Salient

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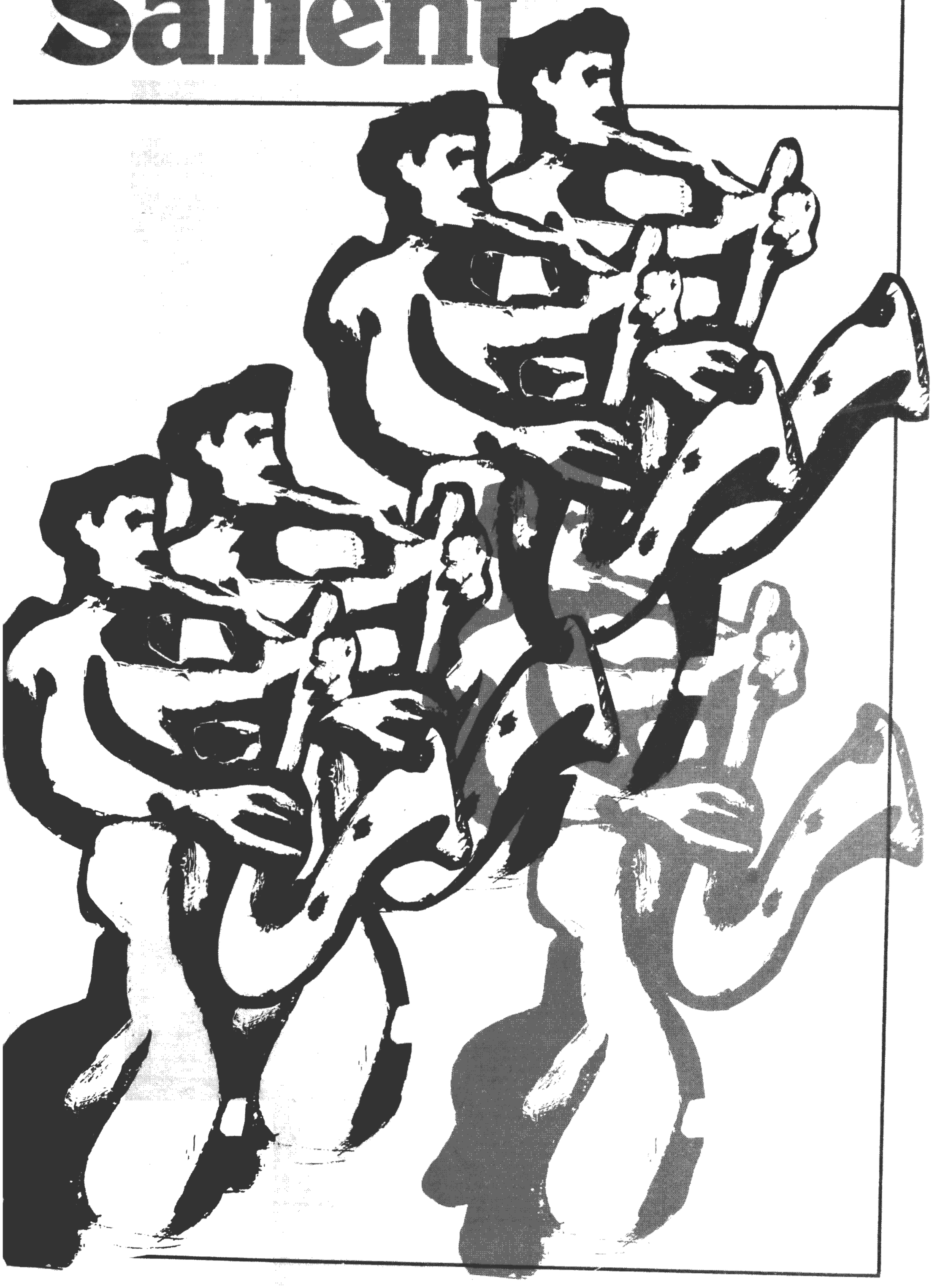


EDITORIAL

"Now then boys and girls, I want you to write me a little story about what you did in the holidays". If this happened at University (and there are rumours that the Socialogy Department is considering bringing it in) some 500 University students would reply that they spent at least part of the holidays on the unemployment benefit (means tested of course) because they had been unable to find work. Ten times that number would say that they had been employed under the special Government Student Community Service Programme (SCSP) designed to create jobs for students. Between them, thes. two groups of students represent 15% of all full-time tertiary students in the country.

These figures show beyond any shadow of doubt that the private sector is unable to pro-, vide sufficient jobs for students during the summer vacation. The days when all students could arrange jobs in factories, offices, government departments and the like have long gone. The present depression is so severe that employers are not even finding it necessary to employ temporary staff to boost productions during the Christmas rush (several years ago for example the car plants used to employ hundreds of university students simply to meet this peak demand.

The current depression is causing hardship, and falling living standards to many groups in the country. Students are very much mistaken if they think that will not come in for their share of "belt tightening".

For most students their holiday earnings have been essential to sustain through university, As the bursary continues to decline in value, holiday jobs will became more and mor more important. At the end of 1978 the bursary was worth only $16.40 in real terms, the lowest it has been since its introduction and this notwithstanding the $2 increase in 1978.

But as the bursary declines in value (and remember only 50% of full-time students receive the STB) so too do the number of jobs, and the remuneration for these jobs is falling.

The consequences of the decline in students finances is revealed in many places. Only three or four years ago the experts were predicting that Victoria would have over 10,000 students by 1980s. Now the University is planning for a roll of little over 6,000. Why the drop? It is simply that fewer and fewer people can afford to go to university. Once more university education is becoming the province of the rich. How many of you will be able to return to university in 1980 if you don't get a job in the next Christmas holidays?

There is a lot of talk around about "belt tightening" in these troubled economic times. As students are doubtless going to be asked to pull in a notch or three its worth looking to see exactly who else is breathing in. One of New Zealand's primary economic problems is the balance of trade deficit. To restore this to a proper balance either imports must decrease or exports must increase. Because of the structure of the New Zealand economy, much of our overseas spending is on items that are essential, the real answer is to increase exports.

This means allowing the capitalists to prosuce their goods for the minimum cost with minimum interferance and sindustrial disruption. W While this approach may solve the overseas debt, it will also line the pockets of the capitalists. We are asked to tighten our belts, but the bosses are encouraged to grow fat.

The other economic ill is the internal deficit (ie Government over spending). In the years up to the next election we can expect Muldoon to slash increase in the Bursary, and more seriously these special student employment schemes will come under attack.

Nor should you believe that increasing the profits of the capitalists will increase the number of jobs and reduce umeployment. One of the tools that will be used, and indeed is being used at present, to keep the work force in a state of subjugation is the threat of unemployment;

Students seem to be in a "on the one hand you lose, but on the other hand you lose" situatid The jobs that students depend on to survive financially are disappearing and government will be curtailing its own financial assistance to students.

What we msut do is to fight Government to keep what little is left of the illusion of free terciary education for all. The Bursary must be restored to a reasonable level, and if the jobs necessary for students to survive are not available in the private sector, Government must provide them. Even if you have no concern for the plight of your fellow students, or those who would otherwise be your fellow students, you might look out for yourself. Just ask yourself what would happen to you if you couldn't get a job next Christmas.

Peter Beach

PRESIDENT

Well, I hope people did not find enrollment to be too much of a traumatic experience and welcome to another awe inspiring year (or to your first year whichever is the case). I hope all you returning grizzlers were absolutly thrilled with the general election result; 'Muldoon' pie and ordinary (political) baked beans for another 3 years.

I arrived in Wellington on January 10th to find things already moving; hopefully in the right direction. In the first executive meeting of the year, we accepted the resignation of the Man Vice President, Kevin Wand with "absolutely no feeling either way". So we are short of an executive member —TURN UP TO THE FIRST SRC ON WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY IF YOU WANT TO BE THE NEW MVP - everybody is welcome to stand for the position.

Over the vacation, VUWSA has employed some worriers under the Student Community Service Programme, organising orientation, doing display boards on VUWSA policy (horror! - don't look!?) and working on student employment, as well as preparing a survey on the dental health of students.

On the broader employment scene the situation in Wellington has been far from rosy; in spite of the fact that SCSP provided many jobs for needy students. At one stage, 311 students were registered or unemployed in the Wellington - Lower Hutt area. The situation had only marginally improved when figures as at 12 January revealed 255 still unemployed. Many students only obtained adequate work at a relativly late stage in the holidays thus presumably, many of them will be short of money to help them through the year. This is clearly demonstrated by the figures of 12th February which showed only 59 students unemployed in the Lower Hutt and Wellington region.

The Student Unemployment over the holidays shows that the continuation of the Student Community Service Scheme on a permanent basis is essential. Certainly while the present difficult economic conditions exist and the private sector is unable to employ a sufficient number of students. In the midst of this, Mr Tony Stuart President of Canterbury issued a statement saying student unemployment was a myth! Not surprisingly, I subsequently regutted his statements in the media, as I was concerned that the prejudicial publicity would damage the chances of Wellington (ie Vic' Students) getting jobs.

On the 13 / 14th of February there was a National Executive meeting of NZUSA with which I was far from satisfied. I believe we (ie myself and other constituent Presidents and national officers) should have discussed first, the vital issue directly concerning student welfare, YOUR welfare. Instead, at the behest of NZUSA'organiser' we heard one report after another which were all very interesting bit not crucial importance to students at Vic. They included the report on the Australian lecturer training and financial assistance for students Asian Students Conference.

These are only isolated examples; as it was, we only spent one morning talking about Student Unemployment and bursaries as they were placed well down the long agenda. NZUSA's 50th jubilee was discussed long before Student Unemployment the same morning! We did however meet the University Grants Committee that afternoon where we all pushed for retention of adequate student welfare services and a better financial commitment to lecture training and financial assistance for studen undertaking costly courses.

National Executive discussed the report of NZ President Chris Gosling as one of the board memb of STB. In case you did'nt know, student Travel in dire financial straits. Canterbury has refused t sign a guarantee for a $125,000 overdraft facility to be used by Student Travel. All university stude associations are needed to sign this guarantee (Victoria has last year) in order for the overdraft to be cured. Naturally the BNZ are not very happy out this. Still, STB's debts and liabilities are her complicated due to past 'mishaps' ($$$!!) but more 'ingo' will be forthcoming. National Executive also considered a proposal to restructure NZUSAs debts, so hopefully enabling NZUSA to keep student union house 32 Blair street.

Well that's about all I've got to say for now, so ta ta and I hope you have a good year.

ANDREW TEES

SALIENT NOTES

Who is this tangled sweaty Spanish man creaking sideways into the Salient office? Who is this eccentric 16th century maniac drawing a broadsword and threatening Lisa Sacksen with Islamic justice? Who is this silly person with an eye patch striking Jonathan Scott an unprovoked blow to the lower lip and teeth?

"AVAST YA SWABS MIZZEN THE MAINSAIL MAIN SAIL AND SPLICE THE JIB THIS IS YER NEW CAPTAIN SPEAKING ,BEACH BE NY NAME HARD—A—STARBOARD AND HOLD 'ER THERE YER POOR EXCUSE FOR A POWDER PUFF..... BY CRIKEY THROW THAT MAN TO THE SHARKS!!!!!!"

"Anything I can do?" inquires a baffled Lorraine Wilson.

"DO???!!!%$**%%!!!! BY FUCK AND BY NEPTUNE YER CAN HOIST THE FLAG AND LOWER THE TOPSAIL THAT'S WHAT YA CAN CAN DO, SHIP THE ANCHOR, FIRE THE BOOM AND PREPARE TO SHOVE OFF!!!!!"

"Charmed I'm sure" says Kathleen Gallagher, "Why don't you take take that stupid parrot off your shoulder and stop acting the fool?"

Captain Beach starts, there is a flash of steel and two Kathleens.

"HARD A PORT YA SOGGY WRETCH. HARD—A—PORT!!!"

"The new editor has a way with people" observes Sean Power.

"What the hell does port mean?" inquires a moderately terrified Lamorna Rogers, fully determined to comply with the Captains wishes in every small detail.

"Its a fortified wine, usually consumed after dinner" Virginia Adams informs her. "Ah" says Kris Molloy, "What's a boom then?"

"A Harvey Wallbanger with an extra nip of spirits?" guesses Stephen A'Court. "Exactly my boy" says Virginia." Butwhat does it mean to splice something?"

"That's what the Captain just did to Kathleen?" asks Leonie Morris. "No, sorry" replies Virginia. "To splice is to add a piece of lemon."

"Oh" says Peter Bradstock. "Well quick, tell me what a jib's got in it, and I'll splice one for WATCH THE TELE, I'M PULLING THE OARS HERE NOW."

"Yes, that might stop him coughing and spiting on the light table for a while." says Kathyrine Fleming.

A long shadow falls across the floor. Wjo is this gaunt sooty young lad standing in the doorway? Who is this thin newly engaged twit bristling with menace in the foc'sle pulling his fly buttons off and flicking them at Richard Riddiford?

"AHOY BEACH YER BARNACLE COVERED OLD BAG ABANDON SHIP BEFORE I MAKE YER BALLS SING TO ME CUTLASS YER BLEEDNING BUSHWACKER!!!!"

"WILSON!!!! TOAST ME TITS AND SELL 'EM FOR TAKEAWAYS ITS YOU YA TIRED OLD BITCH. YER ERA'S SHOT ME POOR OLD GRANDAD, I'D PISS OFF HOME AND WATCH THE TELE, T'M PULLING THE OARS HERE NOW."

"Take that silly owl off yer shoulder Simon" sighs Chris Heffor.

"MAKE ME TECHNICAL EDITOR MATE," pleads the figure, "I'VE GOT A FLIPPING FAMILY TO FEED, NZUSA'S GIVEN ME THE BOOT, I'M BLEEDING RAGGED, TAKE ME UNDER YER FILTY WING ME OLD RAPIST, I'M FLIPPING DESPERATE."

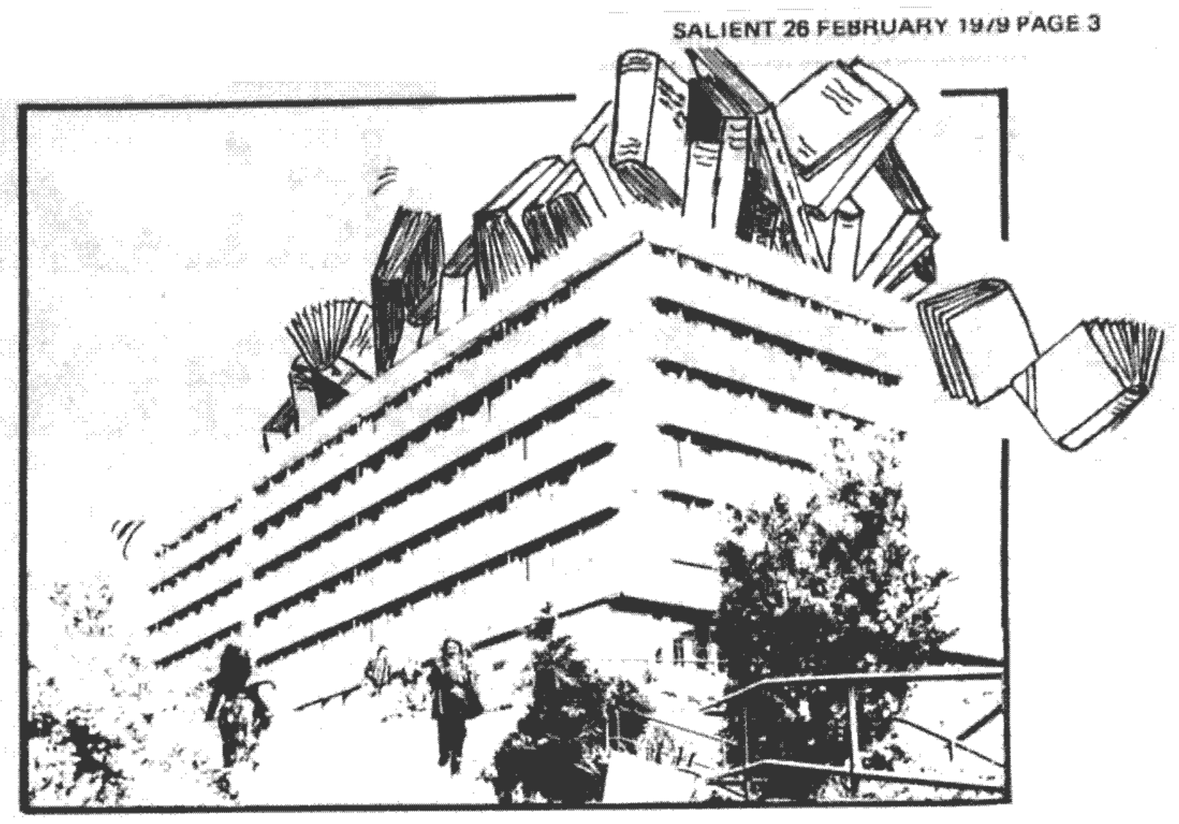
A steamy tear fell from his eye.

"Christ," mumbled the Captain, blowing his nose on James Morgan's layout page, visibly moved. "Make the old prick a double mainsail someone, and call 'im MR FIRST MATE from now on.

And that's how it happened. History never changes it just winces. Holy snakes and slaveships, it's sickening.

This particular voyage into the Sargasso Sea of journalism was launched by the new Captain, Peter Ramos Cotez 'sea legs' Beach, made seaworthy by Wanganui Shipyards Ltd, Drews Harbour, Wanganui 150 nautical miles from Wellington - or 200 as the parrot flies - and rigged and outfitted with several brace of new cannon by the Victoria Onnassis University of Wellington Shipping Company, Pirate Fl eet division, Union Building. Now fuck off before I cut yer in two yer lubbers.

Crisis in the library



Now, as well as a shortage of chairs, a shortage of shelving in the library has left thousands of books in piles on the floor.

This latest problem arose late last year when the Accommodation Advisory Committee recommended to the Vice Chancellor (Danny Taylor) that the Law Faculty should be given semi-permanent accommodation in Rankine Brown in the space wanted by the library, and the plan has always been

A STUDENT STUDYING QUIETLY BY HIMSELF IN THE LIBRARY (1948)

that the library will expand into the whole of it. As the library grew, other departments who used the building were to shift out into other premises.

The Accommodation Advisory Committee did not intend its recommendation to necessarily go against this plan (in the long term) but it did make it quite clear that long term plans are of little relevance in the year by year juggling of accommodation that goes on at this university. As one member of the Committee has said, it would be foolish of anyone to presume that any building on campus is the preservef anyone by right .

Foolish or not, the Committee's view of things was questioned by many. The matter was discussed at Professorial Board, but as the report had been made to the Vice Chancellor, not to it, the view was taken that Prof. Board should not express a concrete opinion. The decision on whether to go ahead with the proposal was left to Taylor, who would confer with all interested parties. Taylor proceeded to do just that, and took several weeks to make up his mind.

The Students Association (along with the library and various individuals) took the view that as the library was moving towards a crisis situation in its own accommodation and needed to expand, it should do so on a rational basis, ie, not resort to temporary solutions. VUWSA argued that the library as a university facility used by all and vital to the academic life of the campus, should take planning priority over individual departments.

Victoria's library urgently needs another 460 seats to provide proper sit-down study facilities. The University Grants Committee is on record as stating that a ratio of one seat for every four readers is the acceptable standard. Our ratio has fallen to 1: 5.43, the worst of the universities in the country.

The Law lobby claimed that Law had suffered serious inconveniences for some time due to its eviction from Hunter. More than any other department, it was argued, Law needed to be close to its books; and as the Law Library was now located in Rankine Brown so too should the Faculty

One complicating factor was that the Committee had made its recommendation contingent on the provision of compact storage shelves in joining rows that slide out at the press of a button to allow one to find a book. Compact storage has several disadvantages. Only staff would have access, which means that browsing would be impossible (studies have shown that most people browse to find their books rather than going straight from the catalogue to the one they want). It is extremely expensive. It has been known to kill people.

The Vice Chancellor more or less came to the conclusion that compact storage was not the answer, but he also supported the Law Faculty. This left the library short of shelves and space to put them. Taylor cast around among the other tenants of the building to see if one or more of them would shift. The staff club (whose revelries one can hear through the wall at the south end of Floor Three) was one possibility. The four other academic departments located on the top floors were also investigated. Finally, the honours went to Psychology, which has been squeezed into Easterfield. It didn't solve the library problem by any means, but it was something.

New shelves were ordered. Floor Five was closed off to students during part of the vacation to prepare for the forthcoming reorganisation. But the shelves didn't arrive. So the books sitting on the floor at the top of the library were taken to the bottom, Floors one and zero. Periodicals, which previously occupied the shelves in these areas, are to be shifted onto the floor to make way for the books. Students will still be able to find the periodicals; it just won't be easy.

Librarian J.P. Sage has apologised for the inconvenience, but stresses that it is due to circumstances entirely beyond the library's control. Salient agrees. The extra shelving is not expected to be in place until Monday, March 5 (the second week of the term); then the books will still have to be filed. That explains the immediate problem. Planning for the library has been given too low a priority by the university administration, which explains the general predicament.

The administration argues that the problems of the library must be seen in the context of the universities overall of Hunter caused severe problems for a number of departments. Von Zedlitz is now finished, but Cotton (Phase One) is still not fully finished will not be built for some time. The Bernard Murphy building, a compliment to Von Zedlitz , has only recently been given the go-ahead. And whether the University Council decides to leave Hunter up in a strenthened form with interior redesigned, or pull it down, nothing is expected to be finished on site for another ten years. Meanwhile a large number of departments are making do with temporary and often cramped accommodation.

The University Grants Committee, visiting Victoria last year, agreed that we are now the worst affected of all the Universities by accommodation problems and rectification of the situation must become a priority of the university financing in the ensuing five years. Last year the government alloted Victoria a substantial additional grant for non-salary expenses, most of which was spent on the library.

It would obviously be wrong to suggest that the library is the only part of the university trying to cope with the economic crisis besetting the country, or that the library's problems are going unnoticed by the powers that be in the university and Government. Yet statements by the new Minister of Education make it clear that universities are not going to be getting the money they claim they need.

However, the fact that things are getting tougher doesn't mean the library should continue to be undercatered for. This is as true for accomodation as it is for the financial pinches that have affected purchases, hours of opening and staffing in recent years. The university authorities recognise that a problem exists all right. They just aren't doing enough about it. As the major academic facility on campus, the situation the library is now in is nothing short of scandalous.

The accompanying chart gives a good indication of this. It compares the level spending on books and periodicals at the various universities with the level established by W. J. McEldowney in a report to the N.Z. Vice Chancellors' Committee. This report ("New Zealand Universities Library Resources", 1972) is in theory widely accepted as establishing the necessary standards for the development of university libraries.

As can be seen, Victoria had the second to lowest expenditure level in 1974 and by 1977 had dropped to a clear bottom, $50 behind the biggest spender and $14 behind the next worse offender. In a period when the recommended increase is spending to take account of inflation was $80, Victoria knocked up its commitment by only $7.

In hours of opening, Victoria also fares relatively badly. We get 76 hours per week for the first term and 80½ for the next two. Compare that to Aucklands 88½ and 96½ respectively, or Massey's 96½ from the first term until the end of September and 101 hours per week right through the exam period.

The McEldowney report stresses that it is folly to try to create libraries "on the cheap", and better not to introduce new courses if the necessary library services cannot be made available for them. In other words, the library must be placed securely in the context of the academic development of the whole university. This has not been done.

Last year the library was almost full with people studying right from the first day and became severely overcrowded during pressure times. How long is this to go on?

Simon Wilson

EXPENDITURE ON ACQUISITION OF BOOKS AND PERIODICALS PER EFFECTIVE FULL-TIME STUDENT* COMPARED TO REVISED MCELDOWNEY INDEX 1974 - 1977

Year	Revised McEldowney Index 1972 = $68	Actual Expenditure on Books & Periodicals per Effective Full-time Student						
		Auckland	Waikato	Massey	Victoria	Canterbury	Lincoln	Otago
1974+	$58	$57	$68	$51	$48	$57	$45	$61
1975	$75	$74	$51	$75	$60	$87	$56	$84
1976	$104	$65	$67	$78	$58	$95	$58	$71
1977	$138	$77	$105	$78	$55	$84	$69	$87
Increase	$80	$20	$37	$27	$7	$27	$24	$26

* Effective full-time students calculated as full-time students + ½ part-time students

\+ For 1974 only, all post-graduate students are treated as full-time

(Source: New Zealand University Library Statistics 1974 - 1977, NZ Vice-Chancellor's Committee)

NZUSA National Exec. '79 ~Teething problems

The administrative body of NZUSA is the NATIONAL EXECUTIVE. Below is an account of the first National Executive meeting for 1979.

For purposes of simplicity, NZUSA can be regarded as having four separate levels; as far as membership goes, it consists of every university student in the country; at the policy making level it has a council which meets twice yearly (in the May and August vacations) of elected delegates from the seven constituent associations (Auckland, Waikato, Massey, Victoria, Canterbury, Lincoln, Canterbury and Otago) who spend four days in earnest debate; at the representative level it has three full-time elected officers (Chris Gosling– President, Grant Liddell - Education and ;Welfare Vice-President and Jim Brown - General Vice - President), and two part-time elected officers (Lamorna Rogers - Co-ordinator of the Women's Rights Rights Action Committee (WRAC) and Choong Tet Sieu - Co-ordinator of the National Overseas Students' Action Committee (NOSAC) as well as several appointed staff; two research officers (Peter Franks and Ian Powell), a Secretary-Accountant (Dianne Short) and two typists.

On the whole National Executives have never been quite sure what their powers and responsibilities are and are not. They generally delve too far into matters which should more properly be left to the NZUSA Council.

While Council sets the policy for the Association, there are a variety of administrative decisions that must be made between the Councils, and rather than entrust these to the hands of the National Officers, NZUSA created a National Executive, meeting about once every six weeks, to make these non-policy decisions: staff appointments, various financial decisions, to supervise such items of expenditure as toll calls, travel of National Officers and all the other miscellinia that organisations like NZUSA seem to inevitably generate. The National Executive consists of the Presidents of the seven constituent associations and the three full-time National Officers. So for 1979 the NZUSA National Executive is:

Janet Roth - Auckland University Students' Association (AUSA)

Clemency Rogers - Waikato Students' Union (WSA)

Felicite Jardine - Massey University Student's Association (MUSA)

Andrew Tees - Victoria University of Wellington Students Association (VUWSA)

Tony Stuart - University of Canterbury Students' Association (UCSA)

Deryke Shaw - Lincoln College Students' Association (LCSA)

Paul Gourlie - Otago University Students' Association (OUSA)

plus the three National Officers.

On the whole National Executives have never been quite sure what their powers and responsibilities are and are not. They generally delve too far into matters which should be more properly left to the NZUSA Councils. Being comprised of the Presidents of the constituent associations, they tend to try to represent the interests of their individual campuses rather than operating as an administrative body for NZUSA. This attitude was clearly revealed at the first National Executive Meeting of 1979 held in Wellington on 13 and 14 February.

The reason the meeting ran over two days rather than the usual one, was that on the second day, the Executive was due to meet the University Grants Committee (which controls the money spent on Universities) to discuss NZUSA's submission on the financing of universities over the next five years - as this is the basis on which money is doled out to the universities. However as the press (as we in Salient like to style ourselves!) were excluded from the meeting and the submission itself is confidential, this report can only deal with the first part of the meeting. Nevertheless this was not without its moments.

A mountain of reports

The first ten or so items in the agenda were a variety of reports. They came from the three National Officers, from NZUSA's observer to the Council of the Australian Union of Students (AUS) attended in Januaury by President Chris Gosling, the delegates to the Conference of the Asian Students Association attended in December of 1978 by Grant Liddell and 1978 VUWSA President Lindy Cassidy (reports on both these conferences will be appearing in Salient over the next few weeks), reports from the constituents of activities on their campuses and even then there were a few more. In all over fifteen reports were presented, and of these only two or three generated any discussions, however it took about five hours to get through them all.

One of the more important points to arise out of the reports was the matter of the South African Scholar. Students may remember the furore late last year when government imposed a ban on the South African Scholar speaking on political topics while in New Zealand. As the group which has organised the scholarship NZUSA fought vigoursly against the restriction. It arose however out of Jim Brown's report that communications between here and South Africa were not as good as we had hoped, and the person selected for the scholarship did not have the equivalent of UE and thus was ineligible for the scholarship. Therefore the campaign to restore speaking rights to the scholar lost some of its frenzied nature and is now proceeding on a more sober, but no less determined, level.

It is hard to place any blame on anyone for this error, for NZUSA's contacts among the liberation groups in Africa suffers from a 9,000 mile seperation, so it is very difficult to sometimes get all the information necessary.

In New Zealand we have very little contact with events in Africa, particularly the liberation movements in Southern Africa and the scholar, if allowed to speak publicly about developments there, will do something to bridge that gap.

The Southern Africa Scholarship Trust Board has however selected the Scholar for 1980 and work is now starting to ensure that there are no problems for him. It is to be hoped that, not only will the scholar arrive, but by the time he does, the speaking ban will have been lifted. In New Zealand we have very little contact with events in Africa, particularly the liberation movements in Southern Africa and the scholar if allowed to speak publically about the developments there, will do something to bridge that gap.

Money

This insignificant, five letter word, sums up the major problem which faces NZUSA. It is also one of the areas in which it is most proper that National Executive work. While it is all very well for Council to set a budget, National Executive must ensure this budget is followed, and is given certain powers constitutionally to take remedial action when it is not followed.

It may not however alter budgetary allocations nor create special items of expenditure. In financial matters its role is more of the watch-dog variety. This is something members should realise, most notably Mr Gourlie, who wanted the budgettary allocation for travel expenses to National Executive meetings increased so that he could fly full fare from Otago rather than at the 50% Standby rate that the other presidents travel at.

While there are very good reasons why shouldn't pay full fare at least part of the way (because of the few flights out of Dunedin each day) it is not a decision that National Executive is empowered to make.

After some aimless discussion, Gosling made a belated ruling on the matter, and business proceeded. Like many of the matters discussed, debate wandered and meandered as various people, notably Tees and Stuart, insisted on making comments at every point of the discussions, on the whole to very little purpose. Some of the blame for this must undoubtably fall on Gosling's head. He seemed reluctant to make strong decision when they were called for, and even more reluctant to close discussion on any topic even when it was apparent that further debate was unnecessary. While it was his first Executive in the chair, his lack of leadership in the meeting prolonged many debates quite unnecessarily.

Reports from Foreign Parts

The reports from the delegates to ASA and AUS wil not be mentioned here, but it is worth mentioning that debate on each of the reports lasted well over an hour. It is not quite clear why this should be, many of the matters discussed are really the province of Council. One interesting aside occurred

All this motion suggested was that China be invited to submit an application for membership. After such an application were received would be the time to discuss whether NZUSA thought it a good idea that China be admitted.

out of the recommendation from the delegates to ASA, namely that "NZUSA officially opproach the All China Student Federation and other legitimate representative student organisation to apply to become members of ASA".

Stuart voted against this motion on the ground that he felt his members would not like it. In saying this he revealed two misunderstandings. Firstly, he does not sit on the National Executive as a representative of UCSA, but rather as a representative of Council. Secondly inviting someone to apply for membership is very differnt from giving them membership. All this motion suggested was that China be invited to submit an application for membership. After such an application were received would be the time to discuss whether NZUSA thought it a good idea that China be admitted. Stuart's attitude seemed to be that he thought we shouldn't even try to discover whether China ought to be admitted. A curious attitude indeed as he gave no reasons (other than the "folks back home") for it.

Stuart's concern for opinions of the "folks back home" illustrates the great

problem of National Executive. Because it has gradually assumed more and more power, it has found itself now in the position where the decisions it makes affect the whole position of NZUSA, consequently they feel answerable to their members. If National Executive were to keep more to its brief of the administration of NZUSA between Councils these problems would not be so acute.

The Student Travel Bureau

The Student Travel Bureau (STB) is a travel company wholly owned by NZUSA, and although it has its own Board of Directors, much time is spent in National Executive meetings discussing STB.

In this meeting, the discussions over STB covered three main topics. Firstly there was a question of $168 debt that NZUSA had to STB. While this is a minor enough debt, and resolved in the course of the meeting, one interesting point which did emerge was that STB was witholding a debt of around $2000 it owed NZUSA until the $168 debt it was paid. This is apparently not an isolated case and it shows an interesting attitude on the part of STB towards its owners.

The next item which came up for discussion was a debt that NZUSA owes AUSTS (the travel company of the Australian Union of Students). The proposal was that STB would assume liability for this debt, and would repay it from the $2 surcharge on the International Student identity Cards (ISICs). This surcharge was placed on the ISICs by the International Student Travel Committee (IS (ISTC) last last year in order for STB to repay a debt of some $60,000 owed to AUSTS. The reason for transferring the debt was simply that there was no way NZUSA could have repaid it while STB could easily do so out of the surcharge. When the debt is payed off completely the $2 surcharge will be removed and the price of the cards will revert to its original $3.

For some reason Tony Stuart was unhappy about this proposal. He thought that STB might call in the debt from NZUSA. Stephen Underwood (one-time Treasurer of VUWSA and on the Board fo STB) replied

The benefits of such a move are unclear to everyone but UCSA, who are wisely keeping the tremendous advantages that this proposal would bring to themselves.

that he thought this unlikely. In view of the fact that NZUSA could sack the Board if they tried such a manoevre tends to support Underwood's view. But Stuart was allowed to ramble on unchecked. In part his opposition to the proposal was due to the fact that it tied NZUSA to supporting the ISIC card, rather than trying to introduce the alternative travel card which UCSA has been lobbying for over the past few months.

The benefits of such a move are unclear to everyone but UCSA, who are wisely keeping the tremendous advantages that this proposal would bring to themselves. As Rod Carr from OUSA said in an earlier meeting when Canterbury brought up their proposal, "what they are trying to do is pull STB apart and put it together using an alternative travel card and somehow losing $100,000 worth of debts in the process". Not surprisingly Canterbury have not found a great deal of support for the proposal.

Some of the constituent presidents seemed to be getting a little annoyed with Stuart's ramblings. In part this is due to Canterbury's refusal to honour the guarantees of STB's debts as they promised at August Council 1978. These guarantees (totalling $125,000) which provide surety against STB overdraft, an overdraft which is necessary if STB is to trade its way out of its debts. Gourlie asked rather pointedly how UCSA could even discuss the matter of taking over the debt by STB

Our very own Andrew Tees.

when they refused to provide the guarantees needed by STB if it was going to indeed trade its way into a profitable position.

The third bit of financial business discussed was a hopelessly proctracted discussion over the sharing of costs of the office (which NZUSA and STB share). It took about half an hour before the meeting realised that STB had not refused to pay the sum NZUSA had claimed from it, but was merely disputing it. As only Dianne Short among the NZUSA contingent, seemed to have the slightest idea about what was going on, it was finally agreed to form another of NZUSA's famous sub-committees to look into it. It was certainly apparent from the confusion in the minds of those present that if the National Executive as a whole tried to resolve the question the meeting would still be going on now. So ended the first day.

Although it was intended that the second day be wholly given over to dialogue with the UGC, the amount of unfinished business (which included at that time a discussion of the submissions themselves) the National Executive continued its deliberations in the morning (as the meeting with the UGC was not until the afternoon).

Student Unemployment

The one memorable part of the second session was the discussion of student unemployment. Those who read the small articles in our local papers may have noticed a battle of press statements on the subject between Stuart, Grant Liddell and our very own Andrew Tees. It all started at the end of last year when Liddell put out a press statement quoting the number of students unemployed or on special work during the holidays.

This quite upset Mr Stuart who countered with his own press statement, claiming firstly that Liddell's figures were incorrect and secondly that his inference that the number of students employed under the Student Community Service Programme (SCSP) showed that the private sector was unable to provide jobs for students was likewise untrue. Tees then chimed in, supporting Liddell's views and eventually the Evening Post was running an extra section to accomodate all the statements these worthy gentlemen made

Unfortunately I was out of the room when this matter first came up, and apparently there was quite a display of fireworks when Liddell rather heatedly attacked Stuart's claims. When I did return they were discussing what they should do to ensure that SCSP continue next year.

Stuart seemed concerned that the National

The one memorable part of the second session was the discussion of students unemployment. Those who read the small articles in our local papers may have noticed a battle of press statements on the subject between Stuart, Grant Liddell and our very own Andrew Tees.

Office press statements were attacking the Labour Department (who administer the scheme). Liddell, Jim Brown and Peter Franks were amongst the large group that tried to explain to him that comments on the worsening economic climate are references to the Government's handling of the economy and not on the Labour Department's handling of the SCSP.

Whether Stuart understood this or not is hard to say, but he did appear to back down a little, finishing up this rather pointless debate by saying that he wanted assurances that NZUSA would not attack the Labour Department. When Liddell said "I assure you....." he sat back satisfied. A strange end to what

It is a little unfair to single Chris Golsing out for special mention, but his position in the chair made his lack of direction more apparent.

seemed a debtate based more on ignorance of one party than any real disagreement.

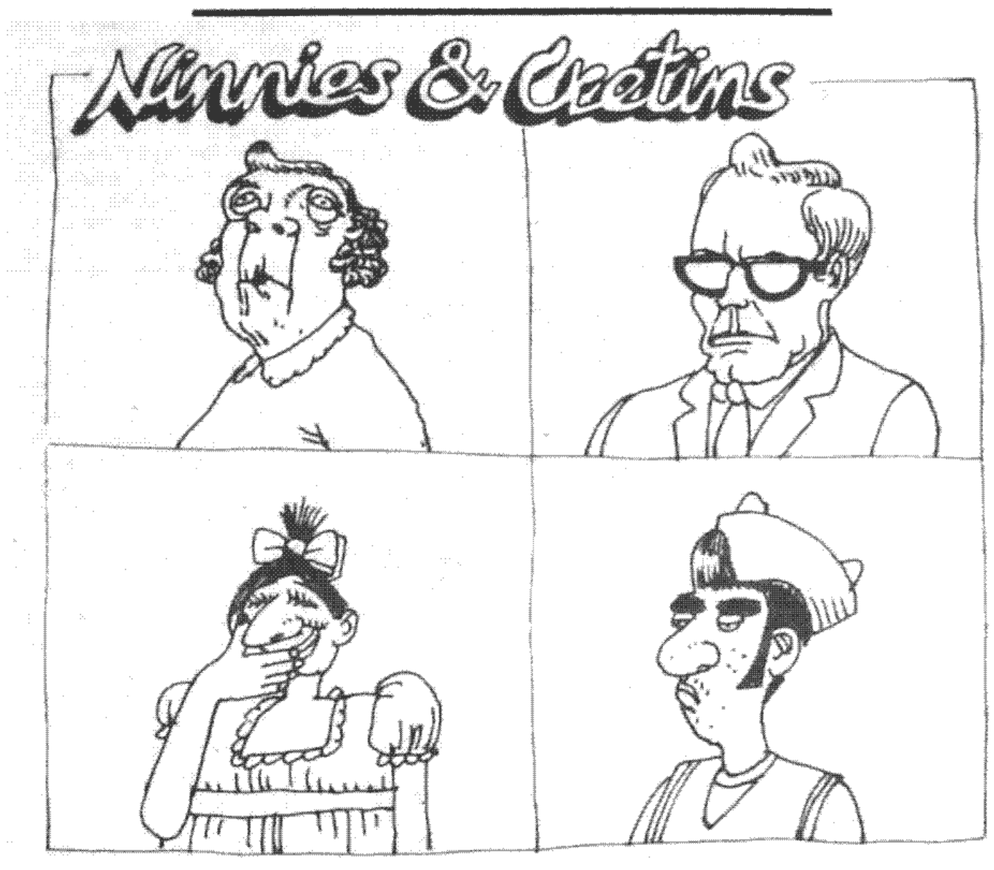
This was a hard National Executive to write up. Partly because so many things of little importance were discussed, but mainly because no-one seemd to have any real idea of what they were about.

It is a little unfair to single Chris Gosling out for special mention, but his position in the chair made his lack of direction more apparent. He appeared not to have planned the meeting with sufficient care.

While it sounds autocratic, the President should make an assessment in advance, or at least during a meeting such as this of what is important and what is not. If Chris had clarified more in his own mind what he thought NZUSA should have done, the whole executive would have had something to work on, and business would have been more efficiently and better decided.

These comments also apply in large measure to many of the constituent presidents. We can hope that in future all involved with National Executive will be better prepared. Certainly for the next meeting, where the whole question of STB will be discussed, some greater leadership will be necessary if the matter is to be resolved.

Peter Beach



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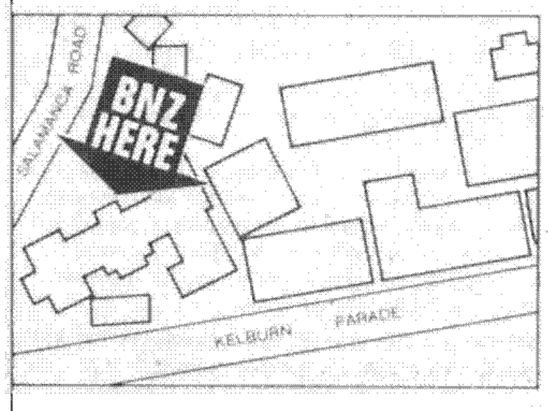

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SRC elections

Roughly once every fortnight during the year there will be a meeting of the Student Representative Council (SRC). These meetings are all held on a Wednesday between 12 and 2 in the Union Hall (top floor of the Union Building). As well as making the political decisions of the Association, the SRC also controls a complex system of representatives and officers who carry out its policy.

There are seven SRC officers, who are each responsible for working in one major policy area. Brief summaries of what the positions involve are given on these two pages.

There are a vast number of SRC reps who sit on various university committees. The list is:

Union Mangement Committee (5 reps at least one being a women).

Catering Sub-committee (4 reps)

Publications Board (6 reps)

Victoria Book Centre Board of Directors (1 rep)

Professorial Board (3 reps)

Environmental Studies Committee (2 reps)

Committee on Exams at Entrance Level (1 rep)

Pacific Studies Committee (1 rep)

Parking Committee (1 rep)

Teaching Aids Committee (1 rep)

Teaching and Learning Centre (1 rep)

Disciplinary Committee (2 reps)

Arts Faculty (4 reps, 2 for 1 year and 2 for 2 years)

Language and Literature Faculty (4 reps, 2 for 1 year and 2 for 2 years)

Science Faculty (5 reps, 1 being a woman and 1 a graduate)

Commerce Faculty (5 reps)

Library Committee (2 reps)

Timetable Committee (1 rep)

Library Usage Committee (7 reps, 1 from each faculty and 1 graduate)

Elections for these committee positions as well as for the seven officers will take place at the second SRC of the year on Wednesday 14 March 12 noon in the Union Hall.

If you have any queries about any of the positions, you should first contact the SRC Co-ordinator, who for 1979 is Jonathan Scott. He can be contacted through the Students' Association Office on the ground floor of the Union Building.

The positions

THE EDUCATION OFFICER

In the past the work of the Education Officer has mainly been in the fields of bursaries and assessment, particularly the former. However in recent years this has also widened to include areas such as teacher training, course work-loads, library facilities, and general university funding.

Bursaries

There are many levels of activity in which the Education Officer must involve him or herself. Primarily, the Education Officer must try and gauge student demands concerning bursary allowances, and then rally support on campus for these demands. This will involve the EO in organising meetings, debates, forums, discussions at SRC on various questions relating to student allowances. Traditionally, it has also meant that the EO has had to organise a bursaries demonstration in close co-operation with NZUSA and the local Polytech and Teacher's College Students' Associations;

The EO should also attempt to win academic support for student bursary demands. This can be done in close co-operation with the Student representatives on the various university committees ie. the Faculty and Professorial Boards and the University Council. This means supplying the representatives with detailed information on student finances. The Education Officer sits ex officio on the University Bursaries Committee which has traditionally supported student demands.

The EO should also attempt to win public support for the student demands. This means gaining media publicity in the radios, newspapers and TV outlining the very real case of student hardship. It might also mean the distribution of leaflets to other educational organisations, e.g. NZEI, PPTA, NZCEA. The EO must also initiate lobbying at governmental level. This means means not only inviting MP's to Varsity to explain their positions at student meetings, but also supplying them with detailed information on students' cases.

Assessment

In recent years assessment has tended to be a 'poor sister' in terms of activity, to the bursaries campaign. It is imperative this year that more emphasis be given to the examination of course content and work load, particularly through articles in Salient, forums, and through individual students raising questions in their classes. Information on various methods of assessment, and support should be given to students who are trying to change their work-load or form of assessment.

Again, work on assessment should be carried out in close collaboration with the various representatives on University committees.

The Library

With the increasing erosion of the Library services, the Students' Association and particularly the Education Officer have taken a greater concern in the affairs of the Library. The Education Officer sits, ex officio, on the Library Committee, and can thus exert offical pressure at this level. In 1977 students carried out a survey to ascertain students needs in the Library, and used their findings to convince the Library officials and the University that longer hours were required. Such a campiagn will have to be continued this year in the face of increasing erosion and cuts in spending.

Teacher Training

This is another area, often neglected, but which deserves increased attention in 1979. The EO sits ex officio on the Teaching and Research Committee which looks into this area. The teaching and research department is keen to co-operate with student activitists in promoting concern over the lack of teacher training and any assessment of lecturers effectiveness.

University Funds

With the economic crisis, and change of emphasis away from university to polytech, universities are increasingly finding themselves under funded. It is up to the EO in conjunction with other student officers, to expose areas where departments are suffering, or cuts are made to welfare expenditure, particularly where the student is expected to pay. Later this year the results of the Quinquennial submissions will be announced. It is highly likely that the EO will have to promote vareness in the campus amongst students as to to what this will mean for them.

Most of the EO's work is done in close co-ordination with NZUSA and, in particular, the Education and Welfare Vice-President and the two Research Officers. As education policy and action are decided at the May and August Councils of NZUSA it is expected that the EO will stand as a delegate to these Councils to act as the Association's representative.

In order to further the EO's campaigns the Association allows an expenditure of $100 for educational activity. This money is controlled by the Education Officer.

As can be seen from this summary of the role of the Education Officer, there is a great deal of hard and varied work involved. In order to carry out his or her work effectively s/he must be try and involve as many other students in the organisational work as possible. Particularly in organising Bursaries and Assessment campaigns it is essential that an action committee, chaired by the Education Officer, be established.

OVERSEAS STUDENT OFFICER

The Overseas Students Officer at Vic has a two fold responsibility. On the one hand s/he must develop the activities of overseas students, bringing them into closer contact and co-operation with each other and helping in the process of coping with New Zealand life. On the other s/he must encourage among New Zealand students a greater awareness of overseas students.

The Overseas Students Officer is elected by the SRC and unlike the practise at other campuses, is not the the Vic NOSAC rep. This person, as the representative of overseas students on their national body, is elected through a network of overseas students clubs, not by all students.

There are several important aspects to the OSO's work:

a) the VUWSA Exec should be kept informed of developments among overseas students. If good relations with Exec are maintained the chances of success in pressing certain issues with the university authorities and other such bodies are increased. Conversely, the Exec must not be allowed to forget that overseas students, with their special problems, exist. Overseas students are, after all, full members of VUWSA.

b) SRC should be kept informed for similar reasons. The problems of overseas students, as well as many of their activities, are or should be the concern of all.

c) Liason between overseas student clubs should be encouraged; as should liason between overseas student clubs and other clubs on campus.

d) In all fields (political, cultural, social, sporting and academic) this work is important and one field should not be allowed to preclude the others.

e) Overseas student organisations (especially NOSAC) are moving towards greater independence. This is an important field in which the OSO must work, but it must be remembered that this does not mean isolation from NZUSA or the local associations. For best results, campaigns and other such work should often be conducted jointly. This is particularly important with the present Government Review of Overseas Student Policy.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS OFFICER

The Women's Rights Officer is one of the seven Association Officers elected by SRC. At present the position is open to both women and men but it has been traditionally held by women, since it is unlikely that any male (no matter how, sympathetic) could be as effective in this position as a women. There are a number of reasons for this which will be dealt with later, all of them political.

Like most other SRC officers, the work of the Women's Right Officer is nearly all of a political nature. Almost her only administrative responsibility for VUWSA is to sit on the Creche Sub-Committee which meets twice yearly. She is also responsible for the VUWSA Women's Rights budget of $100 . This is provided for her use in any campaigns or activities on women's rights.

The Women's Rights Officer sits on the Women's Rights Action Committee (WRAC) of NZUSA. This is a national body set up to co-ordinate campus activity on women's rights which meets 5 times a year, providing publicity and ideas for campus action. It is the responsibility of the Wome Rights Officer to bring these campaigns back and to action them on campus. This can involve distribution of publicty leaflets and posters, the holding of forums, seminars, organising meetings and various other activities such as street theatre.

In accordance with SRC policy the Women's Rights Officer may be called upon to action specific Victoria policy on a campus rather than national level. An example of this was a campaign started around the Creche in 1978. This was organised on a purely campus level since the conditions in the Creche at Victoria were not present at any other university.

It should be emphasised here that the main responsibilty of the Women's Rights Officer is to act to action SRC policy. She is not free to campaign on her own beliefs but must subjugate these if necessary.

In all this work one of her major roles is to build campus women groups, through campaigns etc., and to involve and educate as many people as possible on women's rights. In the past abortion action groups have been kept seperate from 'women only' groups in order to allow men to participate in the former. If the Women's Rights Officer was a man, then it would be almost impossible for him to build a strong campus women's group since many interested women would be turned off by seeing a man leading campaigns on women's rights. It would be yet another example of our sexist society in which men occupy almost all leadership positions, however, seeing a women leading campaigns does help other women realise that they too could have the ability to participate in political action.

It is usual for the Women's Rights Officer to give regular reports to SRC on her activities. In this way SRC is kept up to date with action on women's rights and students are made aware that there are things happening which they could be involved in. She is expected to be available to students who want to hear about women's rights.

There is not a great deal of check kept on the SRC Officers – how much they actually do is up to the individual concerned. Not all things that I have mentioned are compulsory, they are merely my my ideas of some of the things which should be done by the Women's Rights Officer. But in the long run, the effectiveness and the work done in this position will only be determined by the enthusiasm and perseverance of the individual, within the context of the political state of the Association.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICER

This is a job with wide potential for anyone interested in the internal political situation in this country. It has become a particularly interesting position lately with the general acceleration of goverment misbehaviour in the field of Civil Liberties, and with increasing attacks on the rights of particular groups like Maoris, women, and Trade Union members.

These attacks come (and will keep coming) suddenly, and good National Affairs officer needs to be prepared to react to them quickly, publicise the situation to students, keep SRC informed, and mount a full-scale campaign if necessary or clearly desired by students. The most prominent examples of where this has occured in the past would include the SIS Bill controversy, Abortion, speaking bans on overseas visitors, dawn raids

HANDBOOK EDITORS TO HANG

In the scoop story of Sunday last, Simon Wright and others managed to uncover some "blatant political bias" in the 1979 Handbook and is calling on the first SRC of the year — **Wednesday 28 February, 12 nooh in** the Union Hall — to impose the ultimate penalty. Salient will be awarding 1 free Handbook to the first person to correctly identify the offending section — presentation made at the SRC — be in to win.

After the have slaked their bloodlust, the SRC will move on to start making policy decisions for VUWSA — and the violence will really start. If you want VUWSA to do something, or to stop doing other things, the SRC is the place to get it done.

by police (the overstayers'issue) and Bastion Point.

It is evident that much of the National Affairs portfolio overlaps with those of other officers. Thus the National Officer must be prepared to work closely with other SRC officers wher the issue dictates. Abortion, for instance, although obviously an important internal political issue comes most specifically under the interest of the Women's Rights Officer. Similarly, if the government refuses to come forth over Bursaries, that is primarily the concern the Education Officer, but the National Affairs Officers shouldbe interested too. This is equally likely to occur within the fields of Welfare, Environmental Affairs, and, to a lesser extent, Overseas Students.

Of course the concerns of the National Affairs Officer do not revolve entirely around spontaneous issues. One problem that has been with us on a major scale for some time, and that affects students particularly, is unemployment. It is NZUSA's top priority for National Affairs, and the situation is still getting worse. It would not be out of place for the 1979 National Affairs Officer to make this a major, or the major field of his or her concern.

As with all the SRC positions, the officers must be prepared and able to liase with a range of organisations, ranging from NZUSA to the University Welfare Services. But even more important is the ability to involve students in hi her activities, as mass action is one of the most important weapons the Association has.

THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICER

Trdaitionally, the position of International Affairs Officer has held an important place in the Students' Association. During the late 1960s and early 1970s the International Affairs Officer was responsible for co-ordinating and initiating large campus demonstrations against the Vietnam War and the proposed Springboks Tour. In more recent years the IAO has been responsible for organising activities commemorating the atrocities perpetrated on what has now become known as Sharpeville Day, and in protecting the rights of overseas students. These sorts of activities still have a high priority in the IAO's portfollio. However, with the increased student focus on the domestic situation because of the increasing infringement on our civil liberties the role of the International Affairs Officer has shifted slightly in emphasis to that of a more educative role.

The IAO must liase closely with the Overseas Student Officer in the protection of overseas students' rights. In 1976 the Government announced dramatic cuts to the number of overseas students coming to New Zealand. These cuts were made in collaboration with the Malayan Government to cut down on the number of students coming from that country. In 1977 and 1978 NZUSA and VUWSA carried out a campaign at both an official and campus level to reinstate the numbers of overseas students. So far this campaign has met with little success, but it must be comtinued again in 1979.

However, progress has been made on some questions concerning overseas students ie the two-year probation period for overseas students marrying New Zealanders has now been removed. In all issues concerning overseas students the IAO should be working in close co-operation with NZUSA and its standing committee on overseas students, the National Overseas Students Action Committee (NOSAC).

The IAO is also the liason between the Students' Association and outside groups concerned with internation affairs. The Association has worked closely in the past with HART, the National Anti-Apartheid Council, Friends of Thailand, the New Zealand East Timor Committee, and the NZ China Friendship Society. It is up to the IAO to ensure that if any campaign is being organised downtown in which the Students' Association has a policy he or she acts as the liason.

One of the main roles of the IAO , is, as previously mentioned to inform Association members of our policy. It is up to the IAO to write articles for Salient on International Events and to publish leaflets on topical issues. It is important that at SRC meetings motions that deal with International policy should be explained beforehand in leaflet or article form. The IAO should also try and initiate activity in the form of seminars and forums on topical international events and education type forums which further explain our policy.

Most of the IAO's work is done in close co-ordination with NZUSA and in particular with the General Vice-President who has the responsibility for international issues. As international policy and action are decided at the May and August Councils of NZUSA, it is expected that the IAO will stand as a delegate to these councils to act as the Association's representative.

In order to further the IAO's campaigns in edcuative work the Association allows an expenditure of $100 on international issues. This money is controlled by the IAO.

WELFARE OFFICER

The Welfare Officer is charged with actioning activities relating to students' welfare. Much of the work is done in conjunction with various University departments, particularly the Welfare Services which administer creche, counselling services as well as running accomodation and employment services. S/he also sits ex officio on the VUW Council's Committee on Welfare Services.

While this work is important there is more to the job than merely trotting along to committee meetings and holding discussions with Welfare staff. The Welfare Officer is expected to work in with other SRC officers where their interests overlap (e.g. with the EO in the field of bursaries).

There is also a lot of work that the Welfare Officer can set up off his/her own back. Aside from working to extend the range of Welfare services available on campus to include such things as optometry and dentistry, there are things like setting up a Poverty Fund for broke students whicl would be a valuable addition to the Assoication.

Although some of this work involves some amount of research, a liason with the NZUSA Research Officers will make this part of the job easier. Many of the welfare plans that VUWSA wants to see introduced are also things that NZUSA is working on, but the initiative and the drive must come from the Welfare Officer.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS OFFICER

From the early seventies, VUWSA has shown a continous concern for Environmental issues reflected by the creation of the position of Evironmental Affairs Officer in the mid seventies. VUWSA's environmental policy has been maintained almost unbroken since before the Save Manapouri Campaign.

The Environmental Affairs Officer must be an active person. Forums, film showings, and deputations to people in "Authority" are activities that as a student campus in the capital city, VUWSA must be actively engaged in.

In Wellington, there exist a whole host of organisations sharing similar concerns to those of VUWSA. All these bodies must be issued with, in an effort to gain co-operation and a sharing of work loads. Similarly VUWSA's Environmental Affairs Officer must be prepared to assist the General Vice President of NZUSA.

The EAO is also required to sit on various University Committees ex officio, speak at faculty meetings, and generaly ensure the well being of students taking Environmental Studies.

Perhaps as a bonus, the E.A.O. will be expected to become involved with VUW's strong Environment Group, a club that has shown it's displeasure on more than one occassion, when officers have not followed VUWSA policy.

Exec election

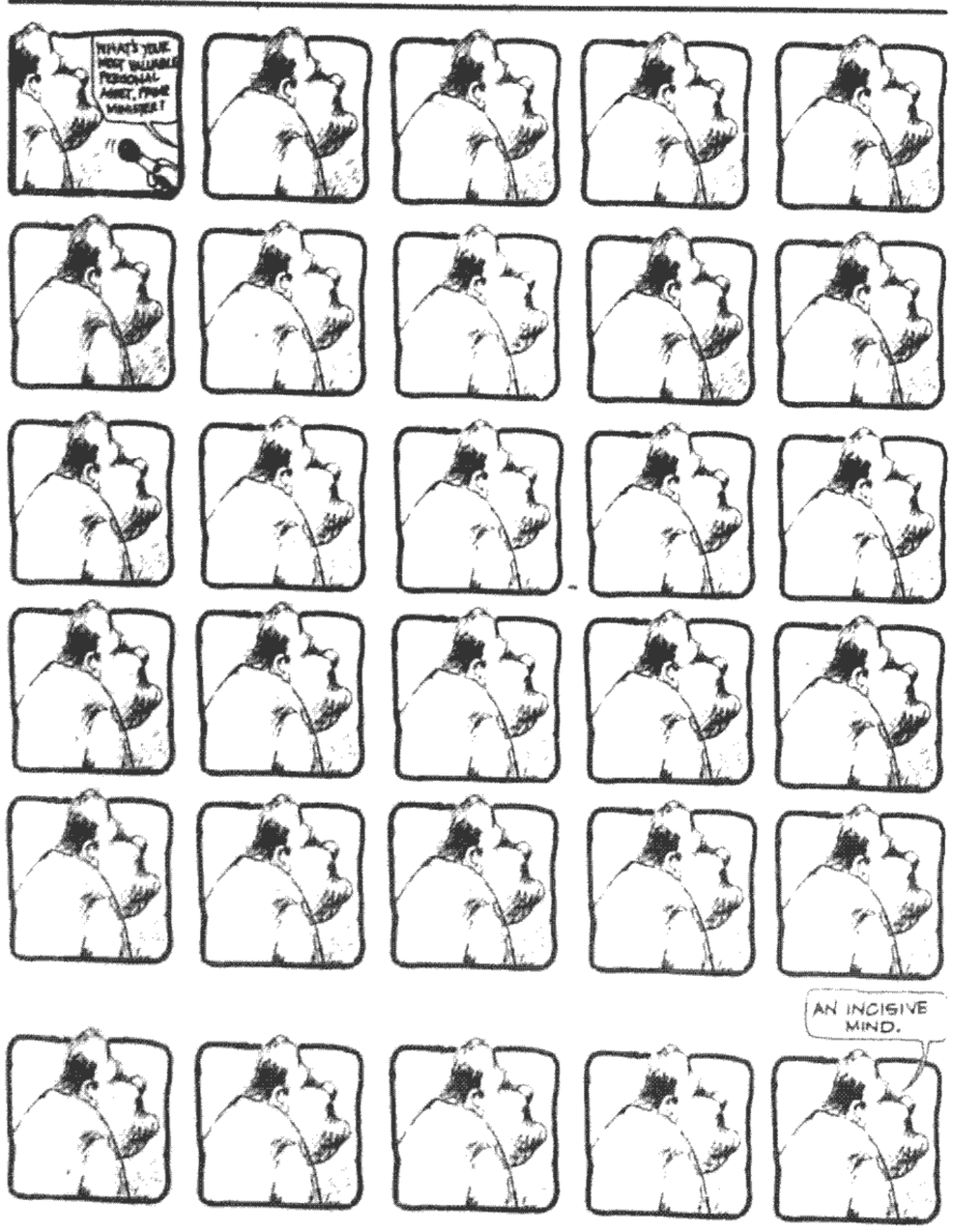
Due to the resignation of the Man Vice-President, Kevin Ward, there is a vacancy on the Executive of the Students' Association.

The Man Vice-President should act with the Woman Vice-President as a deputy to the President helping with the administrative side of VUWSA. In the past the position has been fairly much what the individual incumbents have made of it. For a keen person there is a vast amount of work that can be done, less keen people may find themselves the subject of some criticism.

The position carries with it an honorarium of $300, so the MVP is expected to spend a fair amount of time working for the Association.

The election will be held at the secon SRC of the year on Wednesday 14 March, 12 noon in the Union Hall. Any queries should be directed through the Students' Association Office.

One fine day at the Beehive



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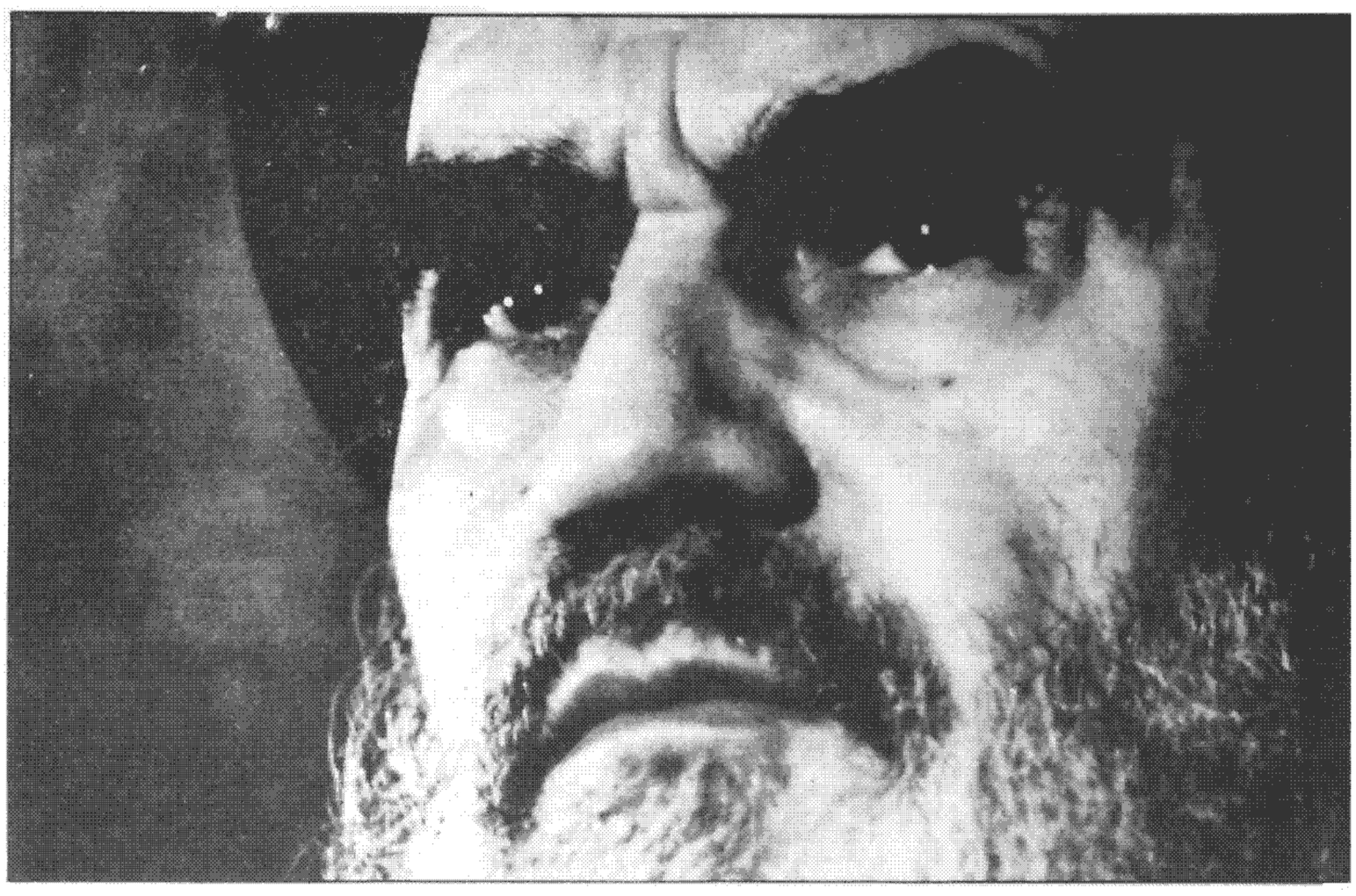
IRAN: a crisis in national unity



Iran's monarchy has fallen but divisions are appearing amongst the Shah's one-time opponents

Iran's confused future

The turmoil in Iran continues. With the Shah and the Shah's man deposed the various factions that had combined for that objective are again taking divergent paths. Chances of civil war between the former anti-Shah factions is growing as each tries to impose its own vision of an Iran without the Shah. The collapse of Bakhtiar's "telephone" government had brought formerly hidden differences out into the open.

Predicting Iran's future is as dangerous as playing Russian roulette solo. Yet Iran's strategic position at the crossroads of three continents overlooking the Persian Gulf (shipping route for much of the Middle East's petroleum exports), as as a supplier of oil to the west and cheap natural gas to the Soviet Union, as the owner of the fifth largest armed force in the world, and as a new focus for an increasingly aggresive Soviet Union demands that an assessment of this complex situation be attempted. Just one consequence of recent events is that the cessation of Iran's oil exports has meant that current world oil consumption exceeds supply by some 2 billion barrels daily.

Roll on the Shah

The Shah came to power in a CIA sponsored coup in 1935 by otherthrowing the nationalist government of Mahammed Mossadiq. Oil companies were immediately denationalised. It was a bonanza for the US and British monopolies. The Soviet Union, too, asked for a stake in Iran's oil industry.

With total foreign domination of the oil industry, Iran became the second largest exporter of crude oil in the world. Iran was made the main supplier of oil to the isolated fascisms of South Africa and Israel. Before striking oil workers stopped the flow to these countries, Iran supplied 90% of South Africa's oil. South Africa's petrol prices have rocketted and as the search for new sources began, legislation was being prepared making it illegal to divulge the country's oil sources. Israel is meanwhile negotiating with Egypt to replace its shortfall.

Despite its massive oil exports, the Iranian people have gained little benefit. That profit that did not disappear to the foreign monopolies ended up part of the Shah's family fortune. That fortune exceeds $(US) 25 billion invested mainly in a supposed charity – the Pahlavi foundation (Pahlavi is the Shah's family name).

The Shah's family has extensive properties in the United States. They also own 5% of the First National Wisconsin Corporation Bank and about 50% of the Canal Street Development project in New Orleans.

The Shah used the revenue from the large rise in oil prices in 1973 to build Iran's armed forces into the most powerful and modern in the Middle East. He actively pursued the role of regional gendarme in defence of the US interests. The armed forces were strictly disciplined by an officer elite drawn exclusively from the upper classes. The pride of the armed forces was the Shah's personal Imperial Guard – the "Immortals".

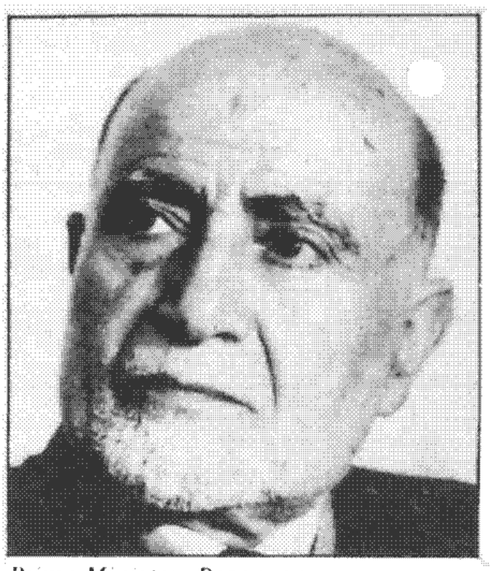
Let's modernise with the Shah

The Shah had a strange notion of the path to "modernisation". In the early years of this rule he forced land reforms in the countryside which aimed at replacing feudal relations with capitalist relations. The peasants waged armed struggles against these "reforms". In the course of these reforms the Shah's family grabbed for itself 25% of the total land. This alone generated for them an annual tax-free income of $(US) 1 billion.

The Shah claimed in 1974 that his policies would make Iran "one of the world's leading nations within a generation". These policies which developed an extensive industrial sector at the expense of agriculture turned Iran from being self-sufficient in food to an importer of 60% of it's essential needs in food. One example of the decline of agriculture is the water problem. Robert Graham, in his book, Iran, the Illusion of Power, says that at present "roughly 4.5 million hectares of land are capable of being irrigated but only 70% has the neccessary infrastructure and less than 30% is being properly watered". And because the distortion of the economy has driven farmers from the land into the cities looking for work, lack of maintenance has destroyed many of the traditional underground channels which exploit ground water - the ganat system. Illiteracy remains widespread in the countryside.

Khomeini has described the Shah's industrialisation programme as a montage - assembly of foreign components rather than genuine development of national industries. Most industry belongs to the Shah, the royal family and its henchmen or to foreign investors. "We can see through these that the country has been turned into a colony of foreign interests"

Ambitious industrialisation has pushed out the smaller local capitalists and spiralled inflation to levels of 50%. And still there are only 2,000 miles of roads in the whole country while 70% of the population has no electricity or running water. Industrialisation has also created a large and militant working class of 3 million. Workers have formed the backbone of the movement to topple the Shah. Since late last year a virtual general strike has paralysed Iran's economy while co-operative distribution teams have meant that the ordinary people have not had to suffer.



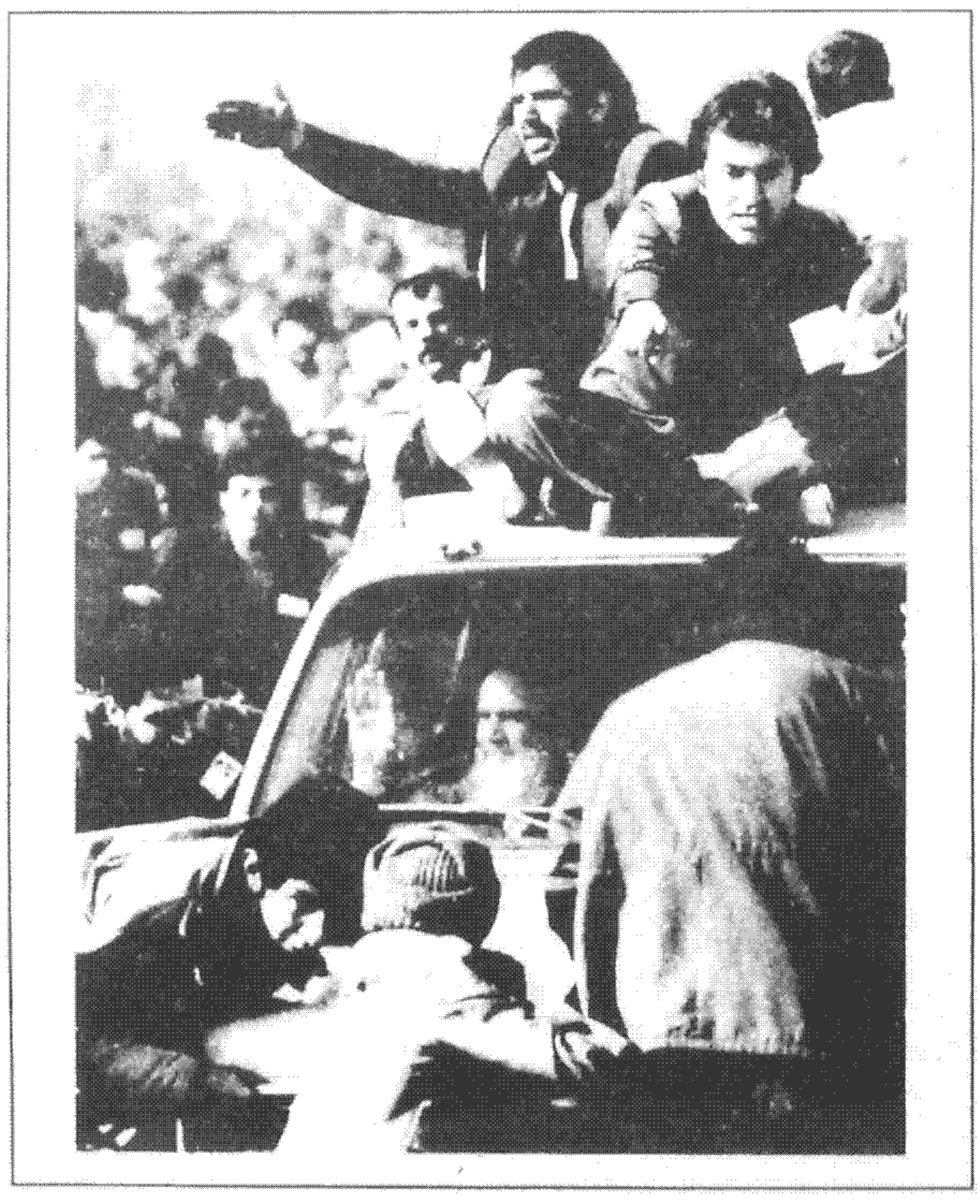
Prime Minister Bazangan

Roll on the opposition

The land reforms and industrialisation brought with them an influx of western ideas and practises. The Shah attempted to force these on the Iranian people. He attacked many traditional Islamic practises. Nearly all of Iran's people are Shi'ite Muslims. Shi'ite leaders (mullahs) have traditionally played a major role in political life. As they opposed the Shah's practises he tried to undermine their authority. They played a leading role in the armed struggle against the land reforms in the 60's.

As the Shah's regime increased its repression the religious leaders denounced the Shah and turned to the Ayatollah Khomeini, a leading Shi'ite theologian forced into exile in 1964 by the Shah. In the course of his long exile thousands of Iranians visited him first in Iraq and for the last two years in Paris to discuss how to replace the Shah.

In loose alliance with the mullahs were the national bourgeosie organised under the banner of the "National Front". With the mullahs they directed the anti-upsurge calling demonstrations and setting demands as well as organising the running of the country in the wake of the Shah's departure.



The Shah came to power by destroying nationalised industries and throughout his reign brought in foreign capital and experts to control Iran's industry. Many of the National members of Khomeini's provisional government (including Prime Minister Bazargan and the foreign minister) were involved in the nationalised industries which were supplanted by the foreign monopolies.

Paradoxically it was the Shah's own industrial policies that created the large urban elite which forms the social base of the National Front. Many were western educated. Iran had the largest number of overseas students per capita of any developing country. While illiteracy ran at 60% the numbers of Iranians in institutions of higher education had leapt from only 2,835 in 1944 to 67,268 in 1970. This elite had simmered under repression of democratic rights carried out by the police and secret police (SAVAK) and their exclusion from the fortune made by the Shah's family and their corrupt coterie.

The National Front and the mullahs united to replace the Shah with a democratic republic based on Islamic principles with Khomeini as titular head. This republic would be based on an independent self-sufficient capitalist economy, pursuing a foreign policy of Arab solidarity and genuine independence. Until the last few days they have between them dictated the line of the mass democratic and anti-imperialist movement.

Their task was not easy. The Shah's regime has murdered 40,000 Iranians in the last two years. The hated secret police (SAVAK) engaged in assassination and torture on a wide scale. The army was regularly turned on the people. Thousands of political prisoners filled the jails. As the mass movement heated up, bullets, boyonets and tanks firing point blank into the demonstrations were thrown against it; To no avail.

But these were not the only factions opposed to the Shah. A large number of left groups, loosely organised and with vague policies won immense support from the Iranian workers and peasants as well as many students. These groups are worried about the mullahs gaining any substantial share of power in the new Iran. They correctly suspect many of the mullahs. This is reflected in attempts to institute an "Islamic" legal code including stoning for adultery (only the woman) and chopping off hands for theft.

Splits Appear

Until the Shah's Imperial Guard moved to crush rebel air force men in Teheran Khomeini had appeared in complete control of the mass movement. The "Immortals" were met by a wall of armed civilians who defeated them in two crucial days of bitter fighting. At the same time leftists including the students, distributed arms to the people who used them to take over the police stations and destroy pro-Shah forces. In this situation Bakhtiar was forced to resign. The first battle had been won.

But Khomeini and Bazargan had opposed the arming of the people and immediately called for them to hand in their arms and for the many rank-and-file armymen who had deserted to the side of the people to return to their units. Most have refused this. And despite executions of 8 key pro-Shah generals and 15 other military leaders they are not satisfied that enough has been done to eliminate the remnants of the pro-Shah forces.

It is clear that the mullahs and national bourgeoisie oppose the arming of the people. Although they are nationalists and democrats they still wish to replace the Shah's elite by their own. The Iranian people who have suffered tyranny for so long are determed to keep the intiative in their own hands, but lack a coherent organisation to lead their struggle to gain the leadership of Iran's national democratic revolution.

Iran: the collapse of the American Dream

Four months ago, on October 30, President Carter reassured the Shah's son that "our friendship and alliance with Iran is our important basis on which our entire foreign policy depends". At the same time Carter's advisors in the CIA and the State Department were saying that the burgioning mass movement against the Shah would not amount to anything.

No, in the space of those four months the Shah has fallen, his prize troops have been defeated by street fighters, the head of the secret police has been executed. and his force abolished, Iran has withdrawn from the US sponsered CENTO alliance and replaced the Israeli Embassy with a PLO office. The Ayatollah Khomeini, who the US has conspicuously ignored and refused to negotiate with, has returned to his country in triumph and installed a provisional government dedicated to independence from either superpower.

It is a living example of not only the ineptness of those who guide the American foreign policy, but also of the paralysis of will that has struck the once dominant global power. Into this vacuum of American power has leapt the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile on the northern border

As the Iranian crisis developed the Soviet Union moved 75,000 Iranian-speaking troops to its border. It has welcomed the toppling of the pro-US regime - a regime it had contended for the favours of. A leader of the Soviet "communist" party in Iran explained their pleasure: "The Soviet Union would be very happy if, on its southern border there will be a friendly government with no foreign bases. A friendly Iran would be the greatest guarantee for the Soviet Union's security".

The Soviets are confident they can gain further sucesses in Iran. Their puppet party (the "communist" Tudeh Party) is being pushed into building an independent power base. The forces to the left of the provisional government are without a clear perception of the nature of the Soviet Union and the danger it poses to Iran's revolution; The Soviets are probably looking to succour such groups in the hope that the provisional government (or even its replacement) would be forced to tilt closer towards them. It is apt that many people quote the sad fate of Afghanistan where an organised pro-Soviet group subverted their revolution, quickly liquidated those genuinely committed to independence in a series of purges, and tied their country to subservience to the Soviets. This is a real danger in unstable Iran.

No turning back

The most urgent task for the Iranian people is to unite against any attempts of Soviet social-imperialism to subvert their revolution. The division between the different anti-Shah groups creates the ideal situation for Soviet intervention. Under a treaty signed in the 20s they even have this as a right. The policy of Khomeini to renegotiate the natural gas agreement with the Soviet Union which guarantees the Soviets cheap gas must irk them.

The readiness of the Soviets to intervene in Ethiopia, South Yemen, Afghanistan and Kampuchea shows their offensive posture. The need for unity to defend Iran's newly gained independence is urgent.

James Morgan

CLUBS

Clubs Activites

Come and join in the club life on campus: This is one way of breaking the boredom of study. Many clubs will be advertising their activities during Orientation so if if you think you may be interested in taking part in any of these come up and talk to the club organisers – they won't bite but will be only too pleased to answer any questions you might have.

The Tramping Club will run a series of activities, so there will be plenty of opportunity to grab hold of them. On Tuesday 27 March they will abseil Easterfield between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. (unless of course the wind does not permit). On the same evening in the lounge between 6.30 p.m. and 8 p.m. they will show slides of the club activities.

The Progressive Student Alliance (don't be scared off by the name) will be jumping straight into positive activities; starting on Tuesday 27 February with an organising meeting between 12 and 100 p.m. in the Lounge of the Union Building. Further activities will be run to mark "International Women's Day", on March 8 – starting with a forum in the Union Hall between 12 and 2 p.m. and a social evening the same night. Almost forgot they have got everyone from Bob Jones to speakers from the Wellington Marxist-Leninist Organisation along on March 1, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a forum on "Where is New Zealand Heading?".

The Car Club, a very active club on campus will have a meeting in the Smoking Room from 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on 28 February. Their club will be in the Smoking Room on 7 March – stand for the committee or offer assistance with club activities!

The Marijuana Party Club (No you probably didn't have one at school) will run two workshops, one on 1 March, the other on 5 March from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.. A meeting will be held on 7 march 8.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m in the Lounge. (Narcs a plate please.)

Did debating at school? Well carry on at 'varsity, its not the time to stop. The debating club will hold a meeting on Tuesday 6 March 5 p.m. – 6:pm. in the Lounge. Cannot make it at night? Well come and see them in action on 9 March 12 - 1 p.m. in the Union Hall.

The Rugby Club will prove to you that rugby is not all rucks and scrums (Oh how I love those scrums) and will run a social hour at their very fine club rooms in Wai-te-ata Road., on 7 March from 4.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Where's Wai-te-ata Road? O.K.,I I' m getting there. Take your bodies to the Recreation Centre, and into the Restoration Cafe, look out the window, and you will see Wai-te-ata Road!

Karate; a very demanding sport and the Karate Club will prove this on Monday 5 March with a display in the Union Hall. After the demonstration go and say "hello", and you too could be breaking bricks by the end of the year. This sport is not only for for the males with hairy chests, but is open to to all people who are keen.

The Motorcycle Club will begin this year with a slides evening on Tuesday 6 March between 8 p.m. – 10 p.m. in the lounge. And if this grabs you have a look at the real thing on Sunday 11 March. Details will be posted for the road and trail rally on the club notice board, second floor, Union Building.

The Athletics Club is in the process of celebrating 75 years of existance. As part of these celebrations all budding, and not so budding, athletes are more than welcome to sweat and groan around Newtown Park during during an open meeting on Saturday 10 March March between 1 p.m – 4 p.m.

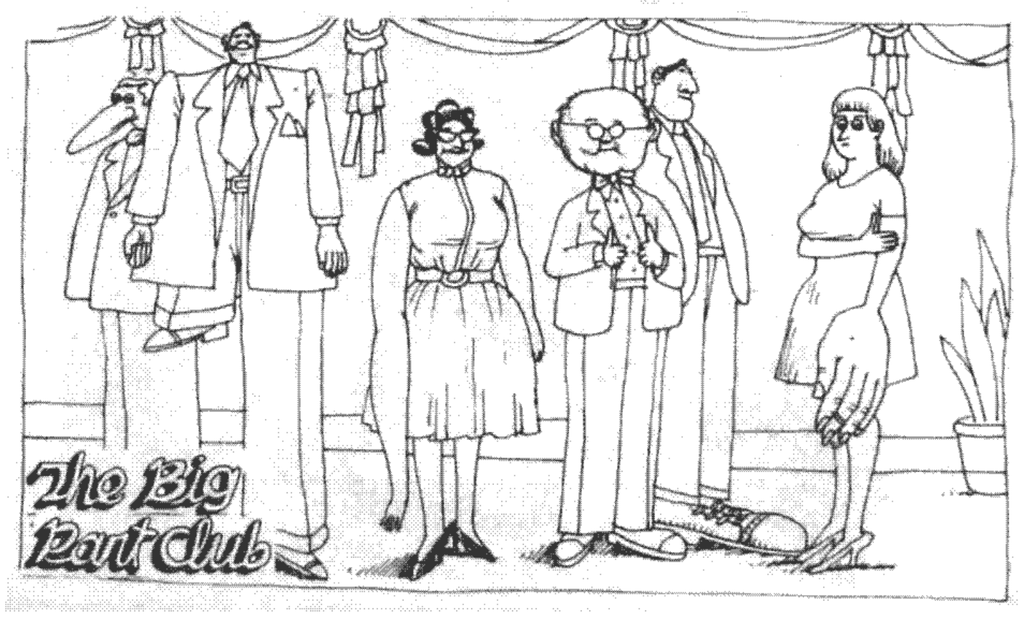
So sports don't interest you; too much for the system; well how about pottery. The Pottery Club will demonstrate their art in the main foyer of the Union Building from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday 1 March. Maybe the flat looks a bit bare of cups and plates – well don't but, get involved and make make them.

With new facilities in the Recreation Centre, the Swords Club is waiting to help beginners get into the game. Don't know much about it? Well see them in action on on Monday 5 March through the Cafe and in the Union Building from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. This club has some of the top New Zealand swords people in it and they are keen to help newcomers.

If you are now saying , "Well, all this is fine but why can't I get in and participate?" The Volley Ball and Basket Ball Clubs have the answers. On March 1 and 2 respectively you will be able to go along to the Recreation Centre (from 12 - 2 p.m. Volley Ball and 12 - 4 p.m. Basket Ball) and get a chance to play as part of a team. Its a good opportunity to meet new friends who share the same interest.

Not all clubs have activities going on and if the one you want to join has nothing going – ring the contact number in the VUWSA Handbook or fill in the club sheets handed out at enrollment and return them to the Students' Association Office and your name will be handed on to the club.

The Young Socialists activities feature a forum on the turmoil in Iran on March 6, at 12 noon. Prior to this there will be the first meeting of the year on Thursday March 1 at 7.30 p.m., and a discussion on "China, Democratic Rights and Detente" at 4.15 p.m. The Young Socialists contribution to Orientation will wind up with a discussion "Freezing Workers Vs Government and Bosses" on Wednesday March 7 at 4.15 p.m. All these meetings will be held in the Lounge of the Student Union Building.



KAMPUCHEA a nation in struggle

Once the victim of American imperialism, Vietnam has now developed its own imperialism.

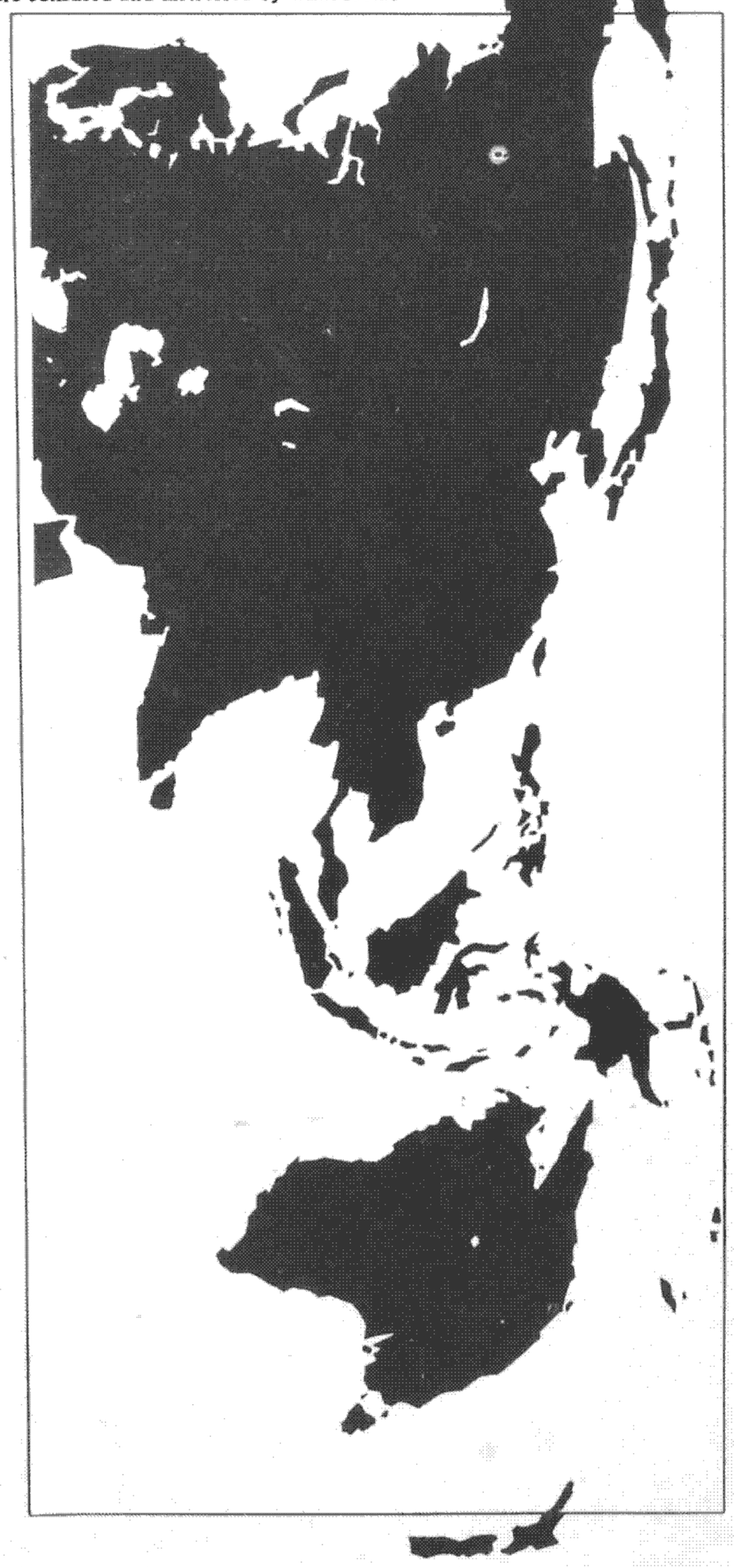
On Christmas Day 1978 the Vietnamese leaders dispatched a dozen divisions of regular troops numbering more than 100,000 men, backed by hundreds of tanks, armoured cars, planes and artillery pieces, in a lightening thrust to overthrow the Kampuchean Government. The main towns and cities and much of the countryside was swiftly occupied. Everywhere they went the Vietnamese invaders sowed death and destruction, laying waste to large tracts of land and killing countless innocent Kampucheans.

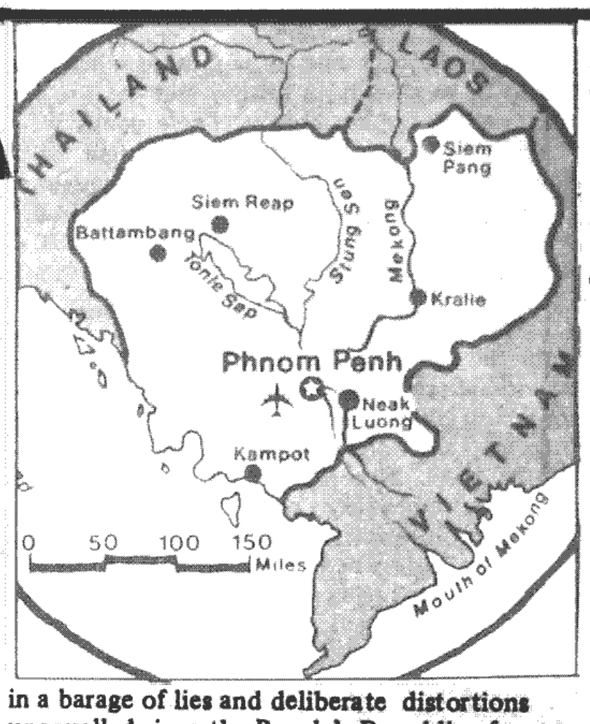
To many progressive New Zealanders who have watched with growing alarm the escalation of the conflict in South East Asia, this must have seemed the final straw. Most are confused and distressed by what seems to be a betrayal of revolutionary principles by one side or the other, others have turned their minds away from the problems and, embittered, feel that their committment to liberal causes is at an end.

There is an urgent need to explain the situation in South East Asia. Urgent, not only because of the subjective reaction to it, but because it is a harbinger of the future.

The birth of Kampuchea

FRom its birth Democratic Kampuchea was slandered by the entire Western press,





in a barage of lies and deliberate distortions unequalled since the People's Republic of China won its liberation. It is important that these lies be shown for what they are because it is these reports which provide the Soviet Union and Vietnam with the ostensible reason for their actions.

Many scholars and experts in Asian matters have disputed statements made in the press, not surprisingly, their letters are rarely carried. Perhaps the most over-used fabrication has been the 'blood-bath' theory.

Kampuchea has been accused of perpetrating the biggest blood bath in the history of the world. Time confidently assessed the number of people killed " – by execution, starvation and disease –" at least 1 million Most of the wrath of the "civilised world" was turned onto the mass exodus from the Kampuchean cities which followed the victory of the Kymer Rouge. The Kampuchean people were pictures as dying from exhustion and lack of water as they were compelled to traverse the barren countryside in what was shown as a vicious and bizarre move to bring into a being a new agricultural policy.

The truth is somewhat different. Cut off savagely from the American aid that had kept the inhabitants of the cities alive, the Kampuchean government had only two choices: to let the people starve to death in the cities or to move them to the countryside where the food was. During the period of the fight against the Lon Nol regime (1) and the US invaders, the Kymer Rouge instituted the system of double cropping the underdeveloped rice growing country. The effect was that, with the building of reservoirs and canals, the crop was significantly increased. However with the fierce bombardment that Kampuchea faced during the war, the major systems of transport where destroyed and not able to take the food to the people, the people had to be taken to the food. Western journalists would have preferred the citizens to have died in the comfort: of the cities.

As one commentator on Asian affairs said:

"Perhaps one should not be shocked or even surprised that the Western Press has so slandered the new government of Cambodia by blaming it for drastic actions necessitated by five years of inhumane and senseless American policy towards it. Had America not supported Lon Nol (whose popularity was limited to only the urban middle and upper classes, a miniscule fraction of the population), had America not invaded and then mercilessly bombed Cambodia, had they not provided millions in military aid and food which they cut off abruptly once their client government was defeated – had America not intervened so drastically and diabolically, the present government would not have been faced with the desperate and critical problems it was forced to solve within days of assuming power. Yet it is the new Cambodian government, and not America, that Westerners blame for the drastic revolutionary actions that have taken place in the past two years." (The Cambodian Revolution by Bill Willmott, Monthly Review June 1977).

The formation by the Vietnamese of the "Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation" was a response to these lies. It is the "Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation" lead by dissatisfied Kampucheans who went to Vietnam before the end of the war, that is the puppet regime placed in power by the Vietnamese.

Why did it happen

There are many reasons why Vietnam launched the unprovoked attack on Kampuchea, to adequately understand all the implications for the move the information that is presently available will have to be supplemented from sources inside Vietnam. What can be said is that the major motivation behind the assault came more from the ambitions of the Soviet Union than the Vietnamese

During the war against the American occupation of Vietnam, the Vietnamese people and leadership relied upon assistance from other countries off-set the enormous expenditure that the US was putting into its war effort. They turned, not unnaturally to the Soviet Union, Eastern Block countries, and the People's Republic of China. While the majority of the success of the Vietnamese rested in the hands of the Vietnamese leadership, this help was vital to the eventual victory.

It was during this time, in the final stages of the war, that the Soviet Union began to gain a marked ascendancy in the political forces around the central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party.

While other countries at the end of the war, were content to let the loans of ammunition and money lay for a while, the Soviet Union demanded their loans back in protein, the very thing that war ravaged Vietnam could least afford.

Combined with the drought and floods that struck Vietnam last year, this has led to an intolerable situation. It is significant that when the Vietnamese army were crossing the border into Kampuchea they were confiscating the crops and the produce of the villages thay they ploughed through.

The Vietnamese Communist Party, has since its formation seen its role as being not only the ideological vanguard of Indochina, but also the territorial leader. The Vietnamese Communist Party wishes to bring about the formation of an Indochinese Federation, which would be dominated by Vietnam.

The Soviet ambition

This "Indochinese Federation" would fit very well into the plans of the Soviet Union. Brezhnev, in one of his books deals in some detail with the establishment of regional 'federations' similar to the Vietnamese vision, linked to the Soviet Union by treaties of "Friendship and Co-operation". Recently the Soviet Union signed such treaties with Ethiopia, Afghanistan and Vietnam.

In an attempt to rest control of Asia and encircle China, they have found the perfect ally in Vietnam. The ruthless advance into Kampuchea is part of a wider plan. By taking control of Kampuchea the Soviet Union would also control the important oil route into the Pacific.

Laos has already been transformed into a client state, it is said that of the central organ of the Laotin government, one third is Laotin, one third is Vietnamese and one third is Soviet Union. It no longer has independence in political action, and is reduced to parrotting the statements of both Vietnam and the Soviet Union. But Kampuchea, would not join such a federation. This forms another part of the reason why Vietnam launched the attack.

Having tied itself succesfully to the coat tails of the Soviet Union, not a hard job, as those in Ethiopia and Afganistan can testify, the Vietnamese, whatever their own motivations are, being used in a world wide plan to assure the Soviet Union of ascendancy in the world.

The Kampuchean people are fighting back against the invaders. The lessons that the Vietnamese themselves learned in their long war against America are being used against them. Falling back to what appears to be long prepared defensive positions, the leadership of the Kampuchean Communist Party are prepared for a long war of guerilla tactics and attrition. Commander Roeung of the Kampuchean Army said "Even with just a few people we can be very effective because everyone participates".

No matter how painful and distressing the turn about in thinking necessary to understand the present situation, it has to be undertaken, and from the new thinking must come positive action. Those who found it impossible to keep silent in face of the imperialism of America cannot afford to stand aside now that the Soviet Union occupies the centre stage. Kampuchea is a small nation, against immense odds it has fought for its independence and soveireignity, and it is still struggling. As Vietnam once held hopes of oppressed peoples, Kampuchea hold these same hopes, the support from progressive forces is still vital for them to win.

For those of you who've been to previous Orientations, have orientated, and decided to come back for another dynamic, action-packed two weeks - this years DEADWOOD REVIVAL is sure to put you back in the frame of mind you need to survive 39 weeks of lectures, even more boring lecturers, and then exam blues.

For those of you who haven't experienced the 'Varsity system and its hierarchal, morale twisting, backbiting drabness, but would like to experience ORIENTATION, this is your last chance to get into the great DEADWOOD REVIVAL '79. So this is it ..... the scene is SET.

You can rage to the best bands in New Zealand after hurling abuse, cans, and political comments at Bob Jones, Ken Comber, and other fiends at the PSA forum. For those not into politics or anything serious like Drama, Dance Workshops, or Poetry you can always get pissed at the SASRAC functions in the

Deadwood revival

ORIENTATION!

Cafetaria listening to not - so - gen- the strains of punk, rock and roll, or a jazz band.

Realize yourself, not who you thought you were or might be at Orientation this year - and get into the things that make coming to Varsity worth starving on a bursary and being labelled a trendy - Left, placard waving, long-haired git. Be you a "Trendy - Leftist, Young Nat", "dope-crazed sex maniac", hippie, or just a quiet bookworm who likes to turn on now and then - ORIENTATION will have something for you.

BANDS

Citizen Band

The big name band for orientation '79 Wellingtonians have a rare opportunity to see New Zealand's fastest up and coming rock and roll band since Hello Sailor, so if you want to see wht music is and disco isn't make sure you get to the ONLY Wellington appearance of Citizen Band. If you haven't seen them live you may have got a taste of what's to come through hearing "Good Morning Citizen" on the radio or actually seeing the band on the telly, alternatively you never have heard the band. But anyway, listen to Radio Active (loud) for a sample and then turn that bloody music down and go and see the bastards.

The members are:–

Geoff Chunn doing guitar, vocals, and writing most of their music. Ex very early Split Enz (for which he was drummer) and a group called After Hours which included Finn.

Mike Chunn pumps it out on bass, mike, and stage. He saw his brother playing when he returned from Split Enz's U.S. tour and two weeks after going to Britain Mike left Split Enz to come back and join up with his brother and form Citizen Band.

Greg Clark plays lead guitar (brilliantly) having left Spacewaltz before they went to Australia, taking off briefly with a top twenty band (called Stewart and the Delmonts) before throwing it in and getting into some serious stuff with Citizen Band.

Brent Eccles drums, having previously played with Spacewaltz, Streettalk, and Voxpop. Having had a bit of time to practise he's now doing very well.

The sum result of this is tight, loud, excellent, new wave/rock music that anyone can rage to whether they're into the Brooklyn hustle or pogoing. Considering that its the only chance you'll get to see them for a while you'd really be rather silly to miss them in the **Union Hall on Monday 26 Feb from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.**

MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY

A Saturday afternoon with a difference - a festive afternoon that is promised to interest / excite / titillate / inspire. Whats more, all entertainment is FREE, so you can wander round and enjoy the rock bands, see the performance by the theatre group Chameleon, and if you want to spend a bit of money, there will be a variety of stalls selling their wares, an exciting array of food - courtesy of the various international students clubs on campus, and there will be delicious cider also available . All this will be happening in the Student Union Building, so if you want an enjoyable different day, come up between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4.00 p.m., on Saturday 3 March.

Upstairs (Union Hall, top floor)

Wellington bands: Reel to Real, Snatch, and a Jazz band - playing right through the afternoon.

Stalls, selling: Cuddly toys, food, leatherwork, macrame, pot plants, marijuana (paraphanalia), books, clothing etc.

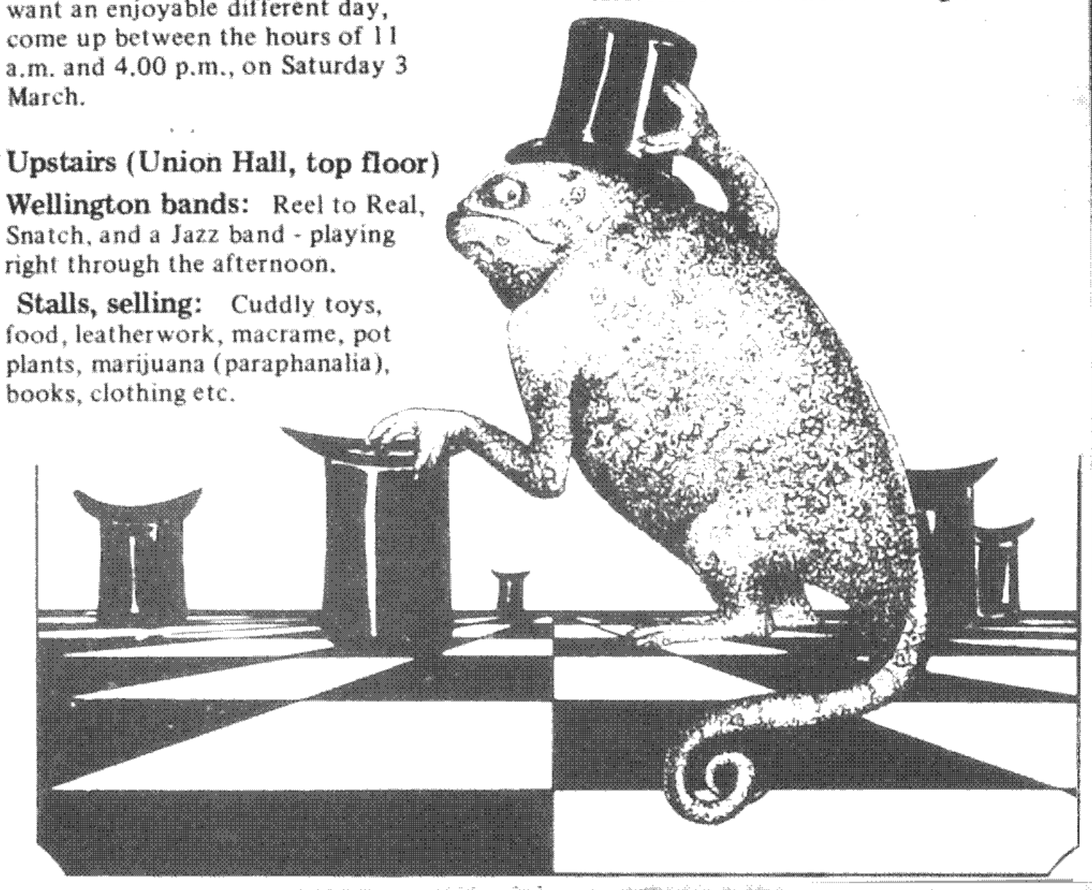
Downstairs (Cafeteria)

Laid back music, in the form of acoustic jazz.

Food: The International Food Fair, features a variety of dishes prepared in national styles by the Overseas Students Clubs.

Melodrama: Chameleon, theatre group, who are holding a series of workshops during Orientation, will be performing a melodrama.

Liquid refreshments: Plenty of cider, (some donated by Downtown Cellers) will be available in the cafeteria of the Union Building..



DRAMA

Orientation 1979 features a variety of cultural performances including dance groups, poetry reading, and theatrical groups.

Debbie and the Dum-Dums

A highlight of the Orientation programme will be a theatrical group called Debbie and the Dum Dums. The group is supported by the New Zealand Arts Council, and the New Zealand Students Arts Council is bringing it to all campuses.

The group's material comes from their previous experience with street cabaret and rock theatre. It is hoped that the group's performance will raise the political and artistic consciousness of the audience it plays to, and it will, rest assured, be a dynamic, visual treat.

There are four actors in the group - all whom have extensive experience not only theatrically but musically also, so we should see an exciting professional performance. The actors have been working full-time over the past few weeks rehearsing and preparing for the shows. An incredible amount of work has been put into them, and they will certainly create an impact on campus.

There are two performances of Debbie and the Dum Dums - one outside in the quadrangle (if wet it will be held in the lounge and smoking room) between 2.00 pm and 2.30 pm, and one evening show in the lounge and smoking room, from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm. Both are on Wednesday 28 Feb. There will be a small cover charge of .50c for the evening performance.

Even if you are not into drama, don't miss out on this amazing group you might not get another chance.

MORE BANDS

Jazz

The jazz concert is something of a tradition for orientation and has always provided a highlight. This year should prove no exception. First up is the Creative Art Ensemble, a band that helps keep alive music of the great bebop jazzmen of the fourties and fifties as well as the experimental free jazz of Coltrane, Coleman and the like. It will be another chance to catch the beauty and vitality of the music that had dominated the American and European jazzworld since the war.

Next up, something rather a different a combination, the old big bands with a rock rhythm section. The music of New Zealand's premier jazz band The Roger Fox Big Band combines excitement with excellence and contains some of the countries best musicians. They have completed tours of the country and highly praised recordings.

Ending the concert is a new group by one of the stars of the Roger Fox Big Band, Colin Hemingsen. Also included are two musicians from Pacific Eardrum, an English based New Zealand band that have made a great impression on the London jazz scene, Joy Yates vocalist and keyboards man Dave McCray. On the whole, a finer presentation of the tradition and direction of jazz would be hard to find.

Following the concert, will be a hop with one of the nation's most amazing bands, Living Force. They play Santana - like music and star Eddie Hansen. NZ's ace rock guitarist. They have just returned from California and will soon be returning overseas. Discover your arses swinging to some of the best music around.

Rough Justice

A tight, heavy rock 'n roll band. Based in Wellington they were once the mainstay of the Royal Tiger, and appeared at last year's Orientation, with great success. Rough Justice are an experienced band and their professional musicianship had given them a good reputation throughout the country. They are an exciting dance band that includes Rick Bryant (ex-Mammal) with his excellent blues voice and some of N.Z.'s finest musicians backing him. Rough Justice will be one of the highlights of Orientation. They will be playing at an open air concert Monday 26 Feb, 12.00 - 2.00 in the quad, and performing at a hop Friday 9 March 9.00 am - 2.00 pm.).

Reel to Real

Reel to Real are one of Wellington's finest blues-rock bands. They are a four man group, who have been working around Wellington professionally for about a year, and have developed a strong following, especially at Victoria. Anyone who went to Nambassa might remember this band.

Reel to Real will be playing at the Mad Hatter's Teaparty on the 3 March, (starting 11.00 a.m.) and also at an open air concert on Tuesday 6 March, 12.00 - 2.00 p.m. in the quad (Union Hall if wet).

Chameleon

This talented theatre troupe of 4 actors provide original entertainment that will without doubt amuse and arouse. Chameleon is a Wellington group who have been performing in conjunction with the Summer '79 programme, organised by Graham Nesbitt.

All four actors have experience in theatrical work - if you have been around varsity you will no doubt remember John Bailey for his involvement with Orientation last year.

Chameleon will be performing in the cafe on Fri 2 March, 12.00 - 12.30 p.m.; at the Mad Hatter's Teaparty on the 3 March, and they will also be holding a series of theatrical workshops in the first week of Orientation.

Go to all or just some, but make sure you catch Chameleon somewhere.

Mask Theatre

A unique group whose performances are centred around the fantasy world of masks. Mask Theatre are a group of 7 actors who have all worked extensively in dramatics, and whose work can be described as 'Commedia del'Arte – and Italian form of street theatre. The group exhibit vitality and intensity with the uniqueness and visual excitement of the performance.

They will be performing in the quadrangle (in front of the library) between 11.30 – 12.00 p.m. on Monday 26 Feb.

POETRY

Stars of Nambassa and Poets on the Run, Sam Hunt and Gary McCormick return to Victoria to rant and rage once again. Their poetry is not exactly what teachers at school, or our glorious English department teach. Nevertheless, if you want your consciousness raised, you mind improved, or just a few good laughs, bowl on down to see these guys. Their poetry is work which is truly relevant to what's happening her . No academic jerk offs, but poetry that can mean something to you! Their poetry is alive, sometimes hilarious and always immediate - just the thing for readings, so don't miss it.

Sam Hunt has been a professional poet for some years, after taking the poetic circles of New Zealand by storm in the early seventies. His poetry reflects the vitality of his lifestyle, and he can be seen as an heir to James K. Baxter, as a great individualist poet with a flair for natural rhythm as well as poetic beauty.

Gary McCormick, like Sam Hunt, is one of the few poets around who makes a living of his work. Before this his occupations ranged from toilet cleaner to Porirua City Councillor Gary McCormick (along with Sam Hunt) brought a radical new way of presenting poetry, with rock bands such as Mammal, Storm, and Rough Justice. Gary's works are published in three volumes 'Naked and Nameless,' and 'Street Poems', and 'Poems for a Red Engine'.

Gary and Sam will be reading on Monday 5 March between 7 - 9 pm in the lounge and Smoking Room.

FILM

LENNY

Dustin Hoffman as the infamous Jewish Cabaret entertainer Lenny Bruce who made a career out of redefining the public sense of decency and morality. Not a pleasant business, all things considered, but this film 1974 film manages to show all the corruption and righteousness on both sides of the coin with considerable flair. For jazz buff s there's some excellent music.

Director Bob Fosse's ability to bring out the sordidness of cabaret life in the very midst of its excitment remains from his earlier films "Sweet Charity" and "Cabaret", but gone is the sentimentality which also characterised those films.

Tuesday 27 February, 2.15pm.

THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH

David Bowie falls into place in his old role as a being from outer space with great things to offer and little stamina to give them. Director Nicholas Roeg was a photographer on "Lawrence of Arabia" and went on to make "Performance" (with Donald Cammell), "Walkabout" and "Don't Look Now". The beautiful camerawork and preoccupation with unresolvable enigmas of those films are very much in evidence here. Delightful, puzzling, disturbing and almost without technical blemish, one can almost forget that it's utterly meaningless.

Wednesday 28 February, 2.15pm

natch

elatively new band who cut their the Royal Tiger. They have a -reggae style, and their act inome original arrangements of Snatch will be the support act zen Band (Monday 26 Feb 9-.m.), and will be also appearing Mad Hatter's Teaparty, on Sat- March.

Th' Dudes

Dudes are something of an unquality here in Wellington, having nly one appearance here, late last the Last Resort. But they were npressive in that showing, livto their reputation of being he best new wave bands in the

conventional 5 piece line up, les have Dave Dobbyn and ris on guitars, Bruce Hambdrums, Lew White on bass er Urlich as vocalist. Their

ry loud) repertoire ranges nventional - type Stones songs reat old rock and roll style a (wait for it) vamped-up and Tennille jingle ("Love p us together") and then into

may be the only chance to catch Wellington for quite a while, so e most of it, as they're well earing. Just roll along to the lall on Wednesday 28 February 9 p.m. and 1 a.m. and catch he highlights of the Orientation me.

Spats

Spats are a high energy rock band with a bit of jazz thrown in. With a single tour (with Neville Purvis) behind them, Spats look set to conquer the nation with their unique combination of visual impact and gutsy music. They came from the ashes of Blerta. and should prove to be just as popular, with a tighter and more rocky approach but without losing the humour of Blerta, as their work with Neville Purvis has shown. They are a band who cannot be missed at Orientation so make sure you get to the Spats hop on Friday 2 March - in the Cafe, 9.00 - 1.00 a.m.

Creative Art Ensemble

An acoustic jazz band, specialising in free jazz and bebop mixed in with original music. It will be a unique opportunity to witness some of the most important trends in Post-war jazz. The Creative Art Ensemble will be playing at Sasrac on Wednesday 7 March, with no cover charge, so do come along.

White Heat

A new band rapidly developing a reputation around Wellington, and should be worth catching up with during Orientation. They include in their line-up, a wide variety of music from Heavy rock through Pink Floyd to also be appearing at Sasrac on Thursday act for Th' Dudes on Wed. 28 Feb from 9.00 - 10.00 p.m., and they will also be appearing at Sasrac on Thursday 1 March, 4.00-6.00 p.m.

FRINGE

International Students Evening

An evening designed to provide cultural displays from overseas that hopes to promote Victoria as a multi-cultural University with a wide range of cultural intercourse. It's main role is to help first year overseas students to be introduced into varsity life and will also provide an evening of enjoyment to anyone interested in a somewhat different evenings entertainment.

Represented will be students from Malaysia, Singapore, Fiji, Thailand Tonga, and Samoa, but students from anywhere are most certainly welcome. Music will be provided by the Indonesian Gamelan Club and will be an exciting alternative form.

The International Students Evening will be held in the Union Hall (Third floor of the Union Building) on the 10 March, 7 - 10.30 p.m. It is free to all first year students whilst returning students may either pay .50c or bring a plate.

Festival of Useless Spaces

The Festival of Useless Spaces promises to be a bonanza of visual, dramatic and sonic happenings. These may include a pagent of Popes, the balcony scene from Romeo and Juliet and Ballroom dancing, jaffa rolling , russian poetry and mazes.

The object is to make use of the useless spaces around the university, such as the foyers, stairways and balconies in such a way as to change from useless spaces to outrageous.

Details of the festival will be posted around the university and will be available from the Students' Association Office.

Don't miss it, it promises to be spectacular.

Drinking Horn and Chunder Mile

These events have become a tradition at Victoria and are a good occasion to let your hair down and get into some serious piss-sinking. The events include 7 oz events, jug events and boat races (get your own team together). Notable features of past years include watching the the performance of the NZ Champ Vic. Women's Drinking Team (see such stars as Motormower, Mick, 'Massive' Massof et al), the antics of the MC, shaving cream fights and Mac's brown-eyes.

This year invitations have been sent to dignitaries such as Muldoon (his drinking hand has recovered for the gin slinging race), Fwank Gill, Carmen, Fowler and Bill McCarthy. If you compete the beer is free so organize a team.

The Chunder Mile always draws a large appreciative crowd - it's always good to watch someone heave their guts out in a technicolour yawn. Bring along some ammunition and hiff it at the competitiors (like eggs, flour bombs, rotten fruit), mushed up Salient (who said that – Ed.) .

Keep your end up Victoria!!

POLITICS

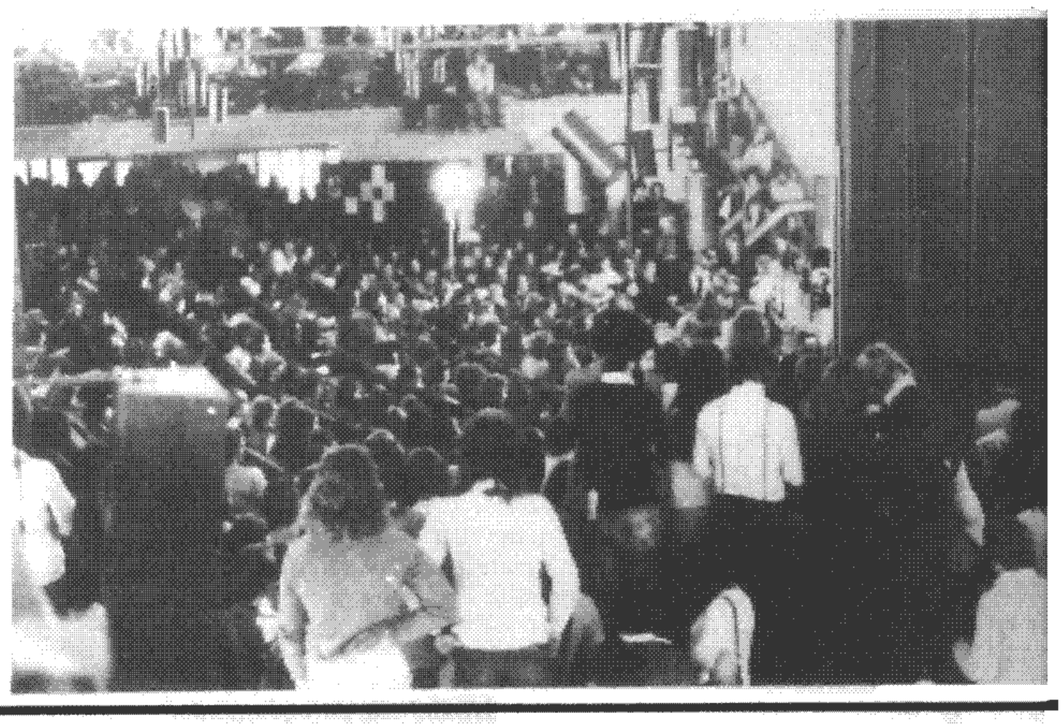
Interested in the erosion of civil liberties, Marx, Rowling, Muldoon, the Values Party, or international events? The University provides an opportunity to explore your interests. There are numerous clubs which are holding Orientation activities which all students no matter what their level of understanding, are invited to attend.

In the first week of Orientation there are 2 major activities..... On Wed 28 Feb. the first Student Representative Council (SCR) meeting will be held from 12 - 2 p.m. in the Union Hall. The meetings are held fortnightly and constitute the main policy - making body of the Association. Any student can move motions, speak to them and vote. If you are concerned about any subject from the harshness of toilet paper, or the level of student allowances, to the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea, then come along to the first SRC. If you get bored you can always leave, but at least you can say you've made an effort to take part in the decisions and policy of the Student Association. After all you pay $43.00, you might as well control what happens to it.

Thursday 1 March at 11.00 in the Union Hall features a special forum entitled "The State of the Nation", and discussed the present New Zealand situation, from wide ranging points of view. Bob Jones will be giving his opinion of the state of the economy, along with National and Labour MPs and members of the Wellington Marxist Leninist Organisation, Hart, and the Council to Civil Liberties. If you would like to air your views, or hear other people's, come along; The forum is organised by the Progressive Students Alliance Club which will be having its organizing meeting on the Tuesday 27 Feb. at 12.00 in the Lounge.

Thursday 8 March is International Working Women's Day and to celebrate the event, the Progressive Student Alliance is organising a forum in the Union Hall, 12 - 2 p.m. 'A Womans place is in the house of Representatives'. The speakers will be a member of parliament, and representatives from Working Womens Alliance, and Concerned Parents Association. On the evening of March 8 from 7.30 - 12.00 a social will be held with a film, supper, and general alcoholic entertainment in the Lounge and Smoking Room.

Throughout the first two weeks of Orientation there will be various political student club meetings. Watch out for them. Your contribution will always be welcome.



WORKSHOPS

This year's Orientation programme includes a variety of workshops of ~~~ marijuana to a contraception workshop. The workshops scheduled this year are an ideal way to become involved in varsity life, or just to learn something new.

Creative Dance

An exploration of different aspects of movement with and without music, designed to extend awareness of how the body can be used to express ideas.

The different aspects dealt with will include body control, qualities of movement, use of time, space and sound in dance, a look at dance as a medium for social comment, and perhaps most importantly, as a joyous form of creative expression.

Virginia Adams has had many years of experience in the modern dance field – especially as a teacher of Mendl Creative Dance. She has also performed for 2 years with the Val Deakin Dance Theatre and in 1977 received a Q.E. II Modern Dance Scholarship.

No previous dance experience is necessary. If you feel the overwhelming urge to leap up and down and throw your arms about from 9.00 a.m. - 10.00 a.m. from Monday March 5 to Friday March 9 then come and join us in the Dance Room, Recreation Centre.

Theatre

Chameleon will be holding theatrical workshops for four consecutive days in the first week, involving the three main aspects of drama; mime, make-up and street theatre. All four members of the group have had extensive experience in theatrical work, and the group itself has been around for about two years.

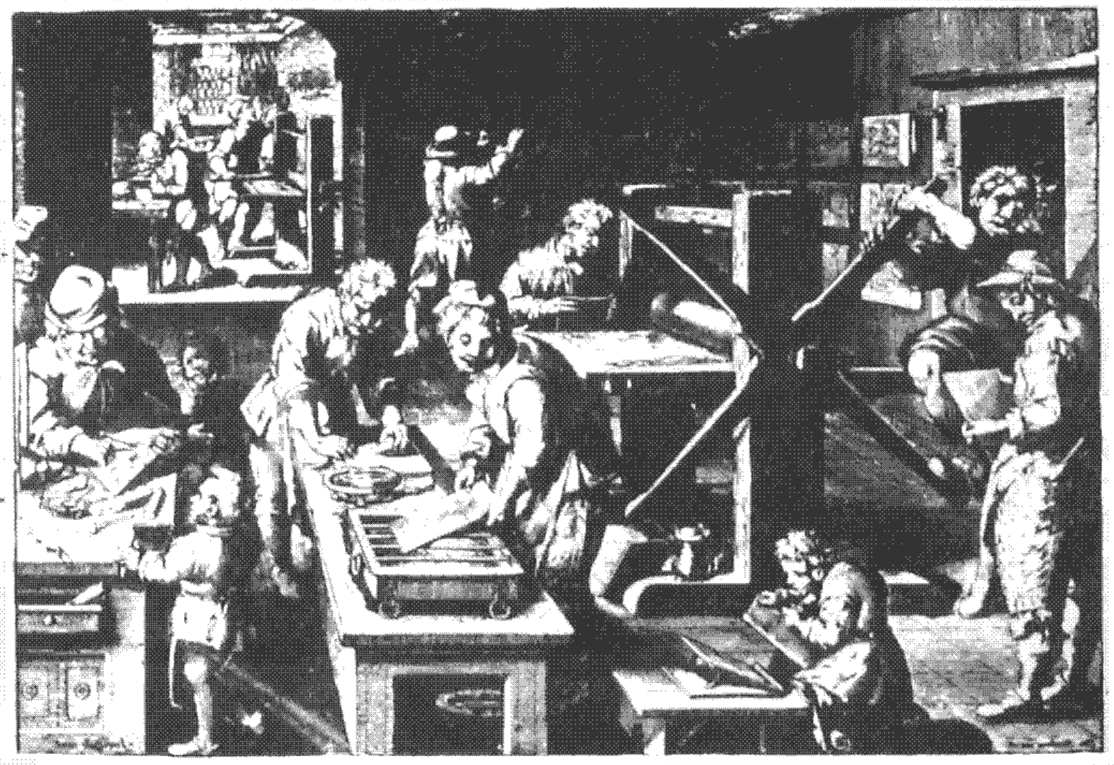
Aileen Davidson has been working with other street theatre groups, and was involved inproductions by Fortune Theatre. Aileen also held a workshop on theatre at Teachers College and on other campuses.

Ray Calcutt - for a time a member of Mask Theatre group.

John Bailey has been exploring the areas of mime and make-up for about five years, and will be remembered for his workshops on these at last year's orientation. John has at different stages of his career been a member of the groups Cerebus, Larf Theatre and his workshop involvement also includes Television with Theatre Action and the Canadian Mime Theatre.

The group decided to form Chameleon as an alternative to the traditional forms of theatre, and have been well received around Wellington.

All workshops will be held in the Dance Room of the Recreation Centre, from 12.30 to 12.00 p.m., starting on Monday 26 Feb through to Thurs 1 March.



Marijuana

A workshop is being held by the man who narrowly missed becoming the Marijuana Party MP for Western Hutt, Mr Vass Gavriel. This workshop will be a lecture / demonstration, with an incisive, topical, and penetrating address by Mr Gavriel. The areas to be covered include practical techniques of cultivation and consumption. , tending to have a more mass oriented approach, while to cater for those slightly more advanced in this hobby, aspects of theory will be dealt with.

Contraceptives

The workshop will be on Monday 5 March between 10 and 11 a.m. in Smoking Room.

Dr Margaret Sparrow, who assisted on the Sexuality Booklet will be talking about contraception. It will be an informal discussion on methods and means. This workshop will be held on Tues 6 between 10 and 12 p.m. in the Lounge and Smoking Room.

Permit restrictions

A nice place to live - but I can't seem to visit there.

It seems that the Australian immigration authorities have a new policy on visitors to their fair shores. Providing you're not a Malaysian student or a wanted felon, they welcome you with open arms, but if you fall into the first category you get your passport stamped "Reference A". What the exact criterion for Reference A is, is a closely guarded secret (like most immigration policies in this country as will as in Australia).

As far as Salient knows, "Reference A" has only been applied to Malaysian students applying for visitor's permits to Australia on their way to and fro Malaysia during the summer holidays. "Reference A" means that you are not permitted into Australia at all. If a person whose passport is endorsed "reference A" does arrive in Australia from New Zealand, they are not permitted off the plane, and are flown back, at their own cost, on the next available flight. Over the past six months or so about thirty students have been victims of this policy, which culminated this month when all 14 Malaysian students who applied for visitors permits were turned down.

When questioned by VUWSA President Andrew Tees the Vice-Consul at the Australian High Commission, Mr McArthur, would only say that the Australian Government was concerned about "non bona fide" visitors. This seems to mean visitors who arrive and then never leave. While the Australian government may be quite justifiably concerned about an unauthorised and uncontrolled influx of immigrants, there are several questions that remain unanswered.

There is the matter of the secrecy which surrounded this policy. While most governments are reluctant to publically declare what the criterion for visas is, the Australian government is carrying it to absurd extremes;

The first student known to have been rejected for exclusion provides a case in point. In October 1978 a Malayan student bought his tickets for a trip home. Because it is the cheapest way to fly, he selected the Wellington / Sydney / Singapore route. Having bought his tickets he went to apply for a visa (as you must have your tickets before you can apply for a visa). He was awarded one, stamped "Reference A". Not knowing what this meant he dutifully boarded the plane. On arrival in Sydney the "Reference A" stamp was detected by a sharp-eyed immigration officer, and he was bundled back on to the plane and returned to New Zealand. They wouldn't even let him remain in the Transit Lounge, the normal practice for people without visas on stop-overs.

He was then charged for the flight to and from New Zealand, as well as then having to pay the more expensive fare for the trip Wellington / Auckland / Singapore. If the Australian High Commission had informed him that he would not be admitted into Sydney at least he would have been saved the cost of a wasted trip to Australia.

This sporadic labelling of "Reference A" to certain Malaysian students continued through the latter stages of 1978. There seemed to be no particular standard against which these applications were considered. Indeed it almost looked as though every fifth student got "Reference A" stamped on their passport.

Over the Christmas period "Reference A" seemed to have a holiday. Salient knows of about 30 Malaysian students who were granted visitors permits to Australia during this period. But suddenly at the beginning of February, back it came. Since then it appears that every Malaysian student who has applied for a visitors permit has been stamped "Reference A".

This was carried to its ridiculous conclusion in the case of one student who applied for a visitor's permit before the clampdown, and received it. She then changed her mind and applied for a student permit as she wanted to study for a diploma course in Sydney. This permit was also granted. When she went to get her passport endorsed in February, however, she was refused both applications - "Reference A" strikes again.

What Salient would like to know is exactly what grounds are applied to students applying for visitors permits, and in particular why the shutt-off at the beginning of February.

When Andrew Tees spoke to Mr McArthur he was assured that there was no discrimination attached to the policy of "Reference A". He invited Tees or (presumably anyone else, to present any evidence of discrimination in the policy. This grand looking offer looks a little sour in the light of the secrecy which surround the application of the policy.

As far as Salient has been able to determine, no non-Malaysian students have become "Reference A's" in the way that these others have been (ie with no other qualification than being Malaysian students). None of those students bannned have been arrested whilst in New Zealand or committed any of the actions which normally debar people from certain countries.

The other question is, if the policy is indeed not discriminatory, and the Australian government is basing this policy on some evidence on the activities or attitudes of these students, Salient asks where does this evidence come from Is the Malaysian embassy continuing its spying campaign on students? Are New Zealand government departments providing the Australian immigration authorities with information?

Whether the Australian Government is working on a discriminatory basis or whether it is evaluating applications on the basis of information found from covert surviellence, it is an ugly situation. Salient would further add that, if the Australian government is indeed receiving "spy" reports, it should consider changing its information source. To the best of our knowledge, none of the 14 students who had their application rejected this month had been involved in any activities which would warrant the Australian government considering them as anything other than "bona fide" visitors.

The attitude of the Australian High Commission has not been particularly sympathetic. McArthur told Tees that the press claims were inaccurate (but not in which particulars) and that they were the result of "a few Malaysian students getting hysterical about the situation". It seems that McArthur confuses concern for hysteria. In their position I think overseas students have every right to be both angry and concerned.

Salient believes that there are questions about this whole business which should be answered:

What does reference A mean?

Is "Reference A" a permanent restriction (ie will those students who have had "Reference A" stamped on their passports remain permanently ineligible for visitors permits)?

What are the criterion that students must satisfy to be regarded as "bona fide" visitors?

and we invite the Australian High Commission to answer them.

Salient would be interested to hear from overseas (particularly overseas students who came from countries other than Malaysia) students, on this question – all letters will be treated as confidential unless otherwise stated.

Peter Beach

Stop Press O'seas Students Graduation

Salient has just heard that the Minister of Immigration has reversed the decision of June last year preventing overseas students from remaining in New Zealand for their graduation ceremonies.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

PRIVATE BAG
Wellington 1
New Zealand
Phone 737-800
Telegraphic Address
"SECLAB"
Your Reference

Our Reference
E.O. 22/1/1&9
22/1/1&9-2

The Secretary
Victoria University Students Association
Private Bag
WELLINGTON

21 February 1979

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

PRIVATE OVERSEAS STUDENTS: GRADUATION CEREMONIES

The Minister of Immigration has agreed to a proposal put forward by the Interdepartmental Committee on Overseas Student Policy that overseas students be permitted to remain in New Zealand to attend graduation ceremonies.

Students wishing to remain for such purpose should apply for an extension to their student permits through their nearest District Office of the Department of Labour.

for Secretary of Labour

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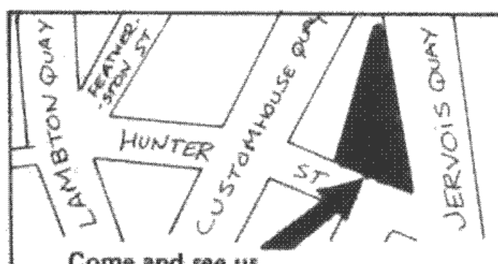

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SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FROM THE CELTIC ROOTS (PLAYING SCOTS AND IRISH FOLK)

THEATRE
2 out of 3 ain't bad

FLYING BLIND
Downstage Theatre
Author Bill Morrison
Director John Banas

There are a number of criteria that can be applied to criticising and understanding a play, or piece of dramatic art. But fundamentally all criticism is subjective. This is something they tend to forget to tell you about when you are studying English courses, but your opinion is as good as any other, and just because a critic can throw around fancy names and make him/herself sound superior by referring to plays/authors/films/directors etc that you have never heard of, does not mean that he/she has the answer.

Criticism and drama tend to be a bit of a closed shop. Those in the know or those who want to be in the know may read them. People who have come to trust the opinion of the critic may be guided by those opinions. But drama criticism is a form of feedback that , however unwelcome, theatre, and theatre in New Zealand badly needs.

It pisses me off something awful when I go to a play, find that it is lousy, discover that the houses have only just been full enough to keep that play being performed, and that the drama critics cannot say "It was bloody awful for this reason or this" but write sort of dear daphne reviews, which damn with faint praise and are always ever so nice to the director/writer/cast etc. How are actors ever going to know the truth in that situation?

Therefore, accepting that drama criticism is subjective, and that the subjectivity being used is mine, and that correspondence certainly will be entered into, here are the yardsticks against which I judge plays:

1. Is it entertaining? (That doesn't mean is it funny. It means did you enjoy it, did it carry you along).

2. Is it entertaining because the actors are good in carrying out their trade or the reverse? (I've been to some tragedies that ended up as comic because the acting was appalling).

3. Does it achieve what it sets out to do?

To sum up **Flying Blind** according to these criterion, briefly, it is most entertaining, and entertaining because of good acting not laughable through poor performances. But, alas, it cannot be said that it comes anywhere near to achieving its ends

The plot is simple, set in a university suburb of Northern Ireland we follow the trials and tribulations of Ralph Poops, who really only wants to listen to Charlie "Bird" Parker on the stereo and live his dream of playing the horn. But interruptions come thick and fast in the form of; first an unwelcome guest, some men sent to to repair the central heating, a threatened politician, some protestant terrorists and finally, you guessed it, the IRA.

In style **Flying Blind** is a drawing room farce, with all the elements of farce that you could ever hope for. For a start the drawing room has four doors (doors always figure largely in domestic comedies), there are various sexual goings on, with other people's wives and husbands and even a baby-sitter. There is the typical nutty hero of all farces distracted by reality, humane, hopeless, a Woody Allen of Northern Ireland. The comedy work is done well, the timing, the night I saw it, was excellent, a minimum number of cliches were used and the repartee was bawdy and clever.

The acting in most parts was also very good. Irish accents are not easy to come by, but most were sustained well. The bloke playing the lead male role, Bruce Phillips was excellent, and the supporting actors did support. The only two performances which marred the play (and here you get into the critic's dilemma - perhaps they were ill, maybe they had a quarrel with their landlady etc - yet they are paid, whatever the pittance, to perform well **every** night!) were those of Lloyd Scott and Wickham Pack.

Scott picked up towards the second half of the show, but in the beginning he made me embarrassed. Pack lost the Irish accent in the first ten minutes, slid over into American and finally ended up with upper crust New Zealand. She did not have the feel for the thing. For a start she leapt around the place like a frightened gazelle, very pretty, but not what was called for, and for another, the distance between her being coy and charming to her being deep and distressed was just too great to bridge even with an overactive imagination.

Now for number three - not the be all and end all by any means, but the one that is perhaps the most subjective, and to me the most important. In the programme for the play are the self-conscious politics that seem mandatory in political drama productions - they are never left to stand on their own. But these do not seem to have very much to do with the action of the play.

The programme rightly points out that the state of Northern Ireland has one of the most barbarous, fascist laws in the world, one that Vorster said he would be willing to trade all the injustice of South Africa for. Yet the general attitude to the struggle for self-determination in Northern Ireland is treated in a poisonous and patronising way. We are shown the effects of the troubles on one middle-class family - the men get impotent, the women get lovers that are also impotent.

We are shown violence, catholic violence, the protestants either can't touch a gun because they are too good, or can't get it to operate properly, but we aren't shown what causes the violence. There are some stirring speeches, mostly put clumsily into the basic comedy framework of the play. If they deal with matters from one angle alone, the distress of the middle classes when the world they know crumbles because they have profitted too long from a system that brutalises the majority of the people. "Man's inhumanity to man" they mutter, lounging around on chairs that would cost most catholic families a year's savings. Yet dressed up in the frilly pants of farce it almost seems sincere, responsible drama, clothing an unhappy pill with riotious comedy. When what it is really doing is clothing lies with laughs.

I might go again, even if only to see how the actors cope with a malevolent set, that falls apart as they move around it, but if you are looking for political drama, leave it alone, your politics will die laughing.

Lisa Sacksen

NEW ZEALAND STUDENTS' ARTS FESTIVAL — CHRISTCHURCH MAY 5 — 12 1979.

The New Zealand Students' Arts Festival officially opens on the 6th May, with a large public day on the 38 acre university playing grounds. There will be a huge range of entertainments for families and festival goers, including pipe bands, magicians, rock music, sky divers, acrobats, poets, drama etc.

One of the highlights will be a three band rock concert in the Auditorium of the Christchurch Town Hall, using Citizen Band, Schtung and an overseas act. This concert will be filmed by TV2.

In addition, the programme includes two film festivals, two operas, a classical concert series, a jazz concert and a dance festival. To ensure that the festival is a tremendous success, there must be as many as possible to create an atmosphere of sponteneity and creativity.

So please, if you think you have something to offer, come and see me or any member of the Executive. As far as funding is concerned, we can pay part of the transport costs involved in taking a show to Christchurch.

CLUBS ON CAMPUS

Over the past couple of years, Victoria University has gained a reputation for a distinct lack of cultural and social activity on and off campus. Increased work-loads in many courses and internal assessment procedures, have severly curtailed the amount of spare time available to the average student.

However if you perused the 1979 Handbook you will have noticed that scattered throughout the university, there are numerous groups of students busying themselves with cultural, political religious and social activities. They could have something for you.

If you feel that none of the existing clubs have anything to offer, why not set up a club yourself? It's one of the easiest things to do. All you need are 20 like-minded souls and three copies of the affiliation form (available from the Students' Association Office).

The Executive must approve your application, but the field is virtually wide open. Once affiliated, you are entitled to apply to the Cultural Affairs Committee for a grant.

I urge you, especially if this your first year, to join a club, its one of the best ways to make new friends and find you way around this place. not to mention the intellectual stimulation.

DOWNSTAGE THEATRE

FLYING BLIND — by Bill Morrison
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LIMITED SEASON — BOOK NOW 849 639
Dinner 6.30 p.m. — Play 8.00 p.m.
STUDENT STAND—BY NOW AVAILABLE at 7.50 p.m.
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BLARNEY AND BLIGHT — in Half-Way-Up
A broad view of Ireland
Thursdays 12.10 p.m.
Fridays 1.10 p.m. and 11 p.m.
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BOOKINGS 849 639

the ROCK THEATRE
126 Vivian St, 9.30 onwards, Thurs — Sat

This week — HAKKIT
Next week — ROUGH JUSTICE — At Victoria University Orientation this FRIDAY
WIDE MOUTHED FROGS (Thurs + Sat)
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Thursday nights, Students $2 (on production of current ID card or this ad)
Coming up : HELLO SAILOR : RED HOT PEPPERS

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FILM
Superficial style

KIN DEEP
irected by Geoff Steven
laza.

Bob (Ken Blackburn) runs the local lectrical Appliances store. Confident, ash, reassuring, he is the self appointed otive force in the town of Carlton, esident of the Businessmen's Progres-ve Association and leader of the cam-ign to put the town on the map. ith a $20,000 budget the BPA will nance an advertising campaign through-t the country to attract families anting to get away from it all and dustry to make sure they can't. The ntradiction doesn't seem very ap-rent to some of the BPA members, t Bob knows what he's about: with e public's money raised "for the blic's good" he 's on the way from coming just another shopkeeper to fully fledged capitalist.

One of his schemes is to invite top uckland boxers down for an exhibition ut at the climax of the local school-y competition. That draws the crowds l right. Another idea is to get the owner the run-down gym to hire an Auck-nd masseuse. Contrary to expecta-ns, she doesn't draws the crowds at l, but she does bring out a great any latent frustrations in the local pulation. Bob, ever the leader, is t of course an idle bystander to e bitter culmination of events.

kin Deep was made on location in aetihi. The town and its rituals are posed bluntly to the camera: the l-male pub, the brusqe waitress in e formica top restaurant, the gala nce, the wife who hands around e food and expects any other oman in the room will prefer to the same. All these things are h in subtle humour. Sometimes s an easy joke, at other times it's zor-sharp satire. But never are able to laugh with the characters; most never, in fact, do we see them ghing. Or enjoying themselves at l. The subject deserves all the sat-e it can get, it's just that satire needs attack the life of its subject, not e simple facade put there by the tirist in the first place.

A cross country run by the town's ungsters is a good example. Up ll and down dale we watch the run-rs toiling along. That's all we do, atch. The film makes no attempt enter into the spirit. It happens ain with a wood-chopping comp-ition. A group of big strong men t up lengths of tree trunk in the uring rain and proceed to chop em in half. The camera follows is with close ups of the hands reaching for axes, metal clamps being driven into place, axes biting into the wood. We see almost nothing of the people and get no sense of excitement or competition at all. The meaning of the event for its participants and thus for the film's audience is destroyed.

Possibly the filmmakers have intended this to happen. Perhaps they mean to show that the principle purpose of these fundraising ventures is not the enjoyment or achievement of those taking part but their potential for lining the pockets of the town's businessmen. But surely there is some sort of pretence that the former just doesn't exist.

Anything can be made to appear absurd if its meaning for those who are doing it is shown to be so. For example, thirty grown men chasing an inflated pig's bladder round on the grass sounds ludicrous. But a game of rugby certainly is not ludicrous, and if one wanted to make a film which captured something of the spirit of New Zealand it would be cheating to treat it as such. This film is an attempt to capture something of the New Zealand spirit, yet the wood chopping and the cross country run are examples of just this kind of trick. As an examination of small town life the film is just as the title suggests, and it's not clear why.

The main plot of Skin Deep centres around Sandra (Deryn Cooper), who has come to the town to get away from the city (she says). Bob becomes her main customer ; from the very beginning his interest in the goings on of city massage parlours is apparent to Sandra and the audience. Her response is difficult to understand. She doesn't encourage him, nor does she discourage him. Worldly-wise and disillusioned, she is to an extent trapped by her circumstances. Presumably she had hoped that a change of scenery would lead to a change of habits, yet she does very little to bring this about. She just doesn't seem to care, while at the same time (when loneliness overcomes her) she care desperately.

There are two other women in the film. Bob's wife (Heather Lindsay): who seems happy enough doing whatever her husband wants, and the wife of the town's accountant (Glenis (Levestam) she is the local voice of civil decency, impressionable and when it comes to church sermons and bitter as hell when there's a whiff of prostitution about.

As a film about the predicament of women, Skin Deep is pretty depressing containing not the faintest hint of anything that might be done about this destructive state of affairs. In its portrayal of these three people (and of the men who hover about defining their lives for them) it will undoubtedly ring true for a great many people who see it. It's hard to believe the filmmakers' intention was to depress their audience, yet it's hard to see what else they were trying to do for anyone to whom will the film will speak directly.

Having said all this, I have to admit I came out of the cinema having enjoyed myself. Partly it was because of the skin deep presentation of small town life (all that subtle humour at the town's expense). Partly it was because of the film's superb camerawork and beautifully finished form. Director of Photography Leon Narby's experience in avant garde shines through in the sense for movement, colour and form. The wood chopping episode for example, fascinating exercise in creating an intimate feeling for the things happening (even though people and meaning are excluded).

Very largely my enjoyment came from the atmosphere of confidence the film exudes In every sense it is professionally made, nowhere more so than in the acting. Blackburn is especially good as the self-seeking small-time big shot. Cooper manages the difficult combination of self confidence (she has no trouble "handling herself") and loss of self (she doesn't know what to do with herself) with apparent ease. Levestam is disturbingly bitter while Grant Tilly as her husband develops his own pathetic brand of bitterness with a quiet flair. A sequence at the dance when the portly accountant tries to keep step with Sandra and has to face his cold condemning wife at the end is among the best in the film;

Skin Deep is worth seeing. Even more than its predecessors in the emerging local film industry, Sleeping Dogs and Solo., its overall execution demonstrates considerable ability (all the more remarkable for being made for only $180,000). Yet it also shares with those films a reticance to treat its themes with any depth. That flaw is all the more disturbing for hiding behind a surface appearance of having been overcome.

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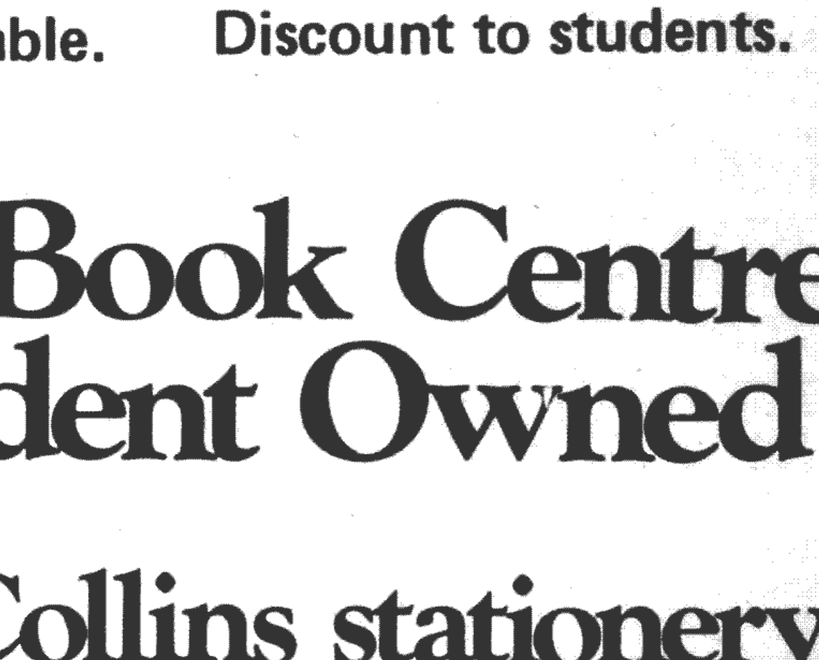

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BOOKS
The saint who failed

PLUMB
Maurice Gee
Faber and Faber
Hardback: $13.35
Paperback: not available

Plumb is the story of a man deeply rooted in his faith in God. A man who strives, in gentleness and sternness, to do good by people, yet who arguably does them no good at all. A man who, above all, would know God, and whose final peace comes when he understands, far far too late, that he has done wrong.

Born an Anglican, George Plumb converts to Presbyterianism at the time of his marriage. It is his first step in a search for truth unbridled by doctrine and superfluity. He becomes a Minister, starting out on the rugged West Coast and later taking up residence in small towns in the Canterbury area.

Plumb finds he has a natural dislike of orthodoxy, and the Presbytery doesn't help. It may have been a sterner calling in 1893 than was Anglicanism but it suffered no lack of either dogma or deep-set resistance to change. So Plumb develops a passion for Rationalism, leading his religious colleagues and members of the clergy to develop a passion of their own for running him out of the Church. Backed by the "Statement of Faith" they are full of righteous indignation while Plumb has for ethical support his own belief that rationalism was once the hallmark of Protestantism and that just men will listen to what is true. Both these views of his also lend themselves to righteousness. The Reverend is "tried" for heresy and becomes a Reverend no more.

With twelve children to support he turns to full-time lecturing and preaching on the "will of our Mother/Father God". The outbreak of the 1914-1918 war provides him with ample material for his subject "the anti-social spirit of Modern Capitalism, Militarism and Imperialism". A friend builds him a Uniterian Hall, he tours, and for two years when the war drive hounds him away, he seeks tolerance in California. Tolerance he finds (for a short while) and also richness, noisiness and ignorant bigotry. So home the family sails.

Back in New Zealand it is not long before his pacifist preachings lands him in Court for sedition, and from there he is removed to Lyttleton gaol. "Russia wanted war, England wanted war, the upper class in New Zealand wanted war. Never has there been such a wonderful five days as the five days of the Russian Revolution..." Preaching against war loans is bad enough, but Bolshevism the bourgeosie will not stand.

Yet Plumb was not a socialist. His faith in the ideal of the golden age and his ignorance of the working class are enough on their own to preclude this. (Ideals also lead him in an unspecified way towards eugenics: the selective breeding of the human race).

Plumb leaves prison with hearing and hair gone, a wasted body, an old man. The family shifts north to the sun, the warmth, the quiet country-town of Henderson, there to set up home under the name of "Peacehaven". The remaining children grow up and leave and Plumb's wife Edie dies. Plumb writes books he must publish himself, muses on his family and his life, while his idealism develops into mysticism. He receives a few shocks, some small pleasures and a great number of small disappointments.

Maurice Gee has written this book in the first person, in the form of a chronological reminiscence of Plumb's life interwoven with chapters on a sequence of events near the old man's death. In this way he has managed to weave a complex and subtle fabric around his themes (love, God, justice, humanity, knowledge...), displaying in delicate intimacy the workings of a mind wedded to the truth yet unable to grasp the world before it.

For Plumb is ignorant. Certainly his life is an inspired search for knowledge, an endless series of questions and glimmering revelations that lead him on towards the great and glorious understanding of the meaning of God on earth. He never comes so close to his truth that he has to turn away from it (as both religion and mysticism suggest should be the case), but is nevertheless conscious of every step, of every set of scales that fall from his eyes.

The fly leaf of the book calls him a saint, while his neighbours provide a light satire on this idea by following "Plumbism" (the successor to Christian Science, anthropomorphism and a host of other cults). Yet however inspired, Plumb is a failure. Endless pronouncements on the failings and graces of his wife and family are undercut by the all too apparent fact that he doesn't know them and he doesn't give them a chance to know him. Twelve children in seventeen years amd Plumb's spartan comment is: "After that there were no more babies. Edie was not strong enough...And if at the end of her child-bearing she was bone tired and aged beyond her years.. she would have said it was no more than proper."

His fervent desire to serve God through service to humanity blinds him to his story's bitter irony: he cannot accept and therefore does not understand his fellow men and women. This mixing of concern for what could be and ignorance of what is can only have one result: he hurts those around him, frequently for life.

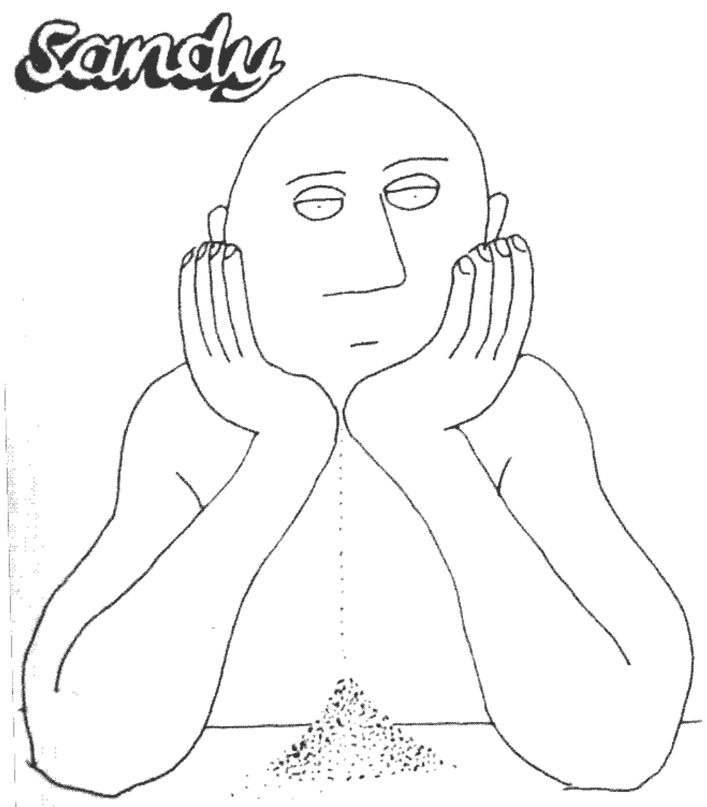
Gee's exposure of this is not direct, he never preaches as Plumb is want to do. However he does display one shortcoming typical of many of the characters in this and his other works. Plumb himself is aware of it and not slow to either criticise or seek it out in his companions. This failing is a kind of narrowness of mind, the propensity to fix one's vision on one thing and remain unaware of the nature and importance of its context. In **Plumb** it is most apparent in the book's sense of history. The First World War, the Russian Revolution, the depression and the Second World War all receive attention of an intimate kind. Politicians (Semple, Savage, even Holyoake) are observed by Plumb with deliberate disrespectful familiarity. In one episode he even demolishes Nash from the floor of a meeting hall and raises a cry of anger against the Labour Party from the depression hungry crowd. But this familiar tone is without real analysis. There is little sense of people as the force of history and being acted on by history. Plumb himself seems curiously to exist outside the course of events.

He admits that his idealism takes precedence over a rational view of things, and in part the fault is inherent in the first-person style of writing. Yet this isn't the whole answer. Gee deliberately speeds up the chronology during the times of historical importance, thus avoiding the opportunity to place his protagonist squarely in his social setting. Because of this the book lacks the epic quality quality some critics have claimed for it.

This limitation aside, Gee exhibits a fine sense of timing and ability to move his story along. The judicious command of language, a trait common to New Zealand writers, is raised to new standards of excellence.

To think about his protagonist, George Plumb, is to dislike him more and more. Yet the man is not evil and there is much in him one can feel compassion for. Gee's skill reveals itself again and again in the rhythm of the storytelling, but above all in his ability to write with a sympathy that does not blind one to his subject's faults, to write of a man ever moving towards his pinnacle in a way that renders his life and work a quiet tragedy.

Simon Wilson



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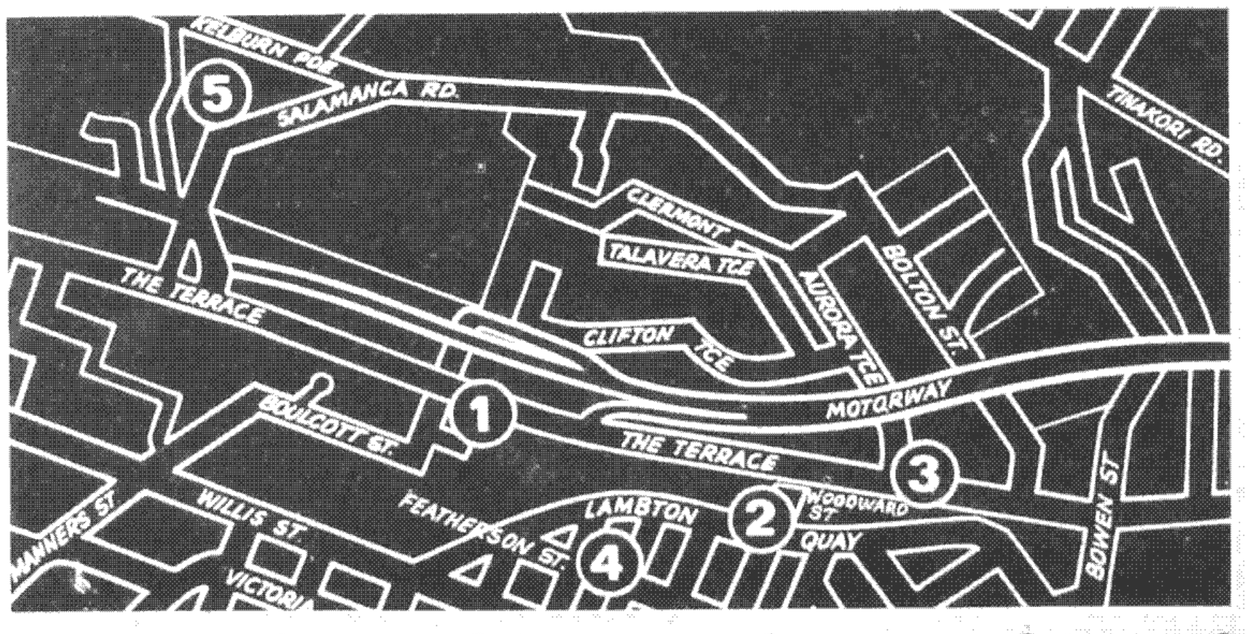

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RECREATION CENTRE

Welcome; Haere Mai; Talofa; Bien venu; Willkommen; G'day: if you recognise that ...le lot, you will probably be aware that ... new, improved, student-paid-for, wel...ming, Recreation Centre is back in action. ...tion ranging from sitting drinking coffee ...sweating over a hot exercycle. What...r your activity (or inactivity).... the ...creation Centre will provide it.

The new timetable is displayed in the ...ntre foyer, the Union Building foyer ...d in this issue of Salient. We have man...d to accommodate the activities of all ... student groups who asked for space ...but .... sorry you all couldn't have what you ...nted.

Recreation specials for this year ...ask at reception .... our receptionist ...Jan .... and all will be explained.

Beginners squash

The Thursday evening fitness-for-every-one class gets a repeat on Tuesday lunch-times at 12 noon. Be in you budding skiers.

• Dance .... modern, creative, jazz, etc; learn, be better, choreograph .... it's all here in the dance room. Beginners a speciality.

• Personal fitness, weight losing, weight training programmes .... by appointment. Diana or Hugh are the exercise prescription dispensers.

• Social sport .... at a social pace in a social space.

Indoor soccer
Indoor hockey
Basketball
Netball
Volleyball
Badminton

In a team or on your own .... ask now or enter a team at the Centre.

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It's your Recreation Centre, so use it and make use of the staff. If you don't think you've time, the staff will help you to make time.

RECREATION CENTRE TIMETABLE — LONG ROOM

...m.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
0	Wgtn Men's Cricket-primary schools		Wgtn Men's Cricket-primary schools	Wgtn Men's Cricket-primary schools			Wgtn Women's Cricket
11	Wgtn Men's Cricket-primary schools		Wgtn Men's Cricket-primary schools	Wgtn Men's Cricket-primary schools		Wgn Men's Cricket-Brabin Shield	Wgtn Women's Cricket
12						Wgtn Men's Cricket-Brabin Shield	Wgtn Women's Cricket
1							Atheletics
							Atheletics
		Wgtn Men's Cricket-Secondary Sch.					
.30	Wgtn Men's Cricket-Secondary Sch.	Wgtn Men's Cricket-Secondary Sch.		Wgtn Men's Cricket-Secondary Sch.			
0-6.30	Wgtn Men's Cricket-Secondary Sch.	Hockey	Hockey	Atheltics	VUW Cricket Club		
0-7.30	Small Bore Rifles	Wgtn Men's Cricket-Rothmans	VUW Cricket Club	Wgtn Women's Cricket Club	VUW Cricket Club		
0-8.30	Small Bore Rifles	Wgtn Women's Cricket	Wgtn Men's Cricket-Secondary Sch.	Wgtn Women's Cricket			
0-9.30	Small Bore Rifles	Wgtn Women's Cricket	Wgtn Men's Cricket-Secondary Sch.	Wgtn Women's Cricket			
0-10.30		Wgtn Women's Cricket	Wgtn Men's Cricket-Secondary Sch.				

RECREATION CENTRE TIMETABLE — OLD GYM

a.m.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9-10	Brooklyn	Creche/Fitness Progm.	Te Aro	Matauranga School/		MSA	MSSA
10-11	School	Badminton (beginners)	School	Fitness Progm.	Badminton (beginners)	MSA	MSSA
11-12	Squash (beginners)				Badminton (beginners)	Volleyball (1 court)	
12-1	Hockey	Badminton	Soccer	Volleyball	Basketball		
1-2	Hockey	Badminton	Soccer	Volleyball	Basketball		
2-3	Squash (beginners)			Squash (beginners)			
3-4	Squash (beginners)		Basketball (beginners)				
4-5.30	Basketball (women's)		Staff Recreation		Staff Recreation		
5.30-6.30	Rugby	Athletics	Hockey (women's)	Mixed Fitness	Netball (women's)		
6.30-7.30	Soccer (women's)	Athletics	Hockey (women's)	Soccer	Badminton		
7.30-8.30	Volleyball	Basketball	Hockey (men's)	Soccer	Badminton		Hostels
8.30-9.30	Volleyball	Basketball	Hockey (men's)	Basketball	Badminton		Hostels
9.30-10.30	Volleyball	Basketball		Basketball	Badminton		Hostels

RECREATION CENTRE TIMETABLE — DANCE ROOM

a.m.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9-10						Fencing	
10-11			Dance (open class)			Fencing	
11-12		Te Aro Dance	Dance			Fencing	
12-1		Mixed Fitness		Slimnastics			
1-2		Yoga		Yoga			
2-3						Boxing	
3-4						Boxing	
4-5.30		Dance (beginners)	Dance (technique & chor.				
5.30-6.30	Dance (technique)	Scottish Country	Dance (advanced)	Rembuden	Dance		Rembuden
6.30-7.30	Disco	Scottish Country	Karate	Rembuden	Boxing		Rembuden
7.30-8.30	Karate	Table Tennis	Karate/ Fencing	TKD	Boxing		TKD
8.30-9.30	Karate	Table Tennis	Fencing	TKD			
9.30-10.30		Table Tennis	Fencing				

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...r Margaret Sparrow is a great lady and also ...Medical Officer of the Service. Her interests ... wide and varied sweeping from sleep...sness to Venerology and Family Planning.

...r Eric Bird is back with us after his leave last ...ar. Hauling his boat out of the water still ...ows him to work here in a full - time ...pacity inbetween the scraping of barnacles ...d standing on the poop.

...nd then we come to the refreshing ...mour and aura surrounding the Nurses. ...uri and Celia are their respective names and ...ring for the sick is one of their many games.

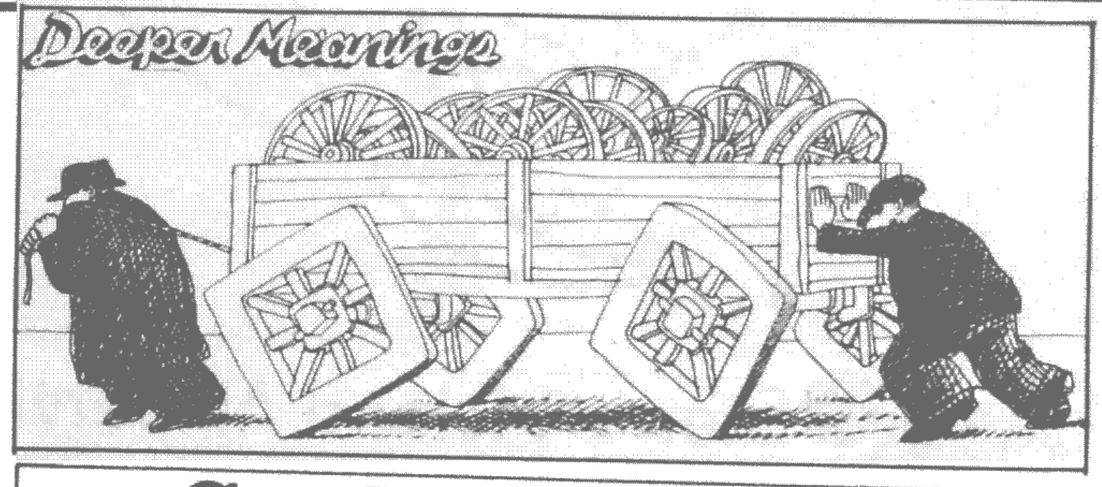
...s well we have a Consultant Psychiatrist, ...Ian McDougall. He calls in here for his ...ffee breaks and to listen to our problems ... a Monday afternoon and all day Wednesday. ...ou have to be referred to him by one of our ...ctors or the Counselling service.

...o come to this Healthy service we direct ...u to wander along behind the Rankine ...own building where a path and steep ...ps lead to our abode. We are at your ...vice from 9a.m. - 5p.m.; Monday to ...day and in cases of emergency during ... weekends if you are unable to contact ...ur own Doctor then please ring the Free ...mbulance at 722 - 999 and they will tell ...u which of the Doctors is on call for the ...dents. During the week and after 5 p.m., ...u can call your own Doctor from the ...alth Service at either:

Dr Fleming	753 - 249
Dr Bird	851 - 028
Dr Sparrow	759 - 886

We are only to happy to discuss any aspect of your health which may be plaguing you. Vaccinations, your diet, your contraception - or lack of it; your medication; skin conditions; weight; vision or your anxieties about this place are to name but a few. Confidentiality holds between student, doctor or nurse as in any pro - fessional situation.

Our final note this week must be on those who are eligible. Students who are living at home with their parents in the Wellington area are expected to continue with their family doctors. We do offer those of you "at home" a free full medical examination and in cases of emergency we will care for you. To all the "others" free medical service is offered.



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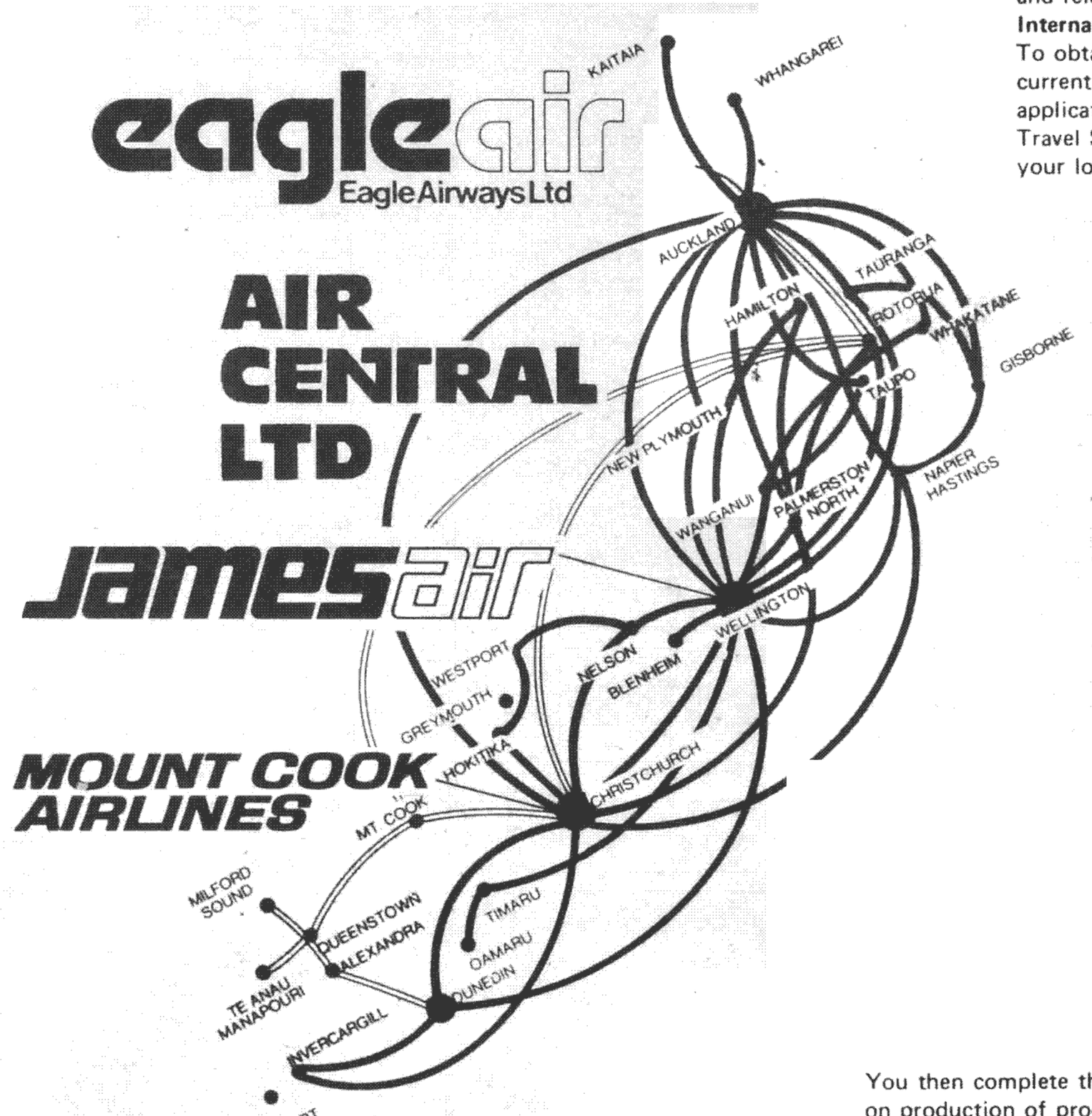

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Coutenay Place
Wellington

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Student Travel Bureau

You will receive back with your ISIC information on the standby fare concession scheme and information on the other benefits and discounts available to ISIC holders. If you don't have a Student Travel Sales office nearby and have difficulty obtaining an application form write to the ISIC Scheme seeking assistance.

Remember to obtain the concessions available you must hold a **valid** ISIC so if you are eligible apply **now** to obtain the benefits available.

Film programme

This year's film programme includes ver 50 films ranging from "Lenny" to Fellini's Roma". The programme has ried to cater for wide ranging tastes, hence ne inclusion of such 'popular' films as Saturday Night Fever".

Most of the sreenings are at 2.15 p.m. the Memorial Theatre, except those narked with an asterisk, which will be hown at 5.00 p.m.

Admission to each film is $1.00, but or only $10.00 an annual ticket can be urchased which will entitle the holder o see every film. All tickets are available rom the Students' Association Office hich is situated on the ground floor s the Student Union building.

Ushers are still needed for the first erm screenings. If you are interested a being an usher, apply at the Students' ssociation Office.

We hope you enjoy the 1979 Films rogramme detailed below:

'ebruary

u	27	Lenny
'ed	28	The Man Who Fell to Earth

larch

h	1	American Graffiti
un	4	Night of Dark Shadows/ To the Devil a Daughter (to be screened at midnight)
u	6	The Return of the Pink Panther
'ed	7	Soldier Blue
h	8	Dirty Mary – Crazy Larry
u	13	If
'ed	14	(To be advised)
Th	15	(to be advised)
Wed	21	Magnificent Seven
Th	22	Off the Edge
Tu	27	The Graduate
* Wed	28	Ladies and Gentlemen – The Rolling Stones

April

Tu	3	The Slipper and the Rose
Th	5	Cousin Cousine
Tu	10	Logan's Run
Wed	11	The Good, The Bad and the Ugly
Wed	18	Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid
* Th	19	The Last Waltz
Tu	24	Goodbye Colombus
Th	26	Golden Rendezvous

May

Tu	15	The Omen
Wed	16	Dr Zhivago
Wed	23	Family Life
* Th	24	Saturday Night Fever
Fri	25	Futtock's End (shown free)
Tu	29	Nashville
Th	31	S.P.Y.S.

June

Tu	5	The Mechanic
Wed	6	The Eagle has Landed
Wed	13	The Sting
* Th	14	Annie Hall

July

Tu	3	Play Misty For Me
Th	5	Alice Cooper – Welcome to My Nightmare
Tu	10	Catch 22
Wed	11	Carrie
Wed	18	Fellini's Roma
* Th	19	Monty Python and the Search For The Holy Grail
Tu	24	Speedtrap
Th	26	Romeo and Juilet
Tu	31	The Missouri Breaks

August

Wed	1	The Paper Chase
Tu	7	Capricorn One
Wed	8	Women In Love
Th	9	A Streetcar Named Desire
Wed	29	The Boys in the Band
Th	30	Slaughterhouse Five

September

Tu	4	Smokey and The Bandit
* Th	6	Rocky
Tu	11	A Man Called Horse
Wed	12	Sleeper
Wed	19	Rollerball
Th	20	Lord Of the Flies
Tu	25	The Music Lovers
Th	27	Julia (pending availability of print)

October

Tu	2	Mahogany
Wed	3	Picnic at Hanging Rock
Th	4	Kelly's Heroes

NOTICES

EING A WOMEN — WHAT IT EANS TO YOU.

A course being offered by Dr Anne mith and Felicity McLennan R.N. of the 'ellington Family Planning Association hich will include topics such as Anatomy nd Physiology, Contraception, Female exuality, and Sexual Response and Per- onal Relations.

To be held on Mondays from 7.30 p.m. 10.00 p.m. commencing March 5 1979 r 6 consective Mondays at "Crossways" 6 Brougham Street.

Course fee – $5.00

For further information or application ntact:
tudent Health Service,
Wai-te-ata Rd.
xt. 802/803

/OMEN'S ACTION GROUP

The Women's Action Group exists to omote action on women's rights on cam- is. At university women make up only 40% of the total student population. This is a direct result of the sexual discrimination and conditioning which are predominent in New Zealand society. Groups such as ours are formed in order to win a fairer deal for women students, and women in general.

Our first task will be organising action on March 8, International Women's Day. Suggestions so far have been forums, films, group discussions: if you have any ideas or wish to be involved in these activities then come to our first meeting. All women welcome. For further information, contact Lamorna or Leonie at Studass.

Friday March 2, 12 noon, Lounge Student Union.

LETTERS

Letters must be typed, double spaced and on one side of the paper, and sh should not run on and on boring everyone to death. The can be dropped into the letters box, just inside the Salient door (middle floor of the Union Building, graveyard end), left at the Studass office, or sent c/o VUWSA, Private Bag, Wellington.

Active Mice

Dear Sir

I would like to congratulate the lads (there don't seem to any women) in Radio Active for their fearless refusal to bow before the restrictions imposed on them by the Broadcasting Council. I refer of course to the fact that in spite of regulations prohibiting Active from broadcasting anything that might impinge on the activities of the regular stations, those brave boys have been regularly telling us the time.

There's no delay either. They don't wait about until twelve o'clock is old news before telling us about it. No, sir, they're right on the button. It makes my blood run cold to think what the BCNZ might do to them, but there they are, right up with 2ZM everytime.

It's a pity though, that they don't carry this courageous resolve into other areas. Like a bit of real news. Or weather. I heard them one morning saying: "And now for the weather. I'll just take a look out of the window .... it's raining a bit and it's pretty grey." Now I admire anyone who tries, but somehow this just didn't seem to tell me what I wanted to know.

Then there's the matter of the test cricket. I don't think I'm the only student who wants to hear New Zealand punish Javed Miandad something awful in the third test*(to right! Typesetter)*. I'm sure I wasn't the only one who wanted regular reports on progress last week.

The simple fact is that until the Active boys show a bit of guts we'll never have a decent radio station. The regulations won't be changed unless Active, with student support, forces them to do it. So how about it lads? Let's have a bit of struggle to get ourselves a station we don't have to listen to out of a feeling of loyalty. A station that doesn't pretend we exist in isolation from the outside world. Music isn't the only thing that makes the world go round.

Yours in expectation,
Harry Crawford.

An obituary

Dear Sir,

So the randy old bastard died while engaged in his "favourite pastime"? Bullshit, I know for a fact he hasn't been able to "get it up" in over two years. So you can scotch that rumour for a start.

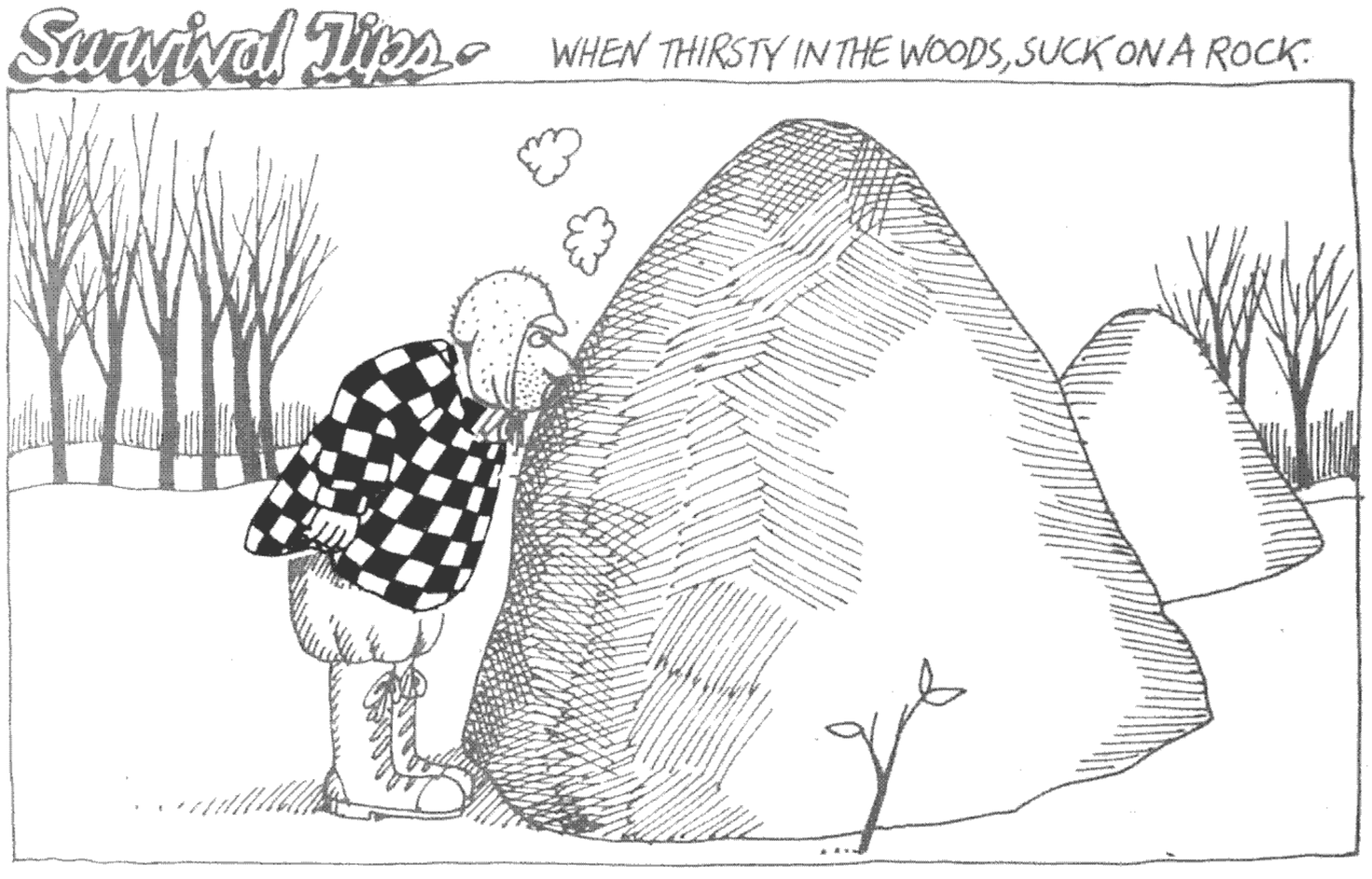
Yours,
Happy

Dear Peter,

Through the pages of your magazine I would like to thank Comrade Brezhnev for all the help he has given us in the past and for his nice new tanks that arrived only yesterday. It really is too good of him.

Yours
Pham Van Dong

USELESS SPACES: FREE TICKETS COMPETITION



Want to win free tickets to the Orientation concerts?

Want to find out just how stupid this place can be?

Want to simply find out about this place?

Here's the competition for you!

Salient has chosen 50 places around the university and designated them "useless spaces". Some are spaces that can't be used for their intended purpose. Some have no use at all. Some are obvious, some are very subtle. Some are big and others are small. Some are useless in a way you you would never have thought.
All are accessible to students (the drinks in the Vice-Chancellor's liquor cabinet are not included).
Bring your complete list to the Salient Office at the graveyard end of the middle floor of the Union Building by 12 noon, Thrusday 8 March.

Prizes will be allotted in two categories: first year and open.

First prize for each category: 2 tickets to the Rough Justice concert, Friday 9th AND 2 tickets to the Jazz concert, Sunday 11th.

Two runner up in each category will each receive 2 tickets to one of the concerts.

EXPLORE THE UNIVERSITY! NOW IS THE TIME!

AND WATCH OUT FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE USELESS SPACES FESTIVAL!

THE BARRETTS HOTEL

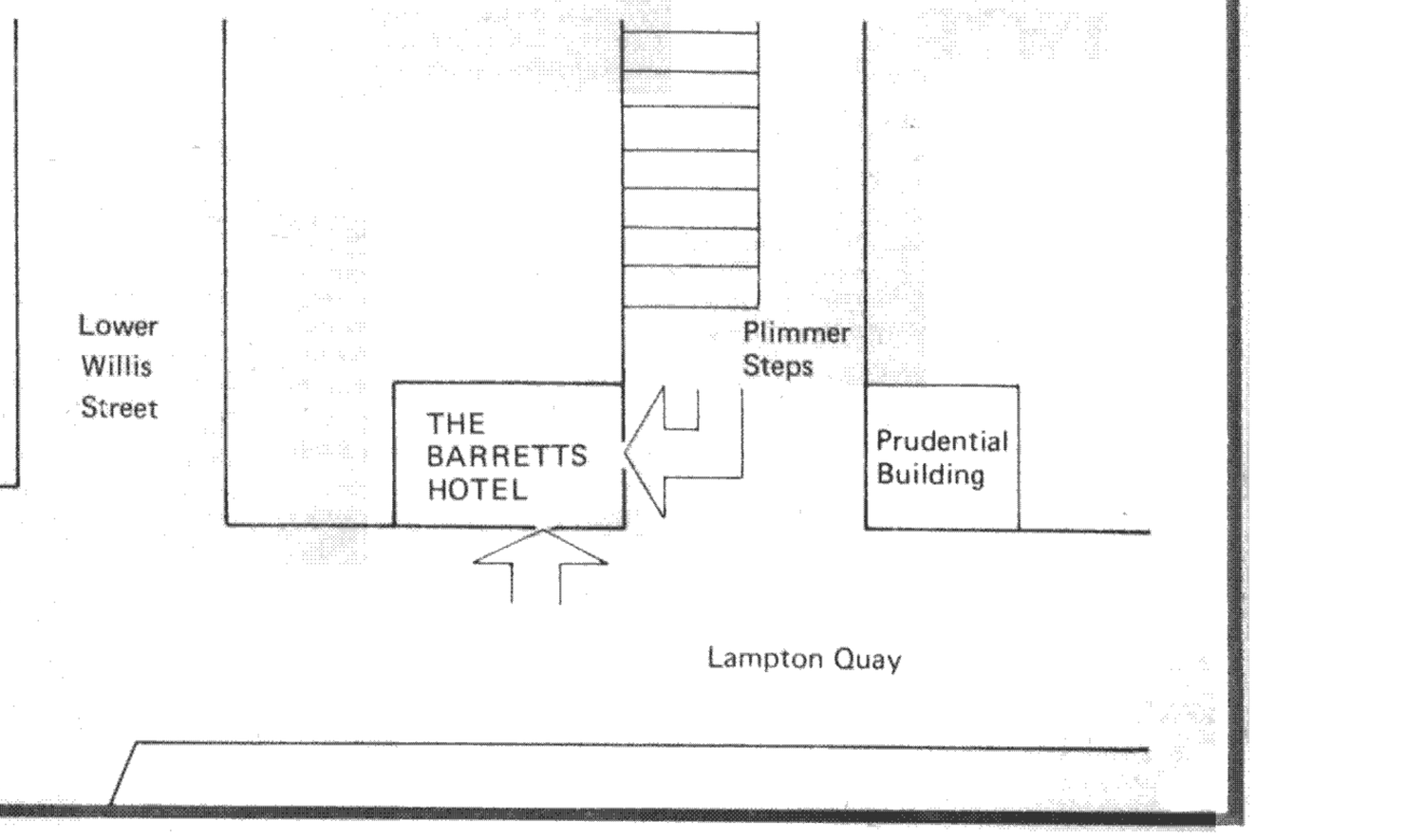
THE STUDENTS' HOTEL IN THE HEART OF WELLINGTON
(334 Lambton Quay, adjacent Plimmers Steps)

Four Bars - Four Beers

University students especially welcome!

* REEF BAR — Bass on tap
* DINO'S WINE AND ALE BAR — Lion Draught on tap
* TASMAN BAR — DB Draught on tap. Coffee and sandwiches noon til 2pm
* DICKY BARRETTS RESTAURANT — Excellent meals at reasonable prices.

Delicious, cheap meals are also available from the Bistro in Dino's Wine Bar from noon till 2pm.



Trevor Snowden (Prop)

ph. 723 199