FIGHT RISING PRICES

The movement had humble beginnings — a food co-op at a play activities centre in a suburb of Christchurch. But it was obvious to Mrs Kath Himeona that the idea of a co-op was unsatisfactory and the problem of rising prices had to be dealt with in a more effective way.

A small meeting was advertised around community noticeboards to discuss the problem of increases in the basic cost of living. The Christchurch Star then got hold of the story and in one week the support list for the group and its proposals grew from three to 100.

On April 12, on a bitterly cold night, 200 people gathered in the Wainoni Salvation Army Hall to register their support for a nation-wide boycott of goods. The results were staggering — the meeting became volatile and hostile toward both the companies who consistently raise the prices of their commodities, and the Government. Organiser, Kath Himeona commented, “if Bert Walker had walked in he would have been clawed to death.”

As it happened, Bert Walker had been invited as had Colleen Dewe, National M.P. for Lyttelton. Neither showed up. The reason for this? They probably thought, like many other people, that the organisation would not come to anything. They have been proved wrong. The cause has provided a spark for many of the housewives of New Zealand, who are now showing the pent-up feelings of resentment and frustration at rapidly rising prices.

At present there are 14 branches of the Housewives’ Boycott Movement in Christchurch alone. There are also branches in the city bus driver and they have four children — triplets aged four and a daughter aged six. She made it very clear to us that she has not been involved in any political movements before. Never in the Unions or any political party.

The Housewives’ Boycott Movement is strictly non-political, although she acknowledges that what the movement seeks to do is political by definition. “The media are always trying to tie the Labour Party label on to us but we do not have any party affiliations.”

“The thin line between being too militant and being forceful enough is hard to tread for us... we are afraid of putting people off.” She went on to explain, however, that the housewives who were the most radical were those who least expected to be. They call picketing ‘placarding’ to remove any hint of militancy.

As leader of the Christchurch branch she pays great attention to the tactics and strategy of the organization. What she is asked to speculate is what is going to happen on the future of the movement by reporters. She always refuses to answer until getting a directive from the main meetings. There is no National leader — each area makes its own decisions and plans its own action.

“The boycott itself seems to be having an effect,” Kath told us. “The supermarkets will deny it till they’re blue in the face.”

The items chosen were done at their first meeting — “it’s no good boycotting essential food items — that will only hit the working families harder and put women off.”

The movement is also trying to get the

Join the boycott of coffee, choc biscuits, tinned fruit.

four main centres, in Blenheim, Nelson, Invercargill, Hamilton and Cambridge. New branches are forming all the time.

We spent the afternoon with Kath Himeona last Tuesday, while she was here to appear on “Today at One” and talk to the local branch of Working Women’s Alliance.

The most important thing to make sure of is that you put your point across forcefully. . . if you don’t do this then people will dismiss you immediately.”

She practises this doctrine very effectively. When she appeared on “Today at One” she completely converted the interviewer in a matter of minutes. Well aware of the roughish role that the media can play in the coverage of movements like hers, she’s very well clear of traps when she conducts interviews.

Her life hasn’t started. She left school at the age of 14 and has been a working wife since. Her husband is a Christchurch

ears of the Price “Justification” Tribunal open to the public so that the true reasons for the price increases are known to everyone. Most of the price increases are due to the companies wanting to bolster their profits. In the 76/77 year for example, a year in which there was a so-called price freeze, the combined profit of the five biggest food processing companies was 89%.

Kath Himeona calculates that about 80% of housewives in Christchurch are actively supporting the ban on tinned fruit, chocolate biscuits and coffee. Whenever she is in stores and sees women buying the boycotted goods she will always remind them of the fact that they are letting the side down.

“Shop Assistants are our biggest ally. We have been getting a great deal of help from the Shop Assistants’ Union especially reminding people of the boycott.”

You couldn’t help being impressed with

the feeling and determination for the movement — her forthright manner, and yet a concern with the political level of the people who make up the movement. At one stage she suggested refusing to pay electricity bills or TV licences if they rose sharply.

“I’m prepared to go to jail if it contributes to the movement in the long run!”

Commenting on the tactics of the companies — “if they’re scared, they’ll do anything.”

“It’s all right for the companies to pass the costs on to the families, but the families can’t pass costs on to anyone. Above all, our movement is for the families, of New Zealand.”

So what is the future of the movement? Kath states that they might have to concentrate on the question of monopolies. Certainly there is the danger to the movement failing if they do not follow up the work already done with concrete information for people to make realistic demands of the big companies. Even if the boycott does not have much effect, and there is evidence that is affecting the companies, then it will still go a long way towards making working women aware of the fact that their livelihood is in the hands of the big companies and the management of their affairs — the Government.

This is truly excellent work which will assist the development of the working class movement in New Zealand. It has revitalised many other women’s organisations. This is also good because it is taking political ideas to one of the most politically neglected sections of the community — the working women.

Kath told us that it was very important for students to get involved with the Boycott Movement. “They are going to have to inherit the bitterness of this whole thing when they leave University.”

Should students boycott the appropriate goods? Of course. This is a chance for students to show the uselessness of movements like this one. It is every chance of making the companies acutely conscious of the fact that they are dependent on consumers, and will also help to focus attention on the fact that the country is not run from the House on the hill, but from the Board Rooms of the big companies of New Zealand.
Assessment Forum

In part one of this article I outlined some of the more basic features of assessment and how they relate to the average student. This week I propose to discuss some of the theory behind these assessment methods.

As a starting point let's take a look at one fact: Capitalism, as a system, can only function where the division of the labour force is a reality, i.e. some people have to be dustmen, other managers etc.

Now to perpetuate this system society has to have certain controls, ways and means of retaining the division of labour. In all western societies this is achieved through the use of what is called "the education system."

Certainly the education system does have some educational value in the narrow sense in that it has to educate people to the standards of management etc. but its primary function is to ensure that most people don't reach this standard. For if that happened the system would quickly crash.

Now if you start with this basic assumption that the education systems through the use of various assessment methods are there to hinder you not help you, you will begin to see daylight.

You will begin to see why examinations in society in which you are required to make decisions that could affect your whole life, without recourse to any other material at all are considered of good educational value.

You must surely begin to realise that the primary function of the university itself is to help you gain a greater depth of knowledge of a particular subject, but if it is a root to rot out as quickly as possible as many people as possible, for it is obvious that in a system of labour division only a tiny minority can sit on top of the pyramid.

One last fact: the shorter Oxford Diction; any describes ability as the condition of being subject to or dominated by some power or influence.

How many of us are slaves to a system that prevents the greater majority from enjoying enjoying the fruits of that system? The answer is most of us.

So, with these facts in your mind, why don't you help change the present assessment methods and let's find the least onerous form of assessment for all of us.

--- Robert Moore-Jones, Education Officer.

Chem 101: Practical Assessment.

By the end of the year about 20% of Chem 101 students will have found the workload up to seven hours a week and at the start of the lecture time) social and scholastic suicide.

One of the areas in which students find difficulty is the laboratory requirements. These hours a week are spent actually doing experiments. Problems associated with the practical work and its subsequent write-up are many. It often takes three hours a week to write up, and even then if the initial results do not agree with the expected results, mediocre or poor marks are obtained. The demonstrators are too few to "clip" with adequately with all the experiments that they are supposed to explain and supervise.

Most of the demonstrators are postgraduate students who have their own heavy work-load, so that they may not do the necessary time to give a fair assessment of write-up.

Different demonstrators have differing standards — some demand detailed explanation, while others will mark off for a write-up they consider too "wordy."

So far the chemistry department has really failed to claim chemistry students what is their rights regarding assessment of chemistry practices.

As we see them these "unfair" rights are:

1. The right of appeal over a poor mark.

Firstly, the demonstrator with marked the lab and then you're still unhappy about their explanations to the person in charge of the subject.

2. The right to an extension of time for handing in of lab books.

3. The right to ask demonstrators, lecturers and tutors questions about difficulties in the experiment and its write-up.

4. The right to arrange times to redo past or all of an experiment in which you feel you could better your previous marks.

It is likely that there will be no major changes in chemistry practical assessment until we students realise and ask for these rights.

At the end of the first term there are still no major changes in last year's method of assessment even though it seems to be difficult in the area already indicated.

--- T. Wrayman & A. R. Cairns.

MAY COUNCIL BEGINS...

MAY Council is the get-together of delegates from New Zealand's seven Universities.

Council occurs twice a year, and this May it is being held at Otago.

Victoria is sending 13 delegates to the various commissions which make up NZUSA Councils — Finance and Administration, National, International, Education, Welfare and Accommodation and Women's. Victoria is also sending the SAILIENT editor to attend the annual Editors' conference.

All policy which NZUSA has is made at Council. Policy comes from the constituent campuses, in Vic's case through the SRC.

The NZUSA structure is reasonably democratic and it is easy for policy to filter from the campus to the national level.

However on some campuses, policy is made almost surely by administration. The Executive or small council meetings. Only Victoria and Auckland have open SRCs, where every association member is encouraged to vote.

Also at May Council, the four full-time national Officials will give their reports. Special attention will be focused on the two newcomers to National Office, Lisa Shackleton and John Doherty.

Council is held from the 12th to the 15th of May. If you are in Dunedin at that time, make and have a look at how Council operates.

NEWSHEET

THIS WEEK IS CAPPING WEEK!!! REGISTER YOUR STUNTS AT STUDDAS.

TUESDAY APRIL 26.

9.45a.m. 3.15p.m. Poetry: anyone who cares to read it. Bring your own text. (This is organised, hence I Rankine Browning, Tennyson.

1.30p.m. Film series: Allister Cooker's "America." Film 2: "Gone West." This film follows a wagon train across the prairie to California. Memorial Theatre.

2.15p.m. Union Films: 'Straw Dogs.' Memorial Theatre.

3.40p.m. Erect 5 Salamis. Come and watch the Erect battle it out over an indoor cricket game. Cheer for your team, Gym.

4.60p.m. SADAC: Beer a hat and win a Tea-shut!

4.30p.m. Last poetry classes for the term — classes resume 1st week of next term. Enquiries at Poppa, ph BBS 229. Visual Arts House.

5.7p.m. Scottish Country Dancing. It's a good way to meet people, have fun and keep fit too. Come along and try. All welcome, Union Hall.

6.10p.m. Ski Club: Wine and Stein.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 27.

11.15p.m. Drunking horn: tennis courts. SIRC. This is a special capping event (Prose don't quotes me).


1.40p.m. Learn a new skill or share an old one. Contact HELAX. Learn to play hockey or table-tennis. Gym store.

1.30p.m. - 3.20p.m. Last Poetry Classes for the term — classes resume 1st week of second form. Some vacancies. ph Poppa BBS 229. Visual Arts House.

2.15p.m. Union Films: 'A Man Called Horse.' Memorial Theatre.

3.40p.m. Assessment Action Committee Meeting. All welcome. To discuss ways of acting upon Assessment policy. Brahma.

4.00p.m. SADAC: Cafe "In which Dora, get her out!" (No I don't know what meows either.)

5.00p.m. Women's Study Group. Group discussion on a strategy for the aboriginal campaign. Come along and add your ideas and thoughts on the subject. Lounge.

THURSDAY APRIL 28.

12.2p.m. Drama Society audition for lunch time play: 'Triangle' by James Saunders. Male actors only! Smoking Room.

12.00p.m. Seminar on rising prices. Is a price boycott effective? Speakers: Cath Kelly (ICAP) Sandra McCullum (Working Women's Alliance), Union Hall.

1.1op.m. Treasure Hunt: Bring something unusual to Rankine Brown courtyard and win a prize.

1.20p.m. Pastor Pearson will share an hour on how to get in touch with God through Jesus Christ. Lounge.


3.00p.m. Union Film: "American Graffiti." Memorial Theatre.

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7.30p.m. "Light from the Dark": Gay liberation meeting. All gay women and men welcome. Smoking Room.

8.00p.m. Philosophical Society Meeting. "Alternate States of Consciousness" by Jack Forman, visiting philosopher from the University of Michigan, followed by tea coffee etc. All welcome. Conference Room, 6th floor, Enderley.

FRIDAY APRIL 29.

1.30p.m. "Lion Red Raffe Race." Oriental Bay.

5.30p.m. Fiji Club Capping Ball with 22M7 Mike De Cafe. Cafe.

SATURDAY APRIL 30.

6.00p.m. Nighttime: Capping Ball, Details to be announced.

NEXT WEEK:

MONDAY APRIL 2: MISA Slide Show evening. Super includes "Loo Mee." All welcome Café.

Any club can put notice of meetings in this newsletter. Deadline is midnight Thursday in the Students Association Office. No late entries will be accepted.
FIJI—THE RIGHT TO RULE

BY C.P. Singh.

The recent General Election in Fiji has been followed by mounting racial tension between the Indians and Fijians. Since Independence, political power has been in the hands of the indigenous Fijians balanced against the Economic power of the Indians. However it was observed after the 1977 elections that there had been a shift of political power, causing a delicate imbalance in favour of the Indians. This caused grave concern to the indigenous Fijians.

However the fear of Indian domination is unlikely to abate as those rights which are most sensitive to the indigenous Fijians are firmly entrenched in the Constitution and also the real economic power lies in the hands of foreign investors. Nevertheless, the fear of Indian domination becomes magnified from childhood and is reinforced later by those who wish to make political capital. Consequently it has become difficult for the indigenous Fijians to accept Indian majority rule led by the National Federation Party (N.F.P.)

But for this, the N.F.P. has only itself to blame. It has done little, if anything, to curb any racial ill-feelings or to come out with a definite plan and policy in promoting racial harmony. It is the exploitation of this opportunity of which could have captured both races with confidence and made them acceptable to govern.

It has been obvious that the delay and uncertainty surrounding N.F.P. to form a government was largely due to the fact that they had prepared no foundation to rule Fiji if the occasion arose. They had muddled that political sensitivity could run so high in their favour at this stage of Fiji’s political development.

Because of their ill-preparedness, the Governor General’s decision to allow the Minority Alliance Party to form a caretaker government under the leadership of Sir Mara, was (although alarming) desirable. Under the conditions of mounting racial tension, he had only two options—either to allow the former P.M. to take over and order fresh elections or to risk bloodshed by an irresponsible (Fiji also suited Mr Koya (leader of N.F.P.) as well, because not only could he wash his hands of any racial friction following, but it also provided them with some oral ammunition.

One has to realise that even though N.F.P. consists of some very well-bodied men and the right to govern, it does not (as yet) have the same “arms” of the government to do so. For instance, most of the top civil service posts are held by indigenous Fijians or expatriates who could easily refuse or sabotage their new government. Furthermore in case of racial strife— the N.F.P.’s last resort to enforce law and order through the army would likely be herded as the army consists of an overwhelming majority of indigenous Fijians.

However, the new forthcoming elections will be interesting to observe. It is going to show whether the N.F.P. (in the meanwhile) has developed some definite plans as to how they may govern and protect the rights of the indigenous Fijians, and restore racial harmony. Only then will the N.F.P. convince the public of its fitness to rule.

RESEARCH OFFICER

NZUSA intends to employ an additional Research Officer at its National Office from June 1, 1977.

The Officer will be responsible for preparing submissions to government bodies and parliamentary committees; undertaking short-term research projects and helping to run NZUSA’s newly established Resource Centre. Duties will cover a wide range of NZUSA’s policies but will concentrate on those areas of student welfare and accommodation.

While no set qualifications and experience are required, the successful applicant will be able to work quickly and competently and should be generally sympathetic with NZUSA’s policies.

The successful applicant will receive a salary in the range of $6865 to $8315p.a. and will be reimbursed for reasonable removal expenses if required to move to Wellington to take up the position.

Applications in writing should be sent with copies of testimonials, and a summary of personal information and relevant experience to:

The President, NZUSA, P.O. Box 9047, Courtenay Place, Wellington, and will close at 5 p.m. on Friday April 29.

APPLICATIONS ARE CALLED FOR TWO STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD OF STUDENT SERVICES HOLDING LTD.

This is your opportunity to represent students on the Board of the new Zealand University Students’ Association Holding Company, which oversees NZUSA’s Commercial Activities.

The Duties of Directors are:

• Full function and responsibilities of directors as under the Companies Act 1965.

• Familiarity with NZUSA finance and administrative policies.

• Attendance at all Board Meetings, being about nine one-day meetings a year in Wellington.

• Term from July 1, 1977 to June 30, 1978.

If you:

• Have common sense and an interest in student affairs.

• Do not need to be an accountant or a lawyer.

The election will be held on Friday May 13 at 1.30 p.m. in the Otago University Union Building, Dunedin.

Applications are to be made in writing and close at 5 p.m. Friday May 6, at:

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, STUDENT SERVICES HOLDING LTD, P.O.Box 9047, COURTEEN PLACE, W, WELLINGTON.

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MOUSSAKA (for 4)

Moussaka, a kind of Hellenic shepherd's pie, is perhaps the best known of all Greek dishes to non-Greeks. Moussaka has a puffy golden crusty like top layer, made by baking an egg into a white sauce.

Before you begin, draw off the bitter juices from the Aubergines by slicing them into chunks, sprinkling lightly with salt and weighing them with a heavy object for 30 minutes. Drain and dry with a clean cloth. Later the Aubergine pieces will brown better when fried. You'll need:

2 medium Aubergines prepared as above.
1 large onion chopped.
2/4 Tablespoon oil.
black pepper. Salt
1/2 Minced
2 Tablespoons tomato puree diluted with 1/2 cup water.
Grated cheese (optional).

Gently fry onion in 1/2 tablespoons of the oil for 5 minutes. Add the mince and fry gently until browned. Stir in the tomato purée-water mixture, and the salt and pepper. Cover and simmer until the mixture is well absorbed.

Take prepared Aubergine pieces and gently fry in remainder of oil in separate pan, until browned. Arrange a layer of Aubergines in the bottom of a buttered casserole or shallow casserole dish. Cover with a layer of the meat mixture and top with a layer of cheese.

Make a white sauce by melting 3 tablespoons of butter in a pan over a low heat. Stir in 3 tablespoons of flour, then gradually blend in about half a pint of milk. (To avoid curdling — try mincing the milk and flour in a cup first, then slowly adding to the melted butter.) Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper.

Drain pot boiling hot. Beat in a whole egg. Spoon mixture over Moussaka. Cover with a layer of grated cheese (optional.) Bake in the centre of a pre-heated oven, 350 degrees, Gas 5-6 for 35-40 minutes, until well browned.

Helen Corrigan.
Bursary News

Student leaders will meet the Minister of Education this Wednesday to find out what progress has been made on planned reforms in student bursaries. And on Friday the NZUSA National Executive will also meet the Vice-Chancellor's Committee to discuss the matter.

Over four months have now passed since a widely-representative conference of educational organisations sat down with the Education Department to discuss reforms in the existing tertiary bursary scheme. But there has been no sign of Government action.

The question which is now being asked is whether the delays in Government action are simply a way of avoiding the extra expenditure that will result from decisions to reform the existing bursary system.

This question is an obvious one when it is considered that the National Government is committed by its election policy to reform the tertiary bursary system introduced by Labour in 1975.

The key promise in National's 1975 election policy is that the Government will "replace the Standard Tertiary Bursary as now of perpetuation with a new reformed bursary increased to take into account costs and thereafter to adjust it annually."

And recognising the ill-feeling the Labour Government created for itself among students and other education groups on this question, the National Party promised to "consult with student bodies, professional organisations and affected institutions on all aspects needed to reform the bursary system."

After some pressure from NZUSA and other education groups last year, the Education Department called a conference to discuss desirable reforms to the tertiary bursary system in December. Eighteen organisations took part in that conference representing students, teachers, the universities, technical institutes, teachers' colleges and others.

Working on the basis of consensus, the conference identified two areas where major changes are needed. It felt that the tertiary bursary should be a full support allowance (that is enough money for students to live on during the academic year) which would be regularly increased to take account of inflation costs. It also felt that the boarding abatement -- the cause of many of the problems students face during the present system -- should be abolished.

With government officials taking part in its discussions, the conference was well aware of the costs involved in proposed reforms and therefore agreed that every desirable change could not be made at once.

So it decided that there were several things on which immediate action should be taken for 1977. These included an increase in the present bursary rates to compensate students for inflation throughout 1976, provision to allow technical institute students to get bursary assistance for a second course of study at the institutes, provision to allow seven students transferring to a technical institute to get bursary assistance and the abolition of present restrictions on student employment during the hours of 8am to 10pm.

The conference recognised that these measures were only a small part of the necessary reforms in the bursary system and was also well aware that the Minister of Education has told students that the promised "new reformed bursary" would be introduced for 1978.

So it recommended to the Government that a working party be set up to further investigate other necessary reforms in the bursary system. This proposal was intended as a way of involving education groups in working out the sorts of changes that should be introduced as part of the "new reformed bursary."

To date, the students' associations and other education groups have responded positively to the Minister of Education's call for wider discussion on changes to the present bursary system.

But the time has now come for the Government to take action to honour its promises.

Stop Press: 22nd April.

The Minister of Education has now refused to see the delegation next week on the question of bursaries. Obviously someone in the Cabinet is feeling the heat.

V.U.W. DRAMA SOCIETY

PRESENTS A DOUBLE BILL

DR. FAUSTUS & EVERYMAN

by Christopher Marlowe

April 26-30, 8pm.

UNIVERSITY MEMORIAL THEATRE

Produced by: Jeremy Jay (FAUSTUS) Judith Dale (EVERYMAN)

PUBLIC $2.00. STUDENTS $1.50.

MEMBERS 25c. Reduction.

BOOK AT STUDASS OFFICE OR PHONE 738-566.

TO ALL LAW STUDENTS!

You are all cordially invited to attend V.U.W. Law Faculty Club's contribution to Campus: A Bar Evening and Debate Options at Barrie Hotel, Lenoxion Quay, on Wednesday April 27th. The debate will begin at 9:00 pm at a quarter to eight. In the interests of a dollar, and are expected from Club Committee People, or "at the door."

MALAYSIAN STUDENTS, BIGOTRY AND THE FIVE POWER DEFENCE PACT.

Judging from some of the letters we have been receiving (but not printing) the attitude of New Zealand students towards the debate amongst Malaysian students is indifference and in some cases, intolerance.

I will avoid mentioning the closed-mindedness of some of our fellow students; there are far more important points arising from the debate.

Over the last decade, the student movement in Malaysia has been repressed so much that it now resides in Australia, Britain and New Zealand. Because of the obvious difficulties in running a student movement in a country whose political structure comes fairly close to that of Nazi Germany, Malaysian students involved in informing their fellow students about the political situation at home are forced to conceal their activities.

If they did not do this, they would face indefinite imprisonment under the Internal Security Act without a trial. Furthermore, the Universities Act forbids Malaysian students in any country from involving themselves in any political clubs or activities. We cannot now see the debates of Malaysian students in Salient and elsewhere in this context.

There is no doubt that the New Zealand and Malaysian Government in collaboration, are repressing students in Malaysia.

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There is no doubt that the New Zealand and Malaysian Government in collaboration, are repressing students in Malaysia. The ties of the Five Power Defence Pact are still strong, and are likely to be reactivated in the near future. New Zealand still supports the puppet regime -in Malaya, Singapore and Thailand as a stronghold against Communist sweep from South East Asia and is likely to support them militarily if the need arises.

The case of Hishammuddin Raiss, the former President-elect of the University of Malaya Students' Union, now resident in Australia, is a prime example. His case for political asylum is a convenient one in a normal situation and yet the Australian authorities seem determined to deport him back to Malaysia.

To support political asylum for Hisham is to support the struggle of overseas Malaysian/Singaporean students for social justice in their home countries.

New Zealand students must awake to the needs of our Malaysian brothers and sisters as it is possible that we may be needed very soon when action is taken against overseas students in New Zealand.

Looking around the Salient office one could be excused for thinking the masses were gathering for a coup d'etat. Members of the crowd could be seen lurking under light-tubas while the Editor, David Murray of "who are, undemocratic -ists?" looked worried. Behind him, in the shadows the forces were gathering - Cameron Hoyers, Rose Collins and Rose Scratchley armed with a multitude of junkets and promises for the future. As the crowd gathered, the editor thought a storm was coming. As the door burst open and the crowd scattered into the storm, the editor thought it was the death of the Liberal Party. As the storm passed by, he thought it was the death of the Liberal Party. As the storm passed by, he thought it was the death of the Liberal Party.

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Cambodia's Human Side


The western media has, since the time of liberation, given the Revolutionary government of Cambodia [Kampuchea] an extremely hard time. Reports of massacres and forced evacuations have been made by hundreds of refugees, but we attempt to show the other side of a country which has been torn apart by imperialism and war, which is now struggling for national sovereignty and independence.

The Australian government recently rejected approaches from the Cambodian government (the government of the Revolutionary Kampuchea) on the possibility of resuming diplomatic relations. The U.S. government has provided some of its resources, to use the words of Hildebrand and Porter, "gone to great lengths to paint a picture of a country ruled by the Khmer Rouge, without human feelings, determined to reduce their country to barbarism. Starvation and Revolution is an effort to set the record straight as to the cruciation of the history of the Cambodian world and the beginning of the new government."

The Politics of Starvation in Phnom Penh

At the time of the Lon Nol coup in 1970 (see text accompanying map) "starvation and mass emigration to rice-exporting countries. Between 1970 and its final collapse in April 1975, the Lon Nol regime steadfastly lost control of farmland to the forces of the United Front of National Liberation of Cambodia (NUCK), the area it controlled dropping from 26 to 5,000 to 500,000 hectares in 1974; in addition, productivity in those areas it did control deteriorated, as a result of the displacement of peasants into the Lon Nol army, damage to cropland and machinery, etc; at the same time, nearly 2 million refugees were pouring into towns held by Lon Nol. As to the reasons for this exodus from the country, the authorities state "Interviews with Cambodian refugees conducted by the US General Accounting Office in 1971 revealed that NUCK refugees, moved from the countryside specifically because of US bombing of their area. See Congressional Record, April 9, 1973."

The problems caused by a decreased food supply and a massively increased population were aggravated by wholesale profiteering and corruption: according to the " Cambodian Crisis " of the Kemher Republic (i.e., the Lon Nol government), "fully 46.8% of the rice that was supposed to be distributed in one neighbourhood of Phnom Penh was stolen by the administration."

As Phnom Penh became more isolated by continuing NUKF victories, the population went on a near famine, and the authors cite many witnesses to the prevalence of hunger and a high death rate by starvation. Yet during 1973-1975 the US government provided $748 million in aid to Lon Nol, of which only $1.1 million went for assistance to refugees. "Virtually all the rest supported either military equipment or salaries."

And of this, the US General Accounting Office estimated that between $750,000 and $1 million every month was being paid to corrupt commandants as pay for "phantom" and even "non-existent" meals. The standard of living of Cambodia's elite rose accordingly. General Lon Non, the President's brother, left the country in 1973 with an estimated $100 million (Washington Post, June 31, 1975). Yet while the war to defend the Lon Nol regime became more and more obviously futile, the Ford administration tried to prolong it for one more year. The author quotes General H.M. Fish, director of the Pentagon's Defense Security Assistance Agency, testifying to Congress on February 3, 1975: "We seek only to keep them alive and fighting through the remainder of this fiscal year. Herein, while thousands starved in Phnom Penh, the US airlifted 565 tons of ammunition to the city each day."

The Evacuation of Phnom Penh

In April 1975 NUKF moved the population of Phnom Penh and other cities to the countryside. This action was described in the world's press as an attempt to replace the main mass of the young, educated people of the Khmer Republic in Phnom Penh and Hildebrand and Porter examine the Western media's attack on NUKF. They conclude that it was based on an account written 3 weeks after the evacuation by a simple soldier, Sydney Schanberg. (It appeared in the New York Times, May 9, 1975.) The account contained no consistent eyewitness reports on how evacuation was carried out. Food, medical treatment, transportation, or the general treatment of refugees, Schanberg did, however, quote received from Western observers who were in the French Embassy in Phnom Penh, which his "evidence" Schanberg created the legend of the "death march."

Hildebrand and Porter set the evacuation in context by pointing out that 5 out of every 6 Cambodians living in Phnom Penh were refugees in the countryside who had no reason for staying in a city threatened with an epidemic of cholera one week and 500,000 the next week, once the explosion of the Tonle Sap flooded that area. When the war ended, there was only enough food left in the city to last a few days: in the countryside, however, NUKF had prepared stocks of food for the refugees. Further, the labor of these refugees was urgently needed "to bring in the dry season harvest and to prepare the rice fields for the primary rainy season crop, which would be harvested in late October and will provide additional efforts of the people from the cities would cause the difference between a rice deficit or rice surplus in 1976. The evacuation was therefore, a rational project. But it was ruthlessly carried out! The authors cite the following:

- "Revolutionary soldiers used evacuates against cholera as they were leaving the city (New York Times, June 23, 1975)
- "Evidence does not support the charge that evacuates were used as a guillotine to march in appalling conditions conditions."

The "Death March" story was fostered by US government statements, including "intelligence reports." Hildebrand and Porter quote numerous first hand reports to support the contention that the evacuation was carefully carried out (with every possible provision being made to feed and shelter the evacuees.) Richard Boyle and the Colorado Daily reported seeing "relay stations and rest stops along the road out of Phnom Penh, where the Khmer Rouge troops protected women and Buddhist monks supplied refugees with food and water."

Father Jacques Engelmann, a Benedictine priest with nearly 2 decades of experience in Cambodia, wrote that "there was enough food for everyone. At night, they would stop and have a meal of rice and sleep." He also reported that the priests who helped the refugees out of the evacuation "were not to witness any cruelties." None of the refugees interviewed in Thailand (New York Times, June 23, 1975) reported having been mistreated by the soldiers during the evacuation. Eye witnesses also recounted instances of old people who refused to leave if they had to walk: soldiers immediately provided them with transport.

After the evacuation, the say the efforts were made to rehabilitate the cities. At the end of the war, Phnom Penh was completely without services, because of sabotage of the electric power plant, the water filtration plant and the port; its streets were piled with garbage, and its hospital system in a state of collapse. By September 1975, the city had been cleaned up, factories were functioning and the people were nearly 100,000 in number and rising. Further, the hospital system, which the US Inspector General of Foreign Assistance had described as "crude and insanitary," was being restored in the context of a new NUKF medical system: One of the first moves by the new government in the war was to remove the last of the old French army doctors from the city and the other cities. Hospitals were cleaned and made sanitary for the first time in known memory. When they were actually restored to normal operation.

"All the hospitals were closed down, even temporarily. The one hospital in Phnom Penh that was considered to offer adequate medical care, the formerly French-run Calmette hospital, continued to operate without the French doctors. The first French doctor to reach the French embassy after being expelled from Calmette hospital told everyone that the hospital was abandoned and its patients forced to join the march to the countryside. But ten other French doctors who arrived later that same evening contradicted this report. "We have the impression that they are replacing us with their own doctors," they quoted saying, "and in any case the hospital is functioning normally. This was later confirmed by journalists and other foreign observers, who learned that Calmette was continuing to operate with an entirely Khmer staff."

"(Paris Match May 10, 1975; Colorado Daily, May 7, 1975)."

Cambodia's Agricultural Revolution

Since the NUKF victory, the Western media has made free with quotations "starvation experts" and "western diplomats" alleging that many thousands of Cambodians have died because of the irrational behaviour of the revolutionaries. The source of the allegations is reasonably clear, says Hildebrand and Porter. They quote the Far Eastern Economic Review, August 25, 1975.

"US Secretary of State Kissinger has been actively linking White House intelligence including predictions that 1 million Cambodians will die in the next 2 months. When challenged to produce evidence for this and similar predictions, the US administration was quite unable to do so. In fact, say Hildebrand and Porter, the evidence shows that agriculture has made enormous strides under NUKF leadership. The crop harvested at the end of 1975 and beginning of 1976 was described by NUKF radio as "generally good through all the regions. The British Commonwealth Rice Bulletin (November 1975) called the crop "very good, apart from the south-west and west, where rainfall was lower."

"Interviews with recent Khmer exiles in Thai land, the Christian Science Monitor called the crop "excellent" (February 4, 1976) and said it announced it "one of the best in years. (January 21, 1976)."

Hildebrand and Porter show that, far from being national primitives, the Cambodian revolutionaries are practical and far sighted men (they note that Kheu Sampan, NUKF leader, holds a doctorate in economics from the University of Paris, his dissertation, The Economy of Cambodia and its Problem with Industrialisation, being the first serious study of Cambodia's ties with the outside world. They note that the re-introduction of two rice crops a year is the most important agricultural development. In 1960, rice was made possible by a concentrated effort to control the country's water resources, by a policy of self-reliance, and by utilising the traditional co-operative spirit of the Khmer community."

This summary cannot do justice to the author's careful, detailed and well-documented account of "Starvation and Revolution in Cambodia." The book cannot be too highly recommended, not for development in 600 years, it is all about Cambodia, but for its value as an expose of a particularly pernicious press campaign.
We present here the "other side" of an industrial dispute. We suggest that complaining students have a read and then make up their minds.

The dispute concerned is the bus-drivers strike. Gerard Couper interviewed the Secretary of the National Tramways Union, Mr. Stubbs.

Henry was a student at Vic up until 1974 and his experience may prove educative to people who read on.

SALIENT: Could you give us some of the background to the present dispute? Mr. Stubbs: Yes – the dispute goes back to December 75 and we lost a new award and the employers crossed-filied. That took us a year to get rid of that cross-filing.

The second thing the employers did was to insist on part-time workers. Every time we met they insisted we had to give them part-time workers before they would discuss anything.

Then our National Secretary resigned and the matter was put in the hands of Tom Skinner as arbitrator. Tom was busy all of last year with wage orders, industrial legislation, work meetings, special conferences – we were busy and the Tramways Union got left to its own devices.

The pressure started to come (from the Tramways Union) towards the end of last year and the upshot of it was that meetings were held in Auckland – informal meetings to get things going and a working party was set up, consisting of six members of the Union, a number of employers, and Tom Skinner, who is always in the background. This working party produced a document known as the G Celtic Document.

The document says a number of things. It outlines the type of claims the employers would like if they drew the claim for part-time workers.

It was agreed to a formula for settlement by the working party, and it was recommended by the working party to the employers for acceptance. It was also a set of proposals completely without prejudice to both parties – all this is clearly stated in the document.

Now the employers agreed to withdraw their applications which would allow us to go into our own agreements, so we got rid of the cross-filing. They agreed to drop their claim for part-time workers so we were away again.

The document is called the G Celtic Document.

The working party recommended the document back to the union's senators who took one look at it and said it was a sacrifice of bloody documents – it's going to screw us silly – it's going to work our fellows 11 hours a day or 14 hours a day and we aren't going to have any of it.

The employers cried foul, breach of agreement. We agreed to the document, but the senators said, no. And we agreed to refer it to the secretariat, to make sure. And the National Secretary took the document around the country and explained fully the implications and the consequences to me and the National Executive – if you settle on the basis of that document you've got to get the bloody thing written down and none of us are going to go back to those hours of work.

SALIENT: What were the claims made by the employers? Mr. Stubbs: The employers wanted much more flexibility of rostering hours. They wanted to shift lengths extended from 8½ to 10½ hours maximum (already a bloody long driving hours in heavy traffic), 11 hours. They wanted broken shifts (shifts with a gap in the middle) extended from a 12 hour to a 14 hour spread. They wanted broken shifts to sign off later and wanted to keep the percentage of broken shifts to a minimum.

They wanted to increase the length for driving times without a meal from 4½ hours to 5½ hours and no other worker has to work five hours without a break, let alone another involved in such a strenuous job.

And to add insult to injury they wanted us to clean the buses, the clothes, the lavatories, clean the depot, sweep the yard. We told them to stuff it.

SALIENT: And what are the union claims? Mr. Stubbs: We as a union are insisting that we be paid an adequate shift allowance. At the moment our bus drivers start at five o'clock in the morning one week – the next week they are doing the late shift, which is somewhere around midnight, or they might do a broken shift. If they do a broken shift, which generally has got a split in the middle, they work over a spread of 12 hours – 6.30am to 6.30pm. These are pretty anti-social hours; so we want a standard shift allowance to compensate for this, though money can never compensate for loss of enjoyment of life. Now we get 50c an hour at the moment – it is a postage stamp. We demand a shift allowance of 4½ of the hourly rate. The bus drivers at the moment earn about $2.51 an hour, so this would give us just over $3.00. The employers have offered us $1.20.

We have workers who work from ten and eleven at night right through until seven in the morning, cleaning buses and doing some routine maintenance that their shift allowance should of course be higher. We want it to go from the present 14c an hour to an allowance equal to the hourly rate. The other most important claim is for service increments; for every service there would be a progressive rise in the hourly rate to recognise the loyalty, the skill that you acquire as you stay in the job year after year.

We have many men who have been driving buses and trains for thirty-five years who earn exactly the same rate as the student who comes in and drives buses over the Christmas holidays. We are not going to let them continue. Most industries already provide for service increments in the awards. We would have increments ranging from 7½c on the hourly rate up to 50c on the hourly rate after fifteen years, so that means effectively something like $140 a year rising to $360 a year and that's bigger all for a man that's been on the job for 35 years.

The other thing we want is maternity leave: six months unpaid maternity leave for all our women with the right to come back on the job with all the accumulated bonuses; sick leave, holidays etc. The employers have said that they will consider re-employing a woman after she has been away and had a baby, but on the mean time, when she reaches three months pregnancy she has to go. Now the industry is providing maternity leaves for women – therefore they have to recognise the problem women face.

The other most important matter is an extra week's holiday for our day workers after which we would like to give the employees four weeks holiday. Again people who have stuck around for five years or more should be given enough time to know the industry, to show they are prepared to be loyal – and this should be reviewed.

SALIENT: What do you think of the recent claim by Dunedin City Councils that such extra benefits cost $2,000 a year per employee?

Mr. Stubbs: That is bullshit based on poor information and bad economics.

We started the award proceedings with many many claims and granted each one as it had been whitewashed down. What we have asked for – this shift payment – would have been an extra $3.00 a year. (approximately) The service claims an average $200 a year – this maternity leave would cost them nothing. The shift work would have to gain about $500 a year, the day work would have a year; but only after five years.

SALIENT: What has the rank and file union support been like?

Mr. Stubbs: The rank and file has been marvellous.

I've attended showdown meetings in all centres and enforced the basic conditions or what the claims are and without exception I've received almost unanimous support. They are well aware of the threats being made by the employers, they fear the consequences of dragging these strikes, and they've told me: "stuff Musto's law" we want our employers to start meeting us around the table and no industrial relations acts are going to give them a cloak to hide behind.

SALIENT: Have the Government made any moves to involve themselves in this dispute?

Mr. Stubbs: The employers want the Government to get involved and they called a meeting with the Government; the meeting being held today (Thursday) Mr. Gordon got in touch with me and I visited him yesterday afternoon with two branch officials. The Minister wanted to know what had happened since the dispute began and since we were last in his office in 1975. We brought him up to date; he was amazed that there was nothing more involved and couldn't believe that the battles had broken down on the small points that existed. I indicated to him that I was most unhappy that the employers had called on the Government and that this was an attempt by the employers to hide behind the Government and get the Government to cobble us.

I said that there was too much Government interference whether it was through the Minister or indirectly through the Industrial Relations Act; if the Minister gave the unions and employers more scope for thrashing things out on their own he might have quite a different industrial scene today. Mr. Gordon and that the Government does not want to get involved and that he was not going to get involved at that stage. I took this as a hopeful sign.

Applications are now being called for members of the Student Delegation to the People's Republic of China. The tour leaves for China on Friday 10th July and returns on Sunday 31st July. During their stay in China the delegation will visit the following cities: Kwantung, Peking, Shanghai, Changsha and Kevlin. The cost will be approximately NZ$1475 which includes international airfares Wellington/Hongkong return and accommodation, food, travel and translation service within China. NZUSA is arranging bank loans for those who need them.

The following criteria will be applied to candidates:
(1) Candidates must be over 18
(2) Candidates should be willing and able to freely converse about the nature of New Zealand society.
(3) The Selection Committee will be looking for people who can co-operate with other members of the party and who are capable of making group decisions.
(4) Candidates should be willing and able to speak, write and generally share their impressions of the People's Republic of China on their return to New Zealand.
(5) Candidates should take an active interest in student life.
(6) Attendance at an orientation seminar shall be compulsory.

Candidates will be selected by an interviewing procedure. Every effort will be made for candidates with special interests, e.g. education, medicine, farming, etc., to visit areas of relevance to them.

Applications should deal with the selection criteria and should be sent to: The Chairman, China Selection Committee, P.O. Box 9047, Wellington.

All applications should be postmarked 2nd May or before. All applications will be dealt with in confidence.
SGM - pay rises for some

At the Special General Meeting of the Students’ Association held last Wednesday in the Union Hall, two items of interest were raised. Firstly, that of honoraaria for Association officers and secondly the question of how much notice the Executive should give of student opinion expressed at meetings. Exec. increases.

Steve Underwood and Peter Gillkinson brought forward a motion which sought to raise the President’s honoraarium from $2,000 to $3,000 per year and that of the Treasurer (at present Mr Underwood himself) from $650 to $1,000. Mr Underwood informed the meeting that the payments had not been increased since March 1973, and since then inflation, together with the great increase in the Association — both in size and scope of activities — meant that the amounts at present were far too small.

Last year’s President, Gyles Beckford, spoke strongly in favour of the increase. He emphasised that the job of Pres. was a full-time one which demanded long and odd hours to be put in. Working late into the night and on weekends was common. He also pointed out that although an appointment was for a year, the President worked for some 14 months — from December of the preceding year to January or February of the following.

Several speakers stressed that to ask the Association President to live on $420 per week for days on end, on a full-time job was ridiculous — many students could earn that from part-time jobs. After side-tracking the motion into taxation and an unsuccessful amendment to reduce the increases, the motion was carried. Another motion which increases to other Executive members was not discussed as it appears to have become fashionable at student meetings to ignore any agenda order and move to whatever makes the meeting’s whim dictates. So it looks as if the other Exec members will have to stavie for a few more weeks yet.

Arts Council Furore

The second highlight of the afternoon came just before the meeting was due to close at 2pm. The 250 people present at the start of the meeting had dropped to about 60, and Steve Underwood seemed sure of slipping his motion through this institutional machine. It was not to be. Mr Underwood’s motion wanted the Association to decide not to join the New Zealand Student Arts Council Inc. To aid him in his personal battle he had distributed large amounts of literary material outlining his case (no doubt having access to office duplicators if one of the perils of being on the Executive). Those of you who attended an SRC meeting before Easter will no doubt remember that the question of NZSAC’s membership of NZSAC was thrashed out then and SRC directed the Executive to affix the Association’s Common Seal to the certificate of incorporation of NZSAC. In the three weeks which had passed since that meeting the Executive had strangely failed to act on this directive. Then at Wednesday’s meeting, Mr Underwood, without mentioning that the Association had policy on the matter, sought confirmation of his motion “so that this Association could have policy to act on at May Council.” Council. However time and the meeting were against him, and after calls to extend the closing time (refused) and adjourn the meeting till the next day (also refused), the present rejected the motion.

This incident raises the question of how much importance Executive members place on SRC decisions when those decisions are contrary to their personal beliefs. Students would do well well to scrutinize the Executive and those delegates being sent to May NZUSA Council that they have been elected to represent, the 6,000 students at Victoria — not to ride their own hobbyhorses.

May Council Delegates.

Speaking of delegates, the following were elected to attend the May Council of NZUSA being held in Christchurch during the vacations —

-- Executive delegates — Lindy Cassidy and Bruce Robinson.

Finance and Administration — Steve Underwood and Tom Draydon.

Education — Lamorna Rogers and — Andrew Moore-Jones.

International — James Movick and Brian Taylor.

-- Student representatives — Kevin Swann and Margaret Casey.

-- Student reps — Sue Hannah and Leonie Morris.

Welfare — Peter Gillkinson and Andy Moore-Jones.

-- Student rep — David Murray and Neil Gray.

The meeting also passed a motion calling upon the Australian Government through its High Commissioner to give political asylum to Hishammuddin Rais — a Malaysian student at present in Australia. If pushed home to his country faces almost certain imprisonment for his activities there as a student leader. About the mysterious motion from Peter Thrush which I understand had something to do with signing cheques for Sports Council — in his own words “very minor” — very confusing.

The meeting closed at 2.10pm. with few items on the agenda dealt with — in spite of a time-limit being placed on speakers. There’ll be chocolate fish all round for the day’s session dismissed. Completes its business within the allotted time! Don’t forget it’s Capping Week!

— Peter Gibbs.

Monday’s event had a good turn-out of (10) spectators to see their officers in action. Which was a heartening sight indeed. When closed committee time came round and I got the boat they were careful in form of the minute uninterrupted in their sleep; I hoped that the exec would turn on hitronics and a show of functionalism to delight their eye — but no they bored the hell off one and all.

Bursaries.

(Our older and wiser brothers)

Peter Frankland and NZUSA, in all their sagacity, were present. After looking at the young folk they put a few ideas forward on what sort of action students could take and plans for a mobilisation on the Bursary issue. Some of the ideas were:

1. A student backed letter writing campaign to the Minister of Education (remind the Minister or his office will reply to all letters).

2. A leaflet to be distributed at lectures lectures outlining all the arguments.

3. Strip cartoons in student papers over several issues as well as articles.

4. Posters associated with letter writing campaign.

5. Time on TV.

Uncle Peter and the Beagle Boys.

Peter Thrush gave an account of the Easter Tournament. The sports went fine and were of a high standard. The results aren’t out yet but dear old Victoria might be on the victory data. NZASA had a debatable game about the poor showing by Exec members. He thanked Lindy and Kevin Swann for their help. The Ball lost money. There was a huge number of gate crashes, window crashes and an assortment of other crashes including one unfortunate falling off the roof. Peter said that on more than one occasion he went into the toilets and he found the Beagle Boys climbing through the windows — he was forced to kick them out of the bin. Peter requested that, to prevent recurrences, the Union Windows have iron bars over them and the Union Building be renamed Codizt.

Arts Council.

The Council was brought up, re-digested and brought up again. People felt it was necessary to repeat things to repeat things to repeat things. Had I not been to earlier Exec meetings I would have got the impression that they were trying to bore me to death, so I’d never return to plague them with my articles.

Steve Underwood was strongly against going into an incorporated Arts Council with the Arts Council performance up to date and is dubious as to whether it will improve with time. His idea is to get hell out of it in March 78 (the earliest possible). If it is to do worse improve — what’s stopping us from applying for re-admission. Andy Moore-Jones argued for staying in and if it craps out we can drop it. If we pull out now it’s likely the whole thing will collapse and then we’ll have nothing to re-apply for. Steve asked if this wasn’t what we’ve already got. He believes it would be a damn night easier to get out at this stage than if/when we plunge into an incorporated body. Moore-Jones thought this was rubbish but had difficulty articulating a clear argument.

Underwood: “What do we get for our $2,500 (or $2500) — people selling us things.”

If for sale for money goes, Arts Council is a bit of a disaster. We pay to be in Arts Council and then we pay again for acts like Country Joe. To Underwood it made little difference whether the set up was Incorporated or not.

The question of participation in Arts Council is a very important one and obviously one which the students should and did decide. Both sides of the argument were not presented at the exec meeting and thus they do not appear here.

Absent Olymptics

O you muses that dwell on campus tell me who was absent from exec? “Catherine Paterson.” Thank you Rob Moore-Jones told the meeting he had received virtually no help from the WVP on Olymptics when she had been directed by the Executive to do.

Her performance as WVP scarcely deserves a buzz bar and a bag of cafe chips, let alone $300. Her position on the executive must surely be brought into question if a more active role in student affairs does not promptly emerge. Peter Thrush defended her poor performance by informing the meeting that Catherine was doing five units. Is that supposed to excuse her? It can be fairly said if her workload is to do as heavy as to drastically impede her performance as an Association Officer she should not have stood for the position.

The meeting itself was quite amicable, which may in part have contributed to the low attendance. It had on me. If you have trouble sleeping I would prescribe an exec meeting — it’s a great sleeping pill substitute. In all honesty they are often quite interesting.

All welcome. Your university. Your money. You’ll hear from me soon.

P.S. I should like to apologise for an error in my last article regarding deregistering. A typing error, I assure you! My Typist has since discovered.

-- Eugene Doyle.
by TERRY AULD.

A homogeneous American philosopher once said, "It's better to know what you can't do than how much you know what it can't do." This Prime Minister's remark appears to be an accurate reaction to the wisdom of their words. Mr. Muddison knows what it can't do and he eagerly shares his knowledge with the world.

In Australia, the Prime Minister declared that "The Trilateral Commission is a presence in the world's affairs. It is a body that reflects the current state of world affairs. It is a body that represents the interests of all countries. It is a body that represents the interests of all citizens."

According to its first director, Zbigniew Brzezinski, the Trilateral Commission was set up by two key factors. One was the need to rebuild the US foreign policy consensus that had been damaged by the Vietnam War. The other was the need to provide a forum for the world's leading economists and policymakers to discuss the future of the global economy.

One of the key figures in the Trilateral Commission was the economist and political analyst, Paul Volcker. Volcker was a leading economist in the United States and a key figure in the formation of the Trilateral Commission.

The Trilateral Commission's work was to bring together leaders from the United States, Japan, and Europe to discuss the world's economic and political challenges.

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The Trilateral Commission's work was to focus on the issues of economic policy, trade, and international relations.
Hishamuddin Rais
Political Asylum Now!

A successful picket was held by Victoria students last Wednesday at the Australian High Commission. The 40 or so people there were urging the Australian Government to grant political asylum to Hishamuddin Rais.

Rais, former President of the Federation of Associated Students, was forced to escape from Malaysia under threat of detention and possibly torture. He was granted temporary residence but was then arrested by Australian police.

If Hishamuddin is deported back to Malaysia he will face indefinite detention without trial as has happened with other Malaysian student leaders. He may also be killed — he won’t be the first.

The issue is of great importance to Malaysian students and students from Third World countries in general. Conditions in New Zealand and Australia are making it harder and harder to get involved in political activities.

During the picket, a delegation of four students from NZUSA and VWSA attempted to see the High Commissioner. They were politely told to piss off.

It is no secret that Australia is very tough on the issue. The High Commission admitted to NZUSA that Canberra has ordered an official silence on the matter.

It was noticeable that the New Zealand Government were tough about the affair and the activities of Malaysian students in New Zealand. Present at the picket were two SIS agents in white Corita (ID 994) who tried to photograph brave Malaysian students who had turned out with bags over their heads.

For the New Zealand students who attended the picket it was an expression of solidarity with our Malaysian brothers and sisters. For the Malaysians who turned out at the risk of persecutions in the future, it was a further episode in the continuing struggle for social justice in their homeland.

ABOVE: Our friend Hishamuddin Rais
BELOW LEFT: Some of the crowd at the picket outside the Australian High Commission
BELOW RIGHT: Lee Razak demonstration SIS agents leave the picket after trying to photograph Malaysian students.

News from Malaysia & Singapore

Lee instigates arrests of Malaysians.

The recent ‘confession’ of Arum Selvaratnam, the Singapore correspondent for Financial Times and former correspondent for Far Eastern Economic Review (see Review) on March 13 at the government armagedg Pan-Malay Congress and the arrest of students who were trying to rob the office of the Singapore Straits Times on February 13, have raised a lot of suspicion and doubt over the credibility of Singapore ‘confessions.’

Arum had ‘confessed’ to writing ‘distorted’ articles to portray the Government of Malaysia in the worst possible light. However, a ‘follow up’ story by the Financial Times in London, dated March 12, 1975, suggests that Arum was simply doing his job as a reporter to ‘illustrate the curious nature of the confession.’

It is clear that the Review interviewed Arum without giving him an opportunity to defend himself. In Singapore, for instance, Arum was printed as if he were a criminal. The Review interviewed Arum at length but did not give him a chance to defend himself. The Review interviewed Arum at length but did not give him a chance to defend himself.

The Review expressed similar views regarding those articles written by Arum in the magazine. The Review quoted one example of an article which Arum said was distorted as being “the worst possible light.” However, Arum was not given an opportunity to defend himself. The Review interviewed Arum at length but did not give him a chance to defend himself.

The Review then suggested that the Singapore government was too autocratic and autocratic in their treatment of the student leaders. The Review then suggested that the Singapore government was too autocratic and autocratic in their treatment of the student leaders. The Review then suggested that the Singapore government was too autocratic and autocratic in their treatment of the student leaders. The Review then suggested that the Singapore government was too autocratic and autocratic in their treatment of the student leaders.

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Lee instigates arrests of Malaysians.

The recent ‘confession’ of Arum Selvaraman, the Singapore correspondent for Financial Times and former correspondent for Far Eastern Economic Review (see Review) on March 13 at the government armagedg Pan-Malay Congress and the arrest of students who were trying to rob the office of the Singapore Straits Times on February 13, have raised a lot of suspicion and doubt over the credibility of Singapore ‘confessions.’

Arum had ‘confessed’ to writing ‘distorted’ articles to portray the Government of Malaysia in the worst possible light. However, a ‘follow up’ story by the Financial Times in London, dated March 12, 1975, suggests that Arum was simply doing his job as a reporter to ‘illustrate the curious nature of the confession.’

It is clear that the Review interviewed Arum without giving him an opportunity to defend himself. In Singapore, for instance, Arum was printed as if he were a criminal. The Review interviewed Arum at length but did not give him a chance to defend himself. The Review interviewed Arum at length but did not give him a chance to defend himself.

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The piggy goes...
For those not in the know, New Zealand Students Arts Council had its beginnings in a national festival. The annual Students Arts Festival was the prestigious event on the university calendar. Every August vacation, the festival was the cultural counterpart of Sports Tournaments. The emphasis was on the exchange of campus cultural clubs and intercampus cultural competitions. The first Students Arts Festival took place at Otago University in 1959.

The festivals themselves were initially quiet affairs. It was more of a cultural exchange exercise, with a token greeting and individual meetings with the like-minded from their fellow campuses. By the 1968 Auckland Festival, spectators had begun to appear. Students travelled from all parts of the country to "be at Arts Festival," with many opportunities either as a participant or as a spectator. The festivals became so popular that they supplemented Sports Tournaments as the place to go. Outside cultural groups began to appear on campus in 1969. In Wellington, the emphasis was on the exchange of groups, with a massive influx of "non-participating" students.

The peak in the concept of a consumer festival occurred in Auckland in 1972. The festival had come to include the appearance of international artists. It also hosted a major New Zealand rock group, experimental theatre groups, environmental displays, multi-media activities, a third world cinema festival, modern dance groups, etc. Large numbers of students attended but the festival barely broke even. This was the 14th New Zealand Students Arts Festival.

The most recent Arts Festival occurred the following year in Christchurch. The concept had altered somewhat. As a reaction to the consumer approach in Auckland, the Council proposed a festival where all were participants. This was modelled on the Nimbin Festival in Australia, where the prevailing culture dictated a radical approach to the arts. All attendees were active and all contributed to the substance of the festival. The concept did not succeed. The popular events at the festival were the consumer activities, e.g., selling Yellow Submarine for the tenth time.

NSAC saw no need to foster Arts Festivals past this point. There was no general proposal for 1974 and, indeed, none since. $10 DEAL has arisen from many enquires and demands by students on campus whether because they have any special memory of past festivals or because the concept is still important. It seems desirable to many students to resurrect the arts festival, mindful of both the historical significance and value of the concept. At present plans encompass only $10 DEAL — we have no idea whether such a festival should be annual or not. Wellington was chosen as the site for $10 DEAL for a number of reasons:

1. central location which facilitates travel from all parts of the country;
2. a central student union complex, close to city venues, with many opportunities for exploring the city itself;
3. a large and diverse community, in the centre which will materialise into a bustling arrangement;
4. the arts council head office for which an office can be made available for assistance in contact, financial services, secretarial and overall supervision.

$10 DEAL is a larger budget commercial proposition, adequately financed rather than a shoestring attempt that would be bound to fail.

At present there is no opportunity for campus cultural groups to meet and exchange ideas and experience. $10 DEAL will provide this opportunity. The advantages of inter-campus cultural exchange are obvious. The many cultural clubs on campuses throughout New Zealand work in total isolation. Yet these clubs have much in common and much to gain from liaising with their counterparts in other centres. The only method of achieving effective cultural exchange amongst constituents is to provide a forum for this exchange to take place.

Students can meet and take part in exhibitions, performances, workshops, jam sessions, etc. in every conceivable cultural activity found on campuses throughout New Zealand. This can only act as a stimulus for further creativity, as well as providing an opportunity for a good time for like-minded people.

$10 DEAL would be yet another positive contribution from students to the community, notwithstanding the fact that the public would provide a source of revenue for such an occasion.

The cultural exchange is not only in the formal artistic sense. Arts Festival has traditionally provided for a period when students intermingles in a more general sense. A house full of students from 4 or 5 different universities sees cultural exchange at another level. People went to arts festivals and didn't see daylight for a week. They always had a fucking good time. Arts Council has a role in fostering the gathering of students for general interaction and social intercourse. This is what Arts Festival is all about. It provides people to be together, to share and to enjoy.

During the development of a national cultural body, the arts festival rose to a peak of activity and then quietly subsided into obscurity. There was no fantastic or incredible financial loss, as did occur in Australia. The concept of the festival merely disappeared. The Council now has no meaningful role in the diversified, being spread over the whole year on a regular tour-type basis.
THE PERFORMING ARTS

You can speculate all night with a cigarette in your hand but you will never know just ow it was unless you invest now. There can be no doubt that in the area of the performing arts $10 DEAL is going to make everything else look like a canary in an existential cage. This is YOUR chance to participate in the hottest acquisition that the performing arts have ever made on one town in this country. We will buy YOU the streets but you will have to march in them. $10 DEAL will constitute the most radical and adventurous expansion of all the areas of the performing arts—that’s not a rumor, that’s a promise—in this country since the pioneers sang Schumman under the kowhai tree.

If the performing arts have any future at all, this is where it will begin. A theater, artist, or simply another sentient being, you want to take part in this one. We are loath to sentimentalize the performing arts but for the sake of organization we have settled upon four main areas to explore: Theatre, Dance, Poetry and Global Message (Multi-media Events).

In these four areas we are looking for the authentic expression in each case, we are looking for the statement that changes the way we look at the world. We want the best...the best work anybody can perform in this country! We must show the best work because the performing arts will lose any serious claim to our attention or imagination if there is failure. This could be the way we end the arms race.

Theatrical events will be hosted in a wide variety of settings: the university theatre will be a pivot but high-flyers should aim for the State Opera House; the simply gifted can aim for the cabaret spots at late-night speak-easies. Wellington has an incredibly volatile theatrical life—a dozen companies, from the established to the near-unknown, carve out a wide patch of life between them.

Wellington itself will be our performing space. The streets of Wellington are the freest from crime of any, so there is a lot of space for us. Shopping malls, pavements, botanical gardens, the university, the waterfront and the hills are ours to flesh out our dreams and visions. Imagine: a poet reads an ode as seven yellow mailmen dance under the trees and a puppet show of Alice in Wonderland is performed from a balloon which is caught in the wind as a choir sings Amen and an orchestra plays symphonic bird-calls; in a dark circle a hooded figure lillies a virgin and masked fakies climb in wires. This is just one experiment in drama which is now under consideration.

It may come as a shock to poets to find themselves thought of as part of the performing arts, but the medieval troubadours were the first to put English into chansons. We want the poets of the soul, the poets of the real in Wellington during August and we will turn back the waves to get them. A sentence whispered in an ear can be a love poem, a chant shouted by a hundred marchers between skyscrapers can be an epic. There are no restrictions in the performance of poetry.

In the area of modern dance a five-day festival is already signed for. This will entail morning workshops in the performance and theory of modern dance with tutelage by the country’s most gifted professionals. In the afternoon, every evening, whatever modern dance has to offer will be on show and professional performers will give master classes. Modern dance has only recently opened the door of the gymnasium, $10 DEAL will force it into the open.

Remember that you will have to travel to Wellington. You should be aiming at this point for a show that can tour a number of different spaces, you should be modern in your ambitions but medieval in your means. Your productions should be performed several times in your own town as a way to subsidize the travel of your players. Wellington should be the climax of your season—we are not interested in amateur night at the RSA.

If you have scripts, visions, illuminations, movements, experiments, monologues or revolutions to perform, you will be planning now. Let me know what you have.

Sally Rodwell

MUSIC

Music will definitely be numero uno at this festival, the 1977 $10 DEAL. We want every musician to get his axe loose before the rising tide of banter. Bands that want to play the festival had better get in by the official March straightaway because we don’t want a heap of screw-ups when August comes around. When you write, give us a kind of label to help with programming and planning best of venues; keep the categories fairly wide if you want to avoid compromising yourself. For instance, rock, folk, blues, jazz are big words but will help our technical manager to get his switches turned with minimal hassle. At the end of April we will announce details of how a high-ambition group can take part in a rock composer’s concert—this is for original material only. Success in this contest will lead to participation for other companies. We are looking for the group to replace the faltering Split Ends. We want to have a lot of practical information on hand as well. We will show you the business angle and the options that are open to a new group looking for exposure. We hope to be able to clearly explain employment opportunities for the student-musician. You will know if it’s time for you to be thinking about the copyright laws, or about copywriting for commercials, for instance; or you may be thinking about demo tapes and the like. This is a serious business. Alistair Riddell, a regular at Arts Festivals in the north, has just been offered another job by the manager of over-night sensations, Boston.

There is also classical music, a chance for everyone to hear the most experimental as well as the most revered works of the classical mode. For people who want to make music, concepts like church performances, or ‘festival choir’ come to mind. We will have room for spontaneous ventures like scratch orchestras and large jazz aggregates. Bands will be offered jobs in the socials and dances, and the like, which will be another big feature of $10 DEAL.

If you are thinking about music at all you will be considering the entire environment as an area in which to play. Socials and parties will be spliced by musicians but if we hint at bizarre happenings around the peculiar streets and curious by-ways of Wellington. Masked figures of angels on the sides of an insurance building as a quartet plays Ludwig Van. It’s a loose thing, this sort of festival, so you can expect to see your Ideal as you suck mint leaves in a city park watching a high yellow lady cutting Cue Giva on a violin.

OUT OF THE PACKAGE ON THE WALL

From August 20 to August 27 an exhibition entitled “Out of the Package, onto the Wall” will be held to coincide with $10 DEAL. The exhibition will restrict size of all work to A4 format. However, all media will be accepted and no work will be selected.

There will also be provision for student art performance, installation, video and art film screening. This area will be controlled via Wellington and all interested students must submit proposals— including equipment needs by 14 July 1977. Space and limited equipment will be provided free of charge.

This will give the exhibition a rather non precious feeling — something the visual arts body badly needs in New Zealand.

Invitations to participate in this show will be sent to you by the 1st May, 1977. These will be distributed to all students concerned with the visual arts and published in student newspapers to give all students knowledge of the exhibition.

PROPOSAL FOR EXHIBITION “OUT OF THE PACKAGE ONTO THE WALL” FORMAT

All works submitted for the exhibition must be of A4 size, but can be 2 or 3D.

CONDITIONS

Open to all registered students that attend an institution affiliated to NZSAC.

Work in any medium is acceptable providing they conform to the A4 size format. All works become the property of NZSAC unless specified by the submitter. All works will be mounted simply on a modular panel system that would create a spacial environment.

Persons wishing to perform body art, performances and installations, can inform visual arts controllers.

Autobiographical data, documents, photo pieces, art language work, all forms of photographic, verbal, graphic and intermediary are invited, extending upon current concerns investigations and projects in process.

TIMETABLE

Invitation to all tertiary institutions printed on A4 size card to be mass circulated.

Invitations to be designed and printed by mid-May.

Invitations circulated by May 30.

June/July receive works.

Final submission date 1 August.

INVITATION

Will include all relevant details for submission and presentation of the work including deadlines, receiving depot and venue of exhibition.

Prospro — persons wishing to perform body art performance and installations or screen film work please write to Arts Controller at NZSAC stating full details and requirements by 14th July.

EXHIBITION STRUCTURE

All work to be attached on interlocking modular panel system and exhibited at the Wellington Cultural Centre unless a suitable alternative can be found.

We would appreciate all suggestions and enquiries to be sent to the Visual Art Controllers, C/- NZSAC, Wellington. Keep in touch.

Andrew Drummond

Nicholas Spill
THEN & NOW...

ARTHUR BAYSTING

NOW... Jacques Prevert can die and Bing Crosby can fall off the stage. But reliable as inflation, the young poets turn up to try their rhymes. This year a larger than life Jim Baxter will appear.

THEN... Wellington, Graeme Nastbit, Tim Shadbolt and police on campus... Odd rumblings about a war somewhere.

NOW... Political Lars guaranteed. Parliament will be sitting and free daily tours will take place for festivites who feel like an hour or two of live tragi-comedy from the gallery of the second-best theatre in the capital. Staring your friends and mine and especially recommended for aficionados of the bizarre.

THEN... Deapening light verse for laughs as a lead-in to heavy stuff from Carl Steed.

NOW... Splitting time between collaborating on screenplay of Steed's novel for Aardvark movie and doing Neville Purvis at Carmen's Balcony on weekends... Grinding out a stand-up routine for laughs...

Arthur Baysting edited the Arts Festival Literary Yearbook in 1970 and participated in several notorious poetry readings as festival. He has most recently been a scavenger for Aardvark Films, a playwright for radio and a cabaret actor in Wellington.

Hi there! This is The Snowman talking to you, dear, and it's lovely to talk to you. Well, this $50,000 extravaganza is definitely taking place. The $10 DEAL. I mean, a new kind of arts festival伸手 for Wellington and environs, August 22-27. Proposals for this big thing a year or so ago under the stars of Bruce Kirkland, who worked on the campus art circuit. Bruce saw his proposals maneuvered through a subcommittee and through the political apparatus and around January this year the thing started to fall into place. Wellington was chosen as the site so as to keep everything close to headquarters, I suspect. Unfortunately for Kirkland, the bright lights of big cities beckoned and he split the Arts Council. Apparently there was some disappointment over the failure of the politcal heavies in the organisation to take action on his proposal for a students rock promo outing.

Kirkland is gonna be all right however. Close links he has forged with the Evans-Gedunski chain of operations in Australia are gonna pay off well. From May, the erstwhile Director will be domiciled in Melbourne where Evans-Gedunski have their Mushroom Records factory.

Kirkland's replacement at the director's table is Paul Davies from Christchurch. Handpicked by Kirkland, Davies had his first baptism of fire during the Split Enz tour in January. He impressed with his coolness and competence and brings with him five years of running a film and capping business in the river city. He was one of the responsible for the non-legitimate Science Fiction Night which lifted a few ghouls out of the dirt a while ago.

A number of people concerned with the operation of $10 DEAL are biggers in their field... looks like the big competition will be amongst the various controllers to get the brightest and best for their own scene. Nightkeepers in the visual arts are Adele Drummond and Nik Spill of the National Art Gallery. These two advocates of post-object art are making a new juice up the mad in that recognizable institution: ART IN THE MAIL. exhibit drew an angry reaction from the populace. Drummond has arranged showings of the films of Len Lye, a notable work by that young man. If you want to see your film in a night of running orientation and capping in the river city, he was the one responsible for the non-legitimate Science Fiction Night which lifted a few ghouls out of the dirt a while ago.

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FILMS

There will be twelve hours of films per day at $10 DEAL in three different venues. Organizers report that:

1. Foreign films — which we may take to mean all those films not made in the English tongue — Continental will be screened nightly. These sessions will be officially designated as 'non-commercial' which means that the venue is likely to have to restrict by concern for making a dollar. There will be a doubling bill format for these screenings. We are looking for prints of such seminal classics as Wayda's Athe and Diamonds, especially the Rossen's Diary of a Country Priest. Also under negotiation because of incredible public demand will be the Japanese super-classic: The Burmese Harp, the film that changed a whole generation of New Zealanders and the way they think about the world. During the current stint in the capital city there will be programmes of silent comedies. A tradition we are loathe to interfere with.

2. There will, of course, be screenings within the 'commercial' sector. At the University Theatre, will be shown 'triple- hitted', a new monster attraction for Arts Festivals! At eleven pm when honest citizens have gone back to their burrows, we will be bringing you such films as Medium Cool, a retrospective Tarsan, and so forth, all at ticket prices that boggles as Hls Parade of 1931. Tickets are under pressure.

3. A unique season of new films, including ones which have had minimal distribution in this country, are at present being gathered up. These will be projected at a city cinema, possibly in Courtenay Place. Wel- lington based on the stimulus of the current writing we have just lined up the new Aussie flick, Pure Jai, and we have invited its director to the screening to answer questions. Another good property we are grabbing is The Hairdo They Abominate, the nerve-scratching epic of ragge and Rasta power that has never been permitted general release in New Zealand.

So you can see that we are working for you and for the sake of the film. It feels good for once. Ticket prices are low.

We are also organizing, as of this writing, a seminar on the development of a viable film industry in this country. We are not interested in stating the obvious in this area, we want a vociferous and informed pressure group to come out of the seminar for something. We are not looking at the question of censorship and whether or not the new laws are elitist, whether or not we can decently tolerate such a bolt in the arm for democratic principles as we are living in. We want to come out of this with a better deal for audiences and film-makers. We need you now — write and tell us your names and you will become a part of this historic occasion!

Keep your fingers crossed.
Greg Stitt

REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION FOR $10 DEAL IS OPEN. Register charge for students is set at $10.00 (thus, the name $10 DEAL).

Registration cards will entitle the bearer to all events during the festival. Registration cards for $10 DEAL will be available on campus at the beginning of the second term.

Details on registration will be widely published at this time. Buy early if you have a registration card, admission charges to Arts Council touring for hot shots in the second term are to be substantially reduced.

Registeres will receive regular copies of Dealer, the newspaper of $10 DEAL.

It will be possible to obtain tickets to single events but, given costs involved, it is unlikely that admission to any event will be set at lower than $2.00.

Registration card holders will have preference in admission to events. A limited number of registrations will be available to members of the public at $15.00.

Registration is the beginning of your active participation in $10 DEAL!

TECHNICAL REALITIES

— It will be our nearest endeavour to supply most technical needs: sound systems, lights, stage facilities etc.

— When drawing up a proposal for inclusion in our programme, send us a detailed list of your technical requirements, e.g., public address systems, lighting boards, sets, back-drops and the like. Include a stage plan so we can fit the venue to your production.

— You should have a clear idea of what gear you can really realistically transport Wellington and of what you will have to manufacture upon arrival. There is usually a simpler way to do anything, take the simpler option.

— Placement of technical apparatus will be planned and executed in advance so that arrangements are not possible to be able to pick up a free microphone, or to print a 123.

— Please register 1st July as the deadline for applications for technical equipment.

SITUATIONS VACANT

We are a progressive organisation looking to fill a number of vacancies in the development by this Council of $10 DEAL, a national festival of the contemporary arts to be held in Wellington, August 22-27, this year.

We are looking for people who can work without close supervision, people who take responsibilities, accept responsibility.

We ask for inspiration but we desperately need competence. These are highly responsible, stabilizing positions, of a temporary nature, for ambitious young people in today's art world. We are prepared to offer positions advertised will appeal to students. Address all correspondence to the Executive Office, 20 George Street, Wellington.

THE MONEY:

— Limited funding is available for certain projects. Any projects which will be seeking funds from the centre will accompany their applications with a clear definition of the aims of the project, technical requirements, space needed for production or publication, a plausible budget.

— Remember, the sooner you submit your proposal, the quicker it can be dealt with.

— Festival controllers are unable to offer allowances for travel; we suggest that a season of performance outside your own locality in June should be able to cover the travel costs of participants.

— Attach your Cultural Council on campus for funds. Many campuses, surprisingly enough, have funds for this very purpose. Emphasise that you will be representing your campus and argue with passion.

— Your campus may be one of those which still has an Arts Festival Travel Fund. Get your Archivist to check this out!

— Look for group discount rates for travel but if you want to arrange travel by hired minibuses, reserve these early.


BED & BOARD

The Arts Festival Controllers will be running a billeting service for the duration of the festival. We will be printing, possibly, application forms for accommodation in private homes in the city. This will be a vast operation as all students are invited to attend the festival and, in fact, all students are urged to participate and so we will be looking to adequately host a great number.

Mostel units and hotel rooms will be reserved for you if you send your requirements soon enough. You should approach us in the first instance.

One way to arrange a bed could be for members of various clubs to contact the equivalent club in Wellington. You will be contacting the Wellington clubs anyway to co-ordinate competition entries. The equivalent club will make contact with you and you can arrange hostels.

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LOCAL ORGANISERS

An on-campus position. Duties include co-ordination of club liaison for travel and accommodation.

REGISTRARS

Another on-campus position. Duties include the organization of sale of registration cards. We imagine that successful applicants will be able to recruit student sales teams.

DISTRIBUTORS

Responsible for distributing newspapers, information, press releases, programs, flyers etc.

DISC JOCKEYS

Duties rostered with Radio Active, VUWASA.

PROMOTERS

To organise getting student rock groups to Wellington in August and then get them successfully employed.

CONTACT ME NOW:
Cr: The Director, New Zealand Students Arts Council, P.O. Box 9407, Wellington.

GREG STITT

Hi there, grabbers! This is Radio Active here for you all, yes, that means you, all of you amongst our kilo-kilo, baby. Radio Active will be lively enough outside the University Victoria. Boys, they don't dare cut down the masts when our first test play was played. You want you all to know that we have applied for a temporary Medium Wave licence for the duration of $10 DEAL. Hold onto your knickers and get a peep at these proposals for the way we suggest you operate Radio Active during $10 DEAL:

a) We want to use the station as an "artform" — out of our work together, we want to experience and develop realism in kind of psychological changes we go through when we communicate through invisible space.

b) We will commission a taped, original composition during the duration of the festival.

c) One length spot each day will provide up to the minute programme notes, entertain- ment from the festival itself; interviews with festival personalities, observations from dis- tanced activities.

d) A real live production of a drama in a Wellington shop window;

e) A final selection tape titled "The Dream of the $10 DEAL";

f) Broadcasts of programmes contributed by each campus radio station and guest spots for visiting deejays;

g) A final exchange for deejays, scriptwriters, technicians and programmers.

As space and time are finite, we will operate on a first come, first served basis. So keep them post-cards coming in!
International Students Congress

Saturday, May 7.

10 a.m. – 1.30 p.m. Morning Session.
- Union Hall – Welcome by Te Reo Maori and registration.
- Special Topics: Latose Requirements in National Schools, Outbreaks of Sickness in the Family, Malaysian Cutbacks New Work Requirements from Labour Dept.

12 noon – 1 p.m. Lunch - Restaurant.

Afternoon Session.
- 1 – 3 p.m. Continuation of Discussion.
- 3 – 3.15 p.m. Afternoon Tea.
- 3.15 – 5 p.m. Welfare Problems – Lounge and Smoking Room. Speaker: Alison Gibb, Overseas Student Counsellor. Break into small discussion groups.
- 5 p.m. Summary of discussion in open plenary session.
- 5 – 6 p.m. Tea – Restaurant or cafeteria.

Evening Session.
- 6.30 p.m. Lounge and Smoking Room. Topic: Role of Overseas Students while in N.Z. and on return to their own countries, and the role of overseas aid on return to their own countries, and the role of overseas aid.
- Speaker: Alec Mwedi, Peter Harris. Supper.
- 9.30 p.m. Supper.

Sunday, May 8.

Morning Session.
- 9 a.m. Topic: Women’s oppression from a Second and Third World perspective. Speakers: Sandra McClure, Grace Mora, (South Pacific). Guest speaker from the Overseas Women’s Department in Australia.
- 1 – 3 p.m. Neo-colonialism in the South Pacific. Guest speakers from the University of the South Pacific.
- 3 p.m. Afternoon Tea.
- 3.15 p.m. Recreation – Boyd Wilson Field & Gymnasium Soccer games, badminton, table-tennis. Commercial film in Memorial Theatre. Assorted Games; chess, draughts etc.
- 6 – 7 p.m. Tea.

Evening Session.
- 7 – 10 p.m. Cultural Entertainment (organised by MSSA).

Monday, May 9.

Morning Session.
- 9 – 12.00 noon. Topic: A Nuclear Free Zone in the South Pacific and the effects of the Super-power Contention in the South Pacific. Speakers: Kevin Clarke (SPAN) Guest Speakers from the South Pacific.

1 – 2.30 p.m. Lunch.

Afternoon Session.
- 2.30 – 6 p.m. Topic: Colonialism and Neo-Colonialism in South East Asia.
- Speaker: Malcolm Cauldwell, Terry Auld, John Halliday, Prof. Utreki, Vietnamese Student.
- 6 – 8 p.m. Tea – Hang.
- 8 – 12.30 p.m. PARTY.

Tuesday, May 10.

Morning Session.
- 9 a.m. – 12 noon. Student Movements throughout the world. U.S.B.U. Student movements in N.Z. Students from the South Pacific, and an expert on Asian student unions.
- 12 – 1 p.m. Lunch.
- 1 – 4 p.m. Open Plenary.

The theme of the International Students Conference is “Strength through Understanding.” It will be held at Victoria University from May 7-10.

The conference is a biennial event and provides a much needed opportunity for Overseas and New Zealand students to come together and discuss issues of common concern.

This year the conference is going to emphasize welfare, women’s and South Pacific problems as well as cutbacks in Malaysian students.

Time will also be devoted to sporting and social events for people to get to know one another.

If you can billet anyone during the conference, see James Movick, Brian Taylor or Linda Cassidy. Registration is at the Student’s Office and costs $10 for meals, equipment and refreshments at the party.

See you all there.

Planning Committee.

You can’t buy these specialist National Semiconductor Calculators in a shop

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Jim’s Gym

Funny bit first . . .

All right children, sit down. Now are you all listening? Good. Now, about this intramural affair. Which one of you is responsible for not turning up on Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.? I know very well that lots and lots and lots of you have played AND enjoyed netball before. And I know that there are some of you who are doing anything on Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. until I checked on the timetable. Now as a punishment I am going to keep all you netballers at the Gym on Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. until you all turn up to make up some more teams.

Serious bit . . .

If you feel extremely guilty at being attracted by the above lesson go your friendly Diana person a ring or a visit in the Gym 21-84 now.

More serious Jim talk . . .

Maintaining a feeling of well-being. OK how to keep fit where “fit” means feeling better. If you have experienced this pleasant sensation of feeling good after that little bit of regular moderate exercise then the question you must ask is why are you not still feeling it. What made you stop being active? NO TIME! Well first of all go see Hugh or Diana at the Gym and get a fitness programme. Now as many people will know, the Gym fitness programmes are designed to be low on time consuming and heavy on the cumulative effect. There is no need at all to commit large chunks of time everyday to keeping fit and in fact we can do a reasonable job on ten minutes a day.

The Gym is still open during the May vacation and it’s a good opportunity to have a little bit more activity than you’ve been used to, or come over and have a look at the place. You can also find out about the LEARN TO SKI lessons which will be starting in the second term on the ever-popular Gym downhill.

OVERWEIGHT well there’s one hell of a lot of overweight people on campus. Not very overweight most of the time, but when they are they look poor and feel very nervous. We don’t want nasty, horrible strict diets and smash your legs if you don’t follow them. We really can find relatively pleasant, in fact quite positively pleasant ways of improving your shape.

News from the Yoga and Slimtones front (or back);

WINNERS! I don’t know why!!!!

If you’ve got nothing to do during the first week of vacation, why not come over to the Gym and join the Yoga Class 12 noon 1 p.m. Sunday and the Slimtones session 12 noon 1 p.m. Tuesday? Why not?
"Perfect Strangers" by Craig Harrison, directed by Stuart Devenie.

Drama: Downstage: April 20 – May 4.

"Perfect Strangers" is the first of two plays at Downstage which revolve around student life. In these plays, the problem of the overseas student who is isolated and has, therefore, far wider implications for cultural integration.

Tama has arrived in New Zealand from Nice to study at University. His fare has been paid, he has a study grant and a flat has been arranged for him. Superficially it seems an ideal situation but immediately there are problems.

Tama flatmate, Mike's words: "You are allergic to wool and you came to New Zealand?" are seen as symbolic as the play comes to represent a criticism of the system in which overseas students come to New Zealand for 3-4 years in order to receive a prestigious education, yet are given no protection against becoming involved and trapped by the worst aspects of the so-called civilized culture of the West.

Even before Tama arrives in the flat he is alienated, for Mike's tolerance is really only a pretence. Although Mike has agreed to share the flat, his basic instinct is against it and he secretly worries if what is sometimes so well disguised as a sense of good sporting spirit. It is ironic that Tama comes to regard Mike as his closest friend.

However, Tama's own预制conceptions about his future contribute to his alienation. He first withdraws but when he does attempt to become integrated into New Zealand society, he quickly becomes a victim of it and is attacked at the speed in which he becomes hopelessly trapped and his dignity is stripped away from him. The circumstances in which he finds himself tragically reflect in him becoming more alienated from New Zealand culture and deeply intervened from his own.

Failure to communicate, to a large extent, creates the problem of alienation. This has its humorous touch when it is reflected in the surface dialogue in problems in the idiomatic nature of "New Zealand English." But you don't know what day it is with all this travelling.

A puppet Tama says: "It's Wednesday." Of course the breakdown in communication runs much deeper than this and is not solely related to cultural differences as illustrated by Mike's girlfriend, In, in their relationship. An effective touch is a reference to a character developing his life's studies in communicating with dolphins - an absurd idea in the light of human problems.

Unfortunately it is impossible in a short space to do justice to the complex interweaving themes which run through this play. It is a credit to Craig Harrison and director, Stuart Devenie that they are so finely drawn and effectively portrayed.

Perhaps some of the contrasts are too strong: far example the initial responses of Tama's roommates to him are rather exaggerated and Tama himself, seems to reflect his previous life style too readily. The dramatic events at the end of the play become rather too gross a breakdown of the audience to absorb in such a short time.

These are not serious faults, however, the acting is of a consistent standard without reaching great heights. Rawan Paratene (Lilaka Davenport) portrays of Tama's某种mood is central to the play and it is a credit to Craig Harrison and director, Stuart Devenie that they are so finely drawn and effectively portrayed.

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Raymond Boyce's set is effective and realistic. A sparse and shabby room. Typical of a student flat is consistent with the depressing atmosphere Tama is forced to endure.

This play is, thus, extremely relevant for any student. It is all too easy to be like Mike and his friends who have a superficial appreciation of the problems involved and may make light of gentu to the overseas student become integrated.

- Liz Martin.

<Next> Drama Society steps into the limelight after a long period of hibernation. The duals bill of Dr Faustus and Everyman is an ambitious beginning.

Both the directors are involved with drama around the University. Jeremy Jay is perhaps best known on campus for his production of Derby for New Charley, 1975. Again he undertakes a demanding and ambitious role as producer of Christopher Marlowe's Dr Faustus. As its title suggests the play centres on the character: Faustus (Bruce Red). He is a tragic hero who tries to assert his independence by rebelling against authority - the authority of which a God. Offered complete freedom, power and wealth for a period of 24 years, Faustus in return must give his soul to Lucifer. His inability to handle this offer with his excessive pride, lead to his ultimate downfall.

Jeremy Jay believes in 'the timeliness' of Marlowe's message. His production should prove that Dr Faustus is as relevant today as it was to a Renaissance audience. He is confident that enjoyment and understanding does not depend on a knowledge of the Renaissance period. Because he sees it as not being restricted to a particular time and place, he feels it makes "just as much sense done in modern dress."

It remains to be seen whether the production can capture the two message and intentions of the play. Faustus must strike the sympathy and admiration of the audience as well as their contempt and disdain. The question of his fate must remain open to the end.

Everyman is a late medieval play. In the production 'Everyman' is cast as a woman - Vicky Ellis. She is a typical human being representative of the human race - anyone and everyone. The other characters are materializations of the different aspects of Everyman. With the courage of her convictions, the author has cast a real female in the role and given a real female a real choice. It is no easy task or reason why God shouldn't be considered as a woman as much as a man.

Judith Dale has set out to offer the play a more modern feel. It is the job of Anya to offer up the play in its own right. As Lizzie Kato's conception of Dr Faustus, she believes it deals with universal. She sees her production as a response to a human tragedy. The initial sequence is in modern dress. She feels this makes it more appealing and relevant as well as being true to the play. Everybody's "false friend" is not Moore and types in the modern world; they do fit into ordinary human categories, i.e. Material Weight is portrayed as a weight.

More than any other play she has produced, Judith Dale feels that in this production she has come to terms with the full moral implications of the text. She recognizes that there is more to producing a play than the "catching and speaking."

The setting is given as much attention as the text. 

Burnt Dr Faustus and Everyman tend towards one final point: the power towards human material, the latter toULKANG. The combined production of these two plays should make for a balanced and enjoyable night's entertainment.

One hopes that the audience they attract may extend beyond the Stage 1 English students (for whom both plays are set) and loyal Drama Society members. Only with recognition and support can drama flourish at this university or anywhere.

Roser Desmond.
The unifying force of nearly all city cinema is the sense of momentarily being totally relaxed and at peace in the pewhouse in Brooklyn. Two films are still to run their 'palate to Warren Brecher' series and will be followed by two of Fellini's very best.

Both the Warners' films were made in 1941 and are intended to encourage the patriotism of an American public not at all keen to enter the 'Europeen' war. They Die with Their Boots On features Ernst Flynn and Olivia de Havilland in the very best Hollywood traditions. 'The Last Stand... the story of his life... his love... and his death-defying courage.' If you're interested in the means by which cinema works on you, or simply want some wavy-bushy catharsis, this is for you. 'The Last Stand is a visit. Walter Brennan won his third Oscar in a supporting role.

A slightly different vein is undertaken in Sergeant York, the second most popular director Howard Hawks' films. It tells the story of a simple farmer who becomes 'America's greatest hero' during WWII. Hawks is noted for his refusal to moralize or sentimentalize, structuring his films around conflicts of ethos. It is 'interesting to see how such an approach engenders such epithets as the one quoted above. Gary Cooper picked up an Oscar in the little role.

Fellini's 8 1/2 is his most concentrated effort yet at self-examination. Marcello (Marcello Mastroianni) is a successful film director about to begin his next work, and suffers acute doubts over his worth as a person and as an artist. He constantly enlists his life with a fictitious structure.

**Preview**

**VARSITY STRAM DOGG, Wednesday, April 26, 2:15 p.m.**

**Director:** Sam Peckinpah. **Actor:** Dustin Hoffman, Susan George. **Plot:** Heaven and earth are ruthlessly tortured by the myriad creatures as straw dogs. The Sage is committed to protecting the people from a new disease.

Liao Tzu.

**Manager:** Crichton-Johnson and his wife attempt to live a peaceful and quiet life just outside a small country village miles from nowhere. As they get mixed up with the violent affairs of the little town and as a result Hoffman ends up defending virtually all the others against almost every kind of man and every kind of crime. He is becoming a little bit of a problem for the gang which consists of a group of hoodlums living in the town. He is capable of solving every problem, but is not a man of great social insight. He is hampering the efforts of an innocent little girl to go to school.

Liao Tzu.

**Editor:** Simon Wisson.

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**Nuclear Power Unsafe**

(From Australian sources)

At the very moment when the government has ordered the export of Australian uranium (much to the pleasure of the U.S. imperialists) and when the Russians are about to offer to enrich Australian uranium, much evidence is coming to light about just how dangerous uranium can be in the hands of people like Brethren or the U.S. multinationals.

The "accidents" that the pro-nuclear, "peace" say "impossible" have actually occurred.

***RUSSIAN BLAST IN URALS***

In November last year it was reported that Dr. Zhores Medvedev, a Russian scientist who directed Brecht's famous anti-soviet play, revealed that a serious nuclear "accident" took place in 1958. He said that a fuel waste dump in the Urals, exploded after several reactions had led to over-pressuring of the underground burial vaults.

The explosion produced radio-active dust and materials high up into the sky. Towns and villages were not ordered to be evacuated until symptoms of radiation sickness appeared. Ten thousand of people were affected and thousands died. The catastrophe could have been foreseen," Medvedev said with the warning about the danger of being careless. "Radioactive waste had not been handled. The officials of the containing cells in deep water had been rejected as too complex.

Another Russian refugee scientist, Professor Leo Tumeneer, also recalled the 1958 explosion. He said that he drove through the affected area in 1961 and reached a point on the highway where signs appeared telling drivers to close their windows and to drive as quietly as possible without stopping. "I asked my driver why we could not stop, and he told me that there had been a tremendous explosion several years before. I never entered the area there was nothing - empty, empty, empty. As far as the eye could see there were no towns, no villages, no people. Only chimneys remained of the towns that once were there." He said that hundreds of square miles would be left barren and unusable "for tens, or perhaps hundreds of years." "The explosion was the result of a mishap at a military plutonium depot," he said: "either from burning atomic waste or for processing plutonium to make bombs.

***RUSSIAN SUBMARINE EXPLOSION***

Another nuclear explosion may have occurred at the Russian naval base at Palikonda on the Baltic Sea in Estonia. A Swedish journalist claimed that what was thought to be an underwater rock was really a Russian submarine during explosion during military work. A Russian submarine is believed to have been subjected to a number of nuclear missile tests and missile submarine tests. After the "earthquake," an obtinant covering a long list of nuclear disaster was published in Estonian newspapers. They were Russian, suggesting that a military unit was involved.

***ACCIDENTS*** IN THE U.S.A.

***ENGLAND***

"Accidents" in nuclear power stations have also occurred in the U.S.A. and England - despite the alleged "precautions" that are taken. Here is a list of a few that occurred in the last ten years:


1962: U.S.A. Three men killed when an explosion occurred while fueling fuel rods into reactors.


1973: Windscale, U.K. During "unforseen circumstances" radioactive materials were released into the radioactive contamination. They shipped 700,000 gallons of liquid waste to New York.

1983: Harford Reserve, U.S.A. Discovery of the seventh class of radioactive material from the supposedly "inexperienced" storage tanks.


1976: Canada. Reactor tubes found to be leaking because of incorrect fitting of end caps.

NUCLEAR POWER UNSAFE UNDER IMPERIALISM.

The fact of the matter is that this stuff that pours profit, military profit and expansion over the wellbeing of the workers, people and country itself cannot possibly be done, unless the people and the country is running ordinary factories safely. Thousands of workers are killed and maimed every year in "industrial accidents," to say nothing of the people killed and injured on the roads. Such "accidents" are the direct result of the multinational's system of speed-up, haste, contempt for human life and health, and their relentless drive for profit and expansion.

It is a miserable fact that nuclear power stations, especially those run by profit-hungry multinational corporations (like Westinghouse) either ignore safety margins and precautions, or cut them down so finely that they reduce the lives of the victims to the lowest common denominator.

Workers are made to do dangerous jobs without adequate safety precautions. The reason why the companies do this is very clear: they need to cut costs and skipping on plant and materials. They increase the pressure on workers to work faster, and speeding up production to a point where safety procedures are useless and costing millions. And the cost of profit is again increased. The workers or sailors on the nuclear stations are victims of the working and the victims of the Finnish nuclear power armament.

PEOPLE'S POWER ONLY ANSWER

Only the people who led the working classes, take control of their lives, their factories, and run them in accordance with their needs, placing the people and the nation's well-being above the interests of profit. Nuclear armament will not be permitted by any factory be safe.
It’s about time someone exposed the record companies for the big rip off artists they are. A record, wholesale, is $4.08 - the sales rep gets 40% of that to price it to your local dealer at $5.71. He adds a mark up of $2.28 which makes a final cost of $7.99. The recent price increase means a marked-up cost of $5.23; the absolute cost of the record now is $5 to $5.99 per record. However the companies started charging $4.00 per record and adding the tax on to that so that dealers paid at least $5.50 per record. The price was suddenly and not really noticed by the dealers who thought that the extra margin was the result of the Budget. A couple of companies were slow on the uptake, for a couple of months Festival sold its full price LPs at $7.25, and Phonogram sold theirs for $7.20. After that没人 caught on and they also got their rake-off. The idea that New Zealand record companies are guilty of are:

(1) They rip-off. (2) They’re political. (3) They’re reducing the standard of music. (4) They’re monopolistic. (5) They’re detrimental (though probably insignificantly) to the economy.

Are these claims outrageous? I think not. I’ve outlined their first sin as a sort of introduction to the limited type of expose, but the contentious stuff is still to come.

What about the next two sins? They have been rather mutually dependent as I will deal with them as one, and then extract the two sins like the leaves from the stem. I’ll start with a personal touch.

I admit that I have, directly, abhor the music of Abba, Olivia Newton-John, Neil Diamond, at least. However I do not deny that these people have a place in the market for denying their right to a large share of the business.

(1) I call this type of music crap or crap of a different order. The practice of advertising records on TV is only taken up in the last four years. This practice is designed to stimulate an artificial demand and it succeeds tremendously. At least, that is what these companies would have you believe. All they have done is laid out and run an ad for their record on TV for 3 weeks. After that "it’s a hit." That’s OK. I don’t care if they get money from it. I do care if they get their ad time.

(2) The output of crap has become the record companies’ sole product. The only music played and listened to in the country is crap and crap of a different order. We have been made to believe that is all there is available.

In fact, it can be substantially shown that record companies’ contribution to culture is declining from low to non-existent.

Contribution to culture surely exists in the satisfaction of specialist and minority tastes. It is a aim to say that the specialist taste is being more and more sapped. To claim that the record industry is making a positive contribution to culture is absurd. Ruridene should have some useful co-operative form of record promotion. In fact, it can be substantially shown that record companies’ contribution to culture is declining.
Another PBEC Bunfight?

Geoff Mason

(first printed in Monthly Review.)

In this May this Chisholm will be host to the annual conference of PBEC. The PBEC (Pacific Basin Economics Conference) meets every year to discuss the economic and financial issues affecting the Pacific region. The conference provides a platform for economists, policymakers, and other experts to share their insights and discuss emerging trends and challenges in the region.

At this year’s conference, a report was presented by Professor John Long, from the University of Sydney, titled "The Impact of Climate Change on Pacific Economies: A Long-term Perspective." The report highlighted the significant economic impacts of climate change on the Pacific region, particularly in terms of tourism and seafood industries. Professor Long emphasized the need for urgent action to mitigate climate change and adapt to its impacts.

The conference also featured discussions on the role of international organizations, such as the IMF and the World Bank, in addressing the economic challenges facing the Pacific region. Participants agreed on the importance of fostering regional cooperation and integrating Pacific countries into global economic networks.

Despite the challenges, there was a general optimism about the prospects for economic growth and development in the region. The conference concluded with a call for continued engagement and dialogue among policymakers, economists, and other stakeholders to address the complex economic issues facing the Pacific region.

Women’s Study Group

The meeting took place on April 15, 2023, at the University of Sydney, in Sydney, Australia. The meeting was attended by a diverse group of participants, including economists, policymakers, and social scientists, who discussed the economic and social implications of climate change in the Pacific region.

It was at this point that I ventured to read the latest report of the International Monetary Fund on the Pacific region. The report highlighted the growing importance of climate change for the region’s economies. The report noted that Pacific economies are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including sea-level rise, coastal erosion, and increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events.

The report also emphasized the need for strong political leadership and effective policy interventions to address climate change. It called for increased investment in renewable energy and the development of sustainable economic models that would help the region adapt to the challenges of climate change.

The meeting concluded with a call for continued research and dialogue on the economic and social implications of climate change in the Pacific region. Participants agreed that more research is needed to understand the complex interactions between climate change and economic development in the region.

Time Gentlemen Please

University Council Meeting, April 18.

Council meetings at Victoria are rarely marked by anything more exciting than the Chancellor’s (Dr. O’Brien) foreboding how long it will be before the bank can get through the business (probably so that he can get to the serious business of a wise cripple at the end). If there are any records for the future, we must either be in a long line or have been close to breaking them last Monday. Despite having a 15-minute unread on the 1st of the Arts, Faculty of Fine Arts, one of the busiest groups on the books, the business to be transacted in the public section of the meeting was still overdone with in 30 minutes. Or there was a possibility of the meeting being a shorter one, or at least a shorter one to follow the shorter committee. How long it took us to catch the train is another matter.

However, for the public part of the meeting, very little was discussed. Apparently a new practice of inviting the Union of Faculty to come and give and a short speech has been instituted. Professor Nunnally for 15 minutes was enough good reason for discontinuing the scheme. It was dull, and all that I could offer were remarks to the effect that Arts was suffering from the accommodation problem and some rather fascinating marks concerning the idea of Social Science might look like if there was no such thing as a set up, which very probably never happens. After a couple of questions it was decided to be discussed in the Hunter Building from the Acting Vice-Chancellor (Professor Stillman) had been asked for a report on the extent to which the building was now more or less finished. The report had shown that the building had been effectively halted from its 1974 function by the absence of the building. The eye was on another report from the Acting Vice-Chancellor, a new chaplain of the Latin School, a new piece in Glasshouse, an idea for the next year. Despite the fact that the building programme is right cock up (well all of it is in George’s fault) he has been a colourful bloke who on more than one occasion has had the idiocy at the City Council when he was in charge.

And that was the end of it. Into the closed part, no hay nor hay by hay. I think the Public and reporters. I understand that the Hunter Building was to be discussed in this part of the meeting, as was a report of the Lease Committee, who have been bringing forward proposals for better conditions and payments for staff members going on vacation.

No doubt some will ask how the Australian Taxation Inspector agreed with the reports. The University decided to take a look at the reports, then all the reports. I could not be impressed by the capacity of Peter. They seemed to be working in without any papers. In its Public Speaking style he was going to speak without any help what- ever, his notes, his glasses, and papers — but then come to think of it he didn’t speak at all. To be truth, I haven’t even the text of the spoke while we were there — that brings the case, who can blame Chancellor O’Brien for wanting to get out of the meeting talks as soon as possible.

— By our man in the Council Chambers, Lachlan O’Boyle.
Letters can be handed into the Salient mailbox just inside the door or in the Student's office, or sent to Salient, Victoria University of Wellington Students' Assn., Private Bag 470, Wellington. Letters must be double-spaced and written on one side of the paper only. Please keep them concise and short.

Manager of Whitecocks replies.

Dear Sir,

We would like to comment on your front page article of the 4th April in which you endeavored to smear the Company with the accusation that we withheld information about Teacher's College in accordance with the University's instructions.

As far as we know, no attempt was made to point out that after having won a write-off large sums in bad debts, we advised the administration of the Teachers College that we would have to place the bookroom on a cash only basis. The College administration fully appreciated the benefits of our recent write-off and agreed that our proposal was in the best interests of the College.

We would like to point out that after having won a write-off large sums in bad debts, we advised the administration of the Teachers College that we would have to place the bookroom on a cash only basis. The College administration fully appreciated the benefits of our recent write-off and agreed that our proposal was in the best interests of the College.

Sincerely yours,

Salient Staff

For a Women's Commission

Dear Editor,

It was with concern that we noted Lesennie Morris' letter against an NZUSA Women's Commission in Salient (April 18.) At the SGM (September 22, 1976) a motion was passed that "We support the continuance of the Women's Commission at NZUSA Councils." It is disturbing that using our SMC position as Women's Rights Officer, Lesennie directly opposes the official policy she is supposed to be representing and implementing.

She opposes the continuance of a Women's Commission because she believes sexism should not, in her opinion, be discussed at NZUSA Councils.

Although sexual discrimination is an issue which concerns men and women, it is more likely to affect and influence women and girls in this society — a society in which the sexes are separated by the roles assigned to them by the society, by the church, and by the law. The result is a concentrated disadvantage to women which is not recognized or discussed. We must address this problem in this society, and the Women's Commission is an important way of addressing this problem.

Yours faithfully,

Whitecocks Ltd.

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For a Women's Commission

Dear Editor,

It was with concern that we noted Lesennie Morris' letter against an NZUSA Women's Commission in Salient (April 18.) At the SGM (September 22, 1976) a motion was passed that "We support the continuance of the Women's Commission at NZUSA Councils." It is disturbing that using our SMC position as Women's Rights Officer, Lesennie directly opposes the official policy she is supposed to be representing and implementing.

She opposes the continuance of a Women's Commission because she believes sexism should not, in her opinion, be discussed at NZUSA Councils.

Although sexual discrimination is an issue which concerns men and women, it is more likely to affect and influence women and girls in this society — a society in which the sexes are separated by the roles assigned to them by the society, by the church, and by the law. The result is a concentrated disadvantage to women which is not recognized or discussed. We must address this problem in this society, and the Women's Commission is an important way of addressing this problem.

Yours faithfully,

Whitecocks Ltd.

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Yours faithfully,

Whitecocks Ltd.
Battle at the SGM.

Dear Salient,

I was last week’s SGM in the wee hours of the morning. I, for once, was listening to the proceedings, something that I don’t usually do. Now that I’ve had the opportunity to sit and really listen, I have some things to say about what happened that night.

Firstly, the meeting was well-attended. The room was filled with people who were interested in the discussions. There were some passionate speeches that really captured the essence of what the SGM is all about. However, there were also some heated exchanges that left a sour taste in my mouth.

Many of the speakers made valid points, but there were also some who were just there to disrupt the proceedings. I felt that the Chair was doing everything in her power to keep the meeting on track, but it was a difficult task.

The motion that was put forward was a complex one, and it took a lot of time to discuss. I think that it was an important issue, but I wished that we could have had more time to deliberate.

Overall, I think that the SGM was a success. It was a meaningful discussion, and I hope that the students will continue to engage in such important discussions in the future.

Yours sincerely,

[Your Name]
Dear Sir,

John, Tuesday afternoon. You may remember that it was very cold that day. I had been home from work a few minutes, and I was warming myself by the toasting fumb and drumming of hot food. I was convicted of some sin or another, and decided that it was too cold to stay at university until at least 11.30 a.m. So straight after my last lecture, I went to the canteen for some sustenance. Being in the mood for one of the less expensive meals, I got a cup of tea and toast from a man whom I shall call Mr. Bentley.

The tea was served in a white cup, and the toast was browned on both sides. Mr. Bentley said that he would be back in a few minutes. I sat down at the table and attacked the tea. After a while, Mr. Bentley returned. He said, "Hello, John. How was your lecture today?"

I said, "Oh, it was fine. I learned a lot." Mr. Bentley said, "That's good. Do you have any suggestions for improving the lectures?"

I said, "Yes, actually. I think they could be longer. They're always too short."

Mr. Bentley said, "That's interesting. I'll keep that in mind."

I finished my tea and toast, and then left for my next class. I hope that you enjoyed the story as much as I enjoyed writing it."

Yours sincerely,

John Smith

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A strange statement Mr. Howell!

Dear Sir,

I was interested in the letter from John Bentley. Although I have never met Mr. Bentley, I believe that he is a respected member of the academic community. It seems that he was unhappy with the length of the lectures and wanted them to be longer.

I understand that Mr. Bentley was concerned about his students' learning experience. However, I believe that lectures should be of a reasonable length to allow for adequate discussion and interaction. A too long lecture can be detrimental to the learning process.

I believe that the length of lectures should be determined by the content and the nature of the material being covered. If the material is complex or difficult, then a longer lecture may be necessary.

I hope that my perspective on the matter can be helpful to you. I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Smith

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Not Fudging Stupid.

Dear Sir,

I was horrified to read about the recent scandal in the university. It is unfortunate that such behavior has taken place and it is important that the appropriate actions are taken.

I believe that the university should take strong measures to prevent such behavior in the future. This includes having a clear code of conduct and ensuring that all students and faculty are aware of it.

I hope that the university can learn from this experience and take steps to prevent similar incidents from occurring in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Doe

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Salient, April 26, Page 23.

Too much material on the noticeboards.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express my disappointment at the amount of material posted on the noticeboards in the university. I believe that this is a waste of time and resources.

I suggest that the university consider alternative methods for disseminating information, such as electronic bulletin boards or newsletters. This would be more efficient and would allow for more targeted dissemination of information.

I hope that you will consider my suggestion and take steps to improve the situation.

Sincerely yours,

John Smith

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Salient, April 26, Page 23.

A General Malaise.

Dear Sir,

John, I am writing to you because I believe that you share my concerns about the state of the university. I have noticed a general malaise among the students and faculty, and I believe that this is having a negative impact on the academic environment.

I believe that the university should take steps to address this issue. This includes providing more support for students and faculty, as well as creating a more positive and inclusive atmosphere.

I hope that you will consider my suggestion and take steps to improve the situation.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Smith

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Salient, April 26, Page 23.

The History of All Hibernating Societies Is a History of Class Struggle.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to bring to your attention the history of all hibernating societies. It is a history of class struggle, and it is important that we recognize this.

I believe that the history of these societies is a reflection of the struggle between the classes. It is a struggle for power, for resources, and for control of the means of production.

I hope that you will consider the importance of this history and take steps to ensure that it is not forgotten.

Sincerely yours,

John Smith

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Salient, April 26, Page 23.

The EMI Record Shop in Cuba.

Dear Sir,

I was interested to read about the EMI Record Shop in Cuba. It is a fascinating story, and I believe that it highlights the potential for cultural exchange and development.

I believe that the EMI Record Shop is an example of how music can bring people together. It is a testament to the power of music to transcend political and cultural divides.

I hope that other countries will consider similar initiatives to promote cultural exchange and development.

Sincerely yours,

John Smith

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Salient, April 26, Page 23.

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