Student Press must break through NEW ZEALAND'S PAPER CURTAIN

"Why is the New Zealand Press so rightist? I am not astonished at the way news is handled by almost the entire Press in New Zealand. In some areas, a sentence buried in the story which has been censored is an aggressive measure of the express or expunged, over which the papers in terms of expediency were given a column and a half. Lord Tennyson described the Government (over ours), on moral terms that received great prominence in Great Britain, but was tucked away—if reported at all—in New Zealand."

Dr. G. F. McCleod, Moderator-Designate of the Church of Scotland, in the "Evening Post," 8 January 1937.

"The absence of an effective left-wing or liberal press leaves the conservative press in undisputed control, and without any adequate means of people in New Zealand accept right-wing statements in the name of the Press. It cannot, of course, be altered. If it wholly regrettable that the New Zealand Press exercises its supremacy not only in editorial comment but in its selection of news. This Undisputed right-wing emphasis is a positive danger."

Monica Pemberton, in "Critic," Otago University Students' Paper, 4 April, 1957.

"Newspapers are run for a profit. And since they have such a powerful influence on public opinion, they are run for that purpose also, by people who have reasons for wanting to influence public opinion. If you think newspapers are run primarily to give you the news of the day, you are deluding yourself."


All these statements refer to New Zealand's newspapers, the means by which most of us get our idea of what is going on in the world.

The first two statements were made this year. The first one was made 19 years ago, but in a year which, like this year, was marked by a general election.

Revealing Comparison

Great Britain, with a population 24 times as great as New Zealand's, has only four times as many daily newspapers. Of these figures, you might expect New Zealand to be in a position to boast a much richer variety of viewpoints. This is not, in fact, the case.

Restricting our vision to the big- circulation metropolitan daily papers, Great Britain has 12 with a circulation of over 200,000 each (including the one with the biggest circulation of all, the Liberal or Liberal and freedom), while New Zealand has eight, of which only two (those under a single proprietorship, and one under half-hearted), have distinguished themselves by stepping out of line with Sun and H-Bomb tests.

Overall, the position is worse. New Zealand has only one Labour daily—a small one on the West Coast, the area which most needs it. The thirty other dailies hark back generally for the National Party.

Great Britain also has a large number of left-wing weeklies, whose comments are far from right-wing. Not only Tribune and Weekly News, but also the other papers—CENSORED but not to be revealed—are left-wing to a degree.

A boy once came down from the big city of Walskeham to Warkwick. His old mother was worried that he had not written for a long while, so when she heard the news, she went to the station to meet him and see her boy and find out if he was getting on. The year run the boy in his handbag. "He's been working all day, ma, and don't you see him playing the piano at a funeral?"

but the New Statesman, Spectator, and Observer. New Zealand has one "left" Labour weekly (whose publishers, have several times been refused permission to publish that they believe a few per cent. of political matters must be supplemented by pages of radical and socialistic thought). "Here and Now," the sole independent organ and excellent as far as it goes, appears only monthly and appears to be staggering financially.

The press prospects in Britain is thus almost infinitely brighter than in New Zealand. And even within New Zealand the National Union of Journalists (whose strike furthered this situation) is a supreme body, and not merely the monopolization of their annual prize for the best newspaper between "The Times" and the "Daily Worker." This was so far a formality, a contest between the "The Times" and the "Daily Worker," the "Guardian" and the "Independent," a contest between the "The Times" and the "Daily Worker." This means that editorial comment in general, a choice of praise for the New Zealand Press.

A VOICE FOR SURVIVAL

A Giles-style choral could have been erected in our cartoon, poking out his tongue at the chattering classes and singing the wrong hymn—probably "Flower, perfect flower." He would have been labelled "The Auckland Star!"

While the bulk of our dailies apparently ignore the conDemning恥 of black-listing tests, the "Star" has inserted a June issue campaign on behalf of human survival—social, subse-

-sequently, by the Christchurch "Daily Star" and one or two liberal papers.

In an editorial on Saturday, 4 April, the "Star" drew a stark picture of the end of our society and arms races, and commented:

"If you are armistice, in the smallest nations, there is a responsi-

bility—"wars will not end until the atomic bomb is destroyed, and we take the initiative. We could end the atomic arms forces—"nukes" to join us in a blue. Such a war is not stopped but only postponed. The world seeks to persuade the "hawks" that the world is not as safe with us as with the other nations."

If it should succeed, the record will not be attributable to the "hawkish" press (who are not the ones who have received these constituencies expressing support of the idea):

But Mr. Holohan practically called for it, and Mr. Naden and Mr. Nash post-pooled its "practical plausibility."

A week later the "Star" continued its campaign, but with no logical stopping-place in nuclear development. There is only the simple conviction of ordinary people everywhere that the whole thing is wrong, and how very few of us, both Mr. Holohan and Mr. Nash are human ones. The test comes as a surprise."

It was a surprise to the world. Given both of the broad forces of an earlier New Zealand venture into independent foreign policy—Mr. Holohan's New Zealand at Geneva over collective security in 1951. S," said the League had hopped into utility as the result of the "new" internationalization of governments, and not because of "the new" international world of tomorrow. He, and the Government for which he stood, had no need to do honour in New Zealand.

Today, the "Star" must be regarded as one of the broad forces of the new New Zealand venture into independent foreign policy—Mr. Holohan's New Zealand at Geneva over collective security in 1951. S," said the League had hopped into utility as the result of the "new" internationalization of governments, and not because of "the new" international world of tomorrow. He, and the Government for which he stood, had no need to do honour in New Zealand.

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Salient features occur these comments, both as a welcome break in the press's right-wing monopoly, and for their own sake. We also welcome the public's Freddy engagement of the Press, the evidence of the papers in the protests voiced at Auckland University College, especially by Mr. Fairburn and a number of students, against the proposals that the Christmas Island tests will continue indefinitely in the restricted territories.

This issue, and the stand of O.D.C. and N.Z.U.A. over Auckland's final O.D.C. university, and recent issues on the character of the Queen, have revived the fact that the unsung contributions of the New Zealand university" community still has some gain.


The consequence of our student newspapers over a daily in their readers to include the title and their everyday facts about their daily contemporaries.

The best evidence is yet in that materialized Dr. McLeod... their high quality and activity. This means that editorial comment in general, a choice of praise for the New Zealand national and of donations for Labour—though they may slip at the public to the general public on the general question of taxing, and independently of governmentная attack on the economic welfare of the public.

It means that every situation in the world is to be considered in the face of the potentialities of the news.
**DEAR SALIENT**

**Watch the Stitches in Your Bristles**

_These comments by Extre, are intended to be helpful, and should be treated with respect, lest it be found that individual members of the audience should take pride in their appearance than did last year's cast. In every case, the conditions were made in the event of more or less, or both, and the audience could have been greatly improved by being bused. Some skits were said to be finished, but the audience stood not be made to the skit, but the audience of only three actors was drastically reduced from the usual of six. Later, students are no loss, but we should know or clothes bright than that of joy.

_Wake-Up!_ Chorus and female make-up was poor. The impression was that the chorus had never been seen on stage before. The cast, however, was decent enough.

As everyone knows, Extre, stands on the right of the theatre, north and enthusiasm of every member of the company. It follows, therefore, that no skit was a little starting to find invalids distinct- on being made by the holding out of, bonnets, and verbal. I must see this peculiar manifestation will not return. A bunch of vegetables, to the female impersonators, during every hour of staff.

Last year's show, despite the fall- en of students, with what time was to be said, it was not in Extre, and at times desolated to the level of a jingle convert. The only part with the band was prima (the Councillor) had been filled straight out of the oven. This year's script has got most. Nothing, though I suppose that a certain number of people think it was good, and if the audience do not like the script, but it can still be called fairly well utilised who knows? A female impersonator appearing last year, would make a first class year and if any of the Col- onial Plus boys could be enlisted into one of the nibs to fall off. The students even have to extend the reason. Best wishes for Extre, 22.

Back Stage Boys

For some years I took part in the back stage work of Drama Club produc- tions and I should like to com- ment on an article in a recent issue of a London magazine. The article was on the back stage work, and it is true that the back stage work is not so easy.

If you have a small budget, little equipment and performing personnel, and unimpressive set, a ter- rific idea in the back stage. It may lead to another opportunity. A back stage worker is then deprived of the opportunity to observe the actual performance, and his work is not required.

The Drama Club has never had sufficient capital to begin with, and it has not been able to protect what little it had. This is not to say that it is to blame, but it is a fact that some restrictions are placed on the work of the students.

On the other hand, if the college opens at 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (or even later) as a day, the hours for the most part would be eliminated. This is an opportunity for the opportunity to use the college theatre at night, but it would also be pursued by many other groups. Many other groups would also benefit by a large number of full-time students.

J. T. DEVINE

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**THE OUTSIDER ON THE INSIDE**

The title-block on Salient's front page each issue proclaims Salient to be "an organ of student opinion at Victoria University". Words have been there since long before, in quite recent years, the Stud. Ass.'s Publications Regulations were revised to constitute Salient an "official organ of V.U.C.S.A.". There is nothing necessarily inconsistent in the two definitions—but they represent the adjacent sides of the parallelogram of forces of which Salient is the somewhat shifting resultant.

The phrase "official organ" suggests that editorial comment may represent the official view of the Association. It could logically mean the exclusion of all controversial material which might embarrass the Executive—particularly any criticism of the Executive itself.

The Executive appoints the Editors, and may direct them to publish any specific paper. The Editor receives a subsidy from Association funds, and is subject to the President's imprimatur. But the Editors are, within these limits, independent, and the voice of Salient can be no stretch of imagination be identified with the voice of the Executive.

An article in our last issue mentioned one of the present policy of South-east Asia's student press "to be autonomous, but to seek mutual co-operation with national student unions. We believe that this should also be the policy of the student press in New Zealand, both nationally and within each college.

Close association between student journals and the elected student representatives is essential. The journals must be part of the student establishment, kept informed of all that is going on in the student world and publicising it among the student body.

At the same time, the independence of the student press, its freedom to comment and pass its own judgment without any restraint from the student hierarchy, must be recognised as inviolable.

The general condition of New Zealand's newspaper industry is investigated elsewhere in this issue. In the face of a startlingly uniform orthodoxy among the press outside the University, we believe that the student press should give a duty to represent the open mind, to be a forum for doubts, derisions, and heresies.

This, of course, means excursions into fields where the normally established words have lost the student body cannot venture. But it does not mean that the most direct liaison between those leaders and the student press should be abandoned. On the contrary, we believe that their relations should be strengthened and formalised.

We claim the right to be simultaneously on the inside and on the outside—to have access to and the confidence of the responsible student leaders, and yet to comment on and criticise constructively the actions and decisions of those leaders, and of all the other personalities and institutions of our time.

We hold that these rights have become hallowed in the best traditions of the free press—which still has, as Jefferson said, a duty to play "a greater role to play in a democracy than government itself."

—C.V.B.

**TALKING OF HIRE EDUCATION**

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THAT SPOON AGAIN

Writing well before the final results are in, we are able to bring you a hasty notice of the remarkable success that V.C. has recorded. Unveiled at the same ceremony that V.C. has, we record that unforeseen trophy, the wooden spoon (reserved, how many, who don't know, for the College which gains the lowest points at Tautau). In fact, our debacle is a mere recoil of the next—collecting only 6 points to the 44j scooped by the winner, deputy, Otace.

We did our best work in Cricket (where Salient's sports editor, Johnie, and his team members), which accounts for 3J of our points. Tennis and Boxing gave us a point each, while our pride is point in point in Football. Athletics, Basketball, Shooting and Swimming gave us nothing but the sheer joy of sportsmanship in having participated.

Details of interest to V.C. students are:

ATHLETICS

Our C. McGuire got third in the 880 yards, B. Fitzpatrick in the same position in the 228 yards hurdles. We came second in the mile relay. We didn't manage to get any other points in the contest for the men's athletic shield, which was pocketed with Canterbury's 65 to win.

Amusing the women, J. Kite was second in the discus. We gained only 3 points in the women's athletic shield, which was pocketed by Canterbury with 42.

TELEVISION

Our tennis players were beaten by the 15-0 score from the Eastern-Room-Nool-Nell day.

SWIMMING

L. Allen, of V.C., was third in the 200 yards' freestyle, and M. Allen was third in the 100 yards' backstroke, while M. Undersworth was fourth in the 100 yards' backstroke. A little less work, and we did a little better.

BASKETBALL

For all our games, but six of our players (Bex Taylor, Judy Latham, Johnie, Gattey, Janice Fraser, Marion Cameron and Judy Latham) were selected for the North Island rep. team.

TAKING OFF

In yachting, we managed to win one race in the America (the fourth), and come second in another.

N.Z. PAPER CURTAIN—continued

Unfavourable to right-wing, it gives a lot of the political position in the area, from which it is perceived, they are in a minority and are swayed away in the same direction. The conservative group is supposed altogether. As a last resort, it would be impossible to publish what are known in Parliament as "unacceptable" and, so to speak, in the greatest and least acceptable copy out of certain Labour Party conference, to publish in the Government gazette.

This sort of thing will be kept up and supported by the election of the衆-approach—just as prior to every other election in New Zealand's his story.

Facts Suppressed

Similarly in industrial disputes (notably that of 1913), and in those cases they are practised in favour of the employer, military interests, the coal, railway, anti-unitism, and the left. However, this time the problem is different. Fact is positive to come by, but it is a fact that there is information must be within the reach of the paper and yet was never written.

We have no information, either a clipping from the Evening Post of three years ago, and another from the (the third) in the Legend. We have no hard feelings about the results—except perhaps a passing regret that we did not do the best we could for the party which we all support. A certain comfort is that there were no big losses, there wouldn't have been a tournament. And if we didn't do the best in that wooden spoon, what would we do with that big spoon in our trophy case?

WHAT'S COOKING?

ASIAN SEMINAR IN N.Z.

There is good chance New Zealand will host another event sponsored by the Student International Conference of Asia which is being run by Chinese students. Some who organized the conference in 1964, and the Chinese students who have been working on the project think the event will be held here in 1966.

The seminar, which will include the Visit of a representative from Southeast Asia, Taiwan, Korea, India, and Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, and other islands, will be in June. We believe that the Chinese students will invite to me (who don't come here). Special visit will take place in Auckland, in the second week of August, and will be the time of the conference. This week there are the chance of meeting the people in the fair cross-section of New Zealand students who have been for two years, or for a year and a half, N.Z. and U.S. Student Press Council.

God Defend

CLASS WAR

The great difference between British and New Zealand is that in Britain the trade unions (which are in trade unions) who are eye to eye on fundamentals, whereas in New Zealand they are isolated and their political interests are not concerned in the public interest. There are three New Zealand men in the British Parliament.

New Zealand Letters in British magazine, "Personnel Management."

WANTED


Advert in Dominion, 12/4/65.

GRIM FAIRY TALE

It's now... It's sensational... the diplomatic downpour.

—Advert, Commercial Broadcaster.

All the better to feel you with, my dear.

VIEWS OF A BRITISH WORKMAN

"My life as one of the British workman on the social problem, views which I find I share with others who have written on the subject, are:

most other with whom I come in contact, is the realization that there is no problem whether the Egyptians are ruled by Feat or Nasser. Most of them have lived in orderly times before the building of the pyramids, and have no desire to change their Happy days. There is no cause for my feeling, then, to be happy.

GOD FORCES

TELL FUT THE "ROCK" IN ROCK'N'ROLL.

The New Zealand Society's Annual General Meeting (held Tuesday evening, August 18, and attended by 65 people) and the New Zealand Society of the Performing Arts (headed by Secretary-Treasurer, Jill Le Fevre) were both successful. A new president, Barry McKeevey, (Peter Webb) was empowered by a resolution to re-elect the first two stages of the committee. Carlits and Clarke were re-elected. Patrons and other amounts on "Geography from the Point of View of Rock'n'Roll" were not shown of the Society's trip to the Hong Kong. The Society's trip to the Hong Kong is being planned.

Hey Diddle Diddle

"Distribute the Middle"

The Premiere controls the Conclusion: The Director

That the Beauties of Life, I. a Boorish conception.

SALIENT

Glamour, 71 (North Shore, Auckland)
Editor 54 (North Shore, Auckland)