

# SALIENT

Victoria University Student Newspaper

Volume 38 Number 10 22 May 1975.



Our mountains will always be,  
Our rivers will always be,  
Our people will always be,  
The U.S. invaders defeated,  
we will rebuild our country  
ten times more beautiful.

*Ho Chi Minh (born May 19, 1890).*

# Student Vacation Work

Reprinted from the NZUSA Education Newsletter.

An unknown number of students spend their Christmas holidays working for Government Departments. For some students government holiday jobs offer a boring, unchallenging way of making some money. For others, the experience of working for a government department is a useful way of increasing their practical education, eg. a Geology student might work for the Geological survey during his holidays because he's considering working there after graduation and wants to gain a bit of experience.

Boring holiday jobs are by no means confined to the Public Service, and working in a government office is a less demanding job than working in a shop or doing a labouring job.

However, there is one big snag. The wages student holiday workers receive in the public service are mere pittance. And the State Services Commission (the employing authority for public servants) has got away with paying students low wages for years.

Student vacation workers are employed under Section 48 of the 1962 State Services Act. Under this section of the Act the State Services Commission has the authority to decide what rates of wages to pay vacation workers (called 'temporary salaried employees' under the Act) without negotiating with the public servants' trade union - the Public Service Association. This means the Commission can pay whatever it likes to vacation workers.

Every once in a while the Commission considers the rates of pay for vacation workers and increases them. We do not know what basis the Commission has for determining wage increases.

The last time vacation workers got an increase was July last year. At that time, the Commission set out three different rates of pay for these workers: a general rate; a rate for university students; and a rate for secondary school and teachers college students and teachers (other than university students) without a degree.

The general rate provides \$10.56 per working day for adults (ie. those over 20) and a married rate of \$9.23 per working day on top of the adult rate (all figures quoted represent a vacation worker's gross pay, ie. before tax).

The rates for university students are graded according to the number of years a student has spent at university. A first year student gets \$6.50 per working day, while a fourth year student gets \$8.81.

The third category of workers are graded according to their educational qualifications. A person with less than 3 years' secondary education is paid \$4.31 per working day, while someone with U.E. or Higher School Certificate gets \$6.50.

It's not at all clear whether university and other students over twenty years of age are paid the adult rate of \$10.56. One student who worked for a government department in Hamilton over the last long vacation told NZUSA that she started on \$7.76 a day and only got onto the adult rate after arguing with the department.

This student's experience suggests that government departments need some persuasion before they will agree to pay the vacation worker the higher rate.

NZUSA has been investigating the wages and conditions of vacation workers since January this year. Discussions have been held with the Public Service Association with a view to taking a case to the State Services Commission for drastic increases in vacation workers rates of pay once sufficient information has been gathered.

NZUSA would like to hear from students who worked for government departments during the last long vacation or in previous vacations. We would like to know where you worked, how much you were paid, what sort of work you did, how many years you've been at varsity and what course you're doing. The more letters we receive, the stronger our case will be!

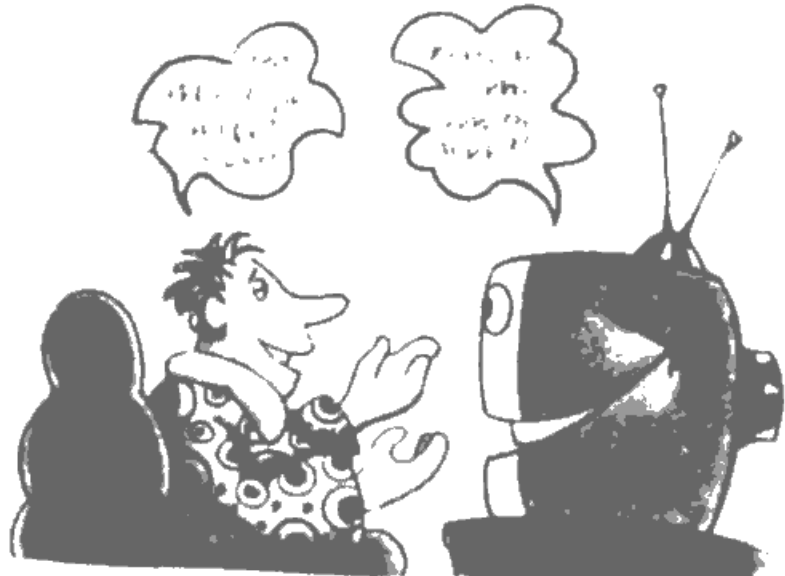
Please write to Peter Franks, Research Officer, NZUSA, P.O. Box 6368, Te Aro, Wellington.

## SALIENT NOTES

A most unfortunate trend has been of late occurring within the confines of the Salient office. These confines are becoming less confined because there are less people, which is all very well for the people who are still working there, but not in the least bit conducive to the publishing of a student newspaper. To put it another way - WE NEED STAFF. In order to make this newspaper the viable concern it used to be in the good old days under Uncle Roger, we are mounting a MASSIVE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN. So for crissake come along to the Open Day and learn some journalistic skills under the watchful eyes of such well known figures of the past and present as Bruce Robinson, Anthony Ward, John Henderson and lo and behold, PETER FRANKS! Go to it, people. We are expecting you.

Anyway, once more, I am forced to trot out (oh dear - a most unfortunate turn of phrase) the old and much mildewed list of Salient staffpeople. It is: John Henderson, Anthony Ward, Lloyd Weeber, Ross Abernathy, Lynn and Lionel, Quentin Roper, John Ryall, Martin Brown, Christine Haggart and Stephen Prendergast (the last two being advertising managers). The issue was edited by me old mate Bruce Robinson (of course), and was typeset by Janet Murphy.

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## the EXEC : business as usual

by John Henderson

Swear, curse, mutterfuck ... I suppose I'd better get this bloody thing done sometime, especially when my editor tells me to do it. Good man, old Bruce. If he weren't there, telling me to write this article, you wouldn't be reading it, because it wouldn't exist. And you've got to feel pity for the bloke. Not only does he put up with the mad Henderson and all his idiosyncracies, but he has to put up with the even wierder Colin Fessler and Anthony Ward. Anyway, to the article.

The meeting started off in its usual meteoric way with the minutes being corrected and received by one vote to nil. A discussion on the nature of sports council took place - a discussion which proved fruitless because nobody (including the sports officer) seems to know anything about it. Correspondence didn't exist because Robert Pui forgot to put it on the agenda, but it was discussed anyway. Nothing particularly important came up under this non-existent topic, to the detriment of nobody in particular.

The Executive then named the official subsidised delegates to the Knock-na-Gree Overseas Students Conference in Auckland (which, incidentally, will be finished by the time this issue comes out). The people are: Guru Nathan, Ali Quetaki, and Robert Pui. May the non-existent Lord have mercy on their souls.

There was discussion on the possibility of installing a Xerox machine in the office, and decision on the subject was put off until proper costings could be done. The Exec. then discussed the quality of the food at the Capping Ball. All I can say on this is that it would have been ambrosia compared to the crap they served us up at Waikato. Consider yourselves lucky, Victorians, for the quality of the food you have now. It may be only average, but it's still bloody good for the price. More about the Waikato food, I suspect, in the article on the NZUSA May Council.



### WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

'that NZUSA believes that the struggle for the liberation of women is part of a wider struggle for the liberation of the whole society'

May Council 1975.

Various women's groups have and still are operating on campus, with different lines on the women's struggle. These have ranged from some feminists seeing men as the principal enemy, to small cell groups discussing oppression in work and university discussions.

Several of us have recently felt a need for a women's group at Victoria, at first based on discussion of the exploitation of women seen as a product of our present society, not arising from any inherent male chauvinism.

We are holding a meeting to discuss what form/action/policy this group will take. We encourage all to come and contribute.

Smoking Room, 8.00pm, Tuesday May 27.

Lisa, Angela Bryony.

And now to finish off, a quote from the meeting:

'Otago are very narrow-minded - its so far south, it shrinks the brain', Barbara Leishperson.

'Most of my relatives live down there', John Persevere.

'Well - that explains it then', Barbara Leishmaster.

PS While I'm at it, the Labour revival on campus seems to have come to an end. Judy Tizard has resigned from National affairs officer, and Kevin Swann has been appointed in her place until an SRC election can be held.

### MATHS AND PHYSICS SOCIETY WINE AND CHEESE EVENING

Wednesday 28 May at 7.30pm. in the Lounge/Smoking Room of the Student Union Building.

A vacancy exists in a double room in Vic House. Replacement required urgently since former occupant cannot afford to pay two rents. Contact the Warden.

### QUAKERS

We shall not ask you to speak or sing,  
We shall not ask you what you believe  
We shall not ask you to give money,  
We shall simply offer you our friendship,  
And a chance to sit quietly and think.  
And perhaps somebody will pray,  
And perhaps you will find here  
That which you are seeking ...  
We are not saints,  
We are not cranks,  
We are not different -  
Except that we believe  
That God's light is in all men,  
Waiting to be discovered.

Discover Quakers at 8 Moncrieff Street every Sunday at 11 am.

### VIC SKI CLUB

Due to the excellent efforts by the club stayers during Anzac Weekend our lodge is now identifiable as THE place where it all happens on the mountain. This, along with a bright new sign to guide the way to where its all happening this winter, leaves no excuse for all you 'snow heavies' to ignore your own club right here on campus.

We can't offer you the powder snow of Mt. Hutt on the uncorwded runs of Lake Ohau but the skings still good and together with the social life of 'Vic' you'll love it. If that sounds like too much of a sell-out - come and see!

At around \$10.00 our fees are the lowest anywhere (for ski clubs) and the weekends are cheap. \$14 for transport, food and lodge!

The next trip is definately Queens Birthday Weekend and its already filling-up - so lets hear from you soon.

Ring Phil 758-561 or Dave 669-017.

# POPULATION BOMB A DUD

by John Ryall

It was billed as the 'forum of the year', but those who attended the Population Debate in the Union Hall during Capping Week found that the population bomb was a fair dinkum fizzer.

The debate actually had its origins in 1789 when Thomas Malthus published a best-seller called 'Essay on the Principle of Population'. His great appeal was that he made the poor responsible for their poverty. The poor, said Malthus, insisted on indulging in large families.

And as the population grows in the ratio of 2,4,8,16, whilst food production can only grow in the ratio of 1,2,3,4, the numbers of people will always outrun the amount of food. Starvation and poverty are the 'natural' result.

All this was, of course, ordained by God on High. The only escape, said Malthus, was for the poor to practise sexual restraint.

But Malthus' ideas were quickly contested by socialists of the time, who pointed out that the real cause of poverty and starvation was the unjust organisation of society and the unfair distribution of wealth. The solution was not sexual restraint, but social change.

If we substitute contraception for sexual restraint the same debate still rages today. The neo-Malthusians still have their apologists in Cathy Wilson (Values Party) and Dr. Zogdekar (Demographic Society), while the Socialist's position is ably defended by Nancy Goddard (NZ-China Society) and Fr. John Healion (Young Christian Workers).

The symptoms were familiar - food shortages, pollution, energy crises, cholera epidemics, increased crime, exploding cities and urban sprawl. But it was the diagnosis of the sickness that distinguished the quacks from the real doctors.

Cathy Wilson's logic suggested that pollution, crime and poverty were a result of the inability of the world, because of its limited resources, to provide adequately for its large number of inhabitants. Out came the figures - 3 children arriving a second in 1980, 4 a second in 1990 and if the rate didn't slow down, our grandchildren would be sharing the world with 160 billion people.

John Healion suggested that the

world could adequately provide for everyone, but the economic system under which most of the world lived was based on some people having everything, whilst others had nothing. He was backed up by Nancy Goddard, who cited the People's Republic of China as a country which had solved its poverty problem without the help of a single Western expert, while roundly condemning neo-Malthusian theories.

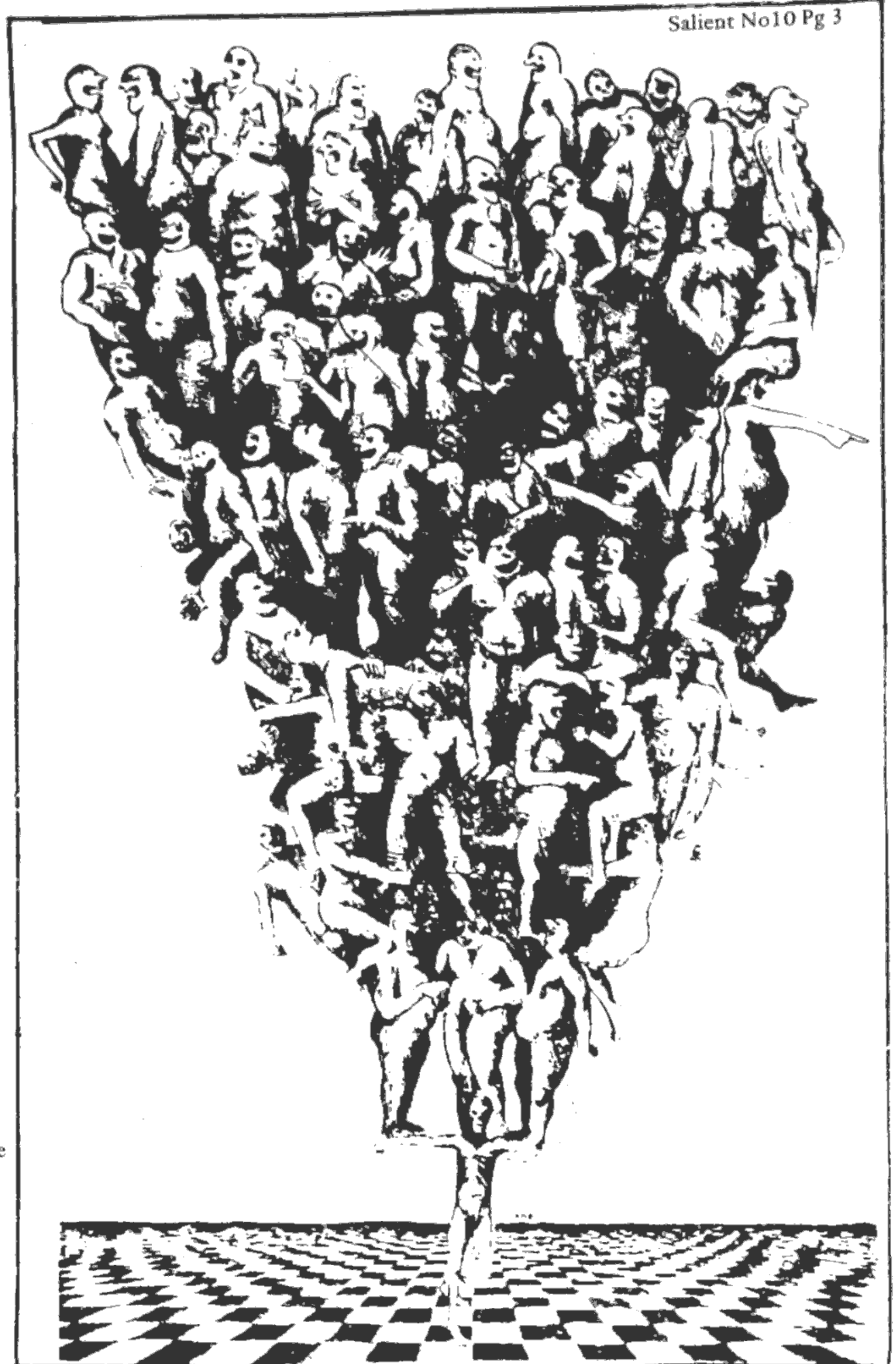
As late as 1960 Western population 'experts' were saying 'China quite literally cannot feed more people ... the greatest tragedy China could suffer, at the present time would be a reduction in her death rate'.

Yet today, China feeds a 100 million more people - and feeds them well. Clearly something was wrong in Western prophecies and Western analysis.

The answer was simple. China succeeded because she first overthrew the oppressive capitalist system to which her people were tied and carried through fundamental reforms leading to a rise in living standards, abolition of unemployment, a spectacular drop in mortality, increasing emancipation of women, social security and education for all. By this means she has lowered her birth rate far beyond any other large country in the world.

The lesson to be learnt seems clear enough to everyone except those who have a stake in things as they stand. The Values Party pretends to be against the status quo with such calls as 'a new society is needed' or 'we want socio-economic justice throughout the world', and are now even agreeing that family planning should be in combination with social and economic development. But this development, once again, takes place inside the old framework. Nearly everywhere some efforts are being made to extend the school system, to build roads and other communications, to increase food production and to organise industrial production, but these improvements are absorbed by a small, but rapidly expanding elite and the bulk of the population remains as poor as before, if not poorer.

So if the debate proved anything, it was that anyone who is serious about solving poverty must throw away the Values Party and ideas of 'spaceship earth' and take a long hard look at the structures which are at the roots of the problem.



## VIETNAM MEDICAL AID APPEAL

The Vietnam Aid Committee on campus has organised two weeks of activities both to raise funds (to be subsidised dollar for dollar up to \$250 by VUWSA) and to raise understanding of the situation in Vietnam. All money raised will be channelled through CORSO, thus subsidised a further dollar for dollar by the Government. Our aid will be directed towards the building of a pharmaceuticals factory in South Vietnam.

The Vietnamese people need your support to reconstruct their country. Please show your support by participating in activities below!

### VIETNAM AID APPEAL ACTIVITIES

#### Thursday 22 May

8pm - 11pm Folk Concert, Restaurant. Enjoyable music in pleasant (we hope!) company. \$1.00 entry

#### Friday 23 May

12 noon - 2pm Films, Memorial Theatre. Films on the strategies struggles of the peoples of Indochina. Suggested donation: 50 cents.

#### Monday 26 May

10 am - 2 pm Photo exhibition, Union Foyer. The Medical Aid kit (which we helped provide last appeal) will be on display.  
12 noon - 2 pm Forum cum Auction Sale, Union Hall. Buy your mates parka left in the lost property pile!

#### Tuesday 27 May

10 am - 2 pm Photo exhibition, Union Foyer

#### Wednesday 28 May

10 am - 3 pm Jumble Sale/Bring and buy, Lounge and Smoking Room. Bring along all your old rubbish and take away some new junk.

#### Thursday 29 May

8 pm - 11 pm Slide and Poetry Wine and Cheese, Lounge and Smoking Room. Entry: \$1.00

**VICTORIA MARKET**

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Fridays 9 am - 8 pm. Saturdays 10 am - 8 pm.

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LEATHERWORK, BASKETS, TOYS,  
ODDS AND ENDS

## the inside story

## WHO'S WHO IN SRC ...

by Bruce Robinson

SRC started off this year with a new sense of organisation. Some hard work through the holidays by incoming exec. members saw a new approach to SRC. The Educational Officer, International Affairs Officer, National Affairs Officer were all given committees and budgets of \$50 in order to carry out relevant SRC policy. Also presented at the start of the year was the SRC policy document which details all the major policy motions of the Association.

The SRC co-ordinator, John Roseveare, was very energetic and did a lot of work getting the whole system of SRC reps off the ground. Nearly all the many positions have been filled and most of the reps are very busy. Improved organisation has seen more new people attracted to become SRC reps and in joining in on the various ad hoc and official committees.

The new spirit of organisation running through SRC has meant that the Exec. has become mostly a financial and administrative body leaving the actioning of association policy to SRC reps. However there is the problem that SRC could now become too bureaucratic but so far the extra organisation has been beneficial.

But I suppose you readers want the gen on the pricks what run SRC. So for those of you who never both-

ered to turn up and for those of you who did but can't remember, here is the definitive explanation of exactly who runs SRC:

First to be mentioned must be the New Catholic Left (NCL) represented by Paul Swain, Pat Martin, Pip Desmond, Mike Dew and many more. The NCL are important because they generally vote as a bloc (a rather large bloc at that) and have a disproportionate influence at SRC. Many close decisions are swayed one way or another by the NCL vote. The NCLers are strong believers in 'grassroots' organisation among students and are active at course, department and faculty levels in the main. Their main contribution to SRC is the humorous Puketitri Paul Swain who knew a Mrs. Merryweather of 3 Drovers Grove, Eketahuna who knew a person who knew someone who went to university once, and this person saw someone get drunk ... NCLers also form most of the Arts Faculty and Prof. Board reps. But this year the NCLers seem to have become more introverted and distant from students than last year.

The NCLers have tended to overact to signs of imminent bureaucracy such as John Roseveare's rather omnipresent person as SRC co-ordinator. While there is no doubt that John Roseveare is somewhat of a bureaucrat some of the NCL attacks have been neither reasoned nor constructive.

The Ward-Henderson-Robinson clique (Salient) has tried to be constructive and non-factional (ha!ha!).

Apart from the famous John Henderson this clique prefers to be rather low key in approach — however they seem to get most of their motions passed.

One of the newer arrivals is in fact quite old, in fact the Old Catholic Left. Having only two members (Pat Duignan and Margaret Fahy) the OCL has a habit of concentrating on Civil Liberties, confidentiality type issues but has done good work in those fields.

A new development at this year's SRCs is the glib Gibb or bright Wright clique which is not so much a clique as a way of life. This way of life can be seen at any SRC where the word 'piss' appears on the agenda. Kevin Wright actually found his way into this way of life when he was made an offer he couldn't refuse (\$100 of Studass subsidised piss). Its been well over a year since SRC has seen any opposition to the 'left' but unfortunately this way of life is not very articulate despite great endeavours to encourage participation by John Roseveare and others.

SRCs had just started changing format at the end of last term. Previously all meetings contained; one funny speech by Puketitri Paul Swain about a friend of a student who knew someone living in Eketahuna ..., one motion disagreeing with the Chairman's ruling by Colin Feslier, one bout of complete chaos as Robert Pui took the chair, one serious motion that was not discussed much and one trivial motion that was discussed for

half an hour. But things change and now SRCs are being taken more seriously. While there is still a tendency for the silent majority that elected John MacDonald to only turn up when the words 'Capping', 'piss', or 'donation' appear on the agenda, more seem to be taking a regular interest in SRC.

Most of the people who have been turning up to SRC seem to be willing to listen to arguments and vote on that basis instead of just following their own prejudices blindly. The problem is, at the moment, that people are too easily convinced and SRC is lacking some spirit.

SRC this last term has shown a consistent abhorrence of 'motions of principle' as opposed to specific motions of action. SRC policy has been full of so many holes in the past that association representatives have been unable to act quickly on a wide range of things because policy isn't general enough. In the good old days this problem was solved by acting first and passing the requisite motions afterwards. (It still occurs). If we are to ensure that reps act in the best interests of the association we need to give them broad policy to enable them to act quickly on any number of specific issues.

SRC still needs more people to turn up and desperately needs new and entertaining speakers.

Lastly, a rather sad ending. John Roseveare has resigned as SRC co-ordinator which means that organisation of SRC, SRC reps, etc. could become a bit wobbly.

## ... and EXECUTIVE

by Anthony Ward

Well, the first term has come to an end, and no doubt various people will be thinking about exams, and other people will be thinking about what they did during the holidays. A few might even be considering the Students Association and wondering what it is doing for them. To help this last group, here is a brief run-down on Exec's activities over the last few months. Individual issues have generally been dealt with in John Henderson's Exec reports (which are by now collectors items according to normally horribly misinformed sources), so this article will deal with the broader items only.

Overall, there has been a lot of greater unity of purpose in this year's Exec and a much greater amount of work than was evident last year. The work has been spread out to involve more people, working harder than was the case last year. It's not possible nor desirable to keep tags on all Exec-type people's activities, but some brief outline can be given.

Lisa Saksen (President): Lisa's policy last year hoped 'to encourage greater discussion among students on their educational, political and social lives'. From the more informed and involved discussions at SRC, and the high degree of interest in both political and cultural activities certainly something seems to

have happened. Lisa's chairing of Execs and SRCs in general has been of a high standard, cutting out much of the waffle present in other places (Craccum reports last Auckland Exec meeting at 8 hours — most of Vic's average four to five). However, one thing Lisa has not yet done is the promised integrated programme for the students association. The piecemeal fashion she criticised is still evident, though much more efficient.

Giles Beckford (Man Vice-President): Giles' primary problem is that he works downtown for STB and while he attends most SRCs etc. this tends to mean he gets out of touch with what students are doing. It also means he has not as much time as other Exec members to carry out his portfolio. He too promised attempts to improve social life in his manifesto, and also striving for a 'better association with participation and contribution from students'.

Dianne Hooper (Woman Vice-President): said next to nothing in her manifesto and has proceeded to carry it out. Dianne's English honours course is undoubtedly taking much of her time, but even given that her performance has been poor.

Robert Pui (Secretary): Robert has often complained that he doesn't get much to do because people haven't been telling him what to do, and many of his tasks have been taken off him. As a bureaucrat Robert has probably not done very well, but in his role as a spokesman for Malaysian students he has done a lot of work and been a benefit to Exec.

Michael Curtis (Treasurer): widely renowned as a money expert, Mike has been running the accounts very smoothly with Mrs. Goodall, the office manager, and looking after the finances of such things as Orientation with the help of Steven Underwood. Treasurer is necessarily a bureaucratic job, but Mike does seem able to get beyond this in Exec and SRC discussions.

Barbara Leishman (Cultural Affairs): Barbara's activities have centred on a very successful Orientation programme, providing unpaid drudge labour for Arts Council promotions and chairing cultural affairs council to distribute moneys to student clubs. Her contributions to Exec meetings have often not been up to this standard, but that's not surprising given its quality.

Kevin Wright (Sports Officer): a most confusing performance. Kevin has done great work in getting a new spirit into clubs such as Diving, etc. but has tended to become somewhat disillusioned recently. Exec meetings he often doesn't seem to understand, and some of his antics at SRC (eg. getting Colin Feslier to drink a yard of ale) have bordered on the ludicrous.

Peter Aagaard (Accommodation): another bureaucratic role, involving long discussions with various people involved in accommodation and welfare services — in the absence of a welfare officer Peter has done much of this work too. In negotiating for the lease of Stuart Williamson (now housing 16 students) Peter

did a very good job. Impressive on Exec. Colin Feslier (Publications): Colin has provided some useful ideas in his chosen field (eg. reorganising the Salient office, and taking over Newsheet), but on occasions seems dilatory in carrying them through. He has been criticised over the way he organises Pubs Board, and hopefully will soon make amends for this. One of the strongest supporters of the SRC power ideas at the beginning of the year, his idealism has tempered somewhat. His strained relations with the New Catholic Left add spice to political speculation.

John Roseveare (SRC Co-ordinator): one of the outstanding successes on Exec. John's work in putting out the SRC policy guideline, organising reps, pushing the university over timetables and also individual students cases. If there are criticisms, they are that he has been doing too much work — and in the process isolating himself from students to some extent. This was evident at time at SRC. His work on Exec. has also been good (do I keep my job as PR officer?)

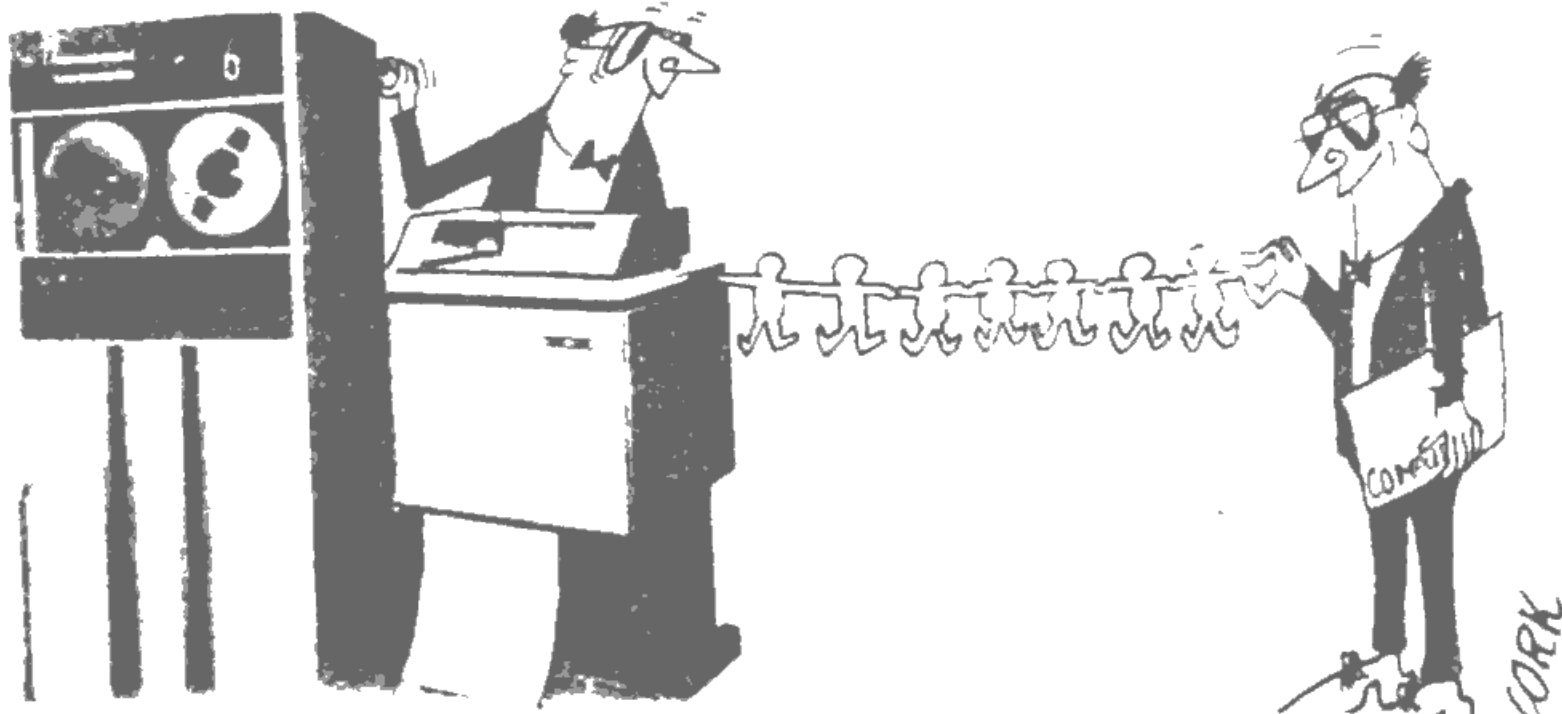
Despite some of the above failings, and one or two disagreements over minor matters, Exec as a body has functioned well — not least because members are prepared to criticise and be criticised. Meetings are rather long, but there is a much livelier atmosphere than last year, and more is getting done. Hopes for the second term are high.

# BIG COMPUTER IS WATCHING YOU

An increasing number of people who are concerned about the erosion of civil liberties and the growing trend towards a police state in NZ are asking questions about the new Police Computer at Wanganui. In this article we will answer some of those questions.

The police computer at Wanganui otherwise known as the Law Enforcement Information System was built at a cost of \$23.2 million (mainly by US and UK technology). It will have 197 terminals for feeding in and extracting information throughout NZ and 84 of them will be in the hands of the police. Basically, the computer will be used by four government departments coming together to pool their information. They are: The Justice Department, Police Department, Ministry of Transport and The State Services Commission.

What information will be stored in this Data Bank? Well, the Justice Dept. claim that they will not be storing anything that is not now the subject of manual record. But, however, this is only the claim of one government department using the computer. In a recent radio program the Justice Dept. was the only one of the four departments using the computer that was prepared to comment. We suspect that there is something they don't want us to know. But, we can draw our own conclusions from their refusal to discuss the issue — for example: a reason for having this surveillance system is so that information held by the departments concerned can be centralised and any department using the computer will have access to any information stored in it, so the information can be shared around, etc., which makes the Justice Department claim seem like a joke. This beginning of a Big Brother type scheme could, and probably will,



escalate — eg. a senior government Civil Servant, Mr. Lisco said the government could save millions of dollars if it was to keep *business files* on everyone and centralise its information. It is also interesting to note former national minister for State Services Mr. Thompson's views on the situation. Thompson supports the centralizing of government records and denies the right of any individual to know what information government departments are keeping about him or her, or to check directly what information was held by him/her in the police computer. Also interesting is the answer to the question: most of the technology for this computer comes from the USA and UK, they've had a lot of information leaks, what guarantee is there that ours will be any better than theirs?

ANSWER:

- Ethical conduct of the people here is good and we are less subject to corruption.
- The computer profession has a good record for doing a workman-like job.

Hardly a convincing answer.

Talking of corruption, it is again interesting to note that the Wanganui computer has a fifth department which will be using the computer, although preferring to remain anonymous: The Security Intelligence Service (SIS). The SIS will also be able to record intimate details about anyone considered to be a threat to the state and to record the contacts of such people. This recording of contacts (friends, workmates, etc.) is not limited to political offenders, it includes anyone who has had dealings with the law, including those laying complaints. It is significant that the FBI computer system in the USA started off with similar excuses to those being offered here: a record of criminals, missing persons, vehicles and fire arms, etc.

But there, as undoubtedly will be the case here, the FBI computer has extended to include files on ordinary people who may be friends or neighbours of criminals, political dissidents or trade union militants.

Why the need for computers such as these?

The main use is for the benefit of the capitalist class as a whole to keep intact its profit system, whether the challenge is a petty theft as a servant or political organising to change the system.

The Auckland Progressive Youth Movement is planning a Campaign against the Police-'Justice' Department Computer Centre in Wanganui. We are asking for support from all organisations and individuals sympathetic to the Defence of Democratic Rights.

This slide towards Fascism is not inevitable, it can be reversed. Our first priority for this task is to make the people of NZ aware of the danger to

our Civil Liberties. The exposure of the Potential of the Wanganui Computer is an important part of this struggle.

The protest will take place in Wanganui over Queens Birthday Weekend, from Friday 30 May to Monday 2 June. Proposed activities spread over the weekend include leaflet and poster distribution, Guerrilla Theatre, extensive door knocking and public meeting, with the weekend activities culminating in a march on the Computer Centre itself.

Anyone who has contacts in Wanganui, or could provide local information or help with organisation in Wanganui please contact us as soon as possible.

If you could help with organisation in your area, distribution of leaflets and posters, etc. also please contact us. We need to know how many people are likely to come fairly soon in order to arrange transport, accommodation, food, etc.

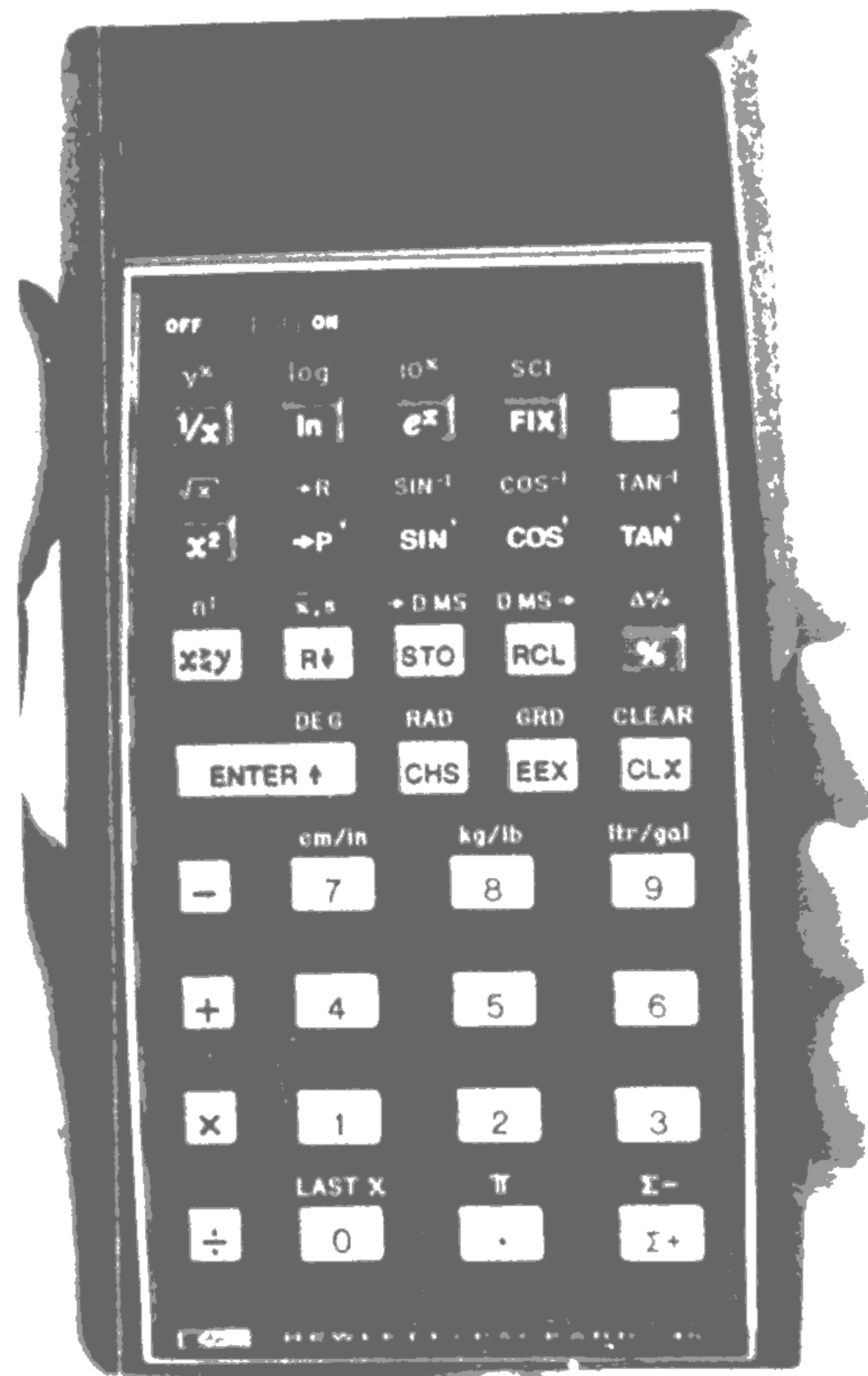
Any financial aid would be appreciated. Please register letters.

Contact PYM  
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or  
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875-512  
mre.5314

## HEWLETT PACKARD CALCULATORS AT SWEET AND MAXWELLS U.B.C.

We are pleased to announce that we are now stocking the H.P.21 and H.P.45 calculators. The H.P.21 has a full range of scientific functions ( $\sin x$ ,  $\arcsin x$ ,  $\cos x$ ,  $\arccos x$ ,  $\tan x$ ,  $\arctan x$ ,  $e^x$ ,  $\ln x$ ,  $\log x$ ,  $10^x$ ,  $Y^x$ ,  $V_x$ ,  $1/x$ ,  $\pi$ ). The H.P.21 performs rectangular/polar conversions automatically. It has degree/radian mode selection and conversion capability. It has a four register Operational stack and contains an addressable memory. These and other features makes it the most advanced low price (\$130) scientific calculator.

The H.P.45 is an advanced scientific calculator. It has 14 registers. It uses RNP (Reverse Polish Notation). It has 9 addressable memory registers. It has all the capabilities of the H.P.21 plus many more which are worth coming in and getting to grips with. There is promotional material to take away, and instruction pamphlets and guides are also available.



ACTUAL SIZE

H.P. 45

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# PEOPLE'S VICTORY IN INDOCHINA



The Vietnamese people have struggled for national independence for many decades, first against the French and the Japanese and later against the United States. They have now won complete victory, a victory which followed hard on the liberation of Cambodia.

For more than fifteen years, without fear of any sacrifice, the heroic Vietnamese people waged a dynamic war against that most cruel and powerful enemy — U.S. imperialism. Despite the despatch of more than 600,000 ground troops, the Seventh Fleet, tens of thousands of planes and helicopters, attempted ecocide, mass murder, the dropping of nearly 8 million tons of bombs and at a cost of nearly 200,000 million U.S. dollars, the United States failed to force the Vietnamese people to their knees. On the contrary, the Vietnamese people have defeated the United States.

People all over the world are now asking themselves: Why were the three Indochinese peoples able to stand up to such an onslaught? How is it that a small and weak country can defeat a big and strong country? What are the main factors which have enabled the three Indochinese peoples to defeat U.S. imperialism?

These are complex questions which cannot be answered in detail in one short article, but the essentials are: correct political lines, the combined strength of a united people, protracted people's war and sympathy and support from the people of the world.

## Revolutionary leadership

The most important fact in the victories of the Indochinese peoples has been the leadership provided by revolutionary Marxist-Leninist parties. As the Vietnam-

ese women put it during their recent visit to New Zealand: "The Party is the organiser of all our victories."

The application of Marxism-Leninism to the actual realities in Indochina enabled the parties to formulate a correct political line which guided the national liberation movement. In backward agrarian countries like those in Indochina, the basic social conflicts are between foreign imperialism and the nation and between the feudal landlord class and the people, particularly the peasantry. The conflict with U.S. imperialism was seen as the most important one.

With this understanding, the Indochinese revolutionaries have aimed their spearhead at defeating foreign imperialism and the feudal landlord class. At the present stage, except for north Vietnam, domestic capitalism has not been made a target, provided it has not collaborated with imperialism. When conditions are ripe, the revolution in all of Indochina will switch from the present national-democratic stage to the socialist stage, as in north Vietnam.

## The United Front

This understanding has enabled the Indochinese revolutionaries to unite the greatest number of people against the common enemy — U.S. imperialism — so as to isolate him to the maximum. Policies have been adopted which unite all those who can be united, neutralise all those who can be neutralised and divide up the

enemy. The Seven-Point Peace Proposal of July 1971 and the Paris agreement have been concrete examples of this political line in the diplomatic sphere.

Based on the unity between the working class and the peasantry, the revolutionary parties have been able to mobilise the people of all social classes, nationalities, religions and political beliefs into a single spearhead of resistance to U.S. imperialism. The National Front for Liberation of south Vietnam is an embodiment of this line, including as it does the People's Revolutionary Party, the Democratic Party and the Radical Socialist Party.

Truong Chinh, leading Vietnamese theoretician, says that the national united front is "an indispensable political weapon for our people to bring into play their combined strength in the struggle against the enemy of our nation to conquer independence, freedom and to build a new life."

## People's War

People and not weapons are decisive in warfare. As Giap has said, "It can be said that nowadays in military affairs there is a greater invention than atomic weapons, that is, people's war". In people's war the whole nation is aroused, the entire people is armed and fights on all fronts. Everybody, from small children to the old, take part in the common struggle, using whatever weapons are available. People's war is revolutionary armed struggle developed on

the basis of political struggle. The political struggle and the armed struggle are closely coordinated, supporting and stimulating each other.

The revolutionary armed forces are developed so that all types of warfare, from guerrilla war to regular war, can be fought. The cities are surrounded from the countryside and eventually liberated, as has happened this year in Cambodia and Vietnam.

## International Solidarity

While the national liberation movements in Indochina relied mainly on their own efforts, they generated a movement of international support without precedent. Material aid and diplomatic support came from a number of countries, including socialist, former socialist and some bourgeois countries. An international protest movement developed in the capitalist world which greatly contributed to the political isolation of U.S. imperialism.

The war in Indochina is without parallel in history. The great victories of the three Indochinese peoples have shown that while U.S. imperialism is outwardly strong and capable of inflicting great suffering on the people, it is inwardly weak: the people, provided they take their destiny into their own hands and fight a protracted people's war under correct political leadership, are capable of defeating any attacks of imperialism — that is the fundamental lesson of Indochina.

# THE ORPHAN SUPERMARKET

By MORRIS WRIGHT  
Guardian Bureau

San Francisco

Not since the days of southern slave markets have helpless children been treated as cruelly as were the Vietnamese children who arrived here by airlift this month.

Most of them were taken to the Presidio, an Army base where hundreds of thousands of GIs had been processed en route to Vietnam.

One of those who volunteered to help with the children was Muoi McConnell, a native of Danang now living in nearby San Leandro, the wife of a former GI. She spent four days at the Presidio, working almost nonstop because she could not properly take care of the physical needs of the 20-some children assigned to her.

Mrs. McConnell told the Guardian: "I talked with about 70 children. All were crying most of the time, wanting to go home. Many of them had brothers and sisters somewhere at the Presidio. I tried to find the brothers and sisters. Sometimes I found them, but they were not together for long. They were taken by foster parents without any regard to family ties.

"There were three from one family—Tran Lisa, 12, Tran Alan, 8 and Tran Angel, 5. Their mother is in Vietnam, their father is in Australia. Their mother had



asked Friends of All the Children (the organization that handled the airlift from Vietnam) to take them to Australia so their father could pick them up. Lisa told us the name and address of her mother in Saigon. But there was no way to get them to either of their parents. It was like a big machine. They were taken by three different American families.

"There were two unrelated girls with the same name, one 4 and the other 7. Both were half Vietnamese and half American. A couple from Atlantic City had been assigned to take the 4-year-old. They looked at her, decided she was too young, found another girl with the same name and walked out with her.

"Another 4-year-old cried constantly for her mother. After a long time, we found her 3-year-old brother and she stopped crying. Later that day the boy was chosen by an American couple and taken away. After that, the little girl never stopped crying.

"I will never forget Doan Thi Thuy Link, a 4-year-old girl who is paralyzed, can't move or take care of herself at all. She has been living with her mother and grandparents in Saigon. She was sent here to be taken by her aunt and uncle until the war ends. The aunt and

uncle did not come to get her and instead of waiting to get in contact with these relatives, the people in charge let a couple from Tucson take her. She did not eat, cried all the time for three days. Finally she ate a little rice. We were very worried about her.

"All of the children had tags around their necks with their names and ages. There was a boy whose tag read Dominic Castro H. Nantes. He insisted that this was not his name. He said his parents in Vietnam had given him a letter with his correct name, and saying that they wanted him back after the war. He was taken by people from Evansville, Ind., and I don't think he will ever get back to his parents or be called by his real name. The people in charge at the Presidio just said he was too young to know his name. He said he was 6 and looked about that age.

"There was Le Thi Bich Chi. She is 12 and her mother is vice director of an orphanage in Saigon. She said that her mother made an agreement with Friends of All the Children that she and her 5-year-old brother, Le Thi Bach Uyen, were not to be adopted. The mother wanted to have them returned after the war. But she was taken—without her brother. Chi had a letter from her mother with this information, but it was taken from her.

"If people didn't find the child they were to adopt, they just went shopping through all the rooms for another one.

"When I told the Americans in charge what the children told me about their parents, their relatives and so on, the Americans tried to avoid facing the situation by saying the kids are too young to know what's going on."

Muoi McConnell worked in a hospital in Vietnam during the first years of the war. She said many children were there who had become separated from their refugee families. "We kept them," she said, "and their parents came and found them. Most of the children who were brought here have one or two parents, but nobody paid any attention to that."

# Auckland Task force must be stopped

Recently the Auckland anti-racist group ACORD published a report summarising the first six months of activity by the Auckland police Task Force. Despite Auckland's remarkably low crime rate a well organised campaign supported by the local press resulted in a highly-trained, tightly knit and mobile squad of policemen to attack violence and disorder on the streets - the Task Force.

Since that time there has been little change in the rate of serious crime in Auckland but there has grown a strong body of opinion against the Task Force and its methods. The Task Force has made 90% of its arrests over trivial anti-social behaviour. It has provoked by its presence and its actions a large number of these arrests.

The Task Force has disproportionately arrested Polynesians. 60% of its victims are Polynesians while they comprise only about 15% of the population. The Task Force has done this firstly by concentrating its forces on areas where the Polynesian population congregates. By making a large number of trivial arrests wherever it goes the Task Force creates 'trouble spots'; it then gets license to continue to patrol these trouble spots. Also Task Force members deliberately single out Polynesians for arrest. For example 50% of the arrests for obscene language ('piss off will do), are for Pacific Islanders yet no explanation has been made as to why a section comprising only 5% of the population is responsible for 50% of the obscene language arrests.

While the Task Force excuses its large number of arrests for trivial offences as 'nipping trouble in the bud' the rate of serious crime has not changed in Auckland since the introduction of the Force.

A demonstration of how the Force operates is given in this excerpt from the ACORD report:  
pp8-9 of report.

the ACORD report:

*'On the evening of December 19, 1974, the South Auckland Task Force, with the assistance of police dogs injured four innocent people and arrested five outside a South Auckland Hotel. All were Maoris. The two eye-witnesses who were passing and who had not been in the hotel, have described the incident in detail to ACORD.*

*'It all began when two car-loads of police plus police dogs arrived at the hotel on a 'routine visit'. At the time there was no trouble at the hotel at all. The dogs were immediately taken from the car and remained outside while the Task Force went inside. One man, 'A' is alleged to have shouted 'Fuck the Task Force'. He was immediately arrested, taken outside (where a small crowd had gathered) and placed in a police car. Outside the hotel 'B' a friend of 'A' went up to the police to ask why 'A' had been arrested, and told the police that 'A' hadn't shouted the comment. 'B' was grabbed by the police who tried to force him into the car. He resisted and the three police officers got him face down on the ground and kneeled on his back and held him there. He was handcuffed and put into the police car. Another friend 'C' also a bystander, asked the police why 'B' had been arrested and was himself grabbed and pushed into the police car.*

*'Meanwhile, the police dogs were creating confusion and alarm by lunging and snarling at people. One managed to reach another bystander 'D' who was doing nothing but looking on when the police dog attacked him, ripped his trousers and bit his leg open. His leg was bleeding and he asked the police why he had been attacked and what would happen about his trousers being ruined. He was told, 'these things happen' and was arrested. Another bystander, a woman, was badly bitten in the lower abdomen but escaped being arrested.*

*'About the same time, two men were standing between a couple of cars watching what was going on when a constable with a dog on a leash walked between them and the dog suddenly lunged at 'E' and bit him on the leg. He said to the police officer 'what's going to happen about me being bitten on the leg?'. He was told 'these things just happen' and another constable called out 'Grab him - arrest him' and 'E' was then arrested.*

*'Another bystander, 'F' who was upset at what had happened asked a constable why 'D' had been arrested. A witness stated 'The cop just spun around and hit him. So 'F' said 'You hit me first, so ...' and punched the constable. 'F' took off and wasn't seen again'.*

*'As usual, none of the arrested men were told why they had been arrested until they were being 'processed' at the Otahuhu Police Station. The men were not released on bail until the next morning (two at 6am and two at 9am). In court the next day 'B' was charged with 'resisting arrest' and the other three with 'disorderly behaviour'. 'A' had taken advantage of the confusion outside the hotel, and had escaped from the police car - he wasn't recaptured and so didn't appear in court. The other four all pleaded Not Guilty. 'B', 'C' and 'D' were convicted and fined and 'E' was acquitted. But the police still weren't satisfied. 'B's wife, also a Maori, who had been a onlooker received a summons for 'obstructing' over a month after the event. She was convicted and received a suspended sentence. The only person who escaped unscathed was a young white woman who shouted insults and 'obscene' abuse at the departing police, pointing out their blatant racial discrimination, without being arrested.*

*'A regular drinker at this hotel, not a witness to the above events, has stated 'the people who drink in the corner bar of this hotel have got to a point where they would shut the doors and 'do' the Task Force. They are talking about this now. It's going to blow up soon with the Task Force. They'll 'do' them, no doubt about that. It's only a matter of time'.*

While the Auckland Task Force has arrested hundreds on drunkenness



charges even inside public bars no licensee has been prosecuted for supplying liquor to an intoxicated person - strange behaviour if the Task Force wants to stamp out drunkenness. In fact it should be fairly obvious why the Task Force fails to arrest and prosecute licensees who sell liquor to intoxicated persons. The Task Force is not after stopping crime, it is after stamping on Polynesians.

The continued existence of the Task Force represents an unwarranted attack on Polynesian people in New Zealand. It is no surprise that the Task Force was brought into being at a time when groups like Nga Tamatoa, People's Union and Polynesian Panthers had been set up to end their oppression and to fight racist attacks. The Task Force continues in existence only because of a determined campaign by the press to blame Polynesians for violence on Auckland's streets and by the strong 'law and order' policy of the present Labour government. We must demand the abolition of the Auckland Task Force.



## COMMERCE STUDENTS

### AN INVITATION

Roy Cowley our Staff Partner from the Wellington Office will be available for interviews at the Careers Office on -

## TUESDAY 3rd JUNE

Opportunities, technical training, practical experience, delegation are some of the points that can be discussed at this interview. Alternatively you can contact us direct to discuss the benefits we can provide.

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## From the Courts

From the Courts has proved to be too much for one mere mortal to write week after week; consequently, there are now five of us that are going to be reporting on the happenings in the court for those of you up on the hill who have an interest in what goes on in our legal system. We will try to follow the high standards set by Les Knight in this column to date, but that task will be difficult. Since this column is based on opinion and criticism as much as facts, there will probably be a discernable difference in the columns filed by the various reporters. Hopefully, this variation in viewpoints will be a positive factor in the future and increase the objectivity of the column.

Before getting into the merits of any of the cases that came up while I was in attendance, I am compelled to comment on the physical surroundings of Magistrates Court 1, although I realise that I am probably flogging a dead horse.

For a room that is supposed to embody the very roots of our existence as a society, it was incredibly dingy. It is painted an institutional pale yellow, with paint peeling off the mock Roman columns that are so incon-

gruous next to the hand-made NO SMOKING signs and the walls covered with acoustic tiles in a futile attempt to cut down the noise. The only panelled pieces of furniture in the room are the magistrates' bench and the press box — although whether there is a hidden meaning in this, I can't say. The desks that are supplied for the prosecutors and the lawyers definitely embody the principle of equality before the law. Oh well, I guess that the New Zealand courts think that dignity and respect come from the actors and not the props — but I think

By far the worst aspect of the room, however, is the noise. We all know the age-old adage that justice must be seen to be done ... well I would submit that it must be heard to be done as well. I am sure that to the uninitiated it just looks like there is a lot of mumble-jumble and hocus-pocus going on at the front. Even the prisoner in the dock often can't hear the magistrate, and he's the closest one to him. Doors opening and closing, cars starting up outside the open window, people talking, chairs scraping, all add to the din that exists in the room. Consequently, on my second day at the court, I sat up in the press box in an attempt to get a better idea of what was going on, but even that was futile. I couldn't even hear the prosecutor all the

time, and he was no more than ten feet from me. Might I suggest that a little money spent on carpets for the floor, oil for the door hinges, and air conditioners (so the window could be closed) would lend the court a dignity that would be well worth the expense.

Magistrates have one of the most difficult jobs in today's society, and I think that on the whole they carry out their duties very well. Sometimes they will make judgements that vary with yours or mine, but that is only inevitable. So instead of printing only criticisms of the Bench, I intend to print good, insightful decisions as well. One such case involved a man (around 50, I'd say) who had been arrested on an idle and disorderly charge and who promptly pleaded guilty to the charge, as if he'd been through this before. He had been arrested while sleeping in a railway car at 1.00am the night before, with \$1.14 in his pocket. (Personally, I feel that if he committed a crime it was trespass, but I'll leave that for another day.) He was unemployed, so Mr. Hobbs S.M. asked him if he intended getting a job — no answer. So the magistrate told the fellow to step down for half an hour and think about it — to make a decision for a change. I thought this good advice. Anyway, after half an hour with the Salvation Army people, he came back in the dock and meekly said that he wanted to get a job; but his heart obviously wasn't in it. Winter's coming, and in prison you've got a bed and food every day. So the magistrate told him to come back in two weeks and if he had a job, he would be discharged. If not, he could go 'somewhere else'. This, I think, was a fair disposition of the case, assuming that there should be such a charge a I & D in the first place. The magistrate was making every attempt to keep this man from imposing on the public purse for his support. However, one of the oldest tenets of the common law is that you can't force someone to work. Perhaps in this case the magistrate, to be fair, should have told the man to come back either with a job or \$5.00 in his pocket — just so

long as he isn't a ward of the state. God knows how many people there are out there who don't work, yet aren't in any trouble with the law because they have lots of money. But it is the law at fault there, not the magistrate.

Another case I thought that the magistrate displayed awareness was when a 45 year old woman was charged with using obscene language in a public place. She had gotten quite drunk in a bar and had wandered out to Courtenay Place where she was yelling obscenities at the world in general and the bartender in particular. She seemed to have a history of this type of behaviour and didn't have a home to go back to, except the Catholic Social Services. Mr. Monaghan S.M. properly diagnosed this as a social not a criminal problem, and remanded her for two days so that some solution might be reached with the social services.

However, the magistrate wasn't so lenient when a 26 year old with long hair and a beard came up on a similar charge. He had been playing his guitar on a Wellington street in the hope of collecting a little money, when the police came over to question him. He became abusive when spoken to, causing a crowd to gather. He was arrested and began singing the obscenities as he was put in the police car. The magistrate didn't see this as a social (or cultural) problem, rather he lectured the fellow to 'act your age' and to 'stop behaving as a 10 year old'. It seemed as though the magistrate was upset at the fellow's lifestyle rather than the offence. The fine handed down of \$75.00 was a bit stiff for the offence, I thought. The attitude that the magistrate took may have shown a little social bias against a culture that he didn't understand (not that I condone it). However, if justice is to be dispensed by humans, this is a fact that we will have to live with. I'm sure that the culture represented by the above 26 year old would have just as strong a bias against a 50 year old capitalist-businessman in a three-piece suit.

Alan Parish.

# Campaign to Oppose the Security Service

The Campaign to oppose the Security Service has been started as a result of the exposure of Security Service methods and politics during the Sutch trial, and also as a result of the concern which many New Zealanders feel over the activities of the Security Service in the day to day politics of the NZ community.

The Campaign intends through the publicising of the unsavory nature of the NZSIS to develop mass pressure

on the government to take action on the service.

Recent overseas publicity has shown the insidious way in which so-called security organisations can become manipulators of government policy, and can take the power to decide out of the elected government. We believe that, admittedly on a smaller scale, the NZSIS aims to do this here, and to some extent has already achieved this aim.

- \* The NZSIS concentrates its domestic 'anti-subversive' work on spying on left-wing organisations including the Labour Party, and does not regard the Right as presenting a threat.

- \* The NZSIS takes a political attitude on issues of the day. For example it co-operated with WARD against HART during the 1973 anti-tour campaign, and it has been discovered spying on organisations opposing the former government's policy on the Vietnam war.

- \* The NZSIS concentrates its 'anti-espionage' activities against the socialist countries, presumably because it has unilaterally decided that they are more likely to have interests contrary to NZ. This concentration has taken place despite government policies to the contrary, and led Dr. Finlay to comment in his announcement authorising the prosecution of Dr. Sutch:

'The encounters I referred to earlier in the memorandum were observed as the result of surveillance carried out, not on Dr. Sutch, but on a foreign diplomat. This raises questions far outside my area of responsibility and I should probably make no comment but I feel obliged to say that if assaults on the integrity of the State are to be guarded against, there seems to be no ground for assuming that they will emanate from any one, or any particular quarter.'

- \* The NZSIS operates outside the control of even its minister and its director has said that he will only tell the Prime Minister what he thinks he should know.

- \* The NZSIS vets 16,000 people each year,

yet those people are not entitled to know what has been recorded about them, nor to correct any false information. There is no assurance that any information kept is relevant to security, and the question of relevance is entirely in the hands of the agents of the SIS.

- \* On the admission of Brigadier Gilbert the NZSIS uses telephone tapping and electronic bugging equipment to obtain information.

- \* The NZSIS actively co-operates with known subversive organisations such as the CIA and the South African Police organisation BOSS.

- \* We believe that the abolition of the Security Service would not be such a radical or irresponsible step as Mr. Rowling and Mr. Talboys would have us believe. We are told that the main work of the service is in vetting immigrants. That work can be done by the Labour Department. If any individual or group engages in overt criminal activity such as espionage or sabotage, surely it is the responsibility of the Police. Checking on Public Servants can be performed by the body best qualified — the State Services Commission. This leaves only the work of spying on non-conforming groups.

Political change in a democratic society depends on critical and independent thinking. The activities of the Security Service cause fear and distrust among those who advocate change. Does the detection of three spies in 20 years justify the existence of such an organisation?

The immediate programme for the Campaign is as follows:

### CITIZENS' ENQUIRY

As a means of publicising the work of the NZSIS and finding out more about its activities, the campaign is organising a Citizens Enquiry into the activities of the Service.

There will be hearings in Wellington,

probably early in June, and in other centres at about the same time if the number of witnesses warrants it.

If you know anything about the activities of the NZSIS you are asked to assist in this enquiry. Please write to us with your information, giving as much detail as possible. When your evidence has been examined you will be advised of the date of the enquiry and asked to attend and give evidence. If you prefer, or are unable to travel we will arrange for your evidence to be taken privately, anonymously if necessary. If it feels that the importance of the evidence warrants it the campaign will pay for the witness to be brought to Wellington for the hearing. If you know of any other persons who could assist the enquiry, please approach them and ask them to write to us, or, if you prefer, send us their names and addresses and we will approach them. We are also interested in the names of NZSIS agents, but if you send us this information it is important that you provide details of its source so that we can attempt to verification.

Over the past few months we have discovered that many people know a little about the activities of the NZSIS. If this information can be pooled we will have a substantial body of information about the NZSIS.

### LOBBYING

The Labour Party Conference has voted year after year for the abolition of the NZSIS, yet the present government has done absolutely nothing in this direction. We will endeavour to press home on the government its responsibilities in this direction. You can assist by writing to your local MP.

**CAMPAIGN TO OPPOSE THE SECURITY SERVICE**  
P.O. BOX 1147,  
WELLINGTON.



## NEWS

## FROM MALAYSIA &amp; SINGAPORE

9-4-75

**Chee Khoo: Harsh Measures May Force Students To Go Underground**

K.L. — Dr. Tan Chee Khoo (Pekemas MP) opposed the Universities and University Colleges (Amendment Bill). He said: 'These repressive measures, far from curbing students' political activities, will harden their attitude and if they cannot conduct their activities openly they will just go underground. This will entail far more work for the Special Branch'. 'Alas, in Malaysia the National Front Government is mortally afraid of students achieving political consciousness', he added. He also said that the vice-chancellor would be used as a convenient hatchet man for the Minister.

14-4-75

**Union's Plan For New Students**

The theme of the University of Singapore and Singapore Polytechnic Students Unions' freshmen orientation programmes this year will be on 'Students' role and responsibility in society', said the officials of the freshmen orientation committees of both unions.

The programmes of USSU include:

1. Orientation camp, exhibitions, welfare activities and forums.
2. A survey on the living conditions of farmers in rural areas and a short stint in factories to observe the working conditions of workers.

The aims of the Singapore Polytechnic's orientation are to:

1. BRING ABOUT better understanding of the union's policies.
2. FORGE a more coherent relationship between seniors and freshmen.
3. AFFORD maximum exposure to social realities to achieve social awareness among students.

The programmes include sing-along sessions, film shows, group discussions, talks, a work-camp, exhibitions and outdoor activities. The official said the union would not organise an orientation ball this year 'to save money and trouble'.

15-4-75

**Mosque Demo: 60 Freed**

K.L. — Sixty students were acquitted without their defence being called by the Sessions Court today on a charge of taking part in an unlawful assembly at Masjid Negera on Dec. 3 last year as they had not been positively identified as being members of the unlawful assembly. Court president, Encik Abdul Rashid Manaf said that the prosecution only submitted part of the photos taken during the unlawful assembly; for a fair trial they should have submitted all the photos. He emphasized that there was a possibility that students were being beaten within those unsubmitted ones. The trial of the second batch of 60 students has been postponed until later this year.

16-4-75

**Razak Urges London Umno To Preserve Malaysia's Good Image**

London — Tun Abdul Razak urged members of the London Umno Club to help preserve Malaysia's good image in Britain. He said certain groups of Malaysians studying had smeared the country's good name by presenting distorted versions of what was happening in the country. He feared that Malaysian students might be influenced and lower their morale in their new environment.

16-4-75

**Musa Hitam Calls US To Stabilise Tin Price**

London — Primary Industries Minister, Datuk Musa Hitam said the United States should accept the principle that the commercial sales of tin from the General Services Administration (GSA) stockpiles should not be made when the price is within the price stabilisation band or below. He regretted that although the GSA stockpile had been reduced from 369,000 long tons in 1962 to the present 207,000 tonnes, it still represented a high leverage factor in the tin market. The tin price today is around \$950 a pikul — well below the price stabilisation band of between \$980 and \$1,040 a pikul.

21-4-75

**Ghafar Call To Bridge Rich-Poor Gap At Once**

Ipoh — The Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Encik Ghafar Baba said, 'At the moment, there is a wide gap in the distribution of income and property, especially with the Malays and other bumiputras. The Malays only own 1% each of the shares in public companies and industrial sector companies. In modern agricultural sector companies, the Malays and Indians each have 0.3% participation'. He also said that Mara (Council of Trust for the indigent people) has so far spent \$73 million allotted for it under the second Malaysian Plan. Of the \$353 million worth of shares reserved for Malays till the middle of 1973, only half of them were bought up.

23-4-75

**Unions Give NEB A Week To Start Talks**

K.L. — A seven day ultimatum was served by three National Electricity Board unions to the management today to commence negotiations and settle their conditions claims. The Employees Union general secretary, Haji Othman Idris, said the joint action was planned to make their case stronger as well as to impress the management that they meant business.

24-4-75

**Americans' \$1,100m Business Stake In Malaysia**

K.L. — American investment in Malaysia totals US\$500 million (\$1,100 million) so far with expectations of more than doubling during the coming years, revealed by the Malaysian Ambassador to the US, Encik Mohamed Khir Johari. He said the tax incentives offered by the Malaysian Government gave tremendous cost advantages for American projects in Malaysia, especially with the industrial and social infrastructure already available.

24-4-75

**Fair Deal For All Investors, Jamil Tells Japanese**

Tokyo — Malaysia has few problems with Japanese investors that have not been able to solve amicably, Malaysian Federal Industrial Development Authority chairman Encik Jamil Jan said here. There were complaints that some Japanese companies did not give full opportunity for Malaysians to be trained to secure senior positions. This problem is compounded by the fact that it is the practice of Japanese companies to communicate between the Malaysian joint venture company and the parent company in Japan in Japanese.

24-4-75

**KL To Get \$80m French Loan**

Paris — Malaysian Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Razak said the French Government was prepared to lend his country about 150 million francs (\$80.5 million) for economic development projects. Addressing French bankers, he said Malaysia was stepping up its drive to attract investments and technological know-how from western industrial nations.

26-4-75

**Work-To-Rule Holds Up 6 Ships**

Port Klang — At least six ships were delayed in their departure for several hours as the Port Authority's marine crew resorted to work-

to-rule action. Marine personnel were boycotting overtime and refusing to take out tug boats in support of their claim for a higher travelling allowance than their present \$7 a month for each worker. About 800 clerks and forklift drivers are involved in the dispute.

26-4-75

**US Arms Export Boom**

The world wide arms build-up, particularly in the Middle East, has brought boom times for United States exporters of arms. Military exports by American companies have reached a new high of more than US\$8 billion (\$S17.6 billion) a year, and deliveries of weapons to foreign customers are growing at the fastest rate in US history. For some American arms

manufacturers, the sales of weapons systems abroad has become one of their profitable lines of business. For others, it has compensated for the decline in domestic military sales that followed America's disengagement from Vietnam. Defence experts say that the boom in military sales will continue at least several more years. According to the US arms control and disarmament agency, the US was responsible in 1973 for 54.4% of the world's arms export. The Soviet Union was second with 27.5%.

30-4-75

**Drop In External Trade**

Singapore's total external trade in the first three months of this year fell by \$390.6 million, according to official statistics. This was due largely to a drop in exports from \$3,464.6 million to \$2,893.2 million. Imports, however, registered a small increase, from \$4,640 million to \$4,810.8 million.

1-5-75

**Pressures Will Build Up: Goh**

Singapore's Defence Minister Dr. Goh Keng Swee said that with the recent military disasters in Indochina, pressures through local insurgencies and other means will build up in the South-east states. Non-communists failed in Indochina because they and their allies did not understand the true nature of the communist. Their perception of communism was largely in lurid propaganda terms of good and evil, communists being regarded as destroyers of freedom, peace, prosperity and human dignity. Yet if communism is that bad, how was it able to produce in the Soviet Union a modern industrial state and China with an international renown within ten years. He said it is possible to formulate intelligent and successful counter measures by studying communism thoroughly.

10-7-74

**Trade Imbalance Between Malaysia and NZ**

K.L. — Serious Trade imbalance between Malaysia and New Zealand was reported in 'Asia Trade and Industry'. The following table is Malaysia's balance on Visible Trade and Trade Deficit with NZ.

Year	Imports	Exports	Trading Deficit
1971	46.51	21.53	24.98
1972	63.14	21.39	41.75
1973*	77.80	26.90	50.90

\*Notes: The 1973 figures refer only to the Malay Peninsular (excluding Sarawak and Sabah). The figures are all in NZ\$Million. It was reported that in 1973, trade deficit between the two countries (including Sabah and Sarawak) amounted to M\$100million.

11-17-75

According to the government, some 500 guerillas of the underground Sarawak Communist Organisation have given up the struggle. There is no indication as to how many still remain in the jungle. According to earlier White Papers on the SCO there were only about 500 guerillas. If that were so, then the government would have already wiped out the whole organisation. But there is no suggestion even by the Government that it has done so, which leads one to the conclusion that the figure of 500 in both references were inaccurate. Alternatively the SCO has since the publication of the White Paper, expanded its forces significantly to more than 500 members.

If \$90 million are spent in Sarawak one can well imagine the amount spent on the counter-insurgency operations in the Malayan jungles which is a more sustained and developed campaign.

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manufacturers, the sales of weapons systems abroad has become one of their profitable lines of business. For others, it has compensated for the decline in domestic military sales that followed America's disengagement from Vietnam. Defence experts say that the boom in military sales will continue at least several more years. According to the US arms control and disarmament agency, the US was responsible in 1973 for 54.4% of the world's arms export. The Soviet Union was second with 27.5%.

30-4-75

**US and Soviet Union Stepping Up Their Contention For World Hegemony**

Hong Kong — The Chinese Communist Party Central Committee sent a message today to the Malaysian Communist Party Central Committee extending congratulations on its 45th anniversary. It quoted in the message that 'at present, the international situation is characterised by great disorder. The two crisis-gripped superpowers are stepping up their contention for world hegemony. The tossing tide of revolution is vigorously pound-

**EASTER TOURNAMENT**

Due to overcharging a refund is now available to all those who travelled to Christchurch for Easter Tournament on the charter buses. Refunds may be collected from the Studass office.

**EMPLOYER'S VISITS 1975****INLAND REVENUE DEP.****ACCOUNTING GRADUATES AND UNDERGRADUATES**

On Thursday 5 June two staff members from the above will visit the University as part of the Employers Visit Program. If you would like to talk to them, contact the Careers Advisory Board for an appointment.

# WHAT WAS DECIDED

Discussions at Council are spread over four days, and split into various discussion groups. Plenary meetings start and finish Council, where major reports and decisions are considered. There is also a priorities plenary to allocate weighting to various plans. Vic's chief (=plenary) reps were Lisa Sacksen and Gyles Beckford. Apart from these, particular policy is discussed in Commissions: Finance and Administration (Vic's rep Mike Curtis), National (Anthony Ward, John Granier); International (Bryony Hales, John Henderson); Education (Rod Prosser); and Accommodation and Welfare (Peter Aagaard, Angela Bellich). Victoria had the biggest delegation, and often the largest number of reps at each session (chief delegates can also vote in the Commissions). This led to at least one interesting vote: on a procedural matter in National Commission, Clare Ward (Auckland, 9 votes) voted against the motion while Lisa Sacksen, Anthony Ward and John Granier (Vic, 7 votes) voted for it. No one else voted, and the decision was won on the voice vote!

Discussion in most of the Commissions was pretty anaemic, the important issues being:

**Welfare Vice-President (Welfare):** discussion on the WVP centred around 2 points. The first, resolved that the setting up of a WVP was the priority, but depended entirely on more office space and secretarial assistance being available.

The second point was the relative merits of a resource officer (an appointed position of a skilled researcher without political power) or a vice

president (an elected position similar to IVP and EVP, with political power to express NZUSA policy). Eventually the vote was in favour of a WVP, who was seen as being more responsible to students than a resource officer responsible to NZUSA bosses.

**Building (Finance):** it was felt that the best way to get around the present chronic shortage of space in the national office was for NZUSA to buy a building. Finance wizard Peter McLeod (the accountant) reckoned that if half of it could be rented out NZUSA might make a profit. Most campuses agreed to provide money towards a loan of \$20,000 between them to fund the building, subject to General Meeting approval.

**Assessment (Education):** a rather anarchic idea stemming from the Australian Union of Students abolishing assessment was considered, but the rather more sensible idea of opposing assessment when it interferes with the teaching process was agreed upon.

**Unicine (Finance):** after no discussion in F&A (but with temperatures very high), final Plenary agreed to ask Unicine (which runs the films on all campuses apart from Auckland and Lincoln) to secure the \$2,000 loan given them last year.

**Land (Accommodation):** Canterbury suggested the nationalisation of all land to get rid of property speculators. This is being referred back to campuses.

**General Election (Education):** it was agreed to refer this back to the campuses as well, toward gaining co-ordinated national policy at August Council.

**National Union of Students (National):** it was suggested that a working

subcommittee be set up to report to August Council on an NUS. Victoria (i.e. me) was gagged on the original decision to set up the working party and then attacked for being undemocratic and destructive for refusing to support the subcommittee. Alick Shaw made a wide-ranging attack on Vic's position here, misrepresenting many points and often contradicting himself (eg. describing Vic's attitude on NUS as being purely a personal attack – which it isn't), and starting from there to conduct a violent personal attack on the person he imagined responsible for Vic policy. Most of the other constituents considered the attack unfair, but it provided one of the few heated discussions of the Council. After tempers had cooled, Final Plenary agreed to set up the working party (watch for more debate on NUS).

**Environment (National):** most policy, including proposals on South Island beech forests, were passed with little discussion. A very good report was received from Waikato on energy resources, which will be continued and considered at August Council along with policy ideas from Vic and Auckland.

**Maori Rights (National):** reps from Aord came to discuss the matter, and NZUSA recognised New Zealand institutions as racist before referring Vic's Te Reo Maori submissions and other ideas on Race Relations to August Council to give constituents time to look at them.

**Women's Rights (National):** policy was reaffirmed on women's rights and opposing oppression and discrimination. A pro-abortion stance, and support for the Remuera clinic were agreed upon. As with Environment, the most debate cent-

red on remits seeing the problem as part of the nature of society, attempts at solution being ultimately frustrated by that nature.

**New Argot (Finance):** see separate article on New Argot and Arts Council.

**Salaries (Finance):** the salaries of the elected officers were raised to \$3803 after a rather unsatisfactory discussion. One of the officers had found difficulty living on the previous salary and brought the matter up in Finance and Administration Commission. The matter was deferred to the final plenary where all the national officers were present. Victoria delegates presented a paper with a financial breakdown of reasonable living expenses for national officers which was variously described as 'idealistic', 'incomprehensible' and 'most abhorrent' in the various points it made. What the Vic document said was that elected officers were expected to work for the organisation primarily because of commitment to students and not for financial reward. While they were not expected to be financially disadvantaged by working for NZUSA they were expected to have a lifestyle that was not fantastically removed from students.

These provisions, on which any democratic union bases its rate of remuneration of elected officials were not taken seriously by most present. Peter Aagaard had said that he failed to see how national officers couldn't live on what they got at the beginning of the debate. The truth or falsity of that statement was never proven for no case was put for the salary hike. Various opinions on the stress of working in the NZUSA office

## EDITORIAL

'NZUSA's policy is made by twice yearly Council meetings in May and August each year. All local Students Associations are represented by delegates who vote in line with decisions of general meetings, student council or SRC meetings on their campuses'. 'NZUSA's main function is as a trade union seeking the best possible working and living conditions for its members. It also takes stands on wider issues on which students, through their representatives, have expressed their collective views.'

*NZUSA IS YOUR UNION 1975.*

There is a great deal of significance in the placing of this year's May Council at Waikato University. Waikato runs its students association affairs through SGMs. The quorum for SGMs is 20. The number that normally turns up is less than 20. This Council Waikato abstained on nearly half the motions because it had no policy. For the motions they did vote on, the policy, often as not, came from the Executive not SGMs.

It would be hard to say that Waikato's reps. at Council truly represented Waikato students – but at least they did abstain on the many things they had no policy on. However, most of the other delegations at Council voted against policy decided by students on more than one occasion. Most delegations voted on contentious issues without any policy from students. The general feeling of many people at the Council was that students mattered for very little and that student decisions often acted as a hindrance to the noble task of deciding NZUSA policy.

At one stage during Council a legal opinion was asked for when Auckland delegates seconded

a motion in direct opposition to general meeting policy of Auckland students. No legal opinion being forthcoming, the Auckland delegates went on to vote against the policy of their students! 'NZUSA ... can only really be effective if you participate actively in student affairs'.

*NZUSA IS YOUR UNION 1975.*

It wasn't just that student leaders tend to ignore the wishes of students and vote accordingly but that they didn't seem to be too worried about getting students active. Instead they wanted to expand the top echelons such as NZUSA. Students are just getting a grip on NZUSA now but if the bureaucratic machine is continually expanded they may never be able to fully control their representatives. It is time for a moratorium on NZUSA's growth until democracy exists at constituent levels.

Victoria opposed the planned National Union of tertiary students (NUS) on the grounds that it was building unity from the top and not the bottom (such as through local area councils). But it would appear that the unity of NZUSA still comes mainly from the top and not the bottom. Still, many NZUSA policies rely on only one or two direct expressions of student opinion at campus level. Much of the policy is still based on the personal viewpoints of delegates to Council. And these delegates are generally appointed by executives and presidents rather than directly elected by the local student body – so they don't really have the excuse that they were elected to (mis)represent students.

I have tried comparing the optimistic statements of the pamphlet *NZUSA IS YOUR UNION* to the realities of this year's May Council to show that all is not well in the national body of univer-

sity students. Mind you, things aren't as bad as last Council when Victoria introduced the novel policy of abstaining on major issues they had no policy on and became an object for ridicule – now Waikato are following in our steps and other delegates are being a bit more careful in their voting.

May Council did have this good side: things are improving slowly as regards democracy. But at the same time the bureaucracy in NZUSA is also expanding (viz the pay rises for elected officials). However, what are probably the most important aspects of Council are the commissions where students active in the various fields get together to find out what's happening on other campuses, plan strategies, pass on ideas, work out priorities and decide how national officers can best help them.

There were a lot of new faces at this May Council and most of them would have found the commissions quite useful even though national officers did tend to be a bit harsh in their chairing. Overall this May Council showed signs that democracy was creeping into NZUSA as well as into local associations. More contentious motions were referred back to constituents for discussion and by August Council most constituents will have discussed these motions. Before motions were not referred back to students. When they first started to be referred back many constituents didn't bother to arrange discussion. Now attitudes have changed and constituents are more willing to see more of NZUSA policy decided directly by students and not on the spot at Council. However NZUSA like the Waikato catering still has a long way to go.

# The death agony of NEW ARGOT

BY Anthony Ward

Salient ran six articles criticising New Argot, and Arts Council. As I wrote one of them, I am undoubtedly biased, but I thought them generally well-argued and reasonably constructive criticism. On the front page of the second New Argot for the first term is a reply (of sorts) to these, and other, criticisms. Of sorts because it doesn't really reply to the points Bruce, Graeme and I raised. Kaye Turner, the editor, blankets us as 'politicians with no imaginations, no energy, and no vision beyond incessant wrangling, 'take-over bids' and power plays'. She also states, 'this kind of political hatchet exercise is no more than the work of lazy and expedient politicians'. It's nice to know you're liked.

Kaye goes on to write, 'New Argot has already established itself as an attractive quality newspaper, and one that students enjoy reading', (my emphasis). I would strongly disagree with this — on most campuses New Argot has a very small readership, judging by the number of copies left over of each issue. Certainly this is true of Victoria. Peter Dunne, President of Canterbury, supporting the present New Argot at May Council, did request that the number of copies for Canterbury be drastically reduced as students weren't reading it. If there is a market for a magazine centring on literary events, by all means let it go ahead, but not on the backs of unwilling students.

SRC at the end of last term strenuously opposed New Argot, and recommended a national student magazine be set up in its place. These ideas were taken to May Council of NZUSA for discussion. The first debate on the topic was emasculated, apart from Peter Dunne's statement on Canterbury's feelings. A vote was taken to continue publication, passed by Auckland (9 votes on the system

weighted by numbers of students), Canterbury (7), Massey (5) and Waikato (4). Against were Victoria (7), Otago (6) and Lincoln (4) — an overall poll of 25 for and 17 against. Vic's ideas of a national student newspaper aroused some interest, but it was felt they needed more expansion and so some work will go into them by August Council.

So on to Final Plenary where the issue came up again. The same arguments were gone over: For —

- there is a need for an Arts mag.
- NZUSA shouldn't interfere with NZSAC (which runs New Argot) as it consists a lot more than universities.
- Arts Council is discussing with Tech. Institutes whether they want to join it, and an axing of New Argot could adversely affect this.

Against —

- it's not read by students, if there is a need for it, it should be funded by students.

is a need for it, it should not be funded by students.

- NZSAC is a subcommittee of NZUSA, and owes it some \$15,000. It would be irresponsible not to interfere.
- what the Tech. Institutes want to do is largely up to them, but joining Arts Council on the strengthening of New Argot seems a rather funny sort of step.

Anyway, it was put once again to the vote. For New Argot: Auckland, Waikato (total 13 votes). Against: Victoria, Otago, Lincoln, Massey (total 22 votes). Absentation: Canterbury.

So New Argot bites the dust — but a big fight with both Sac and Teacolls seems to be brewing over the decision. Perhaps Arts Council could recoup its losses by selling ring-side seats for a moving tour?

The New Argot story should have stopped at May Council but it hasn't. At Council all sorts of arguments were put up as to why New Argot had to be kept going. Tony Ward has outlined a few of these arguments, but there are more that are also relevant. The Arts Council heavies were well aware that there was a body of opinion that saw the axing of New Argot not as an end in itself but as a move towards a national student newspaper. They proceeded to give some rather debatable figures demonstrating that the axing of New Argot would make it almost impossible to set up a national student newspaper for a very long time. They were trying to prove to Council that if there was to be a national student newspaper, New Argot was to be it. Unfortunately the figures we heard from them varied somewhat. We heard that it would take \$5,000 to set up a national student newspaper. We heard that it would take \$10,000 to set up a national student newspaper. We heard that it would take 2 years to set up a national student newspaper. We heard that it would take 5 years to set up a national student newspaper ... needless to say, no justification was offered for these figures.

Another thing that was thrown in the wind was the observation that Teachers Colleges would withdraw from Arts Council if New Argot was axed by the NZUSA Council. Just before Bruce Kirkland sulked out of Council as a result of the axing of New Argot he had said that the decision was a 'massive political blunder'. Arts Council's credibility would fall to nothing, he said.

Sure enough, within days of Council finishing remits to the STANZ Council the next weekend had appeared condemning the NZUSA decision, asking for New Argot to continue, and recommending all Teachers Colleges to withdraw from Arts Council if New Argot was not continued. The principle behind these remits was that the NZUSA decision was undemocratic and dictatorial.

It seemed that the 'prestigious literary journal' was to create more excitement in its death throes than it ever did when it was alive. Fortunately the STANZ Council decided to table the motions till its next meeting in August, by which time — you guessed it — New Argot will be well and truly dead.

The whole exercise raises interesting questions about how much Students Arts Council is prepared to listen to students. Certainly they fought the New Argot decision with every gun they had and they fought from one national student body to the next.

People have let Arts Council grow until it now claims to have 120,000 students under its umbrella. Yet it still does not see itself responsible to those students. Instead, as in the New Argot case, Arts Council is more interested in being responsible to the literati of New Zealand at the expense of students.

We should take the example of New Argot to heart and have a look at how we can change Arts Council to something different from a pretentious entrepreneurial agency specialising in productions for students (and relying on mainly unpaid and unreliable labour at each campus). Very importantly we should ask why developing and promoting artistic endeavours by students has never been very high on Arts Council's priorities. Finally to demonstrate the attitude of Arts Council to the students it supposedly represents, I will quote from its Chairman, Don Stedman: (Don was saying that Arts Council was going to make submissions on the Censorship Bill and that it would like a motion or two on censorship on NZUSA's books), 'When we go there we will say that we are representing 120,000 students so we will have to have one or two students who agree with us!'

in increased spending and that suffered from repressed spending and so were not a good basis for officers lifestyle, were advised. Yet at least one national officer told me that the wage they all was high enough to be 'emerging'. Vic eventually dissented on the salary increase. A considerable body of policy was passed and much is being brought to the campus level for consideration. I hoped that it will receive greater attention than the NUS proposals last August Council's recommendation back to campuses, three out of four campuses still had no policy on it. Criticisms can be levelled at Vic of the chairmanship — most officers tended to dominate discussions, though this is undoubtedly due partly to the reluctance of constituent reps to do much about

discussions were often not controlled which gave the meetings a somewhat character. It would be pleasing to see due to debates on all campuses with students agreeing on it. Unfortunately this is often not the case on too many campuses policy is decided by small groups, and little is made to draw in wider student opinion. Victoria is better on this than the others — if only because the making body (SRC) is open to all students to attend and vote, unlike NZUSA. Democracy in this respect is very much dependent on what students wish to make of it.

## NZUSA MAY COUNCIL

## The president's impressions

May Council has droned to me about the hang-overs and the hang-overs? Well, there is a substantial amount of God knows how many of which have no chance of being either this year or next not going to be actioned there are neither enough nor enough full-time staff. We cannot lengthen the side NZUSA with the a Government department the problems of New we can do though is This is where the Democracy. We pass motions at to May Council and and argue well they be at May Council we

have to set priorities. We do this with absolutely no consultation with the students. Sitting in a smoke-laden room with sixty other people oblivious of even what day of the week it is we weigh up the difference between getting a building or a Welfare Vice-President. Or more importantly we don't. We don't tell the National Office that an investigation into rape is more important than the West Coast Beech Forests, or that a campaign on Aid and Development is more important than fighting for a Zone of Peace in the Pacific. We lumber them with a policy book of 35 pages and leave it to them to sort out.

Action of course must continue on many fronts but some things must be done first. Sue Green the Chairman of

the International Women's Year Committee is also the Education Vice-President, she needs to know what to do first; investigate the plight of rape victims or start a campaign on assessment. She has been given both of these jobs but no direction. Little wonder then that bureaucracy does evolve, that important decisions are made by the National Officers without even consultations with the Presidents.

Right now there is nothing much we can do, but remember that for August Council we must fight bureaucracy, with democracy and make some decisions.

Lisa Saksen, President.

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# Hone Tuwhare

*This interview with Hone Tuwhare was conducted by Taura Eruera and was originally published in somewhat greater length in New Argot*

You've said elsewhere that poetry is for you, among other things, an integrating, and a sorting out process. Is this how you got into poetry in the first place?

Yes, I think so. I was connected very closely to the Communist party. I was involved in activities like trade union work, local strike action in Mangakino, action against apartheid and the hydrogen bomb. When I resigned from the Party in 1956 over the Hungarian business, it left quite a gap, a kind of vacuum, in my lifestyle. And I suddenly found, by god, that I had a liking for writing and putting down my thoughts.

I hadn't really done much writing seriously before that. Just one or two bits of purely political verse of the Communist Party paper, the People's Voice.

Is there any particular audience you would like to read to that you haven't come across yet? Paremoremo? Waikeria? Buckingham Palace?

I was involved at Paremoremo once, in a kind of Maori cultural class. That was good enough. I didn't want to impose and say: 'I'm the big shot bloody poet come to tell you about crime'. I was content to be involved in what they call Maoritanga, cultural background. It was a good experience and I'd like to do more of that sort of thing.

Another thing I'd like to do sometime is get back to my Maori. My first appearance before a predominantly Maori audience was in Ruatoria. I got a, gee, I got a terrific hand from them, although my poems were in English. The response I drew from them was bloody delightful. I'd thought they might be polite enough to clap at the end, but there was a very good spontaneous happy reaction to some of the poems.

In those days you were probably the only Maori writer around, and certainly the best known. Now, with the emergence of people like Witi Ihamaera, and events like the national Maori Arts Conference — do you find that this has had any effect on you personally, or on your artistic pursuits?

Well, you were involved in the conference from the outset so mmm LAUGHTER. That kind of thing is ... time-consuming. The first Maori Artists and Writers Conference at Te Kaha was a very satisfying experience. Since then, of course, we've had the one at Waiwera, and the next one will be at Parihaka in Taranaki. God knows, as I understand it, now there's a queue for it. Rotorua definitely wants the 1976 Conference.

It's a good thing for Maori artists and writers to circulate, get to know their country a helluva lot more deeply. Get to know their tangata whenua. In each of these areas they have their own lifestyle as a tribe. I think we're one up on Pakeha artists because we're deeply involved in people, and also in the land. I think it was Selwyn Muriu who said that 'Art is a good bridge between people'. Well, if our role is to kind of knit people together, I think that's a good role for an artist — the best.

In the actual process of writing poetry, you get your initial idea, and put the poem together. Later, if you're reasonably satisfied, it may be published, or you may read it to an audience. Which stage do you find the most exciting?

Well, of course, it's nice to be published. But even before you think about submitting it, there's that feeling that you've



gone as far as you can with a poem. Then you have two courses: whether you want to communicate the content of this poem to people, or whether you consider that it's a private love letter to yourself. Well hell — too many people. I think, write private love letters to themselves. O.K., fair enough, put that away in a drawer — for yourself. But once you submit a poem for publication, you have to believe that there's something in it that you want to communicate to people, and share with them. There's another stage, of seeing it in print, and feeling bloody unhappy! You know — Jesus, that you could have done better. Changed a word here, juggled the stanza order a bit.

Hone, how do you reconcile the two aspects of writing poetry, the personal act of writing, and the act of publication, which makes you to some extent a public commodity?

You know, the test of art is publication. You can be trapped, in a way, into becoming a 'poet's poet', writing just for some perceptive people, for critics. Taking helluva care because all these critics are sitting on you, waiting for your book to come out, waiting to hammer you if you don't have a regard for their previous comments and critical assessments. If you're gonna be worried about that, I think that's when you get slightly precious about your field of art. It's kind of pushing art into a place where it's above people — and I'm sure that's not right. I don't think Witi, for example, would write short stories completely unrelated to his personal context and his contact with people.

So you reconcile the personal and the public by using some sort of code you'd probably explain as being 'true to yourself'?

Yes ... being true to yourself is a kind of search for honesty — and also, because your honesty may be a bit startling to some people, not to fear being honest.

The other thing is not to feel divorced from a living context. If you feel that way, I think it's another way of being arrogant, saying 'Jesus! I'm shithot! I'm the greatest!'

So it's a humbling thing. Art is a very humble thing. It doesn't pretend to be above people, or elevated to some kind of precious role. The odd writer can withdraw completely from a living context, of being yourself as well as part of a tribe or class of people. It's a bit too bloody precious for me, I think. I like to keep my feet on the ground. My bread and butter is boilermaking, and I'd like to get back into harness again. If you don't do this, if you don't renew yourself, you're too academic, too inward-turning. I want to avoid that. Oh, hell, I don't kid myself that I'm a 'people's poet!' But, quite seriously, most of my poems just sprang up from job situations, from a living context, and to renew myself I've got to get back there again.

You've mentioned several times that writing poetry, the actual hacking out and putting together of words, is a solitary job, and also that you'd like to get back to your own people. Now an important part of Maoridom is a fairly intense personal contact. Yet, if you want to pursue your craft you have to scale that down somewhat — almost like the loneliness of the long distance runner.

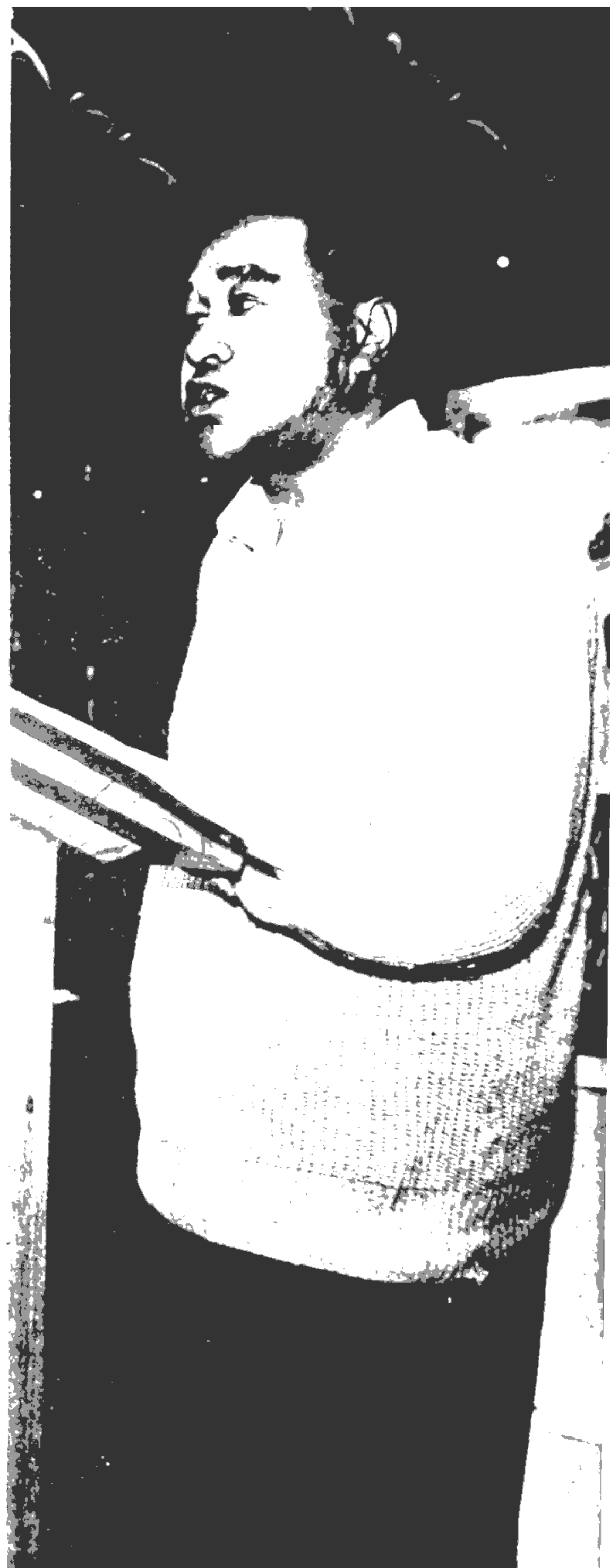
The world doesn't stand still, you know. It passes. And if you miss contact with changing situations, well ...

Within the last 5 or 6 years, it's been a delight to see all sorts of movements spreading from the Maori. The latest thing is that march about the land to Wellington. Well crumbs, things are moving, they're not static. And in the past few years, with Nga Tamatoa springing up, the Polynesian Panthers, all sorts of hectic (I don't know if that's the right word!) groups, becoming interested in themselves, taking a good look at themselves, finding some pride in their being and belonging to a certain cultural context; well, I think that to ignore this, as an artist, you'd end up being up yourself, being purely and solely alone, a bloody solitary and pure artist. That's crap, that's not my bag.

So, yeah, I would like and I will find the opportunity to go back to our home ground, Utukura, a little bloody place up near Hokianga, take a look around. I'd like to get up there, Taura, with my good hophead mate, your greatuncle, Taupiri

Eruera. I'd be very pleased to connect them before they kick off, and catch up on my own tribal background, something I've never been able to do for any lengthy period. It's funny — I think it's a kind of feeling you get when you're older.

On the other hand, I'm not at a loss in a city area, you know. I'm delighted with some aspects of urban life, perhaps disgusted with others, like the hassles the people in Ponsonby have with Mr Tait. I feel that he's hassling people a bit too much with his Task Force. I really do.



Of course, English isn't only your tool, it's the only tool that a lot of Maorishave. Do you think that that makes the suggestion of some dichotomy between Maori and Pakeha poets just a red herring, then?

I have some reservations about creating a dichotomy.

I think that the recent great upsurge of interest in the Maori language has been a challenge to you and I. To be able to speak on the marae, for instance. It's a wonderful feeling, this one of great interest in our own language, and how to handle it on different occasions, formal and informal.

But that doesn't mean to say that we should adopt a purely nationalistic or racist angle, in my view, or retreat into our 'Maoritangaism'. You know, you yourself, you have a lot of friends from other races, European in the main. So have I. I can't see this new feeling as a signal to, in a sense, divorce ourselves ...

Set up false boundaries, perhaps?

I think so, yes. Perhaps I might get a hulluva lot of criticisms about this, but so long as the chances are improved for people of our race, you and myself included, to get a greater opportunity to know our own language in our own tribal context, that is good, it's fine. But it's not a signal that I should right now divorce myself from society as a whole.

You've mentioned that part of your attraction to poetry, part of your necessary inspiration, is your love of words. What is it that you love about words? Is it their power on the one hand, and their inadequacy on the other?

You know, you can't talk to yourself. The love of words is linked with the way you want to communicate with people, in the normal everyday sense of that word, or through poetry. You're trying to trap me, I think, into looking at this 'love of words' as something quite unrelated to a personal relationship with people. But to say that I 'love words' is also to admit that I love people too. You learn from other people, and how they handle words. The words you finally do put down on paper, they're not something dreamt out of the air. They've been given to you by other people, in a delightful way, so you use them, I don't mind plagiarising in the oral sense, hearing someone expressing something in a special way, and thinking 'Christ, that's beaut, that's really captured the essence of what this guy's trying to say to me'. You can't connect this love of words to the personal: 'He's something special because he loves words'. Jesus, everybody loves words!

## CULTURAL AFFAIRS NOTICE

The following are the Cultural Clubs which are to be re-affiliated at the next meeting of the Executive. Those clubs which do not appear on the list have not submitted re-affiliation forms for 1975 and do not therefore officially exist.

Anglican Society	French Club	Philosophical Society
Biological Society	Geological Society	Photographic Society
Catholic Society	German Students Club	Psychology Society
Christian Union	Israeli Club	Samoan Students Society
C.A.S.S.	Law Faculty Club	Student Christian Movement
Computer Society	M.S.A.	Student Tutoring Scheme
Creche Club	Maths and Physics Society	Te Reo Maori
Debating Society	Music Society	Visual Arts Society
Drama Society	National Party Club	White Sports Coat and Pink
Folk Club	October Club	Carnation Society
Food Co-Op	Overseas Christian Fellowship.	Young Socialists

The following have submitted grant applications without re-affiliation forms:

Greek Club M.S.S.A.

New clubs formed this year do not have to submit re-affiliation forms this year, but we do require a current list of Committee names and addresses.

Any clubs which think that they still exist but are not on the above list had better see me about it, pronto - or else!

Barbara Leishman  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS OFFICER.

### ENVIRONMENT 1984

Saturday 24 May:

An invitation to Progressive Associations, environmental and other interested groups, and the general public: we want your participation in -- 'ENVIRONMENT 1984', a public seminar or 'think-tank' organised by Action for Environment, to be held in the Smoking Room/Lounge, Student Union Building, Victoria University.

1.30 pm: Opening speaker: Prof. John Roberts, Professor of Political Science, V.U.W.

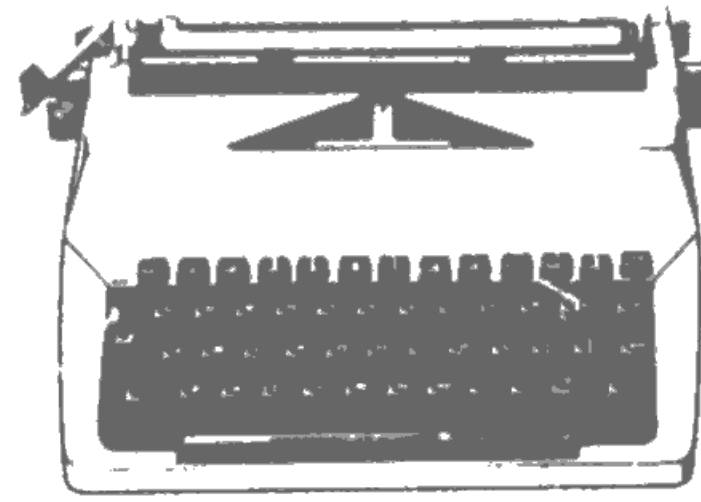
2.00 pm: Choose your group activity from:

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Wellington Harbour | 5. Land-use                               |
| 2. City Centre        | 6. Population/Resources                   |
| 3. Recycling          | 7. N.Z. Forests                           |
| 4. Energy             | 8. A. for E. -- how could it be improved? |

4.00 pm: Groups report back to seminar with recommendations.

5.30 pm: Close.

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Weekdays

## STUDENT TRAVEL BUREAU LTD.



Hello. My name is Joe Student. I guess you are wondering why I am standing here with a stupid look on my face juggling a globe of the world (just in case you wondered what I was holding).

Well, I am trying to decide where I should take off to this summer. You see I took the trip to Student Travel Bureau (STB) and found out all about the summer charter flights programme they are planning. Well keep this to yourself for the moment (it doesn't become final until early June anyway) but they have some really good fares to all over the world. They have increased the number of departures compared with last year and the beauty of it all is that once you get to where you are going, you can do what you like. So its goodbye for 3 months until its time to catch the return flight home. No organised tours, no timetables and none of 'today we are going to visit your 50th historic temple'.

Don't be put off if you are the sort who wants things definite and arranged before as Student Travel Bureau has special student rates at hotels in Sydney, Melbourne, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok and Hong Kong. STB is also offering tours this summer in New Zealand (if you want to stay at home), Australia, Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand and the Philippines.

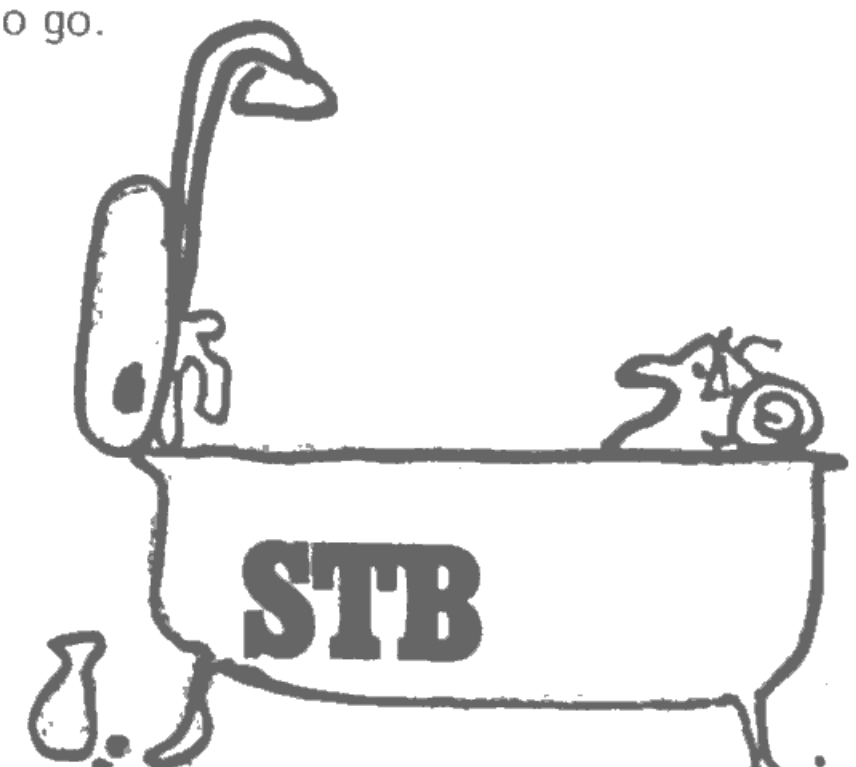
Now you are wondering what its going to cost. Well the fare to the USA is currently \$505, to Australia \$138, to Kuala Lumpur \$510, to Singapore \$520 and to various European destinations \$848. All these fares are return, but if you don't want to come back they'll even sell you a one-way ticket.

And then there's the student cruise. Imagine after finals looking forward to 18 days at sea. Buying your stereo equipment in Fiji and no luggage weight problems, and visiting Sydney, Samoa and Tonga as well. The cruise departs 30 November, and will cost you only \$327 - thats all your food, accommodation plus entertainment on board. What a way to go.

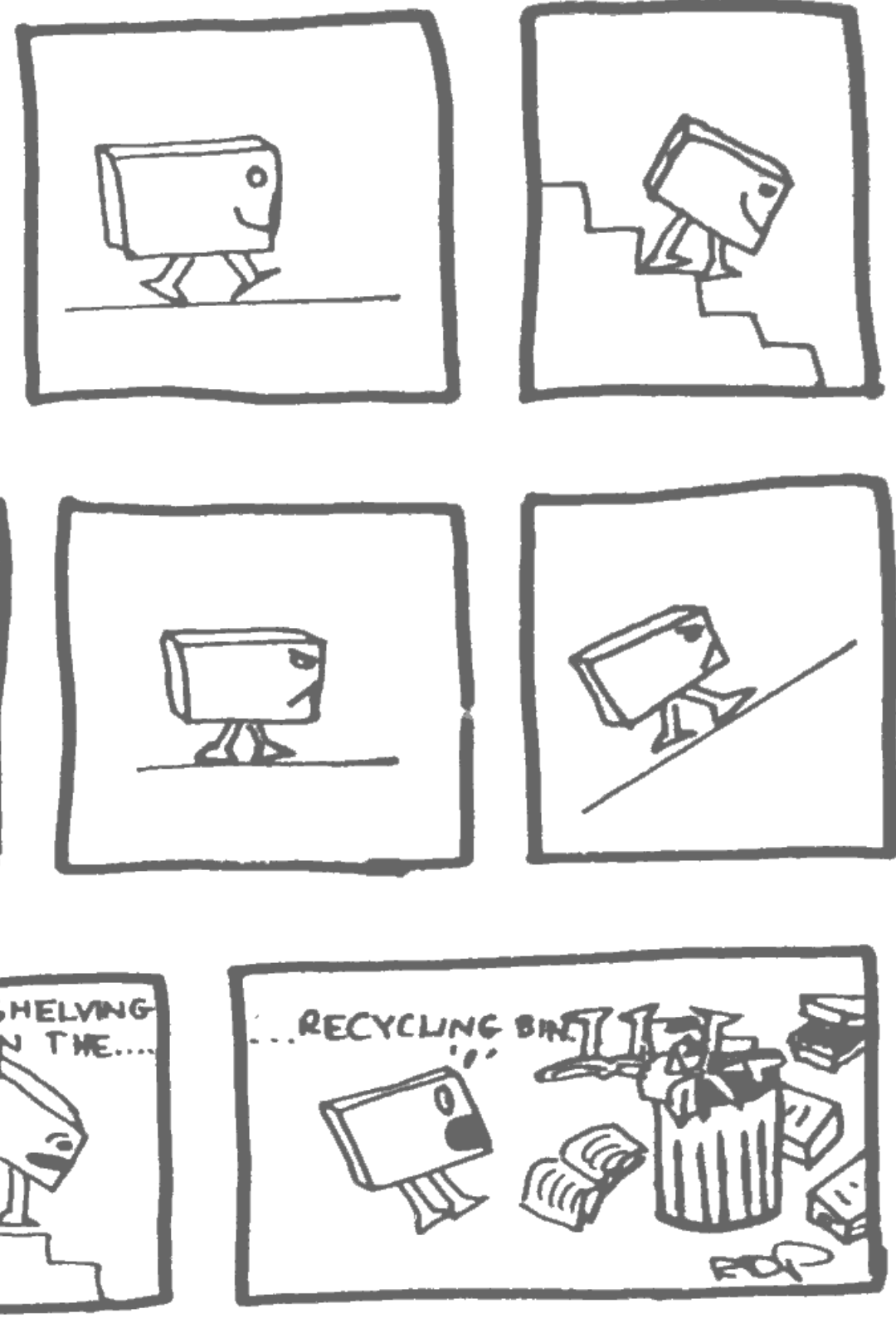
And now some advice from my sponsors the Student Travel Bureau. If you haven't applied for your international students identity card (ISIC) by now, you better get moving.

And one last word from me - bookings for all these flights and tours will open in June so get in early.

P.S. You can find STB on the second floor of the Student Union Building, and they're open from 11am to 4.30pm daily.



# the library's headaches



By Rod Prosser

The library is perhaps the most valuable asset to any university, especially if we could take example from the students I know at this university. They attend the library much more regularly than lectures. They read books more than they socialise in the union. They exercise their minds in the library more than they exercise their bodies in the gym. They queue at 8.30 am for the library to open but they roll up to lectures in dribs and drabs up to half an hour late. More people request reserved books than go and talk to their tutors. My point is not that they should be doing something else but that they see the value of the library and that it should become increasingly important as personal pursuit of study increases due to greater academic freedom. (I speak very generally here. I am well aware that ridiculous workloads do a great deal to destroy academic freedom). Now on the basis of this the library should be a primary concern for any university administration. This is the basic theme of this article which will become obvious in the following paragraphs.

## Library Space

Rankine Brown was designed as a library building. The plan is for the library to expand to fill all of the building displacing various academic departments and classrooms which now exist in the building.

The library is expanding at the moment but it is not displacing other occupants of the building fast enough with the result that it is bursting at the seams. The periodicals section will simply have to have extra shelving space. The periodicals collection shelving ratio will be in excess of 100% by the end of 1975. It is therefore clear that it is now that a decision must be made on extra space. Now the classrooms RB104-109 were designed to fulfill this purpose. It is quite obvious therefore that these rooms should be given to the library at the end of the year and until the completion of the von Zedlitz towers these classrooms could be replaced by temporary prefabs after the Cotton building construction huts are removed. These prefabs would not need to accommodate as many people as the Rankine Brown classrooms do as most present classes are very much smaller than the number these rooms can accommodate.

\* Over the Christmas holidays the law library moved into the 6th floor of Rankine Brown simply because it had to move out of the shaky Hunter building but the Prof. Board decided in 1973 that 'it be reaffirmed that be-

ginning with the completion of the Cotton stage 1 in 1974/1975 and concluding with the completion of the von Zedlitz tower, floors 1 and 6 of Rankine Brown will be handed over to the library'. Now without floor 6 the main book collection will have a shelving ratio in excess of 100% by the end of 1976. So the Prof. Board must be urged to honour its agreement by the beginning of 1977 even though the movement of the Law library was due to the unforeseen Hunter problem. The Law faculty wants to be reunified somewhere else in a permanent building anyway.

\* The staff club is located on floor 3 of the library building and uses up a sizeable portion of potential library space. The university council decided to have it removed to two houses adjacent the centre of the campus when these houses become vacant when von Zedlitz is up.

\* To make the situation more serious, recently the library has become an official United Nations depository which necessitates the setting up of a documents room, where documents are kept before binding and shelving.

\* The problems of the classrooms on floor 1 and the staff club on floor 3 are easily solved and as such should be quickly dealt with. But to prevent what the library committee describes as a crisis situation in 1978/79, longer term planning must immediately begin to either allocate space for a permanent Law library elsewhere or to provide for alternative accommodation for the Applied Maths Division which now occupies floor 7. Since the council has already committed itself to allowing the library expansion into other parts of the building before a crisis situation is met it must treat this problem as a primary concern and it must treat it as a separate issue from that of the long term building programme in order to deal with it before it is too late. It would be a shocking thing to have to resort to off-campus storage of books, for instance.

## The Library Budget

The library has another major headache, that of an insufficient budget. This year the library wanted a 26% increase to the book budget but it got given 12½% (\$30,000) by the council. This barely covers inflation. This is particularly bad when the library was commencing the year with a \$40,000 overdraft.

The staff budget is no better. The library asked for 3 extra positions (2 full-time and 1 part-time), but the council only provided enough money for 1 part-time person to become a full-time worker. As a result of this the librarian considers that the technical services may get by but the public services will not. If the

present set-up continues they will just be unable to continue the good service to the public. It has been decided therefore to reallocate a certain amount of the work. This is being done by saving 30 man-hours a week in the circulation department - a saving of \$1,100 a year. This means that they are ceasing to issue books between 8.30am and 9.00am and after 9.00pm. They will also cut out issuing on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. This won't affect closed reserve or three-day loan books however. They have also decided to reduce the manning of the periodicals department.

At the last library committee meeting a request was made by the Law faculty club to provide an entrance to the Law library on floor 6 from the South stairway and lifts. This would require a check-out counter and someone to man it. This proposal is highly desirable and

logical. It would mean that the Law library could expand its opening hours and the Law students wouldn't have to go through the main library and use one lift or one set of stairs (this lift doesn't stop at floor 6 anyway). The inclusion of the proposed entrance would therefore make all library facilities much more accessible to everyone. However even though everyone at the meeting agreed that the outside entrance to the Law library was a good idea, it just simply could not be done due to the lack of money available.

It is clear that in future the council must recognise the value of the library to a greater extent by allocating it a much larger grant, and it must ensure that the Library is able to continue its expansion by providing it with the necessary space.

## let me help you make a little money go a whole lot further

If you need a little help and advice on how to make your money go further while you're at varsity, see Errol Hanna at the Wellington Branch of the BNZ. Errol knows the sort of money problems you're going to be involved with as a student, and he'll be pleased to give you all the assistance and advice that's possible. Apart from the BNZ services like cheque and savings accounts, free automatic savings facility, the Nationwide Account, travellers' cheques, and so on, there are two particular BNZ services that a lot of students have found very useful.



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## FRASER: "I DO NOT PROPOSE TO TURN BACK THE SUNDIAL"

SALIENT recently received this informative article on that well known reactionary politician, Malcolm Fraser, the leader of the Liberal Party opposition in Australia.

(ANS/Melbourne Age)—Is Malcolm Fraser really to the Right of Genghis Khan? Unable to glean the truth from the exclusive interviews that crowd our papers and magazines, I decided to beard the lion in his den, to visit him on his plantation.

Alighting from the paddle steamer, I walked through the groves of magnolias and moss-hung cottonwoods towards the white homestead. In the distance I could see Fraser's darkies picking cotton, their velvet voices blending in a Stephen Foster medley. *Way Down Upon the Murray River* came wafting on the wind.

The massah was waiting for me on the verandah, sitting stiffly in his rocking chair and sipping a mint julep. Unyielding, unbending, unsmiling, the Man in the Iron Face.

He greeted me formally, stiffly, and ushered me into his book-lined study. As my eyes became accustomed to the gloom I could see the titles tipped out in gold. *Caesar's Commentarii de bello Gallico*, Kipling's *Mowgli* stories, Sir Robert's *Afternoon Light* and, inevitably, Ayn Rand's *Fountainhead*. I also noticed the silver cups and sashes won by his prize Herefords and his autographed collection of jackboots.

As I sank into the mellow leather of a chesterfield, I couldn't help but see that Fraser was surreptitiously applying Sellotape to the corners of his mouth, just as the late Onassis had used it to hold his eyes open. Was he suffering from the same dread disease? No. I realised that the poor man — condemned by the media for his hauteur — was using the sticky-tape to simulate a smile.

I began the interview with the obvious question. "You've been accused by *Pravda* of being connected with 'the Australian elite — with big industrialists and financiers and the richest farmers'. Are you, in fact, in sympathy with the nation's egalitarian spirit?"

He'd shuddered at the word "Pravda" and again at "egalitarian". Nonetheless, his answer was both emphatic and democratic. "I believe in equality to some extent," he said. "Take my slaves, all of whom are equal with each other. And I'm proud to say that I've the happiest darkies in the district." At this point I could hear them singing the *Camptown Races*, their voices harmonising on the doo-dahs.

"Well, sir, what do you think of Australia's defence policy?"

"This is just one of many areas in which I disagree strongly with Mr. Whitlam. If we are to regain the Holy Grail we'll need to press many more men into service. Moreover, our forces in Antioch, Edessa and Tripoli must be reinforced and equipped with the latest in crossbows and siege machines. Otherwise our crusades against the oil-rich Moslems will surely fail."

This led to a wide ranging discussion on foreign policy. Fraser crossed to a bookcase and pulled out his school atlas (Melbourne Grammar 1940) and opened it to Mercator's projection of the world. "All these red bits," he said forcefully, "must be returned to Great Britain."

Not that he was entirely uncritical of British policy. He expressed strong opposition to the transportation of convicts to Port Arthur and told me he'd written to Queen Victoria about it.

One of the pieces of Sellotape had peeled away and, covering the gesture with a cough, he quickly restuck it. It was hard to feel at ease when confronted by that grim parody of a friendly grin.

"And what of Whitlam's introduction of *Advance Australia Fair* as our national anthem?"

"We will introduce *God Save the Queen* for all official occasions. What's more, we'll play it twice."

Noting the severe publications that crowded the bookshelves around us, I asked whether he'd continue the Liberal censorship policies introduced by his colleague Don Chipp.



"I do not propose to turn back the sundial. It will still be perfectly legal to publish such material. However, any-one reading it will feel the taste of the cat."

We moved into the area of State relations.

"I will pursue a policy of law and border. The States should have a greater say in their own affairs. Just this morning I expressed this view in a letter to the incoming Premier of Van Diemen's Land."

I asked his attitude to the "small l" policies of Rupert Hamer. What did he think of Hamer's campaign to abolish hanging?

"I've never been happy with hanging myself," said Mr. Fraser. "I cannot see that it's a deterrent. Now, if you were to draw and quarter them as well, that's an entirely different matter."

I found myself warming to the man. Clearly he'd been misrepresented by the mass media and by his political enemies. Characterised as some sort of dyed-in-the-wool reactionary, he was in fact a surprisingly sensitive human being. This was emphasised in our discussion of social services where he proposed remedies that were so radical as to smack of socialism.

"Poorhouses!" he said, standing up and crossing to the window. "The Welfare State that saps at the spirit of our citizens will be replaced with poorhouses. Grim, blue-stone buildings where unmarried mothers can give birth, where old-age pensioners can spend their final hours. Only in this way can the dregs of society be helped both physically and spiritually. For while the poorhouse is a roof over their heads, we'll have trained beadies on hand to castigate them for their moral shortcomings."

I hadn't expected to discover this soft, sentimental streak in a man held to be indifferent to the problems of ordinary people. Frankly, I found it hard to swallow over the lump in my throat.

Somewhat embarrassed by his outburst of compassion, Fraser peeled the Sellotape from his face and started to talk about trade unionism.

"I'm not opposed to the trade union movement at all. If I had friends, some of the best of them would be trade unionists. However, it seems wrong that a man can both influence the Federal Government through a vote and then expect to wield additional clout through the withholding of his labor.

"Therefore, I propose to change the Electoral Act. Workers can take their pick. They can belong to a trade union or they can get a vote. It will be their democratic right to make the choice.

"Moreover, we will introduce radical legislation to encourage workers' participation. If a company loses money, the workers will be able to participate by losing their money as well. I propose that all pay envelopes will be garnisheed for the duration."

Impressed by this novel method of breaking down class barriers, I moved on to the vexed subject of taxation.

"Farmers will be able to claim shearers as dependants," Fraser said, "while getting a deduction of \$500 per serf. This will be financed by an additional tax on the low-income earners."

When I expressed surprise, he went into more detail. "Well, it's quite clear from their poverty that they don't know how to manage their financial affairs."

"You'll be doing them a kindness?"

"Precisely."

As we sat together talking in the darkening twilight, Mr. Fraser painted a picture of a transformed Australia, a whole nation reborn as a result of his Old Deal. It was an idyll where malcreants sat in the stocks watching happy villagers morris dancing and whirling around the maypole.

All too soon it was time to go as the Show Boat was nearing his landing. (I could distinctly hear Howard Keel's Gaylord Ravenal singing *Only Make Believe I Love You* to Kathryn Grayson on the poop deck).

As he shook hands with his velvet glove a discreet black butler brought me my plastic mac. And I suddenly realised that I'd neglected an all-important area. What was the Fraser plan for health? Would he dismantle Hayden's Medibank?

"First we'll declare everyone Medibankrupt and introduce a new scheme throughout the country. To explain it in simple terms, you'll have to pay cash for the doctor but the leeches will be free."

Philip Adams

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR WELLINGTON CENTRAL

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Blerta are coming to Vic Campus on Friday May 23 and will start at 8.15 pm. If you don't know who they are see the last issue of Salient

\*\*\*\*\*  
**music**  
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**COUNTRY FLYING with REDEYE**

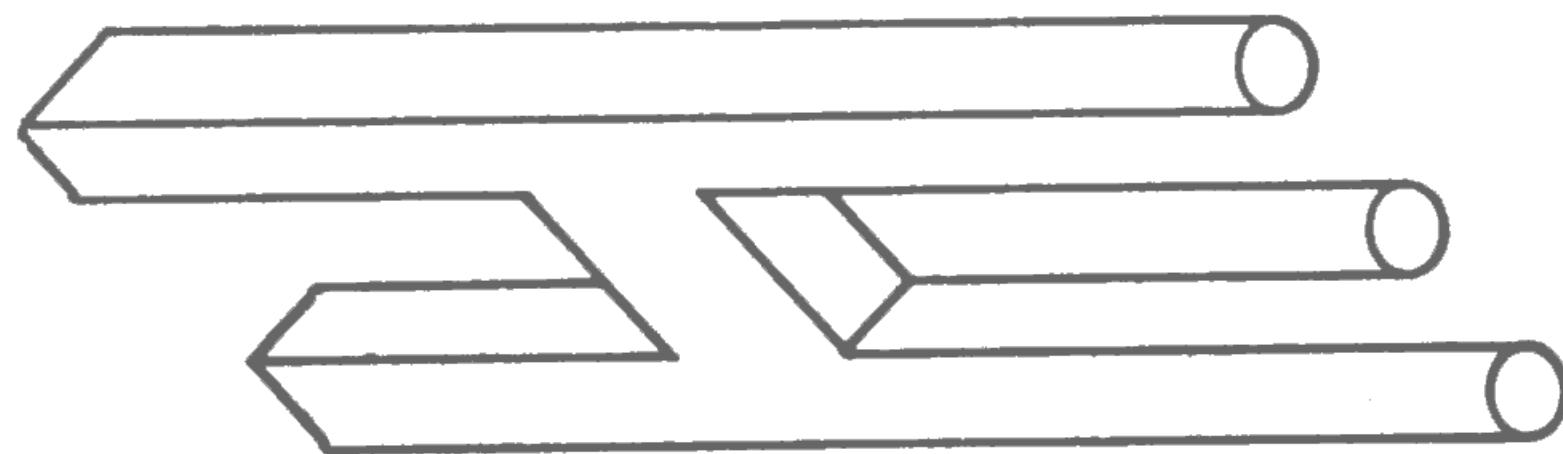
*Buckhead is in Wellington. A couple of Sundays ago, the Town Hall filled with people to hear the Country Fliers and Redeye. This concert was the first in a series of ten which will be held over the coming weeks. The aim is to provide music on Sunday night and to give New Zealand bands a regular showing. Last Sunday night there was Mark Williams and hopefully Buckhead will bring Splitz Enz back from Aussie.*

*So good old Country Fliers opened the show with a Fiddle. They were a group of guys into having a good time and letting us hear the results. By their third number they had warmed up and during 'Naturally' by Little Feat the lead guitarist did a good solo. However it wasn't until the fifth number 'Alimony' by Ry Cooder that the sound filled out and seemed to balance. Turn up the bass!*

*The group sound was good on the whole, the only problem being the three guitars. The second lead guitarist is left with nothing to do except clutter the sound. Possibly the singer should stop playing rhythm and then the two guitars would have to tighten up. When the first and second guitarists did work on their own it was effective; should've heard that intro to Louisiana Lady. Still I'm new to the rules of country rock, they're the musicians, I'm just an 'audience'. But I do know enough to like a good lead guitarist and that slide was pretty okay.*

*The sound ranged the whole compass of country rock with numbers by the New Riders of the Purple Sage, Commander Cody and the Ozark Mountain Daredevils, to mention just a few. The music seemed to bounce along. It was helped by the fiddling of Bob Smith who played for a few numbers. Once again the overall sound was spoilt by lousy mixing, but what you could hear was good.*

*Midge Marsden the singer really did a bonza job on keeping everyone alive and laughing. He had Humour and a sense of fun, which not only the band but the audience needed to loosen up. There was a sort of natural high which comes from making music with a group of friends. The classic expression was when he got the harp the wrong way round - it was almost as good as Keith Richard's when he dropped his pile at Western Springs. Country Fliers was a good*



*opening to good time music that's coming.*

*The second half of it was that professional Soul Band, solid and classy, Redeye. Singer and sax man Dennis Mason presented the strong front to give his band total sound. He was particularly good on Tom Swainson, drummer, gave out a chunky beat, he knows how to handle those sticks along with the bassist, filling in the sound which gives this band solid power. But, there is no prize for guessing who is the loudest Bass Guitarist in NZ, perhaps it was just the mixing, but it sounded worse than Black Sabbath.*

*Redeye specialises in doing Loggins & Messina better than they do it themselves and on that Sunday night they were very impressive. The main fault was their extra professionalism and polish which overshadowed any life. It seemed to me these guys are entertainers before musicians. As well they could sure take lessons on being funny. Their attempts were forced and seemingly rehearsed to the point of being dead. Better luck next time.*

*Yet I enjoyed this band's particular style of soulful sound, as much as my own pre-conceptions of a band-audience relationship could let me. To most of the audience Redeye closed the evening with the quality of music that shows New Zealand music is often as good as imported stuff.*

*On the first showing it looks like the Buckhead series is going to be value for money.*

Scheisskoff.

**MAGGIE BELL : SUICIDE SAL**  
 Polydor 2383 313

REVIEWED BY Patrick O'Dea

Suicide Sal is far and away the most ambitious, most musically satisfying album yet to issue from one of the most formidable, yet still commercially underappreciated, female hard rock singers. Though none of the album's ten cuts have quite the melodic force of 'I Saw America' (Maggie Bell at her most congenial), or 'Queen of the Night' (at her most soulful), Suicide Sal contains her finest vocal work to date. She's backed forcefully by a spare, trimmed-down outfit - an element that helps lend the album a seriousness of intent, an emotional force that exceeds that of previous work.

Two songs - the only indigenous group compositions, 'Suicide Sal' and 'If You Don't Know' - both work well within the whole. 'Suicide Sal' is a melodic invocation of a former relationship, with its sensuous lyric imagery that specifically recalls the atmosphere of an enchanted affair and provides the case on which the album's centrepiece, 'If You Don't Know' resides. It is a gorgeous, often violent commentary on the insanity that accompanies romantic passion, its aura of suicidal desperation, its blindness that permits a greater truth wherein the identity of the partners, the 'You' and 'I' are almost inseparable and hence mutually destructive. Though it is a song of few words, the words resonate, and Jimmy Page's extended guitar break between verses embodies some of the most eloquent musical commentary that I can recall. Bell's vocal is piercingly rendered, the instrumentation that joins her, spare and anguished.

Her version of Free's 'Wishing Well', the opener, is an engaging song that is strongly melodic and tightly constructed, with fine instrumental work by all hands. 'In My Life', a heavier rocker, skilfully inveighs against institutionalised fantasies while expressing a strongly positive message.

Finally, there is the masterful 'It's Been So Long' - a simple, delightful invitation to rock. The cut surges with exciting instrumentation, topped by Bell's unflinching lead vocal and supported by an irresistible backbeat. Fine rock and roll on a stunning album.

**STEELY DAN : KATY LIED (PROBE)**  
 REVIEWED BY PETER SIMONS

Steely Dan 1975. Katy Lied is upon us with another dose of mainstream rock and roll, restating the basic themes of Countdown to Ecstasy, but this time concentrating a bit more on the rockier side of their style, best exemplified by 'Do it Again'. Kicking off with 'Black Friday' they move out. A hard-driving guitar exchanging leads with Donald Fagen's straightforward keyboards is balanced on top of a pulsating bass. Three rather non-descript ditties follow and then they rock on for 3.59 on Doctor Wu. This time Steely Dan strike gold and really boogie. Nothing too original but they combine a wealth of mid-Sixties rock influences in a refreshing way.

Side two opens with an absolutely insane chorale called 'Everyone's gone to the movies', successfully, as its lyrical inanity is completely overwhelmed by sheer enthusiasm. 'Chain Lightning' is another exuberant exercise in toe-tapping that seems to be a natural by-product of this group. Though their playing is hardly unique and their singing is occasionally hampered by ridiculous lyrics, they exhibit a control of the basic rock format that is invigorating and that bodes well for the group's long-term success.

In fact, it is their ability to play three-to-five minutes rock songs in a jaunty, up-tempo fashion without becoming redundant or superfluous that may well make Steely Dan the thinking man's alternative to Slade. If you think, why not hear them?

**FLICKS**

**CHINATOWN FILM REVIEW**  
 by John Ryall

With the box office receipts still flowing in, the nostalgia wave shows no signs of ebbing.

The latest of this type to come to Wellington is Roman Polanski's *Chinatown*. Set in Los Angeles in the later 1930s, it traces the story of J.J. Gittes, a former cop from Chinatown, now engaged in matrimonial private eye work.

Gittes is hired to tail the Los Angeles water commissioner, who is suspected by his wife of being unfaithful. But the commissioner is soon victim of a highly unlikely accident - dead of a fall into a water reservoir drain, his lungs full of salt water.

The story, in the best tradition of the detective yarns of the time, goes round in circles - every time the mystery seems to be solved, a new complication arises to keep the audience on the edge of their seats.

And yet, what is Polanski trying to say? His detective story hinges on the illegal use of the city's water supply by the local big-shots during a drought. It touches



**BLUES FOR MR. CHARLIE**

*You have read of the revamped Drama Society in Salient a few weeks back. Well folks, here is out first production for 1975. This is, by way of introduction, a brilliant three-act play by negro novelist and playwright, James Baldwin.*

*If you want entertainment, if you are concerned about the struggle of minorities, if you want to sit on the edge of your seat biting your fingernails, fingers, hand and arms, come to this play.*

*You shall laugh, you shall cry, you - the audience - will be satisfied, totally. A play about the negro's struggle in 'Plaguettown' which is way down upon the Swannee River; it is concerned with the murder of a young negro singer (yeah! there's music too). You shall get to know the singer and his murderer - the people around them, their loves, their beliefs, their griefs. I can tell you no more; so come and see it and you shall discover a new land, a new experience.*

*It is a theatrical experience of the rarest value and deserves to be seen.*

*It opens in the Union Hall on the 26 May and runs to the 30 May, excluding Wednesday 28. The show begins at 8.00pm.*

**PORT NICHOLSON FOLK FESTIVAL**  
 MAY 30th - JUNE 2nd at VICTORIA UNIVERSITY

REGISTRATION \$5

**FRIDAY NIGHT:** registration, drinking and dancing to the music of the Port Nicholson Bluegrass Band and friends.

**SATURDAY:** workshops include 'Underground Music' featuring British mining songs, 'Instrument Building', 'The Lawbreakers', 'Blacks, Whites and Blues', 'Contemporary Music' and 'Ceilidh'. There will be a 'Come-all-ye' concert and resident musicians will be available for lessons.

On Saturday night there will be 2 formal concerts covering a wide range of traditional and contemporary music.

**SUNDAY:** workshops 11am - 5pm, winding up with the final concert on Sunday night.

Most of New Zealand's best folk, blues, country and bluegrass musicians will be at the Festival playing and teaching. Half day tickets are available but tickets for the final concert are only guaranteed to those who register for the whole festival.

Apply at Studass for more information or send \$5 to P.O. Box 12-145, enclosing your name and address also.



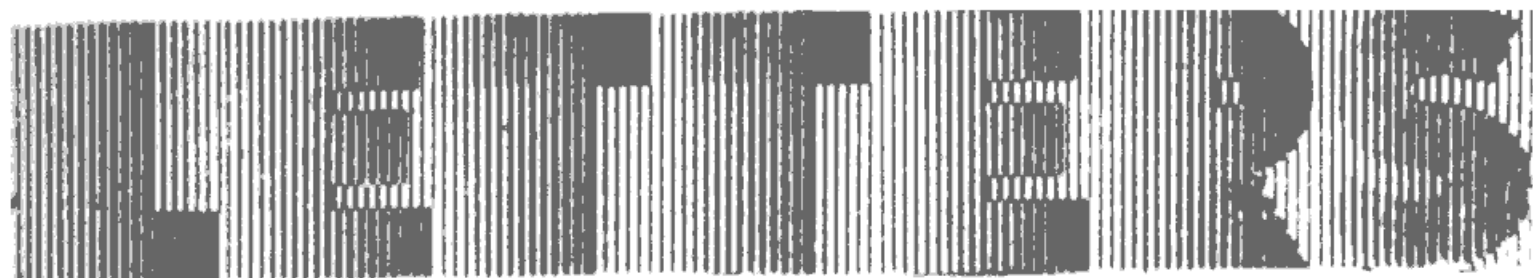
**DOWNSTAGE THEATRE**

May 22-24  
**O! TEMPERANCE!**  
 Return Season

May 26 - June 7  
**'COME TOGETHER'**  
 Downstage's Come Alive for '75.

Late night, lunch-hour, and Sunday performances  
 Visiting theatre companies - Mercury and Centrepoint

Student Concessions  
 For reservations phone 559 639



Letters can be handed in at the letterbox just inside the SALIENT office or handed in to the editor personally. However if you wish to pay 4c postage then send your letters to P O Box 1347, Wellington. Letters should be double spaced and on one side of the paper only. We'll print just about anything you send in except we can't print libellous material.

#### Reply To Ross Delaney

Dear Bruce,

In reply to Ross Delaney ('How Others Feel' 29 April) various points should be made.

Firstly, while applauding Ross's humanitarian feelings I think he has misunderstood what I said at SRC. My point was that if one country is devastating another there can be no neutral position. By not supporting the peoples of Indochina one is conceding the United States the right to interfere in their affairs. In practice, then, this position comes down to much the same thing as openly supporting the US: there is a contradiction between Ross's 'I'm not pro-American imperialism' and wishing to abstain.

Secondly, Ross writes 'I don't bloody support anybody who goes around knocking off innocent people and I think its fucking morally disgraceful for any bastard to do so'. Very much agreed - but is this an accurate picture of what is going on in Indochina at the moment? Despite the compulsive lies of Ford, Kissinger and the State Department (who said some time ago that one million South Vietnamese were marked for assassination), it is clear that there have been no mass executions on the scale of those carried out by Thieu or his mates. The liberation fighters won in the face of American military might because of their great support from the people of Indochina - would this be so if they were callous killers? I think not.

If Ross's point on knocking off innocent people refers to the war, then I suggest he direct his very proper anger at the people responsible for the war, the Americans, not at those justly fighting to gain independence for their country and freedom from foreign domination.

Thirdly, I quite agree with Ross's comments on the arrogance of some speakers at the meeting, and his criticism of the 'loudest mouths' is reasonably sound. However, I suggest that referring to these people as 'coons', 'idiots', 'old core of mediocrity' etc. does not help matters much.

Finally, in reply to 'I see your policies as narrow-minded and the SRC meetings as platforms for minority egotistical aspirations'. If those of us who do attend SRC are narrow-minded and egotistical, then that is certainly something to be struggled against. However, from the meetings so far this year, I think there has been some attempt to analyse problems of a wider perspective and to suggest methods of attacking them, from honest concern and not from a desire to ego-trip.

I hope Ross Delaney will be prepared to attend more SRCs - many of his criticisms could be of considerable use in ensuring SRC represents students better.

Anthony Ward.

#### Cafe Prices Intolerable

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express my concern as regards the recent increase in food prices in the ground floor cafeteria. I am perhaps labouring under a misconception when I say that it was my impression that the cafeteria was subsidized out of Student Association funds. If the cafeteria is subsidized I would like to know the reasons behind these increases which bring prices up to the level of those charged downtown. It is about time the SRC adopted a more responsible outlook and provided for the needs of the students instead of wasting funds on causes sponsored by the elitist minority in power. Students, supposedly short of finance, do not pay \$30 a year to see it squandered on donations and handouts to, in the main, useless causes. Improve the conditions for those within the university or refund our money!

Yours faithfully,  
S.P. Mark.

#### A Simple Request of the Vice-Chancellor

Dear Bruce,

Could I ask, thru the good services of your paper, the Vice-Chancellor to confirm or deny a scurrilous rumour which a little birdy told me; to wit, that the Victoria University of Wellington Budget is .... Confidential. Having been brought face-to-face with harsh reality by my birdy friend I endeavoured (naturally) to procure a copy of said Budget for myself. At length efforts were rewarded and I now possess (thru fair means not foul, I believe), a xeroxed copy of the 1975 VUW Budget. However, what intrigues me still is why this mess of almost unintelligible gobbledegook book-keeping is .... Confidential. My suspicions lead me to suspect that either a) D.B.C. Taylor (Vice-Chancellor) and his cohorts X, Y, Z and C pass suffer from that modern bureaucratic disease Maxwell Smart /Brig. Gilbertian Paralysis of the filing cabinet (symptomised by a fervent desire to keep whatever isn't already widely known from becoming so); or b) that some of the contents of the Budget are highly controversial and would disturb the peace of the populace.

The former case seems, to me, the more likely, as such things as the \$5,500 set aside for Remuneration of Sir John Marshall as Visiting fellow for 1976 (Pg.2, item B12), the peculiarities of the recurrent nature of the so-called Non-Recurring Grants (refer Pg.9), the \$2,000 budgeted for the Commonwealth Vice-Chancellors fund (Pg.9) or the staff/student ratios (Pgs.16-18 incl.) which reveal that the Arts faculty has a consistently high ratio while the Science faculty has a consistently low ratio, would, I feel, be of interest only to those students interested in their University.

I would greatly appreciate an effort to get answers from the Vice-Chancellor, Chancellor, or other appropriate filing cabinet, and publication of the outcome of such an enquiry.

I am,  
yours in anticipation,  
Bryan Mulligan.

#### Reply To Cowles

Dear Sir,

I would just like to correct some of the misconceptions that John Cowles appears to be suffering from as regards the Christchurch Bursaries meeting. If Mr. Cowles had read the article in 'Socialist Action' carefully he might have noticed that nowhere in that article was it claimed that we were the only people pushing for a demonstration but rather that we initiated a call for a march. We did this by putting forward a motion at the AGM calling for an ad hoc committee to be set up to organise a demonstration on March 26.

Perhaps Mr. Cowles should check if his source of information is talking about the right meeting, as at the meeting which I attended over half of those present clearly were in favour of a march being organised later. Or maybe it could be that Mr. Cowles does not feel that people raising their hands in agreement with what I proposed comes under his idea of responding positively. A third possibility is that his contacts were confused by the two 'straw votes' that were held, both of which were concerned to some extent about marches.

One final possibility that occurred to me is that Mr. Cowles is not used to factual objectivity in reporting and so he has decided to spend quite some time to try to discredit it. This would explain why although he has spent over half a column attacking 'Socialist Action' without actually being able to discredit anything in the article it attacks. Whatever the reasons for Mr. Cowles inaccuracies I would just suggest that he sorts a few facts out and use those before he bothers to launch smear campaigns.

Yours,  
A.F. Ericson,  
Christchurch Young Socialists.

#### Instrumentalism

Dear Sir,

Your editorial defending *Salient's* policy on arts reviews smacks of that kind of instrumentalism which requires that art should illustrate stereotyped political ideas. The implications contained in your editorial are hardly original - fascist-minded citizens and dictatorial politicians of many persuasions adhere to theories of instrumentalism: i.e. art is excellent when it illustrates officially proclaimed goals; it must never be 'negative' except in dealing with hostile or competitive social systems.

Despite your personal prejudices on this matter, the chief goal of art criticism is understanding - readers seek from art criticism a way of looking at art objects which will yield the maximum of knowledge about their meanings and merits. A good art review should reveal information about the art work to the reader, and furthermore should inform the reader how that information about a work is related to its excellence. At its best, Marxist thought can be convincing in its explanations of the social relations between creators and users of art, but it tends to be unsatisfactory in the formulation of criteria of artistic excellence. Marxism also encourages the critic to seek out the social, moral, or psychological purposes art may serve. It emphasises the legitimacy of art related to the dominant concerns of life and thus acts as a corrective to the artistic tendency to become excessively involved with purely technical problems. Unfortunately, *Salient's* naive 'Marxist' reviewers are hardly capable of criticism of that calibre for they insist that art should represent scenes of mass class struggle, the heroism of workers, and so on. Indeed, *Salient's* 'Marxist' critic's arts reviews embody the most vulgar application of instrumentalism, and thus do much harm in undermining the true value of Marxist analysis. Moreover, these mealy-mouthed 'reviews' are an insult to the intelligence of even your most uninformed readers.

Yours sincerely,  
Gary Griffiths.

*(It is interesting to see what the points I made in my editorial look like when turned upside down.)*

*Firstly, on the question of instrumentalism. If you are the expert you claim to be on marxism and art you will realise that what I said is the opposite of what you have described as instrumentalism. I said that all art, whether it wants to be or not, is political. I tried to describe in my editorial the different ways in which art is political - you seem to have missed those points. Now, given that artists are pushing politics when they push their art, they have two choices facing them: they can ignore the political aspect or they can recognise the political aspect and from that recognition they can consciously decide on the politics in their art. So we have two artists, one who consciously directs the political content of his/her art and one who is blind to the political purpose his/her art is serving. You say that the person who consciously directs his/her art for a political purpose is illustrating 'stereotyped political ideas'. I would say he/she is far less a prisoner of a political viewpoint than an artist who is not even aware of the political ideas he/she is propagating.*

*Secondly, understanding. Yes, of course art criticism is about understanding. But it is a matter of what you consider it important to understand. I think art criticism should not just try and understand the artist and his/her art in isolation. Art criticism should be based on an understanding of society so as to place the artist and his/her art in their proper context, a context that is manifestly political.*

*Thirdly, I would agree that some of our so-called Marxist reviews have not been of outstanding quality but I never heard you complain of the terrible reviews we've had by people without 'marxist' pretensions. It seems even your criticisms are governed by politics - Ed.)*

**Right or wrong I respect your right (wrong) to write (wrong) this letter. Right! (wrong?)**

Dear Sir,

I think all right thinking people in this country are sick and tired of being told that ordinary decent people are fed up in this country with being sick and tired.

I am certainly not and am sick and tired of being told that I am.

Signed MPFC

P.S. Well I meet a lot of people and I am convinced that the vast majority of wrong thinking people are right.

#### A Suggestion On Saving Hunter

Dear Sir,

As a graduate who toiled in that fine library innumerable hours over several years, it occurs to me that its preservation could well lie with ourselves. If your magazine and student executive convened a special meeting, could you not pool the talents and resources of the students to come up with a Save Hunter campaign based on what students could contribute. Here is an opportunity for the science students in particular to contribute. And the accountants and those with builder's labourer experience. Surely the students could propose a cheaper plan of preservation that the \$6 million the university authorities suggest. We all know that if we really started worrying about earthquake dangers, that Parliament and Government Building and half of Wellington, including those dreadful monoliths dwarfing Hunter, would have to come down. You might even be able to find some oldboys with architectural talents in a People Power Plan to Preserve Hunter. And while you're at it, what about painting those dull new university buildings yellow or red or something other than the heavy brick brooding over the harbour.

Best wishes,  
David McGill.

#### More 'Facts' We Omitted

Dear Sir,

You have not answered the questions I asked.

1. Are we to believe that the communist regimes (you may call them what you like), are going to implement the 'Programmes for democratic freedoms of the People'. You say that 'Both the PRG and the Khmer Rouge are allowing freedom of movement and speech' but not to those with imperialist friends. If this is your idea of 'democratic freedom' then I would kindly suggest you widen your viewpoint.

As far as religious freedom is concerned, you know quite well that worship is tolerated only as long as it does not present a threat to the communist government.

2. I am not 'somehow blaming the Indochinese people for the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, but rather I am pointing out the fact that we should not accept openly, statements from either side in the war in Indochina.

You point out that 'Time' 'admits that for at least the last two years the resistance movement has been made up solely of Cambodians'. This is 1975, what about the other three years. You conveniently passed over this.

3. You say that 'If the mud is supposed to stick because of the fact that they are 'commies' (you misquote me here, I call them communists, not commies), then again it judges people by labels and not by their deeds'. At this stage I concede that I have pre-judged both new governments. However, you are prepared to elucidate on the question of 'democratic freedom'. Tell us just who judges whether the peasant, opposing communism, has imperialist friends or not. If you are prepared to believe such promises from both governments, then you are very naive.

4. Your arguments that 'all means of coercion were on Lon Nol's side' leaving none for the Khmer Rouge I suppose, and that had it decided the issue 'no one would have joined the Khmer Rouge' seems far fetched. For the benefit of your readers would you please explain in more detail, coercion, and while you are at it provide a detailed account of the support received by the Khmer Rouge by both Hanoi and Peking, and do the job properly and don't leave out information which will point toward blatant communist pressure and control.

Finally, my 'emotional outburst' as you call it, is the result of having read several editions of *Salient* which portray a definite leaning towards the 'left' through the failure to print both sides of the stories, and through its failure to examine closely the information it receives and to question it thoroughly.

Neville Wynn.

*(The demand you make that we print both sides of the story will not be carried out. Firstly, you will be well aware that the other side of the story is propagated day and night by the New Zealand media. Secondly, we don't see it as a matter of there being two sides to a story but that there are two predominant ways of looking at a thing. It takes little common-sense to realise that two contradictory views cannot both be correct in their view of the situation so you must choose one view or the other. That is what Salient has done. We have not made our decision lightly, and our stand on Indochina is particularly well researched. If you would care to come into the office and go through our information, I am sure you will find the answers to all your questions - Ed.)*

# SALIENT OPEN DAY



## DROP IN!

+++++ SALIENT OPEN DAY +++++  
+++++ WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1975 +++++

'SALIENT cannot survive without increased student participation', avowed editor Bruce Robinson today. Bruce was speaking from his ward in Porirua Hospital where he has been for the last few weeks. Ever since staff numbers rounded off at the figure of one, Bruce has been feeling that perhaps its not all worth it.

Bruce went on to say that he was going to have one more try at getting more students involved in their very own newspaper. He was organising an Open Day during which people could come into the Salient office and learn how to do Reporting, Layout, Cartoons and Graphics, News Photography, Reviewing, Sub-editing and creative writing among other things from the various Salient experts. Also, Bruce said, he would be arranging for people to put all these skills into practice to put out leaflets or posters or a special section for the next week's Salient.

At the end of the Open Day there would be a staff meeting to which all students would be invited. Bruce said he hoped that it would be a session of useful and constructive discussion about Salient's role at Victoria and students' role in Salient.

### MORNING SESSION: SALIENT OFFICE, COMMITTEE ROOM 3

9.00am-12 noon: Writing workshops (Reporting, Reviewing, Creative writing, etc.)

### AFTERNOON SESSION: SALIENT OFFICE, COMMITTEE ROOM 3

2.00-5.00pm: Technical workshops (Layout, Cartoons and Graphics, News Photography, etc.)

### EVENING SESSION: SALIENT OFFICE, COMMITTEE ROOM 3

6.00-7.30pm: Workshop on how Salient is put out and on various practical activities.

### STAFF MEETING: SALIENT OFFICE

7.30pm: discussion of Open Day, Salient's role, etc.

ALL DAY: Feel free to come and look around Salient. If you're in a club, you'll be interested in our typing, layout and letraset facilities.