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Don't Spend it all at Once

Photo of a bursary march

The 1977 Budget was presented to the House of Representatives on July 21 and shortly after the Prime Minister resumed his seat, political commentators were describing his effort as a "meat and potatoes" budget. All very nice for those people who can still afford meat and potatoes — students will remember this Budget as the "Bread and Water Budget".

The blend of economic remedies prescribed for the ailing economy, and announced by the Prime Minister, illustrate that the Government's conception of sound policies bear as much relation to reality as letting blood does to modem medicine. They also illustrate an insensitivity to the plight of students during the present economic crisis which the Government's mismangement has produced.

No amount of deceptive humbug spoken by any Minister, or any Member of Parliament, can conceal the fact that the Government has screwed students. This [unclear: situation] will not be remedied until students have booted the backsides of every Minister and every Government Member of Parliament from one of the country to the other because of their appalling failure to act in students' interests.

What has the Budget given students that they didn't have before The short answer is bugger all, and that answer does not sacrifice accuracy for brevity. The Government has moved in a barely perceptible direction towards liberalising some of the conditions of award of the bursary. The Government has reneged on its election promise to increase the bursary "to take account of increased costs", and it is this failure that will cause the biggest backlash.

"Substantial progress has been made towards implementing a reformed bursary by removing a number of anomalies and improving the conditions applying to the standard tertiary bursary. In future, the basis of entitlements to bursary assistance will be similar in the technical institutes and universities and may be transferred. The restrictions on the time limit between a first course and subsequent course have been removed. The bursary entitlement has also been extended to cover students in senior technical division of secondary schools. Some relief will be given to technical institute students undertaking courses which require heavy expenditure on travel, equipment or materials. The tertiary bursary rates will be increased by \$2 a week from the beginning of the 1978 academic year".

1977 Budget Bookelet, page 34.

Strangely, the Budget section on bursaries opens with a blatant lie, stating that "substantial progress has been made towards implementing a reformed bursary". In fact, the Government's progress on this question has been [unclear: remarkably] slow, especially when compared with the great haste in setting up the National Superannuation scheme. The Government took 10 months after coming into office to get out the regulations which govern the bursary system. They took 12 months to call a conference on on tertiary bursaries. It took them a further 7 months to act on the recommendations of the conference for an immediately effective increase in bursaries. And they did nothing.

From this beginning the section on bursaries goes on to become a cosmetic job that would surely rival the sartorial excesses of Zsa Zsa Gabor. While stating that "the basis of bursary entitlements to bursary assistance will be similar in technical institutes and universities", the Government has failed to give technical institute students the right to a second course of study at a technical institute. If university students can do second courses at university, and tech students can't do second courses at technical institutes, how then are the entitlements similar?

The provision made for transfers between technical institutes and universities is minor and, for a few students, a useful concession. But, the only reason for this measure's inclusion is that it conceals the lack of action on other questions. There are some more components of the elaborate camouflage that the Government has used to conceal its sorry history of lies and distortions on bursaries. The time limit between a first course and a subsequent course has been lifted. Very nice for a few students who would otherwise be kept from having bursaries, but of no value for those students already at varsity who are having a tough time making ends meet.

Some of the problems for technical institute students have been worked out, and students in tertiary units of secondary schools have been given the bursary in recognition of their tertiary student status. Some relief is given for technical institute students who have costly courses which require heavy expenditure on travel, equipment or materials. The nature and extent of this support is not defined but an intelligent guess, on the basis of earlier provision of assistance for university students in costly courses, would be that this provision might only be a bit of useless window-dressing. For all students next year, a \$2 a week increase in bursary values will

apply from term one. This increase is equivalent to 28 cents a day, barely enough to buy the daily papers or a healthy bowl of [unclear: muesli].

Perhaps what is most significant about the Budgetary announcement on bursaries is what was not announced. The Government has not acceded to a request of the representative conference for an increase in bursary values from the beginning of 1977 to compensate for inflation in 1976. Well, we knew that in April 1977. What we know now is that the Government does not intend to [unclear: compe sate] students for the effects of inflation this year. They will do it next year — when it will be more convenient for them to have an increase, and announce another for implementation in 1979, due to the proximity of the Election. The Labour Government tried the same old vote catcher on students in 1975, and in the General Election of that year learned that if any Government wanted to buy students' votes, they had to do it with something more than a poorly assembled sham.

Repeatedly, in meetings with the national representatives of university and technical institute students, the Minister of Education has spelt out the difference between a cost of living increase in bursaries (which is what the students' representatives want) and an increase to compensate for increased costs (which is what the Government wants to give us). In either case, the question arises about the measure of cost increases that will be employed for the purpose of calculating the actual increases.

Deficit budgeting is a fact of life in Government affairs and in large international transactions. The Government seems intent on developing ing this principle as an important as pect of student life. Of course, the difference between income and expenditure has been with us for a long time. As Micawber so rightly observed; "Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen pounds nineteen and six, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds nought and six, result misery. "That principle operates these days as much as it did when the comment was made, if not more. However, Micawber refers to wilful overexpenditure, and not to a situation where students, and the low paid, have to perpetually overspend and skimp on essentials to retain the basic services and access to other goods and services that make life possible. There is no room for frills in the budget of the average student, the wage earner and the state beneficiary because the Government keeps dragging more and more from them to keep the economy going. The increases in service charges for post and energy hit these three groups; the removal of subsidies on bread and milk hit these three groups and the continuing runaway price increases keep hitting these three groups.

The Students' Association put to the Government in April 1976 the proposal that a special index should be worked out to measure the price increases for the "basket of goods" that students ordinarily buy. This index would take account of cost increases for particular commodities particularly used by students, such as text-books, that are not accounted for in the general Consumer Price Index. The Government has refused to accept the Student Price Index as a measure of increasing costs for the purpose of calculating the size of increases in bursaries. They have also refused to use the general Consumer Price Index for that purpose and cannot suggest any other measure for cost increases that students have to bear. In a meeting with the Minster of Education on 31 May 1977, a representative of NZUSA asked Mr Gandar about the nature of the indicator used by the Government for working out increases in bursaries. His first response was "Oh, its an entirely subjective matter....", and he then corrected himself stating instead that the measure is objective but making it perfectly clear that he was at [unclear: a loss] to know how to explain that there was no objective basis and that his first statement was the correct one.

The real way the Government calculates bursary increases is to leave three years between the last increase and the next proposed one, make provision for all other policy (good, bad and indifferent); look at what money is left, divide it by the number of students receiving bursaries and to announce the result as an increase calculated on the basis of an "objective measure".

Last Monday, the MP for Palmerston North, John Lithgow, spoke to a lively forum at Massey University and agreed that, if students were not happy after the Budget, he would return to answer their questions.

President

— Lindy [unclear: Cassidy]

President header with an angel in armour

By now most of you will know that a bursary increase of \$2 per week (or 28c a day) was announced in the budget. Those of you that have been to the dairy tilts week will also realise just how much \$2 will buy. With prices increasing at the rate they are the \$2 a week will only go a small way to pay for the recent price increases in food, books and transport alone and with the present government policy on wage restraint our holiday earnings won't go up much either.

A recent survey at Otago University showed that students' living and study costs are at least \$460 to \$730 a

year more than what they get in bursaries, so the extra \$76 a year (which we won't get till next year anyway) will go nowhere towards reducing that gap. Furthermore this report lakes no account of money for such "luxuries" as clothing and footwear, telephone and loll calls, newspapers, dentists costs etc. or the fact that rent is generally cheaper in Otago than elsewhere.

The government also announced that some of the anomalies of the bursary system will be removed hut if we take a close look at the budget we see that only minor changes have been made and that the big injustices such as the abatement system and the the lack of bursaries for Ph.D. students still remain.

In brief, the National government has broken its election promises as well as [unclear: tis] recent promises regarding bursaries. It hasn't brought in the "new reformed bursary" it promised, it hasn't increased bursaries with the cost of living and it has only removed the most petty anomalies. All it has done is to make the most minor changes, no doubt in an attempt to keep students quiet. Students must not let them get away with it. We must tell them its not enough.

Drawing of a man playing monopoly

The MP for Whangarei and Chairman of the Government Caucus Education Committee, John Elliott, agreed to return to speak to students of Victoria University if they were dissatisfied with the way things are after the Budget. Both of these gentlemen will, of course, be called back to account for the Government's callous delay in implementing even an insignificant relief measure. Those MPs not already called upon to explain why nothing has happened for their student constituents will be required to do so in the near future.

The reason for this is simple. The Government has failed to keep its election promises, it has ignored the conference recommendations for immediate improvements in the bursary system, and the impact of inflation ravaged students' incomes more than any sleek technocrat lunching in Bellamys would ever know or could ever be concerned to discover. Students remember, too, the promises made by the National Party Opposition in the 1975 General Election [unclear: Compaign] and the statements made by the then Leader of the Opposition. They promised that "all students will receive the National bursary", and that it will "be increased to take account of cost increases since the last adjustment and thereafter be adjusted annually". So, in the first move they make to increase the bursary in line with their election promise, the Government gives students a token increase of little use which is unrelated to real cost increases. In addition to failing to make realistic provision for increased costs, the Government has failed miserably in removing the serious anomolies in the system. The abatement provision still remains and continues to cause difficulties for students who are married, widowed, divorced, separated or orphaned by giving the Department of Education the power to take \$11.00 a week off their bursaries.

There are three reasons why university and technical institute students over the next few months will unite to seek fairer treatment from the Government. Our incomes were set three years ago almost and cannot buy now what they bought then. The Government has not accepted any form of indexation to apply to increases in bursaries. There are many grave anomolies in the bursary system, notably the abatement, which require solutions. Talking to the Minister has failed, backbenchers have shown that they don't have enough clout required to swing changes our way, the conference has been ignored and the Government has forgotten its promises We need to remind them of their promises and demonstarte by all means possible that we will not be cheated, lied to, screwed or ignored for another year, or by another Government. We must fight them now and we must fight to win before the year is up.

— Michael Shaskey

Education Vice-President, NZUSA.

Studentsays

The Salient Student says team went out one day after the Budget came out and asked students what their opinion of the budget as it affected them was. The questions asked asked were:

- Do you know what was in the budget for students?
- What use will \$2 per week extra next year be to you?
- Will you be taking part in the Bursaries March on August 3rd?
 Martin Duncan
- Yeah, a \$15.00 bursary per week starting next year.
- Not much at all.
- If Piggy doesn't promise another rise, I'll definitely go.
 Photo of Martin Duncan
 Mark Robins
- Yeah, something like \$2.00.

- It won't be much use because I might be going flatting next year and \$2.00 is nothing.
- Yes

Photo of Mark Robins *Olivia Stephens*

- *Oh* \$2.00, it's really disgusting.
- Absolutely negligible.
- *Yes, I'll definitely be marching.* Photo of Olivia Stephens

Puey on Thailand

About 250 students attended a forum on Thailand to hear guest speaker Dr Puey Ungpakhorn, the former rector of Thammasset University in Bankok. A large proportion of overseas students made up the audience. Dr Puey, now in self exile in London after last year's Coup, gave some background to the present situation.

Since 1947, the military dictatorship, has been the characteristic form of government in Thailand. By 1973, as a result of the corruption inherent in this system, people were pushing for reform, especially for democratic rule. Despite the fact that troops were used to quell the disturbances, the unrest caused the flight of the Prime Minister, his deputy, and his son.

"Thus we started an era of freedom . . . we were able to discuss anything we liked". Trade Unions were formed for the first time since a short period, in the 1950s, when they were permitted only if the Prime Minister was leader of the Union. During this "era of freedom" attempts were made to solve the economic and social ills of the country-low minimum wages, widespread injustice, neglect of rural areas. However, the main problem was the eneven distribution of wealth typical of Third World countries.

Throughout this period the Military leaders never gave up hope of a come-back and as early as Spring 1974, were establishing and arming para-military groups. Despite the failure of several attempted coups they were ready to take over by October 1976. On the pretext of student demonstrations the para-military groups, supported by heavily armed Police, went into action on October the 6th, when they attacked Thammassat University resulting in 200 dead and 3,200 arrested (mainly students). A puppet civilian government was set up, under the control of the Military, freedom was severely restricted, the Press was strictly consored, the National Student Centre of Thailand (NSCT) was abolished in every university, and violations of human rights similar to other countries (Phillipines, Singapore) were common. A further 8,000 were arrested on the vague grounds of being "dangers to society".

Within the business community there were hopes that political stability would arise as a result of the coup but this has not been the case due to conflicting factions within the Military (as the attempted coup by a very right wing General in March this year illustrates). The struggle is now one of personal power and thus, Dr Puey states, the coup in March won't be the last.

From 1960-73, the communist guerilla movement in Thailand experience a slow growth, however as the events of the coup destroyed the notion that democracy could be achieved through peaceful means popularity for the movement has swelled. Many of the new recruits are not communists themselves however they see the taking up of arms to be the only means of overthrowing the corrupt regime. The fighting has been very fierce, especially in the first three months of this year. At present, Puey says the country could head towards a civil war similar to Vietnam and Superpower intervention can only escalate this situation. Dr Puey asserted that no arms should be supplied to either side and suggests a strategy of continued pressure on the human rights issue. Dr Puey has testified to a US Congressional Committee, particularly on human rights violations.

He then returned to the role of the NSCT. The NSCT played a major role during the "era of freedom". It took a lead in encouraging demonstrations against the advances of Japanese neo-colonialism. It helped the Trade Unions to get going and assisted in organising the farmers, working for guaranteed prices for commodities. Dr Puey suggests that the NSCT fried to go too far too fast, and that they should have concentrated on the main problems. Students' popularity waned as a result of their activities yet at present Dr Puey holds that the NSCT is still very much alone in spite of the fact that they have been declared dead by the government. Many have joined forces with the guerillas, while some are in Thailand working in secret with representatives from various countries. "The future of Thailand lies in its young people".

FREE ALL THAI POLITICAL PRISONERS SAVE ORISA'S LIFE

Culinary

Stuffed Cabbage Leaves.

Poster showing Orisa

(Choose a large cabbage).

The Leaves: —

Wash cabbage and cook (steam) whole for 5 - 10 minutes. Or boil whole in boiling water, (a little) for 5 - 10 minutes. Let cool

Remove leaves one by one. The larger leaves can be used as they are; the smaller use 2 - 3 or even 4 together to five enough coverage for each roll.

Spread leaves and place 1 - 2 tablespoons stuffing on each. Roll up lengthways. Place side by side in greased fireproof-dish. Pour over sauce. Hake in moderate oven. 350° Gas Mark 6. 45 minutes - 1 hour.

Stuffing: —

Left over meat e.g. finely chopped chicken or fried mince, mixed with fried onions, desertspoon tomato puree; Or fried mushrooms.

Or cooked rice mixed with curry powder, shopped green pepper. Cooked pasta.

Sauce: -

Use a good meat stock, or anythick tomato sauce, seasoned with garlic and [unclear: heros e.g. origanum].

Caraway Cabbage

Shred Cabbage finely, wash and place in large saucepan. Cook at a high heat, without adding extra water. Add some butter or margerine, the amount according to how much cabbage is used. Season with a tittle salt and add approx. I teaspoon Caraway Seeds near the end. Cook for a total of Jive minutes, stirring often.

Grind fresh black pepper over and serve immediately.

Caraway seeds may be omitted.

— Helen Corrigan.

SHALOM VUW Jewish Students Soc. Presents ISRAELI CULTURAL EVENING FOR ALL STUDENTS On Wed 27 July at 7 30 pm In Smoking room 8 Lounge dancing singing music poetry film Israeli 8 traditional Jewish food booze religious 8 other displays admission free

let me help you make a little money go a whole lot further If you need a little help and advice on how to make your money go further while you're at varsity, see Errol Hanna at the Wellington Branch of the BNZ. Errol knows the sort of money problems you're going to be involved with as a student, and he'll be pleased to give you all the assistance and advice that's possible. Apart from the BNZ services like cheque and savings accounts, free automatic savings facility, the Nationwide Account travellers' cheques, and so on there are two particular BNZ services that a lot of students have found very useful. BNZ Educational Loans The great thing about these is their flexibility You can take one out for a few days, to tide you over a rough spot till the end of term, or you can borrow on the long-term and, plan things out over the years you re at varsity. BNZ Consulting Service Free, helpful advice on practically any financial matter, from people who understand money and how it works. And just by the way, there's another good reason for banking with the Bank of New Zealand, it's the only trading bank wholly owned by the people of New Zealand Call at the BNZ on-campus office and fix up a time for a chat with Richard Starke or phone him direct at the BNZ Wellington Branch Cnr Lambton and Customhouse Quays. Phone 725-099 ext. 702. BANK OF NEW ZEALAND Wholly owned by the people of New Zealand.

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Appraisal of Administration

In the public sector profit cannot be relied upon as a measure of efficiency Government auditors must not only see that accounts give a true and fair view but that the organisation under audit has received value for the

funds spent.

Government auditors cover Departments of State (both administrative and developmental) public corporation (N.A.C, Tourist Hotel Corporation etc), marketing boards (Dairy Board, Meat Board etc) and local authorities (City Councils, Harbour Boards. Electric Power boards, Hospital boards, Education boards etc.)

Government auditors on behalf of Parliament and the citizens of New Zealand ensure that the stated social and political purposes of these agencies are carried out with the most effective and economical use of funds allocated to them.

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Government is the biggest business in N.Z. As such it has been at the forefront in the use of computers for accounting and management information. The Audit Office is heavily involved in this area and has a special computer audit group of auditors trained in E.D.P.. Promising officers after initial experience in the field are eligible for training and attachment to this section for varying periods.

New Management Techniques

The N Z. Government in common with overseas trends is introducing new techniques [unclear: ot] public sector financial management such as programme budgeting, integrated management accounting, cost effectiveness studies and cost/benefit analysis. Increasingly Government auditors are going to be involved in appraising the effectiveness of these techniques.

Location and Overseas Assignments

Branches are situated at: Whangarei, Auckland, Hamilton, Rotorua, Tauranga, Gisborne, Napier, New Plymouth, Palmerston North, Wanganui, Masterton, Wellington, Nelson Greymouth, Christchurch, Timaru, Dunedin and Invercargill. Staff are also located at London who periodically visit posts in Europe, and North America Staff from New Zealand carry out audits in Australia, S E. Asia, Western Samoa, Niue and Cook Islands.

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These are on standard Public Service conditions. Starting salaries are competitive with those of other professional organisations offering a future of challenging professional-level work with a social purpose and increasing financial rewards.

Interviews can be arranged through the Careers Advisory Board for Thursday 28 July when Audit Office representatives visit the University. Or, contact the Administration Officer, Phone 724 979 for further information.

The Crisis of the Westren World

Britain

In Britain inflation is currently running at 17.7%. As a result of Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Labour Government's 'social contract' with union leaders real wages are falling by about 3% a year. Now the Labour Government is demanding that workers take another cut in real wages — of some 7% — in the next year as part of Phase 3 of the social contract.

Key unions (Engineers, Transport and General Workers, Electrical and Miners) with millions of members have said it is not on. They have argued that for two years they accepted wage cuts but inflation hasn't been controlled and unemployment has mounted. They argue that, continued wage cuts are no solution to the economic crisis and are refusing any more erosions of their living standards.

The emergence into the full light of the international media of the Grunwick dispute offered the Labour Government an opportunity to build up 'moderate' opinion against the unions.

Sweatshop Conditions

In August last year one of the predominately Asian workforce of 'Grunwick Film Processing Laboratories' walked off her job as a film processor in protest against the low wages (NZ\$43 a week), poor working conditions and compulsory overtime. With six other workers she joined the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (APEX) which *Time* described as a "moderate, nonmilitant, white-collar trade union". Soon over a 100 workers had joined the union. But the owner, George Ward, declared that he was "nonunion" and fired them all.

Picketers and police clashing at Grunwick.

After no progress had been made for nearly ten months the union called for mass picketing of the Grunwick factory. Starting last June picketers, often reaching 4 figures have surrounded Grunwicks as buses bringing in the 240 scab workers try to get through.

Other union action has included an unofficial ban on mail to Grunwicks (which resulted in the suspension of the postal workers concerned) and the joining of the strike by 7 of the 8 Grunwick delivery drivers halfway through this month.

The length of the dispute is due solely to the intransigence of the Grunwick company. Grunwick's owner is being backed and advised by a neo-fascist group called the National Association for Freedom composed predominantly of businessmen. APEX has never been renowned as militant but the Grunwick owner says he will never recognise them — "The hell I'll give in to these people who are ruining this country".

Labour Govt. Puts Boot in

The Labour Government has tried to refer the dispute to a court of inquiry and to intimidate the picketers with huge contingents of police. On July 15 when the picketers numbered some 11,000 people (including 80 of the sacked workers) they were confronted by some 4,000 police which is as many police as in the whole of New Zealand. About 300 arrests have already been made by the police.

Just recently the Government has used the dispute to bring forward two policies attacking unions. The first is the toughening of the law relating to pickets so that police are given more power. The second is to go it alone with a wages policy which demands unions accept wage increases of no more than 10% in the next year — 7% below the rate of inflation.

All in all. Britain today is a sad commentary on the ability of a social democratic (i.e. Labour Party) government to protect workers living standards and political rights during an economic crisis.

Australia: Workers Fight Back

Recently the ANZ Bank saw fit to comment on the continually rising level of unemployment in Australia. They noted that official unemployment as of June was now 332,793 people or 5.4% of the workforce. They went on to produce their own statistics which showed that notified job vacancies had dropped 2.5% between May and June and 8.4% over the last twelve months.

The report, which appeared in the Evening Post (12.7.77) concluded that: "the ANZ Bank believes employment will remain depressed" for some time until a "considerabel" increase in business confidence came

about.

The same ANZ Bank has just recorded a 21.82 million dollar profit in the last half year — an increase of 26%! And the ANZ's success story is not just a flash in the pan either; the 'Bank on the Wales' people made a half-year profit of 27 million dollars (up 39%) and the National Bank made half-year profits of 20.6 million dollars (up 37%) In fact while unemployment reaches a new record level in 1976 gross company profits rose 33%.

But Australia is still in the depths of economic crisis and despite the profit increases. New capital spending fell by 4% in the last quarter to March with spending on plant and equipment dropping 5.3%. Figures for the same quarter showed drops in the important indicators of retail sales, vehicle production and building approvals.

And in the last two years the purchasing power of the "average wage" has fell by \$7.80 despite wage "indexation". Unemployment which was thought to have reached a plateau at 200,000 at the time of the last election is now expected to top 500,000; possibly this year.

The process of creating unemployment as demand has sagged and businesses have faltered has not been pleasant. Recently it has been made that much more unpleasant by the commonly accepted fact that the workers sacked now have little or no chance at getting another job.

Sackings — bosses cure to the crisis

On Friday July 15 in a sickening spectacle 1,350 Australian workers were given the sack — some got only an hours notice. Hardest hit were workers for Chryslers in South Australia where 700 were sacked.

The Chrysler sackings had been coming for some time. It had been reported in June that fully 20% of Australia's annual car production was being stockpiled in a crisis of over production and tough competition with imported cars, yet the auto giants had been steaming ahead at full production.

The crunch had to come. But when it came it was the Chrysler workers who were blamed for the sackings. An Evening Post story (13.3.77) headlined "Ugly Union Battle At Chrysler Plant As Mass Sackings Loom" gave the bosses version. "Mass sackings . . . appeared inevitable today after the refection by brawling workers of a compromise job saving formula Union officials who had recommended acceptance of the company formula were punched and kicked . . . the men pledged to continue working a five day week . . Senior executives were to decide whether to carry out their threat to sack 850 workers . . the compromise plan (had) called for a four day week and the retrenchment of 300 workers".

But a correspondent to the Post gave a completely different side to the story:

"Your paper commented graphically on the so-called violence at the mass-meeting of Chrysler workers, but said little or nothing about the causes of the workers' anger.

"The Union officials concerned have consistently ignored or opposed decisions made by all the workers at the factory — during 1976 they refised to oppose company decisions to sack workers, they agreed to company proposals to provide redundancy payments to sacked workers that were unnacceptable to mass meetings of the workers, they refused to support democratically called-for stop work meetings and workers trying to get better safety conditions and they began publically attacking workers for trying to better their conditions and keep their jobs.

"At the end of the year, during Union executive elections, the workers at Chryslers and other car plants in Adelaide stood candidates against these union bureaucrats — they intended to finally get officials who actually did what their members told them! Strangely enough, the union bureaucrats declared the election results null and void (it has been suggested that they had suffered a heavy defeat in them). New elections have yet to be held

"The Chrysler company's moves to sack 800 workers at this factory are part of the United States-owned multinational car companies' stated intentions to reduce their workforce in Australia. With unemployment there already at record levels (and rising), sacked workers have no job prospects. It is no wonder that they are fighting for the right to work".

Slogans on wall of car component factory in Adelaide — painted after sacking of 700 Chrysler workers. Photo of a building with writing on it

Since this letter was written, Salient has received news from Adelaide that Chryslers has sacked 700 workers from this factory — included among those sacked was the entire membership of the workers Rank and File group, which has been instrumental in that factory in leading workers in their fight for the right to work. The Union concerned (Vehicle Builders Union) has again refused to accept the decision of the workers' meeting — and has indeed gone worse — it has refused to support the 700 sacked workers, its own members!

The Chrysler workers will undoubtedly resist this attack on their rights, and by doing so will make it that much harder for further wholesale sackings to take place. This has already been shown by concerted action in the past.

Mealtickets and Empty Plates

It was reported that the number of young unemployed in 24 western industrial countries of the OECD (Organisation (or Economic Co-operation and Development) has now reached a record 7 million, or 40 per cent of the total unemployment, while young people accounted for only 22 per cent of the population of working age in these countries.

In the United States, up to last May, the unemployment rate for the young people ranged from 12.2 per cent to 19.9 per cent over the last decade. In the nine EEC (European Economic Community I countries, the trend of faster rising youth unemployment than total unemployment has become apparent since 1970. To many European young people, the situation is still worsening. A third of the 5.5 million unemployed at the end of last year were young people. In Britain; youth unemployment jumped from 28,000 in 1968 to over 200,000 in 1976. Youth unemployment also went up in France. Italy, Canada and other industrial countries.

With serious unemployment prevailing in the main western capitalist countries many students are unable to find a Job upon graduation. Two-thirds of Italy's unemployed are looking for their first job and nearly half of its our-of-work young have a high school or university degree. In an article on youth unemployment, the British paper The Financial Times', noted that in the West European countries, the young people who have just entered the labour market are the first victims, and this group of people are chiefly high school and university students.

In the United States, unemployment has been particularly serious among the young black people, with a rate of 15.8 per cent in 1955, 30.2 per cent in 1973 and 40 per cent in April, 1977. The rate of unemployment for the young blacks was much higher than that for the young whites in the corresponding period. In Detroit, the centre of US auto industry, most of its 1.4 million people are black, and unemployment among the city's black youth is variously estimated at from 50 to 75 per cent. In Oakland, California, estimates of unemployment among black youths run as high as 75%. In a report on unemployment among US black youths The New York Times' said that the unemployment rates of black teenagers "were not only the highest during the recession but have also proved the most unyielding".

With the number of young unemployed growing, many of them are roving the streets and the ruling circle) of the western countries are worried about the possible social repercussions. The British weekly 'The Economist' said in an article on June 11 that most governments of the western countries "have short, uncomfortable memories of the student actions of the late 1960's and fear that the recruiting-sergeants of extremism and revolution cannot be far away from the jobless youth".

—Hsinhua

SRC 8 the Mumble ~ Movers

Last Wednesday (20th July) a Session for Retarded Crusaders was held in the Union Hall. 1st place in the most Retarded Crusader Competition goes to James Movick for integrity and perseverance, while 2nd (well, where else?) was Gyles Beckford, whose eloquent "No-I-dont-want-to-say anything's' greatly impressed those present. It was a photo finish for third, between Bruce Robinson (bombs), Patrick Mulrennan (trots) and Paul Norman (fish), but it was eventually Paul who won by a neck. Consolation prizes to Neil Pearce whose boredom was infectious and who mumbled interjections in his beard and to James Robb (who also ran, but where to and why is mere speculation).

East Timor

The meeting began with a report from Peter Hopkins from the Campaign for East Timor. He played a tape-recording (which unfortunately was hard to hear), from an Australian journalist in East Timor outlining some of the feelings of "men who know they may die tomorrow and don't understand why the rest of the world doesn't care". In 1975, the population of East Timor was 650,000 and today it is just on 500,000, partly because "the Indonesians have lost so many men and arms that they have changed policy. Instead of attacking, they are executing 80 people a day. It seemed the least the meeting would do was to recommend a \$100 donation to the East Timor campaign.

SRC header

No Confidence wins Election

Next came the election of National Affairs Officer, James Robb, sole candidate faced close questioning from Paul Norman who wanted to know amongst many other things how James would claim concern for

environmental issues and not support a 200 mile fishing limit around New Zealand's coastal waters, James election was unsuccessful, so the position remains vacant.

There then followed motions 6-13 (inclusive) on the agenda. All were moved by the unholy alliance of James Movick and Gyles Beckford and all, incidentally, were passed. The first six of these condemned US imperialism and colonialism in the Trust Territory of Micronesia, Guam and Eastern Samoa.

Micronesia

This territory was given to the US after the war by a mandate from the United nations as "strategic" territory, thereby enabling the US to take a more unilateral 'line' in its sovereignty. However, part of the mandate stated that US was to grant the right of full self-determination to any of the Territory that wanted it. The congress of Micronesia is currently being denied this right.

These six motions in effect condemned the US for attempting to break up the Congress of Micronesia with the result that the Mariana Islands are now seeking free association with the US Marshall Islands, spying (through the CIA) in the Trust Territory and attempting to bribe leaders, and for proposing the establishment (backed by a monstrous Japanese consortium, the Iranian government and the US Naval Services) of a huge port on the Island of Palau. This "will pose a serious threat to the environment, especially to the sea on which the people are dependent for their livelihood as well as to effectively deprive the people of most of their land.

The unholy alliance successfully extended its doctrine (on behalf of the Association) to affirm the equal status between overseas [unclear: is] students studying in NZ and NZ students, and as a result there should be no interference by either Government in the lives of overseas students, who (though elligible to vote in New Zealand) are not permitted any political involvement whilst in NZ. The allegations of the NZ Department of Labour regarding Malasian students marrying New Zealanders "for convenience" were not only unsubstantiated, they were condemned as "racist and highly insulting to the integrity of overseas students". The final motion in this series stated "That VUWSA believed that Island immigration work quotas should be based upon the economic needs' and planning of Island economies as determined by those countries, and not on the needs of the NZ employers. "This would prevent the situation where many thousands of Island workers who were "imported" into NZ as cheap labour when the economy seemed sound, but were all turned away when it took a down-turn."

Photo of Bruce Robinson

Robinson Bombed Again

Bruce Robinson now enters the limelight calling on the Association to support the Commenoration of Hiroshima Day on August 5th by a moral and reaffirming US support for making the Pacific a nuclear-free zone of peace. The development of the so-called "neutron bomb" which usefully demolishes people but leaves buildings intact was considered a definite move to making nuclear warfare a move inviting "policy option and its development and deployment were opposed by the Association.

Mumbles Anonymous

There endeth the agenda. Nothing much emerged from General Business because everyone was very Generally Bored. Except it was moved by Gyles (Got-my-name-in-front-for-once) Beckford, seconded Neil Pearce "that this Association strongly opposes the widespread use of mumbling in any shape or form during meetings". At least I guess that's what they said, but there was a lot of breathing and silence and mumbles and — um . . . uh . . . yes . . . hm.

There was one final outburst of energy when a motion of support for Gay Pride Week was passed. The yes vote was barely inaudible above the mumbles which was the response when Lindy Cassidy closed the meeting — no words, whimpers or bangs — just a mumble. — R.S.

Newsheet

Monday 25 Julys 12 Noon VUW Debating Society: "That Massage Parlours should be rubbed out". Union Hall. 12 Noon Mass: Ramsey Mouse. 7 pm Vic Squash Club, trials for Winter Tournament.; John Reid Squash Courts. If interested ring Hamish at 769-342. 8p.m. Offal and Ouzo Evening, Salient Office. Tuesday 26 July 1pm Socialist discussion: Maoism, Trotskyism and democratic Rights. Lounge. 2.15 pm Union Films: 'The Inheritor'. Memorial Theatre. 4.30 - 6.30 Pottery Classes: 52 Adams Tce in Pottery House. Beginners welcome,

tutor and materials provided. Further information from Pippa, phone 888-285 (h) or 851-999ext.889(w). 5 - 7pm Scottish Country Dancing, in Union Halt, all welcome. Wednesday 27 July 12 Noon Bursaries Forum: Union Hall 12.30 pm Gay Pride Week forum: "The gay rights struggle". Lounge and Smoking Room. 1pm Mass: RB 819. 1 - 3 pm Pottery class: 52 Adams Tce. Still some vacancies. 2.15 pm Union films: "Little Murders' Memorial Theatre 3 - 5 pm Pottery Classes. 5 -7 pm Pottery Classes 5.15 pm Cathsoc Mass and Tea. Ramsey House Lounge. Thursday 28 July 12 Noon Cafe forum. Union Hall. 2.15 pm. Union films "Summer of 42" Memorial Theatre. 5-7.15 pm Students Against Imperialism The econpmic crisis and the universities; bursaries, library hours and student cut backs. Lounge. 5.30 pm Cultural Affairs Committee. Boardroom. Friday 29 July 12 - 2 pm Political Science Society. Ros Noonan speaks on the role of man in the womens' liberation struggle. Memorial Theatre. 8 pm Scottish Country Dancing social evening: Tennis Pavillion.

Important Notice To All Cultural Clubs

The Cultural Affairs Committee has extra funds available for projects for the coming Arts Festival. If your club needs money to get projects completed then come and discuss your requirements with us. The next meeting of the Cultural Affairs Committee will be on Thursday, July 28 at 5.30 in the board room.

Salient Notes

Drawing of Cheshire Cat

All in all its been a pretty boring week what with David Murray lying at home in bed mouthing slogans to himself and Bruce Robinson practising his Revue skit at SRC. Its been bloody boring in the Salient Office tooo as the rain has kept us inside and the shop has been out of coloured pencils. People have been moping round all over the place generally looking like dogs chasing their tails or budding politicians practising auto-fellatio. David Tripe and Dave McPherson amused themselves by writing a Publican's history of NZUSA while Rod James drew the cartoons from his special pew in the cafe. Meanwhile Gyles Beckford personally supervised the hunt for new Salient material in the Union Building toilets. Rose Collins and Lamorna Rogers scoured the Womens toilets while Gerard Couper and Patrick O'Dea handled the men's turning up such masterpieces as "What's the biggest drawback in India today — Elephant foreskin" as well as the usual depravo jokes ans such philosophical masterpieces as "I shit therefore I am". David Hedge returned from a trip a trip to the upstairs men's with an idea for his latest review while Simon Wilson and Andrew Dungan argued about David's encroachment on their review space. Rire Scotney launched an expedition to fid life on Chris Norman while Leonie Morris interviewed Lindy Cassidy and Kevin Swann on the exec's masterplan to buy the Association bak from Steve Underwood. Lynetter Shum and Jane Wilcox took the pictures while Wendy Bachler and Angela Boyes-Barnes typed the stories. Paul Norman, Sean Tuohy and Quentin Roper got their names left out Salient is published by Victoria University of Wellington Students Association and printed by Wanganui Newspapers, Drews Ave, Wanganui.

V.U.W.S.A. INSURANCE Be future minded! For helpful insurance advice, contact Jim Henderson, Phone 737-428, 726-606

John Reid's SOUASH CENTRE SOUASH: 60c per half hour per person Normally \$1.25 STUDENTS RACKETS: 40C concessions GEAR HIRE: 30c PER Item CONCESSION HOURS 9-12 and 2-5 WEEKDAYS The Budget A SAD TALE YES FOLKS! IT WAS ONE OF THOSE NORMAL BORING EVENINGS...OR SO IT SEEMED! HMM... TIME FOR TH' BUDGET GUESS ID BETTER LISSEN TO WHAT TH' IDIOT'S GONNA DO! CLICK! SILENCE GODDAMN RADIO RATTLE! SHAKE... RATTLE! CLICK... SPUT..ZORCH! CRUNCH ZORCH THUMR CLICKETY CLICK CLICK THE BUD ZORCH..THIS YEAR ZORCH.. BY THE PRINT MINISTER SOUND OF RADIO BEING COAXED INTO OPERATION... YES! WHILE I'M NOT SUPERSTITOS I HAD THIS...THIS FEELING THERE WAS A POWERSTRUGGLE ON BETWEEN THAT RADIO AND MY MIND!... ...AND AS BEFORE, THE GOVERMENT WILL DO NOTHING SUBSTANTIAL TO LOWER RECORD RATES OF INFLATION...BELT TIGHTENING... ...BULLENT.. ...JELLYBEENES... ..ETC...ETC... HEH HEH... Y'GOTTA PUT TH' MEDIA IN IT'S PLACE! YUS! SPUT WHEEZE ...HOWEVER..I DELIDED TO IGNORE THAT DAWN RADIO...S'BEEN GETTING A BIT TOO HEAUY LATELY... Y'SEE WHENEVER TH' FRIDGE STOPS WORKING... SO DOES TH' RADIO! LIGHT TOO! HMM... ANYWAYS I JUST THOUGH I'D ACT LIKE NOTHING WRONG... DUM DE DUM HMM... USUALS HIT... ..HOPE THEY DON'T RAISE CIGGIES OR PISS TOO MUCH! ...LUCKY WEED'S NON TAXABLE... TAP TAP ...WISH THERE WUZ MORE AROUND. YEH! ZORCH SO I HAD A BEER. THEN SUDDENLY..

...DRONE...EDUCATION..BELCH ...HIGHER BURSARIES?? CRASH! ..THE STANDARD TERTIARY BY RSARY WILL BE RASIED TO AL LOW FOR INFLATION WHICH HAS.. FRENZIED STATE MONEY! FOOD! I CAN LIVE AGAIN! ...IT WILL BE RAISED TO... YES! YES! YES! TWO DOLLARS AAGH TWO DOLLARS???? EXTREMELY FRENZIED STATE I THOUGHT I'D GET RID OF THAT DAWN RADIO FOR GOOD! TWO?? DOLLARS?? ...MEANWHILE, NO THE STREET OUTSIDE (AT THAT MOMENT)... HULLO ...SOMETHING JUST HIT ON THE HEAD..FELT LIKE A ... A.. A RADIO FRED! WEEEEEL! SOUNDS LIKE A QUEEN ONE TO ME BRULE... SURE IT WAS A... POLICE YEP! S'A RADIO ALRIGHT... QUESTION ROPES 77

Health Service

A Better Deal for the Disabled

Drawing of heads in profile

This week's contribution was prompted by South Pacific Television's Access programme by the Multiple Sclerosis Society on Sunday July 17th. The programme focused on the problems of the almost 3,000 sufferers in New Zealand of this perplexing disease of the nervous system, one of them Victoria's John Blincoe.

Linkman in the programme was John Brown, Christchurch journalist and staff reporter with "The Press", who also has MS. In 1976, as a Churchill scholar he spent 6 months studying the social welfare provisions for the physically disabled in Europe and N. America, with particular reference to people suffering from multiple sclerosis. He emphasises the word "people" not "patients". He found that we lag far behind the countries he visited in provisions made for the physically disabled and since his return has been a strong advocate for improvements in NZ. He is sceptical of the benefits to be derived from the Disabled persons Community Welfare Act (1975) without a considerable change in attitudes.

All disabled people no matter how severely disabled possess some ability. The range of handicap is wide. Disability may be tempory or permanent, static or progressive. As generally understood it includes

- the blind or partially sighted.
- the deaf or those with hearing impairment.
- severe speech detects.
- paralysis or defective control of movement or bodily function.

How many people in the community can be classed as disabled? The figure of 7% is an often quoted figure as a guide to the proportion of the population who at some time in any modern society could use a from of rehabilitation assistance. And the number is likely to increase rather than decrease. United Nations rehabilitation adviser G. Moureaux estimates that before the turn of the century the number of handicapped people in an industrialised society [unclear: could] approach 12%.

There are a large number of voluntary organisations and Government agencies providing assistance for the disabled but no single agency, institution or discipline can accomplish the complex task of rehabilitation alone. J.J. Weir, Chief Rehabilitation Officer for the Rehabilitation League sees a disturbing preoccupation with the health and welfare aspects. These, he emphasises, cover only two components and argues for a broader concept restoring a physically or mentally disabled person to the fullest possible social and economic activity.

Fine sentiments but practical difficulties can be daunting. As Dr R.K.Dell, Director of the National Museum comments "many of the premises were built as if they were Greek temples". The National Museum is basically on three levels but in addition there are sunken and raised areas making access extremely difficult if not impossible. The National Art Gallery is out of bounds for those in wheelchairs, a situation he describes as tragic.

Are there hopeful signs for the future? In 1974 the Health Department established the NZ Aids and Appliances Unit at Palmerston North. The Director is Dr Terry Cuniffe who trained a Loughborough's Institute for Consumer Ergonomics, ergonomics being an amalgam of engineering, design, architecture, biology, psychology, physiology and occupational therapy. The aim of this unit is

- To make existing facilities suitable for greater number of disabled people.
- To extend the range of facilities for the disabled.
- To give personalised attention to individuals.

Image of a disability sign

There are also improvements in buildings regulations for new buildings.

In Britain the National Union of Students jointly established the Disabled Student Research Unit in 1974 to

examine the problems of one particular group of handicapped people — disabled students. Their report "The Disabled Student" published in 1976 makes uncomfortable reading. The history of well intentioned neglect, the lack of positive policy and the inadequate provisions must be changed. For too long the disabled have been confined to the periphery, of the community and at last we are beginning to see a long overdue shift towards the integration of the disabled into the mainstream.

What is happening on our own campus? In May 1974 the Civil Defence and Safety Advisory Committee set up the Disabled Access Sub Committee. In March 1975 Mr Byron Buick-Constable was appointed Disabled Students Liaison Officer. For some years special examination facilities have been provided for a wide range of disabilities.

Toilets in the University Union have been adapted for use by wheelchair users. Improved lighting, handrails, and ramps have been provided where access is difficult. Parking spaces for the disabled have been allocated. A route map and guide sheet have been produced to guide the disabled through what must rank as one of the most challenging of campuses. But more can be done. Unecessary impediments will continue to be a feature or our campus unless we really care. Any suggestions to improve existing facilities should be directed to Welfare Service Staff or Mr Ed M Carthy, Civil Defence and Safety Officer, Works and Services.

There should be more of these signs on our campus and in Wellington public buildings.

Jim's Gym

(This passage has absolutely nothing to do with the letter from Frank N. Stein in last weeks Salient about the Gym hire system.)

Once upon a Frank, oops sorry it won't happen again.....a time there was a poverty stricken Gymnasium which had to make purchases of beersteins, naughty typewriter, er er badminton [unclear: racquets] which cost at least a quarter of a zillion dollars each and things like 20 c ping pong bats at \$5 each with lots of other Gym type goodies which quite Frankly, (now I'm terribly sorry Mr Stein, it really won't happen astein I mean again), are absolutely necessary for the enjoyment of the Gym facilities.

So anyway the nice, pleasant, wonderful, frank (smack, smack) Gym staff decided to entrust their beautiful Student-Paid-for equipment to would-be Gym users on security of a library card. They even thought about letting people use their Stein-way piano (you missed that didn't you?) for the library card; Well would believe it within a year the Gym had collected together lost of used and sweat-steined (you bad boy, go and steind outside in the pouring rain) library cards and had contributed Hundreds of dollars worth of racquets and 20c ping pong bats (at only \$5 a bat from your frank and friendly sports stein, (please don't be offended Mr Stein, he's only an amateur slanderer) store, towels, T-shirts and shorts to the community at large. In other words Student Money was being ripped off.

The Gym staff found that the use of duplicate, pinched and 'so what if I've lost it library cards was leaving the poor, poor, Gym in dire financial straits. It went down in the annals of Physical Welfare history as the Great Gym Rip off equalled only by the Great Tea Trolley Disaster of 1946.

Well to cut a short story long the Gym introduced the 'Student Travel Card or Driving Licence Security System'. Losses, dear Frank to be quite frank, have been halted and the Student Money saved. It is, in the absence of a good I.D. Card with Photo, the best system we could come up with . . and more importantly, it works. It needs to be pretty strictly enforced which makes things a little unpleasant at times, (I remember this chap called Einstein who came for a game of Badminton . . . but that's another story).

THE EMI SHOP..... 106 CUBA STREET (PH. 843 046) Has recieved several large shipments of Coveted Imports. The latest shipment includes Blues, Jazz and Classical gems. Some interesting ones.... David Crosby Herbie Mann Booker T 8 The MGs Daryl Hall 8 John Oats Tim Buckley The Doors Velvet Underground Ry Cooder The Grateful Dead

There are several other important points worth mentioning regarding our protecting the Gym viz. Student interests', not least of which is that of non-university people using the Gym for free, but to save further ranting and raving on both sides of the stein, if the gentleman concerned or his manufacturer would like to discuss the matter further, your friendly Gym Staff would welcome the opportunity to have a chat at your convenience.

Yours steincerely,

Mary Bysshe Shelley.

BCA Graduates and Commerce Students... We are visiting the University on Monday 1 August and would

like to meet students who have reached an advanced stafe of their BCA course and who would like to discuss a challenging professional career. Our firm can offer practical experience in all fields of accountancy using up-to-date and sophisticated techniques and this is supplemented by extensive person development and professional training programmes. If you would like to discuss your future career plans with us at the University please contact: Mrs McLean Careers Advisory Board 6 Kelburn Parade Wellington Telephone: 728-150 Alternatively you can contact our Staff Partner, Mr George Verry, direct to arrange a discussion on career opportunities. Wilkinson Wilberfoss CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS HUME HOUSE, 152 THE TERRACE, PO BOX 490, WELLINGTON. Telephone: 725-840

The Carlton Hotel The friendly Pub in Willis Street We can offer you... * A Sportsman's Bar and Bistro downstairs. * Colour T.V. in the Sportsman's Bar. * Relax in our second floor Resturant with a wine or an ale and a delicious meal (Sirloin Steak \$2.95, Lamb Cutlets \$1.90, Fillet of Fish and Chips, and of course, there is the 'Chefs Special' every day. * Our popular Trendy Bar upstairs. * Late licence Bar and Bottlestore service until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights.

SUPPORT OVERSEAS STUDENTS In October 1976, the Government announced changes in its Private Overseas Students Policy that have, in 1977, had the effect of cutting the numbers of first year private Malaysian students in New Zealand by 46%. Because Malaysian students make up the largest proportion of overseas students, this cut has directly caused a 38% cut in the total number of overseas students. Although saying that the cut in Malaysian students would allow more students into New Zealand from the Middle Fast and the South Pacific, the Government has not admitted one single extra student from these areas in 1977! The Governments hypocrisy must be exposed. One the one hand it is happy to spend over \$20 million per year on maintaining a military base in Singapore (supposedly to aid Malaysia and Singapore), while on the other hand it cuts its educational aid to developing countries by 38% (to well under \$5 million). Kiwi students must support their fellow overseas students in the campaign against these cutbacks. Let's get New Zealand's priorities right! This "Cutbacks Special" contains articles relating to the campaign against the Government's cutbacks. We aim to show the Government that its actions are I-considered, improper, and unpopular. We demand that the government fulfill its obligations to the developing countries in this region of the world by providing the educational aid necessary tp pay for the same number of overseas students in future that were studying here in 1976. JOIN THE NATIONAL RALLY OF THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE JULY 27th - WELLINGTON Support the Action on Your Campus on July 25 th or 26th FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT YOUR CAMPUS STUDENTS ASSOCIATION OPPOSE THE CUTBACKS! PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL OVERSEAS STUDENTS ACTION COMMITTEE (OF NZUSA) — P.O.BOX 9947, WELLINGTON

Cut Overseas Troops [unclear: No] Overseas Students

We hope that the points raised on these pages will [unclear: encoun] to support the overseas students in their campaign against the government's quotas. If you would [unclear: like er] information, don't hesitate to contact NZUSA or the local committee on your campus. A [unclear: number flets] on this issue as well as a survey of the financial status of overseas students have been published [unclear: and be] obtained on request from NZUSA.

On July 26 the Action Committee on your campus, [unclear: supo by] your Students' Association, will be conducting activities in support of the campaign. Please [unclear: join them] in any way you can. And if you are in Wellington on the 27th join in the rally outside the [unclear: office e] Overseas Students' Admissions Committee (meet at NZUSA at 9 a.m.). Hero, NZUSA representatives [unclear: wi arguing] the case against the cutbacks and will be attempting to get this government body to take a [unclear: star inst] the government's policy.

Cut Overseas Troops No Overseas Students Drawing of a man putting nails in a coffin

The Latest on the Cutbacks Campaign

By Lisa Sacksen, NZUSA President

This Wednesday, 27 July, the Overseas Students Admissions Committee is holding its annual meeting in Wellington. It will be the first opportunity all the universities and NZUSA have had, since the Government cut the numbers of private overseas students allowed into NZ, for us to discuss the disastrous effects of this policy. As your representative on OSAC, I intend to raise the following points:

- the detrimental effects the cutbacks will have on the academic, cultural and social life of universities and on NZ's educational aid to developing countries;
- the failure of the Government to consult with the universities about the cutbacks;
- the urgent need for the Government's policy to be reviewed and changed and for all interested parties, especially the universities to be involved in that process.

The Effects of the Cutback

Figures produced by OSAC show that the Government talked absolute nonsense when it said that the cutback in Malaysian students had been introduced to bring more overseas students into NZ universities from other countries.

The fact is that the numbers of students from countries other than Malaysia increased by only four this year and that private students from Malaysia made up nearly 72% of the overall intake.

And despite its professions of concern about giving greater aid to the Pacific, the numbers of Fijian students (by far [he biggest group from the Pacific) increased by only one this year.

Unfilled Quotas at Universities

Some people have claimed that the cutback in overseas students is necessary because the universities can't afford to provide places for these students.

The universities themselves have given the lie to those claims. Despite the fact that they do face greater financial difficulties, the universities offered nearly as many places for overseas students for 1977 as they did for 1976.

But barely more than 50% of the places offered by the universities were filled because of the cutback by the Government in the numbers of Malaysians allowed into the country. This means that qualified students who wanted the opportunity to start a university education in NZ have been denied that chance by our Government and the universities have been denied the chance to help them.

Lack of Consultation with the Universities

Since the National Overseas Student Action Committee of NZUSA published the last "Cutbacks Special", the Secretary of the Overseas Students Admissions Committee (Mr Peter Morris) has written a number of letters to the newspapers claiming that NZUSA says that OSAC and the universities have the power to decide how many overseas students should be allowed into New Zealand.

His statements are quite misleading, NZUSA has never claimed that the universities or OSAC have those powers regardless of the Government's immigration policy. What we have said and repeat saying is that the Government should have consulted the universities before it decided to impose a cutback in overseas student numbers.

The fact is that the Government never consulted the universities. It never asked them if they were having trouble finding places for overseas students. It never requested their opinions about this valuable form of overseas aid which they play such an important role in providing.

NZUSA believes that the universities should have been consulted. Even the Minister of Immigration (Mr Gill) admitted in Parliament last year that consultation with the universities had not been "as good or as effective as it should have been."

In view of all these things NZUSA believes that the Government's policy must be reviewed and changed. At the OSAC meeting next Wednesday I will be asking the universities' representatives to support NZUSA in asking for that to be done. NZUSA needs your support too. By taking part in the action on your campus before the OSAC meeting you can give us that support. We hope also that you will be able to support us in future action that will be taken on this issue.

New Zealand's Aid to Overseas [unclear: Student]

In putting forward this point, we are assuming that New Zealand has a strong moral obligation to provide aid to Third World, or developing countries. This obligation has nothing to do with legal technicalities, but is based upon historical and trading patterns, as well as on principles of social justice.

Aid for Independence

We are also strongly suggesting that the reason a developed country (such as New Zealand) should provide aid to a developing [unclear: country] is in order to assist that country's fight to attain independence. This independence is not just a formal (or legal) political independence, but genuine, all-round independence —

political, economic, military and cultural Aid is particularly useful to developing countries in combatting the effects of their economic dependence on larger economic powers, and it is often true that a country's degree of economic independence will have a strong bearing on its degree of independence in the other areas mentioned.

In these times of growing rivalry (economic, political, and military) between the two superpowers, Russia and the United States, aid to developing countries to help them achieve genuine independence is even more important. This is the type of aid that New Zealand ought to be providing.

How Aid Works Now.

Unfortunately, at present, the aid given by New Zealand and other so-called western democracies is rarely given for altruistic reasons. Such aid is given in the sense of 'dangling a carrot' to ensure continued access to the foreign market or to a source of raw materials. Given the world's diminishing resources, particularly energy, there has naturally been a growth in aid committments from the developed countries, again primarily to protect their own present or future interests.

Increasingly, however, there is a call for aid to be based on the restructuring of the economic relationships between developing and developed countries. Government's such as ours are slowly recognising this, at least in words if not deeds. Muldoon recently made the statement that;

"....trade is a two way street"

When referring to this problem — inview of New Zealand's favourable balance of trade of \$30 million last year with just two developing countries, Fiji and Malaysia, perhaps he will increase the miserly \$3.5 million in aid given to those countries during the same period?

Educational Aid,

Aid should not be called aid if it does not result in some form of developmental advantage to the ordinary people of the recipient country. The best form of developmental aid is, quite obviously, the provision of educational facilities, preferably in the recipient country itself, or at least in the donor country.

There is no question that New Zealand sees its private overseas student programme as part of its general overseas aid policy. On 11.10.76, the Minister of Immigration stated;

"Policy changes relating to the numbers of overseas students admitted, and source countries, are designed to achieve a better balance, more closely related to our general overseas aid objectives, in the intake of private overseas students and in the undoubted contribution these students make in our educational institutions."

While the Minister's stated intentions are laudable, in reality the chances of large numbers of students from the Middle East or Pacific coming to replace thise cut from the Malaysian numbers are slim indeed. So far, the effect of the [unclear: Gover s] redistribution policy has been [unclear: no red tion] at all, but merely a 38% [unclear: chop otal] number of 1st year private [unclear: overs ents.]

[unclear: Question ask] ourselves.

[unclear: Th ion] that should be asked is; what sort [unclear: of aid New] Zealand give? Our view on the [unclear: answer s] is expressed in the section on [unclear: 'Aid for pendence']. Compared to maintaining [unclear: a militre ise] in Singapore, the importance of [unclear: educat vate] overseas students is paramount -[unclear: and is finitely] more humane. [unclear: Are oon's] Government and the 'Western [unclear: relian s] of S.E. Asia afraid of the knowledge [unclear: which tudents] might acquire in New Zealand? [unclear: If they it] because this knowlwdge sometimes [unclear: helps se] the system of oppression and in[unclear: justice valent] in these countries? [unclear: If aland] is to honour its aid committ[unclear: ment pirit] that we believe it should, the surely [unclear: educas ad] not troops, is the answer.

The Real Cost

Much has been made by the New Zealand Government of the financial burden that overseas students supposedly impose upon this country. Education Minister, Les Gandar, put the total cost of educating private overseas students in 1976 at \$6.1 million, or nearly \$2000 per student.

He has given no basis for these costs, merely stating that because the average cost of educating all university students in New Zealand was a little over \$1,800, and since overseas students tend to do more expensive courses, therefore the average cost for private overseas students would be more, i.e. about \$2000.

Not only must we look at such figures carefully and also the basis on which they rest, but we must also examine Mr Gandar's supposition that the monetary concern is the only one that has any bearing on this issue.

How Should We Measure the Cost?

None would deny that it costs New Zealand something to educate each private overseas student at our tertiary institutions. However, as the Acting Minister of Immigration said this year,;

"The philosophy behind our private overseas student programme is to provide expertise to other nations." In other words, we 'are not in it for the money', but rather for the help that we can provide to nations less well off than our own.

New Zealand provides just over \$50 million annually in direct aid to developing countries. This figure has not increased since 1975, though of course inflation has reduced the real amount considerably. On top of this Mr Gandar says we spend \$6 million on overseas students; yet the Government maintains military forces in Singapore at the cost of over \$20 million in 1976 (this is supposedly to aid Malaysia and Singapore).

We maintain that the priority in aid by New Zealand should be in the area of education - all the new roads and well trained troops in the world are absolutely useless if the ordinary people have not been educated to help themselves. What good is it to a developing country to have a soldier who can shoot an anti-tank gun, when his family is starving in the village because their crops have failed due to their lack of knowledge about crop rotation techniques, or because the big foreign merchants bought their rice for a song since no-one knew accounting procedures.

This is the sort of reason why it is important for New Zealand to maintain, or increase, its educational aid. If the Government is genuinely worried about the cost of its overseas aid, why doesn't it reduce its spending on military 'aid'?

The Figures Tell a Different Story

Universities spend 75% of their budgets on staff — these and other recurring expenses are incurred regardless of the overseas students that may have been admitted to fill up empty places — so the real cost of educating a private student is marginal only, i.e. is only the small extra administrative and maintenance cost incurred by each extra overseas student.

Another problem with the Government's argument is that overseas students, rather than taking expensive courses, are actually barred from enrolling in the most expensive ones, i.e. Medicine, Dentistry, Vetinary Science.

So it can be seen that Mr Gandar's \$2000 figure is a considerable over estimation. It is also a convenient way of ignoring the financial, and other contributions private overseas students make to New Zealand.

Last year private overseas students brought in nearly \$3½ million of valuable foreign exchange into the country. They also paid nearly \$½ million in fees and nearly \$¼ million in taxes — direct payments to offset some of the cost of educating them.

As opposed to the financial contributions, overseas students also make considerable cultural and social contributions. If it wasn't for them, most Kiwi students would never have had the opportunity they do have to observe the [unclear: Asaia and] Pacific cultures that overseas students bring to New Zealand.

No, No! We must make use of his cheap labor to build factories there. What's good for for him! He's sick we'll have to send move troops to protect his heath. You're both — we should increase our foreign aid so he can build super high ways to transport roursits to our Travelodge hotels. How about asking me? All I need is an education so I can help my self! DEFENCE FOREIGN AFFAIRS 3rd WORLD

The Position of Education in Malaysia

Malaysian Education Minister, Mahathir Hohammed

Photo of Mahathir Hohammed

The Front Wall of the University of Singapore Students Union.

To understand why so many Malaysian stundents are studying in New Zealand universities, it is necessary to study the educational and social system within Malaysia itself.

Background

Although its population of around 12 million is considerably larger than that of NZ., Malaysia has only five universities and a few other Tertiary institutions with a total student population of 30.000. By comparison. New Zealand has seven universities and 24 other Tertiary institutions. The total full-time tertiary student population

in NZ last year was 38,000, and there were another 120,000 students studying part-time.

In Malaysia, the future of education looks bleak in the current economic crisis. For example, the Mara Institute of Technology, one of the largest Tertiary institutions, had its student population halved this year. As well, all construction work on the newly-opened National University of Malaysia has been halted until such time as necessary finance is available.

With this background, we are pleased to publish the following article, written by a Malaysian student.

The Malaysian Education System

Education in a developing country like Malaysia is a luxury, and generally out of reach of a vast majority of the people. The problem is compounded by inadequate resources in trained personnel and facilities and lack of direction and objective in the educational administration.

In a study that traced the upward progress of all pupils from the year that entered primary one in 1957, reported that, by 1970, 99% of that batch had dropped out and that only the remaining meagre 1% was able to go on to university or higher tertiary education. A speech delivered by the then Minister of Education, in 1974, pointed out that 22,434 eligible students applied for enrolment to the universities in Malaysia for the 1974 academic year, only 6,095 were accepted.

In Malaysia, the economic strategy is to maintain a high rate of [unclear: economic] growth in older to solve the problems of poverty and income disparity. The impetus to this economic growth is foreign aids and foreign investment. But this strategy has generated more acute social imbalances with deteriorating unemployment and more-distinct polarisation of wealth. These imbalances are clearly reflected in the following income groups.

Percentage Distribution of Households by Income, Penisular Malaysia, 1970.

Source: Mid-Term Review of second Malaysia Plan 1971-75.

The table shows that only 1.4% of households earn more than M\$1,500 per month while 58.5% of households earn less than M\$200 per month in 1970. The Treasury Report also stated that 40% of the population live on less than M\$25 (roughly NZ\$10) per month in 1970.

The school system acts as an instrument for training labour through a system of streaming and elimination. This ensures a few elites will reach the top echelon while the many are channelled to fill the unskilled employment, underemployment or no unemployment at all.

In the case of poor Malay and Indian peasants or fishermen, their children can't afford to leave their homes, since they are needed to assist their parents to earn their subsistence living. The poorer sector of the Chinese face the same financial difficulties as their Malay and Indian brothers.

These three sectors of children comprise the vast majority of the primary students. Therefore, it is not surprising to see in the statistical figures in the previous paragraph, that only 40% of that batch of primary students that enrolled in 1957 are lucky enough to proceed to Secondary School. From these observations, it is clear to us that the drop out rate in the primary and secondary schools is an acute problem.

Foreign Domination of Malaysia

It's an undeniable fact that the major economic sectors of the Malaysian economy are dominated and controlled by the big foreign economic powers like the US, the UK and Japan. From the time of the First Malaysia Plan to the Second Malaysia Plan, the absolute figure of foreign investment and ownership has increased every year. Foreign companies own about 60% of the share capital of all limited companies in peninsular Malaysia. In corporate agriculture, forestry, mining and quarrying, commerce and insurance, foreign participation exceeds 50%. It is therefore likely that foreign ownership and control will increase its stranglehold, rather than weaken, under the Third Malaysia Plan.

Police firing teargas at students rallying in support of landless peasants in Baling, Malaysia.

Photo of people running from a fire

It's also undeniable that the principal aim of foreign monopolies is to make pre by plundering and exploiting our rich [unclear: natur] al resources, cheap labour force, and [unclear: taking] advantage of the Government's [unclear: incentives] such as the "pioneer status" and the [unclear: five to] ten year tax holidays.

Who gets what?

Following the "independence," and economic development based on foreign investment. Malaysia has produced an illusory 'prosperity' with multi-storeyed buildings and factories sprouting here and [unclear: there.] The Government has spent a large sum of its expenditure on an infra-structure which forms a vital incentive for foreign investment. In the Third Malaysia Plan, one [unclear: third] of the public expenditure of M\$18.555

million is to be devoted to this infra [unclear: structure] and general administration while only [unclear: abou] M\$1.671 million is allocated for education.

With the relative scarcity of financial resources being allocated to education, [unclear: higher] education becomes an acute hunger to [unclear: man] students. The number of Malaysian [unclear: students] (roughly 31,000) studying abroad, [unclear: provides] a sinking indication that a great need for improvement of education. What is often overlooked however is the greater need for a restructuring of our entire educational system.

Conclusion

The socio-economic inequality in Malaysia is a result of the elitist social and [unclear: econon] organisation of the country, and the free enterprise economic system which is [unclear: ground] on the principle of profit maximisation as the object - a western concept so culturally alien to us. And it should be obvious that the inherited elitist system [unclear: perpetuates] and is a function of, our education [unclear: system.] which was drawn up and brought to us by the British colonialists.

The education system is part and parcel of the total fabric of the Malaysian social, economic and political system. You can't change the educational system to serve the people and the country if the total system runs on self-interest and exploitation of the weak by the strong, the poor by the rich, and the illiterate by the educated.

This is not an impasse situation. If we recognise the deficiencies and antiquities of out education system and the irrelevance and morals, we can remain faithful to our ideals of a more just and equitable society, and we can work towards the fruition of these ideals based firmly on equality and humanity.

By-Election Supplement

Photo of Sue Hanna

WVP

Sue Hanna

Any executive role is to a certain extent administrative; however the position of WVP by its very lack of definition can be used to promote both social, cultural and political activities a healthy balance of all being essential to a healthy campus life.

Everyone talks about student apathy as if the problem exists out there, rather than realizing that they are a part of the problem. It is important to involve students in issues which they see as important particularly bursaries, assessment and what's going on around campus.

When you hear stories of students paying hostel bills of \$250 odd when their bursary amounts to only \$200, then there is obviously the need to fight and involve people to alleviate students financial difficulties.

The position of WVP was established to ensure that there would be at least one woman on a usually male-dominated executive. Thus, there is a heavy responsibility to ensure that women's welfare and interests are given close attention.

Recently we have seen attacks on women's rights in the report of Royal Commission and the reduction in the Domestic Purposes Benefit. It is vital that students particularly women are aware and concerned about these issues.

My priorities as WVP for the rest of the year would be the bursaries campaign, the cutbacks in overseas students, abortion and women's rights. If elected I will endeavour to help promote these campaigns and further students interests generally.

SRC Co-ord

Andy Moore-Jones

I have been SRC Coordinator since April of this year. In that time I believe I have made a not insubstantial contribution to this Associations activities. While I may not have fully realized the political potential of this portfolio, I have endevoured to keep abreast of, and help with most of the campaigns that VUWSA has initiated and participated in, as well as regularly uttering odd phrases at SRC.

Photo of Andy Moore-Jones

Much of my activity has been in the 'Social' sphere — having fun time hops and a rock concert.

I am also heavily involved in the Arts Festival. Priorities for the year — besides the Festival — will be the continuation of the Bursaries and Cutback campaigns'.

Cultural Affrs

Andrew Dungan

Photo of Andrew Dungan

I have been actively involved in the Arts for some time particularly the Theatre since 1974. I have been an active member of the Drama Society. This gives me an understanding of the problems involved in organising campus activities and the experience to overcome these problems.

Over the past four weeks I have been acting as interim cultural affairs officer. My job has been to organise the bureaucratic side of the job (e.g grant applications) and in working with NZSAC in organising activities for the coming Arts Festival.

If elected I will hope to capitalise on the impetus provided by the Arts Festival and try to bring a more lively atmosphere into campus activities.

Voting

NB: These are not the main elections, but are being held to fill vacancies on the present Executive. Elections for the 1978 Executive will be held in early August and any persons wishing to stand may put in an application at the Studass Office.

COMMERCE STUDENTS CAREER OPPORTUNITIES CHARTERED ACCOUNTANCY Barr, Burgess 8 Stewart are currently seeking students who are considering a career in chartered accountancy, commencing either in 1977 or 1978. We are interested in meeting you if you: * graduate from university this year or next; * are interested in the broader aspects of accounting, management and taxation: * have the desire and ability to learn to handle difficult and varied assignments that will challenge your skills and judgement; * are of an independent cast of mind and character; * exercise common sense; * have the ability to develop the respect of others; * have an active interest in your community; * believe you have the capacity to grow to high professional stature. We can offer you: * Dynamic short or long term career prospects; * Topline staff training programme; * The choice of work specialisation; * Overseas experience; * Stimulating work environment; * Top level salary and benefits, (including time off for completion of studies). For further details or to arrange an interview in our office, please telephone either Robin Hill or John McDougall at 727-787 Barr, Burgess 8 Stewart, Chartered Accountants, PO Box 243, Wellington. COMMERCE STUDENTS We will have vacancies at the close of the Varsity year for persons who intend to pursue careers in the accountancy profession. Our practice is one of the larger national ones and is actively engaged in all aspects of accounting, including Management Accounting, Secretarial, Taxation and some Auditing and is, therefore, able to offer a wide range of work of an interesting and challenging nature. Generous salaries are offered amd time off is granted for lectures and examination study, in cases where a successful applicant still has some subjects left to complete. Our firm has overseas associations and we have our own IBM system 3 computer installation. Applications are invited at any time before the end of 1977 from students who are partly qualified or who expect to graduate this year. Apply in writing, stating age and giving details of academic achievements to date and, if possible, supply a telephone number to:- Hogg Young Cathie 8 Co., Chartered Accountants. Auckland, Wellington 8 Christchurch. Contact: Mr Forgie, P.O. Box 3699, Telephone 364-762, Auckland. Mr Domett, P.O.Box 10340, Telephone 725-850, Wellington. Mr Rundle, PO Box 443, Telephone 65-282, Christchurch.

COMMERCE STUDENTS If you expect to complete your degree this year you will be considering your next goal. Whether your ultimate career is to be in the Practicing profession or in commerce or industry, you may now be looking for an organisation which can provide good training, broad experience, early responsibility and perhaps later the opportunity for experience overseas with an international firm. As a national firm of chartered accountants we believe we can offer such opportunities to commerce graduates or near graduates. EXPERIENCE Your assignments will cover a wide field of professional work including auditing, taxation and general accounting. RESPONSIBILITY Promotion can be rapid. We will watch your progress and note your achievements. If you are able to accept responsibility we will give you increasing interesting and important work — and reward you accordingly. TRAINING In addition to the first class day to day experience you will gain on the job you will take part in our staff training seminars and will be encouraged to participate in professional activities. OVERSEAS TRAVEL For those who have gained a solid background of experience with us there will be openings to work overseas on favourable terms at one of the offices of our associated inter-national firm. Interviews may be arranged on campus on Monday 1 August by contacting the office of the Careers Advisory Board, or at our office by telephoning our Mr K.T. Hindle. GILFILLAN, MORRIS 8 CO. WILLBANK HOUSE, 57 WILLIS STREET WELLINGTON. P.O. Box 996 Telephone:720-760

Film

Cute and Contrived

The 6th Wellington Film Festival A Final Roundup

Film header

The characteristic traits of the films in this year's festival are not encouraging. Almost none of the major directors lived up to expectations, some even presenting (in my experience) their worst work. Regurgitation of old formulae, self-defeating experimentation, an atmosphere of near fatalistic pessimism which conceals moral choice all restricted the development of cinema's power to communicate and extend our self-awareness.

Perhaps the most blatant rehash was Bob Rafelson's Stay Hungry. The protagonist is once again on the run from a restrictive family life, looking for an identity of his own. This time, however, neither his affair with a pretty girl nor his friendship with a philosophic he-man achieve any depth of human contact, yet we are supposed to understand he has been through a significant for mative experience and really has discovered the meaning to his life. The wealth of verbal evidence we are given to this end only reveals the emptiness of the film never has Rafelson taken has man so far with so little cause. Indeed, Stay Hungry seems built on a series of cheap visual ideas - Arnold Schwarzenegger in a batman costume. Sally Field in bikini pants and T-shirt, bodybuilders running amok in the streets, Jeff Bridges looking cute.

'Stay Hungry': The Emptiest Rehash.

Jacques Rivette's Duelle reaches a similar end through different means. His previous work gains much of its strength by investigating not just the imaginary as real but the real as imaginary. This has meant demanding roles for the actors, and complex thematic development which intrinsically leans towards myth. The films ask a high degree of involvement from us, not least in recognising that the two-way process is our own in watching them. Duelle reduces these ideas to an overtly schematic yet contradictory level.

It is part of the trilogy 'Scenes from Parallel Life'. Parallels in Rivette's work (reality and fantasy, one character and another, actress and role) have formerly suggested that the strands may be one and the same. Here they are distinctly separated and thus, being parallel, can never meet. In divorcing the invention from the real so completely (by use but not exploration of an imaginary myth) communication between filmmaker and viewer is denied.

If a truth within themselves prompts the goddesses and mortals to try to reverse positions it is concealed from us Points of contact between the two remain external [the protective diamond, fashion, etc.). Even emotions are treated as tools of the game, yet the film suggests nothing deeper Tricks of initially confusing scene changes and Juliet Berto's varying costumes replace genuine ambivalence. Where action was once the central issue Rivette presents us with little more than a certain style of appearance.

My adverse opinion of Lina Wertmuller's work remains unchanged by Seven Beauties. Her protagonist is still an opportunist coward with a farcial sense of dignity and no desire or ability to understand the world around him. And once again the Mm pretends to be an analysis of class structure. What it does is show us why this bugger will never be top of the pile, which is about as obvious and uninteresting as a limp cock.

Wertmuller doesn't fail herself to make that point; furthermore she has the only principled person in the film throw himself in the shit. Maybe she does think Everyman ridiculous, amusing, pathetic, and that we are not in any way in control of our destiny. Yet the painless delight she takes in telling us so suggests she also doesn't think he should be anymore.

Seven Beauties uses a pernicious device to estblish its thesis, The choice Pasqualino is given between ordering six men killed or precipitating the death of hundreds is no choice at all. It is an horrific example of what happens when we lose control, but not a crucial moral issue. From his face at the end of the film we are clearly meant to assume that Pasqualino now knows about the world. He knows suffering, but he doesn't realise that the constant choice he must make is to either accept a system which is set up to exploit him in the hope of manipulating it, or reject it in the hope of effecting change. This choice is not to be assumed from the film. To be aware of it is to learn nothing, to be unaware is to be misled. Seven Beauties is not just a tale of misadventure, however well contrived. It is a political lesson and must be responded to as such.

Winifred Wagner: All for the music.

The closest the festival came to presenting a great film was with The Memory of Justice. Events at the Nuremburg war trials, attitudes of the German people before the war and now, and corresponding elements re Vietman and Algeria provide director Marcel Ophuls with a focus for examining our concepts of responsibility. Judicious cutting weaves a tapestry that never threatens repetition and keeps his purpose (and the study of history's) firmly in mind: what does it all mean to us? Daniel Ellsburg's comments on US war politics are interspersed with insistent relevance through sequences pertaining to Nuremburg. A German woman explains how they didn't at first suspect what was going on in the 1930s and were later too afraid to find out or protest.

Ophuls is not out for retribution. His theme is the first of many questions we must ask ourselves: what is the balance of responsibility between society and its leaders? A German who alone among his acquaintances owns up to supporting Hitler, comments wryly that the thousands of cheering voices at rallies were all his. And Hitler's architect Albert Speer, making the most pertinent observation in the film says, "I could have known". The people may be less guilty than the tyrant but it is through their political apathy and ignorance of history that he gams his power.

Marcel Ophuls: A truly great filmmaker?

Confessions of Winifred Wagner crystallizes this theme within one character. Politics were irrelevant, claims the daughter-in-law of Richard, director of Bayreuth during the 3rd Reich, and dose friend of the Fuhrer. Relentless closeup photography and quotes from 'Mein Kampf' (and elsewhere) which counterpose the image she builds of a kind, generous Wagner-lover, force us to consider very seriously the impossibility of being a-political, a-moral. And just in case we are getting too glib in our evaluation, Winifred asks. "What would you do if a good friend, became a murderer? Accuse him, or try to understand?

A less than full understanding of its subject weakens the Canadian Action: The October Crisis of 1970. Certainly the implications of Trudeau's invocation of the War Measures Act in reaction to Quebec terrorist activity are not obscured. (One memorable scene shows the PM running rings around a hapless reporter making noises about democratic freedom. "How far will you go"? he is asked. "You just watch me", is Trudeau's grinning reply. The cleverest mouth wins, as we well know). The government's refusal on principle to compromise is well documented, yet the film professes ignorance of the terrorists reasons for killing their hostage. We can see that to let the hostage go would have been to sanction official rule by force whenever anything got out of hand: examination of the conflict of principles would have made this film more than a dramatic record of events.

It is interesting to note that in four of the five best documentaries (The Memory of Justice. Winifred Wagner, A Bigger Splash, and Gray Gardens) the filmmakers openly admit, and make a part of the film, the fact that they influence their subjects merely by their presence. In Grey Gardens especially this highlights the film's intermediary stance between us and the subject. At times the three-way relationships become quite fascinating. (The film on Muybridge is the exception but not really relevant because it deals almost entirely with still photographs).

Aspects of several other films are worth mentioning. Kaseki employs the admirable device of a voice-over narrative describing the protagonists emotional state at key points. Thus, while the actor averts his face we are able to analyse his problems dispassionately and still empathise with him, without getting caught in the snares of melodrama. In Prince Ehtejab the elliptical time-jumps have us confused for a while but once people and events start falling into place the film develops remarkably. Each scene does not merely add to the one before, it invests all that has happened with an extra dimension of meaning. Not until the end does the total significance emerge, and by that time reverberations are bouncing all over the place. The technique is common but rarely so systematically used.

'Kaseki': How to avoid melodrama.

Illustrious Corpses is just the opposite, an exposition on the corruption of power politics which makes itself clear in the first half hour yet insists on spelling everything out right to the bitter end. This concept of dramatic unity died in the cinema long ago. Pleasure at His Majesty's is similarly ensconced in the past. Quite personally, I will scream if I hear the lumberjack song again, although many in the audience seemed never to have seen or heard any British comedians before. And I can't for the life of me see the value in watching the Monty Python team sitting around laughing politely at themselves not being very funny.

One of the best films of the fortnight was the sparsely attended Montreal Main. Because it was written by, for and largely about the actors themselves, it achieves full realisation of character and theme without any of

the devices of 'significant' lines or events. Its honesty, humour and heartfelt commitment stand as an object lesion to the likes of Visconti, Wertmuller and Truffaut. And its low-budget-imposed ingenuity net a lot more to offer then the glittering so-called representatives of the avant-garde. By and large it was the little films end the clearly non-commercial which made this festival. With many of the others being picked up on the commercial circuit almost as a matter of course, perhaps we could begin to see the festival committee redefining its aims to take cognizance of this — Simon Wilson.

'Montreal Main': The quietest success.

The Devil's Playground

Director Fred Schepisi

The premise and conclusion of The Devil's Playground is that authoritarian rules contradict their original purpose. The notion is not explored but serves as the point of departure for a journey of the spirit.

Our sympathies are lined up with the hero, Tom Allen, through whom we experience and can criticise the effects of institutionalised oppression. Our identification with him is natural and requires no persuasion on the part of the director, since we will always support human nature against an infringement of it. That the theme is static is, if you like, a limitation, but its value is in providing the steady vehicle-for the film's considerable strengths.

who suffer directly, and the Brothers, who represent it and who suffer, ironically, from the very system they choose to uphold, crosscutting between the two groups invites comparison; rather then providing contrasts, the effect is two layered, with a perspective on the two different stages.

Symmetrical shots of the chapel reinforce the rigid and fromal nature of the religious teaching. As a result of this conditioning (e.g. "Your body is your own worst enemy") the boys find that talking about masturbation is more embarrassing then enlightening. The camera registers this through symbolic focus, in the case of Tom and another boy, on hands and feet as much as upon faces.

Sexual repression, in particular, is dwelt upon almost exclusively. Carried to its ultimate end it produces complete psychological breakdown (Brother Frank); otherwise, for most of the characters, an unhappy compromise between thought and act prevails.

That each character has distinct and separate human qualities to raise them above the mere 'case study' level is the film's greatest strength. The diversity of characters means that each one except Tom, must make do with sketching out their salient personality traits for best effect. Despite the barrier, most have filled out their characters to the fullest. Nick Tate as Brother Victor was especially good.

Nice also to see Australian actors confident with their accents; there's a lesson for NZ actors here. Australian cinema comes of age? The Devil's Playground is one of the best indications so far.

— David Beresford.

Cousin Cousine

Regent Theatre

Pleasantly diverting movies that are genuinely funny have the misfortune of being either too scarce or too little seen so it makes a change for a film like Cousin Cousins to come along and settle the score on both counts. The core of this French comedy of manners is a simple and conventional romance between a man and woman around which revolve the antics and comic trials of their spouses. In a situation that normally would precipitate emotional wranglings and break hearts, instead, we have the characters coming to terms with their marital breakups in a silly and humorous way. Beyond this surface appraisal however, there is really little else to get your teeth into. In other words, if you haven't a sense of humour, then don't bother with it. Otherwise, it makes quite a good night out.

— David Beresford.

Car Wash

Plaza Theatre

In the middle of the sober pilgrimage to Culture Wellington film-buffs have been making, Car Wash appears, crocus-like, to rival the best. Perhaps the blue skies got to me, the sight of all that California sunshine was enough to make the mouth water.

A low-key comedy, the action of the film takes place at a downtown car-wash in L.A. The staff, who are largely blacks, contains traditional 'hip' characters: the 'serious' ex-con, the hippy, the 'confused' revolutionary, the starry-eyed stud and the squawking faggot. There is also a brilliant duo whose dance routines contunually amaze as they work in unison: 'doing' the Car-wash. Some of these are archetypes peculiar to black culture but here they retain general appeal. Unlike Sounder or Shaft, it's not a 'black' movie.

We get a day in the life of the car-wash. Everything takes place here which sounds boring but isn't. Another important aid to unity is the disco radio station which feeds rhythmical muzak to the workers. The 'early-bird' announcers' wake-up chatter starts the film and the 'sunset show, dee[unclear: jay] signs off as the film ends.

The pakehas in Carwash are a pretty sorry lot. The owner, brow-beaten by his wife, flirts with the bloated cashier; while his son gets in every one's hair. He's a college dropout in a Mao t shirt — mixed-up yid who smokes pot in the john.

The movie is a jumble of small sub-plots which veer from excellent, often Tati-esque gags to realistic pathos. Carwash avoids sentimentality and excessive slapstick. Indeed, "the absence of the latter sets it apart from mainstream American comedy.

In addition, Carwash has the best sound track of any movie in ages. Rose Royce singing 'I wanna get next to you' in the diner is a treat to behold. Catch it if you can.

Redmer Yska.

Previews

The Inheritor: Tuesday 2.15 pm A film by Philippe Labro in the well-established French thriller tradition, starring the doyen of the genge, Lips Belmondo. (1972).

Little Murders: Wednesday 2.15 pm Elliot Gould and Donald Sutherland mumble (very stylishly, we can be sure) through Jules Feiffer's lacerbic comedy. Directed by Catch-22 star Alan Arkin, who also appears (1971).

Summer of '42: Thursday 2 15 pm Ah, the poignance of adolescence! Blues skies when war was but a shadow on the horizon, fumblings in the dark and bravura at the local drugstore and the lonely woman at the end of the island. Lovely music too, this film. Directed by Robert Mulligan with Jennifer O'Neill and Gary Grimes. (1971).

—S.W.

Arts Festival News

Are you a dancer, singer mime-artist, actor or clown? Do you want to perform in Arts Festival but have not yet arranged to do so? We are putting together a multi-media show and urgently need people in the above capacities. The idea is to create and explore arbitrary relationships between different forms, to go beyond the bounds of what we know. Our field already encompasses painting, sculpture, music, film, the written word, etc., etc., etc.

If interested, ring Simon Wilson 727 684 or Bronwyn Williams 727 803.

Drama

Drama header

The Third America — Protest for Chile

performed by Sef Townsend Memorial Theatre 28th July

"The Third America-Protest for Chile" createa by Sef Townsend and directed by Ros Clark is a piece of Theatre which attempts to reveal the shocking facts of life for the majority of people in South America today. The piece is presented by Sef Townsend in a mixture of styesranging from mime, dance and song through to what might be described as "straight acting". It tells of the life of an ordinary man, an Indian, who lives in South America today. He knows how the Western World wastes more food than it eats, yet two of his children

have died of malnutrition. He knows how such democratic countries as New Zealand supposedly believe in justice, yet stand by and watch while he is brutally tortured for asking for more in his life than hunger and ignorance.

Although this man could be any Indian in South America today, he happens to live in Chile. Chile is the only country in South America whose people dared to stand up against the USA and foreign exploitation. Because the people demanded food, work and education for all, and because they wanted to stop foreign exploitation and control their own destiny, the CIA supported wholeheartedly by Kissinger, plotted to bring down the popular government al Allende, and helped bring about a reign of terror and inhuman conditions which continue today.

There are five characters in the piece by Sef Townsend, who by quick turns and changes moves from peasant to professor from oppressor to oppressed.

"The Third America-Protest for Chile" will be presented at The University Memorial Theatre on Thursday 28th July at 12.30 pm. Admission will be free. The play lasts 45 minutes.

Sef Townsend, is currently working on "The Ripple Project", Theatre Action's programme of research, teaching and performing which aims to stimulate theatre activity throughout Australasia. While in Auckland, he is working with the students at the Maidment Arts Workshop.

Rosalind Clark, director at the Maidment Arts Centre, is working with a production team from the student Workshop, and has created this piece with Sef Townsend, with the emphasis on simplicity and the dramatic effect of one actor playing many parts. Her experience in theatre directing has covered a wide range of productions both here and in the UK.

Townsend in "Protest"

"Under Milkwood"

NZ Drama School

Mid-year at the New Zealand Drama School sees a full production of the Dylan Thomas classic "Under Milkwood" scheduled for presentation to the general public from Friday 29 July to Sunday 7 August, at the Drama School itself, 172 Taranaki Street.

The Production, under Mr Webby's direction, is involving all of the School's students; the Second Year students taking all the many and varied acting roles, and the First Year students taking all the necessary backstage one, thus giving everyone a task and a learning opportunity, be it onstage on off.

The Welsh magic of Dylan Thomas has served as a revitalising and wholly enjoyable experience for audiences all over the world. This forthcoming production of Thomas' masterpiece "Under Milkwood" by the students of the national drama school, promises to reinforce that experience to the full — go!

While there are no student concessions, prices are very reasonable at \$2.00 a head. Reservations may be made by phoning Erica Stephenson at 847 467 between 10 am and 4 pm

— Mark Prain

What's on

Otherwise Engaged, Downstage: A very funny British comedy starring Ray Henwood in the lead role. A polished professional production well worth seeing.

Circa has had to delay the opening of their new production "Busa, Fish, Stas and Vi" by Pam Gems and so will not be performing next week.

Abelard and Heloise opens at Repetory this week. We hope to be able to bring you a review of this powerfull play in next week's issue.

The NZ Drama School Presents..... Dylan Thomas's Under Milkwood Directed by ... George Webby Admission — \$2.00 Bookings Ph 847 467 between 10 am and 4 pm.

DOWNSTAGE From July 6 until August 6 OTHERWISE ENGAGED by Simon Gray An award winning scathingly funny comedy. Dinner 6.30 pm. Play 8.15 pm. All bookings phone 849-639 BOOKINGS HAVE BEEN HEAVY DOWNSTAGE STUDENT CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE Mon — Thurs \$2.50 and \$3.00 Fri — Saturday \$3.50 and \$4.00 Box office noun: Weekdays 10 am to 8 pm. Saturdays 2 pm to 8 pm. Telephone 849 639

Student Travel Bureau Australian and Asian Student Flights Programme NOW AVAILABLE FOR BOOKING WELLINGTON to SYDNEY \$109.70 November 14, 23 December 07, 14, 21 January 25 February

24 WELLINGTON to SINGAPORE \$463.20 November 23 December 07, 14, 21 January 25 Febra February 24. 26 KUALA LUMPUR to WELLINGTON Same dates as for Singapore to Wellington. SYDNEY to SINGAPORE *\$317.20, \$342.20 October 6* November 09, 22, 23, 30 December 03*, 07, 12,* 19*, 24*, 28 January 01 *, 04, 11, 17, 24 February 01, 02*, 08, 22, 23* March 08, 22 SYDNEY to KUALA LUMPUR *\$323.80 \$329.80 October 06* November 09, 22, 23, 30 December 01,06,07, 08, 14,21,25,28, 30 January 04, 11, 14, 17, 21, 24, 25, 27 February 01,08,11,22,24 March 03, 08, 22 MELBOURNE to SINGAPORE \$342.20 *\$317.20 November 09, 23, 30 December 02*, 07, 09, 13*, 14, 20*, 21, 26, 28, 31 January 02*, 04, 12 Febraury 01, 03, 08 March 04*, 05, 08, 22 MELBOURNE to KUALA LUMPUR \$329.30. *\$335.10, †\$349.10 October 06† November 09, 23, 30 December 07, 09*, 14, 21, 26, 28, 31 January 04, 12 February 01,03,08,22 March 05, 08, 22 SYDNEY to WELLINGTON December 13, 20 January 17,24,26 February 12,14,21,23 SINGAPORE to WELLINGTON \$418.10 January 24 February 11, 22 WELLINGTON to KUALA LUMPUR \$430.20 Same dates as for Wellington to Singapore with the deletion of the flight on February 26. SINGAPORE to SYDNEY *\$317.20 \$329.30 November 09, 23, 30 December 02*, 03*, 07,13,15,* 20*, 21, 24*, 28 January 02*, 04, 12, 14, 20*, 24 February 01, 08, 11, 15, 22*, 26*, 28 March 01,05,08,15, 22,29 KUALA LUMPUR to SYDNEY \$342.20 November 09, 23, 30 December 07, 10, 14, 21, 23, 26, 28, 31 January 04,12,14,24 February 01, 08, 11, 15, 22, 28 March 01,05,08,15,22,29 SINGAPORE to MELBOURNE *\$317.20 \$342.20 November 09, 23, 30, December 01, 08, 12*, 15*, 20*, 25, 30 January 01*, 11, 17, 25 February 01, 02*, 08, 15, 22 March 01*, 03, 04*, 08, 15, 22, 29, KUALA LUMPUR to MELBOURNE \$329.30, November 09, 23, 30 December 01, 07, 08, 12, 14, 19, 21, 25, 28, 31 January 01,11,17,25 February 01,08,15,22 March 01, 03, 08,15, 22, 29, OTHER DESTINATIONS INCLUDE: Indonesia, Thailand, India, USA, Cnada, Europe, Hong Kong, Japan, Penang. All the fares include travel tax and are quoted on a one-way basis to assist you to choose your two-way combination. Due to airline regulations, retrun tickets only may be purchased. We regret that we are not permitted to issue a one-way ticket. Regulations do however, allow the flexibility of combining alternative arrival and departure points. For more information and full details contact Student Travel Bureau First Floor, Student Union Building. Mon - Fri from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm.

Our sale is over but we still have a bargain table containing some goodies that were missed last week. Some exciting new titles have just arrived in stock Gabriel Garcia Marquez, author of "One Hundred Years of Solitide" has just published a new novel "The Autumn of the Pariah". Now available \$10.25 Dame Edna's "Dame Edna's Coffee Table Book" (Limp Edition, \$9.85). Edna, alias comedian Barry Humphries at her sparkling best. Also did you know that you can buy your copy of "Time" magazine and "The Listener" from us? In stock every Monday. The CRITICS RAVE BARRY HYMPHRIES A WRITER AND PERFORMER OG GENIUS PLAYS AND PLAYERS Devastingly FUNNY Daily Express "THE FUNNIESR MAN ALIVE Plays and Players MOST ENTERTAINING MAN/WOMAN ON THE LAND STAGE Daily Mirror "DAME EDNA GREATEST COMIC CREATION OF OUR TIME" Plays and Players In evening not to middle Daliy Telegram VICTORIA BOOK CENTRE LTD 15 Mount St. Kelburn, Wgtn. Phone 729685/586

Colin Morris Records Caption Contest

No winner this week - pull out your witty fingers end send in some captions.

Photo of a man sitting in an armchair

Photo of people in a diner

Entries to the Caption Contest should be witty and topical. Entries may be put in the Salient basket in the Studass Office or in the box just inside the Salient door. Entries close on Thursday noon. Judging will be by the Salient staff and therefore no staff member may enter. The prize is an L.P. of your choice from Colin Morris Records.

Letters

Letters header

Sports Officer becomes TV "Star"

Dear David.

I must compliment peter Thrush for his little appearance on the TV 1 programme 'Seven Days', last Sunday 10.7.77. The programme you know doubt realise was based on the staff at the James Cook Hotel, No doubt his honorarium as Sports Officer is good pocket money to add to this income. Tell me did this amazingly invalid (campus-wise) person ever present a financial report on the Easter Tournament as requested by Gyles Beckford at an SRC sometime ago?

Being a mere first year peasant I don't get to see or hear of members of the Executive that often (those that remain, that is) hence the reason for asking the question. It's not that I'm out of touch with these amazingly secretive creatures, more to the point is that these honorarium, and therefore richer persons than myself, are out of touch with me and presumably a lot of other students. Actually I must figure out how to get hold of one of these honorariums on the quiet; the cash would come in handy right now!

Avid TV viewer.

Who won Easter Tournament??

Dear Editor,

How [unclear: bout] sum results from fucking Easier tournament?

Rumour has it that we won overall but how 'bout puttin' us in the picture for certain.

Sleepless Canterbury Studentials.

(We suggest that you join the queue, there are hundreds at Victoria who would like to know as well.)

Dear Sir,

As a first year student I have sat back and watched the debates about the performance of various Executive members with much interest and amusement. This whole thing about student politics is a laugh in itself for someone who has come from the cloistered atmosphere of a secondary school.

However, I have recently become more concerned than amused at the performance of the supposed Sports Officer (Petere Thrush). Not only did he seem to be the cause of many of the balls ups in the Easter Tournament (by the way we never did find out who finally won) but there is also the fact that he purports to represent us students on such important bodies (so they tell me) as the University Council. If what they say is true about him not being present for half of these meetings when he is supposed to be representing us on such important issues such as library cuts and restrictions to the law faculty, then just where the hell has he been, and why hasn't he been given the axe?

Whear much about student democracy and the controlling of our affairs but why hasn't this fellow been called to account for his incompetence. Further, why has the man still got the arrogance to ask for more money when in fact he can't justify what he already receives. It would seem from what I have read that this fellow has been continually asked about his work this year and has not been able to give a satisfactory account for himself.

I can ill afford the \$37 I paid this year, and I object to it being wasted on the likes of Thrush. He should either be given the chop or have the grace to resign.

H.N. Luke

Alex Chen writes again

Dear David,

I would like to reply to the few individuals who get so upset about my last letter. Maybe I have stepped right onto the tails of the MSSA cunning fox who have been carrying smearing campaign to date.

First of all to the ones who are waiting for my apology, apologise my foot! If you guys think I have stepped painfully on your tails, too bad, so next time don't stick your tails out for me or others to step on. In actual fact, my letter is not meant for you stupid fools who keep on writing those non-sensible smearing letters. Moreover, under no circumstances should I apologise if what I think was fair and unbias, otherwise it would be like

MSSA, puppets and "Yes" men of organisations and people they lean upon.

If anyone wants facts about my previous letter, here it goes. Last year MSSA was divided by a few individuals under the direct backing and support of VUWSA President Gyles Beckford, who I believed drafted a Press Statement to start off, about the issue on marriage of convenience in the name of the new MSSA. (Please confirm yourself with the few individuals who most of them have later resigned). Nevertheless the statement did not appear in any of the newspapers!! Just by look at the statement circulated around the Library, one can tell the special typewriter and type setting has been used, obviously from the Salient office. The then MSSA committee thought that they had done a great job, but they did not realise that the statement also included an attack on NZ government policy on Rhodesia or South Africa apartheid. What a joke! They did not even know they are being made use of to propogate other people's campaign. (If you have not got a copy, go and ask them for one, I still have mine, unluckily!)

Another evidence would be the newsletter No 2 of MSSA. another now Ad hoc committee was formed only after four months. (This proves my point of people coming in and out whenever they like without indue responsibility of what they have done because they would not be accounted for). In this newsletter the full program of International Students Congress was published, giving its members an impression that MSSA is the major organiser. However, look at the programme and the guest speakers on topics such as "nuclear Free Zone in the South Pacific" and the film on "this is no crisis" on South Africa? I thought MSSA Committee would at least conduct or Chair a discussion on any of the topics laid down in the programme, but what I gathered from those few who attended, MSSA Committee is in action alright, but only distributing blank paper before the forum started, distributing foods in the kitchen and of course putting up dances. In my opinion, if MSSA do not lend its name to ISC, then VUWSA and NZUSA would might as well close the ISC since WMSA has decided to withdraw. Even then, there were hardly any Wellingtonians attended. (Please confirm yourself with Lindy Cassidy on the register number and names) despite the bullshitting by the Salient of more than 200. Ha! Ha!

In the same newsletter it mentioned about work restriction which was already stated by NZUSA International Vice-President who made the research. MSSA was only the mouth piece to spread the news. On the section on Library cutback, the reference was made to VUWSA president Lindy Cassidy, again MSSA is just a tool to be used.

All these are analysis from very plain facts, facts that are issue by MSSA Committee itself, what other proof do you want? If you guys do not even know how to read between the lines, you don't deserve to attack others by using the smearing letter. I hope this letter will be my final one because I want to give you a chance to realise your mistakes of attacking others and try to woo support by this cunning way.

As I said before, it is good to have many organisations serving the same interests, but to use dirty tricks to win the game is just no what I can stand.

Yours sincerely

Alex Chen.

PS. If anyone wants further analysis, by all means let me know.

Another "red-scare" Letter

Dear David.

I would like to add a few comments to the discussions on MSSA being a political, leftist organization. No-one could deny that VMSSA's objective is to create student awareness, especially among the first year freshers, about the struggle that is going on at home, struggle of the rich and poor, struggle of power by political parties, injustice and self-control of Malaysian Economy. Even in the campus, they are struggling to win support by carrying out a whole lot of smearing campaign on WMSA and now extended to OCF which existed quietly on its own right.

What is more disgusting is the fact outlined by Alex Chen in the previous issue of Salient that MSSA cannot work on its own but rely strongly on VUWSA and NZUSA. In return they become the "Yes" men or puppet of these bodies.

Who are their supporters so far? The whole community of "Mao" or "Communist" gang and a few new students who still have not been able to figure out whether they want social interactions or political struggle. I

suggest to those few struggling MSSA members to stop giving distorted one-sided side show to the Kiwi, Malaysian and Singaporean students. If you care so much about your country, go back and change it with your own knowledge and ability.

Yours sincerely

A Senior Student. BONK!!

MSSA Committee Speaks

Dear David.

In reply to some of the letters published in recent weeks, we believe It is time that we put forward our objectives as some students are obviously confused and misled by others who are out deliberately to 'smear' MSSA.

Our objectives are:

- To look after the interests and welfare of our members.
- To assist and deal with all problems affecting our members.
- To promote friendship and social awareness.
- And to create a better understanding between our students and New Zealanders.

In the course of achieving these objectives we may have been misunderstood through a deliberate attempt to distort our association and through lack of communication between our committee and the students. We would [unclear: like] to make it clear that our aim is to carry out the wishes of the fellow students.

With reference to Alex Chin's letter we see fit to point out a few things. That MSSA does have a constitution like any other association club affiliated to VUWSA. As for attacking MSSA as being manupilated by NZUSA and VUWSA, we advise Alex to get his facts right before making such a mockery of himself.

We urge students like 'Alex Chen' and 'A Senior Student' to stop making irresponsible remarks but rather, to offer constructive criticisms to help us to serve our community. Our community has been split for too long. It is time that we, the Malaysian and Singaporean students are united to protect our interests, and more importantly, to preserve our pride, self-respect and dignity.

We would finally like to take this opportunity to solemnly declare that none of the committee members have ever written to 'Salient' to smear the image of other Associations like MSA and OCF' On the contrary, it has always been our hope that OCF, MSA and MSSA are united for the first time so that our community's interests can be most effectively safeguarded. We deeply regret any ill-feelingg that might have been created by those irresponsible remarks.

We hope all students are not distracted by the current smearing campaign against this Association, away from the most important nation-wide campaign to oppose students cutback.

MSSA Committee.

Dear David,

Every week without fail letters criticising MSA and praising MSSA and vice-versa appear in Salient. I think these are rather childish. As university students, we should not engage in petty bickerings and debase ourselves by resorting to personal attacks, smearing, etc., but instead contribute constructive cticisms and opinions. I was appalled by some of the writers' vacous mentality reflected in their letters. I only expected those letters from primary school children.

It's time that we put behind these bickerings and instead unite as a strong overseas student body. The names of organizations are only used for identification and organizing of activities. The more important things to do are to hold open discussions and forums in issues facing overseas students. We should make full use of the freedom of speech here to discuss especially issues that we are not even allowed to whisper in our own countries. I hope this challenge will be taken up by overseas student bodies like MSA. OCF and NOSAC.

Dear David,

Are you sorry to hear I'm feeling poorly? No doubt a result of trying to live off cafe food. Don't worry too much, I may pull through!

Love Greensleaves.

Airy-fairy, Elitist Academics

Dear Mr Wright,

The challenge to Bob Scott's observation that "community development goes on, in the main, without the support, Involvement, or one might imagine the a waremess of the university" (Quoting from Salient) largely misses the point. I expect that Rev. Scott would agree with me that the university is unresponsive to the upper echelons of the society that supports it with the exception of some departments and some research projects.

Your detailed listing of the involvement of academics in community groups relates, to activities that the staff engage in outside of their responsibilities to the university; it is not the university that is involved but the people. Further more I would suggest that these nonacademic interests are largely self-interested and do not involve the person with others who are in a significantly tower social status. University staff are fast becoming an elitist group. No doubt there are some academics who are involved in some very humanitarian concerns but I would ask do they plan for with the people they are concerned about?

Within the university itself, promotion in the academic world is gained through publishing and research. The only reason for staff to relate their university work to the community is financial, that is for funding. The effects of this are obvious, results are biased in favour of the funding agency, bureaucratic and political expediency are top priorities in the findings and methods, and lower class people, who surely need the most support in our community are the least likely to benefit, if they do at all. The work of the university is primarily related to the academic world whose values are not determined in New Zealand.

It is not surprising then that there have not been any university people involved in the Aro Valley fight for self-determination or Capital Plan. Departments of the University know the value of asking such questions as "do the planners know the meaning of their plans for the people they will involve"? and "What are the long term consequences of the results" But to ask these is compromising or threatening the social status the universities have in New Zealand. Rarely are academics directly Involved in the development of the whole community and, in their elitist position have no reason to.

Yours etc.,

Roger Palmer

(We hope that Lindsay Wright and academics will respond. — Ed) CHOOSE YOUR WEAPON GENTLEMAN

Christianity — the Classless Creed?

Dear Editor,

In reply to G. Herrington (July 11), we wish to strongly deny his assertions that "Christianity has always justified the class nature of society and has promoted sexism".

Upon serious examination of their writings, the Biblical writers can never be seen to uphold unjust

inequalities in society. Many people throughout history have used Christianity in this way but only by taking Biblical statements out of context or by reading them through the eyes of Greek philosophy or conservative Humanistic Capitalism etc. If we read the Biblical writers on their own terms ie. find out what they meant, then we discover:

- a major part of the writing of several Old Testament prophets is directed towards those who "oppress the poor and who crush the needy" (Amos 4:1).
- Paul's preaching cut right to the foundations of the economic order reconciling employers and employees (Ephesians 6: 5-9), men and women, wives and husbands, Jew and Greek etc.

Consider one statement that G. Herrington wishes us to see as sexist: Titus 2:4 "educate the young women to love their husbands and children". Remembering that Paul also wrote "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loves the Church" (Ephenians 5:25) (and for Paul there could be no greater comparison!), then 'sexist' is the last thing that Titus 2:4 could be called!

Added to this, G. Herrington refers to the much maligned and misunderstood verse of 1 Timothy 2:11 as oppressing women, without giving its context in all of Paul's writing. Paul exhorts all people to live in loving subjection to one another (Ephesians 5:21) (classless Implications, if ever there were any!) and yet to respect all authority means 'having responsibility', not 'being in a position to oppress others'.

As to the Rationalism of G. Herrington, we would point out that it is Just as biased and subjective to place absolute faith in Human Reason as it is to place it in the God of the Christian Scriptures. Both committments are beyond rationality — one makes rationality a god, the other, a servant of God.

Yet we sympathise with the impression many people get of Christianity — that it props up Capitalism, social and economic injustice, sexism and a rigid legalistic moralism. NZ Christians for too long have been reading their Scriptures through the lenses of their own culture, of capitalism and Greek philosophical concepts. We wish to repeat what we ended our previous letter with — It is time that Christians repented of their misrepresentation of Christ's Kingdom and woke up to the implications of the claims and denunciations of the Old Testament prophets of Christ and of His disciples who spoke to the roots of injustice and oppression, with the aim of obliterating it.

Yours sincerely

Alex Duncan John Paterson.

MATTER OF HONOUR THEY SAID

Dear Sir,

In Salient (July 11) G. Herrington claimed that Christianity is authoritarian and repressive, especially in the respect that it "has always justified the class nature of society and has promoted sexism". He/she established his/her views with a number of Biblical references on the subject. I believe that a deeper search in the Bible will show that his criticism is quite unfounded.

Firstly, Jesus defined what a Christian means by authority in Matthew 20:25-28, when he said, when he said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. It is not so among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave: just as the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many". Jesus has authority over the Church since he has first loved her as Christ loved the Church. (See Ephesians 5:21-23). So when G.H. reads that servants should be subject to their masters, he should also read "Masters, do the same to them (i.e. be subject) and forbear threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven and there is no partiality with him". (Eph. 6:5-9). They are simply following in the way of Jesus.

Secondly, G.H. claims that "Christiana have glorified the employer/worker relationship as a model of man's relationship to God" on the grounds of Jesus' parables. Jesus also told parables using agricultural images. Was he endorsing agriculture? No! and neither was be decrying it, but merely using it as something commonly understood to convey his message. And likewise with his parables concerning masters and servants. Both are good vessels for this purpose.

Thirdly, let us realise that the New Testament statements are written to Christians for them to obey willingly from the heart and not to unbelievers to impose a hard morality on them, nor to rationalists for them to

dismember in detached Intellectualism. And it is evident from many examples that both Jesus and his early disciples conformed to the New Testament teaching. Consider the letter to "Philemon — What love and service from the Master! Philippi Paul not only talked with Lydia by the river but received her gracious hospitality. And what of the women who travelled with Jesus — was he exploiting them or liberating them from a sexist society? Further examples will further support the view that the Christians first aim is love.

Fourthly, does G.H. find any Christians today who love one another? their employers or employees? their husbands or wives? If he does not find any, I believe that tells us more about his search than about Christian conduct. If he finds some who do not, I do not seek to excuse the, but would point out Paul's warning that wolves will come among the sheep.

In conclusion, I learn more from G.H.'s letter about G.H. than I do about Christian teaching and would recommend that be reexamine his beliefs in the light of all that God has revealed through the Bible. And if he comes to believe that Christianity is more than a superstition and in fact the truth, he would return to the NZ Rationalists Association and tell them so.

Love,

Roger Littlejohn.

TRUTH IN DEATH THEY SAID 10 PACES!

Could This One be for Real?

Dear Sir,

With regard to my letter of two weeks previous complaining about forged letters, in my official capacity as President of the Victoria House Student's Council, I am appalled to find that once again a forgery has appeared in Salient. This time some bastard has forged a letter and acredited it to me. I originally complained about how your paper had been used to destroy the credibility of Donald Shilton and Bruce Parkin who hold rather extreme but sincere political views. Now it seems the scum who did this have turned on me for defending them and claim my letter was written by a person called Richard Helbyer. I happen to know Richard Helbyer and although he has some faults BO Is not one of them.

If the person who wrote that letter is a short tubular type of fellow with a tendency to suffer premature ejaculation then I hope he is satisfied with the fact that Donald Shilton has suffered both mental and physical ill health as a result.

Enough damage has been done already. Salient, for Christs sake be more responsible

Yours Angrily

Peter Callinicos.

PS. I know the forger but will not reveal his name in a hope that correspondence on this topic will be closed.

(Ed. comments — letters from Peter Callinicos or any other person taking part in this debate will not be printed unless accompanied with a copy of their birth certificate, a 10" x 8" colour photo and a signed character reference from an MP.

Bigots Corner revisited

Dear Sir,

"Salient" reminds me of toilet paper. Used toilet paper, even. I refer of course, to the persistant presence of crap on the pages. Who is responsible for the bolshy propaganda? Who is responsible for all the Malaysian

arsehole? Who appointed you Editor?

For the information of your inglorious proof-readers, there are two t's in fuckwittedness (re James Bond). Actually, I am a great admirer of "Salient". as I feel that it successfully reflects the immaturity of Victoria University Students. Students are too full of themselves, and it is time they realised that they are no more than bludgers on on society, and are thus infinitely unimportant.

Students have no (0) relevance, and should be exterminated forthwith.

Unsigned.

LOVE AND CHIVALRY MARCH ON FIRE AT WILL GENTLEMAN

Poets Corner

Dear Dave,

The various letters of 'Salient' prompted me to reveal the truthful poem cum prose. It is dedicated to all those 'distracted globes'.

Blind leading the blind.
Disgusted at the way
Politics of students worked:
especially in 'Salient'
Often I wondered at those
critics of WMSA: they have
a pitiful lack of wit —
It is so painfully obvious
that they are trying to stuff out
the other's light to let their own shine
and
I'm amazed at the way all the students
new and old alike
swallowed
bait, book and line of those
'satiny' letters.

Yours truthfully,

VUSA Sage.

More Questions

Dear Ed,

- What becomes of the 'unwanted'(?!!), leftover copies of Salient?
- What becomes of the used paper cups' from Coffee lounge and Caf. are arrangements made for their being recycled or are taken to the tip?
- Lets get rid of the coffee machines the plastic cups cant be recycled and the price has gone up anyway.

from Me.

PS. Also, recycling of cans and milk-bottle tops could be investigated.

Clean Air Society

Dear Editor,

There are many non-smokers who attend this university. I and my compatriot nonsmokers often find ourselves subjected to the weaknesses of others, who cannot restrain themselves from smoking, in areas designated Non-Smoking, or in situations where they are obviously in a minority e.g. tutorials, i.e. where the smokers are less than 50% of the group.

It is time for non-smokers to assert their rights to Clean Air in areas which are for the non-smoking public e.g. cafeteria and lounge. In tutorials it is important to impress upon the minority smokers that they are violating our rights.' There ability to satisfy their habit should solely be at the discretion of the majority non-smokers in a tutorial situation, it is a matter of courtesy that smokers should bow down and desist.

I would consider it futile to try to dissuade smokers and imbue them with a determination to stop smoking and Save their Lives, There is irrefutable evedence to support the case against it. It is probable that non-smokers will continue to have to put up with the weaknesses of some individuals within society, because too many non-smokers are unwilling to assert their Rights.

PS. To provide an equible solution to smoking in tutorials. I suggest that tutorials be designated smoking and non-smoking.

BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM

Dear David, I'm-not-sure-who,

The layout in the last two issues of Salient has been of a palling quality. I wonder if you could tell me why? Also, what was the relevance of that last cover?

Yours editorially.

David Murray

Dear David,

We trust that your letter is a serious enquiry rather than an attempt to delude yourself that you are in some way indispensable to the running of the paper. We are always pleased to receive criticisms and suggestions from readers of the paper, even those that only read the funnies.

But now to the point in question. The reason that the layout has been so appalling of late, not to mention the obscurness of some of the covers has been that in your absence we have been unable to restrain the alleged Technical Editor, Gyles Beckford, from attempting to take a hand in the running of the paper rather than sending him to make the tea and letting the rest of the staff get on with it as was the case under your inspired leadership.

Yours depreciatively,

The Salient Workers Collective,

Dear Sir,

Is there any truth in the rumour currently circulating campus that the Salient editor has been deposed in favour of the Salient Workers Collective or is it just a bunch of silly bloody law poohs getting hopeful? Yours forever,

Wondering

Dear Sir,

We trust that you are an ordinary student and not just David Murray nostalgically wishing to see his name in print once again. The allegation that the Editor has in some way been deposed is of course quite untrue. The truth of the matter is that David Murray is simply a well-known typing error that has had its day. It took us quite a long time to realise this as for a number of weeks each member of the staff had been under the impression that somebody else must know who David Murray is. One day we had a big meeting and discovered that each of us had thought that one of the others was David Murray and since then we haven't bothered writing his name in the staff notes anymore and we have stopped mailing out the cheques. Yours Sincerely.

The Salient Workers Collective.

Drawing of an elephant

Dear David,

Why is 'pure shit' screening at Arts Festival when it is screened every day in the cafe? Yours Brown eye of the Yellow Dog.

Dear Dave,

Does the cafe give you the trots?

Love Bronstein

Dear David,

Could you please tell me where the cafe is? I came down the other day and discovered the cafe had been replaced by a rubbish tip.

Yours

Pavlov.

Apology given to Labour MP (well not quite)

Dear Workers' Collective,

It would seem that Jonathon Hunt (MP) was cut to the bone by a recent Salient report of his speech down in Christchurch on bursaries. What's more the poor fellow wants an apology. As Alonso Grype — Type thinne would say "Jonathon you silly twisted boy".

The very major points that he says were in his speech were all phrased in terms of "there should be, there must be" and other futuristic non-commital phrases. Well quite frandly my cat could have said as much, and he isn't a Labour MP (yet).

Mr Hunt says that it is impossible for him (or the Labour Party) to give promises without further investigation of various matters, and given the unpredicable state of the economy in 1878. Well that is not very promising (no pun intended) but understandable given the fact that when Labour was in power they found it difficult enough to keep the promoses they made before the 1972 election. It also tallies with the views of Russel Marshall the Labour Party's education spokesman who said in an interview with Salient earlier in the year that if Labour was in power it was unlikely to be able to offer anything better than the Nats.

So Jonathon I suggest that you get off your high hone and instead of complaining about four line reports that 'don't do you justice' that you actually come up with policies on bursaries that will do justice to those who study at university. As [unclear: tor] the apology, words fail me except for "Get knotted".

Yours respectfully

Gyles Beckford.

Dear Editor,

In response to last week Salient's report on the opening of Library till 11 pm on all weeknights except Friday during the August Holiday. I wish to raise the following points.

The success of the Library cut campaign has its significance.

- It proves that victory can be achieved through action. Congratulations and appreciation must be given to those active students who were fighting well (or this course. Keep up the good work mates!
- It strengthens the understanding between the local students and overseas students, e.g. signing of petition. The Library cut and 45% cut on overseas students have slightly different nature but they are all fighting for the same course i.e. by carrying out the cut-back campaign, we will be able to achieve something. Though the course of campaign has to be long and persistant, lets us be determined in pursuing our goal.

The 45% cutback campaign is running at its peak now. We ought to show our support for such a campaign for overseas students, we are fighting for our very own dignity and our right to education. For our New Zealand friends, we sincerely wish them to join us in fighting together for an unjust practice.

Overseas students organisations in this campus like MSSA and WMSA are taking active part in the campaign. Here I would like to congratulate them for the good work that they have done so far. However, I am indeed pissed off by OCF for not declaring their stand and support for the issue. Come on males. It is not time to play 'Hide and Seek'. For such a crucial issue like cut-back, we ought to share the common problem and stand together to fight for the issue. Can't you see that victory can be gained through action?

Lee Kuan Yew's Island in the Sun.

Dear Editor,

In response to Suaran Raat's letter entitled 'Warning! The Surgeon General Has Determined That Living Is Dangerous To Your Health', as a Singaporean I was taught that my country is one of the cleanest in S.E. Asia. You wouldn't find a single piece of paper in the streets in Singapore. Our P.M. Mr Lee Kuan Yew has certainly done a fine job. Just a look at the Istana Garden and the beautiful tourist resorts, and the western style shopping complexes that our government has built all this in keeping with the the advance of modern living, making Singapore the 30th [unclear: rihest] country in the world yet we are proud of this tiny kingdom. This is the message that the leaders will sing and always praise.

I sympathise with the poor pollution control in Japan and the feelings of the Japanese people, but under such challenges In this modern world it is very hard for the world to be perfect. Some have to lose and in this

case the people who have to live near industrial areas who will have to suffer. Despite the high cost of rapid development in Japan the cost of living is rocketing! If you are Japanese you wouldn't like to live in Japan. Everything is just so mechanical! With the Japanese now investing in Singapore eletronic goods will be cheaper and the people will be able to use washing machines and watch colour T.V.

If you are in Singapore as tourists you will be able to buy Singapore made goods and souvenirs dead cheap. The people in Singapore do things really cheap. Soon they will be out of jobs because Singapore will be too mechanised. With economic advancement Singapore is able to build luxurious tourist hotels with cheap girls, beautiful casinos to meet your needs! Enjoy the Americanised Island in the Sun with plentiful beauty contests to attract tourists.

As for Suaran's concern over the future tragedy of Singapore I don't think that the Government should ever worry! They have learnt to eat frozen food and meat from other countries! Pollution to Singapore will create no problem for Harry Lee. As far as we are concerned we cannot be more careful with what we eat in future. Our future generation will be taught not to worry and be proud of the country. But . . . we can we afford that?

Our country is so rich yet the people are so poor, even though Singapore is the 30th richest country in the world and our security is assured. I wake up from my dreams of Singapore clean, wealthy and beautiful but all those dreams have not been created in Singaporeans interests!

What can we do to help shape our country's future? we are willing to ask, raise our voices and gather our opinions learn the experiences from others' tragedies, we will be able to live in peace, enjoying our country's natural beauties with no need for our lives tobe just a struggle for our personal needs! I wish that Singaporeans and concerned friends will contribute their views to wake up people like me, who, before I came to realise the government in our country is not looking after the best Interests of our country.

Yours etc,

Jeffrey Lee.

Indigestion!!

Dear David,

This is a short history of my health during my five years at Vun. The first two years weren't too bad - decent meals were obtainable in both the cafe and the restaurant. But the past three years have seen a decline in my health linked intimately with a decline in the quality of the food available in the cafe. The only good thing about the food is that my bowels have been purged regularly after lunch each day.

This year it is abysmal - chips that virtually never reach the standard of even the Hungry Horse downtown, and pies, sandwiches, rolls etc. which are at least two cents (and often more) dearer than downtown prices. Because a lot of our \$37 fees go to Union Management, it's about fucking time that the executive and the catering sub-committee got off their collective arses and did something, or else the pissed off students will. I used not to agree with those writings in the toilets "Flush hard it's a long way to the cafe" - now I'm not sure.

Yours

'Purged 8 Pale'.

And now for Something Completely Different.

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the South Hampshire Institute of Technology, I would like to criticise Wing Commander Nigel Barnaby (Mrs) about assuming that Salient newsprint is an ideal aerodynamic performer.

Okay the general morale of a tedious lecture is raised by the flight of a 'Salient 'dart but far from astonishing people by 'gliding majestically' through the air. In fact, the sight of a grubby sheet of paper dramatically stall, flutter for a few moments like a constipated pidgeon, and plummet vertically downwards is what makes people laugh and therefore alleviate the boredom of the lecture.

I sugget that the performance of a Salient Dart would be dramatically increased by decreasing the weight of the bullshit inside.

Yours aerodynamically.

Permanent Yerg (D.O.B.K.)

P.S. Any idiot knows that the relationship between the boring ness of a lecture and the darts thrown is exponential.

Dear David Editorperson,

Having just read the hurt 2 issues of Salient, I must say I am visibly shocked and appalled at the type of litters you have been printing, for instance, Cyril Martin Bumtrinket's letter was a direct breach of copywright and I hope he realises he is presently being sued by Python (Monty) Productions Ltd. for total unoriginality and theft of material.

It is obvious that now that little Cyril has left V.U.W. his quote "intelligent pieces of writing" are now unable to be created by his so writing" are now unable to be created by his so-called genius. Let us hope that now he is pregnant we shall hear less of him due to morning sickness.

In conflict to this I should like to agree with him on one point however, regarding his abuse of "bloody National party supporters jumping on the bandwagon again trying to seem liberal by claiming to be members of assorted "apathy leagues". Just look at the latest Salient - bloody Kelburn Apathy Political Party indeed! If that isn't jumping on the bandwagon I don't know what is!

If there is such a struggle for publicity, I should like to complain about the non-mention of the Johnsonville Procrastination Society, after all, our members are definitely going to do something about apathy tomorrow. I suppose Proffesor HCL Acid's reply will contain something like "I'm sorry, but I couldn't be bothered to include your societies' name" or something else incredibly witty. Bloody typical. Listen I've been putting off things ever since I've known myself and then some.

Anyway to conclude I should like to say that Weir house residents are the best behaved, that Weir house residents are the best behaved, most witty, charming, polite, friendly and Christian bunch you could hope to meet.

signed signed

Richard (Dick) Wacker

Pres. Johnsonville Procrastination Society

Member Epuni Unicorn Hunters Club.

the adventegers of FAT FREDDY'S CAT LOOK UP THERE BESIDE THE ROAD IT'S ONE OF THOSE CRASIS CATS LIKE WE USED TO HERE! IT...IT'S THE FREAK BROTHER THER'RE STOPPINS! THEY RECOONZE ME! YEP, CINE CRANSE CAT IS PREITY MUCH THE SAME AS ANY OTHER!

Tired of fighting with the rodents to get a seat in the cafe? Fed up with having to pile on the mustard to take away the taste of your hot dog? Suffering from combat fatigue in the fight for fresh chips? Feel like living again? Then come to the CAFE FORUM Thursday. Union Hall, 12p.m.-2p.m. Hear Phil McDonald tell how cafe food drove him to dyslexia, squirm as Vince Burke exhibits a captured hot dog hear the cleaners give the low-down on cigarette butts but most of all be there if you want to live out the second term.

CALCULATORS SALIENT 25 July

As usual its been a pretty bad year and most of us have begun to feel like a Christian Scientist with appendicitis or an epileptic with vomiting and lockjaw. But there's one sure cure for those end of term worries) proven in University tests). Just put pen to paper and tell as your deepest desires. Tell us the guts on adolescent disturbances, unfinished projects and last nights offal. Tell us your fantasies about rump steak. We have been grateful for the many letters and articles we have been receiving lately from interested readers. In particular, we were very impressed by an article we received on the influence of necrophilia on 17th century undertaking practice. Salient attempts to print all letters we receive except for those we lose, we can't read, which don't fit or which are unprintable. Insults shouted through our window cannot be printed. Letters must be short and double-spaced on one side of the page and can be placed in the Salient letterbox, left in the basket at the Studass Office or sent to Salient, c/o Victoria University Students' Association. Private Bag, Wellington. Finally we would like, as usual, to thank those readers who have written to us about the contents of this section of the paper but we would like to deny the malicious rumour that this section is written by an amnesiac relic of the early 70's or a demented NZUSA accounting mistake seeking revenge on its former masters. In fact the identity of the author or authoress of this column is a closely guarded secret known only to our resident Animal Husbandry expert who claims to find the copy written on the Middle Floor Men's toilet walls every Friday morning. So don't sue, okay?