

GOWNPOWER DOWNTOWN

Moves to get student voice in City Council

by Michael Volkerling

IN what seems almost a reply to the Auckland Star's recent editorial 'The Silent Students', Auckland's silent students are busy reorganizing their internal and external politics.

In 1965, four students, calling themselves the Independents for Civic Action stood unsuccessfully in the Local Body Elections. Latest news indicates that after a barren period this group is being reestablished, this time as a registered political party, largely through A.U.S.A. efforts. At a meeting of the A.U.S.A. Executive in December of last year a resolution was carried agreeing to "support the efforts of the Civic Action Party in all ways possible", on the condition that the constitution of the party be altered to include two A.U.S.A. nominees in the Central Committee, and six in the Candidate Selection Committee.

Since at present there are only thirteen active non-Studass* members in the Party — including three sometime Presidents of Studass — this would appear to give the by-elections in regional districts of Auckland.

4. To advocate the policy of the Party and, as far as it may be University lobby a rather powerful voice in candidate selection, framing of policy, and the general control of the new party.

This impression is strengthened by the fact that it is also planned to

provide financial support for the Party if the Exec resolution is approved by an SGM to be called later in the first term. Thus although C.A.P. is not an affiliated body of A.U.S.A. it is obvious that the real source of power lies in Studass hands.

Until SGM endorsement is received the group is being run by Ross McCormick and Michael Hart with an *ad hoc* committee, comprising both Studass representatives and private individuals, who have defined the general aims and objects of the Party as:

1. To promote the political, economic, social and cultural advancement of the region of Auckland irrespective of sectional interests.

2. To encourage and advocate progressive action in civic affairs.

3. To encourage and promote young people as candidates in all or any Local Body Elections or deemed practicable and desirable, to cooperate with other organizations which have similar aims.

5. To encourage cooperation and mutual understanding between young people and the citizens of Auckland.

In general terms this policy seems admirable. The Council at present consists almost exclusively of Queen St businessmen and any new influx of members with different priorities would contribute to breaking down this over-represented hierarchy. In

addition any organized party such as this would undoubtedly increase the turnout on election days, which in the last two campaigns has consisted of less than 40 per cent of eligible voters. It also seems obvious that by fixing the age limit for party membership at 17, the Party is ensuring an increasing vote in future municipal elections when these junior members come of age.

Yet perhaps what is more significant in this development is the change in the political status of Studass which this amalgamation would bring about. For whereas in the past the Students' Association has been solely an internal organization, it must now become — even if only partially — an external political force. This is a change of status which will affect every student by indirectly committing them to Civic Action policy if financial aid is in fact approved.

This assumption of almost complete identity between the Civic Action Party and Studass may seem unjustified when one considers the potential balance of power within the Central Committee. Yet the fact of financial control by Studass over what must surely be a large portion of initial campaign funds confirms this close correspondence. For by the very fact of providing financial aid Studass will be in effect establishing a public political wing which must ultimately remain under their control despite personnel

changes and non-affiliation.

Every indication seems to point to the fact that this virtual combination of a compulsory union (Studass) and a voluntary political party will not be an easy marriage, and this raises questions about the ethics of the system. For although the students are indirectly financing the Party, it is only the financial members who have a say in electing Party officers, and it is only the Party officers who, under the present Constitution have the power to nominate student representatives for the executive bodies.

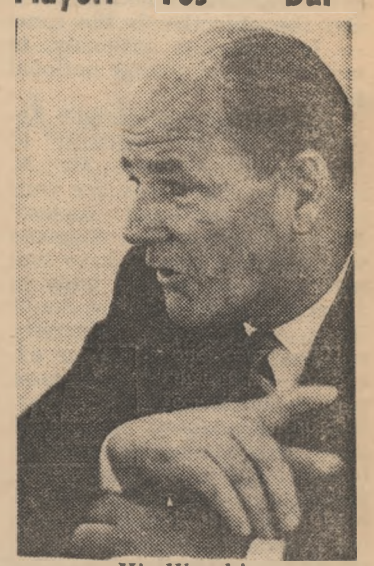
Thus to a certain extent the students will be in the position of supplying bread for someone else's circus, and while they may ultimately benefit by having an organized lobby in local government, their actual power in choosing the policy makers will be non-existent.

All in all, this is a question which needs considerable examination before the SGM is called later this term, both by the framers of the new scheme and by the student body in whose hands lies the decision for its implementation.

*"Studass" is Auckland University Students' Association.

CRACCUM interviewed Auckland's Mayor, Dr R. McElroy, in connection with the possibility of Civic Action candidates standing for the Local Body Elections.

Mayor: "Yes - - - But"



His Worship

"I would like to see a closer relationship between the university and the city," he said, "to use the old cliché, town and gown should be drawn closer together. I would like to see more university men — men who have a university background. The city would benefit from the fertilisation of ideas which have their origin in the university."

"Yet for the university's own sake," he continued, "I would not like to see develop a kind of spirit in which it was opposed to the civic administration, since this could result in a disruption of links which the Council and myself have already forged between town and gown."

I regard younger candidates as desirable also, because the average age in the City Council does tend to get higher. Youth is not always right, but then who is? I am not always right myself."

It's all for you !

by George de Bres

On Saturday, the new one million dollar Student Union Building was opened by the Governor-General, Sir Arthur Porritt. With this event, the Students' Association has entered a new era.

Up till this year the Auckland University students' only home was an incredibly inadequate building snuggled behind the main library and Arts block. But due to the foresight and action of students in the late 1950s and subsequent years, we are able to enjoy luxurious surroundings which are incomparably better than anything else of their kind in New Zealand.

One of the men who has been most associated with the project from its inception is Mr John Strevens, who was President of the Students' Association for two years from 1960-62, and in whose term of office the whole idea of the Union became something more than just a dream.

In 1961, John Strevens' Executive, with a General Meeting majority of 121-12, raised the Students' Association levy to £5. £3 of this was to go to the Building Fund. A Building Committee was set up with Strevens as Chairman, to draw up a list of requirements for the building. The committee wrote all over the world for plans of existing Student Unions, and in 1962 John Strevens himself toured Australian and British universities with the building in mind, when he was on his way to a meeting of the International Student Conference.

A huge public appeal began in 1963 which finally produced some \$63,000 of the total cost. Of the rest, the Government provided a subsidy of \$502,000. All that remains has to be paid by the Students' Association. Much has

been paid already, but present students themselves will be paying a building levy for some years to come. In the meantime, a loan of \$180,000 has been given by the University Council.

It is a credit to John Strevens and all those that followed him that the building has become a reality in so short a time. It is up to today's students to see that their hard work is not in vain.

Mr Vaughan Preece, Administrative Secretary of the Students' Association, was asked for some comments on the new building. He said, "The Students' Association, after being for many years a backyard outfit, has suddenly emerged on to the main street and we are very fortunate in having a building which is so attractive and distinctive. We believe and hope that the users of it will respond to the new situation, firstly by making full use of facilities available and in looking after them, and secondly, in appreciating the problems of running a large building and an extensive catering enterprise, which in turn involves employing large numbers of people, and finding funds for maintenance, refurbishing, lighting, and cleaning. This will involve a possible continuation of fees comparable with other Students' Associations with similar buildings. It will also depend on patronage of catering facilities, not only by students and clubs, but also by outside institutions."

"Inevitably," he continued, "a larger administrative and accounting staff is necessary to run all this, and this will involve finding funds to pay those people and also regulations and restrictions governing the use and security of the building."

"These may appear a little irksome," he said, "but they are necessary. It is our hope that they will not cause too much inconvenience."

CAFETERIA AND COFFEE BAR

Mr Govorko, manager of the new cafeteria in the Student Union, is "excited and happy to be running it. Although the variety of meals will be the same, he anticipates much better quality. This is because of improved facilities and equipment. The heating of food, for instance, is no longer a problem."

Although the market price for coffee has gone up, Mr Govorko does not anticipate a rise in coffee prices in the cafeteria. As far as general prices are concerned, he thinks prices will be much the same as before. He is, however, not able to commit himself entirely on this question as he will have to establish running costs for the first few months. These overhead costs could mean a slight increase in prices.

"We are asking students to help the cafeteria staff," said Mr Govorko, "by being co-operative customers, especially for the first few months, when the cafeteria is in the 'teething' stages. Will they also please take special care of the furniture?"

The building is by no means finished, although already in use by many students. "We can expect to have builders around for another three months yet," said Vaughan Preece. During the next week the snack bar, the basement coffee bar, and the restaurant should be open, and in the next fortnight the two shops will be in operation. In a month, Craccum should be able to move into its final office, and in six

weeks the University Club will be open. Offices will not be complete for another two months, and only after three months will we finally have the building to ourselves.

Then it will be high time to start thinking of the new theatre and gymnasium. It would be a pity to sit back now, after all that earlier students have done for us.

EMINENT MEDICOS ATTEND BIRTH



Sir Douglas Robb and Sir Arthur Porritt at official opening.

The Auckland Star

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1968

The silent students

THIS is the age of the student protester. From Indonesia to America, from Sweden to Japan, university students are making life miserable for politicians and police. Their tactics vary. In Japan it is staves, helmets and banzai charges. Californians prefer Gandhian non-violence. But the objective is the same — to challenge authority, to question if not change national policy.

And in New Zealand? According to the registrar of Waikato University, Mr N. Kingsbury, "students are very silent on national issues." What ex-President Sukarno would have given to have had such a docile student body in Jakarta a year ago! No doubt there are even university registrars — in China for example — who wish they were safe in Mr Kingsbury's shoes. But Mr Kingsbury is worried about this apathy. It suggests to him a lack of critical awareness and responsibility toward New Zealand society among New Zealand students; a lack of confidence in their capacity to change things.

More probably it means that they have no burning wish to change things. The difference between students here and students almost anywhere else is their apparent satisfaction with the society they live in. The Auckland University chaplain, the Rev. D. G. Simmers, described them last year as "on the whole conservative, conformist and unadventurous."

This may not be the impression the public has of students as their loud and lewd capping processions plough through the city annually. But the process marchers are seldom protest marchers. They are the extrovert fringe of a student community whose own conventions are almost as staid as those of the society outside the university.

Mr Kingsbury has his tongue in his cheek when he says: "In developing countries the students of today are the leaders of tomorrow. Isn't it more true here that the leaders of tomorrow will be the Jaycees of today?" There will be more than 25,000 students at university this year. It is inconceivable that a roll of this size will not produce future leaders in every field.

True, there are comparatively few politicians in Parliament with degrees — 19 out of 80 at a rough count. No secondary school, let alone university, numbers either the Prime Minister or the Leader of the Opposition among its old boys. But this

was more the result of circumstances than capacity. Like Mr Holyoake and Mr Kirk, many men who are at the top of their business or profession in New Zealand today were schooled by Depression or war. Twenty years from now it is certain that a far higher proportion of graduates will hold these positions — both because the opportunities for university education have increased and because technological progress is calling for higher qualifications among managers of industry.

So far as Mr Kingsbury's thesis goes this is little comfort however. If today's politically apathetic student is to be tomorrow's leader we are in trouble. Better the Jaycees than students who can find nothing to disturb their complacency in the smooth flow of New Zealand life.

Part of the trouble is that what is true of university students is often true of university staff also. There has never been any tradition as there is in the United States, of professors moving freely between the academic groves and the business or administrative world. Student interest in national or local issues might be stimulated if more of their teachers took an active interest in these issues.

No doubt a good deal of student indifference can be traced also to the equable political climate of the country. Confronted by a tyranny, New Zealand students might storm the barricades with the best of them. Occasionally, a moral issue — Vietnam and the Maori All Black controversy come to mind — does divert their attention.

But community attitudes do not encourage student activists. Most taxpayers feel the function of the university is to produce graduates who can build roads, design buildings, teach children, repair teeth or limbs, settle legal disputes, etc. And never mind stimulating original (if half-baked) thought about the way the community is organised. Compared with most systems of higher education, ours is accordingly authoritarian.

The danger in this limited idea of a university's purpose is that students pass through the most questioning period of their lives accepting what they are told. Rebellion and challenge in confined only to the trivia of dress or behaviour. Nobody is asking for the transforming zeal of the Red Guards. But there might be less complacency in New Zealand if students were encouraged to rock the boat a little more often.

EDITORIAL

CAN'T WE SPEAK UP?

In the past few weeks, Student Apathy has come in for another bashing. Even the Auckland Star has been prompted to write an editorial pleading for more "rocking of the boat" by Auckland students, who continue to accept uncritically all that goes on around them, while in the rest of the world universities are facing a huge crisis of identity and function. From Berlin the concept a "critical university" has spread all over Europe, while in Latin America, Africa and Asia students have long taken the lead in developing a new political order.

Perhaps this is being a little harsh. Many of us may see much that is wrong or unsatisfactory in the N.Z. way of life and in International Affairs. We may even speak up. But the frustrating thing is that we do nothing about it. And as Harvey Cox says "The only thing worse than student apathy is student grumbling and protest which is not prepared to pay the price in time and initiative required to do it better."

Before we can really get down to the business of being anything other than 'The Silent Students,' however, we must change our whole idea of the nature of university. Albert van den Heuvel said at the recent SCM-Cath. Soc. Conference that "a student these days must be both a full-time student and a full-time politician." We should take this as a starting point.

The university must come to accept that, as Harvey Cox says, "It is always the task of the intellectual to think otherwise. This is not a perverse idiosyncrasy. It is the task of the university as the institutionalisation of the intellectual enterprise to be critical of its society."

Let us, in 1968, take this task seriously. We must come to grips with what it means to be both critical and constructive, so that rather than having the public exhorting us to speak up, they will be shouting at the tops of their voices for us to shut up. Then we may be getting somewhere.

—G. de B.

PEACE POWER AND POLITICS Counter - Seato Conference

Wellington, at the end of March, will be the scene of a high-powered international conference on Vietnam, SEATO and political stability in Asia entitled "Peace, Power and Politics in Asia." The conference will feature top writers and academics from all round the world.

The Conference is timed to finish just as the SEATO conference starts and hopes to gain considerable international publicity.

The aims of the conference are to consider aspects of the current foreign policy in Asia, SEATO and other treaties, the present conflict in Vietnam, and causes of political instability in the area. It is also hoped to formulate rational alternative policies to those at present being pursued.

A spokesman for the conference organising committee says they already have a large list of New Zealand and overseas organisations who are prepared to co-sponsor the conference.

Total expenses of the conference are expected to be in the vicinity of \$12,000 and up to a couple of weeks ago over half of this sum had been raised. The fee for the conference is \$10 but there is a student concession rate of \$7.

Up to the 20th of February the following speakers had agreed to attend the conference.

Conor Cruise O'Brien: Formerly Irish Ambassador, United Nations official and negotiator in the Congo crisis, is now Albert Schweitzer Professor of Humanities and Literature at New York University.

Jean Lacouture: The most prominent historian of the Vietnam conflict, has been reporting and writing books on the trouble in Vietnam since 1945. The author of the definitive history of Dien Bien Phu, a biography of Ho Chi Minh, and last year's "Vietnam between Two Truces." Last year Professor at Harvard University, he is now a Professor of International Relations at Paris University. He will be flying from Paris via Vietnam to speak on "A History of the Vietnam Conflict."

Felix Greene: The British journalist and writer on Vietnam and Asia, now living in California. Author of such books as "The

Wall has Two Sides" and "Vietnam, Vietnam." He has just completed a three-month stay in Vietnam and released a film of his stay. He is bringing a print of his film to screen at the Conference.

Max Teichmann: Is Senior Lecturer in International Relations at Monash University and the Australian expert on non-alignment, will speak on "Non-alignment for Australia and New Zealand."

James Flynn: An American who is now Professor of Political Science at Otago University, author of "American Politics: A Radical View" and other works;

John Male: A New Zealander, now retired after 20 years with the United Nations Secretariat, finally as Chief of Section in the Human Rights Division of the U.N. He will speak on "The United Nations and New Zealand Foreign Policy."

Michael Bassett: Senior Lecturer in History at Auckland University, he has just returned from nearly a year in Washington at the Smithsonian Institution studying American politics. He was a Labour candidate for North Shore in 1966 and will speak at the Conference on internal American politics, the U.S. peace movement, and the effect of internal politics on foreign policy.

Dr J. Cairns: The Australian Labour Party spokesman on foreign affairs, has agreed to come and speak on Australia's foreign policy in Asia.

Mary McCarthy: Has replied saying that if she is in Hanoi at the end of March, she will attend the Conference.

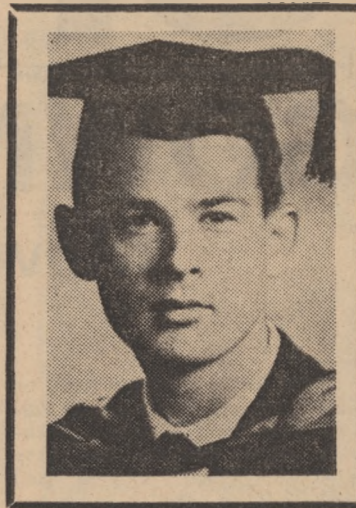
Willis Airey: A Professor of History at Auckland University, has replied saying he might be available to come to the Conference and present a paper on "What's Wrong with SEATO?"

Joan Baez, Dick Van Dyke and Robert Vaughan: Have been asked to attend the Conference. They are all active in the American protest movement, but no reply has yet been received.

Background Papers have been sent by: **Wilfred Burchett**, the famous Australian journalist, on the background and development of the

OBITUARY

GERALD BURKINSHAW



THE death occurred suddenly early in February of one of Auckland's most successful students, Gerald Burkinshaw. He had been suffering from a heart disease.

Gerald came to Auckland University in 1962, and after four years he graduated with an MSc (first-class honours) at the end of 1965. He was awarded many of the top scholarships available to Auckland science students, including the Duke of Edinburgh Scholarship, a Senior Scholarship in Chemistry and a Postgraduate Scholarship in Chemistry. Since graduating, he had completed the practical requirements for a PhD in Organic Chemistry, and had only to write up the results of this work to gain his degree. He was then due to leave for Oxford, where he was recently accepted as a post-doctoral research worker.

Gerald's loss was hard to accept, not only because of his loss to science, but also because in him we lost a very genuine and sincere man, always willing to help anyone who asked him.

His death came as a shock to us in the Chemistry Research School, who had got to know him so well over the years.

—From Ross McCormick, Chemistry Research School.

N.I.E. Professor Gunnar Myrdal: Has sent a background paper on "The Moral Isolation of the United States." **William J. Pomeroy:** The British expert on guerilla and counter-guerilla warfare, author of "The Forest" and "Guerilla and Counter Guerilla Warfare in Asia" has supplied a paper on this subject.

Delegates have been invited from many countries, including Australia, England, France, Italy, China, Cambodia, many countries in Eastern Europe, Russia, the United States, the Democratic Republics of Vietnam and Korea, and many other countries. It is expected that many of these countries will send delegates to the Conference.

Conference Membership: There is room for 500 Conference members, and membership is open to all who wish to attend, on the payment of the Registration Fee.

General Programme:

Saturday, 30th March: Student Union Building, Victoria University. During the day, papers; in the evening, a social function and one of the main papers.

Sunday, 31st March: Wellington Town Hall. Some of the major papers during the day; Felix Greene's film during the evening.

Monday, 1st April: Papers during the day, major papers in the evening; at the Town Hall again. **Tuesday, 2nd April:** Papers during the morning, at midday a giant rally, march and demonstration; large final meeting in the Town Hall in the evening.

—Barrie Saunders, NZSPA.

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"University Of Curious Cove"

by Bill Holt

—smaller but more
speculative 1968
Congress

THE annual NZUSA Student Congress at Curious Cove, Marlborough, has been described as a "discreet orgy." In 1968 the emphasis lay rather more heavily on the discretion. The six day gathering from January 26 to February 3 was, according to old Congress hands, one of the quietest in recent memory. They were all agreed, however, that it was one of the most successful.

The principal difference this summer lay in the number attending—little over 100 students, compared

with nearly 150 a few years ago. Reasons offered for the decline ranged from the economic situation to simple mismanagement of advertising. A rather superficial TV documentary on the 1967 Congress was also blamed for the disproportionate male/female ratio.

Fears that the reduced numbers would make for a less successful Congress proved unfounded. Certainly there were fewer parties than in previous years, but those held were just as memorable. In purely social terms there was a noticeable absence of any "in" group. The smaller attendance also tended to im-

prove the discussion, making it more intensive and coherent, particularly in Congress Forum, which usually tends to be rather rather unwieldy.

Another aspect of the Congress was the trend towards discussion of more speculative and philosophical issues, rather than the bread and butter problems of politics and science. It would be hard to overestimate the influence of Prof. James Flynn of Otago in fostering this. A dynamic speaker, he was perhaps the most dominant personality at Congress, and impressed everyone not only with his brilliant

grasp of his subject, but also with his willingness to mix with the students and hear their views.

Two other speakers who aroused much discussion were Dr W. B. Sutch, the Wellington economist, and Mr Norman Kingsbury, Registrar at Waikato University. Sutch was perhaps an interesting example of how long association with "The Establishment" (in this case the Department of Industries and Commerce), need not inevitably dull the radical's youthful fervour. On a slightly less polemical plane Mr Kingsbury gave a very thoughtful lecture on the student's role in

society, which inspired lengthy debate on the "Student Image" at the next Forum.

In summary perhaps the basic point to come out of Curious Cove in 1968 was that Congress is a flexible institution whose character may change, but will never be killed, by a drop in numbers. Nonetheless, this does not mean that the gradual lowering of numbers over the last few years should be viewed with equanimity. To attend at least one Congress is an experience that should be recommended to every senior student.

Understanding Asians.

THEO ROY

Speaking under the general title of "Understanding Asians" Dr Theo Roy, Senior Lecturer in Political Science at Waikato, made a plea for more New Zealanders with a genuine insight into Asian culture and ideologies. Such insight, he asserted, was not to be found in studying the classical texts of Asian ideologies, such as the Koran. Such rational explanations have little relevance to the people at large, since ideology is not intended to be explainable but is rather the unquestioned rationalisation of the social structure that economic circumstances demand.

Thus in order to really understand not only the theoretical basis of a culture but also the forces that maintain it at the popular level, it is necessary to have some knowledge of the folk-culture: the beliefs and prejudices that condition Asians to accept the impoverished and hopeless conditions in which many of them live.

The Colonisation of N.Z. since W.W.II.

DR W. B. SUTCH

In a lengthy address to Congress, Dr Sutch of Wellington drew attention to the considerable foreign investment in New Zealand since World War II. This development, which now means that over 35 per cent of New Zealand industries are foreign controlled, is effectively reducing New Zealand to its former colonial status, he said.

The full-employment policies of the last thirty years have achieved two major things — better family life and general social security, and lessening of discrimination against Maoris and women in New Zealand society. The gradual involvement of overseas interests in the economy, however, means that in times of economic crisis New Zealand's independence would be compromised. This situation occurred in 1967 when the Government, faced by a foreign exchange deficit was forced to implement economic measures laid down by the International Monetary Fund. Unless New Zealand retains a controlling interest in its industry, said Dr Sutch, it is possible that a return may be made to the 1920s situation of pre-Keynesian economics and a permanent body of unemployed.

Political Ethics and Political Agitation.

PROF. JAMES FLYNN

Professor James Flynn, of the Otago Political Science Department, was the first of the formal speakers at Congress. In a fluent and incisive address he suggested that political philosophy was relevant for the political activist and further that the activist of the radical humanist tradition could justify his ideals most adequately by this means.

The rise of modern scientific analysis, Dr Flynn suggested, has fostered the belief that descriptive techniques are the key to knowledge: i.e., that seeing is believing. However, the use of philosophical ethics gives the political activist an evaluative, rather than a purely descriptive, basis upon which to rest his ideals.

Dr Flynn concluded that from his reading of history, the political activist in the radical humanist tradition can make the most effective appeal to a non-partisan audience, since his ideals can be shown to have a greater validity than, for example, those of one who advocates a totalitarian society.

The Role of the Student in Society.

MR NORMAN KINGSBURY

Mr Norman Kingsbury, now Registrar at Waikato University, was for several years head of the International Student Conference (I.S.C.) at Leiden, Holland. In his address he was sharply critical of the attitude of New Zealand students, towards society.

All university students, Mr Kingsbury pointed out, are in a privileged position, in that they have been given the opportunity to advance their education. In other developing countries, students have had to take almost sole responsibility for the drive for independence. In New Zealand, however, university education is seen primarily as a formal technical training for a particular career.

The lack of any real involvement in New Zealand society was reflected, said Mr Kingsbury, in the small numbers of students who had joined the established political parties. Student activism tended to be a radical interlude that was not carried on in later life.

Mr Kingsbury offered three broad aims for New Zealand students:

First, the pursuit of excellence; New Zealand society has been too content with a veneer of achievement.

Second, to extend the limits of society's thinking.

Third, to help preserve the best aspects of New Zealand Society in the face of deteriorating economic conditions.

WORK CAMP—Where were Aucklanders?

EACH year in February, the New Zealand University Students' Association holds a national work camp.

This year there was a very disappointing response from Auckland University: only one Auckland student attended.

This year's work camp was held in the Tauranga district and was arranged by Peter Allen, a graduate student at Waikato University, in conjunction with the Maori Affairs Department.

The purpose of the work camp was for students to gain an insight

into the Maori way of life, the problems of educating Maoris and the effects that European cultures and educational systems are having on the progress of the Maori community.

The Ngatirangi-Ngu-te-nanginui are among the most progressive and advanced tribes in the country and have in the fore in the establishment of play centres for pre-school children, which, perhaps more than any other scheme, will put the Maori child on an even footing with the Pakeha. Previously there has been an age gap of about two years

which removes the Maori child from his peer group and brings problems when he arrives at secondary school, as he is physically more mature, and thus harder to discipline and less adaptable than the Pakeha. As a result, the Maori child leaves as little as a year after the commencement of secondary education.

Peter Allen said that university students have little chance of meeting the Maori in his local area and on his marae, and it was a pity that so few students attended the work camp.



Buck the system

Come over to KENT

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filter cigarette

DEVALUATION OF SALARIES

"N.Z. University Education at Stake."

by Diane Morcom

"FOLLOWING devaluation," says Professor Asher, Auckland Branch President of the Association of University Teachers, "Australian university salaries are now more than 30 per cent higher than those in New Zealand and unless salaries are adjusted quickly it will no longer be possible to recruit urgently-needed new members of staff. An Australian lecturer can earn \$7300. Yet one quarter of New Zealand professors receive only \$7200. The average salary of New Zealand professors is \$8000 compared with \$12,000 in Australia."

In spite of grim forecasts, however, there do not as yet appear to have been any resignations of Auckland University lecturers as a result of the devaluation crisis. This is scarcely surprising when one considers the very short time which has elapsed since devaluation was announced. Nor does it seem likely that lecturers already comfortably settled in New Zealand would be willing to leave for solely financial reasons. Professor Asher emphasized that the difficulty did, in fact, lie in recruiting staff from overseas



Ross McCormick

rather than in retaining lecturers already here. "University teachers are, unlike nearly all other professions, recruited on an international market," he said. "This means quite simply that most able university teachers have the opportunity of leaving their present position for another country with higher salaries, housing allowances and all possible facilities. Universities in New Zealand are expanding rapidly and unless salary adjustments are made, recruitment of new staff will become extremely difficult. Urgently needed new courses will not be established and there will be the curtailment of some already existing ones."

At present, universities in New Zealand are staffed largely by New Zealanders who return to lecture in New Zealand for reasons other than financial ones. Perhaps, however, unless salary adjustments are made, we will not be able to count on the "Call of the Motherland" to lure back our bright young men. Ross McCormick, President-elect of A.U. Students Association, and a Ph.D student in chemistry said that, "With the present level of salaries in New Zealand being very much lower than for commensurate positions overseas, it is exceedingly unlikely that many of my colleagues who leave New Zealand shortly to gain post-doctoral experience will return to New Zealand unless for very strong personal reasons or unless salaries are adjusted. Before devaluation people would come back because salaries were not too far below overseas ones. Now the situation is quite different."

The Association of University Teachers, Professor Asher told me,

does not intend simply to accept this situation. "As the whole future of New Zealand University education is at stake," he said, "the association proposes to take every possible step to explain the urgency of the situation to the government. The association considers it essential that the government do something about this." Professor K. B. Cumberland, head of the Geography Department, said that he thought that the government could, if it were frank, persuade the public that university staff was an international commodity like tea and coffee and that if it wanted good staff then it would have to pay for it.

"It is unlikely, however, that the government will persuade the public to accept this differential treatment of university staff. And the danger to the university may already have been done before there is a general economic improvement or the government does pluck up common-sense enough to put this frankly before the public," he said.

The full effects of devaluation on the staffing situation in the universities are clearly ones which cannot be immediately appreciated or evaluated. There are, however, some areas of university life which have already felt devaluation tremors.

Miss Olive Johnson, Head of Acquisitions at the University Library told me something of the way in which the library had been affected. "The full effect of devaluation on the library is not yet known," she said, "as overseas publishers have not yet fixed their prices. But there will certainly be an increase of at least 15 per cent on books published in U.S.A. and in

Australia, and at least 10 per cent on those from Britain." A fairly significant fact, this, when you learn that last year 42 per cent of the total books bought by the library were from the United States. About 8 per cent from Australia and 24 per cent from Great Britain. All the books ordered last year, before devaluation, will, of course, have to be paid for at the new rate — an extra cost of about \$3000.

If the grant which the library receives for buying books is not increased, the number of books which it is able to buy will decrease considerably. "There is very little which can be done about this situation," Miss Johnson said. "The library will, however, buy more paperback editions and, if necessary, have them bound here. Up until now this has not been done as a matter of principle," she said.

"Supplies of equipment for many Science departments will be affected in the same way," Professor R. E. F. Matthews, Head of the Cell Biology Department said. "Obviously, any grants are worth that much less from the point of view of purchasing, and a lot of our materials come from overseas sources. These include general chemicals, glassware and expendable laboratory supplies." I asked him whether this problem could not, in part at least, be overcome by the increased use of New Zealand-made equipment. He said that over the last few years there has been an increase in the range of equipment made in New Zealand, but that this fact would not have a great bearing on the problem "A large proportion of the components

needed for equipment are imported," he said, "and as the prices of these components will inevitably increase, so the cost of New Zealand-made equipment will rise proportionately. Apart from the point of view of immediate availability, buying N.Z. equipment will not solve the problem," he said.

What action the government intends to take in response to the new situation will not be revealed until later in the year when the five-yearly grant on which university expenditure is based comes up for review. It seems probable that the government will try to put a brake on university expenditure as part of its general policy of deflation. The University Grants Committee must strenuously resist any such attempt. Education is not the type of capital investment that can be postponed for a few years. Delays in extending the Southern Motorway will try the patience of Labour weekend motorists but failure to adjust lecturers' salaries could conceivably affect the quality of university teaching for decades to come.



Prof. J. A. Asher

Personal Reasons THE BROOK LETTER

DR DONALD BROOK, a practising Australian sculptor with a PhD in Art History, was offered an Associate-Professorship at this university. His teaching was to have been shared by the heavily understaffed History of Art department and the School of Fine Arts. He decided instead to accept a Senior Lectureship in the Power Institute of Fine Art at Sydney University. *Craccum* asked him to write about his reasons for his decision. His letter is an interesting look at the kind of factors that come in to the recruitment of scarce talent.

"There is no problem about speaking frankly on my reasons for not accepting an appointment at Auckland; but there is a problem of relevance. You are interested, I imagine, in public issues—in problems that are general and potentially responsive to political or social pressures. My own decision issued in part from considerations that are not general for academics (having to do peculiarly with the fine arts) and in part from considerations of a personal sort, that would not contribute usefully to any discussion of tertiary education in New Zealand.

It was because of the fine arts context, and for personal reasons, that I chose to work in Sydney, rather than because of any obvious factor or complex of factors that might be changed by local action or legislation. It is true, of course, that N.Z. academic salaries are now relatively low, but then I was offered appointment at a compensatory level. The general case might be different. There are also such

nuisances as the vehicle import restrictions, and the regulations about the sale of works of art overseas that might have been irksome. On the other hand, one might live in Auckland with a view as magnificent as Sydney harbour on an academic's salary—which is no longer possible here.

The Art School in Auckland seemed to me, although small and evidently short of money, sounder than any of the schools that I know in this country. To the extent that ideas matter more than materials, this Department of the University is at least as attractive as any in the Australasian region. Other things being equal, I would as soon have gone to Auckland as to Sydney.

But other things were not equal. The alleged cultural isolation of New Zealand is, in the verbal areas, partly myth. It does not matter much whether the historian or the poet one cares about lives in the next street or at the antipodes; his books and spoken words are available cheaply by radio and airmail. But in the visual arts the brute physical presence of objects, and the capacity to move them about, and the concentration of people to move them and process them and discuss them—as well as to produce them—is immensely important. A really flourishing mainstream art of painting or sculpture needs a horde of artists, dealers, museum staffs, critics, patrons, buyers and so forth, in a concentration much greater than Auckland can expect to muster. The best products of an excellent school in Auckland are likely to move on,

until the country as a whole is more affluent and the population centres larger. Or else, of course, until the scale of enthusiasm and public support increases with dramatic suddenness. One shouldn't forget that Florence through the High Renaissance was a town of quite comparable population.

The peripheral position of New Zealand in the non-literary cultural fields is not the fault of the Government—although I dare say that more positive steps might be taken to mitigate the accidents of geography and economics, if people cared sufficiently.

I chose for, rather than against. In Sydney I was offered the opportunity to work in a new and well-endowed Institute that may without absurdity set its sights on achieving international rank. I am encouraged to engage as an art critic in a vigorous discussion of contemporary trends from the platform of an influential newspaper. My sculpture is taken into a dealership marketing system that leaves me no distressing problems of transport, circulation, currency, publicity and so forth. I live in a city where the sense of action and urgency in the fine arts is acute: a city that has just begun to shed its own sense of cultural isolation.

Some of these sorts of things, in proportionate measure, would have been available in Auckland, along with congenial colleagues and a physically beautiful landscape. What I am unable to decide is the extent to which the differences constitute a public issue and are not accidents of person and subject, without any moral for New Zealand. It is in any case grossly immodest of me to suppose that my own example might be valuable to you; nevertheless, for what it is worth, you have my permission to use this letter as you think proper."



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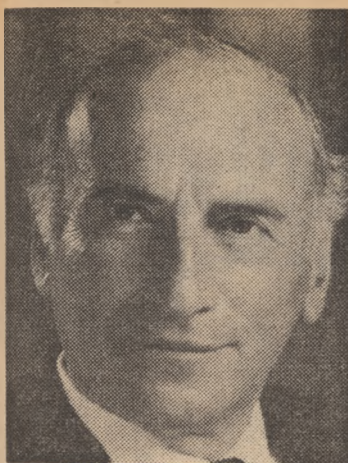
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Dr Auburn

Freshers, it's Free!

FULL-TIME MEDICAL SERVICE BEGINS

Room, in the main Arts Building. Each part-time doctor will attend for two half-day sessions per week during university terms and for a reduced period in holidays. The new premises will allow three doctors to consult patients simultaneously, and there will be a Treatment Room for cases of injury and sudden illness.

Dr Auburn says: "The main purpose of the service is to encourage a consciousness of, and interest in, positive health amongst the students. This means that we will try to help them to achieve a balance between academic work and physical exercise and recreation. We will encourage a healthy and positive outlook towards studies, and we'll try to detect and prevent impending physical or mental illness at an early stage."

Membership in the Health Service is open to all students whose permanent residence is outside Auckland, or overseas. Permanent Auckland residents will be expected to consult their own family doctors who are likely to know their personal history and background. All students, however, will be

entitled to call on the service in case of accident or sudden illness. They will also be entitled to present themselves for an annual interview and examination. This will give the doctors an opportunity to discuss individual problems of health and academic life with each student and to offer the student a full examination and such vaccinations and immunisations as may be needed.

The hours are 9 to 12, 2 to 5, every weekday. Previous appointments made with Sister Trigg of the Health Service are preferred, but the need for an appointment will be waived in all cases of urgency. About appointments, Dr Auburn says: "It should be emphasised that the annual interview and examination is one of the planks on which the Student Health Service will be founded. As it is a time-consuming and exacting form of service, it is absolutely essential that students who are given appointments confirm them by telephone or in person at the Service." He adds that the previous part-time doctors were handicapped in the performance of

their duties by the comparatively high percentage of students failing to keep their appointments.

Every student should have received a printed form of application on enrolment day. Appointments for the interviews will be staggered throughout the academic year, in rotation. Preference will be given to first-year students from outside Auckland, because, as Dr Auburn says: "They face the greatest needs of adjusting. The first contact with an alien and sometimes hostile environment is often the source of temporary upsets and anxieties."

The closest possible co-operation will be practised with the existing Student Counselling Service. Dr Auburn says that he regards the two forms of service as independent but interdependent. They will operate jointly for the benefit of the student body. "The work of the two agencies will be complementary," he says.

The availability of the annual interview to students will be dictated by the time and medical manpower available to the Service.

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICE

39 Symonds St
Phone 21-384

Hours:

9 a.m. to noon,
2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Dr Auburn says that it would be too much to promise that every student will be seen during the first year of the service, but this is the ultimate aim of the Student Health Service.

Two female medical officers will be available for students wishing to consult them.

Dr Auburn says: "The new service will go through a period of experimentation during the first twelve months. In this time we hope to evolve a working pattern for the future by trial and error. Constructive suggestions from students will at all times be welcome. We will also try to keep in touch with the students' representatives who will always have access to me."

SURPRISE LETTER

The Students Association has received the following letter:

Dear Sir,

You will be very surprised to get a letter from an unknown person, but excuse please my action. I am a student at the Humboldt University in Berlin and I am studying the English language and literature. That's one matter why I'm searching for every possibility of getting

any connection with English speaking people. I would be very glad if you could be so kindly to give my address to a student of your country. Just in your country I'm very interested because we don't get many informations about your country. Here are some facts about me: I am twenty years old and I was born in a little town in the mountains; my hobbies are: languages, literature, collecting post-stamps, sport, music and geography.

Dear Sir, many thanks that you have read my letter, many greetings to you,

Yours truly,
Dieter Riegel,
1058 Berlin
Sredzkistrasse 37,
Germany.

FOREIGN STUDENTS IN AUSSIE

About 8400 overseas students and trainees have undertaken education

or training in Australia under Australian Government aid schemes since 1945. This year, overseas students total about 10 per cent of full-time enrollments in Australian universities. The major aid plans and the number of students sponsored under each since 1945 are: the Colombo Plan, 7300; the Special Commonwealth African Assistance Plan, 370; the Australian International Awards Scheme, 95; and the Australian South Pacific

Technical Assistance Program, 50. In addition, there is the Commonwealth Co-operation in Education Scheme under which 580 students have been assisted. This year there are about 10,800 students from Asia, Africa and the Pacific studying privately in Australian schools, universities and technical colleges.

—The Asian Student, San Francisco/S.M.



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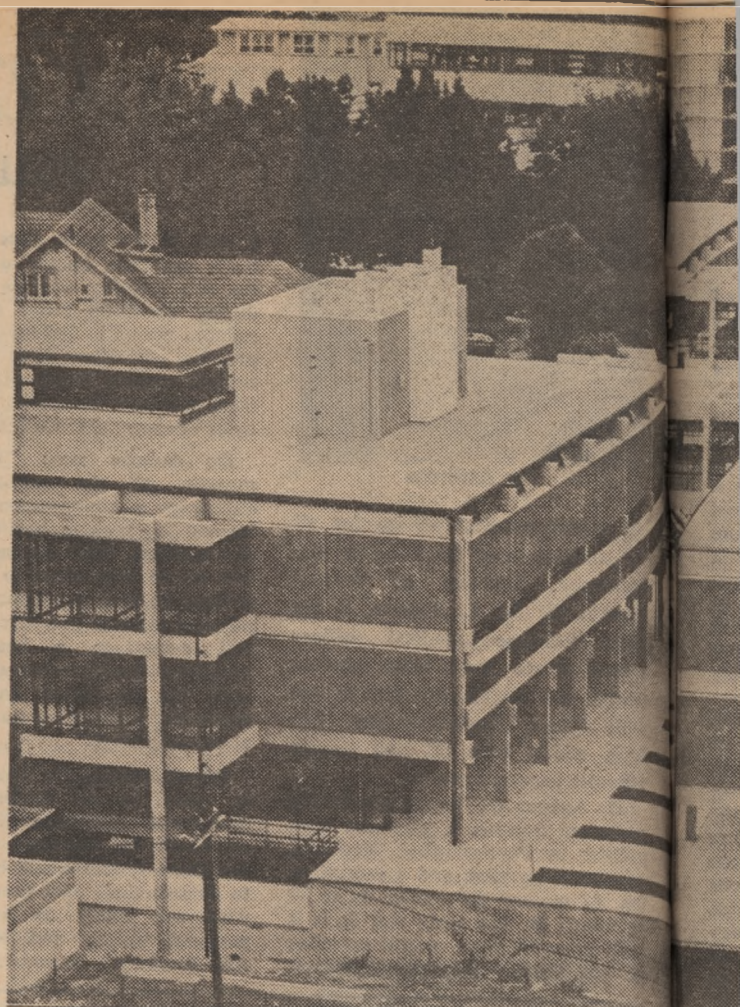
Indispensable for all senior students. Snaps into two parts. One part, a 10 x 8 pad of 75 sheets, on plastic covered board, for note-taking. The other part receives the notes. Filed in two posts, protected by a manilla sheet, the simple compressor bar holds the notes safe and secure. Snap together, and the two parts form a smart secure unit. Warwick Nu-Plas Lecture Pad, the NEW convenient way to take lecture notes, now available at your local Stationer.

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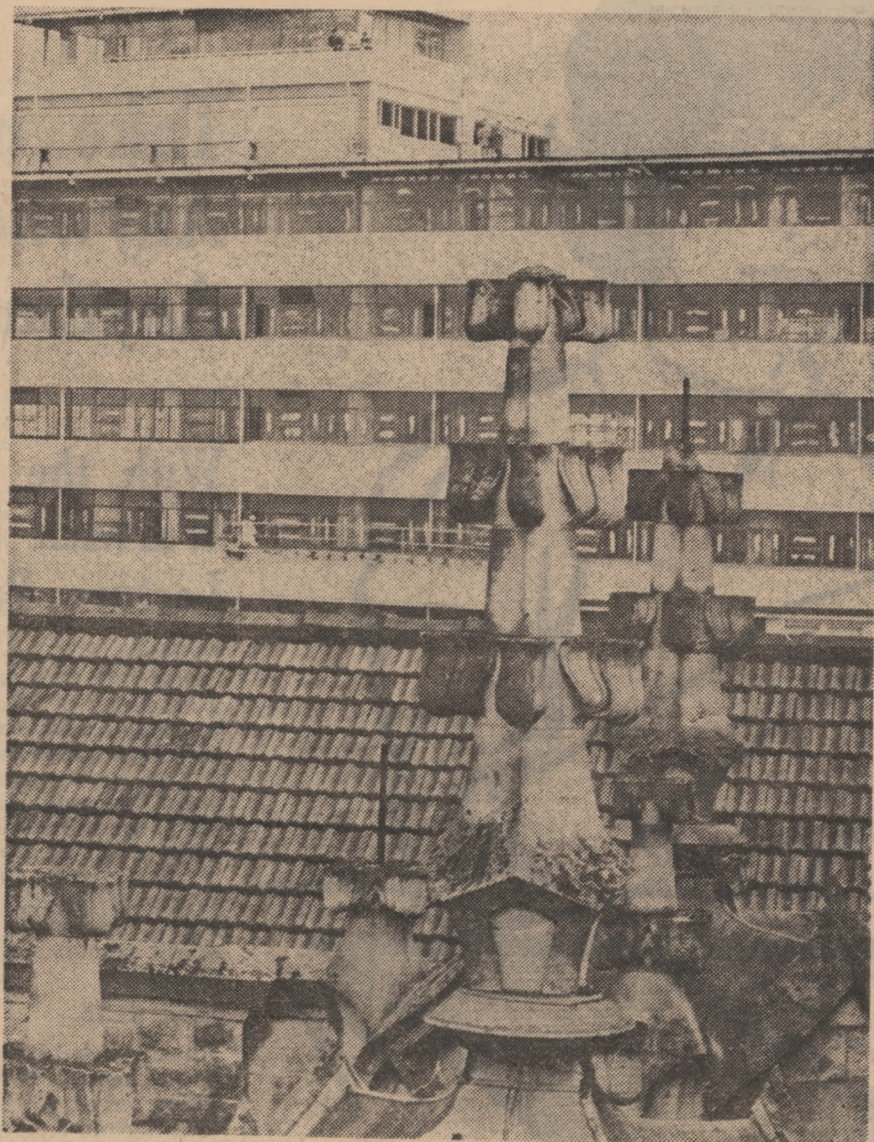
Lighting shafts for the Coffee Bar sprout up as seats in a Student Union courtyard



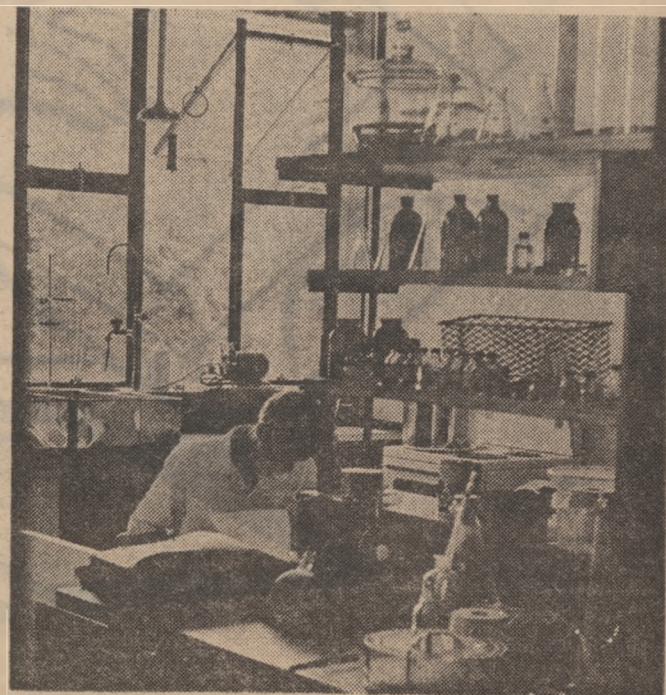
New Student Union block seen from the top of old building



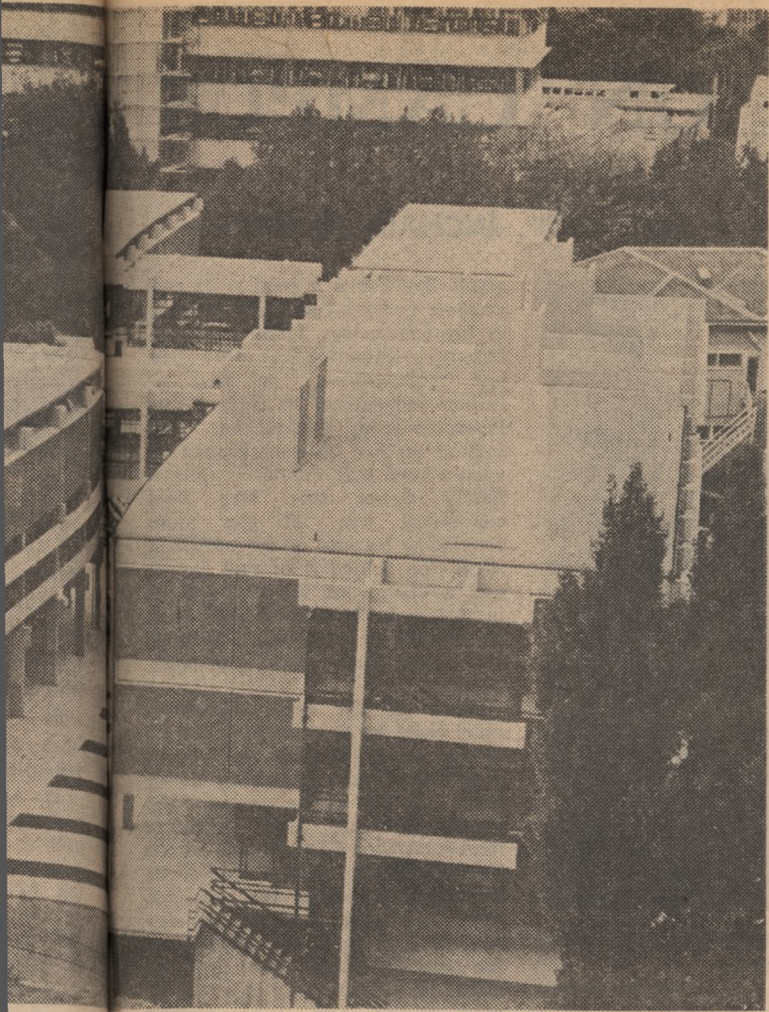
Graduates and University Club members will relax in lounge in new building



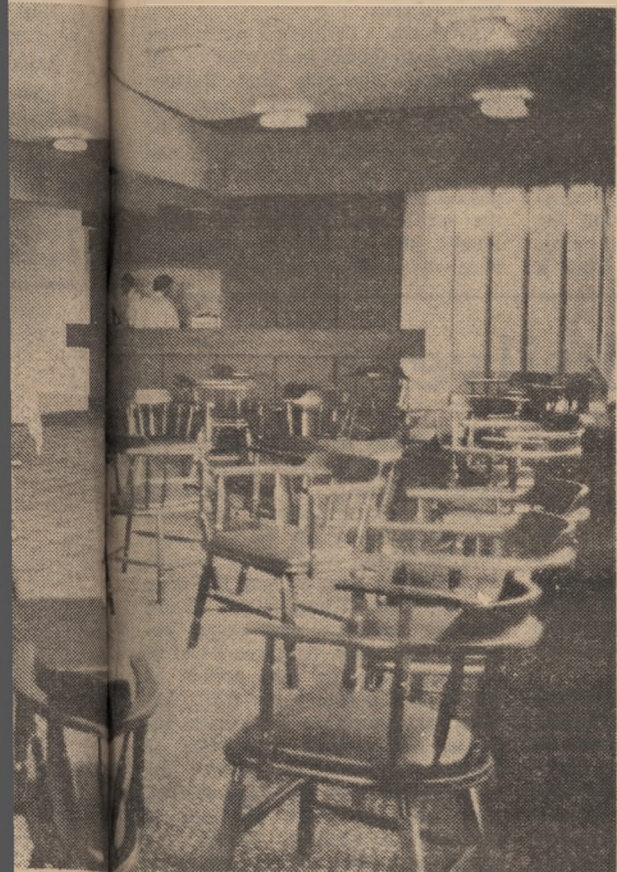
The new Library-Arts block rises beyond the worn "wedding-cake" of the old Arts tower.



Biology space has increased spectacularly. Typical is this Botany lab.



the top story building, awaiting a new era of student life.



relax in lounge in the Student Union Building.



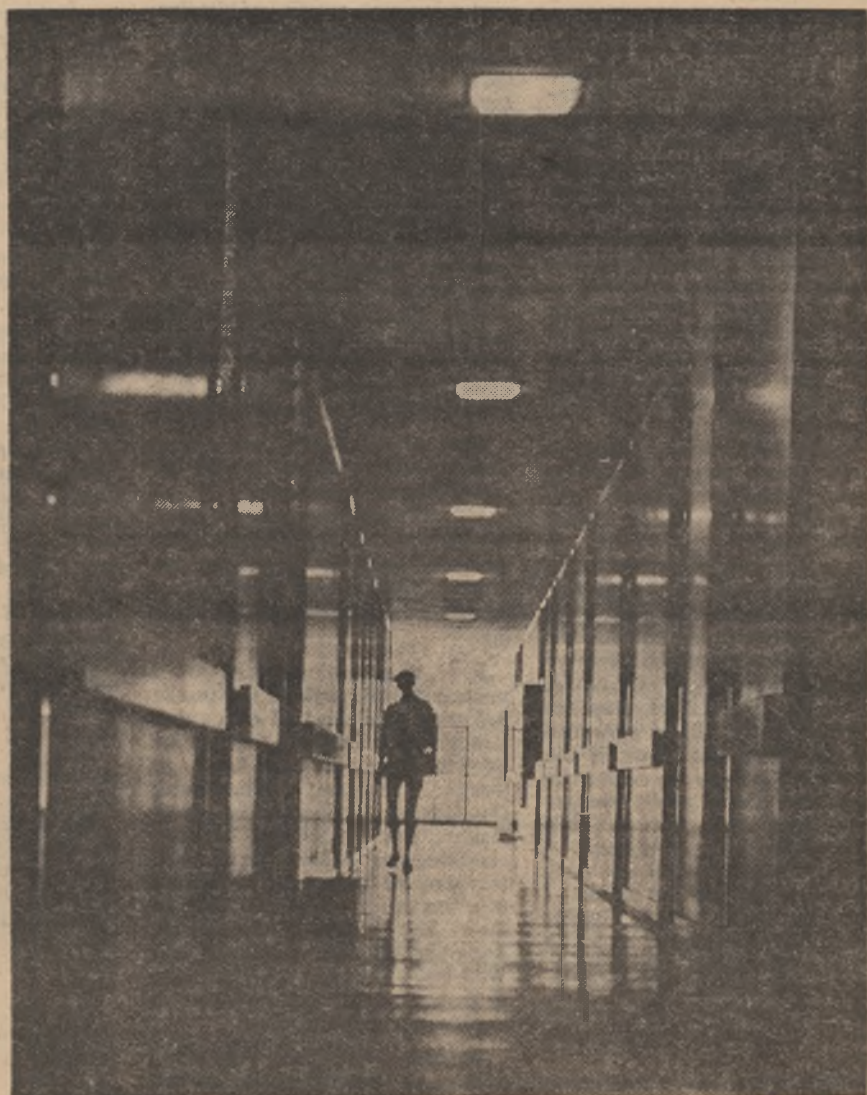
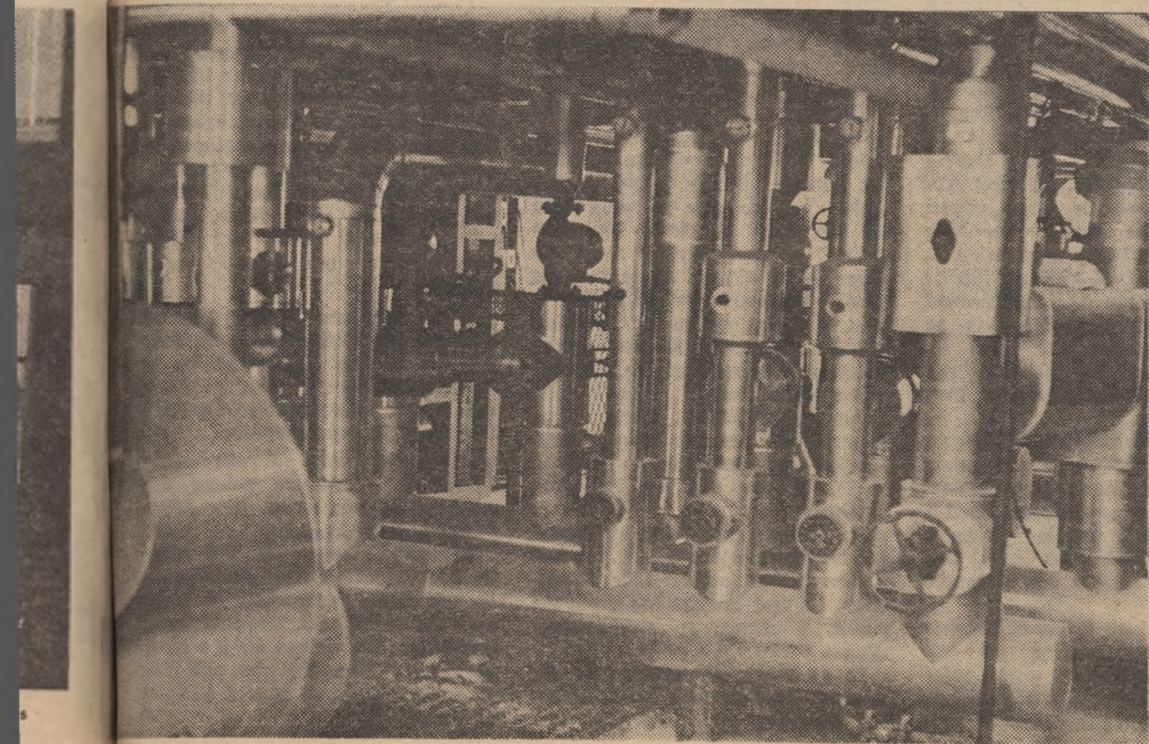
New Chemistry Block rises above old housing area to be built upon later by University.

NEW SCENE

A look at our new university buildings and facilities by

Mox Oettli, Eng. III.

Chemistry Block has elaborate service equipment, including this air-conditioning plant in its tower.



Biology Block corridor shines in a brand-new look as the year begins.

"TAMING OF THE SHREW" ON CAMPUS

PROFESSOR TARLING'S PRE-TERM PRODUCTION FOR AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY THEATRE COMPANY

— ASSOC. PROF. MICHAEL JOSEPH —

The Taming of the Shrew is very early Shakespeare: it is the simplest, the least poetic, the most physical of his works, and perhaps the nearest thing he ever wrote to a "well-made play". That is also why it is such a perennial favourite, whether as a musical or as a vehicle for husband-and-wife teams like Fairbanks-and-Pickford or Burton-and-Taylor.

What gives it extra dimension is the induction, with Sly the Tinker temporarily convinced (like a character in *The Prisoner*) that he is really someone else; so he falls out of reality into a dream, in which actors played by actors present the story of Petruchio and Katherine. What to do with Sly once the play starts is something of a producer's nightmare, for Sly is apparently left with nothing but to watch and to ham it up without any lines. In this A.U.T.C. production, Professor Tarling very sensibly avoided this sort of thing, which is a bore if it doesn't work and a distraction if it does, and simply added enough borrowed text to round off the play. Christopher the Tinker's dream lacks the magic of Bottom the Weaver's, but in this production it had something of the same suggestion, of a better and wiser world within the dream.

The play also lends itself very neatly as an illustration of Elizabethan staging, with Christopher Sly obviously whisked off to the upper stage, to watch the play going on down below. The front of the old Student Block, with its archways and balcony, gives a pretty good



A crisis of courtship is acted out by Bassanio (Nicholas F. Tarling, left), Petruchio (Stewart Ross) and Katherine (Jennifer Goldsborough) in the AUTC production.

—Jonathan Brunette

approximation to this, and the production kept the action uncluttered and fairly well centred. Action to the side tended rather to get lost, as in one of the Lucentio-Bianca scenes, but the paths provided some effective entrances and exits, particularly the splendid processional entry of the players, a bright splash of colour after the rather low-keyed opening.

Most of the play's comedy of old fathers and young wooers has been

standard box-office since the time of Menander. Perhaps it is not all Shakespeare's anyway; but the two central characters are undoubtedly his. What makes all the difference is the vitality which he has given to them; Katherine and Petruchio step out of the world of artificial comedy into one which is freer, older, more rustic. The battle of the sexes has been fought with more style in Congreve and Shaw, but never with more uninhibited vigour

than in the *Shrew*, and in this lively production the verbal battery was reinforced by the arm-twist and the crafty back-hander. There is a streak of sadism in Petruchio the shrew-tamer, as well as in Katherine herself; but it was a virtue of this production that, from their hilarious first encounter, there was the suggestion of something else as well, a real attraction behind the mockery and roughness and rage. Stewart Ross's Petruchio was a

manly figure with a good voice and presence and not too much swagger to be convincing. Jennifer Goldsborough's Katherine had more than just "shrewishness", a kind of furious indignation on finding that Petruchio can, against her will, impose on her his own picture of what a good wife should be, until it finally comes true. Her final conversion was all the more convincing because of the unspoken suggestion behind it of real feeling and a change of heart; "God be blessed, it is the blessed sun", with its mixture of resignation, humour and affection, was genuinely moving.

None of the other characters quite came up to these two, and as in any university play, it is never possible to field a completely strong team. The best of the rest were the comic servants, Paul Numan's nimble cockney Grumio, and Jurgen Turner's Tranio, with a marvellous mock-geetel accent that sounded like something out of Dudley Moore. The producer himself, as the shrew's father, remained an island of baffled sanity in a slightly mad world; and John Gaudin contributed a well-spoken Lord to the induction.

Professor Tarling's production avoided gimmicks and concentrated on keeping the play neat, flexible, bustling and well-paced. It was well justified in the result: in spite of hard chairs, unworthy scaffolds and a sprinkle of rain, the evening passed away quickly, and judging by the satisfactory number of belly-laughs, the crowded young audience was getting the message.

"MERCURY" — But No Quicksilver?

A look at the theatre scene in Auckland by Russell Haley.

THE Mercury Theatre, which will operate under the aegis of the Auckland Theatre Trust and the direction of Anthony Richardson, has announced its 10-play programme for 1968.

"Softly, softly catchee audience" — this might well be the thinking which lies behind the Mercury's policy. The opening play of the season is to be *The Admirable Crichton* by J. M. Barrie. A look at the rest of the programme confirms our doubts: there is no quicksilver in the Mercury formula.

This large-scale professional theatre must be a financial success; it should not become a burden on the Arts Council, like Opera or Ballet. Yet surely a more relevant and biting social comedy than the Barrie play would be a better financial bet. Why not *MacBird* by Barbara Garson?

Anthony Richardson's answer is that the Barrie play is studied in schools. Education policies have also weighed heavily in the choice of *The Merchant of Venice*. In reply to my charge that Mercury Theatre appeared to have no clear-cut policy, that its aims were diffuse, unadventurous, the director made the following points: Mercury's policy is a two-pronged educational one. On the formal level, plays set for school study will be presented — on the other level there is the audience at large to be weaned to theatre. The general public who are not yet committed to theatre will not accept the ultra avant-garde. A middle-of-the-line course will have to be steered for this first season — perhaps for longer. Drama fanatics, reading their Artaud and Lebel in solitary confinement, will have to wait for the theatre Workshop to function before they can become involved in strictly contemporary drama.

Now, it is my worry that unless the 750-seat theatre becomes

financially autonomous the Workshop projects will be pushed into the background. Further, it is my contention that a safe, middle-line, approach to drama is not necessarily the way to guarantee a paying theatre. The Royal Court in London and Joan Littlewood's Stratford East have not followed a safe policy — neither has been a financial flop. But then, is Brecht's *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* a typically "safe" play? This, I would have thought, is a play for hard-core theatregoers. Those, in fact, who are already committed to drama. Whither the "educational" policy? The pendulum swings back with *Alfie* and *Stop the World I want to Get Off* — both these presentations should be good box-office.

Dark of the Moon, then a New Zealand play by Bruce Stewart, the end-of-season production of *A Christmas Carol*, complete the Mercury programme. The Dickens selection only confirms my nagging sensation of déjà vu: all this has happened before; nothing new is emerging.

It is a general feeling that a venture on this scale is justified in following a commercial rather than a ruthlessly avant-garde policy. Fine. There's room for all kinds of theatre: Museum; Educational; Commercial; Avant-garde; anti-theatre. But let us see Mercury clarifying and defining its aims. If they must be commercial to succeed (the box-office never lies) then let them be ruthlessly commercial. Bring in all the Broadway and West-End successes — anything to keep the dollars rolling in so that the Workshop can function.

But with a hopelessly generalized policy — school plays, serious drama, pop drama, musicals — the

Mercury stands a fair chance of missing all its targets.

My personal feeling, not shared by Anthony Richardson, is that a new venture like this needs, above all, to encourage audience loyalty. But you'll pull in the gigglers with *Alfie* and *Stop the World* and then alienate them with Brecht.

Theatres do create their audiences. You can tell a Royal Court type in a Sloane Square pub by the cut of his trousers; Unity Theatre was a hot-bed of Daily Worker paper-sellers and left-wing intellectuals.

The enthusiast for avant-garde drama cannot feel betrayed because the Mercury is not presenting Arrabal, Artaud, Beckett and others. But he must feel disturbed at what appears to be an inept hodge-podge of policies. For his one hope of seeing up-to-the-minute — performances, happenings, what you will — was pinned on the shrinking breast of the Workshop project. Yet even those projects were vague: "comedy of the absurd," "the New Zealand scene." My impression is that these projects will fall further and further into the background unless the overall venture is an outstanding success.

Mercury must fill 600 seats per performance. I sincerely hope they make it.

But if the Mercury should stagger economically, where else in Auckland can the young, experimental dramatist find a platform for his work? Certainly not on Campus. Last year there was only one attempt to present a new dramatic work.

However, there is hope. Another theatre project (getting far less publicity) is well under way. I refer to Central Theatre's new premises. This enlightened group now have a

newly renovated theatre behind the Tudor Cinema in Remuera. Their season opens on April 8 with a production of *Days in the Trees* by the French writer Marguerite Duras. This play will be followed by *A Period of Adjustment* by Tennessee Williams.

My claim for an enlightened theatrical policy for Central Theatre can be established by a glance at their past productions: *The Caretaker*; *Brand*; *Green Julia*; *Man and Superman*; *Henry the Fifth*; *L.U.V.*; *Long Day's Journey into Night*; *The Zoo Story*; *The Death of Bessie Smith*; the list could be extended.

Not only has this theatre provided contemporary dramatic works but it has been of inestimable value as a training ground for young actors. David Weatherley (now employed by Mercury), worked with Central Theatre.

Further, this group is fully prepared to aid the young playwright. There are projects on hand for tryouts of new plays — the author will be able to work with the Directors — hear his lines instead of only seeing them on paper — he will see where hangups occur — learn in the only possible way, in action, where he is making mistakes. Some of Ionesco's plays were not finalized until he attended rehearsals of them.

And yet Central Theatre has struggled for years to keep its high standards without a cent in financial aid from the city or the Arts Council.

Its struggle has been successful and worthwhile because it has had a firm artistic policy. Like Downstage, Central Theatre has given the public a chance to see modern drama.

In an essay, *Happenings in the Theatre*, Jean-Jacques Lebel makes the following point: he advocates

"the necessity of going beyond the aberrant subject-object relationship of the looker/looked-at, exploiter/exploited, spectator/actor, this frontier separation which has until now dominated and conditioned modern art." Central Theatre has 150 seats — not 750. There is no chasm between audience and stage, on-looker and actor. It is true I had to contend with the odd gobblet of spittle during *Henry the Fifth*, but what an incredible difference between this overall experience of intimate theatre, a theatre of involvement, and my high-perched view of *The Good Woman of Setzuan* in Oxford. There, the words and even the actions, were lost in a haze of distance — alienation was an uncomfortable reality.

Central Theatre has yet to present a *Happening* by René de Obaldia, Ken Dewey or Alan Kaprow — but the Directors are aware that an overwhelming emphasis on theatre, theatre, to the exclusion of the other arts (even sometimes of drama) is not in key with contemporary thinking: Central Theatre will eventually show films, sculpture, paintings; there are plans projected for music and poetry readings.

It is only one further step to combine all these arts — we may yet see a Ray Gun Theatre in Auckland. Late in the year an article will be devoted to Central's Sunday night experimentals.

What they have already established is a theatre where the audience is not some grey amor-phous voyeur/écouteur.

Mercury Theatre on the other hand opens with a dual disability — an unexciting programme of plays and the traditional audience/actor separation. We wait to see if a piece of virtuoso directing can pull *The Admirable Crichton* out of its taint of Victoriana.

Conscription? Weapons? Allies?

Questions in N.Z.'s defence dilemma as British withdraw

MAC PRICE, Pol.Studs. III

THE reaction of the New Zealand Government to the decision to withdraw British troops from east of Suez has been one of mild, subdued dismay. With the demise of Sockarno and the ending of confrontation between Malaysia and Indonesia in 1965, New Zealand has necessarily placed less importance on the Malaysian peninsula than on Vietnam. But the British decision has now placed New Zealand and Australia in a dilemma: which area, in terms of traditional commitments and obligations, should be "defended?" For New Zealand, for her part, has been capable of only token commitment in the past, and is likely to be capable of even less in the future.

The prevalence in the local politicians' vocabulary of the terms "the Near North" and "South East Asia" serves to confuse the issue even further, for they accentuate the impression that there is really only one problem, communism, rather than a series of local and distinguishably individual social and economical problems. The official assumption about "subversion" and the "communist threat to security," so blandly frequent in such publications as the Defence White Paper of 1966, ignores the fundamental cause of the malaise. Necessarily, however, because of the rise in the political importance of Communist China, and the consequent elevation of the strategic importance of South East Asia as the general theatre of confrontation between the East and the West, the so-called "defence of South East Asia" has become a matter of prestige for the Western Alliance as much as anything else—if, that is, the alliance does not split apart under the divergent pressures of its obligations. This article is written with all the Western assumptions about subversion in South East Asia in mind.

Britain's main contribution to the defence of South East Asia consists of the naval base at Singapore supported by considerable British-maintained army and air force units—almost 12,000 men in total. The withdrawal of this force would not only create a strategic vacuum, but also punch a gaping hole in the Singapore economy. A quarter of the island's population depends on the British base for its income. The Prime Minister, Lee Kuan Yew, already faces unenviable internal economic problems with some eight thousand unemployed. Lee, understandably, was the most vocal in protesting the British decision.

In Malaysia, the British contribution to defence is complementary to Malaysia's own substantial armed force. Britain's commitment consists mainly of sophisticated military equipment, manned with British

technical knowledge. New Zealand had in the Malaysia and Singapore area a frigate, two minesweeper crews, an infantry battalion, an SAS detachment, and two air force squadrons. The infantry battalion has now been diverted to South Vietnam.

For New Zealand's future role in the area, manpower would provide a better contribution than equipment. Since 1961, the Ministry of Defence has been involved in a highly expensive re-equipment programme for the armed services. The equipment that the government has bought or called tenders for includes two frigates, \$5.2 million of Army equipment, and five Iroquois helicopters. Yet none of these materially improve the condition or capability of New Zealand's defence system when confronted by the sophisticated intercontinental weapon systems of the big powers. It is nevertheless true that in the guerilla theatre of South East Asia, actual methods of attack and defence still belong to the pre-nuclear age. Yet even in this frame of reference, New Zealand's defence equipment still ranges from the obsolete to the obsolescent, and no amount of expenditure on defence is likely to move New Zealand into the 1950s, let alone the 1960s and 1970s.

The economic situation in New Zealand seems to be pushing the parties together on defence rather than wedging them apart. Mr Holyoake said recently that re-equipment plans in the services must have some regard to the level of New Zealand's overseas earnings. He casts doubts on New Zealand's ability to continue the re-equipment programme at the rate recommended in the Defence White Paper. Last year, defence expenditure was one of the very few items which suffered an actual cutback. And for largely traditional reasons, as implied by Mr Faulkner in the interview below, the Labour Party has always been chary of large annual defence bills. Since Labour's term in 1957-60, the National Government has more than doubled defence expenditure.

Conscription? Relax. Despite the hawk-like postures of many Government MPs, the Government itself has been cautious and self-restrained about committing troops. In his own public utterances, Mr Holyoake is careful to stress the need for a "limited war." In the present economic circumstances, conscription, even for the most militant anti-communist, would be an absurdly impractical luxury—and a dangerous political liability.

British forces in Malaysia have been withdrawing at a fairly steady

rate since confrontation ended in 1965. Malaysia has been filling the gap herself with a proposed increase in her armed forces of some 10,000 men. Even given the possibility of another changing of the guard in Jakarta, Malaysia, with the support of more sophisticated equipment provided by Australia, is capable of looking after herself. The real sore spot remains Singapore. Currently New Zealand is deploying 12 p.c. of her total Regular forces in Malaysia and Singapore, South Vietnam, and Thailand. Of the three groupings, the force in Thailand provides the best example of constructive deployment, and points a way to an effective New Zealand contribution to the defence of Singapore, without the expense of vulnerable and outmoded equipment. A group of New Zealand army engineers in North East Thailand are working on a Colombo Plan roadbuilding project. In Singapore, technical knowledge of this nature (not necessarily employed in roadbuilding) would ultimately help strengthen the country's economy. Both Australia and New Zealand could help take the strain from Singapore's creaking economy by relaxing immigration restrictions—though here, naturally, Australia would be of more use for the time being than New Zealand. It would be of little value for a destitute Singaporean to come to New Zealand as an assisted immigrant only to help inflate the forces of the unemployed. By 1971, however, the economic situation here is likely to be different; and by then the economy may need an injection of labour to ensure the success of the South Island power schemes, Comalco, and the proposed New Zealand steel mill.

But if, in the meantime, Singapore does become a restive hotbed of social and political radicalism, New Zealand, whether under a National or a Labour Government, is likely to turn to more directly military means of aiding the Singapore Government. Labour between 1957 and 1960 did not flinch from maintaining a New Zealand force during the Emergency. In fact, Mr Kirk has been more sympathetic to the problems of insurgency and instability in Malaysia and Singapore—"our Commonwealth partners"—than has Mr Holyoake.

In the long run, it seems almost inevitable that Malaysia and Singapore will fall under the influence of the Pax Americana, with Australia and New Zealand acting as the nexus of the alliance. Lee Kuan Yew has grave doubts about the wisdom of this development, and understandably so. For in Asia, the Pax Americana has a habit of turning into a Bellum Americanum.

"Reframe Seato" Says Labour

from MICHAEL LAW, Pol.Studs. III

THE withdrawal of the British military presence in South East Asia has not led to any fundamental changes in Labour's defence policy, which, according to Mr A. J. Faulkner MP, chief Labour spokesman, has fully anticipated for some time the eventual phasing out of British influence east of Suez and the resultant need to rethink New Zealand's defence policy.

Mr Faulkner made it clear in a recent interview with me that he considers New Zealand's defence policy must be closely related to our trading policies and economic situation.

He stressed: "Everyone would agree that adequate military defence expenditure must rest on a sound economy. If defence expenditure is such that it weakens our economy, then it is not defensive at all."

Working from this premise Labour policy envisages an integrated defence force so organised as to gain the maximum advantage on a cost-effectiveness basis. Mr Faulkner regards the \$80 million allotted to defence in recent budgets as the maximum yearly expenditure we can afford for the next few years.

The force, he visualises, would comprise a field force trained and equipped for both "law and order" duties and constructive medical and engineering duties. This force would be supplemented by an air transport section capable of providing field support where necessary. There is also a need for a naval anti-submarine unit, he said. This plan, to give New Zealand a defence force more closely knit than the three services are at present, would result in a highly mobile group of some 16,000 Regulars. Such a force would be best equipped to take part in "bushfire" insurgency wars in accordance with the original aims of the Commonwealth Strategic Force.

Having outlined the type of defence force that would be needed to fill our role in Asia and which at the same time fits our national pocket, Mr Faulkner then elaborated on Labour's general policy towards South East Asia.

Labour sees New Zealand's primary role in Asia as one of raising living standards, thus eliminating causes of unrest, while providing in the meantime a peacekeeping force. Mr Faulkner observed how the U.S. is realising at the moment that "any military action, unsupported by the removal of the causes of the need for that action, will ultimately fail". In holding this view, Labour is by no means alone. Many world leaders have said the same in recent months.

A Labour government would spend at least 1 per cent of New Zealand's national income on economic construction in South East Asia, at the same time utilising the engineering and medical capabilities of the armed forces.

Collective security is also an important plank of Labour's policy. Mr Kirk has recently called for discussions between Malaysia, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand on the future role of our Commonwealth force.

While acknowledging the British guarantee of the immediate use of its NATO force in a major conflict, Labour looks to the U.S. as New Zealand's major ally. "Labour does not mean by this time that New Zealand should indiscriminately support U.S. policy and military commitments, in particular on Vietnam."

Labour policy has for a long time called for new alliances, in particular for a reframing of SEATO, in order to eliminate such non-activists as France and Pakistan, and bring in new members such as Indonesia and Japan, countries with an obviously direct interest in the area.

Yet despite the clear need for military measures, Labour strongly maintains that the best defence against Communism is economic stability and constructive aid.

Mr Faulkner regards the major difference between his party and National as one of long term attitudes. He called for increased trade in the area. He emphasised: "The Labour government, after 1969, will be far more vigorous than the present government in its promotion of trade in the area, as Labour, unlike National, is not committed to supporting importing interests who look to Western Europe with its high commissions and easier trading conditions".

Mr Faulkner also believes that the defence force Labour visualises is far more practical and in keeping with our economic position than the forces outlined by the Government White Papers of 1961 and 1966 which call for expensive weaponry which in the small quantities we could afford would be virtually ineffective. Mr Faulkner claims proof of Labour's more practical approach is reflected in the fact that Government has repeatedly been obliged to defer large defence purchases.

Labour's policy, therefore, accepts our financial limitations, and enables us to contribute the maximum resources available with the greatest efficiency, and emphasises a constructive rather than a destructive role.

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BOOK REVIEWS

Educating the Body by Kevin Ireland, Caxton Press

thin men
write gaunt poems
and each word
sticks out
like a rib.

This stanza from the third poem in *Educating the Body* might serve as an epigraph for the rest of the volume. Its style and its subject reveal what is, perhaps, the most prominent feature of the best poems in the collection. Sparseness and simplicity, restraint and control are prominent characteristics of much of Mr Ireland's work. Such effects would seem to derive from a conflict between opposing forces—understatement, on the one hand, and a tendency to follow out the logic of an image to its conclusion, on the other. The tension which this conflict creates multiplies the implications of apparently simple poems, revealing meanings which are not at first evident.

About two thirds of the collection deals with the theme of sexual love in its varying forms from romantic idealization to acquisitiveness, and Mr Ireland's manner of writing, with its seemingly direct and yet ambiguous utterance, would seem to reflect the tensions of the relationships he is describing. The remaining poems in the volume deal with a variety of themes, ranging from social comment to mere word painting. Some of these, particularly the longer poems towards the end of the book, are nowhere near as successful as the shorter opening pieces. Mr Ireland tends, on one or two occasions, to lose his habitual restraint and to run wild in his zeal for the exploration of his ideas. Such loss of control results in a dissipation of the latent energy of his poetry and has an effect which seems a little shallow and over-clever. Instances of this are, fortunately, rare and the strength of the best poems makes *Educating the Body* a collection which can bear many readings.

Chris Else

SOCIOLOGY, OUR SOCIETY, AND THE UNIVERSITY

Dr D. W. G. Timms, Professor of Sociology

It is a truism that we live in a changing world—a world in which both the material and the immaterial aspects of human culture appear to be undergoing an evolution so rapid as to be little distinguishable from revolution. But few of the implications of the changes are recognized and fewer still are approved. In particular is there confusion and argument about the way in which society should attempt to come to terms with the changing cultural environment. The debate rages within and between the university and the outside community, between generations and between the couriers of diverse ideologies. Because of its concern with the nature of culture and society and with the dynamics of social processes, sociology inevitably finds itself in the front-line of the dispute.

Sociology is a divided camp. From the time of its nineteenth century conception the discipline has been subject to periodic crises of identity. This has been at no time more marked than in the period since the Second World War, a period in which the American assumption of moral leadership has been accompanied by widespread self-doubting. As an essentially American en-

terprise sociology has shared the doubts to the full. On the one hand are the traditionalists, exponents of an objective social science, free of value commitments and detached from the world of affairs. On the other hand are the representatives of the self-styled "new sociology" committed to action and to involvement. On one side the scholarly ivory tower, on the other the political battlefield.

The struggle between the traditionalists and the new sociologists reflects the more general conflict between competing views of the relationship of academia to society. To some, the university is a template for turning out competent technicians; to others it is a centre for critical yet detached analysis; to others still, it is a forward base for the reform of society. All make demands, all exhort the student body to follow their lead. Students are called upon to "rock the boat," to produce new ideas—and to criticise—the outworn. But rarely is such activity welcomed. "Ragdays are fine but student protests are signs of irresponsibility. The taxpayer's money is not meant to be wasted in demonstrations. The students should be learning a

trade." And so it goes on: apathy and activity are both wrong.

In the face of the transformations through which it is passing, contemporary society appears in danger of paying too much attention to conformity. The necessity for at least some degree of conformity is obvious: too much rocking the boat may cause it to sink. It is perhaps less obvious that it is equally necessary to have some degree of nonconformity, of innovation and of deviancy. In the face of a changing environment it is the deviants in the community who form its reservoir for adaptation. New problems need new solutions. Few would question the right—almost the duty—of the natural scientist to discard old theories and to deviate from traditional moulds. Indeed much of the normative structure of science may be seen as a framework for encouraging deviation from the old. But when the theories in question are concerned with the way in which society is or should be organized or in which people relate to each other, then tolerance of the deviant, even of the mild critic, is far less marked. Rather than being hailed as a forerunner of progress, the social or

moral critic is likely to be ostracized or dismissed as irresponsible. In a field where everyone believes himself, not without some cause, to be an expert and where change is inevitably anxiety-producing, the way of the critic and of the exponent of change is likely to be stony.

And yet change is an inevitable concomitant of development. No society in the twentieth century can cut itself off from new influences. None can afford temporary stability at the price of complete ossification. Moreover, an over-concern with conformity is likely to lead to an effective polarization of the society into mutually incomprehensible and hostile forces. Where innovation and comment are invited and are then suppressed the outlook for successful adaptation appears bleak. In these circumstances it seems that it must become the duty of sociology and of the university as a whole to be committed—committed not to one political ideology or the other but, rather, to the aim of encouraging a society in which emphasis is shifted from conformity to tolerance. The rigid society, perhaps like the closed mind, as a dubious prognosis; healthy development lies with the flexible organism.

TWEET TREE SPREE.

*I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree . . .*

So limps Joyce Kilmer's infamous poem. In *Green Shade*, the latest book from A. H. and A. W. Reed.

The publishers appear to have unearthed an Antipodean Kilmer. This book, consisting of a collection of the articles of Professor Blaiklock has written in the *Weekly News*, defies analysis, classification, and to a large extent discussion.

The author himself makes no pretence of its permanent value, describing it simply as a series of "random chapters of tree-lore" embracing "snatches of botany, history, mythology, autobiography and literary comment."

The selection of material is certainly sufficiently random and superficial — especially the scientific and literary aspects — to fit his definition. What I would find fault with is not the honesty of the definition given and the book's conformity to these terms, but rather the value of the terms

themselves. Admittedly in some of his better chapters, (five, six and thirteen especially), his resources are better organized round a specific point he is trying to make, and he merely uses the tree-lore as a point of departure. Yet the majority of the others tend merely to be collections of abstruse facts and allusions which give the impression of disorganization because of the rather tenuous connection established between them.

Consider for example the first article, which rambles through a series of allusions to Horace, Pliny, Hadrian's Wall, the Mithratists, Kipling, New Lynn in 1910 and John Ruskin, with little or no theme or purpose. Obviously, since the author does not not attempt to make this information anything more than a simple collection of facts, the articles depend for their impact on the relevance of the information to the individual reader.

It is only fair to admit that I find

the catalogue of picnics and experiences — from Trounson Park and Milford to the Castalian Springs and Ye Olde Whyte Harle in Bletchingly — and the potted classical history less interesting than would someone with first-hand knowledge of the literature and locations. Yet as the articles were originally published for the general reader, not for the specialist, I feel that I am not unjustified in assuming that my attitude would be typical. And even when the articles are organized to form some argument or make some point of more general interest instead of relying on the intrinsic merit of the collected Blaiklockiana, I still find the author's taste and generalized recommendations somewhat hard to take. Consider for example his article *Pohutukawas and Poets* in which he considers the future for N.Z. poetry: Professor Blaiklock discusses the need for some new Wordsworthian poet, "some sane, clean spirit in communion with natural things" to fill the void in the local literary scene. The point is

well taken, but the inadequacy of his example of the type of poetry he has in mind somehow negates the value of the original comment. Consider his recommendation:

*Now crimson, crimson Christmas
trees,
And flowering flame on every
shore,
Pohutukawas rim our seas,
For joy of Him whom Mary
bore.*

Thus there seems to be little I can say in favour of this book. Even allowing for the fact that it was never intended to be anything other than a collection of "random snatches", I find it difficult to appreciate Reed's reasons for publishing it. As a series of occasional articles to be read and then forgotten in a weekly magazine they may pass muster. But the comparative permanence of this well-bound collection somehow emphasizes the slightness of the content, which, in its circumscribed scope and purpose, is too limited to be of lasting value.

Michael Volkerling.

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COMMENT

VIETNAM STUDENTS

For the first time, Vietnamese students have acted together on the War. They have been unheard and unknown during the long war which is devastating their country. How is it that only now they seem to show concern? New Zealand is fighting a war in Vietnam and the public conscience is deeply divided. We have 100 Vietnamese students here and nobody, not even the student who professes to sympathize with the Vietnamese people, seems interested in what they have to say about their country. The reasoning frequently runs "These students are clearly supporters of the Saigon Government, probably from the wealthy classes who gain from the war, or they would not be allowed to come here. Vietcong supporters will certainly not be here, therefore the Viet students' views will follow the Saigon line, which we know anyway. Individual students have spoken in support of American policies, which shows that they are 'for' the war." This is wrong, in fact it is irrelevant, being based on a hopelessly over simplified view of the political situation in Vietnam.

The Viet students are definitely concerned about the war. In backgrounds they represent a complete cross section of South

Vietnamese society. For example, it has been suggested that the close relationship in the past between Roman Catholics and the Saigon Government has led to many "false" conversions. In fact, the Catholics are anti-war and pro-war like any other sector. But of the 100 students in New Zealand three are Protestant and only six are Roman Catholic. This is the same proportion as the general population. The rest are "Buddhist." Many are non-practising in that they never go to worship in the Pagodas, pray, and are humanistic in outlook.

All, except four with private support, are here on the Colombo Plan. Selection for this goes on school record plus a pass in an English exam set and marked by the N.Z. Embassy. Some favouritism may occur, but it is insignificant. Most students get a high school education to baccalaureat (U.E. to Scholarship level) but even this does not guarantee a reasonable job. Bursaries are available to bright students. About one quarter of the Viet students in New Zealand come from low income families, in many cases without even a relative in the government. The students in New Zealand are selected with a competitive, fair system and political views are not a factor.

Why then do the Viet students appear to show little concern about the war? Two years ago, the Vietnamese Students' Association was formed by the 25 students in Auckland. It aims to give the students an ethnic centre and to promote mutual friendship and understanding among themselves and with New Zealanders. It is in the constitution of the Vietnamese Students' Association that political issues are to be avoided. Due to the complex nature of the political situation in Vietnam there is such a divergence of views that political action would create many problems. The recent campaign was com-

pletely non-political. The New Year drive by the Vietcong has caused a major crisis, with three quarters of a million refugees suddenly needing food, clothes and housing. The refugee problems were being met previously even if inadequately but the sudden disaster has completely overwhelmed available resources. The South Vietnamese Government appealed for crash aid. The New Zealand Government refused. Mr Holyoake said: "The best way to help solve the South Vietnamese and refugee problem is to defeat the North Vietnamese and the Vietcong who have wrought such havoc and terror on the civilian population of South Vietnam." (N.Z. Herald, February 9, 1968).

The Vietnamese Students in all centres, many with their own families possibly involved, felt that some action had to be taken. In Auckland, they set a target of raising \$400 in the two weeks before varsity started, and launched an appeal for work and donations. By working day and night on jobs that even strong New Zealanders found heavy, these 25 lightly built students, aided by 10 male and 8 female N.Z. students, earned \$344 and received a further \$288 in donations in the eight days till the time of writing. Aucklanders who responded (largely to articles in the papers) came from almost all sections of the community.

There was one rather notable absence—the university. Apart from the general publicity, letters were sent to fifty of the staff; two offered jobs. Eighteen students out of six thousand helping is hardly an impressive record. This is in marked contrast to the situation at Canterbury. To the Vietnamese here, it would seem that the "Intellectuals" concern for their country is wind rather than reality.

CHRIS SISSONS, Ph.D. student, Cell Biology.

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LIBRARY

Seats are to be keenly contested this year; not, as you might expect, in next year's general election, but this year, in the university library. On a rough count I noted 275 seats, roughly the same as last year. But with an expected enrolment of over 7000 students, the competition can be expected to be keener than ever.

But there are also signs of relief, now that the new Biology Block is in use. The biological Sciences Library was opened before finals and was so popular that it had to be restricted to biology students. Mr Smith, the head of the library's Circulation Department, told me that students can find alternative study space in the libraries of the Architecture and Fine Arts Schools, where, as much of the work is done in studios, there is always room for outside students. However, for

students who have to use desk copies, periodicals, and dictionaries not available for borrowing, there is no alternative to finding a seat in the Main Library. It is a mistake to say, as some students do, "I never bother to go into the Library, it's always full." This is a defeatist attitude, as it deprives you of an essential part of your university education. In the modern world, where, as Marshall McLuhan states, the principal industry is the accumulation and processing of information, the university's chief function is surely to train students to process the material found in the Library.

So for most subjects it is important to try and use the Library. The time limit of fifteen minutes for leaving books at a seat while out of the Library enables some turnover. Few students have the fortitude or the time-table to stay in a seat all day with no longer

breaks than 5 minutes. Consequently the time limit is generally ignored, but it does enable you, if you are looking for a seat, to take one where someone is away and stand a fair chance of timing him out. If it turns out that he is bigger than you, draw his attention to the notice for quiet in the Library. If you lack the affrontery for this method of getting a seat, make liberal use of your right to recall books that are out. This is a nice, clean, anonymous way of throwing your weight around. Above all, remember that the present crowding is only temporary, and that when the new Library opens in 1969 we will pass into an era, however brief, of over-seating. In the meantime, bear with the Library staff and your fellow Library users, and don't let minor difficulties deprive you of the benefits the Library has to offer.

JOHN GAUDIN, History Hons.

PENS ON SALE

In the next few weeks, you are likely to be molested by some well-meaning student, selling pens for WUS — World University Service. The pens don't cost you any more than ordinary pens, and you get extra value because they have WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE inscribed on them; not to mention the fact that you are giving a painless donation to a very worthy cause.

World University Service is an organization which gives aid to universities and university students wherever it is most needed. In the past they have supplied health clinics and eating facilities in many universities in developing countries and they also give scholarships to students from Rhodesia and South Africa who are unable to complete their education in their home country. Wherever disaster strikes students, WUS is there to help. You, in turn, can help WUS, by buying, or even selling, WUS pens in the next few weeks. And watch

out for WUS Director Edgar Brown's sexy posters too!

RECORD LIBRARY

The library staff want more subscribers to the record library, so that it can be expanded. Because the collection is financed by borrowing members, the more of these there are, the greater range there will be to borrow from. To join, all you need is a record player that will play L.P.'s. For students, subscription rates are less than the cost of a good record: \$2.00 for music students, \$3.00 for others, and \$4.00 for staff and graduates. For this, you have access to a wide selection of classical recordings as well as others of folk music, poetry and Shakespeare recitals. Records can be borrowed for up to two weeks. The record catalogue is found in the last four drawers of the library catalogue, and members are welcome to suggest new titles. A leaflet issued by the library gives more concise details of membership.

Now that more and more time on YC is being given over to cricket, joining the record library is an increasingly more attractive way to hear good music cheaply.

—John Gaudin, History Hons.

THEFT

The Secretary of the Students Association, Mr Vaughan Preece, said on Wednesday last week that in the first two days that the Student Union Building was open to students, no less than six ashtrays were stolen from the Cafeteria and the Common Rooms. "It's just irresponsible," said Mr Preece. "It's just about time that people got it into their heads that if ashtrays go missing, the Students Association has to pay to replace them. The people who steal them are really stealing off themselves — and paying for it. We don't quite know what to do if this sort of thing continues. The best way to treat this problem is for students themselves to watch out for the irresponsible minority who are doing this, and stop them in the act." —Ed.

FIRST A.U. ALL BLACK "COST ME A BURSARY"

Grahame Thorne, A.U.'s first full-time student All Black has just returned from the sixth All Black tour of Canada, U.K. and France, and was interviewed on his return by *Craccum*:

Grahame, did becoming an All Black affect your varsity in any way?

"Yes, to a great degree — while all you people were in swot vac I was travelling 12,000 miles, playing football in Canada and trying to play myself into a 'Test' team, as well as trying to swot. The tour cost me a bursary for this year, plus another \$800."

Did playing for University in the competition help you?

"Most definitely; I was first noticed by a New Zealand selector in a club match, and by another New Zealand selector in the NZU versus Auckland match. If I'd been a member of another club I wouldn't have been eligible for NZU."

What were your impressions of rugby in the other centres you visited?

"In Canada, the enthusiasm — they are really keen on the game. In England, the changing over from 'rugby-to-get-a-thirst-for-the-beer' to 'rugby-to-win.' In Wales, the fervent nationalism created by rugby, and in France, the unpredictability of the players. I well remember having one player 'lined up,' and I was about to crash tackle him as he received the ball when, to my amazement, he volleyballed the 'agate' to someone. In Scotland, I was surprised by their unpreparedness. The Borders side had a practice on the morning of their game against us!"

Any tips, Grahame, for players wanting to try and represent their country?

"Firstly, there is no substitute for guts, and this goes right to the quick of the whole game. Secondly, to play eighty minutes of rugby you have to train, and train hard. Rugby



GRAHAME THORNE

is an eighty minute PLUS game. The 67 team played for the full eighty minutes!! Lastly, never give in, even when you are not in the 'A' team. Eventually, someone will see you if you've 'got it' and you'll be promoted.

"As a parting remark, I would like to say that the passing game is the way to win rugby — open football will always beat the ten men rugby of eight forwards, a half back and a kicker!"

ELSEWHERE

CRITICAL UNIVERSITY

The Berlin concept of a "Critical University" has been taken up in the Netherlands by the Student Trade Union (SVB). At the latest SVB conference it was decided to spread propaganda for a "critical university". The SVB wants to integrate the "critical university" into the existing university. Social criticism is to be incorporated as an essential part of the programmes of the universities which — in the opinion of the SVB — take the existing social structures too much for granted and which are organized along too specialized lines. "The organization of critical and theoretical seminars and work-groups and the invitation of experts for neglected and prohibited fields of work," were described as desirable.

—S.M.

BRITISH STUDENTS AND ISC

Britain's National Union of Students has declined to break with the International Students' Conference (ISC, Leiden) because of its alleged connections with the US Central Intelligence Agency Delegates meeting in Margate voted to stay in the 66 nation conference. They agreed to introduce a ruling that the conference should receive no funds from the United States and that it should not receive more than 25 per cent of its funds from any

one country. The students agreed that if these proposals were not accepted, the union should recommend with drawal from the Conference

—S.M.

POLITICS ARE IN

Polling in the Stockholm student parliamentary election in 1967 came to 23 per cent (1966 25 per cent). 40 seats were to be filled: the "Assembly of the Left" increased its seats from 5 to 11. A new group, the "Liberals", obtained 5 seats. But the real losers were those student groups which wished to withdraw from the student parliament its political mandate and to regard it exclusively as a body representing the interests of the students.

—Gaudemus, Stockholm/S.M.

BLACK AND WHITE

Michael Holman, aged 21, President of the Students' Union of the multi-racial University College of Rhodesia, was served with restriction orders confining him to his parents' home in Gwelo for the period of a year from August 11, 1967.

Holman is the third European to be restricted or detained under the Smith regime's emergency powers. His restriction orders still stand despite the fact that on the same day the Salisbury Magistrate's Court found Holman not guilty on a charge of contempt arising from a satirical poem in the student magazine "Black and White", which Holman edits. The poem was said to have violated the dignity and respect of Mr Justice Lewis, one of the judges in a constitutional test

case. Entitled "A Judgment", the poem ran as follows:

*Rhodesia! spite of metaphysic
prate,
Is formed an independent state!
Containing in its very nature
All principles of legislature
Responsible and bound to none,
A pure democracy in one;
Whose legislation is the plan,
To bully black men all it can,
Whose jurisprudent scheme main-
tains*

*What force secures, the white
man's gains.*

*Possession is without a flaw
All points of policy and law
If not de jure so to letter,
It is de facto which is better,
For such is Lewis's, Freedom's
lease,
For maintenance of whited peace.*

In 1966 a test case was brought by two political detainees to test the legality of the 1965 constitution. The judges returned the verdict that the Smith regime, although not de jure (i.e. legal) government was the only de facto (i.e. effective) government. The case is being currently heard on appeal in the High Court.

Michael Holman was born in England but was brought up in Rhodesia after his parents had emigrated. In April he was elected President of the Students' Union by a large majority and carried shoulder high by the African students. After the news of his restriction a crowd of 200 demonstrated in the centre of Salisbury, as a result of which eight students were arrested.

—Amnesty International, Wellington.

Science Conference Planned for Auckland

"A very valuable experience for any student" is the description given by John Coster of the annual N.Z. Science Students' Conference.

John, who is Auckland's publicity officer for this year's conference, added that the previous two conferences had been unqualified successes, from both an intellectual and a social viewpoint. "At a time when communication between scientists in different fields is a much discussed problem, this conference helps to show how the dilemma can be overcome. It is an excellent mental exercise for a nuclear physicist to explain his work to others ignorant of his field."

The previous three conferences, have presented a multitude of scientifically oriented activities, including lectures, seminars and tours of scientific institutions.

Victoria University is to be host this May. "It was very disappointing that no-one from Auckland attended last year's conference," said John Coster. "I hope to raise enough enthusiasm here," he continued, "to change this situation, as Auckland was very well represented in Wellington in 1965."

"Non-science students should not be deterred from attending," he said. "the conference is by no means a convocation of dusty Ph.D. students."

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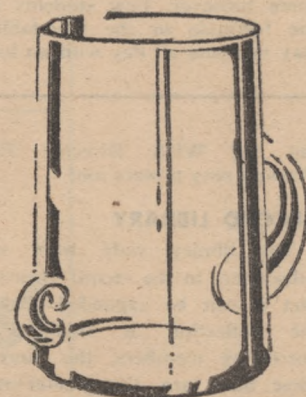
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