

Bye Bye Graveyard... hullo Chapel!

One of the last pieces of greenery on campus is destined to be replaced by a large ugly building. The 'Graveyard' (Cemetery) next to the Student Union Building is the proposed site for a University Chapel. Information divulged to Salient showed that planning is well advanced for the construction of a non-denominational facility to be completed somewhere around 1980.

Once again it would seem that students will be the victims of another shortsighted building monstrosity over which they will not be consulted. Ail enquiries from Salient have so far met with dead ends on a matter that could be of major importance to students, especially since many would strongly question the need for such a large building on campus. The present facilities would seem to be adequate for the demand. Number 36 Kelburn Parade, Ramsey House has long been used as a non-denominational place of worship, jointly housing the Catholic and Ecumenical Chaplains.

As far as Salient could ascertain the main backers of the scheme are a group of former students who felt that the campus lacked a "spirit of community".

For the above reason the building seems to have been designed in such a way as to allow small group, and personal religious worship to take place. The rough sketch drawings and site plan that were leaked to Salient show a three level complex of two smaller buildings (beside the path coming up from Mount Street) and a larger main chapel with a large stain-glass window that would face eastwards over-looking the harbour. The site itself is a choice one that enjoys all day sun with a fine view of the harbour. However, there are problems associated with the site. At present the Cemetery is consecrated Catholic land and thus the land would have to be deconsecrated before the graves could be removed to another site.

A more major problem is the position of the site itself. Most of the land around the university is zoned Residential (with a university designation for any future use). Thus any future development would require a specified departure from the Town Plan. While the City Council might be willing to give such a departure it would no doubt question very closely the complete lack of any parking facilities. A problem emphasised by the fact that Wai-te-Ata Road is mostly zoned no parking. The City Council has on many occasions complained about the lack of adequate parking facilities around campus.

Any such complex would link the existing Student Union Building with the preser Gymnasium. Not all of these problems would appear to have been anticipated by the backers of the scheme.

Further problems would occur with the site itself which would require a large amount of cut and fill and other preparatory work which would increase the cost of the building. Our estimations from architects has been that the cost of construction would be somewhere around \$ 1.5 - \$2 million. Finally, the Chapel could clash with long term plans to use the site for future student facilities. Such plans have mooted further meeting and recreational areas.

Just who the main backers are has been hard to discover. They are as mentioned before, all former students but Salient was given no substantial clue as to their identity. To the best of our knowledge at least two of the backers are prominent commercial figures in Wellington, and one other is a lawyer. Apparently other backers could include those who have been prominent in community and university affairs for a period of years. The plan is for each of the backers to make a personal contribution to the fund arriving at an initial sum of somewhere around \$200,000. The fund would then be opened to the public who would be invited to make contributions. It would seem that the fund raising scheme could be reminiscent of the Halls of Residence appeals that took place in the late sixties and early seventies. Contributions would also be solicited from business, and Government. In the present tight economic situation it would seem that fund raising would take some considerable time, although it was intimated that the backers would like to see the chapel open and ready for use by early 1980.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY CHAPEL SITE PLAN.

If these are the plans of this group, then it is somewhat interesting that our enquiries around the university and the City Council failed to turn up any information at all. The total lack of information and the denial by many of any knowledge of the scheme prompted us to think that there was a cover-up taking place. We are still of that view and believe that it is time that those in the university who know of the scheme spoke out about it and these supposed backers identified themselves and fully explained their plan.

It is little short of scandalous that such a scheme should even be considered, with a cost of at least \$1.5 million, on a site that is very popular and widely used by staff and students at a time when the amount being spent on student facilities, and in particular student accommodation, is small.

Salient will continue to investigate this matter and publish all information that comes into its hands believing that students should not have to tolerate such a plan being foisted off onto them without any consultation, or that any such matters should be quietly decided in private by a select few.

level 1 level 2 level 3 ELEVATION WEST
ELEVATION SOUTH

A. A. Milne dies

Despite large amounts of publicity around the campus, the great "Why am I pissed off with NZUSA forum" seemed to suffer the same fate as the great Cafe forum. Bugger all people attended and, despite brilliant repartee on the part of the Irish Intellectuals, the cross-fire between leaders and led never amounted to any staggering conclusions on questions such as: Is NZUSA at a low ebb? Why are people pissed off with it? What is it? How could it work better for us?

Instead of describing lucidly that very lack lustre affair, yours truly started thinking about ways of following up the question in a more general way.

Do we need NZUSA? Often organisations perpetuate themselves even if the reason for the organisation has disappeared. This is obviously not the case with NZUSA. The need for a National Student Body is great, firstly the role of a political force, and secondly, as an organisation which provides services to its members (these are mainly travel, although NZUSA acts as an advisor to individual students in the course of its work).

What are the political reasons for a National body? If you are of the opinion that New Zealand is in the shit in a big way, then you will soon see that groups in society need a protective/fighting wing to ensure that the groups rights are protected. Rights directly threatened as far as students are concerned are: the right of free access to classes after gaining UE, the right to an allowance which can sustain full-time study, the right to a free health and welfare services and the right to organise themselves politically.

VUWSA and the other local student associations simply do not have the muscle to protect these rights.

Students are also known for their concern over international and national issues. That's probably why we spend hours at SRC debating the Middle East situation. Many students also feel an affinity to what is happening in their own country. They have been, in the past, the vanguard of civil rights movements and have often joined with workers when unions have clashed with the state.

To co-ordinate and develop these activities, a national body is essential. It can't very well be a trade union for students—the conditions are very different. But it can still organise students around issues of common interest such as described earlier.

In NZUSA's case, this is not an easy task. By geography they are isolated from six of the seven campuses and they rely heavily on campus officers to prepare the groundwork.

But how well do they do?

NZUSA has changed dramatically over the last few years. The end of the "youth revolt" meant a change in the way NZUSA operated. This was aided by the enlargement of the National Office. The net effect was that slowly NZUSA was becoming like a 'bureau for students instead of a 'spark' to set the masses alight so to speak.

Luckily this bad trend has been spotted and now it is agreed that NZUSA National Office will have to work on consolidating and strengthening the union by adopting a campus profile—organising the members at a level appropriate to the situation as it is now. When NZUSA gains back the confidence of the members, then it will have the base to capture the imagination of the student masses and act in a style appropriate to our historically fine student movement.

Above all, NZUSA must lead. To lead, it must represent. To represent it must be in touch with members.

Some people make out that NZUSA is a dead organisation. Personally, I think passivity would describe it more adequately. The July front, the bursaries campaign and the work done in Overseas student cutbacks show that the student movement is still in fine fettle.

With a slight change in emphasis, style and attitude, NZUSA could inspire us all next year. We need it next year and so does New Zealand.

— David Murray.

NZUSA; Leaders and the led

After a disappointing forum on NZUSA, David Murray went on a quest to find the truth about that esteemed organisation. It seemed to him that an interview with the President of NZUSA wouldn't go astray. In the interview, Lisa Saksen reacts to the criticism that has recently been directed at NZUSA.

Salient: What is the need for a national student organisation in the present New Zealand situation?

Sacksen: In the present situation New Zealanders in general are facing remarkable threats to the way in which they have been accustomed to living, and students are facing these threats too, particularly in terms of bursaries and the conditions that we have taken for granted for many years. The Universities Amendment Act presently before Parliament gives the Universities the right to restrict entry to classes on the grounds that they do not have sufficient staff nor space to put the people in. This will mean that the criteria they set could be an academic criteria. It could be that people with A or B bursaries get given places before people that just have UE. That is a direct threat to free entry to university. That's just one of the examples of what is happening in the current economic recession to students.

Without a national body, there's no way individual associations can fight this kind of threat. That is the real reason why now, at this particular time, it's more important than ever to have a national association.

Salient: When you say organisation, do you imply some sort of trade union for students? Do you think NZUSA should be performing those sorts of functions rather than organising on, say, issues only?

Sacksen: We don't have the same sort of membership as trade unions—our membership is transient. At the best you'll get people coming and going, part time and so on. A lot of our members are part-time, and there's no way you can build up the infrastructure that trade unions have with delegates and sub-delegates to strike and to struggle for peoples rights. Also students particularly have traditionally have had a feeling for international events and for national events.

What we are faced with is the two things at once; trying to provide the trade union type activities on certain welfare issues and on the bursaries issue which is the bread and butter for most people of why NZUSA should exist, and also providing for the active members of the association who are concerned about such things, a vehicle through which they can voice their concern for the society and the world. We do a lot of work with individual students on the straight welfare things at the beginning of the year—with bursaries, overseas students—not enough I don't think. We should publicise this aspect more and do more of it. But here again we are faced the difficulty of the nature of our membership and the type of organisation that we are.

Photo of Lisa Sacksen

Salient: Do you think that the local student associations should play the role of the infrastructure of NZUSA?

Sacksen: They are NZUSA. That's the major problem—people keep seeing the National Office as the sum total of NZUSA. That's a load of rubbish. We are not NZUSA. There used to be great debates in NZUSA whether NZUSA was the sum total of it's constituents, or whether it was something more—as though that kind of differentiation had any great importance. The way in which the constituents organise themselves; the way in which they see themselves individually as student associations, has to reflect in the whole student body. They have to understand that when someone stands as the President of a constituent association, they also are standing as a member of the National Executive of NZUSA. The responsibility is a two way thing—they should have a responsibility also for how NZUSA is operating.

Salient: So what do you think of the criticism that some people have levelled that the biggest problem in NZUSA is the gap between the National Office and the rank and file?

Sacksen: That is a difficulty. I'm not sure whether it is the greatest one. It's the one that is the easiest to see.

Salient: But in view of your last comment, how necessary is it to have the National Office right with the rank and file when there are the local associations that are supposed to do that?

Sacksen: I think it's absolutely essential. It's not just the matter that you are trying to supercede the work that the individual student associations are doing, but unless there is some means by which the National Officers can get down to students—this place becomes completely divorced from what they want to do. You have no ability to find out what they're really thinking and what they are concerned about. I suppose we could operate simply as a pressure group, just talking to Government and never talking to our members; but one of the things about the NZUSA structure is that while all constituent associations are in themselves members, all of their members are also our members. We do have a constitutional right to go direct to them and that is a really important part of our job.

Salient: Why, in light of your first comments about the state of the country, is NZUSA on the surface anyway, at such a low ebb at a time when we would expect to see students rallying behind the union?

Sacksen: I'm not sure that it is at a low ebb. One of the things that I read recently is the Otago University Student Orientation Handbook in which they've got a little thing called the "good old times". The good old times were always two years before you came to University and I think that is what you were just talking about. You have a nostalgia for something that you did not even experience and have no personal knowledge about and look on those as the good old days. Whereas the struggles we are taking up now-I don't think we are at a low ebb - there is still a great deal of activity on our campuses.

Salient: Why do people level criticism at NZUSA because they see it at a very low ebb of activity?

Sacksen: I think that you have to look at the motives of people's criticisms. I think that there is always a place for criticism and that it is necessary for our members to do that; even if the criticism isn't valid.

But I think some people are criticising NZUSA because they don't like the politics, not because it's not doing anything. And I think that others are criticising NZUSA because they can't understand it. In the first case there is nothing that you can do about it. Any political position we take will be attacked by people who don't believe in it. The other we can do something about—that we haven't explained what we are. That is as much my fault as it is the constituent associations; that we have allowed that distance to become greater instead of fighting against it.

Salient: Do you think that this is because the associations who support NZUSA have been slack?

Sacksen: Historically, there was a great upsurge in student activity which occurred between '68 and '72, and a lot of people like myself went through that time and learnt a lot about organisation and how you fight. We hung on for another three or four years after that. People coming through now do not have that experience. I don't think that it is because they don't want to fight or struggle for what they believe in - but that they really don't know how to. Nobody is really helping them to find out how to do that; and when you feel that you should be doing something but you don't know how to do it, you get a hellava lot of frustration inside yourself and that stops even any modicum of action being taken.

Salient: But would you accept the criticism that the National Office perhaps hasn't helped to develop that sort of experience?

Sacksen: Yes, I would accept that; but I would also point out that you have to have free time to do that. Someone has got to say - "you've got to spend your time doing that".

Photo of Lisa Sacksen

Salient: You mean in National Office?

Sacksen: Yes, someone has got to say that it is important now that the National Officers go out to the campuses and teach people how to get out leaflets, how to use a gestetner—how to do these basic things. People have been unwilling to make that decision because we always seem to be in a time of crisis.

Salient: So you see National Office getting burdened down with negotiation and bureaucracy and unable to devote time to action?

Sacksen: Yes, that does happen.

Salient: But negotiation is still important, say, on Bursaries for example?

Sacksen: Well that's essential. People tend to see it in terms of: if you're negotiating, then you're not involving the students, therefore you're doing it wrong. That's not the point it's the attitude that you take towards your work in general. You've got to do negotiating. You can't have your members on the street every week because for a start they won't keep coming and for a second thing it loses its impact.

When negotiating you've got to take the attitude that members' attitude that it's the members that make the decisions - take it back to them. Perhaps we haven't suggested to constituent Presidents that they take it back and explain it to their members. They are all aware of the basis of what we are negotiating on - and that's the way you do negotiations - not stuck up here on your own.

Salient: What changes are needed in National to make it more effective?

Sacksen: There are small administrative things that we are doing to change things a bit. At May Council priorities were set and by August everybody realised that few of them had been done and they wanted to know why and they got upset about the whole thing. Now priorities will be the first item on the agenda for every National Executive meeting and that Presidents should give reports on how well priorities are going on their campuses. This is to try and encourage the National Exec to try and act as a watchdog over us.

The other changes that have to be made are changes in attitude which can only be carried through if the members take it on themselves to ensure that they are. It's easy on National Exec to see criticisms coming from constituent Presidents as being personally based criticisms. The only time when it cannot be personally based, when you haven't got that refuge to go into, is when the criticisms come from the members themselves. You know people that you don't know from a [*unclear*: get up and] and say "I think [*unclear*: that] you did there was disgusting" Now that's the only time that people will accept that criticism. Now I think that attitudes have got to be changed - but it's only if the members keep a vigilant eye on us that they are going to stay changed, because it's a hellava easy to slip back into thinking that you know everything and that you don't have to tell the members a thing.

Salient: Concerning the NZUSA Forum we had at Vic. You said that it wasn't all that much use. Why did you say that and what better ways are there for the members to channel their thoughts?

Sacksen: I said it then because everything that people said are things that I believe - about the distance between you and the members, you're not getting through etc. We know that, we can tell that when we are organising a campaign. You can feel when you are getting in and you can feel when you are not. The reason that it was no use was because we weren't getting anywhere, that there was no solution being reached on how to

change the patterns of the relationships that've been established. I don't think that that the forum itself was no use. It shook everybody up there.....

Salient: It did.....

Sacksen: Yeah, and that's a good thing. It made made people aware that they've got to answer memebers questions. The forum could have been better organised. One of the criticisms I have was that it was too wide ranging and that there wasn't enough for people to hang their hats on. If it had been more structured the criticisms would have been centred better on what people were actually on about. So instead of going to the National Officers which may have been a more amusing way of doing it, it would have been better to go through the actual areas.

The membership is intelligent and sensible and when you ask them for your their advise, they normally give it to you. If we had got into it in that kind of spirit, saying, "right, now here's education - this is the situation and here's what we've done; what are your ideas on that Then they could say; "well if I had been there would have done this, or perhaps an idea for the future is this". I think that there would have been less frustration, both for us to on the one hand accept criticism and on the other justify our existance which is a bit of a difficult thing to do. It would have also been better for the people there. I talked to a lot of the people afterwards and some of the things they said were really good - its just a pity that they couldn't say them at the forum where perhaps their ideas could have been enlarged on by other people to the benefit of NZUSA.

Salient: As everybody knows, Canterbury have given notice to leave NZUSA. What are your attitudes to their move and when is someone going to break the stoney silence that has accompanied these moves?

Sacksen: I think you've got to take a principled and proper attitude towards what Canterbury is doing; and that is that they have the right to withdraw from NZUSA. And although I havn't heard any reasons for it - that's the stoney silence that you refer to - they have that right and their membership democratically decided to do it. I don't think it's a valuable thing to go around castigating them for that particular position; because for a start, those people who are determined to withdraw, it would only make them more determined and make them feel like pariahs and outcasts.

It is improper to question the decision of a constituent. We don't want to get into the kind of thing that happens overseas where the National Body castigates its members for doing things which they are perfectly entitled to do.

Photo of Lisa Sacksen speaking into a microphone

Salient: Looking ahead, what is going to be required of NZUSA next year as far as the country and students go?

Sacksen: A helluva lot. This year there has been a change in leadership, I'm not trying to blow my own trumpet, but I think that we've been a bit more militant than what we we were last year. But next year is going to be the crunch year for a lot of things. The whole question of restricted enrolments is going to start coming up. There will be the overseas students cutbacks - these are things that will directly affect students: the bursaries situation, because next year we're going to see bursaries once again dangled in front of students noses as an election promise.

The elections themselves; seeing how the social contract didn't work, there are going to be increased attacks on trade unions, and on women. Those are things that the association is particularly concerned about. And in fact we are the only group that are doing anything about these things. Unless we start off gaining the confidence of our members that we're on the right track at the very beginning of the year, then it's going to be a real trying time. It's going to be a situation where the association as a whole is tested, because you often find that when things are at their worst, not only are you being attacked from the outside, but also from the inside. The conservative elements of our membership will respond to the economic situation by attacking what is undoubtably the left wing policies of the association. In many ways that's good - at least that will mean that our policy will be debated. Some of our policy has never seen the light of day on some of our campuses. How can you exist when your membership don't understand why you're doing something?.

Editorial

klmnopquv

Last weeks cover story exposed the farce of free bargaining for what it was - a political con-job to dupe working people into low wage rises that fell well behind the increasing cost of living. Things have moved fast since then. The Government has tried to enforce the social contract with threats to both employers and unions in the current Power Board workers award talks.

It seems on the surface as if the Government has made a major blunder in interfering in the talks and is now in a comer. A closer examination, however, reveals that the Government is indulging in a great deal of political

cleverness, similar to their "news leaks".

Tony Neary's Union is going for a basic rise of 7.4% (9% for rural districts - special case). The Government is likely to put up a big fight over the Power Board workers claim and finally give in. This will immediately act as a margin for later award talks for other Unions. You can bet that the F.O.L. will be looking to enforce this limit and sell out their members. This has probably been planned all along by Muldoon and Skinner.

Gordon, Gair and Templeton aren't so stupid as to interfere in wage without a very good reason. They have one. To indulge in shadow-boxing with the Power Board workers and then finally give in effectively sends the ball back into the Unions court.

Not only can workers not rely on the National Government to protect their living standards, but they also cannot rely on the F.O.L. - their so-called representatives;

Tony Neary and the Power Board workers are just a pawn in the "boost profit by cutting wages game".

Workers in their Unions now shoulder total responsibility protecting their living standards. The least we can do as students in somewhat similar conditions is support them.

Months have passed since the 'findings' of the Commission on Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion were released. Apart from one attempt to organise a march to oppose the Commission, inactivity has been the prominent feature of the organised abortion liberalisation lobby. And yet public opinion surveys show that the majority of New Zealanders oppose the Commission's findings in favour of laws that would make abortions more easily available.

VUWSA is now starting to get itself into gear in anticipation of the repressive legislation taken from the report being passed through the farce of Parliament sometime in October. The Situation is very urgent if women are not to have this basic democratic, civil right finally taken away from them.

Many people, (both women and men) have expressed their willingness to do something positive in this respect but the opportunities have not as yet been available.

For the next week VUWSA will be organising activities to involve the largest number of people which will culminate in a march on Women Suffrage Day.

This legislation will deeply affect us all, especially women who will receive yet another body blow from the National Government. Both female and male students are urged to become involved in this struggle against [unclear: strvr] interference in the lives of New Zealanders.

Salient Notes

Well the year is almost over soon and to celebrate this great event Salient this week brings you me staff notes with a difference. For one thing they have been typed out in italic and for another there has been no spelling mistakes so far. In fact if this goes on it will be a very historic event. Anyway, after the masses rose up as one and demanded Staff Notes after last weeks unfortunate omission we are about to present for your appraisal the all-new Salient look for 1977.

There has always been a lot of speculation over whether Salient has the right to exist. Some would like to see it driven into the sea, but placing us all aboard the Cook Strait ferry is hardly useful, besides some of us suffer from sea-sickness. There are those others who say that the borders of Salient should be set down in accordance with the British Mandate of 1922, but again this is hardly on since no-one in Salient recognises the sovereignty of the British let alone their stupid Mandates. Other always like to hit us with the historical background . . . Salient has never and shall never be expansionist, that is except when it needs 'more space'. As you will be aware it was Salient under the guidance of the great Chairman Murray that went ahead and annexed the Sudatenland to grab for itself valuable layout space. The darkroom is another case all together Originally established in 1967, the darkroom has engaged in several bitter two and six days wars with the smoking lounge. If you are quiet and don't wear a U.N. armband you may hear them shelling each other late at night from the Golan Heights. Does the typesetting room have the right to self-determination under Salient Law? And what about the homeless Editors office, whose lands were taken off it by the expansionist light table?

This week Salient sent its crack negotiation team into the area to engage in peaceful dialogue. Always bearing in mind Salient Resolution 2345/211/a/z, the team spent days around the light-table trying to reach a solution. The great leader, David Murray advocated that the homeless Editor's office be given a patch of stoney barren land. This request was refused by the light table representative. Gyles Beckford, who claimed that historically speaking the two had never got on well. Lamorna Rogers tried to propose a compromise, but was shouted down by cries of "sellout" from Simon Wilson and Andrew Dungan. Gerard Couper appeared once but was forced to retreat when his Salt Missile complex broke down and drove him mad. Dave Merritt told everybody that it could all be solved by holding elections on the West Bank of the Darkroom, but with his past

history in elections, Sue Cairney wasn't sure. Meanwhile from the Editors office. Rose Collins screamed for silence as she tried to concentrate on the words and wisdom of Lisa Sacksen, who from the plush. high-zoot NZUSA Office had been telling all of her plans of world conquest. Rose's request was met by a hail of CO2 from the great Salient fire extinguisher, manned by comrade Chris Norman. High above the scene in his MIG 16, Biggies turned to his co-pilot, Algy and said "It looks like hell down there". Algy nodded and lit up a Rothmans which Merritt has brought for clandestine reasons. Lynette Shum captured the historic event on film which was immediately annexed by Jane Wilcox. "At last she cried, it's mine" and went running off back to Arrow town to pan for gold. However, the Suez was sanded in that day and she had to go around the Cape and then over the walking stick. GASP the cape, the walking-stick ... it can be only one person

Who is the masked stranger? Why does he wear a cape and carry a walking-stick. Is he armed with Surface to Air Missiles? And why do his arms drag on the floor? Watch this space next week for the next exciting episode of Prince Charles, My Part in his Career.

NZUSA positions

Drawing of a crest

Applications are called for the position of President, Education Vice-President and National Vice-President of the New Zealand University Students' Association for 1978. These positions are full-time and carry a salary of approximately \$5,700.00. Successful candidates will be required to live in Wellington and reasonable removal expenses will be paid.

Applications close on September 24 when a Special General Meeting of the Association will be held to elect the candidates.

Applications should be addressed to:

The Returning Officer NZUSAPO Box 9047 Wellington For further information on the duties of the positions please contact the President of your Students' Association.

Lisa Sacksen President

Editors Wanted

Advertising Manager

Handbook '78

Nominations have been reopened for an Editor for the [unclear: 1978 Orientation] Handbook Editorial experience is not necessary but a reasonable working knowledge of magazine layout plus familiarity with university life would be an advantage. Handbook should contain information for new and returning students on Union and University facilities but within those guidelines content is at the discretion of the editor.

It is therefore suggested that applicants include a written curriculum vitae detailing ideas on content etc. An honorarium of \$250 will be paid plus \$300 in expenses (such as contributions, technical supplies and typists wages).

Applications now close on Wednesday September 14 at 12 noon in the Students Association Office, and The Editor will be appointed at a meeting of Publications Board on Wednesday 14 September 5.15 pm which all applicants will be asked to attend.

Salient '78

Applicants for Editor of Salient 1978 are still open, and although they close on Monday September 12 at 12 noon, late applications will probably be accepted up to Wednesday September 14. The Editor of Salient will be appointed at a meeting of Publications Board on the same day at 5.15

PRESIDENTIAL AUCTION VUW

An Advertising Manager is required for Salient 1978. This can be a financially lucrative job for the manager is paid on a commission basis. However it is not always easy. If you are interested, come and talk to David Murray or Mike Stephens in the Salient Office or leave your application in the Students Association Office: Applications close Monday September 26.

Distribution Manager

A Distribution Manager is required for Salient 1978. Paid \$15 per week for ensuring Salients go where they should. No experience necessary. If you are interested come and talk to David Murray or Tom Duggan in the Salient Office or leave your application in the Student Association Office. Applications close Monday September 26.

Treasurer

Publications Board requires a treasurer for 1978. The only experience necessary is an elementary knowledge of accounting. A handsome honorarium is payable if you are interested come and talk to Tom Duggan or Gerard Couper in Salient or the Students Association Office. Applications close Monday September 26.

Yes to Palestine

SCR header

Frenchies were in the news again this week. Not French bomb tests this time but French letters as SRC battled over the future of the condom machine in the union foyer. The struggle for internal security began over a motion moved Caudal Halibur "that the contraceptive vending machine be removed to promote moral standards among varsity students". As the balloon went up on the debate "Caudall" made an opening thrust by declaring his unrequited interest in the moral standards of students and declared that "if God he wanted us to use condoms we would have been born with them. He then got to the real guts of the issue by declaring that "the only reason women get pregnant is as a punishment for their lustful ways".

Caudall was followed by Halibur, complete with spunk-proof glasses, who got rather overwhelmed with the weight of things and ended up declaring that "the motion speaks for itself as he shuffled off hand in pocket. This particular piece of impotency was rapidly followed by Paul Norman who gave a stunning display of auto-fellatio demonstrating once again that such activities can lead to neck trouble.

Skirting deftly round the issue as to whether condoms can prevent Thrush our self-same Sports Officer mentioned that condoms could be a real money-spinner and suggested that the Association could extend its activities in the direction of an auto-ejaculation machine. However it was felt that such an enterprise would be dogged with dysfunction and could only come to a sticky end. Feeling that the debate was getting a bit slack at this stage. Gerard Winter attempted to inject some humour by relating an Irish joke which fell rather short of the mark. As the saying goes, stiff shit Gerard.

The motion was eventually lost but is bound to raise its ugly head again. Many times in the past students have attempted to raise interest on this particular issue but nothing ever comes of it. Hopefully this particular episode will bear fruit and the issue will not be so prominent in the future.

The meeting actually began with reports. Lindy Cassidy reported that there had been a fair amount of useful discussion at NZUSA's August Council on the role of the organisation and the fact that it seemed isolated from the students it represented. Not much has come out of the discussion as yet but it was a step in the right direction. Other reports from August Council mentioned that ISIC cards are going up from \$2 to \$3, that the LATA issue had been discussed and the buying of the agency upheld and that the Overseas students issue is still the main priority for International Affairs.

Then the yoghurt really hit the fan as Peter Winter gave his Council report. His principle complaint was that when he had presented the Association's policy on Law prerequisites to Council the Salient Editor, David Murray, who was present at the meeting, had heckled him and claimed that he did not represent students. As a consequence Peter was forced to backtrack on his policy and the credibility of the Association's case was affected. A discussion on the correctness of the current policy ensued which finally ended with David Murray moving that the policy in question be reconsidered at the next SRC. There the matter rested and the meeting continued (without an apology from David).

Food seen in the Cafe

Second motion on the agenda after the condom motion proposed that "there never be food served in the cafe". Neatly demonstrating the principle that "you are what you eat", Paul Norman outlined the possible effects to his system if food, rather than offal and spam, were to be served in the cafe. The issue is not as academic as some of you may think as lately there have been many isolated reports of food being seen in the

cafe. No doubt these reports belong to the same category as sighting of tigers in Christchurch. The motion was lost which leaves us with our previous policy (which was effectively that there never be food served in the cafe).

Middle-East bunfight

Finally we came to the piece that everyone had been waiting for and friend and foe alike sharpened their sickles and closed in for the kosher kill as Beckford/Robinson moved that "VUWSA recognises that the Israeli Government and Arab Governments deny the rights of the Palestinian people and believes that a free, democratic and secular Palestinian state should be created". Gyles Beckford said that our present policy had been confused since 1974 and that it was time we had a logical policy which should be firmly on the side of the oppressed Palestinians who had been driven from their land and denied political rights. He thought it was absurd that he, as a New Zealand Jew, was entitled to migrate to Israel and be granted automatic citizenship whereas many Palestinians who were born in the area a did not have this right, However, he stressed criticism of the Israeli Government and not of the Jewish people, and that it was important that we be anti-Zionist but not anti-semitic.

Bruce Robinson outlined some of the ways in which Palestinians living in Israel are discriminated against as well as the fact that Palestinians living in nearby Arab countries are also treated badly. The only solution for the Palestinians was the establishment of a free, democratic, secular state such as proposed in the motion.

Much of the ensuing discussion on the motion centred round the definition of a "free democratic and secular Palestinian state" It transpired that there were nearly as many people being particularly confused as to the boundary of the proposed state. The movers of the motion eventually attached a note to the motion explaining that the state in question would be in the area of the 1919 mandate for Palestine. Several speakers then opposed the motion and favoured the creation of a Palestinian state to exist alongside the slate of Israel However the motion remained as it was and was eventually passed 48 to 44.

In the dying minutes of the meeting it was decided "that VUWSA support and provides the publicity for the demonstration and rally at Parliament on September 19 against the findings of the Royal Commission and the general attacks on women made by this government"

—David Hedge.

Summary of Motions Passed

"That VUWSA recognises that the Israeli Government and Arab Governments deny the rights of the Palestinian people and believes that a free, democratic and secular Palestinian state should be created. (Get details of note from office)".

"That VUWSA support and provides the publicity for the demonstration and rally at Parliament on September 19 against the findings of the Royal Commission and the general attacks on women made by this government".

Winter Against

Macpherson—For

A Fickle Pickle

1977 is a landmark in VUWSA history. In one of the largest votes of the decade (almost an exciting 22%) the silent majority have spoken. It was us alright—just look at how badly all those nasty communists have done. Students, real students who study hard and drink harder; who don't waste time and our money on South East Asia and other such irrelevancies, have come to a decision. We don't want anarchists, we don't want Trots or Marxists (sorry, was that Maoists?). We don't want wankers.

Student traditions have been eroded by restrictive bureaucracy, so we have voted for Informality. Long may it live. Up to 35% of us have voted No Confidence. This is a great step. "Anybody who stands for office must be an idiot", said one voter. He spoke for all of us, and we have told them so.

Now, hopefully, there will be no more tedious articles in Salient about student politics, pretending to tell us what is going on. We didn't read them but we know those 'politicians' weren't doing anything. Now, hopefully, there will be no more compulsory-attendance SRCs. No more futile attempts to gauge our opinions or involve

us in university life. We've told them: we're not interested.

When did one of those commons ever shout you a drink at Sasprac? Have they got us a decent bursary? No, and just think how silly they must have looked on that selfish march. Why don't they go and get proper jobs like we have to?

Have they abolished exams, and essays, and bad lecturers? Have they rid us of all the landlords? When is Peter Frampton coming to Vic? And for Christ's sake have they cleaned up the cafe and brought us decent French cuisine?

They've been promising all these big things for years, absolutely years. So we say fuck them. We've already abolished the need) for Secretary, SRC Co-ordinator, Cultural and Sports Officers. Let's not have any more politics at all.

One thing though. If all the leafletting stops, how will we be able to throw darts in class?

Simon Wilson

The results of the election held last Wednesday and Thursday are as follows—

President:

Womens Vice President:

Man Vice President:

Treasurer:

Publications Officer:

Accommodation Officer:

The positions of Cultural and Sports Officers, SRC Co-ordinator and Secretary remain unfilled. These will be elected at SRC until new elections can be held next year.

Fascism ~ our path too?

Last week we published an article contributed from a reader on the nature of fascism and how it develops historically. This week in the second part, we study the seeds of fascism in New Zealand. Salient believes that the greatest danger to New Zealand in the present economic situation is the development of fascist trends. If these are not 'nipped in the bud' at an early stage, fully fledged fascism could develop in New Zealand. We encourage discussion on the points raised in the article.

During the 1920's and 1930's many of the conditions favourable to the development of fascism emerged in New Zealand. The prime ingredient of a fascist victory—disillusionment with the social democrats, and other parties promising peaceful transition to socialism—was not present in New Zealand. The Labour Party had never been in power and had not been discredited in the eyes of the people. Thus the semi-fascist and fascist movements which developed in New Zealand collapsed after a brief but rapid rise to prominence. After the electoral victory of 1935 of the Labour Party, the ultra rightist groups coalesced with the traditional conservative parties to form the New Zealand National Party.

The basis of the growth of these fascist, and semi-fascist movements (the largest of which was called the New Zealand Legion) in the 1930's was the economic crisis. The main element of the crisis was a 40% fall in export prices between 1928 - 31. This had a major effect on internal economic activity. For example, building was reduced by 75% and short time work increased five times. The reduction of economic activity saw a reduction in Government revenue to one third of the normal amount. Lower revenue led to lower expenditure in an attempt to balance the books. Civil servants wages were cut, relief for the burgeoning number of unemployed was cut, pensions were cut, and there was extreme parsimony in the provision of social service.

Civil servants wages were cut by 10% in 1931, and by a further 10% in 1932. Workers in the private sector had their wages cut by 10% in 1931. In 1932 compulsory arbitration was abolished and the employers who had demanded this were able to make use of it to cut wages on average a further 5½%. In 1932 unemployment reached 73,000 which was over 20% of the male work force.

The massive attack on the living standards of working people met with a slow reaction from workers. Most trade unions were still suffering from their defeat in 1913 in that they had become tied into the system of conciliation and compulsory arbitration, arbitration.

Red Feds

In 1913 the militant Red Federation of Labour tried to smash the system of compulsory arbitration of industrial disputes by means of a general strike. Both the strike and the Federation were smashed by the use of state power under the direction of Massey's Reform Government. As a result of the defeat in 1913 most unions did not have the organisation and spirit necessary to carry out the kind of independent struggle that was needed

to protect the interests of the working class. Their secretaries were for the most part merely advocates. Because they relied on the skill of their advocates to effect settlements in compulsory arbitration, when compulsory arbitration was abolished many unions were rendered ineffective.

There was little unity within the trade union movement. The depth of division is reflected in the fact that in 1925 some unions had passed resolutions which supported Massey as Prime Minister. In 1931, the union movement organised a No Reduction In Wages Conference. But the unions attending could not achieve unity around the proposal to defend their members by strike action. The net result of the condition of the union movement was that as the economic crises developed, the unions lost members rapidly.

Photo of a union march

At the same time as the decline in the unions, the influence of the Communist Party and the Labour Party was growing. Members of both parties played an active part in organising the Unemployed Workers Movement. Through its work in the Movement the CP enjoyed some influence amongst the working class.

The Unemployed Workers Movement was active in organising workers in their struggle with the state for improved relief payments and improved conditions of relief work. They organised demonstrations, hunger marches, and strikes by relief workers. In 1932, the political ferment erupted into rioting in Auckland, Wellington and Dunedin. The riots were suppressed by the methods of 1913—special constables and police mounted and patrolling the streets, and regular armed forces guarding strategic points. The fright that the growing struggle of the unemployed caused the bourgeoisie, many parliamentarians and state officials can be gauged by their reaction to the Communist Party. In 1933, for example, the entire Central Committee of the CP was sentenced to six months in goal for reprinting a work of Marx that had been legally available for many years.

Confusion amongst the Ruling Class

Deep divisions appeared amongst the bourgeoisie on how to handle the political and economic crisis. To some, Coates and the 1931 - 5 administration was too 'socialist', to others this Government's policies were inflaming the situation. A number of ultra-right, semi-fascist and fascist organisations sprang up as a result of the crisis. The largest of these organisations was the New Zealand Legion. The Legion was a semi-fascist, ultra-rightist organisation. The conditions that brought these organisations into existence were largely an unease that New Zealand was on the brink of an even greater crisis. This feeling was no doubt enhanced by the divisions in the bourgeoisie over the Government's policies, and the rioting that had occurred.

There appeared no clear way out of the crisis that had beset New Zealand and the rest of the world for a number of years. The bourgeoisie were searching for new directions. Undoubtedly some sections saw in the new political forms that were springing up a way out of the struggle and crisis which beset the country. The New Zealand Legion had the potential, if it was ever needed, to be developed into a fully fledged fascist mass movement. The searching for direction of the bourgeoisie is reflected in New Zealand's political history during the 1920's and 1930's—the instability in politics was a measure of the growing crisis facing the bourgeoisie.

In the 1925 election, Reform won in a landslide with over 50 seats in Parliament. This victory was due in no small part to the organising talents of A.E. Davy. Davy ran a modern advertising campaign complete with slogans such as 'Coast off with Coates' and 'The man who gets things done'. Davy had an (almost) unparalleled grasp of the art of political demogogy in New Zealand.

More significant was Davy's ability to attract money from big business. Reform apparently gained the support of an Auckland business group known as the "Kelly gang" in 1925. This helped them to take nearly all the seats in Auckland.

In the period 1925 - 8 Coates and Reform did not live up to expectations. The Government was one of rural conservatives who were in their own way both social reformers and innovators. They offended Auckland business interests in particular the brewery owners. "Businessmen, especially in Auckland had been sufficiently antagonised by the 'socialism' of the Reformers to transfer their contributions to a 'reliable' non Labour Party".
(1)

Davy and the United Party

A.E. Davy was also offended. Davy approached disgruntled businessmen and formed the United New Zealand Political Organisation. This new group co-operated with the remnants of the Liberal Party led by Forbes and Veitch. Largely at Davy's instigation the UNZPO and the Liberals united to form the United Liberal Party under the leadership of the leader statesman, Sir Joseph Ward.

Davy gained sufficient funds from business men and also the support of the 'Kelly gang' which ensured electoral success for the new Party. The programme of the revived Liberals was carefully planned to appeal to

the business community. The result was that the election was an upset victory for the Liberals. In 1925 the Liberals had received 7% of the votes in Auckland and got no seats. In 1928, with business backing, they got 30% of the vote.

The vacillation between the established bourgeois parties, which was accompanied by a trend to the Labour Party in the 1930's, was a reflection of the economic crisis in New Zealand. In 1928 Ward promised to borrow \$70,000,000 and usher in a new era of expansion. Instead, the stagnation of the previous Reform Government was transformed into depression. In order to keep out Labour, the Liberals and Reform formed a coalition government after the 1931 election. The reactionary policies of the Liberals of wage cuts and Government spending cuts, dictated by economic necessity under capitalism, was continued by the coalition. The coalition passed the National Expenditure Adjustment Act in 1932 in order to cut spending on all manner of Government projects and social services. They continued wage cutting.

When these reactionary measures brought about growing class conflict, they passed legislation to repress civil liberties. One of the most important pieces of legislation passed was the Public Safety Conservation Act 1932. It was passed 12 days after the first outbreak of rioting in Dunedin. The Act provides the means to suspend all civil liberties and to rule through regulation, for the open rule by force of over the working people.

Civil liberties repressed

The coalition also used old legislation to repress civil liberties. For Example, War Regulations Legislation (dating from World War One) was used to imprison members of the Communist Party and leaders of the unemployed for sedition, and to stop the publication of books, some of which, like Bellamy's Parable of the Water Tank, had circulated for many years.

These measures drove many workers and petit-bourgeoisie to support the Labour Party. The Labour Party did not direct or build up the struggle independent of Parliament against the Government's measures. Instead they told people to place their faith in Parliamentary reforms. However, many members of the Labour Party played an active role in the development of the struggle outside Parliament.

The response of successive Governments did not please sections of the bourgeoisie, or A. E. Davy. Later, when Coates replaced Downey Stewart as Minister of Finance, the hostility of Davy and some sections of the bourgeoisie increased. "The business community was outraged, notably by the change in the exchange rate which increased the price of imports, and by the ever accumulating evidence that Coates . . . was introducing 'socialism' at the instigation of his 'economic brains trust'." (2)

First Fascist organisations surface

On July 23rd 1932 Davy helped found the New Zealand National Movement. It was made up of dissident Reformers, businessmen and sheepfarmers. The Movement felt that the market "for wool and meat had been worsened by 'State extravagance, reckless borrowing and Socialistic legislation' . . . They favoured a non-party organisation 'to ensure the return to Parliament of men (or women) best qualified to govern the country in the interests of all' ". (3) The Movement made little progress until devaluation in January 1933. By that time the splits in the coalition had deepened. "A group of mainly business MP's who referred to Forbes and Coates as 'the most dangerous revolutionaries in the land' were excluded from caucus". (4)

Besides the New Zealand National Movement, a number of other right-wing and fascist movements sprang up as a result of the crisis. Government's 'socialist' policy and the sense that New Zealand was on the brink of an even greater crisis, a feeling which had been brought about by the rioting.

In early 1933 the Movement was renamed the New Zealand Legion. Its founders persuaded a Dr Begg to organise the Legion nationwide. Although-Begg lacked the grasp of demagoguery necessary to drop the Legion's rightist propaganda and turn it into a fully fledged fascist movement, his organising activities initially yielded results. In his first month of organising, the Legion acquired 2,000 new members. At its peak the Legion had 700 branches and 20,000 members which were coordinated by 18 Divisions (at the same time the Labour Party had 30,000 members).

The Legion drew these recruits primarily from the petit-bourgeoisie. Of a sample of 171 members of the Legion, 67% were businessmen, sheep farmers and professionals. There was some working class support for the Legion, but indications of this are harder to find. Of the 171 Legionaires, 12 did not have an education beyond primary school and were almost certainly workers. (5) The Labour Monthly of March 1934 discloses that the members of the New Zealand Legion were drawn from those elements "which world experience has shown are most susceptible to the fascist point of view" including "dis oriented brain workers" and "politically backward elements of the workers".;

WORKERS V. HOLLAND HOLLAND V.N.Z. A report to Unionists on the situation today with an

appendix giving the experiment of work—are overseas under the same fascist attack PUBLISHED BY THE "EARTH BIRD" PRESS. ***** Being the truth, this pamphlet automatically become illegal.

One of the pamphlets produced during the 1951 Waterfront strike. The printing and distribution of these pamphlets were illegal under the Safety Conservation Act and o other similar acts.

WE IN THE NATIONAL PARTY LIKE TO THINK OUR IMMIGRATION POLICY PROVIDES OUR POLYNESIAN NEIGHBOUR WITH A CHANGE TO MAKE A MEANINGFULL AND SATISFYING CONTRIBUTION WHILE EMPLOYED IN NEW ZEALAND.

Dissillusionment with Parliament

The rapid growth of the Legions membership was also aided by the fact that "parliament and party politics had reached a nadir in public esteem". (6) The Legion stressed that it was above political parties and it attempted to be all things to all men thus trying to capitalise on the disillusionment that existed with the governing parties among varied classes That is, the Legion did attempt to be demagogic (although unsuccessfully) in the fascist style. The attempted demagoguery was not reflected in its programme. Rather the right-wing origins of the Legion find expression in it. This can be seen by looking at the programme:

- The decentralisation of government and administration;
- the formation of regions with large powers . . . independent of Ministers or central government;
- the co-ordination of local body government within these regions;
- the reduction of the central bureaucracy by giving many of its powers to regional administration;
- securing a larger share in real government by giving back to parliament powers usurped by the Government;
- abolition of the Prime Ministers powers ... of declaring measures to be voted on as questions of confidence;
- replacing party cabinet by elected executive. (7)

The Legion was unable to expand its policy because of the ultra-democratic style of decision making it adopted. Any policy suggested by a Legion member had to gain approval of all branches before being included in the Legion's programme. Policy therefore tended to be made in speeches by Legion members to meetings and by its Divisions. The Fascist characteristics of being anti-bureaucracy and other political parties have already been shown in the programme of the Legion and in the founding of the NZ National Movement.

The Wellington District of the Legion produced a scheme for getting the economy moving which was based "on the principle that the state should ultimately control money, credit, and land . . . the plans were popularly associated with official policy (in spite of disclaimers I. The press pointed out that the advocacy of state controlled credit closely resembled the Labour Party's financial policy. Even worse, land nationalisation was a proposal 'so like Communism that every body owning even a backyard . . . shivered with horror" (9)

Trade [*unclear*: unionists] clash with Army and other members of the new government-sponsored union outside Auckland Town Hall during the 1951 waterfront dispute.

Legion collapses; 'Democrats' formed

The Legion never became a highly organised coherent political force. It was an ultra-right movement with some fascist characteristics which was brought into being by the economic crisis. As the economic crisis waned so the Legion collapsed as a result of its ultra-democracy, lack of demagogic leadership, and its often contradictory and absurd policies. The Legion and other fascist organisations that developed in New Zealand were not called on by the ruling class to intervene and save bourgeois rule as they had been in many European countries.

With the collapse of the Legion, semi-fascist organisation emerged to fight the 1935 election. This party, the Democrat Party, had A.E. Davy as its organiser and recruited two of the dissidents from the Liberal Reform coalition—Veitch and Stallworthy. The Democrat Party stood 51 candidates. In spite of the fact that it only gained its leader, TCA Hislop, Major of Wellington, in August 1935 and announced its policy in October, it still managed to get 8% of the votes cast. The programme of the Democrat Party was:

- to reduce the exchange rate to its natural level;
- compensate farmers for the exchange change with subsidies;
- repeal of the Rural Mortgages Final Adjustment order;

- all salary cuts restored and taxes reduced;
- national health and pensions;
- growth of bureaucratic government control severely reduced. Hislop denounced the Government for allowing its policy to be dictated by "three academic gentlemen . . . well known and convinced socialists (10)

This programme was demagogic in that it promised all things to all people. For instance it promised the restoration of wages and salaries to workers and National Health and Pension schemes which the Labour Party was parading as the substance of socialism. Examples of the rhetoric of their leaders, however, show these to be hollow promises (like all demagogic promises of fascists).

The Trends of the Time

Summing up this period of New Zealand's political history the following conclusions can be made:

- The economic crisis promoted intensified class struggle which in turn developed splits in the bourgeois class on how to handle the crisis.
- Disillusionment with Parliament and the bourgeois parties, except the Labour Party, developed as successive governments failed to meet the crisis and produced policies which aimed at saving capitalism by attacking the people's welfare.
- Fascist and right-wing organisations sprouted and some grew rapidly.
- The coalition paved the way for fascism with a number of reactionary measures. These measures were not struggled against by the Labour Party outside Parliament, and they failed to repeal acts such as the Public Safety Conservation Act 1932 when they became the Government.
- The Labour Party refused to enter into a United Front against the fascist threat and the reactionary measures of the coalition in spite of repeated requests from the Communist Party to do so. Thus they helped to divide the struggle which developed outside Parliament.

Although most of the necessary conditions for a fascist takeover were present, fascism failed. The reason was that instead of being disillusioned by the social democrats (the Labour Party) working people united behind them in the 1935 election to bring about their landslide victory.

National Party formed

The Democrat Party played a significant part in Labour's victory by splitting the vote of anti-Labour forces. They ensured that 12 seats held by the coalition would fall to Labour because of the split vote. In 1936 a unity conference of parties and groupings opposed to the Labour Party's 'socialism' was called. This conference formed the New Zealand National Party. At meetings of the new Party's Dominion Council, of the 25 present eight had been members of the New Zealand Legion. Three principal groups formed the National Party. They were Reform—rural conservatives (in Coates terminology sane conservatives' opposed to die-hard [*unclear*: *toryism*])—the United Liberals who were urban conservatives and rural liberals, and the Democrat Party who were potential fascists.

A struggle for the position of Party leader broke out at the very beginning of the formation of the new party. Victory finally went to S.G. Holland, a former Legionnaire, a representative of urban conservatives and potential fascists.

A Fascist New Zealand?

The 1930's depression shows that given conditions favouring the growth of fascism, fascism could develop rapidly and find significant mass appeal. Thus a victory for fascism is possible in New Zealand. There is nothing unique about New Zealand and its people that would make such a victory impossible. The National Party has contained a significant potential fascist element since its foundation. As conditions favouring the development of fascism emerge these potential fascists will crawl out of the woodwork.

- Lipson Politics of Equality.
- R.S. Milne Political Parties in New Zealand.
- M.C. Pugh, The New Zealand Legion 1932 - 5. NZ Journal of History, April 1971.
- M.C. Pugh, The New Zealand Legion 1932 - 5. NZ Journal of History, April 1971.
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- M.C. Pugh, The New Zealand Legion 1932 - 5. NZ Journal of History, April 1971.
- M.Pugh, op cit.
- M. Pugh, op cit.

- R.M. Burdon, The New Dominion, MA Thesis.
- 'Gracchus', Banking Buccaneers.

Rock

Rock header

Our guess is that most students' reaction to Don Frank's penetrating analysis of Elvis Presley (Salient 21) would be "Oh no, not another boorish Marxist telling us what music we should not listen to".

Although we have been subjected to these sorts of tirades before, it comes as a bit of a shock to learn that Elvis was a "boorish reactionary" and what seemed to be a very pleasant music was in fact "decadent degenerate and ugly (and) rotten(ly) individualistic".

Students who rejected the "analysis" offered by Mr Franks were absolutely correct, for no-one likes to be preached to, whether it be from the pulpit (see the right-wing Catholic newspaper NZ Tablet for an article on the "decadent" Elvis) or from the lofty heights of "Marxist Correct Lineism".

What makes Don Frank's moralising all the more regrettable is that by adding a dollop of "bourgeois" and a gloss of Marxism he seeks to dress his prejudices about the nature and role of rock music in the clothes of objective analysis.

Marxist moralising is as worthless as any other form of moralising because moral arguments (e.g. is rock music decadent or not?) have no resolution. There is no higher opinion to say who is right and who is wrong for both are opinions and "right" within their own terms.

Marxism has nothing to do with moral judgements, but is a scientific theory which enables the transformation of what is already in existence in accordance with laws that govern the development of human societies.

Marx himself was careful to recognise the progressive role of capitalism in history, because of the development of the forces and techniques of production. But in its development the private appropriation comes into contradiction with the increasingly social nature of production. And if we see socialism as a historical necessity which the contradictions demand for their resolution, then the question of the moral nature of either capitalism or socialism disappears.

Also, we must recognise that forms of music, art and ideas that arise today cannot be pigeonholed as progressive or reactionary because they have the contradictory character of reflecting both the advanced technology (the development of production forces) and the old social relations that accompany this development.

Thus Elvis, as part of this progression in popular music, appears to be "bourgeois" in essence because he can only express progressive aspects (the fusion of blues, country and rock-a-billy) in a form already available—a form in a capitalist society reflecting the dominance of the capitalist class.

It is of little use, therefore, to flagellate Elvis for his bourgeois characteristics. After all, we live in a bourgeois society. Yet poor Don Franks, good socialist as he is, seems quite put out. Perhaps Elvis should have recorded the "Internationale"?

This is probably what Don Franks would class as Western proletarian music, for even though he correctly identifies the existence of class struggle in the field of music, he ultimately fails to give an example of the music the US working class "has fought to create". Maybe he is thinking of the social humanists (e.g. Woody Guthrie) and their music, or isolated trade union songs of the 1920s. He remains uncomfortably silent.

For while the music of the '20s seems a long way away, the music of Elvis Presley (who was incredibly popular amongst both the US and NZ working class) seems very recent. And it is music that is in existence at the present time in which we see the class struggle being fought—the struggle against the manipulation of the masses' music into forms subordinate to the need for capitalist enterprises to realise a greater profit. The unfortunate history of "soul" music, from the harsh almost wailing-like sound of the James Brown ghetto music to the slickly packaged Black acts of recent years, is a classic example.

There have been many spontaneous revolts in the field of popular music (a manifestation of the continuing struggle) of which Elvis Presley is one. For Elvis represented an attempt to get back to a simplicity of communication in lyrics, an "economy" in sound through the use of a few instruments (guitar, bass, drums) rather than large orchestras (either jazz or classical), and for a particular section of the population (young people) a revolt against the rigidity of sexual and interpersonal relations that had characterised the post-war period.

The struggle between advances in the productive forces (with increasing internationalisation of the rock market) and a music (which although originally located amongst sections of the masses) that is getting further and further away from the masses, will continue with increasingly frequent spontaneous revolts. It is up to us to

analyte them, not morally condemn them, as Don Franks does.

—Kevin Kane and John Ryall.

Photo of Elvis Presley

Eulogy to Elvis

*O 'Elvis
You hound dog
You did do a bit of sniffin'
And when I read
That you died at Graceland
Even my black heart
Almost forgave you
But then I thought about
All that money you'd made
You were such a bold white nigger
That you didn't even blacken your face
To put some shade on your act
I almost bought one of your records By mistake once—
I don't know how the lady confused you With James Brown
But Elvis, my mother always told me,
Never speak ill of the dead
So I'm not going to accuse you of 'rippin'
But I still can't forgive you
For what you said in the 1950s
The only thing a nigger could do for you
Was to clean your blue suede shoes*

—L.E. Scott

(Afro/American poet)

Toucan do it Too Amazing Rhythm Aces

At last—a country music album for those who hate country music. The Amazing Rhythm Aces have put together here a quality album of subtle yet genuine country songs.

Most people should know them from their singles "Third rate romance" and "The end is not in sight". Most of the tracks follow the same pattern - ballads, often funny, sometimes comically sad like "Third rate romance". The one tread running through them is the life of common people and especially of their relationships. For me this is the great redeeming feature of country music.

The music itself? Without exception is skillfully arranged and sensitively played. There are no fast rocky numbers—most are laid back with a strong bass rhythm running through them (commonly syncopated) and hence the name of the group.

To vary music that would otherwise become dull and tedious, the ARA employ skillful 'ace' lead/slide guitar and organ breaks. These are all done in the good traditional country way but at their best these breaks excell and really "make" the song. This is especially true on their singles where they achieve chart success with material which would normally get nowhere 'top of the pops' wise.

Above all ARA music is charming in a quaintly rugged sort of way. It sure as hell grows on you..

Although "Toucan do it too" is not a 'great' record it certainly is a very good one.

—David Murray.

Going For The One Yes

This may sound a bit silly to begin with, but "Going For The One" is an immaculately packaged affair. A three-section fold out with graphically stylised skyscrapers ricocheting laser beams around and around and a rear view of a naked man. Eerie correlations here: man's alienation in the technological - concrete jungle . . .

light years away from the extra-terrestrial landscapes gracing their mid-period albums. The music, however, only partially succeeds in [*unclear*: conveying] an aural equivalent to such portentous symbolism; though that too has moved away from the mystical tripped up lyricism evident earlier.

Not that that's likely to worry the assorted members of Yes much. Because, at the moment, "Gfto" (interesting capitalisation there) is nestled about thirteen amidst those charts that adorn the green and beige sacking tacked on to the walls of the room where the records are kept. So it's selling by the proverbial bucketfuls, but the old bogey about popular taste not necessarily reflecting quality rears its head yet again.

Yes are all extremely accomplished Studio technicians, and Rick Wakeman's return to the fold has strengthened their hand immeasurably. Every role here is played with the N-th degree of precision, almost frightening in its perfection—crash, bang, rat-a-tat-tat, v-e-r-y far out, but sometimes leaves me cold, and that's cold as in cold, not as in spine-tingling shivering.

For starters, the leaden-footed approach adopted by Yes following *Fragile* is here developed to its logical extreme - near terminal paralysis.

That's perhaps a little too harsh, but I do like to hear the vocals too, and here Anderson is mixed way, way back behind the rhythm section, almost among the deafening barrage of electronic wizardry.

This is not to infer that "Going For The One" is all over-volumed drivel. In fact, there are some really beautiful passages interwoven into the profundity. Delve into the middle section of "Awaken" and you'll become entranced by the evocative mood picture. But what can you say about a lyrical progression from "taken so high" to "nothing's taking you higher" in the space of three songs. You'll be flabbergasted.

—Horatio Axeman.

Earthborn Earthborn

Earthborn, a New Plymouth band led by pianist seemed to me to present a much more creative and honest set than any other band performing that night. Every thing they played was original and although the standard of composition and performance fluctuated somewhat, overall they came across as a group of talented musicians honestly trying to achieve something good with their music, getting where they wanted to go and taking along with them those in the audience who were sympathetic to the fun and sounds being created onstage. It was really the type of loosely structured improvised jazz which needs to be played in the intimacy of a small club, but nevertheless Earthborn overcame most of the odds and managed to set up a rapport with an appreciative audience.

Their earlier pieces were to me their better ones a piano trio, employing Jarrettesque blues slurs along with classical flourishes; a blues in D-minor featuring alto sax; a bossanova written by the drummer; and a piano/guitar duet entitled *A Conversation between Two Lovers*. The second half of the set became more electric and "spacey". The pianist didn't seem very comfortable on electric piano and moog, hence the results didn't quite gel.

All in all I got a bigger kick out of Earth born than either the Golden Horn or 1860 bands. They mightn't have been as polished presentation-wise, but they were much more honest and more creative musicians. Tim Nees.

Previews

Five Easy Pieces

Wednesday 2.15 pm

The brilliant satire on American decadence starring Jack Nicholson as an oil worker with a good home and family behind him, but who runs away, finds a mistress, seduces his brother's finance and generally shows disgust for the pointlessness of the society around him. "Keep on telling me about the good life, Elton, because it makes me puke".

It is strangely structured film: Open ended like many modern American novels and films, but with a kind of pointlessness which perhaps is intended to allow the audience to experience something of the feelings of many disaffected American people.

The photography, by Laslo Kovacs, is excellent. The scenes with oilrigs, trains and trucks are particularly powerful.

2001: A Space Odyssey

Thursday 2.15 pm

Voted by critics as one of the ten best films ever made. The technical brilliance of this film is largely due to Stanley Kubrick's perfectionism and far-reaching understanding of the technical possibilities of film.

The people in the film are servants to computers and are characterless and helpless amidst the marvels of space age technology. "Man stands bewildered before the machines of his own creation". This extremely realistic science fiction film leaves you spellbound with plenty to contemplate as the absolutely amazing images are revealed in front of your very eyes!

I think the maximum effect of the film can be gained through reading the book by Arthur C. Clark first, otherwise you'll have to see the film several times before you're satisfied that you understand it. Mind you I'm sure we're not supposed to understand it, but rather to go away contemplating the mysteries of the universe.

OPERATOR-I'VE BEEN CUT OFF

OPPOSE THE COMMISSION 1893 MARCH-12.00 Monday 19th Sept. Departs Hunter Lawn 1893-1977:
The Struggle Continues!

Editorial

Recently we have seen vicious attacks on women's rights by the Government. The Domestic Purposes Benefit (DPB) has been cut from \$61 to \$45 for the first six months; solo mothers have been abused and harassed and labelled as 'bludgers on society'; the democratic right of having children by choice has been denied by the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Contraception, Sterilization and Abortion; hundreds of women have been laid off work, not to mention the increased emphasis by the Government and the Media on the sanctity of the family and the old idea of a woman's place being in the home.

Why are women being singled out in this way? New Zealand is in an economic crisis, caused in part by an over-dependency on a narrow range of export products. In times such as these it is traditional for the Government to voice the old cry of 'A woman's place is in the home'. There are several reasons for this.

Firstly, under the present system, women are used as a reserve pool of labour and as such are the first to be laid off in times of trouble. When necessary, women are used in the work-force but at any other time there is constant pressure upon them to remain in the home thus providing an effective cover-up for the unemployment problem in New Zealand. They also provide care for the young, the sick and the elderly and as such relieve the Government of a lot of economic responsibility for these people.

The eulogization of a woman's role as a mother and housewife has given rise to the stereotype of the ideal woman—silly, dependent, submissive pretty etc. - only in the workforce can women be liberated from these concepts and develop to their full potential. In order to achieve equality in production women must demand the necessary conditions childcare, equal pay, free contraceptives etc.

The question of abortion must be seen in this light. The advent of reliable contraceptive measures and of safe techniques of abortion is an advance of immense significance in that it gives women control of their own fertility. This control should not be denied by society, no matter what political events are taking place. Opposition to the right to abortion comes from those with a reactionary view of society and the role of women with in it and should be viewed in this light.

If the legislation based on the Report of the Royal Commission is passed, the chances of having a safe, legal abortion will be minimal. Wide-ranging opposition to the Bill has already alarmed many MPs and we must capitalise on this now. The Bill's second reading is expected in mid-October. Whether or not it is thrown out depends upon our efforts. Support Safe, Legal Abortion!

—Lamorna Rogers and Leonie Morris

Same system Same struggle

The History of Women's Fight for the Vote

"So one fine morning of September, 1893, the women of New Zealand woke up and found themselves enfranchised. The privilege was theirs, given freely and spontaneously in the easiest and most unexpected manner in the world by male politicians.....No franchise leagues had fought the fight year after year.

This statement was made by Pember Reeves in his State Experiments in Australia and New Zealand. This is the view that was once prevalent among New Zealand historians. It is in fact far from the truth. Women in New Zealand struggled for a long time against political dishonesty, the efforts of the breweries and liquor lobby

and reactionary M.P.s

It [*unclear: is*] a struggle that the women of New Zealand can look back on with pride.

The Conditions of Women.

The position of women in the new colony was a mirror image of the suffering and oppression that existed in England. The same kinds of hardships that had forced families to flee from England were duplicated in New Zealand. Both working class and middle class women were placed under individual and collective suppression, both groups had a great deal to gain from fighting against their conditions.

A report from the Otago Daily Times in 1888 shows the typical conditions which the majority of working women suffered under. One example was of women who received 2d a pair for moleskin trousers which they sewed, and in a twelve hour day could earn from 2s to 2s 6d. Girl apprentices worked for 12 months without pay, supposedly learning a trade and when the time came for them to receive wages, they were sacked. Often even the low wages that women earned were lowered further as manufacturers vied with each other to produce the cheapest goods.

In the next year, the Premier of New Zealand said that it would be impossible to provide a minimum wage of 6s a week for women. Impossible because the demands of capital for cheap and uncomplaining labour were more important than the demands of women for just and adequate living standards. While the wages of women were not always as low as those discussed above, they were not substantially better anywhere in New Zealand.

By and large women were not protected by trade unions. The conditions of middle class women, while not as dire in terms of actual survival, were both inhibiting and unfulfilling. There was little outlet for these women to produce anything useful apart from children, and those brave souls who ventured out of established family discipline met with the undisguised violence of male society. At the Otago Medical School male students in the dissecting rooms threw human flesh at one of the first women medical students in an effort to discourage her.

THE FIGHT FOR THE VOTE EQUALITY FOR ALL

The laws governing marriage and divorce were of equal bondage to both working class and middle class women. Divorce was only available through having a private Act of Parliament passed to dissolve the marriage. It was therefore available only to the very rich and determined. If a husband deserted his wife, which was very prevalent among the working class, then he could periodically return and legally assume all the property and money that the women may have managed to accumulate during the time he was away. A woman when she married, gave up all rights to own property in her own right and any property or money she may have had before she married became the property of her husband. Maori women who were allowed to hold property in their names were apparently very unwilling to marry Europeans as this meant that they gave up some of the rights in regard to the ownership of property.

The Movement for Women's Suffrage.

The Womens Christian Temperance Union was the principle organisation through which women organised to gain the vote. The 'Christian' part of their title was very widely interpreted, as was the 'Temperance'. The main words were Women and Union. As the first national organisation of women, the WCTU was in the front of the fight for womens rights. Quite correctly the WCTU saw that much of the suffering that women endured was related to high level of alcoholism and drunkenness that existed in New Zealand. The sale of liquor was almost completely uncontrolled, and this of course meant that the breweries and liquor retailers were making huge profits out of the misery of men and women.

The liquor lobby was most antagonistic towards the suffrage movement as they realised that the power of the vote, once it was given to women, would be turned against them. And when it was turned against them, their profits would dramatically decline.

The liquor lobby was well financed, and entrenched in the political system by having representatives in the Legislative Council which was the Upper House and had the right of veto over the laws of New Zealand.

Seddon, in his continuing battle against women's suffrage used the liquor lobby extensively to destroy and derail measures coming into the house that would have given women the vote.

In 1878, 1879, 1880 and 1881 the question of women's suffrage was introduced into the house, but each time it failed. However the heavy voting in favour of each motion showed the influence of the women's movement in the country as a whole.

Katherine W. Sheppard was given the task by the WCTU of organising public pressure for women's suffrage. She campaigned for women's suffrage with all literary and debating societies, the synods, the assemblies and unions of the churches and with the public generally. She organised the WCTU so that each branch had one person responsible for fighting for suffrage.

In 1887 Sir Julius Vogel introduced into the house a Female Franchise Bill which passed its second reading by 41 to 22. However Seddon managed to get the bill defeated in the committee stages.

In 1889 the women of New Zealand were offered a compromise. One of their supporters in Parliament thought that it would be possible to get through a motion of Suffrage if it was linked to property qualifications. He told Kate Sheppard this, and her response was that the compromise was unacceptable but that as it gave a chance of a vote to some women she would put it to the whole WCTU. Overwhelmingly the majority of branches dismissed the compromise out of hand. Humans were more important than property, they said, and they based their right to vote on their humanity not on wealth.

In 1891 a Bill was brought before the house supported by a petition organised by the WCTU of 10,000 signatures. But the Legislative Council vetoed the bill.

Kate Shepard went back to work after this set-back and produced a petition in 1892 with 20,074 signatures on it. This petition was used to support an Electoral Bill which included women's franchise. After some objections from the liquor lobby the bill passed the house. The Legislative Council put in a few minor amendments but they did not change the substance of the bill. Unfortunately Seddon was now in charge of the Lower House and he refused to accept the bill with the changes that the Legislative Council had made, therefore it could not proceed.

Kate Sheppard again went back to the people and held enthusiastic mass meetings in all main centres. She increased the number of signatures on her petition to 31,872, the largest petition ever to be presented to any Australasian parliament.

In 1893 yet another bill was presented to the House for women's suffrage. It passed through the house and Seddon fully expected the Legislative Council with its strong liquor lobby to kill the bill. But 12 new members had been appointed to the Council and the bill was passed.

Photo of a man wearing a bowler hat

One might have thought that having finally succeed in overcoming the undemocratic gerrymandering of the Legislative Council, that women would have been at long last given the vote. However a minority of the House petitioned the Governor not to sign the bill because it would "seriously embarrass the finances of the colony, thereby injuriously affecting the public credit".

Once again the women of New Zealand appeared to have reached the brink of triumph only to find another disaster. Yet Kate Sheppard organised a long memorandum to the Governor proving that the matter of women's suffrage had been a long debated subject and that it had the support of the majority of the people of New Zealand. The liquor lobby organised a counter petition to the Governor asking him not to sign the bill, often using free drinks to induce people to sign their petition.

On 19 September 1893 the Governor signed the bill and women in New Zealand won the right to vote.

The Same System

New Zealand is facing an economic crisis, the magnitude of which I believe is not yet imagined by most people. As a result of this, women are again being placed in a position where they are being brutally utilised by the powers of big-business in this country to "assist" New Zealand to "tighten its belt".

Photo of police officers

Women are the unpaid and unnoticed unemployed. They are the people who don't show up on the statistics. Solo mothers are being presented to the public of New Zealand as the real reason for the recession. They are being hounded back into unsatisfactory relationships. The call is going out from all the conservative elements in the country for women to get back to the home.

The Royal Commission's report and the efforts of those who wish to deny women the control of their own bodies are part of this same scenario.

In New Zealand women have been fighting in an organised way for the right to control their lives since the late

1960's. Already the majority of New Zealanders support their position, and the position of women has been improved. Ranged against them, they have a pressure group as well financed and politically entrenched as the liquor lobby.

When we celebrate Suffer age day, we remind ourselves of the women who gave so much of themselves for our rights. We can feel confident that the eventual outcome of our campaign will be successful. We can say to ourselves, we have only just begun.

-Lisa Saksen.

Women's Place in Society - Past and Present

The struggle for equality is turning out as a long and hard one. There are urgent issues facing the women's

movement today. The fight for the democratic right to have abortions; the fight for decent childcare; the fight against the blatant sexism of the mass media; the fight for the right of women to work and to be eligible for unemployment benefit if this right is denied them; the list goes on and on. In too many areas we in the movement have seen past gains stolen from us, or distorted beyond recognition. The Royal Commission gives us a report which sounds like an abridged version of a SPUC manifesto; the Domestic Purposes Benefit is cut back with the intention of forcing women into Bert Walker's private moral code; the right to vote which women were imprisoned for has been a poor weapon against the financial and political power of big business as it takes our rights with one hand and forces down our living standards with the other.

In order to fight against these moves, we must formulate a strategy based on our position in society now. However, to fully understand our present situation, it is necessary to look at women's position throughout the different stages of society.

The History of Woman's Oppression

In primitive society, before the advent of civilisation as we know it, people lived together in tribes. There was no such thing as monogamy but a form of group marriage instead in which it was impossible to identify the fathers of children. Ancestry was therefore traced through the women and thus gave them a prized position in their society. Men and women were considered as equal though this is not to deny that they performed different tasks. It was the man that went out hunting; the women stayed around the camp engaged in primitive agriculture and breeding domestic animals as well as bearing children. It was the last occupation that (inked the scope of women as far as hunting went—they were frequently pregnant and the children were often sick.

Development of Monogamy

As time passed there were limits placed on the form of group marriage that predominated. Marriages between cousins, between parents and children, between brothers and sisters were gradually prohibited as they produced a poorer stock. A form of pairing family slowly evolved. At the same time techniques of production developed. There was the introduction of cattle breeding, the use and adaptation of metals, weaving and field cultivation. The tribe passed from the stage of complete subsistence production, gradually making more than was needed to just survive. There was the beginning of division in order to specialise some people or groups concentrating on one area, some on another. Most significantly the concept of private property developed; no longer did the tribe own everything communally. As some men became more powerful and influential because they were more skilful in hunting or farming or were better warriors they began to make private claims. With improved production techniques and more property some men became comparatively richer—and other did not. There were now substantial divisions between men based on their relation to the means of production.

Where were the women while all this went on? The very important role that women played in providing a stable food supply while men went out hunting in search of game was overtaken by more advanced methods of production which the men controlled. Their loss of equality in the economic field was soon matched socially. Because of the type of group marriage that prevailed those men who had property could not pass it down to their own children. Instead it was passed on to members of his group—his brothers and sisters and to his sisters children and descendants. To stop the tracing of lineage through the mother monogamy was developed. In a monogamous relationship a woman could only have intercourse with her husband and therefore the children she bore would assuredly be his. In this way the central role women had in society was completely changed. This singled the emergence of the family as we know it.

Chaining of Women to the Home

From then until now the man has been the breadwinner and as such the head of the household. The woman's primary role has been to have his children although at times, especially in families that are less well off, she too has had to work to get the basic necessities. As women have entered social production they have realised their particular exploitation. To free men for their role in social production, women have served as unpaid housekeepers—providing the meals, keeping the home clean, doing the washing and so on. This is seen as inferior work, lowering the dignity of man if he is called upon to do it. Her work is socially necessary, but is unpaid and has no value in capitalism.

The children understand the power relationship in the family, the supremacy of male over female, and thus these attitudes are handed down across the generations. The woman's role, with all its contradictions, is reflected in the general culture and beliefs of society. For example in the 13th century the same society that sanctified motherhood also disputed whether women had a soul. Similarly today, the Catholic church which has recently reaffirmed their opposition to women entering the priesthood nevertheless thinks that even women who have been raped or are poor can heroically overcome their problems and give an unplanned baby the care it needs.

It is obvious that this state of affairs benefits certain people. The employers in this country have not used the power and wealth they possess to help create the conditions that would increase the equality of women. Instead they have exploited women's traditionally inferior role to their own advantage. The fact that women have to take on the job of childrearing within their private houses means that the community does not have to spend the money to provide quality child care centres. It is the employers, the capitalists, who benefit most from this since they have provided themselves with a future generation of workers at the smallest possible cost. Similarly the role women take on as a housewife leads to isolation from society and from social production. This often leads to a lack of confidence on the part of the women which employers can later exploit when she reenters the workforce. Women are often scared to approach the supervisor, make a complaint, or go to the union—ideal employees!!

There is also a certain proportion of men who benefit from the status quo. Although it appears that more men are doing an equal share of the housework when both partners are working, there are still many who don't. Unfortunately there are still plenty of men who believe that a woman's place is in the home rather than out working with some financial independence.

The Rise of Class-Fall of Woman

However in raising democratic demands on these issues mentioned as well as re-educating men to adjust to woman's new and equal role, the woman's movement must never forget the origins of their oppression it was when private property developed and society became divided into classes that women became oppressed not only sexually but as part of a class. The concubine was not only female and exploited as such, she was also a slave. Even if we are able to see all our demands realised within the existing economic system the great majority of women would still be exploited. Is our aim to have women managers ordering the very lives of their workers, men and women? Women bosses, who exploit other people's labour to benefit themselves? Women Prime Ministers, forcing down the standards of living of working people in order to make more profit for the employer Or do we agree with one of the speakers at the 1977 United Women's Convention who said "We are not interested in half the pie. The pie is rotten and we want to make a new one"? If the woman's movement is not just interested in achieving equal oppression of all, regardless of sex, this question will have to be considered urgently and the strategy of our different organisations changed accordingly.

A United Fight Against Oppression

In the short term we face considerable difficulties. Because of the economic crisis NZ is in, the employers and the National Government are attempting to force down the standard of the majority of people. For women this means high prices, low wages, possible redundancy, a crisis in childcare facilities and benefits being cut. There is also a disturbing trend towards Fascism we must face up to—the intimidation of solo mothers and the industrial laws passed last year are just two examples of this. As well, the Government seems determined to blame all the ills of the present day scene on the breakdown of the modern family. This is aimed at getting women to leave the work force voluntarily and by doing so lessening the redundancy and childcare problem, at least in the Government's eyes.

It is important that the movement unite as many women as possible to take up these issues in the short term, and in the long term to work towards a society where there is no exploitation of any person, man or woman, whether it be on the grounds of class, or race, or sex.

—Dale Steele

THE HOME DOOR MULDOON GOVERNMENT

Women in Nazi Society

Photo of women saluting Hitler

The position and role of women under the Nazis was clear-cut; while man was the warrior and breadwinner, woman was the homemaker and child bearer. As Adolf Hitler explained at the 1937 Nuremberg Rally;

"If today a female lawyer achieves great things and nearby there lives a mother of five, six, seven children, all of them healthy and well brought up, then I would say; from the point of view of eternal benefit to our people, the woman who has borne and brought up children, and who has therefore-given our nation life in the future, has achieved more and done more!"

The Nazi obsession with questions of race led to their insisting that women should be encouraged by every means possible to bear children for Germany. This included liberal tax concessions, generous loan provisions

for newly married couples, and exemption from interest payments on loans, with the birth of children.

Death Penalty for Abortions.

Abortion was considered a heinous crime and those found guilty could be liable to prison sentences. In 1943 the death penalty was introduced for those found guilty of performing abortions. Birth control centres, the availability of contraceptives, and contraceptive advice were also restricted. There was a legal ban on the public advertisement of contraceptives, and in 1933 the birth control groups were outlawed, so that those most in need of help had only a limited chance of obtaining such aid. On the other hand, Nazi theories about race and heredity suggested that in certain cases i.e. the ill, the unsuitable, those who had hereditary defects, or were politically undesirable or non-Aryan, birth control should be positively encouraged.

Nazi Policy Towards Women Students

As Nazis tried to guide schoolgirls into a "womanly" education, so their propaganda suggested that they would also deny girls the chance of studying in universities, or other institutes of higher learning. It is important to remember that many of the early educational projects attributed to the Nazi Government were conceived by the previous Weimar Government in an attempt to solve the problems of the economic depression. The policies initiated by the Nazis were similarly moulded by necessity, with the result that the dogma which was conveniently relevant in 1933 had to be abandoned in the later 1930's as it proved increasingly unrealistic in the changed circumstances of the economic market. Early Nazi policy was expressed as—

"It is clear that study cannot offer women a suitable general education. Women will in future be employed much less in occupations requiring a period of study.... Therefore senior schools will not need to prepare girls for university."

In 1933 a particular restriction was placed on girls' numbers, which in no case were to exceed 10% of the quota for each land. The effects of this policy can be seen in a quick comparison—

In 1933 women took up 18% of the places in universities, while in 1937-8 the percentage dropped to 15%. In Physics, women were 25% of the overall intake in 1931, but only 7% in 1937-8. The policy to restrict the entry of women to university had achieved alarming success.

This policy was accompanied by the creation of a great variety of activities and organisations for women student which highlights the fact that the Nazis main aim was to oppose and restrict academic freedom and independent minded intellectuals. However, as the unemployment situation eased and the shortage of skilled personnel became apparent, and then acute, the idea which had found currency in earlier Nazi theory - that high intelligence and "womanliness" were incompatible—was categorically denied.

New Zealand Showing Signs of Fascism?

Recently, women along with other groups such as trade unions and Polynesians have been the subject of legislative and, media attacks. The most obvious examples are the legislation currently before Parliament based on the findings of the Royal Commission on Contraception, Sterilization, and Abortion, and the Government's cuts to the Domestic Purposes Benefit (DPB).

The similarity between the Nazi policies and the present situation in New Zealand is frighteningly ominous. In Germany the Nazis responded to the economic crisis by subjugating the democratic rights of the individual to the state. In the 1930's German workers lost the right to strike, German women lost the right to control their reproductive lives (either through contraception or abortion) and the German people lost the right to democratically control their destiny.

In New Zealand, workers have effectively lost their right to strike and women are losing the right to control their reproductive lives.

In Nazi Germany the provision for children was the over-riding criterion, and, any considerations of either morality or personal happiness were secondary. Hence abortion and contraception were illegal, and an ideological campaign was waged to push women into the home.

But there is one civil liberty left to both women and men in New Zealand and that is the right to protest. We should stand up for our civil rights before it is too late.

Lindy Cassidy

The Catch-22 Bill

The Bill devotes 35 clauses and 17 pages to the supervisory Committee and the Panels, and 1 clause - half a

page - to the grounds for abortion.

The Supervisory Committee, which is to have supreme power over legal abortion in New Zealand, is under total political control. It is to be appointed by the Governor General (we know who the next one will be!) on the recommendation of the Minister of Justice. The only stipulation is that of the three, members, two shall be medical practitioners. There is nothing to stop the Minister appointing Or Wall, Dr Liley and Des Dalgety to the Committee. The Minister may remove any member from office at any time.

Why is the Committee so powerful?

It is to issue licences to all institutions, including public hospitals, where abortions may be performed. These licences will be issued only when the Committee is satisfied that there is a need for an (or another) institution in the area. How such a need be decided? By the number of women travelling miles to have an abortion? Or by the incidence of illegal abortions in the area? Or by the number of women whose pregnancy becomes so far advanced while they waiting that termination is impossible?

Every institution must apply and pay for a renewal of its licence every year. The Committee can cancel or refuse to renew a licence if it believes that the holder has failed to take all reasonable and practical steps to ensure that the provisions of the law are complied with. The onus is then on the licensee to prove the Committee is wrong—guilty unless you can prove you are innocent. Appeals are only allowed against decisions which are erroneous in law.

The Panels

The Committee is also to appoint an unspecified number of panels (presumably also according to "need ") to include at least one [*unclear: gynaecology*] or obstetrics specialist. It is desirable that one doctor be a woman; and also that "persons be appointed whose assessment of cases will not be coloured by their personal views in relation to abortion generally". (No such point was noted for the Committee, or about the Counsellors involved!) The Committee may at any time revoke the appointment of any panel member or take any doctor's name off the list of approved deputies. No reason appears to be necessary.

The Committee also appoints counsellors or approves agencies for counselling. These "should be able to advise patients, or refer them to other advisers on alternatives to abortion, such as adoption or solo parenthood." The Committee could reject all known pro-abortion, or neutral groups or individuals, and choose as counsellors only those who will do their utmost to talk the patient out of an abortion, before she even gets near the panel.

The Merry-Go-Round begins

The Doctor or Family Planning advisor [*unclear: submit*] to the panel a written statement of the grounds for abortion. (It is not clear who decides these grounds - the doctor or the patient-but the intention is clearly to make even this the doctor's decision). The patient is then compulsarily 'counselled' (as above) and she is not allowed near the panel till they receive written notice that this has been adequately completed. 'As soon as practicable', the panel considers the case. It need not interview the patient at all, if it considers an interview unnecessary or undesirable. So her case may be decided completely unheard, by a faceless pair of unknown doctors, advised by a voteless social worker who is also unknown to her. If they cannot agree they call in a third unknown (from the approved list, naturally) who then decides. If the approval is given the patient and institution get certificates authorising the abortion. If refused, the patient is offered yet more counselling. The intention is clearly to ignore the woman in question and as far as possible treat her as a 'case', a statistic, with panels operating under pressure from the Committee to keep the abortion figures down. It is much easier to deny a woman you do not know and need not even see once, let alone face the results of your decision.

Fees may be charged for applying to the panels, for performing an abortion, and for any other necessary services. The Governor-General decides what will be charged. You cannot take legal action against the Committee or the panels. If your wife or daughter commits suicide after being refused an abortion, or dies in childbirth, or the baby is hopelessly retarded, you have no redress.

You might get an abortion when:

- The person doing the act that (no mention of panels or certificates!)-
- The continuation of the pregnancy would result in serious danger to the life or physical or mental health of the woman or girl. This is not to include the normal danger of childbirth.
- There is a substantial risk that the child would be severely mentally or physically handicapped.

- The pregnancy results from incest or &
- from a guardian's intercourse with a woman under 20 in his care.
- The woman or girl is severely subnormal.

Age and social and economic circumstances may be considered - they need not be.

All these grounds apply up to 20 weeks. After that you can only get an abortion on grounds (a) and (b) So a severely subnormal girl pregnant by her father and not realising until too late need not be entitled to an abortion. Severely subnormal fathers do not evidently, have severely subnormal, children.

—Coaction comments on Abortion Legislation

Campaign Against Royal Commission Legislation

If at anytime you want to help on the Campaign then drop into the Studass Office and ask for Lindy, Leonie or Sue.

War Clouds over the Horn of Africa

by Terry Auld

Soviet attempt to penetrate the strategically important Horn of Africa in recent months have created a crisis which threatens the peace and security of the whole Red Sea-Horn of Africa region.

Soviet moves to bolster the Ethiopian military regime, designed to improve its position relative to the United States, have brought Ethiopia and Somalia to the brink of war. In mid-June, guerillas of the Western Somali Liberation Front, backed by Somali army volunteers, moved into the Ogaden, which is fully one-third of Ethiopia. The Ethiopian army has been defeated in a number of engagements. Diplomatic relations between Ethiopia and Somalia have been severed.

The Horn of Africa may seem remote and irrelevant to some of us. But it sits astride important sea lanes to West Europe and the United States. Covering an area of some 750,000 square miles, the triangular-shaped Horn of Africa combines barren desert with fertile highland. Its three parts—Ethiopia, Djibouti and Somalia—have a total population of about 32 million. The Horn juts out into the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden, overlooks the 20-mile wide Strait of Bab el-Mandeb and, beyond that, the Red Sea which stretches north to the Suez Canal. The sea route passing near the coast of Somalia carries 70% of the strategic raw materials imported by West Europe, over 50% of West Europe's imported oil and one-fifth of US oil imports.

At the beginning of this year the Soviet Union was well placed in Somalia. In 1963 - 64 the Somali government became involved in an irregular undeclared war to create a greater Somalia which would combine Somalia, parts of Kenya, the Ogaden and Djibouti. After being approached in 1963, the Soviet Union extended \$35 million in military credits to Somalia and military advisers were supplied.

Following the military coup which swept away the old regime in 1969, the new Somali regime turned to the Soviet Union for economic and military aid. Now the Soviet Union trains - about 60% of Somali officers and provides almost all Somali military hardware. A number of economic aid projects were provided: secondary schools, a fish cannery, hospitals, a printing plant, a radio station, a milk-processing plant and various agricultural programmes. In 1972 the Soviet Minister of Defence, the late Marshall Grechko, visited the capital Mogadishu to sign an agreement to build a hydroelectric power station on the Juba River near Fanole. Simultaneously he obtained the right for the Soviet Union to improve and use the airstrip and port at Berbera. The Berbera base gives the Soviet Union excellent air and naval facilities close to the world's main oil route.

Map of Ethiopia

Ethiopia receives Soviet backing

The Soviet Union provoked the present crisis when it moved to shore up the tottering fascist military junta (the Dergue) which runs Ethiopia. In February Mengistu Haile Mariam seized power in the Dergue by murdering a number of its members, including the chief of state Brigadier-General Teferi Bente.

The junta was under attack from all sides. Almost all of Ethiopia's provinces were in violent revolt against it. In Eritrea (a former Italian colony annexed by Ethiopia) the national liberation movement controlled over 90% of the territory.—only a few towns remained in Ethiopian hands. In Addis Ababa the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party, a left-wing coalition of workers, students and military personnel, was leading the mass

struggle. Mengistu massacred hundreds of students, sympathetic to the EPRP in May of this year in Addis Ababa in mass executions. Parents of the murdered students had to pay \$100 to retrieve their bodies.

This massacre produced an incident of self exposure by the Russian aligned Socialist Unity Party at this year's FOL Conference. A move by Mr A. T. Neary (North Island Electrical Workers' Union) to have the conference condemn the massacres was countered by the Socialist Unity Party. Taking in some people. Bill Andersen used the old argument that "you can't trust the bourgeois press" to send the motion onto a higher committee (in this case J. Knox) for investigation in the hope that it would disappear forever without trace. Andersen's real motives were revealed by the SUP's paper "Tribune" which spoke of Neary engaging in "anti-Sovietism in his allegations against the Ethiopian regime".

Soviets want cake and eat it too

In December 1976 the Soviet Union, taking advantage of the cooling of relations between Ethiopia and the United States following the ouster of Haile Selassie, offered the junta \$100 million in arms.

Earlier this year the Soviet Union launched a general diplomatic offensive in Africa. Former Soviet President Podgorny headed a 120-man mission which visited four countries, including Somalia. His yard sweeper Fidel Castro visited seven African countries, including South Yemen, Somalia and Ethiopia. Immediately after his African trip, Castro flew to Moscow to report on its results to Brezhnev.

Castro gave his seal of approval, for what it is worth, to Mengistu's regime, calling it Africa's "first truly Marxist revolution". Cubans were sent to help out the junta. Some have claimed that there are now 3,000 of them in Ethiopia.

A Red Sea pact

During his trip Castro tried to strengthen Soviet influence in the Red Sea area in an interview with Egyptian newspaper Al Ahram in May, Somali President Siad Barre revealed that Castro had proposed a confederation of Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, Somalia and independent Djibouti. This was designed to destroy the growing unity between Red Sea states. In March the Yemen Arab Republic, the People's Democratic Republic of the Yemen, Sudan and Somalia had met in Taiz to study ways of strengthening their unity and cooperation. They agreed that the Red Sea region should be one of peace and harmony for ever and that the littoral states should consult and coordinate with each other to achieve this aim.

Unity between the Red Sea littoral states strikes a blow at both superpowers, and the Soviet Union in particular which is engaged in aggressive expansionism.

Later Siad Barre declared: "Russia is no different from other major powers who are foreigners in the area pursuing what they perceive to be their own interests. What we believe is that the oil lanes must be kept open, free and peaceful. And the people around these seas must take the responsibility to ensure that there is no interference by either superpower".

The Soviet Union has begun its military supplies to the Ethiopian junta. In early June, large consignments of Soviet-made military equipment, including T-34 and T-54 tanks, arrived at the Eritrean port of Assab. This will replace the US military equipment used at present by the Ethiopian forces in its attempt to defeat the Eritrean national liberation movement.

The African Horn in global strategy

Relation between Somalia and the Soviet Union have cooled. Why has the Soviet Union taken this path?

The answer lies in the strategic position of the Red Sea-Horn of Africa region and its relationship to Soviet global strategy. The Soviet Union and the United States are engaged in a struggle for world domination. The Soviet Union is on the offensive and the United States in on the defensive. The focus of superpower rivalry being in Europe, the Soviet Union is trying to outflank Europe in Africa and the Middle East.

The Red Sea-Horn of Africa region is the sea link which enables fleets in the Mediterranean and the Pacific Ocean to co-ordinate with each other. Whichever super power brings this region under its control can either threaten or even cut the maritime transportation route of its opponents, or pose a threat to the Red Sea littoral countries. The Red Sea and its adjacent regions are rich in strategic raw materials, such as copper, oil, zinc, silver and gold.

But the people of the Red Sea have recognised what the Soviet Union is up to. Some years ago the Soviet Union proposed Yemeni-Soviet joint salt and joint fishery companies. They were rejected by the government of the grounds that they encroached on Yemen's sovereignty. A Yemeni official declared: "The Soviet Union does not want salt, but the Red Sea ". On independence day an official of Djibouti pointed out:

"Many events in Africa were the result of behind the-scenes provocations of the superpowers who sowed

dissension and created disputes. We know a certain superpower particularly well, and we do not want them to come here".

Postscript: The Christchurch Press of 7th September 1977, carried a story taken from an interview with Colonel Farah of the ruling Revolutionary Socialist Party of Somalia which appeared in a Tehran paper.

Col. Farah charged that 5 countries were involved in helping Ethiopia in the present war. These were Cuba, East Germany, Southern Yemen, Czechoslovakia, and Libya. Troops had been supplied by Cuba, Southern Yemen, and Czechoslovakia. Russian arms and expertise were also being used.

He went on to say that if the Soviet Union continued their present arms ban on Somalia, then Somalia would have no more need for Soviet experts presently in that country.

On Cuba's role he said, "Cuba wants to play the policeman's role in the world and in Africa."

Welcome: Podgorny hugs Tanzania's Nyerrre

News From Malaysia & Singapore

2nd ASEAN Summit

Kuala Lumpur—The 2nd ASEAN Summit Conference scheduled on 6 - 8 August in K.L., was attended apart from its five ASEAN heads of government from Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand; three premiers from Japan, Australia and New Zealand who were invited to attend on a major function of further cooperation to strengthen the economic policy especially its role in industrial complementation.

A two day pre-summit meeting was initially arranged to review the economic development and the matters likely to be discussed by the ASEAN heads of government in their post-summit meeting with Australia, Japan and New Zealand. Due to the late arrival of the Indonesia and Philippines officials, this meeting was postponed and reduced to two hours instead.

The extended invitation to the leaders from Australia, Japan and New Zealand (or the post summit talk was said to be that ASEAN has confidence in their internal consolidation and therefore able to extend their external relations.

The formation of ASEAN in 1967 was according to Tunku, "to serve as a bulwark against any effort of communist China. However, in 1975 when great victory was achieved by the Indo-Chinese people, ASEAN faced up with a unified nation, it was then realised that they should group together to achieve economic cooperation to enhance the chances of political stability. Owing to the different interests each represents within their own sphere, the five member countries do not function as one. This was not only manifested with a lot of bilateral activities among the ASEAN leaders.

Since the last ASEAN Summit Conference in February last year, little progress had been made for a joint approach to industrial development and inter-ASEAN trade. Philippines attributed the cause to "not having enough political will to implement decisions that we (ASEAN) would like to see enforced the common good of the region". This was admitted by Singapore foreign minister that political will had collapsed over the question of industrial implementation. He referred this to the agreement of five industrial projects—urea plants for Malaysia and Indonesia, diesel engines for Singapore, Soda ash for Thailand and super-phosphates for the Philippines—which remained stagnant until today.

Presuming that the ASEAN leaders had now reached a stage of consensus that this five industrial project was brought up with Japan hoping for a US \$1 billion finance. Japan expressed her hesitance of "favourable consideration" prompted Singapore Premier Mr Lee to blame the ASEAN heads for not reaching a "different stage of consensus" and hence not at all surprise at Japan's move knowing how thorough they were at their ground work.

Two conditions put forward by Japan regarding to the project were:

- when their feasibilities are confirmed
- each of the project are established on an ASEAN basis.

It is not surprising that "ASEAN unity" could be disturbed again and that the implementation of the investment is yet to be seen.

On the issue of Philippines' claim on Sabah from Malaysia, President Marcos offered what he called "a sacrifice" for ASEAN unity, announcing that Philippines was ready to drop its claim to Sabah.

An agreement to set up a ministerial-level consultative committee to discuss trade and other problems. Australia agreed a \$10 million joint development project under ASEAN-Australia economic co-operation.

New Zealand had given assurance to help exports from ASEAN countries to a secure and greater share in its markets.

A general consensus on many economic projects had been agreed mutually between the ASEAN heads and the three guest-leaders. However, the implementation of them are yet to be followed.

(Ref: New Straits Times 8,9,10 August 1977)

The Sarawak Tribune 2 - 3 August).

Squatters' Plight

Perak—11 squatter families comprising about 120 people of the Pasir Pinji New Village in Ipoh were made homeless when their wooden shelters were pulled down by the Authorities. Officers from the land Office and two trucks of Federal Reserve Unit personnel went to the village on the early morning of July 13 and demolished the houses. Many of the occupants did know of the incident as they were away at work when the demolitions took place.

K.L.—According to the latest report, there are now 200,000 squatters in Kuala Lumpur alone—one third of the capital's total population. Encik Ishak Shari of University Kebangsaan revealed that 20 % of the squatters are Malays, 67% Chinese and 12% Indians and others.

Ref: Sarawak Tribune 9.7.77

Nation Echo 14.7.77

Nayang 19.7.77.

Red Hospital Found

Southern Thailand—According to the Thai Military sources, a hospital with adequate facilities run by the communist guerillas was discovered at a river valley during the recent joint operation of military suppression in southern Thailand. The hospital was capable of accomodating about 200 patients. The Malaysian army believed that possibly a medical specialist was serving the Tenth Regiment of CPM under the leadership of Rashid Mydin.

Ref: Berita Petang Sarawak 13.7.77.

Doctors Migrate

Malaysia—It was reported that about 100 Malaysian doctors have migrated to countries like Australia, Canada and US within the last two years. However, doctors are urgently needed in the country especially in the rural areas. The Ministry of Health revealed that the ratio of doctors to civilians was 1; 4,500 in 1976 in West Malaysia. There were about 118 specialist posts that have not been filled in the medical services.

Ref: Sarawak Tribune 4.7.77.

Drama

Drama header

Antigone

by Jean Anouilh Circa Theatre

Creon is a king guided by pragmatism and expediency, come to power after a civil war in which his two rival nephews have killed each other. To enforce his authority and establish a moral code, he decrees that one shall receive full state burial, while the other (Polynices) must be left to the vultures. For the sake of her brother's soul and her own freedom (and by extension her country's) Antigone knows she must bury Polynices herself. She also knows she must die for it.

Anouilh wrote the play in 1942, in direct response to the German occupation of France. His Antigone is a political weapon designed for a specific political occasion. Its truths remain for us to see, but are not all directly of us. When in the second act the play comes to terms with some harsh realities, Circa's production is dramatically intense. But in the first, which is permeated by a sense of beauty threatened, the drama is all but gone.

Director Ray Henwood has been almost unswerving in realizing this dichotomy. The value of knowing

simple joy comes over like a facile cliché. "Don't you think it's marvellous—to be the first person who is aware that it is morning?" says Antigone. Perhaps it's because of the relative freedom we now enjoy the subtlety of this is lost in speech.

For most of the first act Margaret Burnett (Antigone) and the supporting cast go through the right motions—vocal and physical—and it just doesn't mean anything. Henwood has sustained all the proper logic and rhythm. But nobody seems to feel a thing.

Patrick Smyth's Chorus, a part we might assume from the story to lack depth of character, is quite as personable as the others. This is because Smyth (as we know from *The Balcony*) is good on his speeches. Peter McCauley's Guard provides the comic relief and nearly steals the show. The drunken first night audience lapped him up, although to his credit he did not pander to them.

Janet Williamson's design is partly to blame. The steel gray apron stage (Circa getting adventurous with their new seats . . .?) looks very exciting, but doesn't work. Creon's desk is downstage facing inwards—the weakest place on the set. How we are ever supposed to think he or his office has power I don't know.

And for some strange reason many of the entrances and exits are made by actors running up a few steps, turning and running down a few more. This is never more so than when Antigone's sister is more appears late in the play to announce that she too is ready to die.

Creon argues that he is for life, for 'happiness'. Yet only Antigone may claim a life force. She dies, and that is pain to Creon. His son dies, and that is anguish. His wife dies, and that is resignation. He has caused these deaths and knows it better than anyone. But he doesn't know how to change.

Antigone is extraordinary for the very reason that its protagonist doesn't have the answers, doesn't even know why or for what she is sacrificing her life. Her silences ask us to look for the flaws implicit in Creon's speeches. "I am not here to understand", she says. "I am here to say no to you, and die".

Neither Burnett nor Kevin Woodill (Creon) come anywhere near impressing on us the immediacy of their characters' positions. The language is extremely powerful—this they have certainly not lost—yet is still encircled by a vacuum. Anouilh's play is not merely about human suffering: it argues that the people do have the ability to resist.

The weaknesses in Act One, several mistakes with lines, a lack of response within the cast, even the ashtray which was accidentally knocked onto the floor and stayed there while Creon told us how fastidious he was (a minor case, but also a perfect example for Woodill to be the character, to really come to terms with live performance) all these things betray a lack of appreciation of the play's meaning.

At one stage the Chorus outlines the difference between melodrama and tragedy. Tragedy implies that what will happen, must. 'The spring is wound up tight. It will uncoil itself. 'Tragedy can only be averted if we take care not to wind that spring. This is the play's significance for us. Melodrama lurks uncomfortably close in this production, but never wins out! If only for the lines, the play is worth a visit.

Simon Wilson.

Spring Awakening

by Frank Wedekind Downstage

It's a rare occasion when everyone agrees on the value of a Downstage production, and certainly notable that this one comes from outside the theatre's main programme. Tony Taylor's recent decision to cut back on activities because of financial pressure is understandable. But in *Spring Awakening* there is further proof (for those who need it) that long-running mail bills are not the theatre's main claim to . . . (what is the right word?).

The play is not faultless. It sports a chorus which is never really integrated into the overall tone yet does not forcibly stand outside it. Although staged in the round nearly all the principle moments are directed to the same side. The balance of naturalism and expressionism is well observed in those scenes rooted in the former, yet not so well in the latter. The professors, for example, are in danger of replacing the sinister and ridiculous with simple confusion.

Spring Awakening has its own peculiarities. Focus is not directed on adolescence by the adult world (as in, say, *Equus*). It works the other way. As we all know, puberty brings out the deadly serious clichés, and there are a great number of them in this play.

Director Colin McColl's handling of this is the most successful element of the production. His actors do not get lost in the lines, because they know the clichés. Neither do they condescend to say them. Not what a person says, but the fact that he is moved to speech is always the important factor.

Subtleties of communication and belief are all founded on this simple truth and best expressed in the two male lead performances. Stephen Murray (Melchior) and David Pringle (Moritz) had the difficult task of defining characters of very different temperament, who nevertheless form a strong bond together. On stage this can often mean that each actor [*unclear*: pinks up traits of the] other.

Not here. Murray's stillness, punctuated by purposeful movement is counterpointed by Pringle's nervous jittering. Their vocal work extends the distinction. Moritz's story of the headless queen—perhaps his happiest moment is the finest example. Pringle has had him suddenly confident and enthusiastic, without forfeiting any of the characterization we have previously witnessed.

That ephemeral scene is reborn at the play's end. Moritz's ghost appears with his head under his arm, grinning and exhorting Melchior to real as he has by following him beyond the grave. Ironies abound: headlessness, the constancy of spiritual existence, role reversal (Melchior is now the doubtful one), and the underlying potential for a re-reversal of roles. For Melchior, alive, can still know real pain, real joy.

It is Pringle's scene. He enjoys the worry as his character enjoys the occasion. Elsewhere others of the cast make similar contributions. For the performances he has elicited, for his fine handling of the mood and issues of the play, above all for breathing life into the Hannah Playhouse, Colin McColl deserves much praise.

—Simon Wilson

Film

A Bridge Too Far Embassy Theatre

Film header

When all is said and done—there is nothing like a war movie. Practically everyone enjoys a war movie. Those who don't, just say that; if sat in front of a movie like "A Bridge Too Far", they would become as engrossed as the next person. And why is this (says he getting into heavy psychological territory)? Is it because people have an innate love for war? Is it because they can take all their weeks worth of pent up frustrations out on some unfortunate company of German soldiers?

A toy tank for guessing the names.

Well perhaps. I am more persuaded by the view that people realise that war actually means something, apart from its innate violent nature etc People like seeing the Germans driven back to Germany in this film because it meant an end to the dream of a great Fascist empire to which Britain, and hence New Zealand, would have been subjugated.

War after all is merely an extension of peace time policy. Governments don't fight wars because they like doing it (they cost money and manpower), but because their internal policies require it. Germany had to start the war and hence Britain had to fight back.

Ah yes the film.

First of all; it is extremely popular—not a good point in itself but one worth noting. One of the biggest drawcards for the crowds must be the cast. There are so many familiar faces in this film that it tends towards the painful. In it are Dirk Bogarde, Sean Connery, Ryan O'Neal, Gene Hackman, Michael Caine, Robert Redford, James Caan, Liv Ullman, Lawrence Olivier etc., etc. Is it any wonder that they spent \$25 M making the damn thing.

Personally, I feel that the effort of getting all these heavies of the acting world together was largely wasted. There is some extremely bad casting and little would have been lost (and a lot saved \$\$\$) if the parts had been filled by newcomers.

Photo of Lawrence Olivier

The plot is based around Operation Market garden—an effort by Montgomery to bring the war to an early ending, After the Allied forces had landed in Normandy on D-day, they ran into all sorts of problems. These on the whole were not military problems but rather, due to supply lines falling down badly. Although the Allies were driving the Germans back at a great rate, their own logistical problems meant that the entire advance ground to a halt. For no small time it was "all quiet on the western front".

Operation Market Garden involved paratroops cutting off three vital bridges to block the German retreat and encircle the fascist armies. A blitzkrieg style attack would be launched on the ground to connect with the special SAS paratroopers.

The film commences with the initial planning stages of the operation. Even from the start there is forboding in the way that the op is arranged—too little time to plan it properly, dissent within operation command, blunders by the Generals, and subornness and shortsightedness on the part of the Commander in Chief (Dirk

Bogarde).

The operation begins and a thrill goes through the theatre audience. Military music accompanies large squadrons of Dakotas in formation flying their loads of SAS paratroopers to their ultimate rum. The paratroops jump to their targets and the sky is darkened by thousands of parachutes. At the same time the ground support (the Tank Division) gets under way.

Photo of a soldier reacting to being shot

By now the audience are at fever pitch. Things start to go wrong. None of the radio sets work, the first lot of Irish tanks are wiped out by German anti-tank installments.

It's now half time and the question is how (despite a brief respite of chilled drinks and overpriced chocolate dips) will the audience be kept going at this high level of emotional excitement.

The light darkens once more. Things start going wrong—this time for the film. The camera technique of flicking quickly to different parts of the operation becomes tiring and distracting. The plot and geography of the battle becomes confused Kitsch enters for the first time—lone soldiers playing flutes, Redford 'bad taste' heroism and overdone English soldier characterisation. The bloodshed becomes routine now, and one of my companions falls asleep.

Photo of, potentially, Gene Hackman

The end is an anti-climax. Or is it because the battle is lost? If you want to know what happens—read your history, or look at the title of the film.

Perhaps I paint too bad a picture. This is a good down to earth film about an important WW II battle which in the final analysis had a large affect on the final outcome.

It may be too presumptuous to say, but I think that, for a genuine war movie, they picked the wrong battle. —David Murray.

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Victoria Radio Active University

Radio Active signage

Radio Active's first year of fucking around is over and we're now into our second. We've been on the air twice now, during orientation and arts festival and we run a cheap but classy disco for hire, we also run a service to the cafe.

What we Want from you is feedback of some kind. We want to know what you would like on your very own radio station and, the best way for you to improve programmes. If not to tell us what you want, come and see us and join the thirty odd (some of them are very odd) people who are involved in running a radio station.

We desperately need good announcers, programmers and students to join our news team as well as technicians and administrators.

Our policy is to try and programme an alternative to Windy/2zm but we need new ideas. Our eventual aim

to broadcast full time on FM in stereo, perhaps in two years but we do need to build up equipment and staff, techniques and an image/presentation and we don't want to be accused of being out of touch with you and what you want.

Tell us what you want, our studio is on the middle floor of the student union. Come and tell us we're doing a bad job. Should we play Rock/ student information, should we be political or play Top 40, should we have female announcers or commercials?

Do we have an audience?

Qualified Legal Typist Phone 338 701 Mrs Perry is willing to type thesis and Research papers, preferably legal work.

let me help you make a little money go a whole lot further If you need a time help and advice on how to make your money go further while you're at varsity see Richard Starke at the Wellington Branch of the BNZ Richard knows the sort of money problems you're going to be involved with as a student and he'll be pleased to give you all the assistance and advice that's possible Apart from the BNZ services like cheque and saving accounts tree automatic savings facility The Nationwide Account travellers cheques and so on there are two particular BNZ services that a lot of students have found very useful BNZ Educational Loans The great thing about these is their flexibility You can take one out for a few days to tide you over a rough spot till the end of term or you can borrow on the long term and plan things out over the years you're at varsity BNZ Consulting Service Free helpful advice on practically any financial matter from people who understand money and how it works And just by the way, there's another good reason for banking with the Bank of New Zealand it's the only trading bank wholly owned by the people of New Zealand Call at the BNZ on campus office and fix up a time for a chat with Richard Starke or phone him direct at the BNZ Wellington Branch Cnr Lambton and Customhouse Quays Phone 725-099 ext 70? BANK OF NEW ZEALAND Wholly owned by the people of New Zealand

Study Methods

Wondering how you will cope with 3rd term reading, assignments, and preparation for the exams?

Then why not see Mike Capper or one of the other counsellors at 2 Waite-ata Road.

Mike is keeping every Tuesday free from now to the exams for people to drop in without appointment to discuss study methods.

or . . . call in between 12.30 and 2.00 pm on Wednesdays to discuss with a member of the academic staff.

Who knows—there might be easier and more effective ways of dealing with that mountain of work.....

Health Service

Vaccination Clinics.

Going overseas at the end of this term? A reminder that every Thursday afternoon vaccination clinics are held by the Nurses. No appointment is necessary. Smallpox, Cholera and Typhoid can all be provided if required. Don't leave it too late.

Tetanus Protection.

When did you last have a Tetanus shot? These are required at 10 year intervals throughout life, and an extra booster is given at the time of a penetrating injury. Tetanus although uncommon can still be a killer. Protection is simple and there are no side effects. Once again call in on Thursday afternoon to the Nurses' Clinic. No appointment is necessary. Other times by arrangement.

Be wise. Be immunised!

Have you heard about the upstairs cafe?.... Which part, the part where they're put time on those hot meals??? Dogs not allowed? YEP, these long heard night at the library are being made a nicor for dogs well! what sort of meals, ad when and how much? Apparently they range from \$1.20 to \$2.50, pes Pieped Pad up wards, 4.30pm to 6.30pm formal dress I suppose!!!

Up The Gum Tree

In the latest of a long line of moves towards a totalitarian state, Queensland Premier Johannes Bjelke-Petersen, has decreed that no marches of a political nature may be held in the streets of Brisbane (pop. approx 1,100,000). This fascist decree has come down in response to the growing struggle of Queenslanders (and other Australians) against their repressive Governments and the things they represent.

In particular, Queenslanders have actively opposed in recent years the foreign mining companies theft of Black Australian's land and their mining of Uranium—in conjunction with people such as Bjelke-Petersen, who has shares in some of these companies.

BJELKE - PETERSEN COP DIEU ET MON DROIT LAW - MAKER

Bjelke-Petersen, a millionaire and former peanut farmer cannot abide those who attack him and his big foreign friends. His response in 1977 is similar to that in 1971 when he declared a week-long "State of Emergency" in Queensland for the duration of the Springboks' visit. Then armed police roamed the streets and public protests were banned—the situation is again the same, only the time-scale indefinite.

Such moves should be a warning to New Zealanders that fascism is at our doorstep; don't forget only 2 weeks ago the same Bjelke-Petersen wined and dined Muldoon at a State Banquet in Brisbane.

So far, the response to Bjelke-Petersen's open fascism has been limited - a large Hilly was held last Wednesday in the main square in Brisbane. Hundreds of students who tried to march to the rally from the University of Queensland were stopped by 12 deep ranks of riot police at the exit gates and not allowed to leave. Before the march was to take place, Bjelke-Petersen warned that the Labour Party leader of the State Opposition, Tom Burns, would face instant arrest if he took part in the march!

Will Australia be the Next Chile or Thailand?

Dave Macpherson

NZUSA Research Officer.

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ANOTHE FUNNY LOOKING DOG! YES, MY FATHER WAS A CHINUAMLA AND MY MOTHER A GREAT DANCE! THAT MAKES ME A GREAT WAWA! BUT IF YOU THINK I'M FUNNY LOOKING YOU OUGHT TO SEE MY BIG BROTHER! WY WY WY WY WY WY WY WY!

National Mutual Chris MacKay can offer you: —Life Policies; the very best form of collateral security. —Borrowing provisions on Life Policies. —Policies designed for students in flats. —Married? Our policies give adequate protection. —There are no share holders; all the profits go to you the policy holder. —A personalised service, and advice with no obligation. For a man who understands students' particular insurance needs, consult: Chris MacKay B.C.A. (Vic.) telephone 738 670 (Bus) 663 304.

DON MARTIN DEPT. PART II AN ADVERTISEMENT GLIT GLORT BLEEBLE DURP GLIT GLORT BLEEBLE DURP GLIT GLORT BLEEBLE DURP GLIT GLORT BLEEBLE DURP Glit, Glort Bleeble & Durp LICENCED PLUMBERS SINCE 1925

FAT FREEDY'S CAT I'M FAT FREEDY'S CAT AND IM MEAN AND TOUGH; I TAKE NO GUFF WHEN I STIRUT MY, STUFF; I'M AN ORNERY CUSS AND I'M SO FULL OF PISS, IF I DONT LIKE YOUR LOOKS I'LL I DONT LIKE YOUR LOOKS I'LL HIT YOU WITH THIS: WHEN YOU SEE ME COMIN BETTER STEP ASIDE: A LOTTA CATS WOULDNT AND A LOTTA CATS COULDNT HAND A LICKIN TO A CHICKEN OR A RAZZAN TO A RAT AFTER THEY FINISHED MESSIN' ROUND WITH FAT FREEDY'S CAT! BOP DIDDLY WAH WAH, CLANG HONK! COMPAH COMPAH COMPAH HEECRE KITTY KITTY KITTY KITTY KITTY! I M FAT FREDDY SCAT AND I AINT NO KITTY! HEECRE KITTY KITTY KITTY KITTY KITTY! DONT CMBARRMS ME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CITY! HEECRE KITTY KITTY KITTY KITTY KITTY! I CAN MORE IT ROUGH ON YOU IT YOU'RE GONNA BY SHITTY ... I'LL TRACK YOUR RECORDS UP WITH MY PAWS! AND POP YOUR WATER BED WITH MY CLAWS! I'LL SHED MORE FUR EVERY TIME YOU SWEEP, AND I'LL SIT ON YOUR FACE WHILE YOU RE ASLEEP, I'LL SHIT IN YOUR SHOES AND PEE IN YOUR HAT, AND SPRAY THE WHOLE HOUSE WITH ESSCNCE OF CAT; DO YOU WANT TO EAT COME CRUNCHIES? DO YOU WANNA BUT A DUCK? CMON BITTY CAT SOME CHUNHILS! FATTY LETS CAT!

RAPE CRISIS CENTRE Opening May 30 Our aims are to a) provide support to rape victims b) to compile and make available data on rape. c) to educate the public to the implications of rape with the intention of

reducing the incidence of this crime. Phone contact will be available 7.00—9.00 Mon to Thurs. and 7.00—11.00 Friday. Volunteers are able to provide on-going support to back up telephone contact. Phone 898.288, PO Box 3871, Wgtn.

Glide on down to the EMI SHOP... Later this week, we should be acquiring a new selection of choice American Classical imports for your delight. 106 CUBA STREET, Phone 843 046

Friends of Thailand

Do you oppose the military dictatorship that took power in a bloody coup last October 6th, killing, maiming and goaling thousands of Thai students and workers?

Do you agree with our P.M. Muldoon, who says that the Thai Govt. and New Zealand should get together more and that New Zealand should provide more military aid to the Thai Govt.?

If you oppose what happened in Thailand last year and disagree with Muldoon's views, then become a real friend of Thailand and support the campaign to commemorate those killed and jailed on October 6th, 1976 and to oppose the visit of the Thai Prime Minister to N.Z. next March.

I donate \$10.00

If you can't afford \$10.00; then get together with a group of friends and put in a joint donation.

towards the cost of an advertisement appearing in a "Wellington daily newspaper on October 6th.

I donate \$ towards the cost of publicity material for the Oct. 6th campaign an the visit of the Thai Prime Minister.

Name.....

Occupation.....

Address.....

.....

Send donations to,

Friends of

Thailand.P.O. Box 9047.Wellington.

English Assessment

These are the results of five questionnaires done suring the second term. Several more are in the pipe line. Detailed analysis of the Course Questionnaire are available on demand., from the English Club Committee.

English Novel 321

Twenty questionnaires were returned from a distribution of 36. Those who returned the questionnaires were well satisfied with most at eas of the Course. The questionnaire divided the Course into context, structure, lecturer and tutor assessment and course evaluation. Lecturers and tutors received high score ratings for their work and involvement, few, if any critical points were raised as regards the standard of tutoring and lecturing.

Three main points arose from the student responses:—

- That the course should move towards internal assessment. In reply, Prof. Robinson has stated that next year, work done during the course will count towards the final assessment, more than in past exams.
- That the Course as a whole needed to place more emphasis on the chronological coherence of the books. That a stronger connection be made between different authors studied in lectures.
- That the quantity of reading was found to be a dominant feature of the Course work load. The nature of the Course, (The Modern Novel), presupposes a heavy reading load, but the texts were enjoyed by students in reply to these two points. Prof. Robinson stated that lecturers would be encouraged to gain a view of the Course as a 'coherent whole', by sitting in on their colleagues lectures. The chronological order of the texts would be followed in lectures as far as possible, and that reading lists are available for those wishing to read-ahead. (i.e. in the faculty prospectus).

Concerning the Course work load. Prof. Robinson stated that one or two optional authors would be dropped next year, which would allow mote time for reading and extra lecture time available for the compulsory texts.

Engl. 215 Old English Literature

As only two replies were received out of seven there is not very much that we can say of student feelings

about the course. Apathy appears to be the overriding emotion or dare one say it, satisfaction with the way the course is run already.

Engl. 304—Romantic and Victorian Poetry 41 completed out of 60 distributed.

- The basic structure of the course was approved. Many wanted an optional text system introduced and more intensive study of a few poems. Every student gained interest from personal reading of a poem, with only a few from lectures.
- As far as teaching method was concerned, many wanted more structured tutorials, but most do want class discussions.
- Nearly everybody was dissatisfied with the present assessment and advocated some sort of double chance system. It is clear that people feel strongly and some significant change needs to be made.
- There was strong dissatisfaction with the lectures on the Romantic period, but equally strong praise for the lectures on the Victorians. Similar feelings were expressed in relation to the tutoring abilities of the lecturers.

Engl. 207—American Poetry

Only four people replied (15 in the course). They were generally satisfied and only asked for more tutorials. The "stirrers" in the course didn't have enough courage in their convictions to make their views publicly known.

Interdenominational Church Service in Maori to celebrate Maori Language week.

The Service will be led by Rev. Taki Marsden on Monday, September 19 in the Union Hall (top floor Student Union Building) at 7.30 pm

Mihimihi and Supper will follow.

Colin Morris Records Caption Contest

Photo of a woman leaning over a man

Photo of a lamb biting a person in the nose

Don't worry darling, the All Bran should start working soon

—I. Bowman

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

News sheet

Monday 12th September 12 noon Mass in Chapel of Ramsey House. 12 - 2 pm Young Socialists literature table. Main Foyer. Tuesday 13th 12 - 2 pm Meeting to organize a Rally and march against Royal Commission Legislation. Smoking Room. 5 - 7 pm Scottish Country dancing; Union Hall. 8 pm Philosophical Society meeting. Conference Union, 6th floor, Easterfield Building. Robert Nola speaks on "Marx's Historical Materialism, Revisionism and Historicism". Wednesday 14th 12 - 2 pm Forum: "Women are under Attack", Speakers: S. McCallum (Working Womens Alliance). Lisa Saksen (NZUSA) and an MP. Union Hall. 1 pm Mass: RB 819. 2.15 pm Union films: 'Five Easy Pieces'. Memorial Theatre. 5 pm Young Socialists meeting. Lounge. Thursday 15th 12 - 2 pm Folk Concert: Women's songs and poems. Union Hall. 1 pm Labour Party Club meeting. Lounge. 2.15 pm Union films: "2001 A Space Odyssey". Memorial Theatre. 7.30 pm Gay Liberation meeting. All gay men and women welcome. Smoking Room. 5.15 pm Mass and tea in Ramsey House.

Letters

Letters header

Leo Durden replies

Dear David,

In reply to 'David G. Macpherson's' letter in Salient of 5 September, "Rejoinder to Leo Durden" that my existence is as real and as permanent as the State of Israel; I exist now and I shall exist forever.

As for being told that I am a hypocrite—I resent this outright lie. At the beginning of his letter, 'D.G. Macpherson shows that he doesn't know who I am, but then goes on to label me a hypocrite, If he knew me better, he would know that I attend almost every SRC etc. and vote possibly very much in the same way as he does on most issues. He is talking about my condemnation of the purchase of the IATA agency by NZUSA while I support the State of Israel. Where is the conflict?

The racial discrimination in South Africa is something that I feel very strongly about since, being a Jew, I know what discrimination is. We have had 2,000 years of being discriminated against. Hence I feel empathy with all peoples around the world who are being discriminated against. I know that 'David G. Macpherson would ask why I am discriminating against the Palestine people by supporting Israel. I do support the State of Israel, however imperfect it may be but do not think that its absorption in a democratic secular state of Palestine would lessen discrimination on either side.

There are many aspects of Israel society and political policies that I do not agree with (for instance, Israel's trading associations with South Africa) but I do not see this as a valid reason to destroy the State of Israel. We do not agree with all of the New Zealand government's policies but we certainly do not advocate that the state of New Zealand be destroyed and that all immigrants to New Zealand go back to their countries of origin, leaving New Zealand to the Maoris, or do we, 'David G. Macpherson '? If so, shall I drive you to the airport tomorrow?

I support self-determination for all peoples, be they Palestinian, Jordanian or Jewish, so where is the hypocrisy in supporting my own people's national existence on its ancestral homeland?

Shalom,
Leo Durden.

Expanding our Borders

Dear Salient,

Israel and Palestine is one subject on which I part company with what seems to be VUW student policy. Grant Simpson's article on the recent debate reminds me to make these points, as a non-Jew who has however visited Israel, Jordan, Egypt and neighbouring countries on two occasions (about five months in ail).

- Does Israel have an historical right to the place? It seems to me they have a lot better right to it than Europeans in NZ have to New Zealand. They are Semitic people, in roughly the area of their origin. Since arriving they have worked extremely hard to turn it from a rather arid, infertile, part-swampy area into an economically viable state with orchards and fishponds and factories and towns and so on (in marked contrast to its Arab neighbours). They didn't shove the Palestinians out—Israel still has lots of Arabs living there (quite an achievement when one considers that any Arab is a potential enemy if at any time the Arabs should try another attack). It is a successful multi-cultural society, with notices printed in Hebrew alongside the Arabic.
- Has Israel "increased her territory by use of military force"? Not quite. Israel had been forced to defend her territory by use of military force—from the first days of the state of Israel. What was she supposed to do—keep putting up with Arab aggression and merely defending existing borders no matter how little this deterred the Arabs? It may be noted here that the borders Israel had before she took over the Golan Heights, the West Bank, the Sinai Desert and part of Jerusalem were very difficult and impractical to defend. The Golan Heights when held by the Syrians were a perfect place to look down on Israel settlements and take pot shots at them—which is what happened. Or to make night raids from. The West Bank replaced a long and strategically difficult border with a shorter and easier one. So did Sinai. In the case of Sinai, it may be remembered by people like me (a little older than most students) that it was the

use of Sharm el Sheikh (at the entrance to the Gulf of Aquaba/Eilat, Israel's southern sea frontier) by the Arabs to attack Israeli shipping that sparked off one bout of the fighting.

The Palestinians are on the surface an attractive lot—a noble people fighting for their heritage. One has to respect them. Unfortunately, there is also a lot of whinging and sitting on backsides hoping for help going on when you actually get over there and take a look.

Yours sincerely,

Lindy Milnes.

(This is a brief reply to the two points Lindy Milnes raises in her letter.

- No matter how hard people might work, that fact does not give the Jews historical right to Palestine. Many Jews are not Semitic—by and large, their racial characteristics conform to the predominant characteristics of the countries they come from. If the Arab states had been injected with as much foreign capital as Israel has been, their economies, too, would have been flourishing. I grant that there are some Palestinians living within the borders of Israel—but there are a hell of a lot more living in refugee camps in neighbouring states. Have you been to see these? Finally, South Africa also has public notices printed in languages of the different races—and that doesn't mean that the races are equal, just like in Israel the Palestinians' rights are considerably less than those of Jewish people. (See Middle East Broadsheet for more on this).
- It sounds like you, Lindy, imbibed a lot of official Israeli propaganda as to why Israel 'needed' to take over the Golan Heights, the West Bank and the Sinai. Since when did having "a long and strategically difficult border" mean that a country had the right to invade and annex part of neighbouring countries? No amount of justification can hide the plain truth that Israel has increased its territory considerably by use of military force—nor is it prepared to give back this illegally-gained land. Nor can the truth be hidden that in each of the 1948, 1956 and 1967 wars it was Israel that actually attacked first, each time invading land that did not belong to it.

Lindy, the logic in your letter is appalling. While we appreciate your rationality (often unusual on this issue) we really do suggest that your points are confined to the facts - not to justifications of pleasant and illegal actions.

—Ed.)

P.J. Saxby writes

Dear Salient Editors,

Go on then, you bastards. Smear, smear, smear, smear. Smear me with your editorial and by printing the distortions and lies in recent letters about me (anonymous, of course, but I suspect written by your staff following their usual practice). Smear the Labour Party and its leader with your defeatist nonsense. Smear your own student representative with sneering reports and more distortions if they don't follow your pure political line. Smear organisations like Hart, the Peace Conference and students at other universities because they are not "democratic"—we know what that means, don't we? And if your Pink Cardigan Brigade manages to dispose of all its "enemies" where will your Students Association be? What will be left of it?

Yours,

P.J. Saxby.

And again on the Middle-East

Dear Salient,

AUGH!

It would be interesting to confirm that the interpretation you give to the Middle-East policy adopted at August Council was shared by the NZUSA National Executive. I mean that an important question is not resolved by the loosely-worded motion passed at Massey last month because it does not say whether a Palestine State should be created on the whole of the Israel/West Bank/Gaza area or only on part of it, or even somewhere else! If the interpretation in "Salient" is followed, then possibly NZUSA will vote to keep the Israeli students out of any international organisations (like the Asian Students Association) and allow the General Union of Palestine Students to represent 100,000 tertiary students in Israel. I hope Lisa Saksen will clarify this point.

You know, but carefully omitted to explain, that only three campuses support the NZUSA policy to replace (according to your interpretation Israel with a Palestine State. Only Waikato, Massey and Victoria voted in favour; Auckland, Canterbury, Lincoln and Otago abstained because they had no mandate to support their motion. Students at these campuses either believe that the issue is irrelevant to them or that Israel's independence and self-determination should be preserved, or they are still undecided on the question. Anti-Zionist lobbies are at work in most of these campuses; despite them, most students do not support the dismantling of Israel (the President of Massey University Students Association openly expressed his contempt for the motion to me, even though Massey voted for the motion!)

I don't think that Victoria students are much different from other in this respect, as, past meetings of SRC would indicate! Perhaps next year the delegates to NZUSA Councils will decide to represent their students' support for Israel, instead of merely abstaining. I am optimistic that this will happen.

A whole host of corrections should be made to many recent Salient reports. I have space only for one or two from the various articles.

For a start, the topic of the debate at Arts Festival was not "that NZ should recognise the Palestine Liberation Organisation". This topic is not possible for the Ambassador who cannot publicly campaign against or for a specific policy over the head of his host government. The topic was "that NZ should support the PLO" which allows various gradations of support to be discussed; I thought both speakers spoke capably on this topic from their different view points. Though mis-reported by the "Evening Post", the "recognition" motion was never advertised as being the motion under debate.

The Evening Post did at least report fairly carefully the Ambassador's precise definitions in describing the PLO as a fascist organisation. There was no attempt by him to use emotive descriptions without explaining why such terms could be applied, contrary to your report!

His description of Jordan as a "Palestine Arab State" is Justified by the PLO themselves, who say their goal after the conquest of Israel is the removal of the Jordanian Government and the "unification" of Palestine from the former "Zionist entity" and "Has hemite monarchy". Palestinians are now an integral part of Jordan—in the army, in government, in a society with the same values, language, religion and nationality. Are they asking (and can they ask?) that the Jewish character of much of Israel today should be destroyed to make it suitable as homeland for Palestinian Arabs? In any case, though 500,000 Palestinians left Israel in 1948, a similar number of Jews came to Israel from Arab States which expelled them after Israel's War of Independence. Where is the sense and Justice in trying to unscramble the population and nations this created?

David Merritt's article in "Salient" No 22 says the Arab armies went into Palestine to protect the Arabs"; he knows they went in to prevent a partition and to destroy Israel before it started, if possible.

No wonder David pays such attention to the deaths of Deir Yassin. He has no other incident to offer as "proof" of a Jewish plan to terrorise the Arab population into leaving. There was no terrorist plan of this kind; but no-one can doubt the nature of the unrelenting terrorist campaign against ordinary civilians in Israel and around the world. David admits that the King David Hotel, attacked by Irgun, was a military headquarters; today the Palestinian terroristst define any Israeli citizen of any age, as a military target.

Why should Israel act as if peace had come until peaceful co-existence between Jew and Arab in the Middle East is guaranteed by all concerned? Dave Merritt further staess that the UN Security Council of 22 November 1967, called on Israel to withdraw from Sinai, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. He knows this is only part of the truth—Salient readers should discover for themselves what the resolution really said.

Saying that the "Zionists" claim Palestine "for historical reasons based on their biblical traditions" is also only a part of the truth. I, and the Ambassador in his article, have given more important reasons why the Israelis believe they have a right to self-determination in Palestine. This self-determination is the basic aim of Zionism and for this reason almost 100% of Israelis are Zionists. It would be more honest for Dave Merritt and your

editorial comment, to refer to the "Israeli people" instead of the "Zionist movement" claims, aims etc., just as the claims of the Palestine Liberation Organisation dignified by the title of "Palestinian peoples" claims.

But this would be only a small step on your behalf toward an objective view of the situation.

Yours sincerely,

P.J. Saxby.

"Blatant bias" or fair comment?

Dear Editor,

I am continually amazed by the hypocrisy of those who control NZUSA executive. They claim to produce a "balanced rational" broadsheet on the Middle East yet inject their blatant editorial the Middle East yet inject their blatant editorial bias into the article by noting the "indignation" of the NZUSA representative who was searched by Israeli Embassy officials before entering the Israeli Embassy in Wellington.

In virtually the same breath, they claim to support the PLO, an organisation dedicated to destroy Israel by violence; in other words "I support your governments violent overthrow but don't bother searching me, it's humiliating".

Drawing of cartoon Snoopy kicking something

Maybe some searching by us will secure a more rational, balanced NZUSA approach. I don't think NZUSA can make pretentious statements to the effect that it is seeking a rational, balanced view and be sincere until it's obvious interests in not finding an impartial position is changed.

NZUSA executive makes it very easy to prove they are-better bullshitters than me.

G.K. Lewis.

NZUSA replies

Dear David,

I am continually amazed at the pettiness of the heart-rendering (?) cries of Zionists like Gary Lewis—they can't abide the fact that they lost the vote in a democratic and rational meeting where students decided to support the concept of a free, democratic and secular Palestinian state.

As both the person who prepared the 'Middle East' Broadsheet and the person who was searched by an Israeli Embassy staff member, let me say that the searching was a most unpleasant experience that I went through without complaint—solely in the interests of obtaining an article solely in the interests of obtaining an article from a person whose views I vehemently disagree with.

Mr Lewis says I/we are biased—that's quite correct; we have a definite view one way—but we are not so biased that we won't also tell our members what the other side's view is. I challenge Mr Lewis, Mr Durden and their Jewish Students Society to publish our views in their material!

As far as saying that we support the PLO, I challenge Mr Lewis to produce one shred of evidence to support his claim in our broadsheet or in our policy motions. I know he can't. We published an article showing how Palestinians on the West Bank of the Jordan support the PLO—only to show that the story put out by Mr Lewis and friends that Palestinians don't support the PLO is a lie.

NZUSA executive only puts out material that it is authorised to—the real bullshitters appear to be the authors of the type of attack that Mr Lewis indulges in.

Dave Macpherson,
Research Officer.

Fiji Club

Dear Sir,

This letter is aimed as a criticism of one of the committee members of the new executive of the Fiji Students Association of Wellington (Fiji Club).

The new executive was elected on July 7 this year and so far has handled the affairs of the Club quite satisfactorily.

The big moment for the Club came with the arrival to Wellington of Fiji Students from all the other centres in New Zealand. All the executive joined forces to organise the billeting, sport and socials. However one committee member, Mangel Singh was conspicuously absent on almost all occasions and definitely all evening functions. Overall his effort in the Club's affairs can be summed up as nil.

He was elected as a committee member at the Annual General Meeting because of his various criticisms levelled at the out-going committee. He professed to have managed clubs whose activities are much more extensive than our Fiji Club. Then why has his contribution to the Club been nil. Perhaps, he is married and has children—But, this reason (excuse) is not good enough. The present President of the Fiji Club also has children and besides this is further handicapped in that he has to come a long way from Porirua. Yet, the President has always been there. For the President it can be said that he is humble and hardworking. Mangel—is [unclear: ompnt] and and [unclear: em]. (He can stay in the library till 11 pm every night but excuses himself on grounds of wife and children from attending Fiji Club functions).

The Club demands an explanation, Mangel, or a resignation.

Yours,

Fiji Club Member.

NZ and ASEAN

Dear Editor,

The anti-cutback campaign met with initial success. Congratulations to NOSAC and all who supported this campaign.

Finally the OSAC has listened to reason and recommends a reinstatement of Overseas Students Quota to fill up the available vacancies in NZ. Universities. Now it's up to the government to act!

Recently, NZ PM Mr Muldoon pledged \$60 million to foreign aid to ASEAN countries to be aided in a period of five years. Here is a concrete chance for NZ government to rid its irony if their pledge is of any validity!

There is an urgent need for higher education for students from ASEAN countries as there are insufficient institutions in their home country. Since NZ PM has pledged aid developments for ASEAN countries this will be a chance for the government to show its sincerity and lift the Cutback.

It would be an irony for NZ government if it doesn't lift the cut-back with full understanding that NZ Universities can provide the places for those needy overseas students.

The story of wider geographical distribution is a fallacy as there aren't any students from the Middle East so far. By cutting back the over seas students and leaving the places unfilled would be most inhumane, wasteful as well as selfish.

The Hon. Mr Talboys, Mr Gill and PM Mr Muldoon please throw away your hypocrisy and regain your respect!!!

Yours sincerely,

Krisj Raat.

PS. NOSAC and all concerned should keep up the efforts to urge the government to reverse its cut-back decision!

Dear Sir,

A letter of mine was printed in Salient, August 29, in which I said the Pope "ordered" the Catholic clergy in Croatia to become murderers during World War II. It occurred to me later many Salient readers are only

familiar with the Pope's public image so they would find it difficult to believe without evidence that a modern Pope would do this.

In his speech in Gospic on 22 July 1941, Dr Budak spoke about killing some members of the Orthodox Church, deporting others and forcing the rest to become Catholics. Those who resisted conversion were murdered. Dr Simrak, the Bishop of Krizevci and former Apostolic Administrator, after attending a Bishops' Conference in Zagreb on 17 November 1941 which was organised by the Head of the Catholic hierarchy. Archbishop Stepinac, published a directive to all his clergy concerning forcible conversions, and the consequences, in the official "Bishopric News" of Krizevci (1942, No 2). In this it is stated "Our work is legal because it is in accord with official Vatican policy and with the directives of the Sainly congregations of the Cardinals for the Eastern Church".

One of the main reasons no publicity is given to the Catholic Church's activities during World War II, but publicity is given to the atrocities committed by the German fascists is that the Catholic Church has members and sympathisers scattered throughout the News Media while the National Socialist Party doesn't have this advantage.

Yours etc.,

C Herrington.

Dear Sir,

WEARY WANDERER; RUGGED INDIVIDUALIST FREE SPRIT

D. Beswick's abridged statements concerning Ustasha (Roman Catholic. Actionaries) against Serbs (Orthodox Christians) in Yugoslavia during WW 2, can certainly be substantiated, despite statements to the contrary by the Reverend Father O.O'Sullivan.

The Rev. Fr. says that most of the fighting took place in Croatia, but fails to mention which Croatia (Hrvatska), that before May 1941, or that afterwards?

The "Independent State of Croatia" expanded it's borders as the Nazis invaded, and behaved atrociously toward Orthodox Christians and Jews not only in Hrvatska proper, but also in the regions of Bosna, Hercegovina, Vojvodina, Slavonija, and Dalmacija.

It declared war on the Allies and was a religion fascist satellite of the Nazis. It supported Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy in their depopulation campaign and imperialism, with its own religious pogroms, forced conversions to Roman Catholicism, public tortures, and massacres.

It's Ustasha, and similar groups, were aided mightily by the Moslem population, and by Hungarian and Italian fascist forces in their common imperialisms.

The UNO, and wartime Allied governments have plenty of authenticated documentation on these matters; and not far from Wellington exists a library of publications on Jugoslavija in WW 2.

I list a few titles which the Reverend Father ought to read, but they are likely to be listed in an Index Prohibitorum:—

"The Martyrdom of the Serbs"—documents and reports of UNO and eyewitnesses. New York 1943.

"Yugoslavia in the Second World War"—government pub. Beograd 1967.

"Tito" by G. Bilainkin, Williams & Norgate, London 1949.

"Eastern Approaches"—Fitzroy MacLean, Jonathan Cape, London 1949.

"The Position of the Church in Yugoslavia"—government pub. Beograd 1961.

"Ravens Wolves"—by M. Farrell, pub. Glebe, NSW, 1949.

"This is Artokovic" by Gaffney, Starchevic, McHugh, Box 2313, Grand Central Stn., New York.

feror over Yugoslavia" by Avro [unclear: M uh] 'tan, pub. Watts & Co., London 1953.

"Ustasha under the Southern Cross" by M. Jurjevic, pub. Jurjevic, Melbourne, 1973.

There are many others available, whereas so very little information about the appalling situation in Yugoslavia in WW 2 has ever been published by the propoganda system of our "free world".

Perhaps this is because the churches are very much on the side of capitalism and its imperialism, which also might explain why Ustasha war criminals named at the Nuremberg trials are living unmolested in the "home and fount of freedom", the USA.

—Gorevac.

Dear Sir,

The Catholic Church's collaboration with the Nazis and Italian Fascists during the Second World War was bad enough but its role in Yugoslavia (D. Beswick, 5 Sept.) shows it should be regarded in the same light as the Nazi Party. Should the University have a Catholic Chaplain and a Cathsoc? Fascism should be opposed whether it is in the form of a religion or a political philosophy.

Yours,

John Pearce,

The Catholic Church in Uruguay

Dear Sir,

In regard to your article "Uruguay—the forgotten dictatorship" (Salient August 29) it appears that your reference material contains a typical Catholic half-truth in that the Catholic strength in Uruguay is concealed. Your article says that "The Church (mainly Protestant) is only just alive while many clergymen are rotting in Jails ". Any inference that Uruguay is a Protestant country is entirely incorrect. According to the 1974 Catholic Almanac, there are 2,600,898 Catholics in a total population of 2,955,296 (i.e. 88% Catholic). The country has 35 Seminaries, 342 Catholic schools, 212 parishes and 633 priests. The constitution of 1830 made Catholicism the religion of the state and subsidised some of its activities. With the separation of Church and State it should be noted that the Catholic definition of "Church" includes all of education, most of social policy and some of political policy, and is thus entirely different to the Protestant concept of separation of Church and State).

An indication of the Catholic strength in Uruguay is given later in your article where you have described and explicitly mentioned the Fascist Corporate State. The Corporate State is described in the Papal Encyclopedia Quadragesimo Anno of 1931, and for many years it formed the basis of the Roman Catholic solution of social problems. Probably the two best examples of the Corporate State in recent times were the Clerico-Fascist dictatorships of Spain and Portugal in which persecution of non-Catholics was part of government policy. It also happened in South Vietnam under the Diem regime.

To sum up, Uruguay, like many other Latin American countries, is fundamentally a Roman Catholic country and it is only when the Roman Catholic strength is known that one can appreciate the full implications of Protestant clergy rotting in jails as described in your article.

Yours truly

Donald J. Beswick.

(Uruguay has the highest proportion of Protestant churches in South America i.e. quite a few. Of course it is predominantly Catholic but, as we clearly pointed out in our article, the passage of fascism was due to economic rather than religious reasons. We failed, perhaps, to add that many Catholic priests are also incarcerated and the Uruguayan fascists under Bordaberry are in the process of abolishing both Catholic and Protestant churches in their bid to subordinate the Uruguayan people utterly—Ed).

Bias on Abortion March

Sir,

After watching the 10 o'clock news on TV2 on the 31st of August we were annoyed at the

misrepresentations with which the pro-life rally was reported. Firstly, the term 'anti-abortionist' was a negative phrase while 'pro-life' would have been a more accurate term to use to describe the rally in light of the pre-rally advertising.

Secondly, the size of the pro-life group in relation to the pro-abortion group was in the ratio of 100: 1. It seems surprising that this group got so much coverage when they did not have a legal permit to march and headed off the front of the pro-life rally. This point was not made in the news.

Furthermore, the television news commented that the pro-abortion group were far more vocal than the pro-lifers. They omitted to point out that the pro-life march was a silent one of protest.

Neither was there any mention of the representative crowds of pro-lifers who arrived from Auckland, Whangarei, Napier, to mention but a few places.

Yours faithfully,

Joanne Cunningham
Helen Cull.

Cafe Mess

Dear David,

MEDIA SUPERSTAR, MONUMENTS EGOTIST AND SELF-CENTERED S.O.B. HI GURLS!!

Throughout the cafe this week I have seen notices suggesting that students clean up their own mess. As a dedicated tidy minded student who faithfully places her cup, paper bag etc. in the rubbish tin. I would like to suggest that "they" provide materials for wiping up split coffee and generally making tables more hygienic and habitable.

Being often faced with slopping coffee from over-full cups, with handles that tend to bend at the most awkward moments I find it most disconcerting to have to ask for something to clean it up with. Could "they" please provide an area where us tidy minded students having weak wrists, would get Wettexes etc. to clean up our own mess

Yours hygienically,

An Unhappy Coffe-Slopper.

(More absorbent Salients might solve this problem!)

Denominational Health

Dear Sir,

The involvement of the Catholic Church in the abortion issue raises the question of its influence in society as a whole. The extent of religious control of health services is particularly disturbing in view of an incident which took place in the US in 1950 but which is still relevant.

Dr John M. Stephens, of Brownsville, Texas, determined that a patient of his who had survived three close calif in childbirth could not survive another pregnancy after her fourth child. At the request of the patient, Mrs Theresa Gonzalez, and her husband, he tied her Fallopian tubes when her fourth child was born in the delivery room of the "Mercy" Roman Catholic Hospital of Brownsville. A nun, Mary Adele of the "Sisters of Mercy", who was in charge of the hospital's obstetrics department, physically interrupted Dr Stephens and compelled him to untie the tubes.

"Time" magazine (4.12.50) commented "Most of Brownsville townspeople backed Dr Stephens. So did fellow doctors, though none could raise his voice for fear that he, too, would find the doors of Mercy Hospital shut in his patients' faces. For violating its code of ethics (which it shares with other Roman Catholic hospitals in the US) Mercy Hospital denied Dr Stephens the use of its facilities for his patients ". "Mercy" Hospital was Brownsville's only hospital As a religious organisation the Catholic Church enjoys tax and rating privileges so its hospitals, indirectly, are subsidised by the taxpayer and the local community.

This incident illustrates one of the dangers of sectarian health services. Medicine should be free of the influence of religious extremists but in NZ it isn't.

Yours etc.,

G Herrington.

Up the Whites

Dear Sir,

I have succumbed to the persuasive editorials and other articles in the Salient newspaper and, as a final year commerce student, have cut my studies short this year to support the second-to-last bastion of White dignity and civilisation in Africa.

REGULAR GUY AND GOOD NEIGHBOUR GOT A SWELL GARDEN IN THIS YEAR!

I must congratulate the students union on shining the light for us to follow God's call for assistance for our White Rhodesian brothers.

We represent the feelings and aspirations of the vast majority of loyal Christian New Zealanders. We follow numerous other decent New Zealanders who have already made the pilgrimage.

We of the proven master race will never give in to inferior masses, and will fight on until the last Black, Marxist so-called 'soldier' lies dead at our feet. Only then will our duty in Africa be fulfilled. This will ensure us our rightful place in Heaven alongside all Rhodesians who gave their lives for our freedom.

Viva Rhodesia!

Yours sincerely,

Trevor.

Dictatorships in Africa

Dear Sir,

Freedom, Liberation, Nationalism. What inspiring concepts. The problem is that some "concerned" (egotistical) students actually believe they are such practical realistic concepts.

Lets face it; when Rhodesia and South Africa are "liberated" with the help of Russian aid (and influence ") and are granted their "freedom" from oppressors (always White capitalists) it is claimed a victory for the majority "nationalists" (some Leaders aren't the heroes they are said to be). "Everybody" wants to see the token white "tyrant" replaced by the token "black hero" but this does not necessarily mean that the guns of unrest, military coups and torture will be silenced.

Judging from the numbers of military coups and reported genocide in Africa in the last 15 years I would think that the "freedom fighters" would at least have the decency to change their name to something more appropriate e.g. "Upcoming Military dictatorship".

I noticed that the United Nations Conference on racism recently opened by the Nigerian (military) head of state seemed to be preoccupied with the ousting of White control in the South of the African continent. It seems a pity that the word "Biafra" seems to have become extinct along with the free press in that country.

But as I continually remind myself, at least. It's better than playing Sport with South Africa.

"Fijian Indians Liberation Movement ".

Machiavelli strikes again

Dear Sir,

I am disgusted at the obviously low level of intelligence shown in students in their letters to Salient. I am shocked that people in an institution of learning such as this can hold such pathetic, half-baked pseudo-Marxist

ideals.

This leftist drivel is poorly thought out and based on [unclear: retttmlw] assumptions made by people totally ignorant as to the state of the case.

OUT-OF IT DULL-WITTED FOOL

My disgust is aimed particularly at a certain section of this community who concern them selves with the state of affairs in South Africa and its partner of "crime" Rhodesia.

We all hear how the coloured people of Southern Africa are refused their basic human rights but this statement relies on a falsehood. It assumes that the coloured people of Southern Africa deserves rights of any kind.

I would argue that any group. Black, White or indiferent, which cannot take rights for itself deserves nothing.

Any weak group must be put down by the stronger. To deserve rights a race must be strong enough to take them. The strong cannot be expected to carry the weak and thereby weaken themselves. As in the wild, the weak must perish.

In the world today there are too weak groups; Liberals and Blacks and both must be destroyed before they drag the world down the their level.

Kruger (Iron & Blood).

O'Dea recieves more flak

Dear Sir,

I congratulate Brian Robinson's on his recent criticism of Pat. O'Dea's (or O'Shafez') review of the Chieftain's concert. To add further insult to injury, I feel compelled to add a couple of points to put your reporter on the right tracks.

Firstly, as Mr Robinson noted, "bodhran" was incorrectly pronounced in O'Dea's article—its correct phonetic proununciation is "bode-run". Secondly, the song-title "Mna na h'Eireann" cannot be compressed to "Mna h' Eireann" no matter what part of Ireland you come from.

Which leads me to suggest that the blundering Mr O'Dea return to the land of his ancestors, catch up on the Gael teach and, in so doing, get his Erse into gear.

Yours faithfully,

(Mr) N. Flanigan.

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