Theses hit the fan

We print here an exchange between ourselves and Prof. Hamer, Chairman of the Library Committee, to clarify some of the issues involved in the library debate. It seemed to us that the present proposals to the Professorial Board had had the same effect as the bomb scare last Thursday. That is, keeping students out of the library.

Dear Sir,

I would like to comment on references to the Library in the issue of 'Silent' of 21 March. It contains numerous errors and serious misrepresentations of the situation which, if perpetuated and made the cause and foundation of action by students, can only do great harm to the interests of the Library and of the students and staff who use it.

1. Persistent reference is made to 'cuts' in Library spending. What is going on at present is not the consequence of any reduction in the amount of money allocated to the Library but is an attempt to rationalize and redistribute resources amongst the various areas of Library expenditure. In the University Budget for 1977 the sum allocated to the Library for books and periodicals was increased by $60,000, and this at a time when other areas of the University were being asked to take cuts or to stand still and when the general financial position of the University was very tight.

2. However, inflation and soaring costs for books and periodicals make it extremely difficult for the Library, even with such generous treatment, to maintain the level of book acquisitions and periodical subscriptions to which we have become accustomed. The University believes that the percentage of the University's finances devoted to the Library—just under 9 per cent—cannot be increased without excessive strain on other areas of the University (welfare services, departmental grants, etc.). But it advised the Library that, where certain kinds of saving were made in Library staffing and services, the money would not go back into the general University funds (as usually happens when, for example, staff are cut in departments) but would be made available for spending on books and periodicals. This provided a mechanism for reallocating Library funds, not cutting the Library. The librarian and the Library Committee have looked at Library services and decided that this incentive was sufficiently attractive to justify our recommending cuts in some of them where usage of the services was slight or where efficiency might be improved by the reduction. Some of the recommendations have been accepted, others knocked back by Board or Faculties.

3. The overall financial position of the University is critical, and no part of the University can be exempt from inquiry into its efficiency and its ability to contribute to an easing of this position. What has impressed me about the exercise has been, not the savage determination by the University authorities to 'cut' spending on the Library but rather an immense fund of good will among academics towards the Library and a desire to keep within the narrowest bounds possible the reduction of Library services and acquisition of books and periodicals.

4. The report by Olivia Stephens (page 7) reads: "The greatest cuts in hours appear to be during the May and August vacations." These, and closing on Friday nights, are the only cuts in hours.

5. The article is also very seriously astray as regards the financing of the University. It is totally incorrect to say that the Grants Committee allocate a set sum to the Library each year. The U.G.C. gives The University a block grant out of which the University determines how much it will allocate to each area of the University. The U.G.C. seldom if ever tells Universities that they must devote portions of their grant to specific items. It has certainly not done so in the case of the Libraries in this Quinquennium. Therefore it is also totally false to say that 'last year the Grants Committee decided not to allocate any extra money to ease the Library's position'. No such issue was ever put before them and therefore no such decision was made. The third error is to state that in 1979 the U.G.C. 'will have to renew the library budget'. It will not. The determination of the Library budget is an internal matter for this University in the light of (a) the block grant and (b) its view of the Library case in relation to all the other competing calls on funds within the University.

6. The quality of our Library is something of vital concern to all of us—staff and students alike. The recent manifestations of student anxiety about the financing of the Library are very encouraging. But what I would urge on students is the great importance of a continuing concern about the Library, not just a concern which occasionally erupts at times of 'crisis' when the critical decisions have already been made.

Yours etc,

Professor D.A. Hamer,
Convener,
Library Committee.

Reply to Professor Hamer

Professor Hamer's letter correcting the factual inaccuracies in the library article studiously avoids the main point with regard to the library cuts. That of the library financing and the effects of the recent cuts in service on students.

Rather than playing with words, as he does, Professor Hamer would have been more convincing if he had spoken of pathetic increases in the library budget rather than an attempt to act as an apologist for them. He well knows that the library budget was increased by only about $10,000 in the 1976 budget, in effect a net cut when one considers inflation was at 17%. Further, to talk of a $60,000 increase in the library budget for this year is to play with figures since in most cases departmental budgets were also increased by a similar proportionals amounts.

It is also telling that Professor Hamer chooses not to mention the fact that this university spends less per enrolled full time student on the library than the other three large universities.

He further alludes to a competition for resources which the library must under go along with departments etc. However, we would be pleased to hear his views on the priorities between the library and the forthcoming junket by university bureaucrats to the Association of Commonwealth Universities Conference in Vancouver— we certainly know where our priorities lie.

The other main point is that he does not comment on the effects of the reduction in library hours on students.

The saving by reducing the hours in the May holidays and on Friday nights of approximately $5,000 is negligible when compared to the deleterious effects on part-time students. The May and August vacations are crucial times for students to catch up on study and do preparation for the rest of the year.

When the cuts to the library services are reversed we hope that Professor Hamer will not engage in the old tactics as some of the university hacks have done in the past of saying that the library has received 'yet another grant increase', the one thing that will have been done will have been the restoration of the library to its original position, certainly no progress will have been made. The time has come for this university to show its support for the library by not only restoring it, to its previous level of services but by giving a commitment to its continued expansion.

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Official Newspaper of Victoria University of Wellington Students Association
Salient's view of the Crisis

Since 1975 there have been many profound economic and political changes in New Zealand. It may be worthwhile having a look at these in the context of the deep economic crisis which New Zealand is in at the present time. Over the coming weeks, Salient will help students focus on the issues which demand attention, and individuals who will attempt to analyse the very serious situation of New Zealand and consider both the economic and political prospects for New Zealand.

The Economy
This is perhaps the most important element when looking at the changes which New Zealand has been going through in the past ten or so years.

- A steep rise in the price of the imports which New Zealand depends on for industry and consumption, plus a drop in demand and price for New Zealand exports has meant that we have run up a considerable trading deficit.
- To pay for our deficit, we have had to borrow heavily from overseas countries and organisations eg. World Bank, and have come under increasing control from overseas interests.
- Tax scales have stayed the same although wages and salaries have risen. For example, if you were paying 10% of your wages in taxes five years ago, the graduated tax scales mean that you may be paying 20% in taxes because of wage rises.
- Dramatic rises in the cost of living. Some of the items which have rocketed in price have been:-
  a. essential food items – bread, butter, sugar, coffee, milk, most other essentials.
  b. essential services – postage, telephones, rail and air travel, petrol, electricity, gas and rates.
  c. An increasing pool of unemployed. This is disguised by exporting much of our unemployment problem back to the Pacific Islands, and laying off married women who are not commonly included in the unemployment figures.
  d. Wage cuts. New Zealand workers are suffering severe wage cuts. Even during the third Labour Government, real wages were cut. This policy of hitting the workers hard has been continued by the National Government and compounded by the above policies. Since 1973, workers wages have fallen behind prices by the tune of 15%.
  e. Bank balances have not been increased since the new STB was introduced which means that they have fallen behind prices by at least 30%.
  f. The Government has cut state spending to finance their Superannuation Scheme (costing $1000m) and to balance the trade deficit. This means that essential state services have been such as education, health, welfare and transport.
  g. Regional and National development has slowed to a standstill speeding up unemployment patterns and producing depressed areas especially in the South Island.

Capital has been diverted from productive areas such as industry and agriculture, and to being diverted to banking and finance companies which produce nothing and merely wait for an upturn in the countries economy. This in turn leads to a general recession of the productive forces in the economy.

Industrial Relations
This is a crucial sphere of Government policy as it necessarily affects the well being of the mass of wage and salary earners.

- New Legislation has been put on the books (Commerce Amendment Bill, and Industrial Relations Amendment Bill) which restricts the rights of trade unions, including the CSSO and FSA, to set in the interest of their members.
- The National Energy Agreement Act gives the Government the power to deal with the power crisis if petrol supplies are threatened.
- The Government has attempted to confine the New Zealand public to the nature of Trade Unions and have blamed the rate of inflation on wage rises.
- The definition of a strike has been altered so that industrial action with the exception of authorized stoppages when negotiation award complaints or complaints over safety.
- Companies now have the right to lock out their workers if any industrial action in any other part of the factory affects production, hence turning the venom of the working class movement in upon itself.
- Unions and workers are forced to pay for strikes. Fines are $50 per worker per day and $1500 per Union per day.

Civil Liberties
- Actions to enforce New Zealand's own "inconvenient" policies or Island labour out have included stopping anyone with a black or brown skin and forcing them to produce identification, and proof that they are not overstayers. This violates the principles of "innocent until proven guilty".
- The suspicious circumstances surrounding the RSS report and the Government attempts to keep all aspects of that organisation's activities secret.
- The Government's issuing of illegal instructions (for example, The housing of superannuation payments early last year. The Chief Justice ruled that the action was illegal).
- The invitation for nuclear ships to visit our ports with a large bulk of the population, especially in the ports affected, against such visits.
- Nuclear attacks on the autonomy of the media culminating in the introduction of the Broadcasting Bill which has the potential to nullify criticisms of the Government.
- The imposition of a huge power scheme on the people of Central Otago which will flood their land.
- Mr Gill's intention to tighten up the abortion laws irrespective of the decisions of the Royal Commission.
- The implementation of the Wanganui Computer Centre to monitor information on New Zealanders.
- The government of state tenants out of their homes "if they don't look after them".
- Different types of legislation being pushed through to avoid public scrutiny.

Most people will realise that this amount of change is unprecedented in the history of our country. But few people are aware of the specific reasons for such a sudden change.

Many people think that it is Muldoon who is doing all these things. True, he is the agent of change, but a politician like him would not have risked to the extent he has, say, ten or twenty years ago. In short he is a product of our times.

In the 1975 election people knew what was going to happen. That is, they knew their wages were being cut, that they had bugged all chance of ever buying a house and that they looked forward to a pretty miserable retirement.

The Labour and National parties told different stories. Labour preached that they were doing a job in keeping New Zealand out of a depression that was sweeping the world, and National preached impending doom and said that only with cut in living standards and hard times ahead we could all pull through.

The people looked at the plans, looked at the realities, and the rest is history. National won the day because they understood the realities that the New Zealander was facing. This is not to say that they intended to do anything about them. Indeed, they also knew that to keep the profits of the companies which control the economy high, they had to cut workers' real wages down drastically. Once they were elected, it was the companies that they listened to, not the "ordinary bloke".

The events since then have indicated the measures that Muldoon has had to take to bolster the profits which are the driving force behind our capitalist economy. I will elaborate on this later.

The outlook on people today: Is the crisis, however, depends on whether they see Government as independently controlling the country's economy or acting simply as 'managers' for the local and overseas capitalists.

If the former approach is adopted, many things go unexplained. Why, for example, did the government decide to have a recession in the first place? Certainly they do not need anyone. They affect workers drastically, yet it is not in the interests of the capitalist class to have one.

The latter view, however, recognises that the capitalist system has the tendency to pass through a series of crises. This is the internal logic of an economic system which is guided in the interest of profit. New Zealand has passed through periodic crises in its history, as have other capitalist countries with us. It is no coincidence that capitalist countries pass through these crises together. Capitalist countries are intertwined.
ed in a series of unequal relationships which means that recessions are usually worst for those in the manufacturing sector because they have to cut down their production, but the other countries are usually able to pull out of the recession.

Instead, try to get out of the crisis by exporting, although the other countries are still too big a shape to buy products, or borrowing, although all other countries are not still unable to buy money.

The Capitalist World is now in a crisis - a crisis of over-production. It is all the worse for New Zealand because it is with things which are not basically wanted in a recession, and which are also subject to wild fluctuations in price. The economic base of New Zealand is extremely narrow. We are not still very large in industry and have to import most of the raw materials necessary to keep our furnaces burning.

Despite propaganda, to the contrary our manufacturing sector is weak and many countries would like to buy New Zealand goods anyway.

In short, and here even the most bourgeois economist will have to agree the New Zealand economy is in the shit. We face more gloom and seem unlikely to pull ourselves out of the recession for many years.

This brings us in the question of fascism. If workers' wages are to be forced down, we have to see why is necessary, then obviously a rule of capital has to be introduced to prevent the workers and their allies from getting together.

George Dimitrov, a notable theoretician on the question of fascism, defined fascism as "open, terrorist dictatorship of the most reactionary, most chauvinistic, and most important element of finance capital". As a significant proportion of capital in New Zealand is invested in the finance sector and finance companies, banks, mercantile banks (Broadlands etc.), insurance companies, conglomerates, one would naturally expect that sector to wield significant political power. Mooloono represents this finance capital sector, but whether this automatically makes him a fascist agent is another question.

The fact remains: New Zealand now has many fascist laws on its books which will loom larger and larger as the present recession goes on.

When then should students do about these economic and political restrictions? All people in New Zealand should be accustomed to the restrictions on their civil liberties and students should familiarise themselves with the new awareness. Students should attempt to learn the reasons for the offensive by the National Party on the living standards of working people and on the democratic rights of all New Zealanders.

What we are doing is basically trying to retain bourgeois democratic rights under the existing system of capitalism, and to stop the present trend in the National Party toward fascist Government. How long can we do this? It is obviously not a long term solution. We see that capitalism cannot guarantee a stable economic and social system in the long run, so what is the solution?

We believe that capitalism must eventually break down completely, not in a passive sense, but will actually destroy itself with violent turmoil of the type that we are beginning to see: an offensive by the Government on behalf of the large companies and a retreat from the working class.

There is a historic economic and social progression from an economic system of capitalism to a system of socialism. We mean socialism, not in the labour party sense, but a situation where political power is held by those that do the work in the society.

Socialist economic systems are not plagued with huge booms and slumps, but can progress even in the worst recession, as shown by the USSR in the 1930's and the Peoples Republic of China at the present day.

This, we believe, must be the long term goal of all those who wish to see New Zealand move in a direction of economic and social progress. Not only must nations produce more, but the wealth must be shared more equally in society, or in the words of Marx "to each according to his work".

To conclude, it is all very well to say that we will be well if New Zealand gets rid of the National Party or Mooloono.

But what they forget is that removing the National Party is not removing the economic conditions which put them there. The Labour Party would be forced to do exactly the same thing if they were in power now. And as for shooting Mooloono... in our opinion it would bring about the demise of New Zealand and the rise of fascism even quicker.

If you are serious about what New Zealand is going and want to do something about it, then only a correct analysis of present social and economic conditions will allow you to take the right steps. In the long term, the correct and natural step will be to a system of socialism upon which New Zealand will make genuine progress in the well being of its people and for a just world free from superpower domination.

- David Murray

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**NEWSHEET**

**MONDAY MARCH 28th**

12 NOON Mass each week at this time. All welcome. H327

12 NOON Overseas Students meeting to discuss best ways to look after Overseas Students Welfare, Union Hall.


7.30-10.30PM Glyn I Bonham Meeting to discuss current activities. All girls and women welcome. Smoking room.

**TUESDAY MARCH 29th**

12 NOON Transcendental Meditation technique. A general discussion: what is the brain wave coherence of such practical value? A neurophysiology of happiness? All welcome, Lounge.

1PM Collect signatures and union books from S.O.M. bookshop from the Old Law Library or risk losing the same.

2.15PM Union films: "Class of 44" Memorial Theatre

5.30PM Soulful Country dancing. Union Hall. All welcome.

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 30TH**


1.15PM Union films: Ken Russell's "Savage Messiah" Memorial Theatre

2.00PM V.U.W. Squash Club. Grass up! All you can drink. $2.50 members - bring food. 5.00 non-members. Also a disco great start! V.U.W. Rugby Club Rooms.

7.30PM History Society wine and cheese. Lounge and Smoking Room. $1.50. Plus Debate on "History is USELESS" and Society's A.G.M.

**THURSDAY MARCH 31ST**

12 NOON Student tutoring club meeting. Interested in tutoring at Parnell College Homework Center? If so come along to this meeting, College Room 1.

12 NOON An informal introduction to the transcendental meditation programme - what is it all about? Hundreds of New Zealanders practise it. All welcome, Lounge.

2.15PM Union Films: "Goodbye Columbus", Memorial Theatre

6PM To Rob May, Society weekly meeting - Learn more languages, make more friends, have more fun! Every Wednesday, Union Films (next to John Reid Squash court)

**FRI DAY APRIL 1ST**

Don't come to university today. Christian Union meets. All welcome. Combined tea with staff, D.C.F., Ang Soc., Polytech and Teacher's College. Yum! Speaker, Lounge and Smoking Room.
OUT NOW

This Thursday, the 31st of March, is the last day that students can withdraw from classes and have their fees returned to them. We suggest that if you have any doubts about what you are doing at Vic, or any other thing that you should be somewhere else instead, you do something about it this week.

There are, no doubt, many of you who started university this year with high hopes that it would spark off a desire to begin creative learning and a new consideration of the society around us. Forget it. University rather than doing this, has the opposite effect. It produces a dulling of the brain and a gradual acquiescence to the way the world is, rather than what it could be.

For those of you who feel that this has happened to you, get out now before it is too late.

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO NEW ZEALAND?

The lead article this week concerns a topic which we feel is probably the most important issue facing New Zealanders at the present time. This is the economic and political future of New Zealand in the short and long term.

We intend to feature it, in some way, every week. SALIENT has written to various parties and individuals, most of them well-known, to seek their opinions on the topic. We would like students to consider their arguments and contribute something themselves.

Our intentions? It must be to create a new awareness of the direction that New Zealand is heading, and to advocate action if this direction is found to be leading us over the cliff.

We do not envisage that this feature should be an advice column for Muldoon. Rather it will concentrate on the political dimensions of New Zealand's economic problem.

We urge you all to read it each week and to concern yourselves with a situation which may soon slip beyond our control.

EXECUTIVE — THE AFTERMATH

We got a good deal of feedback from students on our front page last week, but it did raise one or two interesting questions on the role of the Executive. Firstly, the Executive must be answerable to SRC, as must all other positions on the Student Association. On the very same week as that front page story appeared, we found that three Exec members were absent from SRC, one of them, the Woman Vice President, having not attended any of the three SRC meetings this year.

From some of the comments that people have made, it is obvious many students are not aware what exactly SRC is in short is the policy-making body of the association. It can give away money, instruct Exec members and SRC reps to work in various areas, and can also pass policy which then becomes official VUWASA policy. This policy goes forward to NZUSA Councils (held in May and August) and also gives the President the right to issue press statements on issues which concern students.

The Executive, on the other hand, can not make policy although it frequently overrules it. The main function of the Exec is to carry out the policy of the SRC and the affairs of the Association. The test of a good Exec is the effectiveness with which they carry out SRC policy, and the extent to which the Association runs smoothly.

Now that the affairs of the Executive have been thrown open to students, they should become more interested in the dealings within their Association. We will continue to make comment on the affairs of the Executive in order that students do not become completely oblivious to it.

In the meantime, the AGM of the Association is on this Wednesday at High Noon in the Union Hall. All last year Exec will give their reports — so here’s your chance to examine what they’ve been doing for you.

Cafe forum flops

The long awaited cafeteria forum got under way on Monday with the realization that it achieved almost nothing constructive.

David Tripe, General Vice President (N.Z.U.S.A) opened the meeting with a lengthy description of the catering situations of various N.Z. universities, their successes and, more predominantly, their failures. He also put forward the view of the N.Z.U.S.A. in regard to Union facilities. This is simply that, as the Union is an asset to the University as a whole, not just the students, the University should therefore contribute to its upkeep.

Steve Underwood then spoke on the financial implications of the running of catering facilities. He did however seem rather unwilling to make any real comment on the current situation only stating that it is better than before. (For a good rundown of the situation both past and present see the cafe article Salient March 14).

After a brief comment from the Union Manager Nofo Fakaloli on the question of prices the floor was open for discussion.

From this point on, the meeting began to break down, becoming an argument between those who supported Allan Fennell in his attempt to gain student support for his proposal to run a restaurant in the Union and those who supported his vi

Susan Caine

RELEX

The Recreation Learning Exchange is an extension of the belief that staff and students can meet on neutral ground through recreation. It may be that they find their existing academic relationships limited, impersonal and unsatisfying.

RELEX intends to provide a contact service for people wanting to reach the best ideas from canoeing to embroidery, lapidary to mosaics.

Ask for Joyce at the Gym Store, Wednesdays 12-4pm or phone 738-566 extension 65.

Malaysian and Singaporean Students

Let's get together again at the Union Hall, 7.30, 31st March (Thursday). Programme: Film show, Singing (bring your own instrument) and general discussion. Light supper will be provided.

MALAYSIAN SINGAPOREAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Senator Mc Intosh from Australia will be speaking on the situation in East Timor 11 sm, TV Room (3rd floor Union Building), Saturday 2nd April. All urged to come.

NZUSA WORKSHOPS COMING.....WATCH FOR THE POSTERS

CONSTITUTION

Part G.8.6

"Each affiliated body shall apply in writing to the Secretary of the Association before the first day of April in each financial year for re-affiliation for that year and unless re-affiliation shall have been granted within one month of such application having been made, the body shall cease to be affiliated to the Association, as from the first day of May in such financial year."

Kevin Swann
SECRETARY

NOTICE OF ELECTION

An election will be held on Wednesday 30th March 1977 to fill the position of S.R.C. Co-Ordinator.

The position includes, responsibility for the activities of all elected SRC representatives, as well as co-ordination of the activities of the elected SRC Officers. This position carries an honorarium of $300.00 p.a. (less what has already been uplifted.)

Nominations in writing should be handed to the Association Secretary by 4.30pm. Tuesday 29th March 1977.

Kevin Swann
SECRETARY

SALIENT STAFF NOTES

Leading the struggle against left and right devastation, Opportunities, spites and metaphysics, libel, demagoguery, perversion, devastation, deviations were David Sorenson, Dale Bristoff, Bruce Robinson and other unpatriotic elements from Wallace Street (exiled). Tom Dunlop also took up the call to lead the masses and John Raynal was in the thick of it all well. Advertising Manager Michael Stephens is underling severe criticism for his rights errors, Apologies. George Wood and Alan Smith are finding it hard to avoid the cult of the personality. The faithful messes who turned the paper out this week were: Lynette Sum, Lamorna Rogers, Gordon Cooper, Ron, Marily Widdowson, Wallace Douglas, Craig Molloy, Sue Cameron, Renee Todd, James Tarrant, Peter Gibbs, Quentin Report, Chris O'Ven, Richard Feenam, Tony Robinson and numerous others who will go down in the annals of time completely nameless. Just remember folks—the masses and the masses above are the masses force behind history.
Remembering SOWETO

Last Friday night one thousand Wellingtonians demonstrated in solidarity with the oppressed Black majority in South Africa. This was an unprecedented step in the history of the New Zealand Anti-Apartheid movement. For the first time New Zealanders looked beyond their own New Zealand contacts with Apartheid and marched in solidarity with the struggle for justice in South Africa.

The Wellington Anti-Apartheid Picnic (the body which organized the march) chose to have a march of a different nature because of the rapid political developments that have taken place in South Africa over the past two years. We felt it was important to draw public attention to the horrific massacre of one hundred and seventy six school children on June 16 1976 and to the implications of this event. For the massacre shows clearly the inhumanity of the Apartheid system and also marks the beginning of a new development in the struggle against Apartheid in South Africa.

The Sharpeville killings in 1960, of 69 Black Africans protesting peacefully against Apartheid, succeeded in silencing Black unrest then, but the masses in Soweto in 1976 sparked off solidarity demonstrations in every Black city in South Africa. Since Soweto, Blacks have become far more confident in their belief that they can achieve independence and liberation. For the last seven months continued strikes and demonstrations have been waged against Apartheid at great cost to the Black people.

The success of the demonstration on Friday 18 March can be measured by the numbers who took part. One thousand people is a considerable number given the new emphasis, of solidarity rather than direct protest, that the demonstration took. Future activities of the Wellington Anti-Apartheid Picnic (W.A.A.P.) is planning include protests against the South African Squash team which is visiting Hamilton in mid-April and a seminar on Angola on Saturday 28th May.

The Halt All Racist Tours movement has called a national day of protest against the South African squash team on 15th April 1977. In Wellington on this day W.A.A.P. intends to have a photographic display in a public place downtown during lunchtime, a film showing on South Africa, and extensive leafletting calling for an end to New Zealand contact with Apartheid. The seminar on Angola will include discussion on the controversial role of the two superpowers U.S.S.R. and U.S.A. in the struggles of the Angolan people.

The continuing activities of the Anti-Apartheid movement in New Zealand are a clear indication to the New Zealand people and Mr. Maudsloom that we will not give up in our determination to support the majority of South African people who are fighting for a just solution in their country. But for this struggle to continue in New Zealand we need all the support we can get from the ordinary New Zealander. The Vietnamese movement lasted ten years, the Anti-Apartheid movement has already last eight years. Whatever the length of our campaign though, one thing is sure, we must continue our efforts until Apartheid is eradicated.

Students in the past have made a very important contribution to the Anti-Apartheid movement. So we are asking for your continuing support in the future.

Watch Salient for more information on future activities of the W.A.A.P.

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 looking after your family, see Richard Stack at the Wellington Branch of the Bank of New Zealand. He'll be pleased to give you all the assistance and advice that is available. Ask him for the free booklet "Helping New Zealanders with their Finances" and the attractive savings facility the Nationwide Account; savers' Cheques; and so on. There are two particular tips that we know very useful:

BNZ Educational Loans
The loan is there for you in three flexibilities: You can take out as you need it; you can pay off a lump sum at any time; or you can borrow on a long-term and plan things out over the years you are at school.

BNZ Consultative Bank
Free, helpful advice on particularly any financial matter from people who understand how money 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 with a New Zealand office in every country in the world.

Call in to see Richard Stack at the Wellington Branch, Col. Lambton and Cootamundra Quay Phone 729-005 ext 702

BANK OF NEW ZEALAND
Wholly owned by the people of New Zealand

Attend the next W.A.A.P.
Sunday 24 April
2pm, Trades Hall, Rooms E & D, Victoria St.

B.TAYLOR and L. MORRIS

Stew all for five minutes over a moderate heat, until the onions are just tender. Finally add two tomatoes cut into wedges. Heat through again and serve. Do not overcook.

Stuffed Green Peppers

Allow one pepper for each person. Pre-heat oven to 350° or Gas Mark 6. Wash peppers.

Slice the tops from the peppers, just below the stems, and set aside. Wash out the seeds from the pepper shells.

Take a half pound of mushrooms 1-2 cups of freshly boiled rice, one large onion, slice and chopped, salt and freshly ground black pepper, small amount of oil for frying. Add about 1 dessertspoon of tomato paste mixed half a cup of water.

Fry the onions, mushrooms and rice in the oil. Add the tomato paste and water. Stir frequently. Cover and cook until most of the water has been absorbed, and a thick sauce remains.

Spoon mixture into pepper shells and cover with a slice of cheese before replacing tops of pepper.

Place in a buttered dish and bake for about 10 minutes. A thick cheese sauce could be poured over the peppers before baking in the oven, or a tomato sauce.

Other stuffings suitable for peppers and vegetables such as Eggplant, include: Spinach and celery; breadcrumbs or cubes (mashed), Olive, nuts, toasted sunflower seeds, corn kernels, leftover pasta, chopped hardboiled eggs. Raisins? Apple cubes?

Helen Corrigan

GREEN PEPPERS
Green or Bell peppers were the preserve of immigrant groups for many years in New Zealand before their deliciousness was discovered by many people. Today they are widely available and right now at their seasonal cheapest. Buy them firm, unwrinkled, a smooth jade-green without dark blemish.

Green Pepper Salad:—

Cut 2-3 peppers in half, removing the stems, seeds and inner white ribs. Slice peppers lengthways into thin strips. Crush or finely chop two or three cloves of garlic, and add to pepper strips. Squeeze over the juice of one lemon, and allow all to stand for two hours. Finally, barely cover with vinegar and serve.

Georgie's cooked Salad:—
Easy and quick, (for 2).

Heat a small amount of oil in a saucepan. Add one pepper sliced into strips; one onion sliced and pushed into rings; salt and black pepper, and two cloves of crushed garlic.
that they would have to do more than confront each other at Conferences for there to be disarmament.

Certainly the USA-USSR relationship was an important aspect of the Convention, yet Detente was inevitably discussed. But please be fair, there were many, many other proposals which were looking to be discussed to address current concerns. Our feeling is that you have to totally misrepresent the Convention when you restrict its discussion to the two Superpowers.

Your team has totally ignored the valuable contributions of people such as: Seidol Schoadoj, Mairead Corrigan, Bob Aldridge, Marty Osher, Ron O’Grady, Alice Copperd Dr Yap Thiam Hien, Sir Mark Oliphant, Arthur Hewlett, and Senator MacIntosh.

Statements made by New Zealand’s Viola Palmer, Jim Knox, George Armstrong, and the moving message from Myra Szym’s wife.

The efforts of 22 special interest groups discussing issues such as non-alignment, Nuclear weapon free zones, research, peace aquaculture etc. have been ignored.

And you concentrate merely on two or three of the 80 action proposals.

One of our approaches was via Ron How- well present Chairman of the NZ-China Society. Ron made a presentation to the Cabinet on 22 February. “Permit me to offer congratulations on the obvious success of the Chine-Chinese relationship, I’ve been rather horrified to be told this morning that someone had spoken very critically about nuclear disarmament to the Chinese!”... or something along these lines. That was, of course, quite untrue. With your knowledge and support I had discussed this on behalf of the PNAC while I was in Peking last October. The situation was very seriously complicated by the appropriate people there but the decision was that they felt direct representation would be inappropriate and that we should trust their friends to present their points of view...That much I duly reported to you via one of your assistants. The Society then decided that we would produce a brief statement to encourage discussion and so I reported this to your staff for distribution...Nothing more could possibly have been asked of the Organisers.”

Another approach was to let Reri Alii who spoke during March 1976. Two stu- dents took our registration forms to China and were asked to convey our invitation. Also a letter was written to the Chinese Embassy inviting the Ambassador or a representative to be present. Their letter expressing regrets was dated 4 February.

We sincerely regret the Chinese could not come but were delighted that the NZ- China Society took the trouble to print a brochure to make known their position. This was distributed and will be included

The following article was first brought to our attention by an advance letter which indicated that a draft reply to the Solicen article on the Peace Convention was being put before the organizing committees for the Convention with a view to their jointly signing it. But the following article, which we understand to be a considerably toned down version of that draft, appears as a personal statement by the chief organizer for ICRA – John Hinchliff.

We will pass only a short comment at the end of this article. We believe that those persons and organisations referred to in the article, come closest to replying to the points made about them. We hope that next week a forum of views on ICRA will appear based on Mr Hinchliff’s article.
in the Convention booklet.

CANWAR. The unanimous CANWAR de- legate explains that some of his committee "had taken a major part in the organisation of the Convention". Who were they? And what were they doing? Where were they when we needed them?

The suggestion that "Hinchcliffe refused to allow that there was a planned starting time to accommodate the march" is untrue. This can be proved by checking the preliminary programme outline.

Originally the Friday meeting was scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. Then News-
letter No. 5 says the time was rescheduled for 8.15 p.m. because of the march being organized by CANWAR. In the latter case the letter by Kay Aime dated 14 January explains that at a meeting on 29 November they decided they could not organise the march as they had agreed to because of "the lack of organisation support at this time of the year and the fact that you yourself are tied to a tight schedule."

CANWAR's action proposals were con-
sidered. The action proposal for a campaign for a nuclear weapon free zone in the South Pacific was no more than a statement favouring the plan. There were no specific suggestions for action that New Zealanders could take. This was one of the five affirmations. Also a special interest group was scheduled to discuss the zone in depth. We believe the idea is crucial and that it did receive a lot of consideration. There were also proposals for Pacific peoples "to be left to live in peace" (cf. proposal 24) and for "a comprehensive educational programme" (cf. proposals 13,47,53). A further sug-
gestion was for a World disarmament Con-
ference to ensure nuclear weapons would be destroyed and that "no-one would be first to use nuclear weapons". Please read proposal 27 to see that this also has been incorparated.

There was a request for the Convention to report the founding resolution of CANWAR. However, the ideas within this re-
solution were already included throughout the list of proposals and affirmations. We apologised publicly for the secretar-
ial error in omitting CANWAR from the role.

How can CANWAR say the "nuclear warships question was largely ignored"? George Armstrong and Ken Hulst - organ-
isers of theuckland and newzealand Sea-
forces Squadrance, were organiser of the Convention and they led a special interest discus-
sion group on their Peace Squadrance. The affimations stated clearly our objection-
s to the presence of nuclear warships.

Convention. Many of the organising Com-
mittees have experienced despair at the apparent unwillingness of the Super-
powers to disarm in the past. Those of us who have experienced the hostility and paranoia of people from both sides feared that nothing could be done. But recently the barriers have started coming down. 
Friends are being made. There are some signs of trust and a reduction of suspi-
sion and that. The UN decision to call a special session on disarmament next year is something many of us have sought for years.

Now, some general comments:

1. We do not intend to be "cold war" warriors. But the duty of the press is to re-
port the truth not misconceptions about the world situation. The likelihood of world war increasing there has been no "pause". The diplomatic efforts by the superpowers and three-regime are to disarm people's opposition to their war preparations. We still hold this view.

2. That people at ICGA were prepared to support these diplomatic offensive/s; demonstrates the need for debate and information within the peace movement. The Convention did the peace movement a disservice in both these respects. We main-
in this view also.

3. Finally we encourage people to take up the questions in the above article at-
they are important ones and space will be made available for people's comments in this edition. We encourage people to re-read the original Salient feature as a number of allegations in the above article bear no relation to what we actually printed.

Indian Election Aftermath

By Terry Auld

The victory of the Janata Alliance and its allies in the Indian general elections has ended the Congress Party's 30-year grip on political power in India. At the time of writing, with counting completed in more than 150 constituencies out of 542, the Janata Alliance and its allies had won almost 300 seats against the Congress Party's 149. Many ministers closely associated with the enforcement of the state of internal emergency declared 21 months ago fell with Mrs. Gandhi. Her widely-hated son, Sanjay, was heavily defeated in his attempt to gain a seat.

The crushing of the Congress Party was greeted by widespread rejoicing in the towns and cities of northern and central India, where the Janata Alliance had taken power by-elections during the emergency. The victory in Mrs. Gandhi's home state of Uttar Pradesh was particularly significant.

Few people expected the Congress Party to be defeated.

The elections were held in the shadow of the emergency which constrained the opposition's ability to campaign. Some prominent opposition leaders were still in jail, others were released to contest the ele-
ctions. Political rallies could be held only for electoral purposes, not to develop mass movements on popular demands, strikes or against inflation. Following the earlier banning of 28 political parties and organ-
sations, Gandhi's government moved to "derecognize" 39 opposition groups. Re-
presenting untouchables and national minor-
ities, those "derecognized" were often influential locally. "Derecognition" re-
moved them from the list of minority citizens.

Crude bribes were offered by the Gandhi government. In Uttar Pradesh land revenue on holdings two acres or less were halved - resulting in a loss in revenue of more than US$22.5 million. In other states the govern-
ment servants' darness allowance was raised. In Bihar the government increased the electric duty on rural pump sets. Drast-
ic cuts were made in fertilizer prices and levies on paddy fields were cut.

The Janata Alliance and its main ally Congress for Democracy, were both created from disparate groupings in a few weeks prior to the elections. The main common factor being opposition to the Congress Party and Mrs. Gandhi's dictatorship. With an apparently weak opposition to the Inde-
rust, claims about economic progress and Gandhi's demagogy about her alleged "love and concern for the welfare of the people", the Congress Party con-
findently believed that it would sweep the power. Some sections of the party expec-
ted 75% of the seats compared with 65% at the previous general election in 1971.

But the Indian people did not respond this time. And it is not surprising that they did not. In the past the Congress Party ruled without gaining an absolute majority of the popular vote. In 1971 it gained only 43% of the total vote which resulted in a landslide in seats - somewhat like the Na-
tional Party's victory in New Zealand's gen-
eral election. A Congress Party victory required a split decision.

This time the opposition was united. The previous years of Gandhi's dictator-
ship were years of mass poverty and stagnation amid growing wealth for the few, rampant corruption, torture, murder and malnutrition. The Union government had suffered slum clearance and sterilization of the people who turned away from it as a result.

The Janata Alliance campaigned on the slogan that the choice for Indian people was "between democracy and dictator-
ship, between abdicating the power of the people or asserting it." Countering Gandhi's assertion that India could progress only with sharply circumscribed liberties, the Janata Alliance's platform expressed Gandhi's pining of false choice between civil liberties and economic gains. It stated that

Crowds cheer at Mrs Gandhi as a Congress Party election rally.

this way of putting things conceals the fac-
that fundamental freedoms are wea-
that the poor need to fight tyranny. Bead cannot be justified against lib-
erty."

The Janata Alliance cobbled together an opportunistic programme which promised Gandhian socialism, decentralised economic and political power, land reform, end to the curbs on press freedom, release of pol-
itical prisoners, the creation of full employ-
(Continued on next page)
Digging in at Bastion Point

On Friday 18 March, Joe Hawke and Jack Ramela, two members of the Orakei Maori Action Committee arrived in Wellington. That night, Joe Hawke addressed 1,200 anti-apartheid Marchers outside the Town Hall. Both men gave interviews to the media and on Sunday morning, Joe Hawke recorded an interview for 3L VII.

Q. The tents have been standing for eleven weeks now - what has actually happened in that time?

J.H. On the 5 January, at 3pm, we put up the first tents. We spent the night on Bastion Point and by the morning the tent city had grown to a dozen or so tents and more were coming in the next day. At 6 that morning there were a hundred people there to stop the bulldozers coming. The bulldozers never arrived and instead we heard on the news that the Government had postponed the subdivision on Bastion Point.

Then we started building our wharekai which was just a make-shift building and began to build up the cooking and eating facilities for our people. We started the cultivation on the 9 January - about 100 people clearing an area of 4 acres mainly by hand. And we hired a cultivator to dig up the ground.

On the 10th we had our first meeting with Venn Young when he indicated that unless we moved off the Maori would lose out on everything. It was a bribe that we couldn't accept so we stayed on.

Over the next few weeks interest was generated by the media and Bastion Point was in the news everyday.

Meetings were conducted practically everyday for the first 5 weeks. We had a meeting with the Auckland City Council - they reversed their first decision and came out in opposition against the subdivision deciding that the land either be returned to the city council or vested in an appropriate Maori body.

There followed various meetings around Auckland with the Auckland District Maori Council who came out in full support of the stopping of the subdivision and restoration of the land to the Maori people of Orakei.

We started to get replies and reports and letters of support from unions, political parties, community committees in Auckland. We sent two delegates around Tai Tahu (Northland) to the Ngati Whatua hapu and over 200 elders signed our petition which was handed to Mr Young on the Orakei marae last Sunday (13th). Also we had been gathering signatures from all over the country and were also able to give Mr Young, Mat Rata, Duncan MacIntyre and the Commissioner of Crown Lands Mr McMillian signed petitions with about 4000 signatures.

We have had visits from Indian Chiefs of some Canadian tribes, an Aboriginal Civil Rights Leader, the Leader of the World Peace Movement, Australian Union Delegates, editors of well-known New Zealand Women's Magazine and visits from Auckland City Councillors.

One of the main reasons for us still being here is the Auckland Trades Council 'Green Ban' on Bastion Point which means that no union labour will be provided for the subdivision. At a recent meeting they decided to keep the ban on until the Government cancels its plans for the subdivision completely.

Q. What is the next step in the process?

J.H. The tents are staying. We need a lot of support from the public to establish ourselves. The winter months will be particularly hard time and we'll have to reinforce our present accommodations. The building of the whare-moe and also the whare-kai will have to be accelerated. Then we have the speaking tours throughout the country and the planned tour to the United Nations in New York - perhaps to the Land Rights Committee or the Social Policy Committee.

Q. You would be presenting a case for the Land Movement as such or just Bastion Point?

J.H. It will be a broad issue because the Bastion Point problem is duplicated right around the country. All you have to say is that less than 3 million acres, out of an area which once measured 66 million acres, is under the direct control of the Maori people to get across the seriousness of the problem.

Two hundred acres in the eyes of the UN would not warrant attention.

Q. Apart from Young and other officials meeting you at Orakei, what is the Government doing to give the problem of Bastion Point?

J.H. A select committee has been set up to hear submissions from the Maori Land March committee (Matakite o Aotea) and to study the Memorial of Rights which was presented to Government at the end of the march. They have taken our submission that Bastion Point be ruled back under Maori title and tabled it, and they will be sitting again in June to discuss it further. Also copies of our petition have been given to Jim Bolger, head of the select committee, and to the other eleven members.

The tour which began in Palmerston North with addresses at the Trades Hall and Massey University was undertaken in order to widen the protest at Bastion Point by bringing it to the attention of as many people as possible. In Auckland support has been steadily building since January and by Jack Ramela's estimates there are eighty tents, twelve caravans, and about seventy people at the camp during the week - some going out to work and returning at night - and in the weekends the crowds numbers as many as three thousand.

The O.M.A.C. would like to see the issue become the concern of all New Zealanders and not just Aucklanders, and in their bulletins they outline how individuals can support the protest.

1. Take their own tent out to Bastion Point. Help with planting. Meals provided free. (This is something that students can easily do during Easter and May vacation.)
2. Send a donation.
3. Sign the Action Groups Petition (address donations and requests for petitions to: O.M.A.C. Box 18219, GPO, Auckland).

As Joe Hawke has said, Bastion Point is merely the tip of the iceberg and there are many other land struggles going on around the country. Bastion Point just happens to be the most publicised. The important thing is to keep it in the public eye so that the real issue - the continual erosion of Maori rights by the Government - and the meaning of the 1973 land march does not become lost.

This speaking tour is intended to be seen as a continuation of that historic march. At least one more tour is planned before the select Committee is in June when students and non-students alike will be called on to demand of the government that Bastion Point and the other land struggles be given a just and immediate solution.

Joe Hawke, one of the leaders of the Bastion Point struggle.

(continued from previous page)

ment within 12 years and drastic changes in the education system. This programme won the Indian voters from the discredited Congress Party.

It is impossible to believe that the Janata Alliance will effect any fundamental change in India's situation, and it is an open question as to whether it will hold together, so disparate are its components.

Allied within the party are the Jan Sangh (a right-wing Hindu party), the right-wing Bharatiya Lok Dal (a party which represents big business, feudal landlords and rich peasants in some northern Indian states), the Old Congress (a 1971 splinter from the Congress Party) and the centre Socialist Party. Its prominent members include men who in the past have wanted to increase American influence in India in opposition to the Soviet influence developed under Gandhi's dictatorship.

Representing the big bourgeoisie, Anglo-US imperialism and the feudal landlords, the Janata Alliance will not make any implementation of its programme than did the Congress Party. The demagogic promises designed to win the people contain traps for Janata. For example, any attempt to carry out genuine land reform will be violently opposed by the BLD.

The elections will result in a setback for Soviet influence in the Janata Alliance holds together. Like the United States, the Soviet Union has worked hard to bring India into its sphere of influence. Control of India gives an imperialist country great power in South Asia.

There are many reasons for this. India is a large country with rich natural resources which occupies a strategic position in South Asia. It holds rich deposits in the Arabian Sea, China, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Its army is one of the world's biggest - about 1/3 of the annual budget is spent on the military. From India the oil route to West Europe and Japan can be controlled and pressure applied to neighbouring countries. Especially since Gandhi came to power, the Soviet Union has used trade and "aid" to take control of India. Since the signing of the Soviet Indian treaty in 1971, which gave India a freehand to dismember Pakistan in Soviet interests, the Soviet Union has ousted the United States as the dominant foreign influence. Through its "aid" it has taken considerable control of India's electrical appliances, precision casting steel, aluminium and power generating industries. Under control of the loan agreements have enabled the Soviet Union to enrich itself at India's expense.

India's expansive foreign policy resulted in the invasion of China in 1962, the dismemberment of Pakistan in 1971, the annexation of Sikkim in 1974 and economic pressure against Bangladesh, Burma and Nepal. All had Jull Soviet backing. And India is the Soviet Union's 6th target in its strategy for encircling China.

If the Janata Alliance emerges in the 1977 elections, it will mean a lessening of Soviet influence and improved relations with Pakistan and China.
The Good, the Bad,
& the Ugly

Last Wednesday saw a new Lindy Cassidy in the chair and an SRC meeting which managed to get through the whole agenda, except for general business, by 2 o'clock. If you're interested in The Library cuts, smoking, Arts Council, the pool room or the Wellington Boilermakers then you should have been there. If you aren't and you weren't — read on.

Lindy began the reports by informing the room that the proposal to close Monarch Street has been postponed and the City Council is to re-open hearings for objections.

Progress on Library Cuts

We then heard a report from Robert Moore-Jones on the recommendations made by the Library Action Committee. The Committee, he said, felt that any direct action at this stage would only alienate further the University authorities. Instead the Committee focused on two actions:

- The Education Officer and SRC executive members did some research on student feeling and student use of the Library and make submissions to the University Council with a view to effecting the withdrawal of the cutbacks in hours

2. That the Education Officer and SRC make plans for direct action to be implemented should the submissions fail. Robert made the point that submissions about the Library had been thrown out at the last Professorial Board meeting because they were a waste of time and labour and back them up. The two above proposals were put as motions, and after objection, a group of people who felt we should ask for the Library to be open on Friday mornings rather than Monday mornings as all-of-nothing, the motions were put.

The Scourge of Beckford

Gyles Beckford then drew the attention of the SRC to the fact that his Vice-President, Christine Paterson, had not attended an SRC meeting this year. Students had a right to know what work she was doing for the Association this year, he said. Lindy agreed to contact Christine ("If I get a pub on campus" fame) before the next SRC.

Next came the SRC elections. Mark Heyman ("Library is the hub of the University") was elected Library Rep and Andrew Stamp ("Pedicure... and only you will be redundant") is now our Arts Council Representative. The Moore-Jones family expanded its influence with the addition of Robert to the SRC (one year term) being elected as Professional Board rep.

Managing the Union

Six reps (one of whom must be a woman) were needed for Union Management Committee — Victoria Corner was the only lucky lady — and John Hepbern. Brent Lowther (who has left, Neil Green was replaced) and Alfonso triumphed despite an assertion from Steve Underwood that there was a serious conflict between his being on Union Management and applying for permission to rent the middle floor Restaurant when it was the Management Committee which was to grant or refuse his application. Gyles Beckford was elected to the Overseas Student Committee and the new Catering sub-committee in Beret Layton, Andrew Moore-Jones, John Hepbern and Sue Hannah — Alfonso missed out.

Anyone for Pool?

A motion moved by Matthew Birch, in the absence of the original mover Peter Gilkison, which sought the removal of the pool table from the room was next considered by the meeting. Birch informed SRC that the table is regularly damaged by the users — a small group monopolize the room, preventing others from using it. A group using the room last year were involved in the violence which led to two students being barred from the university. He said that University Clubs were desperate for rooms for meetings and the room would be far better used for this purpose. The motion was carried without opposition.

A request that VUWSA support the proposal to incorporate N.Z. Students' Arts Council into an independent body (N.Z. S.A.C. Inc) was accepted by the meeting after some wrangling over whether it would 'not have been better to form it into a limited liability company rather than an incorporated society.

Marshall gets pay cut

Then came a Mr Christie who wanted Union Management to employ a Deputy Marshall at John Watney. Not a lot of the stature of Gyles Beckford or Steve Underwood to enforce the smoking ban in the cafeteria. $500 was to be paid to this intrepid fellow, plus a $500 wear allowance. Bruce Robinson informed us that physique was not necessary for such a job, as from his experience as a cleaner, he had deduced most smokers to be extremely short persons, for the butts were invariably on the floor rather than in the ashtrays.

Asked how he envisaged the enforcement done, Mr Christie said he didn't care whether the Marshall stifled the cigarette down the offenders' throat or used a spraycan of 'femine fragrance' as long as he didn't take advantage of that beer group pressure was not working as such a move would be seen as discriminatory. An amendment reducing the money involved to $50 was lost, and a close vote on the motion proper saw it be killed — or ash.

Boilermakers

The meeting next agreed to lay another motion to do with the so-called "in the ashtray" and we moved on to sit ten items on the agenda:

- "that this Association supports the struggle of the Wellington Boilermakers Federation for re-registration."
- "Moved by Multermann and Robb, this motion provoked the speech of the afternoon from David Newton. He said that having had two years experience as a member of the Boilermakers Union, and as a supporter of the Union in their struggle, he believed that the union site and at Cable-Price, he thought the motion was hasty. He saw no special reason for the union hierarchy both in this union and in most others in the country were out of touch with their rank and file. In his opinion, passing such a motion would have zero effect on the situation. The meeting seemed to accept his judgement and the motion was defeated."

It was now 2 o'clock and despite a willingness by some members to go on to other Point issues in General Business Lindy declared the meeting closed. See you at the A.G.M. next Wednesday.

— Peter Gibbs

NEWS FROM MALAYSIA & SINGAPORE

"WAH PLOW CAMPAIGN"

Britain has granted a student visa to Tian Wah Plow as "he qualifies under the Immigration Rules to remain here as a student," a letter from the Home Office said. "His stay has been extended for 12 months and it will be open to him to request a further extension at the end of this period."

When some Labour MPs met Mylly Ries, the Finnish Foreign Minister, they were told that granting political asylum would only be a last resort.

The decision not to grant political asylum to Wah Plow did not come as a surprise concerning British governmental political interests in Singapore and Malaysia. But to the extent that the Home Office considers it unsafe for Wah Plow to travel on his own passport, to that extent Britain proves political persecution in Singapore.

The Singapore Government's response to the campaign is both naive and comical. It was first brought up in Singapore Parliament on 24th. Now that the authorities had informed the British of the 'forter's' Wah Plow's passport, and "if the British decide to overturn this offensive and we decide to ask for a sure reason, we shall request British cooperation." This threat fueled this issue when in January the British turned to back Lee Kuan Yew by not only disregarding the allegation, but also endorsing Wah Plow's passport, thus certifying the authenticity of the document.

In fury, the Singapore Foreign Minister, Rajaratnam, according the British supporters of the Wah Plow campaign as the "New Left" and told a public meeting that "the New Left says that they would not send him back. If he is a big shot, they can keep him."

Rajaratnam kept harping on Wah Plow's passport being forged and complained that not only the British High Office extended his visa, but Bradford University had accepted him as a post-graduate student. In his outburst, Rajaratnam also attacked the British for giving "a lot of publicity to Tian" denying only a few lines to the Singapore electorate.

6 MONTH JAIL FOR HURAN

Detik Harun Idiri was sentenced in the High Court to six months jail for forgery and fined $15,000, or another 6 months' jail, for murder in breach of trust of nearly $5.1 million worth of stocks and shares belonging to Bank Rakyat.

In passing the sentence, the judge told Detik Harun that he took into consideration the fact that Harun was a "leader who had held very high position and rendered valuable service to the country."

The trial was the former chief minister of Selangor was sent to 2 years imprisonment on three corruption charges involving $250, 000 shof-f-off by Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank Corporation in May last year. The trial took place in the absence of the former chief minister of the country and chief minister of the乡(under the same name) and the former chief minister of the country. The former chief minister of the country was arrested in 2012 for alleged corruption.

PRICE INCREASE

For the last one month the prices of food items have increased:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>$1.80/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef</td>
<td>$3.50/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sausages</td>
<td>$3.20/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td>$1.50/kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This shows that inflation in Malaysia has not been controlled, affecting foods in particular the lower income group.

Recently there was an acute shortage of potassium in certain parts of the country. It is literally having to purchase potassium. Everyone in the country is being told to reduce potassium consumption. Whatever excess potassium is consumed will be passed on to the consumers.

[Ref: NST 2.7.7]

DRUG SITUATION DETERIORATES

The drug situation in the country is deteriorating with the number of drug traffickers and addicts on the increase. Just last year, 101 puffers and 479 addicts were arrested in Perak alone. Available statistics show that there were about 21,000 addicts in the country who needed immediate treatment although there were predictions that up to 150,000 people were involved. The Director of the Central Narcotics Bureau (C.N.B) revealed that there were underground laboratories processing morphine and opium in Peninsular Malaysia.

Despite the Malaysian connections in the drug syndicates are not only confined to local cartels but have also established international cartels. As a result, quite recently a series of arrests of young Malaysian drug traffickers were made in some European countries.

Sultan March 25th Page 9
"GANG OF FOUR" E

After 3 weeks in China what your immediate impressions of that country? What struck me most is the incredible say that the working people have in the running of their day to day life. Where they work, there is the development of the workers' initiative in the way they work the workings of the machines, the housing of machinery by small changes which people who operate them decide on. This way in a superior method as decisions are discussed thoroughly and agreed upon before they are implemented.

At the No 3 Shanghai Tool Making factory, the workers were discussing intensely the six month work plan which they do every month.

In urban areas, the people have an incredible say in the running of the community. In Shanghai we went to a residential area where they discuss issues affecting them in homes. They have a small factory where the married women work. This particular one had a contract with the Shanghai woolen mills, where they buy the wool and make embroidered caps. They then divide the money three ways first part to wages, second part to the development of the enterprises and the third to the provision of community facilities.

It is incredible how the facilities are developed on a day to day basis. The primary thing is the concept of involvement and mass participation in decisions which affect the people.

Q. Could you give examples of the discussion of people on the factory floor which added a development of production?

Most of the discussion centered around the "gang of four". and criticism of them came up all the time. We were given specific examples of the way that the "gang of four" disrupted production. For example, the abolishing of factory rules because according to the "gang of four" any such rules stick to workers. That they were there to suppress workers.

The factory conditions are certainly better than they are in New Zealand with good light ventilation.

Health care is also provided at the large enterprises. At one factory of 2000 people, they had 2 doctors and 6 barefoot doctors. It was basically at the nursing level — not like the health services here.

Q. What other examples did they give you of the "gang of four" actions?

One of the major ones was that the "gang of four" used to stress the saying "the red, not expert". They said that if you were politic, then that was all. They discouraged being good at one's job, developing techniques and making one's job better in terms of expertise.

The "gang of four" used to run people down if they didn't think that they were putting enough emphasis on politics.

We also went to the Foreign Languages Press where they told us a story of how Chiang Ching came to visit their factory. She demanded special treatment. She made the workers turn off all the machines because they upset her. Additionally, she refused to use the workers' lavatories and wanted a bed to rest on.

Certainly the "gang of four" were ultra-leftist, very elitist, and completely out of step with the masses. When we talked to the Chinese, they said that the "gang of four" were ultra-rightist and their style of work would have led to chaos and sent China down the capitalist road.

I repeatedly referred to the letters that Mao Tse Tung had written to Chiang Ching and the others warning them of their mistakes.

Q. Who led the "gang of four"?

They say that the leader was Chiang Ching although the main strategist and candidate for Premier was Chane Chun-chiao. Wang Hung-wen was the understudy of Chiang, and Yao Wen-yuan had the control of the media.

Q. Were the mistakes that they made, genuine theoretical mistakes, or did they deliberately plot to take state power.

They were basically ultra-rightist. Ultra-rightist because what they were doing would eventually lead to China going down the capitalist road.

From what we could see, their rise was because of the power vacuum created at the death of Premier Chou En-lai up to the time of Mao's death. The "gang of four" were definitely on top during this period. The "gang of four" put up Chiang as Chairman of the Party, but it was Hua who eventually filled the position.

I think that there was definitely a coup attempt. They just moved in to take over power.

We were told that levels in production had been reduced because of the havoc wreaked by the "gang of four".

We asked the Chinese whether they were worried about high-ranking Party members being thrown out. They told us that they weren't particularly worried and that the struggle between the two lines (proletarian and bourgeois) would go on within the country, especially in the party.

Just a side note here. While we were in China, the fifth volume of the Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung had just come out and there were amazing festivities. Chairman Hua Kuo feng and the Central Committee have now started editing the Collected Works. Included are numerous letters that were written between the Cultural Revolution and his death.

Q. What impression did you get of the present party leadership?

Everywhere you go you see pictures of Chairman Hua with Mao and sometimes...
with Premier Chou En-lai. In one printing factory where the three were up on the wall, Chiang Ching came to Visit. When she saw the three on the wall, she neatly went through the roof.

Another charge against the "gang of four" was that they used the Trade Union structure to spread information about Party and State officials which undermined their authority.

What the leadership seems to be doing now is getting back to mass work in their advance of socialism. This line was abandoned with the predominance of the "gang of four".

The Chinese see the three main contra-dictions at present as between mental and manual labour, urban and rural workers, and between the different standards of living.

One thing which does strike you is the immense importance of the Cultural Revolution and the effect it had in shaping Chinese society as it is today. They refer to occasions where physical fighting went on between the different factions—for example at the Yangtse Bridge.

Q. The Chinese appear to be laying great stress on the mechanisation of agriculture. Can you tell us something about that?

The Chinese aim for mechanisation by 1980. I don't know whether they will make it, but it is a huge task. Mechanisation is taking effect on the communes though with some results being very common. In some cases, production brigades are able to assemble their own tractors. In another one, they were making lathes. They may get near mechanisation, but they may not achieve anything.

We asked what would happen when they had reached mechanisation and they told us that there were millions of acres of land to be opened up. Although the main thrust are in industry, they also emphasise agricultural production.

Q. Could you comment on the change in emphasis China's foreign policy in the '60s and '70's?

We didn't talk much about foreign policy. In discussion we were told that a new World War would be fought along conventional lines because the superpowers had too much to lose, in a nuclear war.

But, they say that the Soviet Union must be prepared for war because they spend so much on armaments. They also said that the USSR could not feed their people because they were spending so much on armaments, and their production is so low.

They didn't push the anti-Soviet lines excessively although they made it clear that they saw Russia as a capitalist country since Khrushchev had taken over. They said that this had happened because of the CPSU's failure to recognize class struggle in socialist society.

China will never use nuclear weapons—they have no interest in it. They have no need to adopt an expansionist policy. They are also trying to weaken the hegemony of the superpowers by developing nuclear weapons to break the monopoly of the superpowers.

Q. What were your impressions of Hong Kong?

We were glad to leave Hong Kong. Most of it is a slum area. The housing is sub-standard and the rents are astronomical. One social worker told us that the main policy of the Government was to keep the people reasonably content with their lot. Some poverty assistance was available for those who fell beneath the poverty line.

Very few workers fell beneath the poverty line because it was so low. All welfare programmes were done to keep the country politically and socially stable to keep foreign investment there.

The companies make incredible profits in Hong Kong because the wages are so low. All health services etc. are too highly priced for most workers. Unions are non-combative and there are no labour laws which means that workers are directly ripped off with no rights to do anything about it.

When they talk about freedom in Hong Kong, they are talking about freedom to starve.

The small sealed steel mills, chemical fertiliser plants and farm tool works already set up and being set up across the land have and will play an important role in mechanising agriculture. This photo is of a commune-operated bearings repair and assembly works in Yacong County, Longsheng Province.

Chairman Hua Kuo-feng

Q. How do you view New Zealand after coming back from China?

I've seen how alienated the workers are in this country. They don't have a say in how the means of production operate. There is no discussion or democracy in industry at all.

You might have the right to vote every 3 years, but when the Government gets into power, it is a dictatorship for the next three years. In China, there are mass campaigns where issues affecting the people are raised and discussed at a grass roots level.

The Press here misquotes the wall posters which go up, and takes them out of context. Anyone can put up a wall poster even the most reactionary. The Western Press read the posters and interpret it as the official line.

The No.3 dock in Shanghai had 1000 meetings in 5 months where they discussed the incorrect line adopted by the "gang of four" and 5000 cartoons and 3000 posters were produced. The State puts up few posters.

In all their activities, the Chinese see the main emphasis is on practice. We were told that you could have all the theory in the world—but if you don't have the support of the masses, and if you don't do mass work, what is the use. They explained that there were numerous parties at the time of the revolution which claimed to have the correct line, but only the Chinese Communist Party under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung lead the masses because they analysed the objective conditions of the masses.

They specifically told us that their revolution was not for export. The whole thing is that you must look at your objectivet situation, and then build revolution.

Q. What did you learn of the Chinese method of conducting ideological struggle to develop their political line and how do you think that this applies to New Zealand?

I think we've got to build a mass movement of people in concrete campaigns to oppose the National Party and their economic and political restrictions.

We've got to make people aware that socialism is a way of building a new society. It not only provides economic bliss but also builds new relationships between men and their means of production.

The Chinese see that, given the world economic situation, that people have got to rise up to gain their liberation. We were told that countries like New Zealand should be desperately trying to retain their sovereignty against the influence of foreign countries and foreign capital.

We've got to look at the biggest threat to New Zealand, which is the United States. Our foreign policy should develop non-alignment from economic and military treatises.

They see the USSR as a threat and they would wait 8000 years on guard. If you look at the history of the diplomatic breakdown, you can see why.
Whatever happened to Lin Piao?

The Rise and Fall of Lin Piao

Pelian

by Jaap Van Ginneken

1976

Lin Piao died in an aircraft on the morning of September 12, 1971 while flying China to the Soviet Union. A coup attempt to assassinate Mao Tse-tung and establish him and his followers in power had failed.

This book, which relies entirely on high-level Chinese documents, details the precise events which led to Lin Piao's flight and death. Its appearance during 1974 in the end of China has just witnessed similar coup attempt by an "ultra-left" faction.

For people who wish to understand the recent events in China this book offers valuable insights into the political processes and how such differences can manifest themselves at the top level of society.

The Cultural Revolution

The story of Lin Piao cannot be understood without coming to grips with the essential features of socialist society.

A socialist society is not monolithic, within it many struggles occur. In China these struggles achieved their most comprehensive form during the Cultural Revolution where virtually every Chinese was actively involved in either supporting or attacking the old order. Views from the far right to the far left found currency and the people ranged from wall posters to armed assaults and guerrilla warfare.

In fact China was going through a second revolution.

In 1949 the feudal and imperial order had been overthrown. During the Great Leap Forward Lin Piao found himself Minister of Defence, a position he held for the first time. However his socialist policies included the introduction of cooperatives and the decollectivisation of economic development. The Chinese people were forced to live off the land and the Chinese were no longer a social class of workers with new techniques and initiating many changes.

The Cultural Revolution was the next stage. It implied the revolutionisation of the superstructure of society — education, culture, ways of thinking, the whole Party and state apparatus. During the Great Leap splits in the Chinese Communist Party had become apparent and it was clear that a large section of the Party, which followed the Soviet model of development, would oppose the revolutionisation of the superstructure.

The most important aspect of the Cultural Revolution was the overthrow of these top bureaucrats who blocked the thorough-going transformation of Chinese society. It was the Chinese people who, responding to Mao's call, attacked the Party's bureaucratic apparatus and made the victory of the Cultural Revolution possible.

The contradiction between the mass of the people and a few top bureaucrats in the Party was the driving force of the Cultural Revolution and in one form or another characterised the whole period of socialist society.

Lin Piao

Lin Piao had been a fine tactician in his early army days. But politically he often vacillated and feared for the success of the revolution. Van Ginneken quotes a letter Mao wrote to Lin in 1930 to counter his pessimism:

"Pessimism is the world outlook of the declining landlord and capitalist classes. Those who do not expect an outlook always underestimate the strength of the people. They never have faith in the masses and do not rely on them, and they do not have faith in or rely on the Party... In their daily activities partial difficulties or when the revolution is at a low ebb, they never act, become traitors or resort to adventurism and opportunism. When the revolution advances smoothly or at a high tide, they often take an " ultra-Left" stand, regard all successes as their own and push a revolutionary line that is ultra-Left or Left in form but Right in essence. Persons clinging to this reactionary world outlook will inevitably set the tone of debate during the Cultural Revolution.

The letter has become famous under the title "A Single Spark can start a Firestorm!".

Lin voted against Mao at the Party meeting in 1935 where he was elected to lead the Party.

The Rise

As a result of the purge of Peng Te-huai during the Great Leap Forward Lin Piao found himself Minister of Defence. In this post he began a characteristic process — he accumulated in the top positions immediately below him people who were personal favourites first and politically reliable second.

Many of these people were to make severe political mistakes in the future. The coup attempt itself was planned by people Lin had helped to bring into power.

Lin's style of work also became clearer early on. It was only through the medium of his followers that the outside world imprisoned the Lins, in particular all information, reports and people were very often vacillated as he followed committed more and more errors. The Chief Staff of the armed forces was replaced a number of times by the Party as was the director of the General Political Department of the army. But Lin managed to escape criticism for his complexity in their mistakes.

In the propaganda field both he and his followers encouraged the personality cult of Mao Tse-tung. Lin himself assumed the role of the masses and were often dogmatic. They contributed to the continuation of the ultra-leftism and pseudo-Maoism among the Party leadership and the re-establishment of the Party until after the end of the main phase of the Cultural Revolution.

In one case they indicted a campaign of attacking "capitalist roaders" in the army and the gang of four were to be invited in 1970 to visit them for the same etc in order to get rid of all who disagreed with them. The result was that armed violence broke out in many areas as ultra-left ideas met with armed units. In key provinces for national defence this campaign destroyed the organization of defence. In one province opposite Taiwan the campaign against the capitalist roaders was taken up by the Taiwanese radio. The campaign soon stopped but the implications of this unreserved campaign are clear.

Instead Lin adopted ruthless organisation means to develop his central control of the army and purge his opponents. This inclined much disturb the heart and in particular marked one of the first steps in his fall:

But first came the apogee of Lin's power — the Ninth Party Congress in 1969.

The Ninth Congress — 1969

The army still contained the main organisation of the Party and although a large number of delegates from worker and peasant organisations at this Congress in November 1969, Lin was committed to the present line of the Party: it was the unique line of Mao and his faithful followers.

The Party Constitution that he was the chosen successor of Mao and his faithful followers.

The new cadre of the new Central Committee the differences between Lin Piao's faction and the rest of the leadership had become incorporate.

The Fall

Lin now felt strong enough to uproot the leadership of the Party. Two attacks are launched.

Firstly, Lin wanted to build up the army. He wanted it expanded further into society with parallel organisations to all major social institutions. This was a direct challenge to the leadership of the Party. He also wanted an increase in the army in the means for fighting modern wars. These changes would have meant a drastic break with the wholly modernised defence industry and a mass are of new army of state power. This also saved the two should march in step.

Secondly, Lin believed that the U.S. and Japan were using the Chinese as major enemies. The border incident and the case of Czechoslovakia demonstrated that in fact the Soviet Union was the main threat. Instead the opposition of China's diplomatic isolation which was to be a means of combating this threat and also a substitute for extreme modernisation of the army.

Lin found no support outside the circle Mao and Chou En-lai gained support. During or just after the second meeting of the Central Committee Lin's most powerful follower Chen Po-ta was purged for ultra-leftism. Lin was not by the various transparent schemes to in- crease further his standing in the party his failures were increasing.

In the end the coup was planned. It was based on the assassination of Mao and the accision to power of Lin. It is possible that the impetus for this came from Lin's followers rather than Lin himself. The coup was launched on September 8 1971 Lin was immediately out effected the fateful 13th September 1971 with most of his close followers before the other Party leaders were even aware what was happening. He died in a plane crash in the Soviet dependency of Mongolia the same day.

The Soviet which has a vested interest in disproving the "official" story has never denied the story of the crash. Aikin the main missing was not until the announcement of the finding of the plane crash by the Mongolians at the end of September that the Party leadership in Peking knew what had happened to Lin Piao.

Conclusion

Many people wonder why it is that so many top officials in the Chinese Communist Party turn out to be capitalist roaders. Briefly I would like to list some reasons.

Firstly the enemy within is always more dangerous than the enemy without. Engel said in a letter to August Bebel in 1892:

"The development of an ultra-leftist proceeds everywhere amidst internal struggles... And when, like Marx and myself, one has fought harder all one's life long against the alleged socialists than against anyone else (for we only regarded the bourgeois as a class and hardly ever involved ourselves in conflicts with individual bourgeois), one cannot possibly believe that the internal struggle has broken out..."

When there is a general power these differences within the left become all the more important because state power and the whole social system are under their control. Wrong policies have more far-reaching and potentially dangerous effects.

Secondly, the Chinese realise that it is important to have a party that embraces as many points of view as possible can be reconciled with their main tasks at the time. Such differences are deemed non-antagonistic. When the split of the party change and or the differences extend to the major tasks then, and only then, do the Chinese examine these differences and decide whether they have become antagonistic (i.e. irreconciliable).

Thirdly, socialist society is not perfect. It is a transitional form between capitalism and communism. In it major differences of an economic nature between workers and peasants, town and country, and even within the government can be reconciled with their main tasks at the time. Such differences are deemed non-antagonistic. When the split of the party change and or the differences extend to the major tasks then, and only then, do the Chinese examine these differences and decide whether they have become antagonistic (i.e. irreconcilable).

Finally, the story of Lin Piao's rise and fall gives an accurate picture of class struggle in socialist China. Particularly it shows how the ultra-left pose as great a threat to socialism as the right-wing in the history of the Chinese people and identify as their left-wingers cover up their right essence.

Reviewed by Bruce Robinson
You Must Be Made To Believe This

To most people, except of course an economist, a priceless commodity means that the commodity is of such a high value to the owner, that no amount of money would induce him to sell it. This is rather an oversimplified view, and in fact priceless commodities have been the subject of considerable micro-economic research resulting in a complex theory to explain why a commodity becomes priceless.

In order to develop our theory, we must state two basic assumptions (rather good for the basic theory, as most theories require at least six basic assumptions), however, the second assumption will be disregarded at a later stage where enough contradictions will have arisen to force the assumption to be disregarded in order to preserve what little credibility the theory has.

Assumption 1: "You must be made to believe this."

This is a very important assumption, supported by considerable empirical evidence and is the foundation upon which the whole theory lies.

Assumption 2: "There may exist a demand and supply for priceless commodities such that at the intersection of these two curves (plotted on graph paper) an equilibrium price could exist."

This second assumption may already seem contradictory to the student, but it must be realised, in order to prove that equilibrium price does not exist we must first assume that it does exist; this of course is consistent with any good economic theory. At this point, the student may wish to refresh his mind on the basic theory of supply and demand, so it is suggested that the student confuse himself by reading any Stage I textbook, and for the more advanced student requiring a more advanced explanation to the law of Supply and Demand, it is suggested that the student ask the “average man in the street.” A word of warning here: “the average man in the street” is often hard to find, especially in small towns on a Sunday. However, all this is unnecessary if the student accepts like the mindless moron that all economic students are assumed to be, that there is such a thing as supply and demand.

Figure 1 shows six supply and demand curves with five corresponding prices. The astute student will have realised that both supply and demand curve number 5 are missing. Those who have displayed this degree of intelligence may find difficulty in following the rest of the theory. The more astute student will have realised that the equilibrium prices and quantities do not in fact correspond with the correct supply and demand curves. Any student who has discovered this obviously has no flair for economics and should continue no further. The majority of students who understand and accept the diagram should read on.

The main purpose of Figure 1 is to show that supply and demand curves do exist, on the basis that the more curves the student sees the more inclined he is to being brainwashed into believing they do exist. At Stage I level this type of proof (weight of numbers) is considered sufficient. It should be noted that these curves do not necessarily have to be drawn as straight lines, but this will depend on the students artistic talent.

Now that the complexities of supply and demand curves have been proven beyond doubt we can use the theory using only one supply curve and one demand curve.

Figure 2 shows a supply curve taken at random from a book of supply curves (Economists Lecturing Guide 1976 edition). The student will notice that the slope is upwards to the right (depending on which way you’re looking at it); the simple explanation to this is that if it was drawn downwards to the left it wouldn’t be on the diagram. The two lines immediately to the left of S (arrows to those students who never played Cowboys and Indians) demonstrate how the supply curve for a priceless commodity shifts inward, depending on how priceless it is.

PREDICTION 1: “Because the owners of priceless commodities don’t want to sell them to anyone at any price, the supply curve will shift inwards, until finally it lies parallel and upon the vertical axis.”

Figure 3 shows a demand curve again taken at random from a book of demand curves (Economists Lecturing Guide 1976 edition). This time the student will notice that the slope is downwards to the right; again the simple explanation is that if it was drawn upwards to the left, it wouldn’t be on the diagram. The arrows again demonstrate how the demand curve for a priceless commodity shifts downwards depending on how priceless it is.

PREDICTION 2: “If there were people who wanted to buy priceless commodities they would not want to buy them from anyone at any price, therefore the demand curve will shift downwards until finally it lies parallel and upon the horizontal axis.”

In order to demonstrate the interaction of the supply and demand for a priceless commodity, we need to combine Figures 2 and 3 to produce Figure 5. The obvious mistake that a student will make here is that it should be Figure 4, but the mathematical proof is 2 + 3 = 5.

It can be seen from Figure 5 that because the supply curve lies on the vertical axis and the demand curve lies on the horizontal axis, equilibrium price and quantity will be zero.

CONCLUSION: “Because the equilibrium price and quantity of a priceless commodity is zero, there is no such thing as a priceless commodity and if there was it would be worth nothing.”

If the student has knowledge of someone owning a priceless commodity and in fact has knowledge of a priceless commodity selling for a huge price, a little thought here will help him realise that this does not disprove the theory and in fact really refutes the claim that the commodity was priceless in the first place. Anyway, what happens in the real world is of no consequence to the economist. Another word of warning: if you know of anyone who owns or wishes to buy a priceless commodity they are not maximising their satisfaction, and are therefore irrational and should be treated with extreme caution.
Studentsays

On one of the days last week when the library was full and bomb-scare had not been heard of Salient sent its STUDENTSAYS team to find out what people thought of that venerable institution. Placing themselves strategically in the courtyard outside the library entrance they assailed passers-by with the following questions:

1. What problems have you had in getting the books you want in the University library?

2. What's lacking in the Library service at the moment?

3. How do you find the Library service?

In their true spirit of readiness to offer opinions students, well at least some students, well maybe just a few students, heeded our team's entreaties and gave the following answers.

Fam Graham (works there)
1. Quite a lot. The Law Library is very busy and books are often not on the shelves.
2. It's alright. There's a lack of understanding by students.

Tim Barwell (academic staff)
1. Main trouble with books not being there and there's not enough of some that are there.
2. I'd like to see some system for undergraduates to have better access to periodicals and articles.
3. It shuts too early and should be open more in weekends.

Finlay Forbes
1. Lot of red tape — but quite reasonable.
2. Problems with the Zoology library closure as you can't get the books now.
3. Doing their best.

Denise Ryan
1. Don't know how to use it — I'm a first year.
2. Don't know.
3. I only used it once and couldn't find the books.

To those who live among us, whose life evolves in "Emerald Coloured Rainbows" perhaps if Mohamed cannot come to the mountain, perhaps, once again, one day soon, the Mountain will again come to Mohamed. Or we could meet in the middle? (Hawaii would be nice), and then it might be possible for romance and reality to become one.

Ann Brad, Apt 312, 2010 Ulster Road, NW Calgary, Alta, Canada.

Daphne Austin
1. I've found them so far except problems with Biology books.
2. Time. It needs to be open more on Friday nights and weekends.

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Halfway Up Downstage
and still going strong

Not to say that it is not humorous, but this
is humour which is clearly extracted from
a casual intellectual first with a fundamentally re-
volutionary movement. Downstage’s own de-
scription of the show betrays its tone: “I had
moods of anti-art...” John Hardy’s comment
on the Mercury (LISTENER, March 19) could
well apply to this type of theatre at Down-
stage.He speaks of an “intellectual wank” a
“manipulation fantasy.”

Ultimately, Pas de Dada dada is a company
per the back, assuring itself it can do, yes,
even “anti-art”. An assurance which is hollow
in view of the fact that, if taken seriously, it
would dissolve the fundamental concept of
their theatre. Again John Hardy:
“It’s a matter of re-interpreting values.
Theatre is not just waving arms around in public
to all friends, relatives and relations, but some-
thing which is consciousness expanding, a learn-
ing experience. If all a play does is confirm
the status quo, then it is a shit and a menace to
society.”

Downstage has remarkable resources, finance,
and enthusiasm. And they do have talent, great
talent. But my god they are culturally illiberal.
And the dominant genes are European, middle
class, and intellectual.

I acknowledge that the above does not con-
sider the type of audience which Downstage
attracts to its shows. The theatre has an ex-
ceptional audience to which it continues to
attract the intellectual. Downstage’s animal
invasions are of a different character. In fact I
urge people who are to enjoy their shows in South
if I am right, then Downstage should have a con-
cerned student opinion. If so, I freely offer the
job of reviewing Downstage productions.

Dance at the Union

Impulse Dance Theatre

“The programme will contain a selection from
the repertoire below. There were twenty four
pieces then listed in the programme, each of
which had various relevant details to choreography,
music, and the dancers involved.

First, we got “Suite For Five”, a piece which
was choreographed by Jim Bullock by Bob Hane-
on’s “Lord of the Rings”, and involved all the
casters. In the biographical notes Bullock states:“My
”initial career as a Physical Educationst is
influenced by my life, the life of the city. My
acquaintances, my friends. They are my
source of movement for some of my choreography.”

The P.E. side of things was too apparent in this
piece which, while it started well, went on
long. “...of a Feather” was choreographed by Paul
Jandros with music by Led Zeppelin, and while the
“Ducks Gendem and Bull” and “Flamingo” Doh-
be Grooves were good, the Penguins, Liz Davie
and Alison Grey were superb. Best entertain-
ment of the evening. I think Banyon could
have been dispensed with in this piece and the
dance would not have suffered.

Paul Maundre, The Director of Unity’s latest
production - The Temples’ will be taking part
in a Panel Discussion about the play at 4 pm
on Wednesday 26th March in the Lounge of
the University Building. The Panel will probably
be comprised of various members from the English
Department and it should result in an interesting
discussion. All will be welcome to come, and coffee
will be available at 11.50 a.m.

Preview

“The Constant Wife”

To undertake a play, which 50 years ago was
described “artificial to the point of dissolution” is
a precarious business. However, despite its early
success in England, Circa has decided
to present W. Somerset Maugham’s, comedy of
manners, The Constant Wife.

The audience will be required to do
beneath the superficial triteness of the
characters to entertain themselves away from the
situation beyond its bourgeois origins to envelop
all marriages at all times.

The theme of marital infidelity is as topical
as it was in 1926, and despite the subsequent
emancipation of women, and 50 years of “sound
reform” in Britain, the solution stays the same.

The play, therefore, remains to be seen,
negative, to hide the fact that a marriage can
be a happiness, or a marriage made in heaven
by the marriage of the same

Director Anne Flannery cites the theme of
“economic freedom as a personal freedom — as
another universal factor within the play. If
those women in the audience whose husbands
support them, the character of Constantine
remains identifiable with them. For her, personal
freedom comes by dosing 1000 pounds p.a.
into her husband’s bank account, for her “bain
and lodging”.

For the economically independent, Constantine’s
dilemma may give them an insight into the frustra-
tions experienced by the 1926 Constantine,
who their own standards. The indications of re-
straining “taken for granted” for work no
one acknowledges as work. The guilt of spending
money on themselves that was never freely theirs.

The constant wife is a constant, therefore only by
maintaining her social contract. Her existing
sense of personal worth is at the mercy of a
man who for an institution that involves the most
people must be unrealistic, is this how it should be?

Circa’s production includes a number of New
Zealand Drama School graduates, Mrs Flannery
herself having been closely associated with the
school. She has opted not too much for director-
all direction, but for intelligent interpretation
with the school from within the actors, resulting in
what she formed, as ensemble playing in the end”.

The stage Rogers was well in such late 1920’s, but
it remains to be seen whether Circa can
universe, what could be anachronistic idiocy.

Elisabeth Ross

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THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH
Director: Nicholas Ray
Reviewed by David Brasford

Anyone who begins to view 'The Man who Fell to Earth' with a mistaken notion that he or she is in for a science fiction treat would best understand that for all the publicity given to this notion the film can be comprehended more completely on the level of social commentary.

Thomas Newton (David Bowie) arrives from another planet for a reason that is unknown. He has a human form and speaks intelligibly but is clearly an alien. Moving quickly on, he is seen to hire a lawyer (Buck Henry) to construct and manage an inevitably successful business empire based upon Newton's sophisticated and advanced technological inventions. That he needs the money is clear, but why he needs it is not told. In the course of events two other main characters are introduced. One, Dr. Bryce (Rip Torn), is a cynical scientist whose prediction for screwing 18 year old students reflects back to a creative stuffing; Newton hires him to work on a fuel conservation problem. The other, Mary Lou (Candy Clark), is a pretty but shallow hotel employee who becomes Newton's lover. Newton accepts or rather tolerates her at first because, like Bryce, she fails to penetrate deeper into Newton's psyche. For her, he is attractive in the person of freaks. Both she and Bryce however, are alone in coming close to him; they are the only two that he trusts.

But it is the character of Newton that is intriguing. For an alien he possesses, interestingly enough, many human qualities; he is gentle, nostalgic (there are constant flashbacks to his own planet trusting), but above all, vulnerable. He is impressionable in the same state that Hergè's Kapšar Hauzer was; coming into a totally new social environment he can either resist or succumb. The film plots his dissolution in this context.

He subjects himself and is subjected to the society's true culture: the multiple television screens which wall up in front of him and occasionally reflect upon his own existence. His falling into a drinking problem as an escape and his ultimate undoing when his business empire is ruthlessly overthrown and turned upon him.

The film is in fact implying the responsibility of these social phenomena for what happens to Newton. This idea has its parallel on the personal level when Bryce himself destroys his loyalty.

Therefore, although Newton arrives as an alien from another planet, in fact becomes a metaphor for present western man. By participating within the limits of the age he becomes a subject of them. Thus the science fiction element provides an exotic touch and no more. What we see in the opening shots of the film - a desert, deserted abandoned buildings - are not so much a vision of the present but a forewarning of the future: the bleakness of these scenes resembles closely the landscape of his own planet, one which provides an indication of what a progressively sophisticated world like ours will lead. And Newton, we can do little to prevent it.

Apart from the main idea, the film is full of interesting themes: movement (trains, cars, boats, rocket-like) time (Newton often glances at the past, space as illusion (the table tennis room, the bar- visors). What director Nicholas Roeg has done is to cook up these elements as well as others in a thick and often baffling way. Much in the film is either barely hinted at or left unresolved. For example, Newton's true mission is apparently left unexplained (the members of his planet have no fuel for their spaceships and Newton arrives to get some.)

It is on the multitude of levels in which the film is set envisaged, and the dramatic tension built up in the first half consequently dissipates during the second. One feels that Roeg has overstuffed his cup. The effects of this then spill out from the screen in a bewildering array of images and ideas. While he handles the fast moving sequences well, notably the flashing light love-making scene, they tend more to dazzle than enlighten. It is during the slower parts that the film tends to be more effective.

David Bowie fits well into his role as extra-terrestrial visitor. With the most difficult part he succeeds convincingly (it is not surprising; it is a mask he has always worn comfortably) and is well backed up by the more able supporting cast. And in a way this really is his movie. He has, at any rate, felt it important enough to cover his last two L.P.'s with stiffs from the film.

As a footnote it would seem that with the passing out of "The Man who Fell to Earth" the censor appears to be anticipating the new censorship legislation. It realises at last a mature and intelligent approach to film and in this respect it is an indication to be welcomed.

VARSIY PREVIEW

SAVAGE MESSIAH

The infamous film of Ken (The Devil's, The Music Lovers, Tommy, Women in Love etc.) Russell.

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KINFLICKS is a very funny book, not at all savage, about serious matters, full of people one would like to meet, and oddly intriguing. The tone of voice throughout is a tone that has been missing in American fiction for years - it is the speech of a present-day Holden Caufield, of Oedipus. March and, ultimately, Huckleberry Finn.

New York Times

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Letters

Liberals Unite!

Dear Editor,

The obvious bias in the article on the front page of last week's Salient over rides any pre-

tence at constructive analysis and criticism. The writer (consistently anonymous) twits the facts
so the executive members are seen in a bad light as possible, except two executive members
who he seems particularly keen to flatter. This is very obvious in his paragraph on Neil Gray.
The writer obviously does not like Neil Gray but cannot find anything derogatory to say about
him so is reduced to a meaningless statement "seems a loose end".

Gerard Sharrock is described as "investigating a couple of rock concerts but his half hearted
efforts lack the necessary drive to create a cul-
tural scene on a very much dead campus".

This is a bullet point analysis. The only fact it contains is that Gerard Sharrock has investigated
two rock concerts; the rest is based on the writer's subjective judgment which has biased the tone,
as with the rest of the article lacks any attempt at objectivity.

This is not journalism, this is destructive muckraking. If the writer calls himself a Marx-

ist he has certainly let the side down by pand-
ing to the worst habits of the bourgeois press.

Mas Tse-Tung describes this type of liberalism as "to indulge in personal attacks, pick quarrels,
vent personal spite or seek revenge instead of entering into an argument and struggling against
incorrect ideas for the sake of unity or progress or getting the work done properly". (From Combat
Leftist).

Many of the executive members, vilified in the article, lack experience in student politics, but
are given some credit for students welfare. While there is benefit in constructively criticiz-
ing the executive, there is little point in the kind of extremest journalism seen on the front page
of last week's Salient.

Gordon Purdie
Nicola Williams

---

I do not have a personal vendetta against Neil
Gray. When I said that he was "at a loose end" I
meant (and the phrase is common enough) that
he was unclear about what exactly he should be
doing. He may have potential to be an excellent
executive member but as yet, he does not seem to
have taken, full advantage of his open portfolio
as have Vice Presidents in the past.

While many executive members have the un-
fair of student members at heart, too do the
majority of students at this University. The es-
ence of this concern is private (another excel-
ent contribution to philosophy by the late Chair-
man Moro) and so far we have seen very little.

The article will encourage students to identify
more closely to the activities of the executive
- as you already have. This can only be good.

I resent the implication of your letter but I
hope that this will not deter you from contrib-
uting your ideas on the subject in the future.

Ed

Thail on Thailand

Dear Editor,

Concerning your article on Thailand of March
21. I would like to point out that many import-
ant points have been left out (intentionally or
unintentionally) in October '73 was a united reac-
tion towards the military regime and together with the fac-
tionalization of the top section of the military
and finally the intervention of the king, resulted in the "tyrant trio" being kicked out.

However October '74 was quite different this
time the students were factionalized. They were
divided into the rightist faction of mostly voca-
tional students, "red guards" who have played a
very significant part in October '73. The other
faction was the more socialist leaning but by
no way communist, consisting mainly of uni-
versity students.

One taboo in Thai society is the monarchy and
the maitake of the university students was
here, in one of their satirical protest play featured
a man being hanged, he happened to look very
much like the crown prince. The monarchy is
held in very high respect in Thai society, the
military and the right leaning newspapers lost
no time in branding this act as evidence of the
students being infiltrated by communist elements
out to destroy the monarchy. The reaction was
blood thirsty, mobs of vocational students and
some members of the public stormed the uni-
versity. The military took that opportunity to
stage a coup, and crushed down on the students.
Thus the sad end to Thai democracy.

Non de Plume
P.S. The number of students killed in '73 was
at least 2-5 times the official figure of 70... after
all they were using machine guns and "gun-
ship" choppers to shoot at students.

Robinson will return!

Dear David,

It is true that Bruce Robinson has given up
on the Anti-Apartheid campaign. However after the cutting
of the overseas students and James
Robb's press release he will return?

Yours,

Patrick McHale
(No Bruce Robinson)

---

colin morris records caption competition

Last weeks winner

This weeks competition

Captions must be submitted before 2:00pm on the Wednesday of the issue week and must include name, address and phone.
Judging will be done by the SALIENT staff. No SALIENT staff will enter. Captions may be entered into our letterbox.
The price is an LP of your choice courtesy of COLIN MORRIS RECORDS LTD.'

"Last one in a trendy little!"
- Arts Student

Winners must contact us as soon as possible.
More on the MSA Sketch

Dear Sir,

I find the criticism of the sketch presented to MSA rather amusing. The sketch is presented in a light-hearted way and is meant to be funny, not as a degradation of our people. The sketch is funny and that functions comes from its exaggeration of life in Malaysia. The narrator did make it clear in the end that the acme does reflect real life in Malaysia.

For those who do not know how to put the whole thing in context, we do not know how to appreciate the sketch, ignore them. Their criticism is not worth taking into account. However, I do believe MSA does over apologizing to the son of the hawkers who felt offended.

A Malaysian

Dear Editor,

While I like the critics in the Sabah last week appear to be so socially and politically concerned, it is certainly not reflected in their vitriolic attacks on the people who participate in one way or another in the Malaysian sketch. The critics have no inkling of the harm and damage they have done to these people. I fail to see if they will be capable of being sincerely concerned about the hawkers back home. These critics are not qualified to talk about politics in the first place.

A Malaysian

Dear Editor,

Are the critics of MSA's sketch trying to tell us that the only criteria permitted are those sterile political propaganda as promoted by the wife of the late Chairman Masa? If it is, they can keep it to themselves. I am not interested.

Dear Editor,

If the critics of MSA's sketch in the last Sabah are so socially and politically concerned why aren't they doing something positive and visible that can all see? Deeds, not words please.

A surprised Malaysian Student

MSA reply to Criticism

Dear David,

As the committee of the Wellington Malaysian Students' Association, it is our responsibility to defend the good name of the committee and the many talented students who have been involved, one way or another, in our community activities. Our Association is not a political party nor an ad hoc group, our objective is to defend the good name of the committee and the many talented students who have been involved, one way or another, in our community activities. We are not a political party nor an ad hoc group, our objective is to defend the good name of the committee and the many talented students who have been involved, one way or another, in our community activities. We are not a political party nor an ad hoc group, our objective is to defend the good name of the committee and the many talented students who have been involved, one way or another, in our community activities.

Editor,

I'll start off by saying that I did not expect a Marxist class analysis from a slapstick comedy. And all those people who wrote those immensely sympathetic Masa — I have one question for them. What are they doing when they go to the cinema? Isn't the purpose of sympathy to better the real people? I think you are missing something.

Dear Editor,

If the critics of MSA's sketch in the last Sabah are so socially and politically concerned why aren't they doing something positive and visible that can all see? Deeds, not words please.

A surprised Malaysian Student

Sermon on the Mount

Dear Sir,

As a resident of Salamanca Road I would like to express my utter disgust at the proposed plan to close off Mount Street. In fact I will go further, I am not happy. I believe that a lot of money would have been better place for the building of the alleged mosquitos would be in Shill Gully.

Concerned.

Bookcentre in a Mess

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Newspaper Carlson Centre, 56 Elizabeth Street, SYDNEY 2000.
Marked on a scale from 0.10 for noveltly, excitement, interest, and that curious brand of not peculiar to university students, the figures this year are up about 15%. WAKE UP - your paper is what you make it! Drop letters into the Salient Office, or post to P.O. Box 1347 Wellington.

LETTERS MUST BE DOUBLE SPACED AND LEGIBLE or they will not be published.

Campus Pub receives support
Dear Sir,
Your front-page exposé last week was very
enlightening to say the least.
The point I want to bring your attention to is that regarding young Miss Paterson and the so-called "peaceful&quo; - not to be confused with the "Moyle affair", or just plain out to be confused.
Becomin more liberal minded than "AVERAGE Father of Ten", I voted for this last year's elections solely for the fact that she intended to establish a pub on campus. It paves me off no end to hear that she has reigned.

I propose that we should have a bar in the union building as a permanent fixture (i.e. not necessarily a full-fledged pub). It could be situated on the middle floor of the union building with easy access being the keynote.

The goodin could come back into the union, so I call on all (interested) students to write to this paper and let me know if the students who wish to be heard in the union building, in the library, in the lecture halls...

Miles always,
Brian Flinn.

Inaccuracies Corrected
Dear David,
It has been pointed out to me that some statements I made in the article (Booz No. 2) are not entirely accurate (or misleading).

The Student Union Building including the café is not run jointly by the Student Union and the Students Association through the Union-Management committee. The Student Association has a majority on this committee but generally leaves this because students reps fail to turn up to meet.

Financial responsibility is divided equally but often in the past the students association has ended up paying the bills, which should have been paid for by the union.

Gerald Cooper
P.S. In my article on Arts Council the figure for losses should have been $6,500 not $6,500.

WritergetCodecs Salient Proofreading Masses
Dear David
Thanks for publishing my article on Electoral reform. However there are two proof reading mistakes that I feel I should point out so that the passages make sense.

In paragraph 5 delete lines 1 and 6 and read "electoral system, being wasting (and the votes that constitute the winners majority in safe seats are also wasted where they do not affect the outcome) and creative."

In paragraph 4 between lines 1 and 6 read "election of 1975, if the following no. of people in the following electorates---"

The British General Election results are worth reading, referring to those who want to see the statistics that can alter under the 1st past the post system (particularly 1951 and 1974 Feb). If anyone wants to discuss these issues I would be happy...

- Geoffrey Chestman

The State of the Union
Dear David,
"Acknowledging Kandian doctrine and the necessity for a workable autonomous union is but one restraint that we must point out that S.R.C. policy is in effect preventing sustainable imperial development.
Does it resemble a typical segment of an S.R.C. meeting. Only a laxaity can make this sort of nonsense. I doubt whether such a S.R.C. can be held at 2.30 in the morning. The S.R.C. may be regarded as group therapy where the only people who enjoy it are those who need some sort of escape from the social facets. That people who indulge in croquet and pothole attempts as part of a social facet...

If students want their association's finances to improve in order that they should 're-educate' (in the communal sense) those wankers would undoubtedly be more S.R.C. as campus cure for a farcical and infantile union. So we've been here at SA for already 'down-the-road-to-be-half-off'!!!

The students at Vic, should come first. What fascinates me is the obvious importance of the problems presented by our formal petitions. "Stop the sale of poppers" is much more important than cheaper food in the canteen and smoking and cheaper toilettries but what the hell is a S.R.C. for? "Great swapping sherries Marguerite", if S.R.C. is a prime mover in social salvation then come out and vote and show there could devote the whole bloody show to it and set up as a protest committee to deal with relevant problems.

It may be real true and better than urs but S.R.C. has let us down. So blow it all away somewhere. S.R.C. is the untouchable S.R.C. think they have effective student vote. What they have got is a good old student apathy. No-one's particularly interested in being helped to purchase pamphlets for the Anti-apharid propaganda if it doesn't disturb their sleep in the cak.

Mary Ding and Colin Miller's guilt come down on S.R.C. unless they repent.

Norm D. Plum.

P.S. S.R.C. is boring.
P.F.S. Let me have a shot at president, mummy and daddy I don't have to be home till trime.
P.F.S. President unit against fucking around by S.R.C.

Dear Sir,
S.R.C. was a manifestation of all my disappointment with students and Vanity. As I was only recently initiated to the Vanities game I quickly excused a little disillusionment. One of the big things respected from Vanity was to hear plenty of new ideas through lively verbal exchanges with Wellington's educational elite. I was like the rest of you who, seeing the sign 'Ex-pres' above a door, went through expecting to see an exciting or erotic creature only to find a flabby, Adder communion produces active mind and is the best

Meant more to be expected from the Vanities game. It is also vital for the health of a club like the S.R.C. The club needs a fresh and much needed attitude of a great many students at Victoria a good evidence of the apathy don't give a damn that this country needs at the present time.

Vantage is a stagnant pond. Some life does exist in the pond but anyone who dies in is able to be salubrious, possibly drowned by the next ten years (eg those of us involved in the Solidarity movement without proferring a single piece of evidence) may find a quite different and much more lively club.

Meant more to be expected from the Vanities game. What was the opposition from the Right? Excluding a few inarticulate paper dart manufacturers I presume that you were either rolling in cans or passionately maximising their vaunl for the next S.R.C.

Superior Dove "A Smokers right to choose"

Dear Sir,
As a member of the V.U.W.S.A, I find it ob-

[The text is cut off and not fully readable in this excerpt.]

Davidson

Matt Dillon eat ya heart out!

Dear Sir,
I am supposed to say, at the least, of the appointment of a Cafe Deputy Marshal. Not only would it have made a great hit with the western values, but I've been practiseing my dress with my recently purchased "Golf 95" for weeks.

You's A Taxi Driver"

Dear Sir,
The failure of last Wednesday's S.R.C. to sup-
port the motion for a cafe deputy marshal last week goes to show that traditional western values no longer have any bearing on the post. Unfortunately, it is not a good omen for our future. Westerners who have the ability of a "True Grit" man, or do they prefer to fear the eyes of the examples given. Think of - Beckford and Underwood. All women should be appalled that such a man was not appointed so that he may have graced the Cafe to their delight.

You's, John Wayne Pan