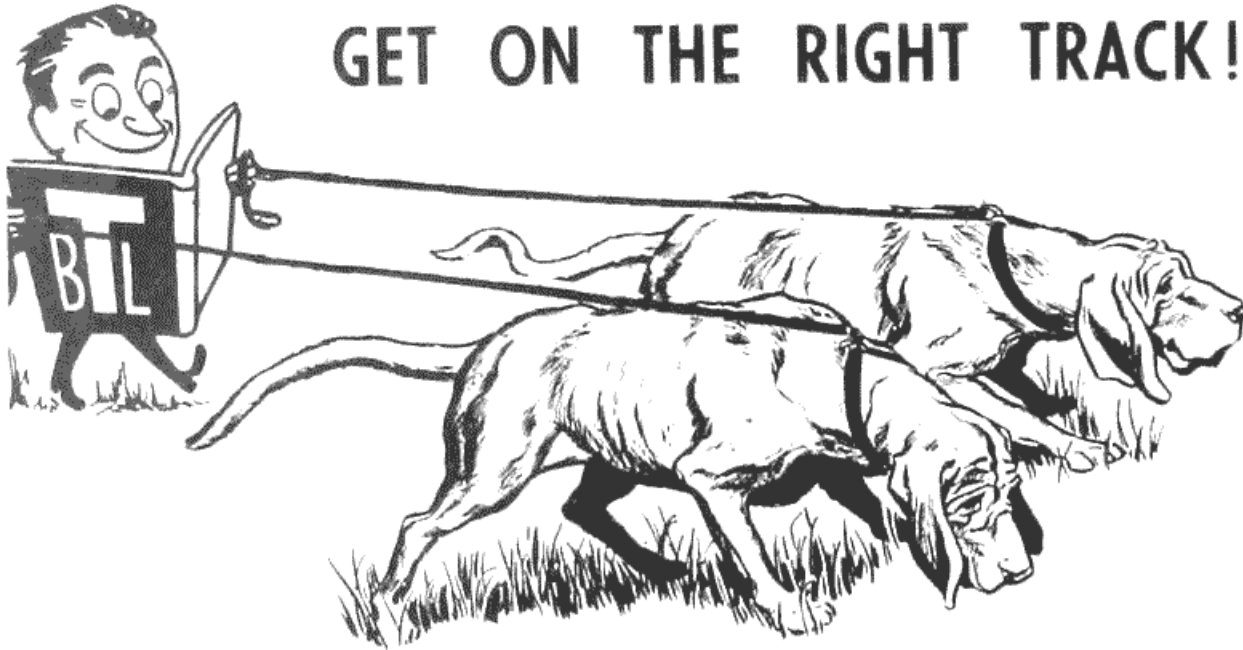
**DENMARK:** Recently the Government of Denmark announced a grant of 1,300,000 kroner over (£50,000) to set up a Danish peace corps, starting with 30 young volunteers to help in health and education work in the emergent nations.

**USSR:** An account in the Soviet literary magazine *Literaturnaya Gazeta* of how neighbours of two Leningrad "beatniks" urged the authorities to send these neighbourhood disgraces to Siberia evoked an indignant protest from a Siberian writer. In a recent issue of the same magazine, V. Marina expressed the anger of inhabitants of Siberia over the fact that other regions of the Soviet Union want to convert this splendid land into "a sort of deportation region for all kinds of loafers." If they want to "get rid of their undesirable elements, they should find other destinations for them," the writer advised.

**IRELAND:** Four Irish students from University College, Galway, recently walked 150 miles—from Belfast, in the north of Ireland, through Dublin to Galway in the west—pushing a large dustbin in which they collected £300 for the Freedom from Hunger Campaign. The students spent seven days on the journey and in towns and villages on the way they were given free meals and lodging.

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## MODERN NZ ART PHONEY

"TRUE ART is free from academic bonds." This was the theme of a lecture given here by Prof. Kurt von Meier, of the Ilam School of Fine Arts.

PROF. VON MEIER showed slides on a variety of artistic creations, briefly discussing each one.

In his address, he made some thought-provoking remarks. Some were:

"The child has just as much chance of expression as sophisticated adults who may be further from the source of art."

"Modern New Zealand art is phoney."

"It is necessary to create the beautiful to lift us from the maze."

"A useful thing, such as a salad bowl, can also be a beautiful thing."

## PERSONAL INTEREST

"Students who take Asian Studies seem to have a real personal interest in their subject, which is very pleasing for staff members," said Dr. Kurian, who recently arrived from India to lecture in Asian Studies.

## Book Censorship In New Zealand...

# PROF. GORDON DESCRIBES PRESENT SYSTEM

**TWO Government departments are involved in the censorship of books in New Zealand. They are the Department of Justice, and the Department of Customs.**

The Department of Justice is authorised to pronounce on the decency of a book under the Indecent Publications Act of 1910 and its subsequent amendments. A list, published as an appendix to the Customs Act gives among the lists of prohibited imports, the books deemed by the Department of Justice to be indecent under the Act. So, the duties of the two departments are complementary.

INDECENT publications published within New Zealand come under the jurisdiction of the Justice Department; the Customs Department is not involved.

The Customs Department is authorised to refuse entry into the country any book it deems indecent. During the 1930s an advisory committee was set up to aid the department in making decisions on the merit of books. This committee fell into disuse and after the start of the war all decisions on the censorship of books entering New Zealand were made by the Customs Department alone.

In 1953 the present advisory committee was set up, its purpose being to advise the Minister of Customs on the merits of any book which the department considered to be of doubtful decency.

The members of this committee are Professor I. R. Gordon (chairman), Miss Irene Wilson, and Mr. R. M. Burdon. This committee makes recommendations to the Minister of Customs, but it is not an authoritative body. It has no relationship to the Justice Department and thus cannot pronounce on indecent publications published in New Zealand.

Professor Gordon gave SALIENT this account of the activities of his committee.

"The definition of indecency under which our committee works is contained in the Indecent Publications Act 1910. We inherited a system by which certain books were made available to doctors, lawyers and other specialised per-

sons. To this we added a means of making books, which some might consider indecent, available to the general public. We make these books obtainable on individual order, that is, they are freely available to anyone who wishes to obtain a copy provided he goes to the trouble of ordering it."

"The books are circulated among the members of the committee who each make out a report on them. A final judgment is made and a report submitted to the Minister of Customs. The committee is concerned only with books submitted to it by the Customs Department; the department need not forward books to the committee if it wishes not to."

"The real problem of censorship is that not all people agree," said Gordon. "The Customs Department is not particularly worried about the decency or otherwise of the books it imports. Most grouses come from the public. It is passages rather than books as a whole which offend readers. If a book is not indecent right through, we consider offending passages in their context and pass judgment on the book as a whole."

Asked why "Lady Chatterley's Lover" was banned in New Zealand while being available in England, Gordon said: "The book was banned in both countries until the recent change in legislation in England. This allowed witnesses to testify on the literary merits of a book. But the book was made

freely available in England not because the legislation is any more enlightened than in New Zealand, but because, in the trial against 'Lady Chatterley,' the case was conducted by an inept prosecution before an unsympathetic jury."

He continued: "If the book were tried in New Zealand before a jury, as it was in England, the result might or might not be similar. As in the trial of 'Lady Chatterley' it would depend on the jury."

"Lolita," which the committee released in New Zealand as available on individual order, was later banned after an outcry against it. The Council for Civil Liberties

imported a number of copies and after the books were seized, court action was initiated. Asked to comment on this, Gordon said:

"It is clear that taking this case through the courts imposed tighter censorship. This action also rendered the system of the advisory committee practically inoperable, since our recommendations on books as 'available on individual order' was declared outside the law."

The advisory committee had never been asked to give their opinion on a book on any ground other than that of indecency.—G.Q.

## New Indecency Definition

**THE definition of indecency in the new Indecent Publications Bill is different from that contained in the present Acts.**

THE matters to be taken into consideration by the Tribunal include (New considerations in bold type):

1. The nature of the document as a whole.
2. Literary, artistic, medical, legal, political or scientific merit or social importance.
3. Classes or persons who are likely to receive copies.
4. Whether the price puts it out of the reach of adolescents.
5. Whether anyone is likely to be corrupted and if anyone stands to gain from this.

Under the new Bill the Tribunal could publish something otherwise considered as indecent if it con-

siders it to be to the public good to do so. The new Bill also contains the new provision that picture-story books which are "indecent in the hands of children under a certain age" are to be declared indecent in the hands of all persons.

The decision of the Tribunal will be considered as evidence of indecency or otherwise in all proceedings except an appeal against its decision.

The Tribunal will conduct hearings in public, though it may suppress publication. It must give reasons for its decisions which will be majority decisions.

There is provision for appeal to the Court of Appeal, which may vary or revoke any decision which it considers to be "manifestly wrong." It may make instead any decision that could have been made by the Tribunal.

## Images From Nature

MAX COOLAHAN'S photographs, on display at Victoria from June 3-8, seem strange at first to the eyes of most New Zealanders accustomed to looking at photography for panoramic reproductions of external reality.

THIS is because Coolahan's approach to photography has been to investigate the minutiae of the natural world instead of reiterating the traditional large-scale approach. What he achieves in many cases is an almost abstract representation of the phenomena of the natural world he wishes to draw to our attention. It might be anything from a magnified view of a male and female weta, to patterns formed by puddles or the ends of sawn timber.

While the presentation of many of these ideas seems almost "abstract," the creative process behind Coolahan's work and that of the abstract painter is quite different: The abstract painter evokes from his own mind any image that will symbolise the feeling he wishes to convey, and expresses it on canvas. The sensitive photographer, on the other hand, is faced with the problem of reducing the many-sided reality of the natural world to the one particular aspect he wishes to emphasise. His object is to communicate using the realities he photographs with sufficient emphasis, rather than to invent symbols to do this for him.

From a varied collection of phenomena he selects a certain idea that he wishes to emphasise. Coolahan, by careful placing of the camera, judging of light and shade, juxtaposition or superimposing of objects and a skilled darkroom technique creates a finely composed piece of graphic art. Thus in a photo of a punga fern or a bank of stones we are impressed by the patterns Coolahan reveals; in the river and its gravels and sands and the graining of wood the rhythms and accents are the basis of the composition. In this way the composition is unified and the content made meaningful.—R. H.

## CIVIL LIBERTIES COUNCIL KEEPS WATCH

"I AM concerned to see that books with a serious purpose and with artistic or literary merit are allowed into the country free of censorship," Mr. W. J. Scott told SALIENT recently.

Mr. Scott is probably known to most students as the Principal of the Training College, but he has been Chairman of the National Council for Civil Liberties since its inception in 1952. He is also a regular contributor to the NZBC's programme, "Looking at Ourselves."

"I do not argue the case for total abolition of censorship," Mr. Scott said in answer to a question.

"Some form of censorship is necessary, because there are always people who will exploit the susceptible for money, particularly those with susceptible tastes."

Commenting on the "Lolita" case, he said that the Council for Civil Liberties forced the case before the Courts (with the approval of the Minister of Customs) in order to test the 1954 amendments to the Indecent Publications Act. Until then, no one could be sure what they meant.

The two sections untested included a new definition of indecency, which was based on the idea of "undue emphasis on sex or horror or crime." They also provided for the banning of a book on the grounds that any class or age group which might obtain a copy of a book could be corrupted by it.

"The 1954 additions certainly make the Act more rigorous."

Mr. Scott told SALIENT that

a new Bill had been prepared, and was introduced in the House last session. He considered that it might lead to a much more satisfactory state of affairs, though much would depend on how it was interpreted.

It is proposed that future cases should be argued before a panel consisting of a judge as chairman, and four others two of whom would be chosen for their knowledge of literature. The new definition of indecency would permit a book to enter the country if the tribunal thought it was to the public good. However, it still covered the possibility of corruption of those whose minds were open to corruption. Anyone who was permitted to import a book for its medical value, and then sold it to adolescents would still be liable to prosecution.

Appeal against the decisions of the Tribunal would be made before the Court of Appeal, which could rule that their decision was "manifestly wrong." It is not clear to Mr. Scott just what this means.

He was not very happy, he said, that the new Bill should take the decisions entirely away from a jury. Otherwise he had little argument with it. One advantage was that any book which had been rejected could be re-submitted for consideration. Mr. Scott indicated that the NCCL would probably do this with "Lolita" if the Bill becomes law.—D.W.

## VOLUNTEER GRADUATES HELP INDONESIANS

AMERICA has its Peace Corps. Britain has Voluntary Service Overseas. In New Zealand we have the Volunteer Service Abroad, and its offshoot, the Volunteer Graduate Scheme.

MISS FLORENCE JONES, Lecturer in English, explained the Volunteer Graduate Scheme to SALIENT recently.

Born in 1959, the scheme follows a similar Australian one which preceded it by about six years. Both have as their main aim the provision of graduates for Indonesia, where there is a desperate shortage. The prospectus issued by the Council for Volunteer Service Abroad says the need for qualified people is greater in Indonesia than anywhere in Asia.

Graduates and their wives have their passage, and certain expenses paid for them by the New Zealand Government. They are chosen by a joint committee of the VSA and NZUSA, who arrange their departure.

The first New Zealanders to go to Indonesia found that their education and experience of responsibility could at times be more of a hindrance than a help. They did not at first find it easy to be accepted by the local people as equals. By the time their terms were completed, however, they had made firm friendships on the basis of mutual respect.

They worked with Indonesians,



Ron and Anne Kilgour

lived in the same sort of houses, and received the same wage. They all went for terms of between two and five years.

One New Zealand couple currently in Indonesia, Ron and Anne

Kilgour, will be visiting Victoria early in June. Ron Kilgour teaches at Bandung's Training College and in his spare time administers a 300-bed hospital. Mrs. Kilgour teaches English.

# African Leaders Predicted Federation's Failure

WHEN the southerlies blow over Wellington and I shiver in the unaccustomed cold, I cannot help thinking about the brilliant sunshine and windless warmth that I left behind me in the Rhodesias—for here, 4000 feet up on the Central African Plateau, is to be found one of the world's best climates. Unfortunately, not all the hot air in those parts is attributable to the climate: the politicians and not only politicians, the people generally, have generated enough heat in argument and recrimination to warm up even a good New Zealand "blow." Regrettably so, for this was an area developing at tremendous rate along lines that might well have been of fundamental importance to underdeveloped countries everywhere.

This advance has now been halted and in some areas of what is still (but only just) the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, may not be renewed in our time. This is recognised by some at least of those who have laboured to bring about the end of Federation, and taken to be a price well worth paying in order to achieve their immediate ends. These ends may be defined in simple terms as the overthrow of European dominance and the granting of political independence. One statement by Joshua Nkomo, leader of the major African Nationalist Party (now banned) in Southern Rhodesia, illustrates both the determination to achieve these ends and a recognition of their probable cost.

He said:—"It is necessary to retain Europeans in Southern Rhodesia in order to maintain our industrial and commercial growth, then industrial and commercial growth must stop. If your enemy is on the bridge, you destroy the bridge."

The end of Federation will not, of course, mean the immediate disappearance of all Europeans, but it will mean a major set back for the kind of economic structure which was being built up under the Federal system, for the territories by themselves are not nearly so strong, even in aggregate, as they were as a single economic unit.

It is important to remember in this, and other connections, that the three territories which were joined together in a Federation in 1953 are differently endowed with natural resources, and were at different stages of development.

Southern Rhodesia is a rich farming area particularly suitable for tobacco and maize growing and cattle ranching. It has, in addition, a number of small gold and base metal mines, and since Federation, has developed at a fantastic rate as a centre for secondary industry.

Northern Rhodesia is poor agriculturally, but is the second largest producer of copper in the world. Nyasaland is the poorest of the three with no economic mineral resources but with a developing agriculture, particularly in tea growing and forest products.

Politically, at the time of Federation, Southern Rhodesia was virtually self-governing, Northern Rhodesia a Crown Colony and Nyasaland a protectorate.

The idea of joining these territories together had been advanced and debated for many years. Thus, in 1936 elected members of the Northern Rhodesian Legislative Council and members of the Southern Rhodesian Parliament met at Victoria Falls and unanimously passed a resolution that the two territories should become one.

In 1938 the Bledisloe Commission was appointed to consider the possibilities of closer union between the two Rhodesias and Nyasaland. It reported inconclusively that in principle the desirability of some form of closer unity should be accepted but that no active steps towards it should be taken for the present, mainly because of African opposition in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

The idea then went into hibernation, to emerge in 1951 when a Conference of Colonial Office Officials met in London to devise a way out of the difficulties noted by the Bledisloe Commission. Their report was presented to Parliament by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. James Griffiths, on June 13, 1951. It states categorically that "On every ground—economic, strategic, administrative, moral and social—some form of closer co-operation between the territories is needed." The difficulty presented by African opposition was to be met by the device that the Federal Government would take over from the territories only such powers and functions as were of interest to Europeans, leaving all matters directly related to African development, still in the hands of the territorial governments.

There were several more debates in the House, a definite plan was put forward in June 1952—not substantially different from the previous one debated at the Victoria Falls,—commissions were set up to look into fiscal, judicial, and civil service changes which Federation would entail and a final conference met in London on Jan. 1st 1953. The result was a decision to go ahead with Federation and an Order in Council was promulgated setting up the new state on August 1st 1953.

It is significant however, that no African representatives were present at the London Conference in spite of invitations repeatedly sent to political and other leaders by the British Government, and many visits of "persuasion" to Africa by British politicians including not only Conservative ministers, but Labour leaders of the stature of Mr. Attlee and Mr. Gordon-Walker. There was however, in London at the time of the Conference a delegation of Nyasaland chiefs who had come specifically to petition the Queen against Federation. They were not allowed to see the Queen but before leaving they wrote a letter to The Times ending with the warning:

"If Federation is imposed on us, the British Government need have no illusions that it will not be resisted by Africans. All measures, effective and prolonged, will be taken by us to defeat it and Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia will cease to be happy and peaceful countries."

How right they were—though those who saw the splendid economic advance in the first years of Federation could have been forgiven if they had thought the prophecies of impending disaster grossly exaggerated. In fact, those early years of booming prosperity masked the hardening of attitudes which made the ultimate break up inevitable. If efforts had been sincerely made to change those attitudes,—and in my view they could have been changed—the story might well have been very different. It might then have been possible to show that a co-operative effort between the races was the best way to achieve not only economic advance (which nobody doubts) but political and social advance as well (which now nobody believes). This effort was not made and the result is the costly shambles which we can now see developing in Central Africa.

(NEXT issue Prof. Phillips discusses Central Africa's future).

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## Chaplain's Comment

On Easter Monday I went down to Parliament Buildings to the end-of-the-March meeting of CND. There was a large crowd, mainly of marchers but also of supporters who share, at least in part, the concern of the campaigners. It was a moderate and orderly meeting and the speeches definite in their objective without being extreme. It was interesting, however, to see the different elements within the crowd. Many were just plain tired, but in some faces there was an emotional strain that was ready to burst into intense applause at any mention of the "enemy" (e.g. SEATO).

Another thing which struck my eye were the various banners. Most were conventional and direct but not a few were of a distinctly emotive flavour, playing on the fears of the reader. Fear of death and of destruction and possibly even a worse fear of disease and consequences of radiation—real fears, but somehow their use was reminiscent of "hell-fire" preaching which nowadays is so roundly condemned. Is it right to use these methods or not? Another banner close to me said, "Morality or Mortality?" giving us presumably the option of becoming moral people or dead ones. But what is the morality referred to? It seems to me as a Christian that often the morality proposed is a rather vague humanistic one which hopes by intellectual means to persuade everyone to be good, but bombs, nuclear or otherwise, pose a far deeper problem. They are but symptoms of man's utter inability to control the knowledge he has been given and to love his brother. Is the morality referred to on the banner able to meet this problem?

And, by the way, there seems to be no CND organisation as such in the University where students of many different backgrounds can join together in this cause. While it seems to be the preserve of a few rather radical (in different fields) clubs, a number of students who would support it may be staying away because they cannot align themselves with the other views of those clubs.

### "RELIGION IS OUT"

Owen Leeming in his report on Congress states that this is the case. I don't doubt for a few students that this is so, but from my observations at Congress—and I was not mixing with Christian students only—Mr. Leeming's statement seems an exaggeration. We may not discuss it so much in open forum because we are aware

## OVERSEAS FRIENDSHIP SERVICE

THE Christian Graduates' Fellowship, an interdenominational, Protestant group affiliated to the Inter Varsity Fellowship of New Zealand, has formed the Overseas Friendship Service with a view to introducing overseas students studying, or travelling within New Zealand to families who would like to meet them. There are two main areas in which the Service works; students may be introduced to a family in the centre in which they are studying, or otherwise it can be arranged for them to stay with families during the vacations, either for a night, or for longer periods.

Students who would like further information should write to the Wellington Representative:

Miss E. Brace,  
95 Campbell St.,  
Karori,  
Wellington.

Or to:  
The Secretary,  
Overseas Friendship Services,  
P.O. Box 2381,  
Wellington.

of our ignorance of it, but in small groups religion is still very definitely a subject of discussion. The trouble is not as Mr. Leeming suggests the impossibility "of wading into a mass discussion on who is God," but of wading through it and finding the other side.

JOHN MURRAY

## Entertaining Concerts

UNIVERSITY music concerts\* held at the end of the first term displayed an amazing variety of style and performance. From the sixteenth century contrapuntal schools to the complexities of Stockhausen. From the sturdy faith of Purcell, the spirituality of late Beethoven to the extrovert cheerfulness of Schubert and Rimsky-Korsakov.

AT two of the concerts, University choral groups sang for the first time this year. Adrienne Simpson's small madrigal choir presented a group of Elizabethan madrigals with charm and lightness, marred only by some odd intonation from the sopranos.

The following week the University Choir under Robert Oliver presented (in St. Peter's Church) a good performance of a hitherto unheard Purcell anthem, "I Will Give Thanks Unto The Lord." Some strange violin noises and a tendency on the part of the choir to slur the words were noticeable, but Robert Oliver showed a strong sense of continuity and an awareness of Purcell's style. He was supported by sympathetic soloists—particularly in the last section. Their example was capped by some rich, expressive, soft singing from the choir.

At the organ, Alan Simpson displayed rare control over his instrument's multifarious temptations. The delicate clarity of tone in a Bach Prelude and Fugue was the highlight in a stimulating programme which included little-known works from the sixteenth century. The same concert concluded with uninhibited, cheerful organ playing from Brian Findlay, who played some pleasant Sweelinck variations beautifully. However, he assaulted the G Minor Fantasia and Fugue by Bach with over-heavy registration and a precipitous speed.

But there was nothing hasty about Maurice Quinn's and Prudence Thornley's playing of Bach's Flute and Clavier Sonata in B Minor. This work—laid out on a vast scale—was given a confident, rhythmically vital and sometimes intensely felt performance. The two partners achieved a delicate contrapuntal balance especially notable in the fugal last movement.

The Stockhausen No. 7 Klavierstück 11 as played by Professor Frederick Page proved extremely difficult to listen to as just music. He went into it as a man might do battle against the Philistines, and one wonders just how spontaneous his arrangement of the various scraps of music is by now. The first half emphasised a macabre pianistic brilliance, but as he progressed further Professor Page gave some evocative and fascinating studies in quieter piano colours. It was a major exploration into the piano's rhythmic possibilities, the percussive nature of high treble notes, and of overtones.

The surprise items were two trumpet pieces played by Sue Sutton and her accompanists. This was exuberant, exciting playing and it was difficult to decide whether they enjoyed playing it or the audience listening to it most. However, all agreed it was thoroughly entertaining. As everything was.—W.B.

Victoria University of Wellington Music Society. Three concerts: 1, 2, 8 May in Music Room and St. Peter's Church.

## Italy's 'New Look' ...

# "L'AVVENTURA" STRESSES CONFLICT IN PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

**PROTOTYPE** of the "new look" in Italian cinema—the films *La Dolce Vita* and *Rocco* complementing the breakthrough—Michelangelo Antonioni's *L'Avventura* arrives in New Zealand cinemas with more publicity backing than ever did *Marienbad*.

RECIPIENT of a Special Jury Prize at the 1960 Cannes Festival where it was booed and jeered, it has had subsequent success on the Continent and in England and seems likely a fore-shadower of an Antonioni cult (in two recent polls for the "ten best of all times" sponsored by *Sight and Sound* and *Film*, *L'Avventura* ran second—topped by *Kane*—and fourth respectively). It is Antonioni's first international success.

IN creating a new cinema image for Italy, Antonioni is diminishing ties with the past, especially with the traditions of neo-realism—a phase of development properly ended with de Sica's *Umberto D* (1952) but whose manifestations can still be seen four years later in *IL Bidone*.

Alongside Visconti and Fellini, Antonioni ranks in the foremost position of contemporary Italian directors. Like Fellini and Visconti, the director of *L'Avventura* had come through the neo-realistic chapter. His first documentary (1943) was produced at the time when Visconti was working on *Ossessione*, since when he has amassed his output to some ten films.

Some influence of Italian neo-realism is not difficult to discern in *L'Avventura*, as of course applies to all Italian productions. What is distinctive is Antonioni's rejection of its basic tenets in favour of a more personalised and humanistic thesis—such as Fellini may never achieve; if *La Dolce Vita* is in any way illustrative of his own new genre.

And with the breakthrough comes another popular vogue, that of the long film. Reacting against the crisp, condensed social analysis previously adhered to (*La Strada*, *Open City*) a new conception is evolved. This is the lengthy, considerate tome—not necessarily

overblown or distorted—in which each personal and social minutiae has a functional role and undergoes careful analysis. Viz: *La Dolce Vita* 170 mins., *L'Avventura* 145 mins., *Rocco* 174 mins.

"Neo-realism," says Pier Paolo Pasolini—one of Italy's greatest literary figures, "is the product of a cultural and democratic reaction to the standstill of the spirit during the Fascist period." Now we are witnessing a natural transition—in keeping with the cultural political and economic advancement—in much the same way as happened with the French "nouvelle vogue."

*L'Avventura* has been called a film "about sex." While this description allows for many interpretations—overt eroticism (*Les Amants*), repressed eroticism (*Marienbad*), Eros at play (*Night Heaven Fell*), Eros in relation to social dysfunction (*La Dolce Vita*)—it tells nothing about the film's character. *L'Avventura* is a story about a handful of people, an incident, an adventure in their lives. It is heavily formalised, with a beginning, a middle and an end, no climactic key appearing at any one stage in the film.

While Antonioni would beg to differ, it may be said that the theme of *L'Avventura* is strongly oriented around interpersonal relationships. The outside world

is of secondary importance, and concerns us only insofar as it acts as setting. Central to understanding the whole is the conflict—the "guilt, inadequacy and loneliness"—which emerges from and acts between the characters.

Thus we have the trappings of a film, extremely individual in tone. It discards the social backdrop as nominal and treats of a story not a theme. All this in contradistinction to the neo-realistic scholasticism of (i) society vs. individual, (ii) fatalism, and (iii) depression.

The treatment of the story has an underlying simplicity peculiarly well developed. Overall, there is an economy of sound and image: a close-up, a phrase conveys something of intrinsic value. The redundancies of prolonged sequences and cross-talk apparent in so many films of like nature are here nowhere in evidence.

*L'Avventura* is a beautifully constructed film. Event succeeds event in smooth order without any chronological disparity. Notice the very first sequence between Anna and her father. A definite frame of reference is established. We learn their relationship is strained not so much by means of dialogue and character expression, but more by dint of placement and movement. This is central to the Antonioni technique. Montage and images can relate a narrative without dialogue butting in. The film's closing sequence would be spoilt with additive of any kind.

Against the pictorially award winning background, the characters are, each and every one, well-defined. At the most, we are interested in nine individuals. Nine differing personalities, each with his or her own separate achievements, desires, motivations, yet each in some way dependant upon the next for explanation and existence.

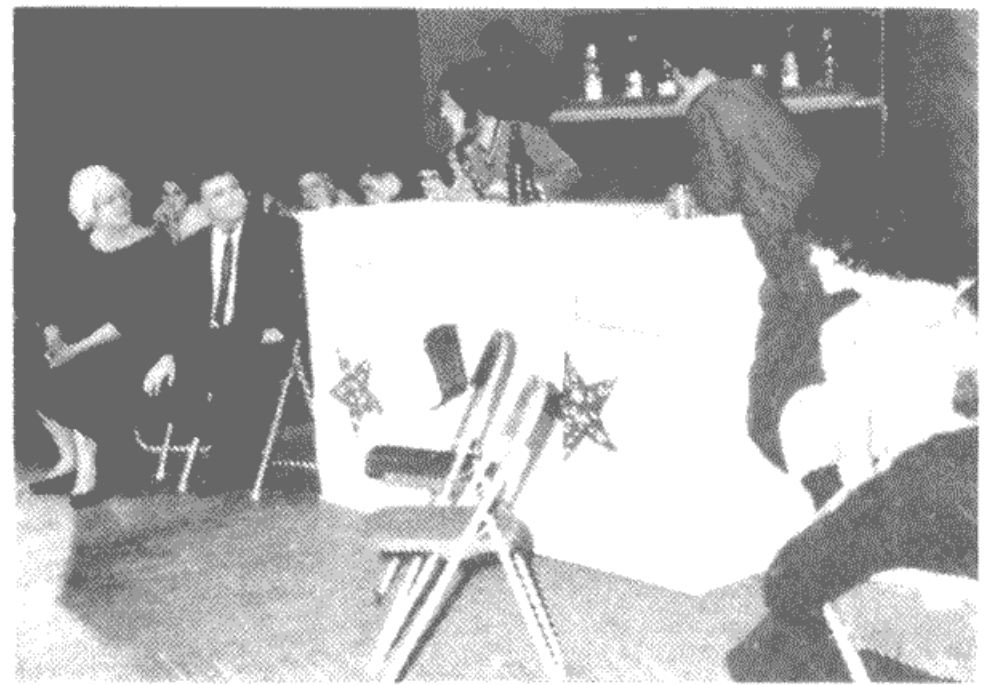
Monica Vitti as the girl Claudia, returns an admirable performance. Her conflict (fidelity toward girlfriend, love of the man) is resolved as the film progresses, each sequence reinforcing the preceding one of her genuine desires.

Complementing the girl is Sandro, a man of latent ambition whose laissez-faire attitude with the girls and toward love does not ring false until the very end. He may be the stumbling-block of reality for Claudia and in this respect is the reciprocal of Fellini's Marcello (*La Dolce Vita*).

The "nine" represent the set. They are sociologically upper strata—diplomats, ladies of leisure and general ne'er-dowells—with Claudia the sole character at variance. Her struggles are greatest, naturally, for her income bracket is lowest (continuation of the wealth-corruption, poverty-purity thesis). But whereas in *La Dolce Vita* the rich are contrasted with the poor continuously, in *L'Avventura* this does not apply. As I mentioned, Antonioni is interested in persons, a homogenous selection, not, as was Fellini for purposes of a cross-cultural analysis.

In fact, there is only one incident in the whole film which does make a startling comparison. Realisation should not be slow in coming: the tremendous pressure which the Italian aristocracy brings to bear, via the Church onto the film industry, does not make for liberal film production. In Italy, a unique form of censorship allows everyone above the rank of Ministerial In-Laws to "have" at films.

With Michelangelo Antonioni's *L'Avventura* then, a new look in Italian cinema. A "new" not to be equated with the vogue "nouvelle" as it does not represent a breakaway, rather, a continuation that has been wholly altered.—M. J. W.



## Extravaganza Lacked Pace

ON the first night of the season, when I saw it, *Extravaganza* certainly had its problems.

BASICALLY, they amounted to inadequate preparation. The cast lacked confidence, and the show as a result, lacked pace. Their task was not made any easier by the stage crew, who were noisy and awkward.

These may sound like formidable obstacles, but with more rehearsal they could have been eliminated. Pace in particular is important. A comparison with "The Black and White Minstrel Show" may seem unfair, but at least it shows that you can take material 30 years old and more, and with good stage management and plenty of pace turn it into a first-rate show.

The music was good throughout, and the songs were, too, though they needed more work on them. It is more difficult to judge the script, but apart from Walter Nash's visit to the Treasury it was not nearly as biting as I had expected. Though prominent members of both Parties were present on the opening night, I doubt if they went away angered, which is a pity. Mr. Nordmeyer may have been a little peeved by Hamletmeyer's antics outside the public closet, though.

In my opinion, Doug (Jim Crint)

Wilson deserved a bigger part. In his short appearances as Dr. Malice, South Africa's representative at the UN, and as a Juvenile Delinquent, he was very impressive. He has a good stage voice, too.

George Andrews as Hamletmeyer certainly deserved congratulations for a thoroughly convincing performance. His antics outside the Taj Mahal, which I mentioned earlier, were very successful.

Of the stars of the show I am less enthusiastic. Margot Sutherland did not carry her part as confidently as she might have. At times she gave the impression of forced performance, particularly when she and John Koolman were on stage together.

—D.W.

### PIANO PLAY

Latest stunt for budding Jim Crints is the American craze of reducing full grown pianos with sledge hammers and passing the remains through an 8in hole in record time.

## 'MEASURE FOR MEASURE' ONLY MIDDLING

DRAMA CRITIC

SHAKESPEARE'S "Measure for Measure" is rarely performed, so I was eager to see Michael Hattaway's production for the English Department. I was disappointed.

I SAW it twice, but was never genuinely moved for more than a few moments by the play which, despite all its bawdy humour, is essentially tragic.

The producer obviously had an intelligent and clear conception of the play, but his and the actors' inexperience resulted in many technical faults which undermined the finer scenes.

However, I must commend the cast on the high standard of diction and their grasp of the meaning and value of their lines.

Particularly good in this respect was Jack Richards as the Duke of Vienna who, disgusted by the corruption that is flourishing, hands the administration of the city to Angelo, his stern, dedicated deputy. Richards, mostly disguised as a friar so he can watch his deputy's rule, acted with sureness and confidence. His authority as the Duke and his humbleness as the friar showed well the difference between the two characters.

Ralph McAllister played Angelo, the deputy whose long-repressed sensuality is awakened by the lovely Isabella, sister of Claudio whom Angelo has condemned to death for getting a woman with child.

His scene with Isabella, where he offers to relieve Claudio if she will surrender her chastity to him, was the highlight of the play. A splendidly striking figure in red and black, McAllister's words had a fine whiplash edge; the change in feeling as his desire got the upper hand and his voice assumed a pleading note, was admirably done.

Helen Sutch's Isabella was finely and feelingly spoken. She failed to capture entirely the spiritual agony and conflicting emotions of Isabella, but showed evidence of impressive talent.

Isabella's scene with Claudio in prison, where she tells him of Angelo's ultimatum, is intensely moving, but bad placing of actors pretty well ruined it. The scene was not helped by Julian Watson's Claudio who, in spite of a fine voice, failed to invest his words with more than token meaning.

Lucio, the rather ridiculous young fop who trips in and out of the action with inane, but occasionally shrewd, comments was well played by Maarten van Dijk. He had the affected speech and gestures the character demanded, and was the only person onstage who looked at home in tights.

A mention, too, for the ancient lord Escalus, played by Robin Maconie. His was one of the finest characterisations of an older person by a young actor I have seen.

David Taylor's set was well suited to the play, although greater attention to sight lines would have been appreciated by people sitting towards the sides. Generally, the whole play was underlit, at times badly so.

"Measure For Measure" was a production with many fine moments; but a greater sense of theatre, better movement and grouping, and much, much more feeling from the majority of the actors would have made it outstanding.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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'Salient' Survey ...

# STUDENTS ANSWER QUESTION: IS CAMPUS BOOKSHOP WANTED?

**PETER BLIZARD has announced his ambition to see a bookshop on the third floor of the Student Union Building—BUT ONLY IF THERE IS ENOUGH SUPPORT FROM STUDENTS.**

RECENTLY SALIENT sampled student opinion on the bookshop question. With a few exceptions and reservations students want a bookshop at Victoria.

MANY students simply said they wanted a bookshop and would use it in preference to Whitcombe and Tombs. Others refused to take the subject seriously. But there was constructive comment.

Elizabeth Gordon, a second year student, said: "They would presumably take more care getting books. Texts are always in short supply, especially History books. Whitcombes seem to miscalculate the amount needed. Also—the University will often recommend a new textbook at the beginning of the year which is not available in the shops at the time of buying others. A shop directly involved with the University would eliminate this problem."

The main advantage would be that prices could be cut well below other retailers. Don McKenzie pays over £20 a year for books and he is working his own way through Victoria. He'd rather "put money into the University than into an outsider's pocket. It would be easier to get to and they may be able to lower the prices somewhat."

Janet McDougall, third year Arts, said: "It is time something was done about bookshops with such a monopoly that they don't seem to care whether you get the books you really want or not."

The validity of Janet's last statement was illustrated by Peter Sim: "One textbook cost me 76 6 last year. I bought a Fifth Edition. Victoria had actually said that students could use the Fourth Edition but Whitcombes said that

they had none at the time and only a few Fifths left over. The Fifth Edition was over £3—the Fourth was 37 6."

Would there be sufficient patronage of the shop? Or would students still go down the hill, through habit?

Although Dennis Skeet felt Whitcombes "give a reasonable service to students," he also pointed out that "the amount of people who patronise the SCM bookshop is an indication that students would prefer to buy books up here, especially at cut prices."

Several people asked what form the shop would take. Would it be large enough to move round in and who would run it? Diane Cornish, for example, said: "I would prefer plenty of room to browse around."

About half of those questioned buy all their books at the beginning of the year. Blizard wants a professional manager for the shop but some students wonder whether there would be sufficient business to keep him occupied during the later months of the university year.

Law students were willing to support the idea although they realised that, for a start, there would be no law books available. Sweet and Maxwell's and Butterworth's have something of a monopoly and they publish many of their own.

There were many sceptics. Murray Gray said: "It's a sound scheme but I have the following reservations: It would take up a

lot of room and the manager would be doing nothing for most of the year. There would probably be difficulty in obtaining books and with all these new students there'd be too many books to handle."

John Parkin was more bitter: "If there was a bookshop on the campus it would probably be the only time students came into contact with books."

Robin Bell described himself as a "Science Bursary Holder" and claimed: "The shop should be rented out by a private enterprise. Purely a matter of demand and supply. Do we have the ability to satisfy the demand? It's an opportunity for the Executive to show how progressive they really are."

The question that worries most students is: "How will it work in Wellington when it failed at Canterbury?" Several agreed with Andrew Cornwall: "A more practicable idea could be the investigation of a national student bookshop. Though this would lead to the standardisation of texts, the greater volume of sales, mainly by mail order, would reduce the basic costs considerably."

John Watson, a member of the House Committee also expressed this fear although he thought it: "a damn good idea and I'm willing to pay up to 20 per cent increase in price to buy from it, although I realise this won't be necessary."

The only real opposition to the bookshop scheme came from a bearded humorist who said his name was Tombs, and his father a director of a large bookshop near Barrett's Hotel. Therefore, he said, the concept was against his principles and nothing but anti-exploitation.—D.F.



J. PARKIN: "Only contact with books."



D. SKEET: "Reasonable service."



D. CORNISH: "Room to browse around."



BEARDED HUMOURIST: "My name is Tombs."

## GREAT DRAMA

UNITY'S production of "The Visit" had all the ingredients of great drama. If criticism is to be levelled it must be at the play and not the way in which it was presented.

THE production used the Memorial Theatre stage to its utmost effect. Movement was masterly. The pace was fast with cunning variations. Some of the scenes, however, were shrouded in an obscurity unnecessary with the lighting facilities available.

Brilliant casting and superb acting were the hi-spots. Anne Flannery's crisp enunciation was a joy to hear—most New Zealand amateur actors could do with some polishing in this department.

Jack Shallcrass as the schoolmaster gave a significant and thoughtful performance. He resisted the temptation to overact, which was inherent in the part, while at the same time never became phlegmatic.

Sooner or later in discussing "The Visit" it is necessary to discuss the play itself. It is, without doubt, a great one. Kenneth Tynan said of it: "This is a play about money, and I seriously doubt whether any theatrical text more wickedly subversive of the Western way of life has ever been staged in London."

This reviewer disagrees. As a play of political philosophy it was intellectually dishonest. And if it was an indictment of capitalism, it offers no alternative. But as drama Friedrich Durrenmatt's "The Visit" was first rate.—G.P.

## VARSITY EDUCATION

A FOOL'S brain digests philosophy into folly, science into superstition, and art into pedantry. Hence University education. —Shaw

# PART-TIMER WRITES PAPER COLUMN

SY CARTER, the Dominion's well-known "Teenage Talk" columnist, is really 18-year-old Victoria student Sarah-Susannah Cole.

SHE started this feature 12 months ago after two years as Truth's "Tea-Beat" writer.

Where did the column name originate? She explained that she wanted the Christian name to be neither masculine or feminine. The nom-de-plume 'Searle Conroy' was almost adopted but dropped at the last moment.

The "Sy" is from Sy Oliver, a top Negro jazz band leader of the nineteen-thirties. The "Carter"? From mere whimsy, she said.

Sy enjoys her job because she is given a free hand, but told SALIENT: "Subject matter is getting to be a bit of a worry."

"I started by writing about such things as clothes, shops and jobs. Now it's becoming more difficult to find fresh topics. I seem to have written on everything."

The column attracts correspondence. "Four or five letters an issue."

"I get quite a lot of letters from 'way-out' religious sects, and from people who seem to think I'm an employment agency, and can get them jobs," Sy said.

A full-timer last year, Sy now works in the Public Relations Department of the General Post Office. This year she's studying Sociology, Education and French reading knowledge part-time.

Sy is aiming at a B.A. or Diploma in Social Science. She hopes, eventually, to be a probation officer.—D.S.



SY CARTER DOMINION COLUMNIST

# "Cappicade" Ingredients Same Again

THE 1963 Victoria CAPPICADE is not much better and not much worse than usual. It is funny in parts.

NEW ZEALAND capping magazines traditionally cater for low brow, off colour humour. Why they do this is uncertain. Perhaps the egoism of the undergraduate mind dislikes the conferment of degrees of learning on the graduates. To distract the attention from the significance of this the undergraduate indulges in irresponsibility, tempered with levity.

Whatever the explanation behind the quality of capping magazines the plain fact remains that they are poor. Poor whether judged by the canons of literature or humour.

This is a pity. Capping magazines are the one opportunity in the year when the University student population has an opportunity to say something to the New Zealand public. Apart from imparting the latest stock of smut and attempting facetious but unformed social satire, little is said.

Some years ago CAPPICADE made an impact—it dealt at length and convincingly with the Blossom Festival fiasco and the cult of modern advertising. That issue was, unfortunately, a drop in the bucket. But CAPPICADE can take what solace it likes from the fact that it is still better than the other magazines of its type in the country.

The main trouble with capping magazines seems to be that editors lack any coherent principle around which they mould their magazine. They wait for copy to turn up or write it themselves; but there is no plan.

Editing is an art. It requires time, and patience, and most of all, ideas. The trouble with capping magazines in general, CAPPICADE included, is that editing is an art with which their editors are not familiar, and are unwilling to learn.—G.P.

## Bad, Bad Broadway

MANY plays on Broadway, New York, this season deal openly or shyly with homosexuality, reports The New York Times.

SAYS the Times: "In 'Strange Interlude,' Eugene O'Neill, writing in the twenties, when armies of amateur Freuds had not yet invaded the theatre is quite explicit."

"The sketch in which 'Beyond The Fringe' spoofs homosexuals is not much funnier than some of O'Neill's lines, which were written seriously and honestly. The four happily demented Englishmen mince and pose with exaggerated delicacy as they prepare a series of ads representing the virile male."

"In Harold Pinter's 'The Collection,' there is a middle-aged sybarite who acts with feline determination to prevent his weak protegee from straying into further adventures with women. There is no attempt to mask the homosexual relationship, for it is basic to the play's conflict."

"In Sidney Kingsley's 'Night Life' there is a character—a glamorous debauched actress—who could not suppress her craving for other women."

"In 'The Emperor,' a play about Nero, the German playwright, Hermann Gressieker, makes unvarnished references to the depraved Caesar's taste for boys as well as girls."

"And, finally, in 'Rattle Of A Simple Man,' Percy, the inhibited Manchester man, soon reveals that his mind is on his mother and that he is happier wearing an apron."