

McCARTHY COMES TO VIC

— Have We Lost Our Freedom?

Salient

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Sexual 'Anarchy' Unwise?

By Dr. I. C. Fleming.

The Health Service has been asked, by a student interviewer, to make some comment on the establishment of facilities for sex education and/or birth control centres in the university.

It is unfortunate that a relatively minor field of our interest should be given prominence in the early days of the Health Service. However, if the students wish for an expression, it is our responsibility to meet their inquiry.

Sex Education

Adult sex education is generally regarded as being an instruction in sex attitudes and the relationship between the sexes.

Those who offer this instruction are usually doctors interested in health education, psychotherapists, and the clergy.

The part taken by the doctor is usually that of "dispensing information"—the biological functions of sex and the anatomy and physiology of the reproductive systems etc.

The psychotherapist and the clergy are interested mainly in affected attitudes towards sex, and remedial work.

Their part in sex education is therefore the explaining and encouragement of normal attitudes to sex and the development of a balanced and integrated personality.

These are the basic areas of instruction. In the Student Welfare Service we now have the personnel to give this instruction.

Before introducing any programme of sex education, the team must evaluate objectively what we hope to accomplish, and determine the need and the desire for such an education.

Any discussion among ourselves must be preceded by a statement to the student body admitting the uncertainties, and at times confusion, that exists among very experienced and capable educators in this field. From here, the student may well question whether we can accomplish a rational and realistic goal. This should be the challenge. After discussion among ourselves, if we are unable to meet this challenge, then we should foster the present existing facilities, rather than proceed on with a limited programme of sex education, restricted by the uncertainties and confusion that hamper the more experienced.

From reports of the health problems in overseas universities, sex would not appear to be a health problem among any great number of students. Therefore, before we divert too much effort and time to this field, should we not be encouraging the greater problems of student health (adequate housing, adequate study facilities, safety in sport, environment and occupational health etc.). This is why there should be a sober assessment. I

am no obscurant, but a firm believer in health education in all fields of student life and would be enthusiastic for a discussion with other welfare officers who may consider there is merit in introducing a programme of adult sex education in our university.

Birth Control Centres

How can we help avert some of the tragedies that are seen in young adult women. The unmarried mother whose boyfriend was physically attractive, persuasive but thoroughly irresponsible and uncompromising? Is the setting up of birth control centres going to be of any assistance? There are a small number of people in our community, and outside the university, who believe that a

greater degree of sexual freedom will make for more satisfying living. This they firmly believe, and demand the "pill." But when we face all the issues we must appreciate that the family is the basic unit of our society, and any measure which would encourage promiscuity, would help only to annihilate this basic unit. Only those who are married with children, can appreciate the full value of this essential unit.

The sexual anarchists have few values and few responsibilities. Would we be wise in looking to them for assurance and guidance. The student health doctors consider it is outside their province to set up a birth control centre at this university.

Such a centre would surely negate any positive contribution in student health that we can achieve, by creating little more than anxiety, and uncertainty among most students, and an avenue for redress for the irresponsible few.

Nelson Closed Other Eye

Last Sunday the university took to the water. This was the novelty boat race run by the VUW Yacht Club as part of the University Festival.

This race which had twelve entries saw the appearance of only six "craft". It was rumoured that one crew had been delayed at the Taranaki St. Police station over night.

The size of the boats ranged from a bath tub which was swamped on entering the waves to a monstrous great raft supported by four 36 gallon kegs and a bale of flagon corks.

The keg boat, or the Floating Beergarden as it was called, flew the flag of "man overboard" during most of its trip, although men overboard would have been a more correct description.

Another boat in the race was an iron bedstead supported by two 44 gallon drums plus mast, uncontrollable sail and crew. The Weir House entry, a wooden framework with flagon outriggers and towed by two black rubber-suited frogmen, was armed to the teeth with knives, spear-gun, etc., to combat sabotage.

When the race started the Weir entry left the field standing and was round the buoy before most of the others were ten yards off

the beach. The floating beergarden after much trouble got its outboard motor going. When last seen it was heading towards the Heads. The Extrav male ballet entry and a private bicycle-cum-paddle entry collided after the start and stayed in collision for most of the race while a miscellany of sabotage ensued.

The bluebird (Weir House) was awarded the speed prize of £10 by judges Tim Bickerstaff and Jane Maddox, although it encountered extreme resistance to its passage back through the rest of the fleet. The judges awarded the novelty prize of £10 (both donated by the Evening Post) to the floating beergarden.

"Max Riske is a renowned Communist in certain quarters," said Capping Controller Dave Baird at the last Executive meeting.

He was objecting to an invitation which was to be extended to Riske to address the Graduands Dinner.

"The basis for my assertions," he said, "is an article in the Post Primary Teachers' Association Journal," in replying to a query from President Blizard. "This article had a particularly communistic bias," Baird made the point that Riske may have changed his views since.

Baird also suggested that Max Riske had displayed no interest in the University. Blizard pointed out that he was a graduate, and good enough to be sponsored by UNESCO for work in Africa.

Helen Sutch opposed Baird's views with the opinion that whether Riske was pro communist or pro American, neither is a reason for discrimination against him. Public Relations Officer Robin Bell agreed in essence with what Baird had said.

The motion, calling for a rescission of Riske's invitation was rejected by the executive. Baird, Bell and Benefield voted for it.

Mr. Riske writes:

Thanks for the opportunity to comment upon some astonishing and amusing statements by Mr. Dave Baird, your Capping Controller, who, unless he is gravely misreported, might better qualify as Cap and Bells Non-controller.

I must say that I was as surprised as I was flattered to be invited to address the Graduands Supper; surprised because I thought this new generation would know nothing about me, and flattered because I have always thought it a signal honour to be asked to speak at this function. But I find I am not entirely forgotten. Indeed, some students apparently find time to invent things about me.

The only quarters where I may be considered "a renowned Communist" are those where ignorance is as complete as in Mr. Baird's circle. No member or ex-member of the Communist Party would do anything but scorn the notion in hot anger. He would know how bitterly I have always opposed their totalitarian ideas, underhand actions, thorough-going political error, and generally destructive behaviour. When I was sent as an elected delegate to see the Soviet Union through the eyes of a New Zealander in 1934, it certainly was small thanks to some allegedly co-operating Communists that I managed to go, return, and report to thousands of people, any more than it was any thanks to misinformed worthies like Mr. Baird. Any person with an honest, radical, and critical mind is equally hated and villified by both kinds of blindly prejudiced people. I claim to have such a mind.

I am at a loss to know what article of mine is being referred to. Most of what I have written for the PPTA Journal has been advocacy and exposition of modern school mathematics education. But to one like Mr. Baird this, indeed, might well seem "particularly Communistic"—it is perhaps somewhat different from what he was indoctrinated with. I do feel he was "indoctrinated" at all points, as it is a little inconceivable that he was ever subjected to an education and still be able to say the sort of thing he is reported as saying.

As far as my personal contribution to Victoria University since 1924 is concerned, I must be excused for not feeling that I am the best judge of its quality. It certainly has been a long one in study, sport, debating, drama, editorship, team-coaching, and even lecturing. Perhaps being chosen as a Fulbright Scholar to the United States and later as a Unesco teacher to East Africa are not worthy contributions by an ex-student to the good name of his University; but they certainly are not the hallmark of "a renowned Communist".

May I commend Miss Sutch's point of view? University students ought to have sounder grounds for attempted discrimination against proposed speakers than ill-informed and irrelevant opinion about important matters of their beliefs.

Radical Group

A new group called Te Rangatahi has been formed in the University to discuss and take action on national and international issues.

The declared aim of the group is to work to promote peace, disarmament and human rights as contained in the UN charter. The group has already decided to take action on the Southern Hemisphere Petition (which received 80,000 signatories and was very favourably recommended by Parliament, but was not acted on by the Government), French nuclear tests and to publish information on South African goods imported into New Zealand. An outline programme of some of their activities for the month after term holidays will be posted on notice boards.

The name Te Rangatahi is part of a Maori proverb saying "The new net goes fishing"—indicating the transfer of responsibility in society to the younger people.

Only one thing was needed to make the University Festival complete. A cast iron cage containing Messrs. Baird and Bell, and Miss Benefield, with a rotten fruit stall located nearby. Over the cage containing the three Bs should have been a blue neon sign, with gilt edging. In letters 100 feet high the following words would appear:

"We can never be sure that the opinion we are endeavouring to stifle is a false opinion; and if we were sure, stifling it would be an evil still."

J. S. MILL.

God Defend New Zealand

Victoria's is not the only campus where Executive members are prepared to suppress the views of people they disagree with.

There have been similar examples of this intolerance reported recently from Auckland and Lincoln.

It seems fairly obvious that some members of the Executive have distorted ideas about the functions of a University. The fact that such people are on the governing body of the Students' Association makes us wonder whether the students discovered their witch hunting tendencies before they were elected.

What the hell do these people think they are doing? What do they think a University is for? What do they think are its responsibilities to the rest of the community?

Judging by their past performances, the would-be Joe McCarthys regard the University as a sedate, pure, insulated, swaddled, little playground, where Miss Freshette and Mr. Fresher can grow up in the comparative ease and middle class harmony of the cloying breast and loving arms of the old Alma Mater.

We mustn't mention sex, because it is not a proper subject for the young ladies and gentlemen of our revered academy to hear of. Don't talk about anything that gives anyone the idea that there are ways of life other than ours. That might make people think. Don't let the idea that the world has its foul stinking sides creep in. That might disturb some of the serene innocent young countenances. In short, don't let's have a University at all. Let's have a polytechnic, a night school or a high school. The idea killers might deny that this is their outlook, but their actions would give the lie to their words.

Out with the Mormons (do you remember that little episode when the Mormons wanted to use the little Theatre?) Out with anyone interested in hypnotism. (You must remember that instance, when Exec. had hypnotism banned from the building.) Censure anyone holding mock religious services. (You can't have forgotten about little Congress.) Down with anyone who holds public demonstrations. (Remember Exec. members trying to censure people who demonstrated against the South Africans.) What about President Blizzard being censured (in his absence) for taking part in a public political meeting (Keith's)? There have been attempts to censure Salient. And now—out with any radical viewpoint—it's sure to be Communist.

There is another side to the coin of this outlook. It is about Public Relations.

Everyone knows that the University needs endowments, that students want public sympathy to enable higher bursaries to be raised, that we need more Government money for a hundred and one pressing purposes. So what we must do, say this little group, is build up our public relations in town. We must give the idea that the students and staff are trying to make Victoria into an academic garden of Eden, and would have succeeded were they not hampered by money shortages.

It doesn't really matter if the intellectual life of the campus is as stimulating as a great-grandmother's sex life. As long as we can paint a pretty picture. And we can't paint a pretty picture, can we, if we permit anyone who has different ideas to speak here. We must keep such people out because there are some old women who will call us Reds. In short, whether or not we are as corrupt as hell, we must tell the world what little angels we are.

Public Relations Officer Robin Bell speaks of the University "stimulating" the town. Ha ha. In some mysterious way we can apparently do this even if the University doesn't stimulate its own students. If the would be thought policemen had their way, Varsity intellectual life would be about as stimulating as a suet pudding. It's not much better at the moment, but God help the campus if we have any more attempts to "tone it down". God help the rest of society, too, if we fail in our duty to provide and stimulate new ideas and outlooks.

The people on Executive, who would run their little guided democracy if they got the chance (whatever THEY chose to call it, that's what it would be) are the same people who say that the Executive should not take a stand on important issues without the support of the majority of the Association.

This is one of those tragico-comical situations—it would be funny to anyone who thinks that the liberal tradition of the University is a joke.

The so called leaders of student opinion have utterly failed to give any kind of lead. They rule their regiment from behind by holding it back whenever they have an opportunity to do so. But they could wear an intellectual strait jacket without noticing it. It's high time they showed they had some fire in their bellies. They could start by resigning while they still have the chance to bow out gracefully.

There is a place for them at the University but none on the Executive.—D.P.W.

Letters . . .

Sodomy

Dear Sir, — Cecil J. Sodom should confine his efforts to the activities which his surname is suggestive of rather than affront Salient readers with his peurile, muddled and childish observations. His hollow cynicism and pseudo-intellectualism really irritates. Is he really as unintelligent as his article would lead us to believe? It is a hopeless hotch-potch of superficial rationalisation.

Sodom carries his "brown brother" complex too far. So "Kiwis" are "miserable little white supremacists" (how condescending this great mind is) merely because the great majority of us saw the act of digging up the cricket pitch for what it was, the impetuous and vandalic act of a woolly-minded group who had nothing better to do with their time. (The word "vandal" was emphasised also by *The Evening Post* not because it is emotive as Sodom bleatingly suggests but purely because it factually describes their action).

Years of labour go into the careful preparation of a good cricket pitch. The South African cricket team were not politicians and much of the enjoyment of this important sporting occasion was spoilt for many thousands of people.

Those responsible must have seen in retrospect that their action did far more harm than good to the cause which they purportedly stood for, yet they have made since, pathetic attempts to justify their selfish act.

Sodom speaks of the scruffy individual who had "the guts" to express approval of the deed. May I suggest the substitution of the word "stupidity" for the word "guts"?

The Bantu people I am sure would be equally as unimpressed by this futile and pitiful method of protest as the majority of New Zealanders were.

The protest could have been far more effectively channelled in other directions.

Grow up Cecil!

L. H. A. WILES

Christianity

Dear Sir,—One or two things about Professor Coulson's talk should be pointed out: First, Christianity as such, is not trying to impose an ethical system on an unbelieving world. Christianity has a great deal to say to Christians about what they should do, but the only thing it says to non-Christians is "Put your entire trust in, and follow completely the teachings of Christ." Professor Coulson may be trying to impose on a generally non-Christian group of scientists the moral code of Christianity, but this is not what Christians should try to do.

Secondly, Christianity claims that it gives its followers the ability to keep its massive code of ethics, if they want to. It claims that man by nature is not capable of keeping this. It does not seem very sensible trying to force a system of laws or morals down people's throats unless they have the ability to keep them.

I would agree with D.P.W. that Christians in general do not always think or act as they should and would suggest this is no excuse for a blanket dismissal of the subject.

I would disagree that starting from his axiom one can obtain an "ought" of his kind infallibly. I suggest it would be nearly as easy to construct a purely egotistic materialism.

Christianity or any religion in general does not do this but just points to the teaching of its individual founder and suggests strongly that reliance should be placed on it and its ethical system should be followed.

N. E. WHITEHEAD.

Keep Vic Pure

Dear Sir,—I note that at last the men who administer our university have decided to cut out

our dead wood. Over one hundred students have been excluded, at least eight months before the majority would be leaving the university anyway. I trust the practice will become an annual rite. The benefits to us as a University will be enormous. In five years time our role will be 6,900 instead of 7,000 (400 of the 500 students excluded would have left anyway). 100 worthy students who otherwise would have been turned away will be welcomed to the University. (I await Dr. Williams' report on the number of students who have been turned away for lack of space).

And Sir, the saving to the taxpayer will make the government love us. All those unsatisfactory students who would have been paying full fees will go, and their places will be filled by the most worthy of the multitude waiting to take their place. All the money that would have been spent building more space for the two or three unsatisfactory students attending each lecture (and these students are all about us) will be spent on space for more worthy students.

And Sir, the public will love us. They know that graduates are fine people. They know that students are mostly a rotten lot. Throw out the rottenest, Dr. Williams. Keep our University pure. Then the public will give us Halls of Residence.

Yours Sincerely,
JOHN McMURRAY.

World Record Club

By MURRAY WHITE

As one of the more enterprising record companies, with an extensive repertoire of artists and music, World Record Club deserves separate mention in these columns. Listed amongst their labels—World Record, Record Society, Connoisseur Series, Opera Series, etc.—is a wealth of music, ranging from Toscanini to Bud Shank, from Scarlatti to Shostakovich; historic re-issues and first releases. It undoubtedly enjoys tremendous public support.

NEAPOLITAN SONGS Beniamino Gibli (tenor). World Record CO 484.

The items on this disc—put out on World Record's new Connoisseur Series label—probably span a period of some twenty-five years. They include everything from La Danza to Funiculi Funicula and the quality of the singing alternates accordingly: from the over-emotionally lachrymose to well-controlled bel canto. Most of the transfers are showing their age as recordings—still for those who think Gigli's one of history's great voices . . .

STRAUSS, Horn Concerti Nos. 1 and 2. Dennis Brain/Philharmonia Orchestra/Sawallisch. Record Society RZ 6088.

Still yet, after some nine years, a first-rate piece of recording and artistry. Dennis Brain, the exponent of the french horn is ever at home amongst the tricky devices employed by Strauss in orches-

tration; the rapid phrasing in harmonics, dropping octaves and demanding breathing control. Definition between soloists and orchestra is fine, as is the overall recording (no trouble in the tuttis notice). The only available disc of these wonderful concerti, it should eventually rank in the "forgotten greats series" alongside Furtwaengler's Wagner recordings and Toscanini's Beethoven.

VISTAS D'ESPANA. Music by Albeniz and Turina. Laurindo Almeida (guitar). Record Society 6087.

Maybe it's too much of a good thing (forty minutes of solo guitar playing) but then again the company caters to a specialised audience. Almeida's surefire plucking out of these notable Iberian compositions hasn't been bettered, not by Segovia. Recording is exceptional, lending a very favourable stance to the guitar.

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NZ Neutrality Needed

If the present Malaysia-Indonesian dispute comes to a head we should carefully avoid a commitment to either side, said Lecturer in Geography Mr. T. McGee to an Indonesia Week audience.

We should neither condemn Indonesia nor support Malaysia for actions which we do not understand, he said. Mr. McGee outlined social change in both Indonesia and Malaysia showing how the colonial powers had determined the social structures. The British in Malaya maintained the old sultanate structure, which prevented the growth of an economic middle class amongst Malays.

The Dutch in Indonesia had pursued a policy of conscious westernization resulting in the growth of a middle-class who had turned into vehement opponents of the status quo.

Thus the failure of one colonial policy, he said, and the building up of another, succeeded in building up two different types of social structure in the colonial

societies.

He illustrated how both Sukarno and The Tunku were products of these societies: how The Tunku was pro western, and Sukarno revolutionary.

Mr. McGee concluded by saying, "This is a clear case for an Asian solution to Asian problems, and a clear case for the need for New Zealand neutrality."

M.P. Wants To Abolish U.E.

University Entrance should be abolished, says Mr. J. G. Edwards, M.P. for Napier and a member of Labour's "New Look" contingent.

Edwards made this claim at a recent meeting organised by the University Labour Club. He was speaking to an audience of 20 students on "Education and the Labour Party".

Emphasising that this was his personal view, Edwards went on to say that admission to university should be determined by good work at school rather than by success in exams.

He claimed that "since people can enter university anyway when they are 21, it is unfair to make schoolchildren sit the U.E. exam. Many people who would make good students have to take subjects for U.E. that they are not interested in and don't intend studying at university."

Edwards explained that Labour Party policy is to spend more money at lower levels of education, so as to have pupils better prepared by the time they get to university. One way of achieving this higher standard at lower levels was to give primary school teachers a chance to study for a degree in full pay.

He also argued that training colleges should be built where the recruits are and not necessarily far from the universities. If necessary, universities should be taken to training colleges, as had already been done at Hamilton and Palmerston North.

The salary scale for teachers could be increased in proportion to qualifications, and pay in the initial years of teaching could be higher. In order to get more out of the teachers, a Labour government would provide schools with clerical assistants, to relieve teachers of much of their routine work and leave them with more time to teach, he said.

Dealing with university education, Edwards, an M.A. graduate from Victoria and a former school teacher, criticised bonded bursaries. He said that Labour's policy was to provide more and better bursaries without tags.

He also said better accommodation must be provided for students. Poor housing conditions were the cause of many academic failures. His party's policy was that the government should build more halls of residence instead of leaving it all to the churches.

Professors on Strike

Student Mirror.

Students and professors throughout Japan protested recently after most of the country's private universities had announced increases in tuition and other fees ranging from 20 to 70 per cent., effective from the beginning of the academic year 1964-65 in April. They carried out sitdown strikes, class boycotts and even hunger strikes.

SERVICE GUIDE

In this SALIENT Service Guide we hope we have provided a full list of the goods and services you will be needing this year. If not, the Advertising Manager welcomes suggestions for services not already mentioned here. First-year students, especially, should find this guide useful.

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Unusual Play

Students will have an opportunity to see in the first week of next term a great modern play, one which has aroused interest and controversy wherever it has been performed.

The *Life of Galileo* by Bertolt Brecht is being given its New Zealand premiere by Khandallah Arts Theatre under the sponsorship of the University English Department in the Memorial Theatre from May 25 to May 30.

Brecht wrote *The Life of Galileo* within the framework of his conception of "epic theatre". He seeks to create a sense of non-involvement by using a pure narrative style, which forces the audience to observe and judge according to its understanding, but not become involved in the emotion or dramatic action of the play. He constantly reminds the audience that it is in a theatre.

Though realistic in its smaller details, the Khandallah Arts Theatre setting is stylised and unobtrusive. Every scene is an independent and unified entity, and does not depend on any linkage with the others. This is achieved in a variety of ways apart from the text. Khandallah Arts Theatre's production uses projection to reveal the plot of each scene before it begins. Above all, Brecht demands that drama should express social consciousness. He was a compassionate anti-fatalistic man, who in contrast to most modern authors, strongly believed in the ability of humanity to improve itself.

It is not surprising then that Brecht judges Galileo harshly. He portrays him as a sensuous and lazy man, who in spite of his brilliance and scientific perception did not acknowledge social responsibilities and so recanted his teachings under pressure from the Inquisition, whether torture or moral suasion is disputed. Brecht was influenced by the Hiroshima atomic bomb which was dropped while he was at work on the version of the play which Khandallah Arts Theatre is to present. Though Brecht's own position is clear, the audience is enabled to take a quite independent attitude from the facts as they are presented.

A student concession is available from the Association Office at 4/- per seat.

Pope Urban VIII (Gil O'Sullivan) of whom, as he was known to be sympathetic to the "new philosophy" before his election to the papal throne, Galileo and other scientists held high hopes of a benevolent attitude to their researches. Galileo's hopes led him to rash publicization of his teachings, thus bringing about his trial and condemnation.



ROGER PITCHFORTH

Sukarno Not A Free Agent

"Sukarno operates within a political framework," said Mr. M. W. Raffel, lecturer in Political Science, to a packed E006 during the recent Indonesia Week.

"When he speaks, therefore, he may be speaking at times not for himself but under pressure from the communists or the army: depending on how the forces of the nation are aligned at the moment, a speech to redress some imbalance." Mr. Raffel suggested that the Indonesian policy of confrontation was not simply the result of Dr. Sukarno's nationalistic fervour.

Though he is an extreme nationalist who dreams of Indonesia's grandeur, to attribute the policy of confrontation only to this, or to any single factor would be a mistake. There are, he suggested, a number of internal problems which make confrontation a convenient, a useful policy.

Sukarno chairs a three power group, a coalition consisting of himself, the army and the communist party. He has to take into account the thinking of these other diametrically opposed groups.

Both Sukarno and the army have a community of interest; both are hostile to parties, to liberalism, to factional bickering, both emphasise the importance of the revolution.

Mr. Raffel maintained that the army were in a position where

they needed a protector, and that Sukarno was that protector. In return the Communists support Sukarno and give him a measure of independence from the army.

Significance was attached by Mr. Raffel to one of the earliest public statements in the dispute. It occurred in 1959 when Yamin, a Sukarno aide, advocated the inclusion of British Borneo, Portuguese Timor and Australian New Guinea in Indonesian territory. This statement was disowned by the government, but Mr. Raffel said, "it is on the history books." Mr. Raffel also pointed out that in 1949 a Sukarno established sub-committee—of which Sukarno and Yamin were members—voted 39 to 23 to include in Indonesia not only all former Dutch holdings, but also the British territories in Malaya and Borneo. For including Malaysia at least, the vote was 45 to 17.



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Action for Bursaries and Accommodation

says Taylor

It is my intention if elected to represent the students of this University.

Executive has been dominated by semi-bureaucrats for too long. Its members have been seemingly uninterested on the views of students, and in what the students really want. This is in part, the fault of the students themselves, but it is my hope that with a greater Executive-student liason, this apathy can be overcome. The Executive should lead the student body. It should not limit students' rights to voice their opinions on Political, economic, religious and social problems, as was done by the out-going Executive.

University social life is organised around Club activity - but at the present time, there is little or no co-operation or co-ordination between clubs. I would like to promote a Clubs' Council which would provide for the meeting together of every Club President and Secretary at periods throughout the year. This Council in conjunction with the Executive, could contribute a great deal to the discussion and formulation of student policy.

Additional and important co-ordination could come through the instituting of a Political Clubs' Council and a Religious Clubs' Council, in addition to the present Sports' Council. (a body which needs much reinvigoration

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION.

As Chairman of the recently formed Sub-committee investigating Student Accommodation, I have strong views on this problem. It is the most important problem facing students today. In five years' time, over 2,500 students will require accommodation. Present plans (if successful) will provide for 750 only.

I propose the following steps:-

A central accommodation organisation to fulfil all student accommodation requirements from year to year, and to act as guarantor for students to landlords. This latter would result in a great increase in the flats available to students, and a substantial decrease in rent. If successfully practised it could also possibly cut out the land agents exorbitant fees.

An investigation into possibility of Students Association investing money in the acquisition of flats etc.

More direct pressure on the Government for further Halls of Residence - provided either by way of cash grants higher and more attractive interest rates for loans for This purpose, or tax reductions.

UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP

The outgoing Executive has been noticeably slow in investigating the proposal mooted by President Blizard. A Student bookshop on the campus is a necessity, and should be incorporated in the New Student Union Building Extensions - even at the cost of losing the "Higher Priced Dining Room". The difficulty is the effective combatting of a price war which could easily cripple such an enterprise. My proposal is to set up a co-operative organisation open to all students with all members able to buy books at a price only slightly below store prices. However, at regular intervals, all members would receive cash payments, equalling 20 or 30 per cent reduction, according to the worth of the books purchased.

STUDENTS' UNION BUILDING.

There can be no denial that students should have some right to decide what is to happen in their building. If I am elected, I undertake to do all possible to ensure that students' wishes are represented before the Building extensions are commenced. I am against any such proposal as the "Higher Priced Dining Room", which could lead to discrimination amongst students. I am against bureaucratic authority which decides what is best for students without consulting them. Some examples - the closing down of the coffee bar earlier in the year the proposal that students will have to buy dance tickets on the Thursday before a Saturday dance (to limit the numbers !)

BURSARIES:

This is another of the everlasting problems which demands investigation. High living costs mean that the present bursary system is most inadequate. Travelling bursaries and research grants to those completing degrees would create an added incentive to student, and a higher standard of learning.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The formation of a good public image is of importance. Wellington citizens must be made more aware of the worth and ability of the majority of the student body. All students must be encouraged to participate in University Festivals, and All citizens must be informed by adequate publicity of proposed Student activity.

OVERSEAS STUDENTS:

It is my opinion that overseas Students need more help and encouragement from New Zealand Students - not only to make them more welcome, but to give them a better understanding of this country to take back to theirs. More study weeks, like Indonesia Week are required. Adequate university accommodation should be provided to enable overseas students to gain immediate entrance to university affairs.

The most important factor to combat is discrimination not only amongst landlords but amongst the students themselves.

PROFILE

A third year B.A., LL.B. student, majoring in Political Science and International Politics, Alister Taylor has had extensive organisational and administrative experience in business and committee work within and without the University.

Receiving his secondary schooling at Palmerston North Boys' High School he took such an active part in all activities he was accused once of trying to 'run the school'. He is also a sometime Bible class chairman and youth leader.

Active in many University Clubs, Alister Taylor is president of the National Club, secretary of the Political Science Society, and chairman of the new Student Accommodation Investigating Sub-Committee. He has also been selected to attend the National Youth Forum, and a later Public Affairs Discussion Group.

University Needs To Be Impartial

says Pettigrew

Let us criticise, but let us also examine. I believe that students should not leap into print making moral pronouncements on an issue about which they know little. I do not see the Students' Association as just another morally indignant pressure group, nor do I see it as a group merely to its own interests, but I feel that it is the only body which has no allegiance to a particular group of share-holders, members, or electorate, has access to evidence from a variety of sources on a variety of topics, and possesses the people who can analyse this information calmly and rationally.

For some issues the facts are clear enough as to allow rational comment to be made without the necessity for a detailed examination - the protest against the recognition by the Government of the 'South African' Cricket Team, as such, is an example. But most issues are much more complex than this and I would like to see them examined by fact-finding committees which would make their findings known to students and to the general public. I believe that this is a practical benefit which could be made by the sub-committees of Executive to the student body as a whole.

This would also help to create or encourage some concern amongst our students for issues of a wider sphere than the immediate. While I would not make the moral judgement that all students should be interested in more than just obtaining a degree, I think that the wider the interests of the student the better for the university as a whole, as well as for the individual student, and I feel that all students should at least be given the opportunity of finding more at Victoria than merely an academic knowledge of a few subjects. Efforts are being made in this direction by such means as Indonesia Week, but general student interest is still deplorably low and I intend, if elected, to do my utmost to help and encourage efforts tending to change this state.

I am particularly concerned that students should develop an interest in International student activities, especially in the Asian region, and I intend to support such schemes as those which have been mooted - to enable students to visit, for example, Indonesia or Malaysia during the long vacation. Only in this and similar ways can we appreciate our increasingly important International environment.

In the more internal field, my main concern is that Victoria's public image is pretty squalid in many circles. There are many problems involved in trying to improve this, not the least of which is getting the students themselves concerned. It is indeed a long-term policy, but one which is of the utmost importance to the Association, and one which I will support to the utmost by encouraging such efforts as the film with which I am already associated, the Festival, publicity of, for example, the Volunteer Graduate Scheme, and an increasing discussion of the problems and role of the University.

Victoria is a non-residential university with a very high proportion of a part-time students, and it is largely because of this that we lack the corporate spirit the cohesiveness, which makes for an active Association. We are split into two camps - the career men for whom the university is a means to a qualification only, and those for whom it is, for a time at least, an end in itself. It is the resolving of this split - that of camps, not necessarily of opinions, - which will do a great deal towards giving the University a place in the life of Wellington.

I believe that the University has a role to play in the community as an impartial observer and critic. I believe that we are not playing this role, and that it is of prime importance both to ourselves and to the community that we do. We must do two things to achieve this - we must examine critically, and we must show the public what we are doing and what we have done. This is not easy, and it is not quick, but if elected I intend to use my influence to the utmost to achieve these ends.

PROFILE

A Third Year Political Science Student, also studying Asian Studies and Sociology. At Easter 1963 he ran the Tournament Yachting and became Chairman of NZU Yachting Council. He later joined the Public Relations and International Affairs Subcommittees of the Executive. He is organising a film documentary on the University for the PR committee and is VUW liason officer for the Volunteer Graduate Scheme. He recently started the VUW Recorded Music Society.

This year he is commodore of the VUW Yacht Club watching over a raffle currently running, organised the recent novelty boat race and is supervising a scheme to obtain a club boat, and other various long term projects.

New Constitution And Chapel Under Pilchforth

My past experience has taught me that it is possible to be efficient in administration while still allowing the traditional liberal attitude to the Association's business taken by most of the volunteer workers. If it were not for these people the work of the Association would grind to a halt. It is essential that the President keeps in close contact with these people as well as the members of Executive Sub Committees.

THE S. U. B.

This is managed by the Management Committee and the Executive through the house committee. Considerable confusion has arisen because executive members have not realised that the work of the executive and the Management committee through its Managing Secretary are complementary. Students have of course a majority on the Management Committee and I undertake to ensure that the views of the executive are expressed in the Management Committee.

The third floor is of great importance because of the growing numbers. The higher priced dining room is a good idea because students entertaining their parents or clubs entertaining speakers and important visitors can get the better service which is often wanted. The many services which have been proposed and have been dropped through lack of space can be revived to a certain extent, but things such as barbers and bookshops have to be carefully considered. We are only at varsity for 26 weeks in a year and commercial people working in the building would have to have some other method of money making if they are to survive, particularly through the long vacation.

BOOKSHOP.

This is desirable but not practicable at the moment. Over the years many suggestions have been mooted and the past President campaigned using the bookshop as his platform. He did make some enquiries after he was elected but there is still no bookshop and I feel that anyone who promises a bookshop will have great difficulty in producing one. There must be somewhere to put it, someone to run it, capital to start it and sufficient demand to ensure it does make a profit at times other than the beginning of the year. The only practical suggestion so far is the co operative but this has many difficulties to overcome including the breaking of monopolies.

CONSTITUTIONAL.

I have spoken to the executive at length on this subject and they undertook to see me, and when this was done I was to prepare a draft. Then has been little action taken since, as only one member of the executive came to see me. I will finish this work and when it is in a form which is acceptable to the executive it will be placed before the General Meeting.

ADMINISTRATION.

Efficient administration is a necessity. As a matter of policy I will try to ensure that what can be done by paid personnel shall be done leaving students free to do the policy work. As we expand we shall need more office staff and this will be attended to as the necessity arises.

NATIONAL.

The Victoria delegation to council complained that liaison with other universities was almost nil. This is of course the job of the President, to ensure that we do not become isolated. With the NZUSA office so close it is essential that both organisations remain separate and that one does not dominate the other. Each does a different job and represents a different type of organisation. It is also essential that the President consults the executive before going to council so that the views of the executive can be put forward.

This year split delegation meant that the views of Victoria were not considered to have as much weight as other universities.

HALLS OF RESIDENCE.

Victoria needs halls of residence and this can only be done in co operation with NZUSA. This is a national problem and concerns Auckland and Canterbury as well as ourselves. Victoria should help in every way particularly by putting pressure on the Government to require them to take a course of action which includes the building of Halls of Residence with other University buildings.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.

The University have planned their future building programme for some time to come. By the time this is completed the facilities for students will be far too small unless action is taken now to ensure that there is adequate Common Room space, Cafeteria and Coffee Bar Room.

CHAPEL.

As the chairman of the Quietroom committee I have initiated proceedings to start a Chapel Appeal Committee. I am still waiting for an assurance of support from the Religious clubs but members of the quietroom committee who represent these clubs seemed to think that there was a need for this facility. I shall ensure that a positive action should be taken on this issue.

INTERNATIONAL.

The 11th International Student Conference is to be held in Christchurch. This is our chance to show that N. Z. has an effective National Union. This can only be done if the people involved are aware of the situation. Having been on NZUSA executive for over a year I have been kept in close contact with the developments.

PERSONAL CONTACT.

If any student wishes to see me, as president, I will be available. The president is your primary representative as a student. I am still studying for a degree so I am subject to the same pressures as most of the undergraduate population.

PROFILE

A Law student, aiming to graduate in two years, Roger Pitchforth has had three years experience in the administration of student affairs. He has spent two years of the VUW Executive, as House Committee Chairman and Secretary. He was Secretary of NZUSA last year, and is Administrative Vice President this year. Also, he has spent two years on the management committee of the student union and is now chairman of the Quiet Room committee where he is at present organising an appeal for a chapel at Victoria. He belongs to the SCM and the Judo Club.

He plans to redraft the Constitution to distribute decision making.

Shopping Concessions Unbonded Bursaries says Robins

The Presidency of the Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association should, ideally, be conducted under two major policy divisions:

Domestic - The President should conduct the overall supervision of student welfare and student activities within the University; he should be the link between the Association and the Student Union; he should be the initiator of measures designed to improve the position of the student on the Campus, especially in relation to facilities for study and recreation; and he should encourage student comment on matters relating to the University.

Public - The President is the representative of the Association in its dealings with both people and organisations off-campus; he is the initiator of measures designed to improve the position of the student with the public at large and to put the student view-point to Government when the occasion demands it; he should take the steps considered necessary to foster good student relations on the International level.

Over the past few years, there has been a tendency to centre more and more of the day-to-day activities of the Association in the Association's Executive. The result has been a decrease in the attention paid by Executive to broader policy matters relating to the various Association activities. Similarly, the President has become involved in matters of day-to-day machinery, rather than in general policy supervision. It becomes apparent in any large organisation dealing with widely differing subjects, that a greater delegation of authority is required if all interests are to receive the attention required. To this end, if elected, I would initiate a reorganisation of the Executive to ensure its greater efficiency. In particular Men's and Ladies' Vice Presidents would be given greater responsibility in the administration of Association Policy.

International Affairs:

Promote a V. U. W. student opinion on matters in which students have an interest, and have constructive ideas to put forward. To this end Clubs will be encouraged to promote their views, but always in a manner that does not cause a deterioration in the University's or Associations standing. Seminars on particular international topics will be encouraged to be organised by students, funds being made available, where necessary, to obtain speakers resident in New Zealand, and suitably qualified.

National Affairs:

As with International Affairs, the promotion of a V. U. W. student opinion will be encouraged. Clubs and sub-Committees wishing to organise seminars and meetings will receive my backing, if the ideas to be put forward are constructive. At a time when criticism and the opportunities to criticize are being gradually suppressed, any part the Association can play to thwart such trends is highly desirable.

Student Publications:

These will be encouraged, so long as they do not place an undue financial strain on the Association. "Salient" in particular, will be encouraged to continue its critical coverage of a wide field of subjects of interest to Students. As in the past the Executive will rely on the integrity of the "Salient" editors to ensure that a high standard of responsible journalism is maintained.

Bursaries:

Efforts will be made to remove the bonding clause under which one quarter to one third of all students holding bursaries are subject. In addition representations will be made for an increase in bursaries for the purchase of textbooks, the prices of which are rising, while the value of the bursaries remains static.

Halls of Residence:

The case for Halls of Residence will, as in the past, be brought strongly to the Government's notice at every available opportunity. In addition, efforts will be made to see whether flats can be made available by the public, more readily than at the present time. An investigation will be undertaken as to the feasibility of setting up a 'Board of Trustees' to negotiate with Landlords on behalf of students, the Trustees in effect guaranteeing that the student will be a desirable tenant.

Shopping Concessions:

Efforts will be made to obtain discounts at selected Wellington stores for 'bona fide' V. U. W. students, on a similar basis as operates for members of the Public Service.

Student Health:

Representations will be made for a resident dentist to be employed, at reduced charges to students.

Union Building:

At present there are carefully defined limits to the authority of the Association's Executive and the Student Union Managing Secretary. Efforts will be made to maintain these limits, and where possible extend further the authority of the Association in the running of the Student Union Building.

Public Relations:

Over a period of years the standing of V. U. W. students in the Wellington community has gradually declined. It is my wish to see V. U. W. students accepted in this community, as students so obviously are in other New Zealand university centres. Besides the problem of accommodation - which in part has been caused by a poor public image - vacation employment, shopping concessions, and the general acceptance of the University as having an important and useful part to play in the community, will all be tackled by an intensive public relations campaign. To this end the Public Relations Committee will be asked to prepare a comprehensive scheme, in conjunction with an Executive Committee, to achieve these aims.

PROFILE

A graduate in Commerce and qualified accountant, Tom is at present a research officer in a Bank. He received his secondary schooling at Christchurch Boys High, where he was active in swimming, tennis, soccer, fencing and skiing. He was the holder of a McKenzie ski scholarship, and a successful contestant in South Island Skiing.

He has a year's labouring experience, a spell in the army, and has worked in advertising. At University he has been interested in skiing and is at present Treasurer of both the V. U. W. Students Association and NZUSA. He has introduced streamlining methods into the running of VUWSA finances, and will be playing a big part in the organisation of the coming International Student Conference. _