

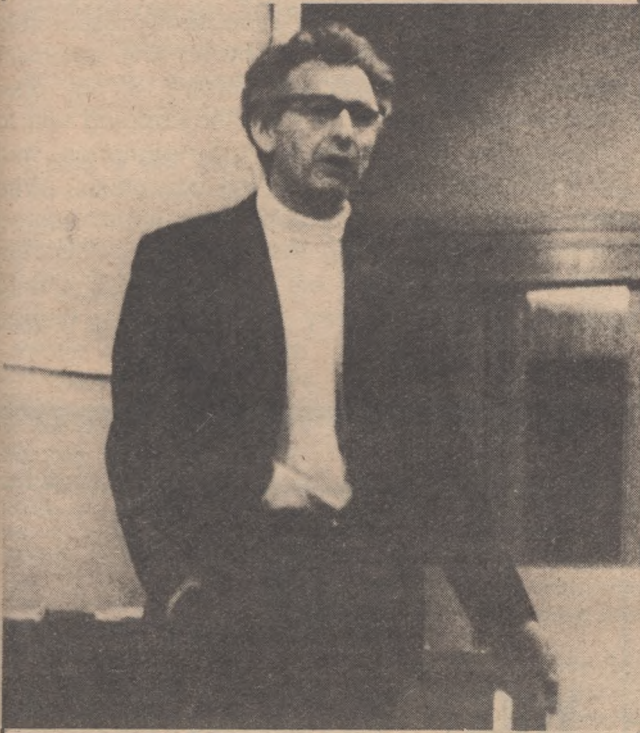
CRACCUM

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VOL 43
ISSUE 7

5 cents
Free to Students

Geiringer coming



Dr E. Geiringer (above), secretary of the New Zealand Medical Association, an organisation long involved in the much-needed reform of our medical services, is to speak on the implications of the new "Mental Health Bill" to our already disastrous system, on Monday, June 23, in B 28.

New Zealand has approximately 50 psychiatrists at present compared with 150 recommended by World Health Organisation standards, and 260 recommended by Professor Ironside of the Department of Psychological Medicine at Otago.

This situation is symptomatic of the whole field with chronic shortages of psychologists, nurses, welfare workers, and other people in supportive roles.

Dr Geiringer's address will deal with these anomalies.

Exec Changes

New members appointed, Gill Goodison resigns

Following the recent and rather traumatic reshuffling in the Exec., nominations have been accepted for the positions of Social Controller and Societies Rep. Also, Gillian Goodison has announced her intention to resign from the office of Woman Vice-President.

Second year Commerce student, Craig Farquharson, succeeds Andrew Waite as Social Controller.

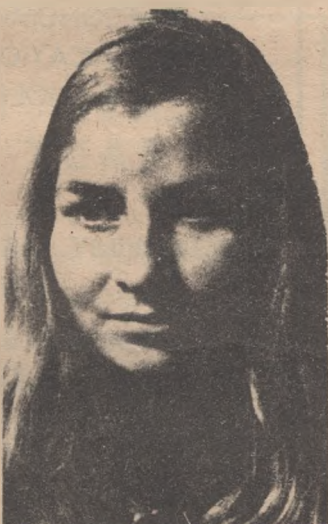
He has been active on the Social Committee for two years and is also on the committee of ComSoc.

He was appointed at last week's SRC meeting. His was the only nomination received.

Law Student Jim Stevenson has been accepted as the new Societies Rep.

He was appointed from a selection of three candidates by SRC last week. He has completed a BA and this year plans to finish his LIB studies. He has been active in the past on Literary Society, Theatre Company and Behavioural Sciences Society.

In a letter to the Executive, dated 27th May, Woman Vice-President Gillian Goodison



Miss Goodison

said she was leaving Varsity to work and would have to resign her office.

However, she has not yet officially tendered her resignation and may stay on until the end of her term.

A third year Arts student, she is the only surviving member of AUSAPOCPAH on Exec.

She had been very active in the co-ordinating of all student representative committees up until the announcement of her resignation.

Only three nominations have been received for the seven positions vacant.

An English professor described the boycott as a "bit over the edge", but stated that "no action will be taken".

The petitions were circulated by students, along with a test paper on Old English. The boycott was unsuccessful.

Commenting on the situation, second year representative Russell Haley stated that this direct action indicated the students' lack of faith in the present ineffective system of representation.

"I myself think that the system is a complete fraud," he said. "I thought at first that staff members were serious about it, but after one year's experience it seems that the whole scheme is simply a sop to the students."

"It's no wonder that the students are disillusioned about standing for the committee or that they are turning to direct action as an alternative," he said.

Third year representative Terry Locke felt that the lack of students standing was rather a result of apathy. He attributed the lack of response to "the lack of criticism" — especially self-criticism — in New Zealand students.

"One wonders," he said, "whether English students or BA students in general have even asked themselves what use there is in what they're doing, or what relevance it has to their life."

"One is drawn to the conclusion," he continued, "that BA is mainly a status symbol — something to teach with rather than to teach."

But the second third-year representative, Michael Volkerling, said that he could not agree with Mr Locke's diagnosis.

"Apathy is obviously not the explanation," he said. "If students were unconcerned about the manner in which they were being taught, or about things like course content, they would hardly go as far as to arrange a lecture boycott," he said.

"It seems to me that Mr Haley's comments are more to the point. My experience on the staff-student committee is that students here were almost totally ineffective."

Mr Volkerling claimed that the cause of this ineffectiveness lay in the distribution of power in the department.

"All decisions seem to be taken by the professors," he said.

"Staff meetings are infrequent and junior staff members are not permitted to attend. Consequently, the suggestions and complaints we have submitted — which as far as I know coincide with those of students arranging the boycott — can never have the support of the department members whose student experience is nearest our own."

"I would say that a lot of staff members are sympathetic to what we're saying," he continued, "but they have no more power than we do in presenting their point of view forcefully."

Mr Volkerling agreed that direct action outside the system could be a more effective way of making the students' views heard.

Mr Locke, however, disagreed. He claimed that such a situation "would leave the way open for what Muldoon-esque type thinking would label the "lunatic fringe" — people interested in only their own points of view who would probably end up alienating both staff and the majority of students they are supposed to represent.

Although he considered that the representation system — especially at Faculty level — was a "dead loss", he claimed that "the present system of staff student dialogue is the only constructive way of making general student opinion heard."

When asked to comment on this, Mr Volkerling said that he agreed that in the long run some form of student representation would be the only answer.

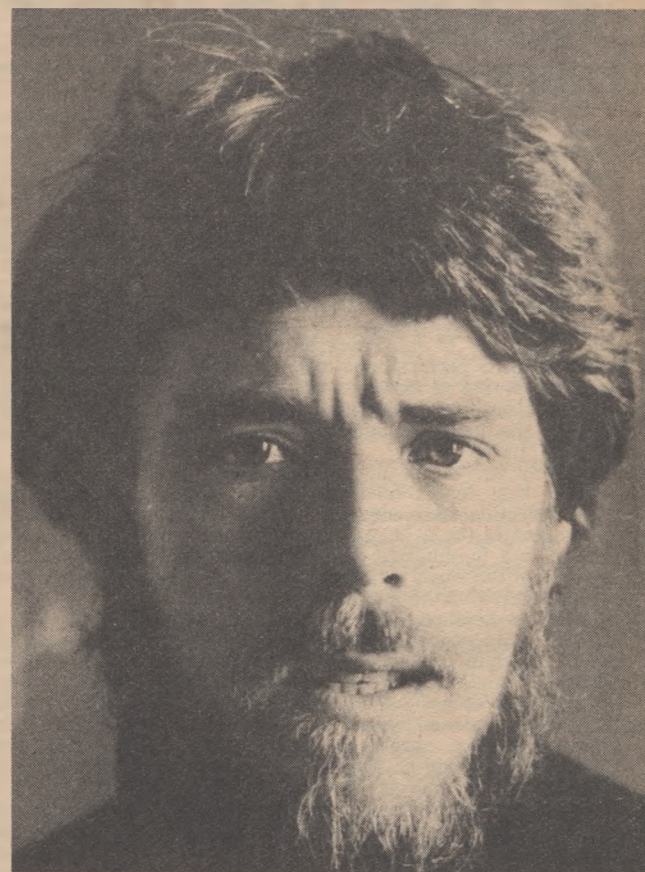
"However," he said, "I feel the system must be radically changed."

"Earlier this year we asked the English committee for representation and speaking rights at staff meetings. Minor concessions were made, but the request was basically refused."

"Yet I feel," he continued, "that these committees can be effective only if we are represented at the staff meetings."

Mr Haley agreed with this judgement.

"At the moment we have no direct say in policy deci-



Mr Haley

— Max Oetli.

sions," he said. "We know nothing of new proposals before they come into effect. In addition, we do not have sufficient information about the limitations of the present situation to be able to formulate any constructive criticism. Ideas we put forward mean nothing unless we can have factual documentation — which would be available at staff meetings — to support our case. Finally, our point of view is never directly expressed at the meeting, but is conveyed via the professors."

"This is obviously ridiculous," he said.

Mr Volkerling suggested that the system be reorganised to allow student representatives and junior staff members full voting powers at the departmental meetings instead of the present system.

"This would allow a much more effective say in departmental matters," he said, "which would in turn probably make disturbances such as this boycott has caused completely unnecessary."

"If something like this is not done, the power of the professors will simply be perpetuated, and any progress in the department will be vitiated," he said. "Unless some sort of reform is effected," he claimed, "the same sort of trouble will reoccur."

Staff-student committees fail to gain sufficient support, while

STUDENTS TRY TEST BOYCOTT

Petitions were circulated in the English Department last week demanding that students boycott a test arranged by a senior staff member.

It is also reported that pamphlets advocating student revolt have been distributed.

This is the first time on record that Auckland students have taken direct action on academic matters outside the newly-established departmental staff-student committees.

At the same time the closing date for nominations for English Departmental representatives has been put forward three weeks because of lack of candidates.

FOOTNOTE

There is evidence that dissatisfaction with the staff-student committees is not confined to the English Department or even to Auckland University. A report from Victoria indicates that Maths Department students refused to stand for their committee, and representatives had to be handpicked by staff members.

— Staff Reporter.

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Farrier's Apologia Vitae...

To call Capping a "fiasco" is surely ridiculous. Perhaps "fiasco" is a term more suited to the last issue of Craccum, especially after reading the inside cover page which gave a brief explanation of the conditions under which it was published, — the term may even refer to the Engineering Students' Society which failed to entertain the students or public with its non-participation. However, after capping week, Mr Ron Mayes, President of the Engineering Society has more than made up for any lack of stunts.

If we judge capping week on the number of drunken students, or on the number of police cars seen around the university, or again, on the number of convictions against students for activities during capping week, then certainly Capping '69 must be the most successful capping ever. Unfortunately, my moral values do not reach as high as those of Mr Mayes; I therefore judge the success of capping on the number of students who took part and also the enjoyment gained from such participation.

One would hardly term any of the individual events of Capping Week a fiasco. I challenge Mr Mayes and Craccum to elaborate on their statements in the last issue of Craccum — for their benefit, I feel sure that all who took part in Capping Week were more than satisfied by the results. I also point out that my resignation does not relate in any way whatsoever to the fact that "unofficial capping stunts misfired". Craccum well knows

that all stunts must be authorised, however if Craccum still believes that there is some connection I would certainly like to hear it.

With reference to the letter written by Mr Ron Mayes, President of the Engineering Society and also a Students' Association executive member, I challenge him to explain further his remarks — "On May 5 the Capping Controller gave permission for the capping van to be driven by another executive member to a supposedly unknown destination (I would hardly call this responsible)", and "Finally when Capping Week is over the work begins for the Capping Controller tying together the many loose ends and finalising the accounts. This year the supposedly responsible Capping Controller resigns." Does Mr Mayes mean by his first statement that I did in fact know where the capping van was going? If not, does he consider that it was irresponsible of myself to loan the capping van to an executive member? Therein lies the reason for my resignation, that executive members do not trust other members of the executive. With regard to the final statement — if Mr Mayes was to show moral interest in the Students' Association instead of just using the car-parking facilities, he would perhaps be aware of the fact that I am aiding the Association Accountant and Administrative Secretary in every way possible to finalise the accounts.

— John M. Farrier.

letters to the editor

RUGBY TOUR

Dear Sir, — It seems difficult to convince many students of the social and political implications involved in sending a Rugby team to South Africa next year. Perhaps these people should consider the ethics of international sport itself.

New Zealand has a reputation for producing the finest rugby teams in the world, but here a reservation must be made — in the world of white contestants — for she has not yet met the full potential strength of South Africa on the rugby field.

The successes of coloured athletes in recent Olympic teams, more particularly in those of America, demonstrates the importance of full representation of a nation's sporting potential to its performance in international contests. Perhaps America is not a good example of full representation in sport but one may well speculate on how she would have fared if she had precluded non-white participants from her Olympic team.

Surely the ethics of international sport demand that a nation's best teams have the right to expect to meet the finest selection of contestants which an opposing nation is able to put in the field. Anything less can only bring a hollow victory or a humiliating defeat. The full sporting potential of any nation obviously cannot be realized unless its teams are representative of the community as a whole.

If New Zealand agrees to send a team to South Africa she will most probably win the tour against a team selected from the white minority which comprises only a small proportion of South Africa's total population and therefore only a small part of her full sporting potential. Such a victory, if it can be so named, would be no real trial of athletic skills between nations, surely the real meaning of international sport, it could bring no satisfaction in a world of international contests and no laurels to the victors.

Only when New Zealand is allowed to meet and if she can then defeat a representative South African team, which includes both the finest white and non-white players, can she truly claim to be without peer in the rugby field otherwise she will never know if she has the world's finest rugby teams or potentially only the second best.

Perhaps it would also be wise to keep in mind that if we persist in involving ourselves in this charade which South Africa chooses to designate as international sport, it is not altogether out of the question that we too may be precluded from future Olympic games and other international contests, particularly those involving Afro-Asian countries.

The demands of vested interests are probably almost overwhelming, but if we look ahead and take future considerations into account it might be more realistic to play the game according to international sporting ethics.

— A. F. Coutts.

THEFT

Dear Sir, — I'm just a normal, law-abiding student, hence it comes as rather a shock to find how absolutely LOUSY some students are.

In all good faith I left my bag on Tuesday outside the Arts library. To my horror two text-books were stolen out of my bag.

One of them, Hirschfeld, 'The Constitution and the Court,' is unobtainable from the bookshops, and with some luck it may be obtained from abroad after a wait of 10 weeks.

If this sort of thing continues, it will be just too expensive to stay at University.

I recommend my books be returned to me (my address is written in them) and bags be allowed in the library to eliminate such things happening again.

— Jenny Maud.

BERLIN HITCHHIKING

Dear Sir, — When I first arrived in Berlin, I was rather intrigued by the number of cars around the city sporting a white sticker with a big round red spot on it on their wind-screens. On enquiry, I was told that this was one of the more practical forms of solidarity that Berlin students and other left-wing citizens had developed. Any car with a red spot on the windscreen can be stopped and asked for a lift. Thus students and others who are wealthy or lucky enough to own some sort of car pledge themselves to share their possession with the less fortunate. The scheme was devised as a way of rapid dispersal after demonstrations, but has become a general lift-service around the city for progressive people. All it costs the owners is the few moments it takes to pick someone up and drop them again. No-one is obliged to go out of their way. It is also a way of meeting other students and citizens of similar conviction, and makes hitch-hiking in the city possible for the first time.

Maybe something similar could be developed in Auckland. The Students' Association or some left wing group could have stickers printed and distribute them to students, lecturers and sympathetic members of the public. This could save many students a great deal of money at no extra cost to the car-owners. And it could make a genuine contribution to student solidarity.

— George de Bres, Berlin.

(Further letters on page 11)

BETWEEN ISSUES

BY

THE HOBBIT

Well they have done it again, another victory to a minority group; this time the student prohibitionists. Student prohibitionists? man that sure is a minority group, and you mean to say that they had a political victory? That's just what I'm saying, except it's more than a victory, it's a catastrophe, they've abolished 10 o'clock closing! Oh, come on, you're joking, you're having me on . . . you're not? No sir, they've abolished 10 o'clock closing just as sure as my home brew is 21 per cent proof, and for the other 79 per cent of the proof, you just go to the university library, and come 10 o'clock, nothing happens, it just stays open. Well, I never, things are certainly changing around here, 10 o'clock closing used to be part of our heritage, in fact for as long as I can remember it was so regular you could set your watch by it. That's right sir, our past memories are fading rapidly, why it's only been about three weeks since 10 o'clock closing was abolished and already nearly every-

one has forgotten how at 10 o'clock the bell would ring and the security officer would say to the few myopic students remaining, "Time gentlemen, your glasses please." But besides destroying our heritage it's destroying our moral character, of course you expect a bit of going on between students, but in a library, well that's just a bit much. You mean you have evidence of immorality going on in our own library between the hours of 10 and 11? I certainly do, why you just take the elevator to the fifth floor, and the legal library is full of courting couples. No! Yes, sir, and all because of prohibitionists. I tell you prohibitionists should be prohibited . . .



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New Senate Rep Predicts Change

The majority of Senate members have come to see the value of student representation since it began last August, said newly-appointed student rep on Senate Tom Prebble last week.

"I'm pretty sure that when student representation comes up for review by Senate in August they will at least renew the membership of the two present members if not appoint more," he said.

"I think at this stage it is not altogether a bad thing that we only have two reps as it has given Senate a little time to get used to us. They have not felt it necessary to veto everything we say."

Prebble replaces George de Bres who resigned earlier this year to go overseas. Pointing out that he had so far attended only one Senate meeting he said he felt having students on Senate as full members had had a very great effect. "Firstly we have been able to

acquaint senior members of the university with students views on matters which they weren't aware of before. Most of what the student reps have said has met with approval. In fact the professors are glad to have the student viewpoint.

Secondly, they have been able to dig their toes in on points of disagreement with the Senate and on at least one major issue have brought the whole of Senate over to their viewpoint. And thirdly, in cases such as exclusion of students from university they have been able to plead their cases.

"I think that generally there has been a great increase in student interest in university affairs since the completion of the new student union building. For our part we are anxious to cement the contact between us and the departmental committees. Liaison between us and the student body must take place before we actually take an issue to Senate because of the confidential

nature of Senate business."

Commenting on future of student participation, Prebble said that in a university growing as fast as ours, all faculties are struggling to maintain their parity and it is essential that students at least maintain parity. "We must push all issues of vital concern to students."

Mr Prebble was appointed last week at the monthly SRC meeting. He was opposed by only one other nominee — the Engineering Representative Ron Mayes.

He is the brother of former AUSA president John Prebble.

Mr Prebble is a part-time student and has graduated BA. He is completing his MA at



De Bres ... "resigned".

Auckland this year.

He is a primary school teacher and has in the past been associated with the National Union of Teachers and the Volunteer Service Abroad scheme.

Mr Prebble is 22.

FACTS ABOUT AMERICA
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ARTS FESTIVAL AND WINTER TOURNAMENT

All clubs must register their activities and participants with sports or societies rep. immediately.

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NEW PUBLICATION

Education Booklet Essential Reading

Recent statements by the Minister of Finance Mr Muldoon have indicated his belief in "opening up debate" on the future of tertiary education in New Zealand.

Auckland University Students' Association have recently published a booklet which represents the contribution of New Zealand students to this debate.

It has been edited by Publications Officer Michael Volkerling, and is retailing for 50 cents per copy.

It collects together for the first time the major public statements which have been made to date on the future development of tertiary education in New Zealand. All of these with the exception of a speech by Mr Muldoon, were originally delivered at a seminar organised by AUSA for the Constituent Education Officers of NZUSA.

Commenting on the reasons for publication, Michael Volkerling said that the idea had originated in a growing awareness of the sharp division which existed at government and departmental level on the ideal direction of future educational development.

"The booklet was published to draw attention to this controversy", he said. "In recent months the government have attempted to abnegate responsibility for this development by placing the decision in the hands of an inadequately informed public."

"It is hoped," he continued, "that this booklet will help make clear the real alternatives that face the community, and



Mr Volkerling.

the probable consequences of the present government's attitude.

"I consider it compulsory reading for any student who is at all concerned about the quality of his education now and in the future."

AUSA president Bill Rudman was elected to the University Council as student representative at last week's meeting of the SRC. He was the only person nominated.

He replaces John Stevens who has been student representative since 1962. Mr Stevens is a past president of AUSA.

Mr Rudman is also a member of the Senate and was instrumental in setting up the present system of student representation late last year.

Suggestions Wanted

For Union Extensions

The University and Student administration is at present involved in discussing the long-term development of the Student Union buildings.

There is scope for development of a comprehensive student centre on the present site including such things as a theatre, squash courts, gymnasium, and possibly an undergraduate library.

The Students' Association Executive would be interested in hearing any suggestions from students for the future development of the union. In particular, suggestions concerning the type of facilities provided overseas which would be relevant to Auckland conditions are needed.

If you have any ideas or any complaints about the present facilities, Bill Rudman and Mike Law would be pleased to hear of them.

ARTS GRADUATES FACE EMPLOYMENT DIFFICULTY

Arts graduates with non-vocational degrees will face increasing difficulty getting suitable work, in the light of a recent State Services Commission directive.

The directive, which is understood to be circulating on a confidential basis, will exclude most masters and honours arts degree graduates from the higher starting salaries they at present enjoy in the public service.

This will result in the highly-qualified entrant with a degree which does not include subjects of direct relevance to the contemplated job, being paid the salary for a bachelors degree. Entrants to the public service coming in with a B.A. usually start around the top of the basic grade — Class 6 in the pay structure — a salary of \$2,415 per annum.

Masters degrees have until now attracted up to \$1000 more.

Only where a higher degree includes some subjects directly relevant to the position, such as a language for the translation section of Internal Affairs Department, or geography for town planning work, will the higher rate be offered in future.

Several public servants are understood to have resigned in part because of the new attitude towards degrees, and there is some doubt as to the position of those at present in the public service on the higher salaries.

Anxiety has been expressed about their prospects for salary rises, and some believe that they may be held back for several years until their salaries have come into line with the new measures.

The Secretary of the Public Service Association, Mr D. P. Long, said that the P.S.A. would be discussing the matter with the State Services Com-

mission at their next regular meeting, to be held early in June.

He saw the new directive as stemming from a lack of appreciation within the commission of the benefits of education in itself.

"They seem to think that you go to university to get a sort of trade ticket, and the only useful things are geography and physics," said Mr Long.

The action by the Commission may only be part of overall changes which will eventually downgrade the importance of arts faculties in the universities.

"The Public Service has been the clear leader in the recognition of the value of arts degrees", said Mr A. T. Mitchell, Secretary of the Victoria University Appointments Board.

Tightening employment, and the increasing proportion of school-leavers going to university, have led other employers to question the value of "non-vocational" type arts degrees.

"We've already seen a changed attitude among students — with them pulling in a unit of economics or maths to finish off a degree", said Mr Mitchell.

The numbers of students entering teachers' training colleges in recent years has increased, indicating to some degree that other avenues are closing.

Teaching can only absorb a certain number of arts graduates.

If the attitude of total justification for a university degree prevails, such subjects as political science and philosophy may well be in jeopardy: fewer students may take them to honours and masters level.

The percentage of school-leavers attending university has risen sharply in recent years. Certain sectors of the business and commerce fields who traditionally recruited the upper levels of school-leavers are now finding that they have to take graduates — or be content with people of much lower aptitude in general.

Many of the group they formerly culled their cadets from are now at the universities.

— NZSPA.

**"WRITE
for CRACCUM"**

Rudman Elected To A.U. Council

AUSA president Bill Rudman was elected to the University Council as student representative at last week's meeting of the SRC. He was the only person nominated.

He replaces John Stevens who has been student representative since 1962. Mr Stevens is a past president of AUSA.

Mr Rudman is also a member of the Senate and was instrumental in setting up the present system of student representation late last year.

This August the council will reconsider the Students' Association request for two additional student representatives on Council.

This request, which was one originally made in the Wood/Rudman/Northey report, was deferred for one year.

Rudman, by all accounts is the first enrolled student to serve on Council.

His appointment marks another step in the progress which is being made in securing greater student participation in the administration of the university.

Foreign Policy Speech:

Sinclair Argues For Independent Policy

Idealists will be horrified by the idea that New Zealand's foreign policy should be determined on the basis of what is in the national interest, claims Professor Keith Sinclair, the Labour Party candidate for Eden.

Although he said he wanted "more nationalism in our foreign policy", he did concede that our national interests should fit in with the long-term interests of the world as a whole.

Professor Sinclair began his address by pointing out that we are now in the fifth year of a major debate on New Zealand's foreign policy. The nature of the debate, and the number of participants involved in the debate are unprecedented in New Zealand's history.

He observed that when the Vietnam issue first came into the spotlight very few politicians had ever debated foreign policy. Even the Prime Minister's statements on external affairs have changed markedly, and are now more responsible and statesmanlike.

Professor Sinclair urged that public debate and protest are very necessary on the matter of foreign policy. Too often, he claimed, politicians and ministers have turned a blind eye to such issues, and need to be reminded of their responsibilities.

Further to this, Professor Sinclair pointed out that very often sport is foreign policy. Citing the 1936 Olympics, the recent European Ice-Hockey Championships, he added "whether we like it or not, our actions suggest to the rest of the world which side we are on."

To the rest of the world (and, in particular, the mass media which inform them) "racial equality is more important than rugby." Because New Zealand is not well-known overseas, the All Blacks ARE the representatives of New Zealand.

In arguing for a new foreign policy, Professor Sinclair noted that there are very real limits to our degree of independence. The first is that we cannot afford adequate representation

everywhere. The second is that because of our lack of resources we must rely on the United States or Great Britain as sources of information.

But our foreign policy must firstly be determined by what is in our national interests, and secondly, even if we cannot be completely independent, we should use what independence we do have to the full.

Professor Sinclair suggested that Canada, which is fully integrated into the American defence network, whether it likes it or not, has been far more independent than New Zealand. The Canadians took an independent line on Suez, on Vietnam, and recently on NATO.

Professor Sinclair then took issue with a claim made by the Prime Minister last February that the government was "leading" the country in foreign policy. Rather the government was being "pushed", he said.

Vietnam was never an "independent" foreign policy decision, and it was not in the country's interests. The Opposition, said Professor Sinclair, should continue to point out its original criticism of involvement in Vietnam, and continue to stand against such involvement.

Professor Sinclair disagreed equally with the Prime Minister's recent claim for a "vigorous SEATO".

First he pointed out that SEATO has almost no connection with the Vietnam war. Second, "SEATO, if it is not already history, it is becoming history rather than politics."

The Vietnam issue has demonstrated, Professor Sin-

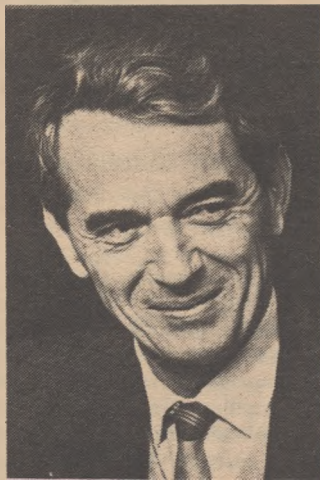
clair claims, the necessity for the Government and the people to continually reassess New Zealand's stance in foreign policy.

This critical attitude could well be applied to our present and future relations with South-east Asia, and Malaysia in particular. Professor Sinclair asserted that in some ways the problem of Singapore has been a key to New Zealand's foreign policy since World War I.

We must remind ourselves that Singapore is not going to save us from any attack by hostile forces, he said. We must also remember that we are NOT part of Asia, but part of Australasia, a distinct "nation" living in the Pacific.

However, we must also remember that Australia shares a common border with Indonesia, which brings it close to Asia. Therefore, Professor Sinclair suggested, it is in our interests to be interested in that part of the world, but he seriously questioned the presence of troops as the best contribution we could make to furthering our interests in the region.

Malaysian politicians feel that our troops are required there, because our presence will be guaranteed by a "big brother" behind us, he said. But he feels that our troops might well be committed to



Professor Sinclair

taking sides in racial confrontations because of the political instability of the region.

Professor Sinclair challenged the "forward defence" policy assumptions. He said we must ask who we are fighting, and remember that we can only fight people, not ideologies. He continued by saying that some Government statements seem to imply that Government members think we are fighting the Chinese.

But Professor Sinclair contended that if China should become involved in South-east Asia, for which there is no evidence at present, then it will primarily be a threat to the great powers of the world, and New Zealand will be of little consequence.

Thus foreign policy decisions should avoid placing troops in provocative positions, which is the American lesson in Vietnam, and future treaty obligations should be carefully defined and understood.

— Chris Smithyman.

Holyoake Plagiarizes

In a lunch hour address on 4th June, Professor Keith Sinclair, Labour candidate for Eden, said that while he was at Cambridge University he was interested to read the speech made by the Prime Minister when he was made a Freeman of the City of London.

At first he found himself agreeing with much that Mr Holyoake had said. Then he thought, 'Of course I agree with it—I wrote it'

Altogether passages from four parts of Professor Sinclair's Pelican History of New Zealand are quoted with minor verbal changes, in the Prime Minister's short speech.

Professor Sinclair made no complaint about this plagiarism.

If poets are the world's unacknowledged legislators, historians are the unacknowledged scriptwriters.

Mr Holyoake's speech:

To be British has meant to claim a share in your qualities of sportsmanship, modesty, discipline and courage, as well as a sense of humour, and it has enabled New Zealanders to identify themselves with British tradition. For New Zealanders, tradition begins not with Captain Cook or Governor Hobson, but with King Alfred. By thinking of themselves as a British people, many New Zealanders have provided themselves with an answer to the question: "What am I?" It is a ready-made answer, and it gives great comfort.

Pelican History of New Zealand, Page 298

Above all, to be British has meant to claim a share of the traditional British qualities of sportsmanship, fair play, modesty, discipline, courage. And it has enabled New Zealanders to identify themselves with British greatness. If the emphasis on the 'British' characteristics of the early settlements has been out of focus, it remains true that, for European New Zealanders, tradition begins not with Governor Hobson but with King Alfred. By thinking of themselves as a British people, many New Zealanders have provided themselves with an answer to the question which has perplexed the American: What am I? It is a ready-made answer, but for those for whom it is an article of faith, it gives great comfort.

Everts Claims Overseas Aid is Main Priority

A target of 1% GNP as aid to developing nations was "a very good target to start with," said a visiting Dutch diplomat, Mr Everts. Aid for development, he continued, should be a structural priority in the economies of the developed nations, and not just a tail-end to other programmes.

Mr Everts, who was Chairman of the Finance Section of the second United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in New Delhi, said that development has been the major problem in international relations of the last fifteen years. The lack of widespread success in development programmes is a consequence of the failure of previous easy assumptions about aid and economic growth.

Perhaps the major false assumption has been that financial and technical assistance to underdeveloped nations would automatically lead to development, and to an economic "take-off" point into independent, sustained economic growth.

Trade barriers, which underdeveloped countries thought would be adjusted in their favour, and market problems meant that the terms of trade continued to work against the developing nations. Fluctuations in trade continued to have adverse repercussions on weak economies. Generally, in spite of assistance, living standards of developing nations failed to increase in real terms.

Mr Everts conceded that there had been some "success stories" as far as international aid was concerned. He cited Taiwan, South Korea, and Israel. But the failure to "take-off" was far more typical, though for a variety of reasons.

He noted that much aid, including humanitarian aid, was squandered. But changes within society produced severe tensions, especially the consequences of social reconstruction, population expansion, and increased urbanisation.

Expectations that the new

nations would play a bigger role in the world failed. Instead the chronic instability that has tended to follow on independence has reinforced a loss of faith in their own futures.

Major nations, which had been expected to interest themselves in the problems of underdeveloped nations, were concerned above all with their own problems and with the problems between the major developed nations.

It is in this context, Mr Everts argued, that UNCTAD I and II must be seen. The first conference, held in Geneva in 1964, Mr Everts described as "confrontation", because the underdeveloped nations had demanded the Conference, and had demanded solutions for their problems.

But the organisation of UNCTAD itself concluded that confrontation had been the wrong tactic, Mr Everts asserted. So the second conference in New Delhi attempted to obtain consensus measures.

From the record of these two attempts at international cooperation, Mr Everts concludes that progress in the aid and development field can only be obtained by a small permanent conference, in which gradual progress will be possible. Formal conferences tend to an excess of protocol over substance.

Further to this, Mr Everts foresees that future targets "must be as realistic and detailed as possible". Targets must also cover all sectors — social, cultural, and economic. But above all, the process of development requires a "world-wide framework of cooperation", especially in the matter of planning between the donors and recipients of aid.

Sportsmen Receive Awards at Dinner

The Annual "Blues" dinner was held last Friday at the Student Union and was attended by many well-known Uni sportsmen and sportswomen. This event which has become the Sports Event of the Year is sponsored by W. D. and H. O. Wills, and we thank the sponsors for their generous support — as well as subsidising the dinner, they present the Sportman and Sportswoman trophies, two handsome awards indeed, to the outstanding Uni performers of the year.

This year the award went to a small-bore shooter, T. B. Mulvey, while the women's award went to Janise Payne, a skier.

Mulvey, a Science student, is one of New Zealand's foremost small-bore men and has held the N.Z.U. title for three years as well as holding the New Zealand record for a touring side. He is a stalwart of the A.U. Small-bore Club and has been the backbone of its existence for a number of years.

Janise, now studying at Otago, won the N.Z.U. downhill championship at Winter Tournament with a heroic display of courage, as she was suffering from a badly injured leg at the time. As well as winning the downhill, she also won the Giant Slalom, which makes her the fastest skier in the Uni's. Janise is among the first half dozen women skiers in the North Island, and while at Dunedin should offer

the leading South Islanders good competition.

As well as the presentations, the following were given "Blues": —

Men's Rowing: R. S. Fairclough, D. C. MacKay and P. J. Scriven.

Women's Rowing: Miss E. Cato.

Athletics: R. Clarke, A. Jordan and J. Le Grice.

Swimming: Miss B. Griffiths and P. Ayson.

Water Polo: H. Pollock.

Tennis: J. G. Ross, D. H. Turner, I. Baudinett.

Skiing: W. J. Farrel and Miss J. Payne.

Fencing: J. Gaudin, R. Gayfer and Miss J. Northover.

Badminton: J. Rowe and P. Gorringer.

Men's Hockey: K. Gorringer, B. Rogers, B. Dayman, B. Mellor.

Table Tennis: T. Quinn.

Small-bore: T. B. Mulvey.

Rugby League: B. Donnelly and G. Smith.



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INTERVIEW

Recent reports in the daily papers have given rise to the rumour that Waikato University is to abandon its unique degree system in favour of the traditional New Zealand system. The rumour is false.

In a recent interview with Craccum, the Vice-Chancellor of Waikato University, Dr R. Llewellyn emphatically denied the rumour. A report he was preparing for release to the press stated that "the university is modifying and not abandoning its present system". He assured us that the system of Schools of Study will continue although there are some important changes within the system which will come into effect next year.

Waikato will

Not Abandon Present System

At a council meeting on May 14, the following proposals were passed:-

- 1) Students will still enrol in a School of Study (e.g. Humanities) but will be permitted to take up to two fifths of their programme from courses offered in another school. This will allow them to major in a subject outside their school.

Commenting on this, the Vice-Chancellor said that previously students had had to choose from the specially co-ordinated courses within their school but many students wished to follow unco-ordinated courses. The new scheme would allow this to a certain extent.

- 2) Previously the Bachelors Degree had

been divided into three parts in each of which several papers were sat. In future each paper and related course of study will qualify as a distinct unit and the degree will comprise 22 of such courses at graded levels.

- 3) As a result of 2) a student will be granted a pass in each course instead of, as previously, a whole year's work at Part I, II or III. Furthermore a student may sit a minimum of 2 courses per year instead of a full year's programme.

Dr Llewellyn said that these two proposals were intended to make part-time study available at the university, although full-time students would still be preferred. They

would also make it easier for students to transfer to another university as the stage of study could be more easily reckoned in conventional units.

- 4) Examinations will now be held on a 3/3/3 basis instead of the previous 2/3/4 system. That is, they will be held at the end of each year, instead of after the student's second, fifth and ninth terms.

In some ways, Dr Llewellyn said, he regretted the change to the 3/3/3 system because under the present system there was a much greater incentive to study over the long vacation as this fell in the middle of a course of study. However, students will find it easier to participate in tournaments and other national student events without examination clashes, he said. (At present most students have major exams immediately after winter tournament).

Dr Llewellyn was emphatic that these changes in no way indicated a lack of faith in the Waikato system. "They came about as part of a regular review of the system," he said, "and were intended to strengthen it, not undermine it."

The fundamental tenets of the system will still prevail: students will enrol in a School of study and pursue the compulsory general course within it in addition to a large proportion of the co-ordinated courses it offers. Further examinations (Specials) will continue to enable students to convert a "fail" into a "pass," and class work will count as one-third of total marks in each course.

Waikato students have as yet heard very little about the changes but when approached had differing opinions of the benefits they would obtain.

Most agreed that the change from "pass as a whole" to individual units could ease the work load and that failure would no

longer mean the loss of a whole year's work.

Michael Tatchell, a B.Phil. student said that it would be much better to have exams at the end of the year but Caroline Casey, a 3rd-year B.A. student, preferred the old system because she liked to finish the year without exams looming overhead.

Most students we spoke to regarded the standard of the Bachelors Degree as quite high but the general opinion was not so confident about the higher degrees. Caroline Casey said that members of staff had advised her not to do her M.A. at Waikato.

The changes at Waikato should make it more popular with Auckland students which might possibly be an advantage when Auckland reaches its 10,000 ceiling. Coupled with the Schools of Science and Maori Studies which are underway, they may draw off a sizeable number of Auckland students.

Dr Llewellyn is hopeful that this will happen. Even at present, he said, 15 per cent of their students come from Auckland, and he would like to see this increase.

"The time is not yet ripe for a second university at Auckland," he said. "We should wait until the student population reaches 50,000 before we establish another university and then it should be a campus university."

He stressed, however, that "the land should be purchased now and it should be planned in a big way."

In the meantime he thinks selective entrance is the only answer for Auckland. All students living in Auckland would be eligible for entrance but non-Auckland students should be accepted only until the ceiling is reached. The remainder should be told to go elsewhere.

— Christine Moir.



Dr Llewellyn

— Auck. Star.

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What's Wrong With New Newspapers?

by S. W. Bradley

The medium is a mess. The press is the most important of New Zealand's mass-media channels of communication; the press is also the most reactionary of New Zealand's socio-economic structures.

MONOPOLY . . .

The New Zealand press is organised on a monopoly basis. None of the four main centres have directly competing newspapers: each one has one morning and one evening paper. Throughout Auckland province, which contains almost one-half of the country's population, there circulates only one morning daily — THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD. The six provincial dailies of Auckland, such as the WAIKATO TIMES (N.Z.'s best daily by far) and the NORTHERN ADVOCATE are evening newspapers.

H. N. Blundell, president of the Newspaper Proprietors' Association (NPA) has pointed a quavering finger at the Thompson, I.P.C., and Beaverbrook empires in Britain (Star, 22/10/68), but at least these groups, with all their ills, offer a genuinely competitive product on the same newsstand at the same time. The United Kingdom has also had two Royal Commissions of enquiry into the press which have resulted in the creation of a self-disciplinary Press Council. The U.K. press is characterised by metropolitan daily newspapers whose editorial policies vary across a fair span of the political spectrum; this is not true of New Zealand.

The press monopoly in New Zealand extends from the dailies to the periodicals:

Wilson and Horton Limited publish —	
The N.Z. Herald	218,000
N.Z. Weekly News	88,000
N.Z. Family Doctor	12,300
Thursday	n.a.
N.Z. Newspapers Limited publish —	
The Auckland Star	135,000
Christchurch Star	65,000
Christchurch Star Sports	37,500
8 O'clock	98,000
Eve Magazine	24,000
N.Z. Woman's Weekly	200,000
N.Z. Home Journal	54,000
N.Z. Farmer	25,000

This cosy situation has been preserved (until the next Labour Government?) by the News Media Ownership Act of 1965. Allied against the passage of this bill were an unusual combination of interests: Federated Farmers, F.O.L., the Law Society, over 40 provincial and suburban newspapers, the Labour Party. For the bill were: the eight metropolitan papers, the National Party cabinet, full stop.

"Well . . . of course, people don't actually READ newspapers. They get into them every morning like a hot bath."

— Marshal McLuhan.

Sir Leslie Munro, ex-Herald editor, declared the bill would "give a monopoly to the metropolitan newspapers of this country." He crossed the floor of the House and voted with the Opposition.

While N.Z. Newspapers Limited were publicly and privately predicting what would befall the "independent" and "competitive" news access situation in New Zealand if the bill wasn't passed, they were completing their long mopping-up operation of all the independent Auckland suburban weeklies. So much for independence and competition in the New Zealand press. As for keeping the press pure and free from the taint of alien ownership, whatever did happen to those embarrassing shares (just under 30 per cent) held in the Wellington Publishing Company Limited (The Dominion, Sunday Times, etc.) by successful News of the World takeover bidder, Australian Rupert Murdoch?

In point of evolution, monopoly newspaper ownership in New Zealand is much closer in form and spirit to the "entrepreneurial corporation" of the late 19th century than the "mature corporation" of the late 20th such as I.P.C. As such, its syndrome of capitalist values is incongruous to the latently dominant groups in our community: the Education-Communication-Research-Recreation Complex.

Next step: Newspaper ownership of private television stations?

ADVERTISING

The New Zealand press subordinates almost everything to the prerogatives of advertising. The community's information interchange depends on a small group of central business district (CBD) department and food store proprietors or managers — and an even smaller group of international cosmetic, drink and tobacco corporations. A 1963 analysis showed that on the average The Auckland Star consisted of about 60 per cent advertisements. This can be compared with popular dailies in the United Kingdom: Mirror 33 per cent, Express 46 per cent, and Mail 51 per cent.

The size of your paper varies throughout the week and year, not in relation to the amount of news requiring coverage, but in relation to the amount of advertising available.

The big food adverts come on Tuesday and Wednesday and are accompanied by "news" related to this aspect of life. Before Christmas any pretence that the company is producing a newspaper is dropped entirely in favour of the daily advertiser format. Notice how slim the Friday papers are — the classified inserters have waited for the Saturday edition, and the big consumer ads are over until the middle of next week.

Business cycles influence the kind of news that you are able to read. In a recession (or a period of government-induced deflation) firms cut back on their advertising; this necessitates a reduction in the amount of news that can be profitably carried. Expensive overseas features are the first to go because, unlike recipes, they are not related to any field of advertising.

Close attention is paid to, on the one hand, avoiding a clash between the advertiser's direct or indirect interest — such as having a report on lung cancer nestling up to a cigarette ad. (This requires care because the page lay-out for the ads is done separately from, and often before that for the news.) On the other hand, the current or potentially big advertisers get plenty of extra crypto-news coverage: Farmers' Trading Company always get inordinate coverage of their Christmas parade; Air New Zealand management get lots of free coverage of their statement of the recent pay dispute. (Star, 14/5/69).

Back in a simpler golden age advertisers would try to get "puff pars" inserted in the paper as if they were news and there was an entire journalistic sub-system to administer this twilight zone of the news-advert. Today we have the supplement. This is an occasional (and frequent) separate part or section of the paper consisting of adverts for an industry, product, location — the spaces between the adverts being filled with sub-edited news handouts issued by these same sources. Ads and news both sell the same image — one favourable to the industry, product, or location.

Don't assume that the newspapers are in a totally dependent relationship to the advertisers. As big-city newspaper strikes overseas have shown, the CBD merchants can't survive without the metropolitan dailies. In New Zealand, however, the NPA seeks a more positive control over advertising — it "accredits" those agencies from which it will take ads; "accreditation" is only given to those agencies that generate a sufficient volume of new business for the print news medium. This pressure will continue only until the metropolitan papers have sufficient investment in private television stations.

The plain fact is (assuming hypothetically that present newspaper production is at optimum efficiency) that the price to the consumer is far too low. As Professor Schiller pointed out when he was here in May, you've got to look for who is paying the bill. The greater the proportion of the cost of the newspaper that is paid by the customer, the greater will be his influence.

Advertising is not in itself bad. Consumers (citizens) buy a paper or magazine, in part, to read the ads. But when community information needs are continuously subordinated to uncontrolled private economic exigencies, then in the long-run the community's total interests must suffer.

NEWS CHANNEL

The New Zealand press fails as a medium of vital community information. On March 12, 1969, F.O.L. President Tom Skinner said that "a settlement of the recent freezing workers dispute was held up for a week by inaccurate newspaper reports." Client groups had read newspaper reports of what their representatives were purported to have agreed to; the resulting accusations, misunderstandings, and

Democratic newspaper control is firmly against:

"authoritarian control of what can be said;
paternal control of what ought to be said;
commercial control of what can profitably be said."

— Raymond Williams.

newspaper reports." Client groups had read newspaper reports of what their representatives were purported to have agreed to; the resulting accusations, misunderstandings, and



confusion clearly pointed up the absolutely vital communication role of the newspapers — a role in which, in this instance, their failure was enormously expensive for the entire community.

The revolution that is well under way in the press of other advanced Commonwealth nations has not even begun here. In Britain, for example, sales of the "heavy" morning papers have risen strikingly over the last five years. The Times, the heaviest of all, has increased circulation by 57 per cent to 400,000; the Telegraph, Guardian, and Financial Times are all also well up. Circulations of all but one of the "popular" mornings are down: Sun 22 per cent (since 1965), Mail 13 per cent, Express 10 per cent, Sketch 1 per cent. The circulation of the left-of-centre Mirror (IPC) has increased by 2 per cent due to more serious analysis of the news. (Mirror circulation is well over five million.)

Recent comments by H. N. Blundell indicate that he blames increased trivialisation of the news in New Zealand on a change in public demand and taste (the old "We give the

"Everything has to be captured in the headline; from there it goes down the pyramid to the incidentals. In fact, there is often more in the headline than in the article; occasionally, no article at all accompanies the banner headline."

— Edmund Carpenter.

public what it wants" trick). If his excuses are valid — and I doubt it — the New Zealand press and its customers are at least one complete revolution behind in what they expect in the way of information interchange and dissemination.

Part of the problem arises from the generally low quality of reporters and reporting. (There are some high quality examples of both.) The New Zealand journalist is under-trained and underpaid. Do any of New Zealand's major universities have a degree course in journalism? Can a majority of reporters take shorthand? When American journalist interests are recommending that even the local government reporter have an M.A. in political science, where does that leave the New Zealand press? The Star, for example, has only two reporters with even Bachelor's degrees. Reporters alleviate their financial difficulties by several means — none conducive to quality journalism. They may quit the industry. They may become full-time (overt) or part-time (covert) PR men at much higher rates of pay. Those who actually still want to work as professional journalists supplement their income by spending some proportion of company time working on their "rats" — (usually) unsolicited paid articles for other papers, magazines, or news services.

As Pierre Berton has pointed out, the scoop is obsolete; television can out-scoop even the keenest reporter. The role of the newspaper (reporter) will have to change drastically in order to provide the community with a much more dependable, cohesive, and fundamental analysis of the dynamics of "what in the world is going on".

Zealand



— Max Oertli.

CONSERVATIVE BIAS

The New Zealand press is, almost without exception, a conservative medium of information. While the news and the adverts both scream that the world is changing, that yesterday's product or image is no longer adequate, the New Zealand press acts as if everything is very much as it always has been and that, therefore, new social adjustments (i.e. political policies) are not necessary. It does this, in part, by concentrating on the spokesmen of the main conservative structures of society such as the bureaucracy, interest groups, institutions, National Party cabinet, Maori Council, etc. Domestic headlines have a monotonous sameness about them: "NZ WIDGETS BEST MINISTER (PRESIDENT, MULDOON, CHAIRMAN, NGATA, BISHOP) SAYS". As Cleveland has not too light-heartedly pointed out that "except for Truth, the New Zealand press could be considered almost as a bureaucratic organ of the State." (Fortunately for New Zealand, in 1969, Truth has a circulation of over 226,000.)

A natural corollary of this conservative bias is that initiators of real change must often take some form of bizarre action in order to get coverage of their message; the editors then sanctimoniously condemn them for breaking the law, or public moral codes, or just for daring to question the status quo. However, we have been assured by no less a person than Mr M. A. Pattison, chairman and managing-director of Wilson and Horton, that although "(t)he policy of our newspapers here might be ultra-conservative politically, they give space to the views of radicals, liberals, socialists, and crackpots." (Clap here.)

The news media in a rapidly-changing world, are the community's DEW-line of protection, enabling it to anticipate social, economic, political change. Schiller has called the news media "the alarm-bells of society": without their effective functioning this community will be less manageable than more fractured systems. Poor socio-political communication means poor socio-political control and predictability. (A recent New Zealand example: the 1951 waterfront strike.)

Until now, mass communication has not been vital to New Zealand society. But slowness of change, social cohesiveness, insulation from major external threats, smallness

"People are headline readers and they won't take trouble to read in detail what is drafted down below."

— Hon. R. D. Muldoon.

elites, are all increasingly part of our past; the future will quickly bring and require major social change. Can we depend on the press of this community to fulfil its newly important role?

All the features mentioned — monopoly control, advertising prerogatives, undependable reporting, conservative bias — reinforce each other in a consistent manner to produce a press that is almost totally inadequate for community information needs today; one suspects that these same factors will prevent this structure from reforming itself so as to provide the community information needs of tomorrow.

The Two Faces of Brigadier Gilbert

Thirteen years ago, Brigadier H. E. Gilbert was appointed Director of the Security Service. In 1962 he wrote an article for "Salient" which became something of a classic because of the virgin land it traversed.

We reprint this article today, to provide an insight into the mind of a person who would take on the job of director.

I would think that radical political activity in university circles today is at a very low ebb compared with certain times in the past, in particular the late thirties and the forties when impetus was given to radical political thought by the depression and the Soviet achievements during the War.

I recall hearing of an October Group at Victoria which copied the name of a Communist group at Oxford, a name presumably relating to the October Revolution in Russia. I recall also that a VUC Branch formed part of the Wellington District organisation of the Communist Party. These Communist groups are long since defunct, and I do not know of any counterparts in existence now. An awareness of Communist influence is indicated by the manner in which the student body has steered clear of affiliation with the Communist front organisation known as the International Union of Students.

As a New Zealander, I regard Communism as evil and subversive. A New Zealand Communist by conscious act when he joins the Party abandons his loyalty to God and country and gives allegiance to an atheistic and materialistic movement operated in the interests of and directed by a foreign power. In the international field the proven duplicities of the Communist bloc countries are legion. One grim example was last year's Soviet resumption of nuclear tests at the very time that Soviet negotiators were sitting at the disarmament conference in Geneva. The Chinese seizure of inoffensive Tibet is another. We in New Zealand are geographically remote from those parts of the world where the "Cold War" is of immediate reality. This remoteness inclines us to a detachment — a tendency to equate the Western and the Communist positions, to blind ourselves to the essentially aggressive motives of the Communist bloc and to overlook the inherently immoral character of Communism.

Some of my readers will no doubt have read books such as Neal Wood's *Communism and British Intellectuals* and Koestler's *The God That Failed* (about which there was an interesting series of radio programmes on the YC Stations recently). These books tell of the disillusionment which progressively overcame Communist intellectuals in the Western World and which led nearly all of them to break with the Party. Here in New Zealand something similar happened. The intellectual element of the Communist Party was strongest in the late thirties and the forties. Disillusionment increased as the years went by. The final shocks were given by the events in Hungary and by Khrushchev's de-Stalinisation speech at the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1956. No less a Communist leader than its General Secretary, S. W. Scott, defected from the Party this time, and has told his story in his



book *Rebel in a Wrong Cause*. Following the defection of its intellectual wing the Party has tended to isolate itself under the cloak of "proletarianism". By and large, it is the emphasis on proletarianism which makes it such a small factor in New Zealand political life today.

But the very fact that the Communists are able to capture the hearts and minds of only a small number of New Zealanders induces an attitude that Communism in New Zealand can safely be ignored.

Communist "front" organisations call for special mention. It is as well to be aware that they are not of spontaneous growth but are established internationally in accordance with directives from none other than Lenin and Stalin themselves who saw the need for developing Communist propaganda organisations separate from the Communist Party, which would attract support from a wider cross-section of the community than would the Communist Party itself. Typical examples are the Peace Council, affiliated with the World Peace Council, and the NZ/USSR Society, affiliated with a Soviet counterpart.

The Communist Party directs these "fronts" usually through the device of having a trusted Communist Party member as the Secretary — for example, the National Secretary of the NZ/USSR Society in Wellington is a member of the national committee of the Communist Party — and through "fractions" of Party members whose existence is kept secret from the rank and file membership and who function as "ginger groups".

There are only a few intellectuals still remaining in the Party. They are to be found as a small leavening in the teaching profession and among doctors, lawyers and accountants.

A few are in the Public Service. I repeat that they are but a small leavening but as they are there they cannot, in my view fail to exert their influences, for example, I do not believe that a Communist university lecturer or schoolteacher will not endeavour to influence his students in accordance with his Communist beliefs.

It is in the nature of things for a Communist to be a fanatic. The Party functions on a clandestine and conspiratorial basis. It conceals its membership and its finances. Because experiences, some of them dramatic, have demonstrated that many Communists tend to be disloyal and untrustworthy, it has been Government policy here and in other countries for a number of years now to exclude Communists from certain more sensitive aspects of Government work, particularly work concerned with defence and foreign relations. In a small and relatively homogeneous community such as ours, where so many people take so much interest in their neighbours' affairs, it is sometimes said that the Communists in our midst inevitably become labelled and publicly known. Experience shows that this is unfortunately not the case. The problem of identifying Communists is by no means easy. An even greater problem is the identification and assessment of persons with past records of Communist associations who retain some degree of sympathy for Communism. The answer to the question — "Are there or are there not reasonable grounds for supposing that a particular individual has or has recently had Communist sympathies or associations of such a type as to raise legitimate doubts about his reliability?" must be of particular concern to the employing authorities of the Government and, at the same time, is frequently most difficult to answer.

Ten years after the British Parliament passed what has been generally regarded as one of the most progressive pieces of legislation concerned with mental illness, the 1969 Mental Health Act, the New Zealand legislature has come up with its own Mental Health Bill.

Unfortunately, whether in its original or "revised" versions, the N.Z. Bill is but a pale imitation of the British model and is witness to a remarkable gap which appears to exist between the legislature and the world of knowledge.

HEALTH vs. DETENTION

Although termed a Mental Health Bill, the N.Z. legislation has precious little to do with health.

The concepts of preventive or community psychiatry are not mentioned and references even to treatment are rare. A better title for the Bill would have been a "Mental Hospitals' Administration Bill". It has even been suggested that such are the provisions of the Bill that it might properly have been termed a "Mental Disorders (Restriction of Liberty) Bill". The combination of a general title and an exclusive concern with the institutionalisation of patients is likely to re-enforce the public stereotype of the mentally disordered person as someone who should be "put away". One fears that this stereotype may well be shared by the authors of the present legislation.

WHO ARE THE MENTALLY DISORDERED?

The Bill begins with a series of definitions. The problems of such definition in the area of deviant behaviour are well known and it is, perhaps, not surprising that the authors of the Bill are soon floundering. The tautological nature of many definitions — e.g. that of "mentally ill" — probably allows a welcome and possibly unintended degree of flexibility in operation. No excuse however exists for the inclusion of epileptics in the category of mentally disordered persons deserving of institutionalisation nor for the very wide definition given to the concept of mentally subnormal. As stated, 50 per cent of the population would be included in the category. The British practice of defining degrees of impairment in terms of the ability of the individual to look after himself is clearly preferable to the suggested New Zealand practice.

LICENCE FOR CHAOS

Part I of the Bill is con-

cerned with the administrative set-up of mental hospitals. While the Bill makes it possible for Crown institutions to be transferred to local hospital boards, much of the remainder of the legislation appears to envisage a continuation of the present dual character of the N.Z. mental health services. Criticisms of the policies and operations of the Mental Health Division have clearly been ineffective. An extension of the Division's activities is presaged in the only mention the Bill makes of community services. Thus Section 8 of the Bill states: "The Minister may from time to time, out of money appropriated by Parliament for the purpose, establish such hostels, clinics, and other places . . . as he considers expedient for the purpose of effecting the recovery or partial recovery, or for the care and treatment, and, where appropriate, training and occupation, of mentally disordered persons." The scale of Government support to such institutions as the Auckland Sheltered Workshops does not make one wildly optimistic about the effects of the Minister's considerations. A simpler and more effective proposal would have been to make moneys available to hospital boards and voluntary associations. There seems no reason why Government itself should

be so directly concerned with treatment. Similarly, there seems no reason why Government institutions should be free of the needs of licensing. Indeed, the imposition of licensing might well lead to a considerable improvement in standards since it appears that at the moment some Crown institutions present standards which are considerably below those demanded of private institutions.

THE DEMISE OF THE VOLUNTARY PATIENT

The movement from an admission policy based on official coercion to one based on "voluntary" decisions is a worldwide trend and, insofar as it helps to preserve the individual's sense of autonomy is clearly to be welcomed. Unfortunately, the wording of those sections of the N.Z. Bill dealing with voluntary admissions is such as to largely vitiate these hopeful signs. The impression is given (e.g. by section 16) that whatever the wishes of the patient and his family, once he presents himself to an institution he loses all rights of self-determination. The relevant medical officer may take out a reception order against any patient. Specific provision of such authority in that part of the Bill which is stated to be concerned with

voluntary patients seems unnecessary since provision for emergency action is made elsewhere. As it stands the present provisions appear to undermine the whole principle of voluntary admission.

THE DEBASEMENT OF THE COMMITTED PATIENT

Compulsory admission and detention form the substance of Part III of the Bill. A major doubt exists as to whether the Bill makes sufficient provision for the civil rights of patients. On the whole the legislation appears to assume that "once mad, always mad". If it can be shown that a patient at some stage is incapable of managing his own affairs then this is put forward as a justification for stripping him of virtually all rights and responsibilities. Such a view is amazingly antiquated. Committal proceedings involve an application, two medical certificates, the superintendent of the hospital and an adjudicating authority. Applications for the compulsory admission of an individual may be made by "any person who is not less than twenty-one years of age". The applicant does not have to state his interest in the case, e.g. his relationship to the individual alleged to be disordered. Any

registered medical practitioners may provide the medical certificates; no mention is made of their psychiatric training or experience. There is no provision as in the British Act that one of the doctors should have personal knowledge of the patient. Moreover, both certificates under the N.Z. legislation, may be signed by employees of the hospital to which the patient has been consigned. Such a provision gives the hospital overwhelming power. Committal for observation is allowed even if one of the two medical certificates demanded has stated that the patient does not need to be detained at all. Perhaps the weakest section of the whole committal proceedings is that concerned with the adjudicating authority. In the United Kingdom this is vested in Mental Health Review Tribunals composed of lawyers, medical practitioners, and social workers. In New Zealand, reliance is still placed on the lay Magistrate. Only the briefest acquaintance with studies of referral actions in e.g. the United States, or with New Zealand committal procedures under the existing legislation, leads to the conclusion that such reliance on the Magistrate is badly in error. To a very large extent Magistrates function as rubber stamps. In

the absence of behavioural science training in Law Schools it is difficult to see how they could function in any other way. A version of the British Mental Health Review Tribunals would seem to be well within the manpower resources of New Zealand and would provide a much more satisfactory approach to the problem of assessing the ability of the individual to look after his own welfare and not to interfere with that of others. Once committed, even if only for observation, the deprivation of patient's rights is very severe. No regular and independent reviews of the patient's progress are provided for, the provisions for visits are unduly restrictive, the sections on letter writing are excessively authoritarian. The responsibility for requesting nondelivery should be placed on the addressee, not left to the discretion of the hospital. Again, the Bill seems to be giving the hospital far more power than is necessary or good and the provisions for the treatment of patients suggest a conflict of interests, a dishonesty, and a lack of trust which is far removed from the ideal therapeutic climate. Moreover, many of the restrictions apply even in the case of patients who are on long leave. A particularly glaring anomaly is the section which is concerned with the offence of having or attempting to have sexual intercourse with a "mentally disordered" female. The offence covers intercourse with ANY mentally disordered female (apart from a wife), not just one who is suffering from severe subnormality. The maximum penalty is two years imprisonment. By contrast, the maximum penalty for an employee of an institution "who strikes, wounds, or ill-treats or wilfully neglects" a patient in his charge is three months' imprisonment.

OVERVIEW

The 1969 Mental Health Bill pays little attention to modern psychiatric practice and much less to modern knowledge about the nature of mental disorders. In a country which is so proud of itself as a leader in progressive social legislation it is almost unthinkable that such a Bill could have been formulated, let alone passed. The fact that it was so formulated and that it seems so likely to be passed, notwithstanding the submissions of a large number of responsible bodies, makes New Zealand's claim to be considered a progressive society farcical.

The 1969 Mental Health Bill

How to progress Backwards

by professor DWG Timms

MENTAL ILLNESS—Just Another Career?

Giving the first lecture in the "mind and society" lecture series, Professor Timms provided a piercing analysis of the myths surrounding the concept of "mental illness".

He outlined how society's beliefs regarding the area of behaviour labelled "mental illness" changed in the 19th century from a "madness badness" model in which the deviant behaviour was regarded as a "sin" for which the individual was totally responsible to a medical "disease" model inspired by more humanitarian attitudes, which took the responsibility entirely away from the individual.

Professor Timms' following analysis explored the dubious assumptions underlying this labelling process as he set out an alternative to the medical model, by depicting the three main stages in the "career" of such a labelled person.

APPRENTICESHIP — PRE-PATIENT STAGE

It is obvious, but of great importance, that what is considered deviant and undesirable behaviour in one group or context may be considered quite normal and even desirable in others. Deviant behaviour becomes visible when others in the person's interaction network recognise his lack of conformity to group standards. Whether or not a particular deviant act will be classified as an instance of crime, of eccentricity, of forgetfulness, or of mental illness depends on the criteria existing in the evaluating group.

There is considerable evidence, in Western societies at least, that the level of mental illness is reserved for those forms of interpersonal differences in behaviour for which no understandable motive — such as criminality exists, where the norms aren't codi-

fied.

In this view mental illness is a residual category into which fall all those forms of behaviour for which we can see no legitimate explanation.

The degree of tolerance which is accorded the deviant varies widely as a function of the feeling of security that the group experiences. Many of the uncoded deviations such as those in a family framework are ignored or explained away, but once the stability of the groups or other valued ends are threatened, the individual is passed on to the professional (generally psychiatrist) as "mentally ill".

THE PATIENT STAGE

Here the patient is forced to assume the role of being "mentally ill", and is assumed to be so by the doctor who, after all is a specialist in "illness".

When the patient remains unconvinced of his illness, the prime task of the psychiatrist may be to convince him of it and "reward" him for his insight, otherwise he is regarded as a bad treatment risk.

In such a "world", where to assert one's "sanity" and "health" is regarded as further evidence of one's "illness", the only way to survive is to take on the "illness complex". The prescriptive nature of this self-fulfilling prophecy is obvious.

For the "patient" to have much hope of getting out of this bizarre world, let alone to be accepted back into the group that rejected him, he must recognise his "illness" before being "cured" and validate the group myth that he HAD a "diseased mind" peculiar to himself, with no reflection on the group.

Professor Timms cited evidence to show that patients who

learn the game quicker receive better treatment, and are pronounced "cured" and discharged earlier than those who are uncooperative.

RETIREMENT

Retirement from the mentally ill status comes on being pronounced "cured", giving up the former role and seeking a new identity in the community again.

Unfortunately the psychiatrist's pronouncement about the patient's new status may not be believed by the latter's associates. There is a strong belief that "once mad, always bad" i.e. that mental illness is an ascribed rather than an achieved state. The ex-patient's acceptance into secondary relationships, e.g. work, may be relatively easy, but his attempts to rejoin more intimate primary networks, such as those of family and friends, may be fraught with difficulty.

Needless to say lack of success at this is not likely to help the ex-patient's attempt to gain a new identity. The patient who leaves the secure base provided by a hospital or by a warm therapeutic relationship for a cold community environment may soon be wishing he could return to the patient status.

The career view of mental illness suggests that responsibility for the mentally disordered cannot be left merely to the individual afflicted and to the "experts" who treat him, but, rather, must involve all of us.

In answering a question as to the "hope for the future as to a change of public attitudes", Professor Timms said that the best result would come from concentrating effort on young children and their parents, but this would be a very long-term process.

George de Bres reports:

Collision Course at the Free University

Open hostility between staff and students marked the first days of the Summer Semester in mid-April at the Free University of Berlin. Professors publicly threatened students with the closure of the entire university at the first sign of disturbances and the AStA (Students Association Executive) published a militant strategy which seemed to exclude any possibility of reconciliation.

It would be impossible to describe in this article the long chain of events which led up to the continuing tense situation at the F.U. I can do little more than pass on a few of the scattered impressions I have gained in my first few weeks as a student in Berlin.

Coming from the still peaceful, colonial atmosphere of the University of Auckland, I was a little surprised on my first day at the University to see truckloads of police all over the campus. Helmeted policemen, armed with pistols and truncheons, stood in pairs at strategic points. They had walkie-talkies for immediate radio contact with reinforcements at the first signs of any disturbance. That was a month ago, and having seen them in similar quantities almost every day since then, I have gradually come to realise why no-one else looked surprised at seeing them there. They're part of the scenery, as predictable as the new leaves at the beginning of the summer term, albeit a little more incongruous in my naive conception of what a university should be.

The tone for the whole semester was set in the first few days. Two institutes in the Medical Faculty were closed down on the second day of term after two professors refused to lecture under the sym-

bol of the Hammer and Sickle and under a painted slogan which could be roughly translated as "Hurl the corpses at the Professors". One of the professors concerned exhorted his students: "Instead of hissing you should smash in the gobs of the people who did it. I won't allow my institute to be destroyed by a bunch of vandals. As far as I'm concerned, these people are a hoard of Hottentots gone wild!"

The student newspaper announced that following the strike in January 1969 the entire AStA of the previous Semester had been suspended from further study for an average of two years and that further suspensions were pending. A list of professors who had denounced these students was printed on the front page and the AStA declared that "We will continue our struggle against the suspensions, and that means that we will do exactly what we stated in January: No professor who was active as a denouncer will have the opportunity to further teach or

work at this university. We will force the university to allow suspended students to continue their study."

The situation was further complicated by the new University Bill which is being read in the Berlin Senate and which is due to enter the Statute Book in July. Under the new law, which allows for widespread student representation at most levels of university government, but which also strengthens the already strong influence of the Berlin Senate on the University (half the members of the new Curatorium are to be members of the political Senate, while students are to be represented by one vote) the AStA is to be completely disbanded, so that the students will have no official inter-faculty organisation. The AStA sees this as an attempt to break the political power of the students and declared its opposition to "a technocratic study reform which is an instrument of capitalism to bring the university, which has gradually become unfunctional, into line with the changed conditions of the capitalist process."

Within a week of the beginning of term the AStA had called a General Meeting of All Faculties. More than two thousand students attended. With an overwhelming majority the meeting endorsed the policy of the AStA despite the dangers of the university being closed down. The AStA reiterated its determination to make the university serviceable for socialist purposes (the training of cadres, working place for revolutionary industrial "basis-groups") and called on students to "subordinate all their efforts under the single aim of the destruction of Capitalism."

Since then, hardly a day has passed in which there has not been at least one disturbance. Professors in many departments have cancelled their lectures. Go-ins have been organised in seminars led by "denouncers" and various unfortunate professors have been bombarded with "Farbeier" (stuffed eggs which rather radically and effectively change one's colour on connection). Since suspended student representatives may no longer attend faculty and senate meetings, these bodies have hardly dared to hold their meetings in the university. They have met in schools and hospitals in outlying suburbs, sometimes under police protection.

It is obvious that the AStA will refuse to cooperate with any reforms until their suspended fellow-students have been granted permission to continue their study. The basis for this attitude is of course that they regard any form of university government which expels students for taking part in a widely-supported student action as incapable of honest negotiations and democratic

intentions. They base their argument on the historical nature of the Free University as a "model" democratic community of staff and students in which one group should not be able to suppress the other. Until this concept is reaccepted and the traditional political mandate of the students again recognised, I can see little hope of the Free University continuing its teaching and research.

This morning (May 14) three deans are reported in the paper as stating that their faculties will close in the near future unless student terrorism against their colleagues ceases. They are the deans of the Arts Faculty, the Economic - sociological Faculty, and the Law Faculty. "The next few days," says one, "will decide whether the Summer Semester can be saved." Certainly by the time this article is printed someone will have had to give way . . .

— George de Bres.



The general strike at Goethe University.

"A modest woman dressed out in all her finery is the most tremendous object of the whole creation."



Peking Hardens Policy on Overseas Students

Overseas Chinese students who returned to Communist China for higher education are joining the exodus of millions of people to the countryside and border regions to be "re-educated and steeled" by the peasants.

Radio Peking reported recently that youths who had returned to China from South-east Asia (no specific countries were mentioned) were ordered to join an agricultural production brigade in remote Inner Mongolia, one of the tense border areas.

The students had previously been assigned to the Peking Supplementary School for Returned Overseas Chinese. After a few months of "re-education" by the peasants, Radio Peking related, the students "raised their revolutionary consciousness considerably."

Peking's policy toward returned overseas Chinese youths, which has progressively turned harder, was summed up by Fang Fang, vice-chairman of the Overseas Chinese Affairs Commission:

"We should educate the families of overseas Chinese and returned overseas Chinese in rural areas to live peacefully in the villages, work peacefully in production, love labour passionately, love their colleagues passionately, change old customs and habits, run their households with diligence and thrift, persist in the socialist orientation, and contribute to the construction of their home villages."

Some of the returned overseas students have apparently balked. For instance, the revolutionary committee in the

coastal province of Fukien reportedly ordered some 3000 students of the Chinkiang Overseas Chinese University and its four subsidiary middle schools to move to rural areas last December. Army troops were reportedly called in to suppress the resulting student protest activities.

Dr Szuszkiewicz Hits at Students

Students have been urged to find out more about the work of the United Nations by the director of the U.N. Information Service, Dr Szuszkiewicz.

Dr Szuszkiewicz said that much of the criticism levelled at the UN's political machinery stemmed from the fact that people haven't bothered to read the Charter.

"It is not a world government and was never meant to be a world government," he said. "When the Charter was drawn up the member states were careful to preserve their sovereignty."

On the question of Communist China's exclusion from the Security Council, he said the problem would only be solved when the political atmosphere allowed it. U Thant has said that many big decisions cannot be successful when 600-700 million people are not represented.

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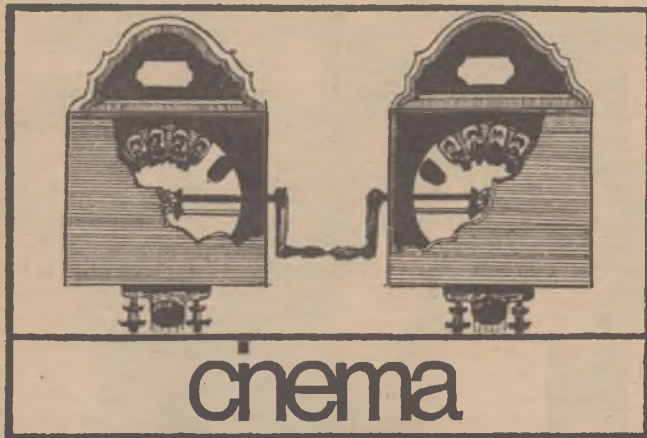
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Polanski's Cul-de-Sac his most impressive

Cul-de-Sac — Polanski — Lido



Sam Pillsbury
Film Review: **Cul-de-Sac**, Roman Polanski.

"Cul-de-Sac" was released in Great Britain in 1966, after "Repulsion" and before "The Fearless Vampire Killers". Both the latter film and "Rosemary's Baby", its successor, have been released in New Zealand already, mainly because "Rosemary's Baby" was such a commercial success overseas that distributors here could draw the crowds with Mia Farrow, then bill "Cul-de-Sac" as "yet another film by the maker of Rosemary's Baby".

Cul-de-Sac is the last Polanski film to date in black and white, and in many ways I found it the most satisfying. It has no sympathies, no warmth, love, humanity. It is utterly lacking in the restraint and compassion of Rosemary's Baby. It's a joke. At least it starts as a joke. The credit sequence, a long shot down a strange, flat ribbon of road, is confusing. Cars don't travel like that. And roads don't have poles like that either. Beetling legs between the back wheels, and tide, explain. Funny. But Jack MacGowran's blank face is not. The sub-machine-gun in the driver's

seat is. Dickie's arm is not. Polanski's method in this film is already revealed: present situation first, then shatter supposition with the cause, which is ridiculous. A one-manpower car. Tides that cover roads. A machine-gun stored in the small of the driver's back. A bold health fiend who lives on eggs and mead, and exercises a rowing machine (on an island) when he should be rowing his wife. Who looks like his daughter, and isn't interested anyway. This isn't just slapstick. Polanski makes much more of every situation. Albie (Jack MacGowran), abandoned to the tide, doesn't come out with the obvious and reliably funny "Help!" "Hey!"

he cries (to nobody), "Hey! I've got a problem here." Yes. And George (Donald Pleasance) is tellingly dressed up in nightie, mascara, and lipstick by his wife. More than funny, he is ridiculous and tragic, reluctant but clowning in desperation. But woe.

This cul-de-sac is invaded, and George's humiliation is witnessed. Even the tide works against him, enforcing a relationship it was supposed to prevent. So this, for what it's worth, is what the film MEANS.

In a recent interview, Polanski said, "The interest of the individual is always against society, and the interest of society is always against the individual." I don't know how precise he was being, but you can get the general idea. So this recluse George is robbed of wife, car, and whatever peace of mind he had left, guilty of a severe social crime (murder) and driven to the tiniest island he can find — a tide-swept rock. The ending of the film is typically ambiguous. Is he thoroughly mad, and about to be drowned, or is that shout a plea for the return of "society" and that pose something like Rodin's "Thinker"? Never mind. Polanski also said, "What I want is to finish a film without giving the audience the feeling of being satisfied" And anyway, the MEANING of Polanski's films are never terribly important. It's the way the film is done.

Take Rosemary's Baby for example. What the ending MEANS is that the time (that is, 1969) is ripe for the birth of the anti-Christ, and the cult around him will survive some two thousand years. This is implied by the sable-draped cradle, the inverted crucifix, the date (June 28 as opposed to Christmas), the "WISE MEN" bearing gifts, and even the little Japanese man clicking away on his camera, the modern equivalent to the Old Master. A Kodachrome "Adoration of the Magi". And observe the progenitor — a complete inversion. Still further implications are that many great people owe their pre-eminence to a black compromise — doctors like Hill and actors Castavets mentions as "old friends".

Nevertheless, the presence of a "darker purpose" — the MEANING here — is not what makes Polanski good. These abstractions crystallise afterwards. Things are never so deadly that Polanski cannot concentrate the camera on things which add little to the meaning and much to the mood — and here lies his charm — the close-up of Roman Castavets dripping "vodka blush" from his tray on to the new carpet. Somehow the image is revolting — dripping is negative — but at the same time witches, it seems, can be half-witted and fussy (Minnie wipes frantically).

"Cul-de-Sac" is full of these close-up surrealistic images. The little crabs which link Dickie (Lionel Stander) and Theresa (Francoise Dorleac) — both foreigners — become hideously distorted and link the two as menace. Toppling stacks of eggs; rows of mead



Donald Pleasance and Francoise Dorleac in a scene from Cul-de-Sac.

bottles; Dickie schlurping a raw egg, some white dribbling unheeded down his chin, being shaved by a cut-throat razor (horrors of repulsion) or jovially stripping a blood-soaked square of toilet-paper from his razor-nicked mug (all preparing us for the final sequence).

Or, Albie's spectacles: Albie is almost always very close to the camera, his mad, tragic face distorted by those round lenses. Outside at night and flat on his back he ravingly gesticulates heavenward and claps binoculars to his face. The conjunction of ground lenses activated by a quivering arm make a horrible skeletal clicking (also preparing us for Albie's end). Albie's corpse, lovingly wrapped in telephone wire, rejects those visual aids it won't need in its spiritual journey (somehow a corpse dropping its glasses is funny) and the thoroughly drunk George, with typical grace, grinds them underfoot.

Using a different style, Polanski directs a very long take on the beach, with George and Dickie, actually working

against (he claims) photographer Gill Taylor.

The final take was the third, owing to the difficulty of synchronising the dialogue with the plane. Even then this was barely achieved, owing to dwindling daylight, but the wide open lens and dim lighting give the scene an obscure, filmy texture. George is really drunk, and even Dickie is amiable although the depth of his affection is manifested in his uncommitted way, when he whips off a shot with his revolver. The camera is close to the ground, so one is conscious, not only of dimness, but of sand and the foreshortening of the characters, stumbling in the awkward stuff. One is barely aware that the camera doesn't move for eight and a-half minutes.

Polanski saves the most powerful scenes for the last — George pulling the trigger, gingerly, fiendish, and looking amazedly over his shoulder to Theresa for approval; Albie staggering bullet-riddled down to his car (like the hunchback

in "Vampire") and grabbing his sub-machine-gun, the shuffling figures of George and Theresa on the ramp, blood spurting from Albie's mouth, the shattering report of the gun, the exploding Jaguar. These have terrific impact especially as so far comedy has had the upper hand. Perhaps therefore, it is a confused film but it is still one of the most impressive I've seen.

Finally, the quality of the photography is sustained by uniformly brilliant acting by the four main characters. They are all utterly mad and completely convincing. None have to be tender or sensitive, so perhaps they have an easy job; but what's there is flawless. And even though Francoise Dorleac is not so mobile as the others, she is really voluptuous (as the others, of course, are not) and when she is naked, back on, you really want her to turn round.

Of course, the film will have left the Lido by the time this review is out, but it will probably turn up in the suburbs.

— Sam Pillsbury.

Theatre Company plays have pace and impact

Religioso — Groteskio —

Theatre Company



If you went to the Theatre Company's three plays last week I hope you got there too late to see the first one — unfortunately I didn't.

The combination of Yeats in raptures over the Dionysian cycle of the death and rebirth of gods and non-actors conscientiously speaking and moving as they had been told to was bad enough, but when the only good thing, Jack Body's evocative music for drums and cello, was destroyed by a

chanter who was off-key, it was time to have a cigarette outside.

Thankfully, the post-interval period was worth hanging around for — a delicious take-off of one of the travelling York Mystery plays introduced by a screaming "Brother Love's Travelling Salvation Show". Mighty. It had pace and impact, and Stephen Charter's Beelzebub was just too darling. David Barratt-Boyes made a comic Jacques Tati-type Archangel Michael lighting the candles of the Saved with a cigarette lighter, but who thought that Eve and John the Baptist could be played as a whore and lecher? Nobody could have delivered those lines in that way (no marks for that idea). And the ending lost a bit by going on and on and on and on . . . Once through "All you Need is Love" and one minute of the pulsating heart would have been quite sufficient thank you.

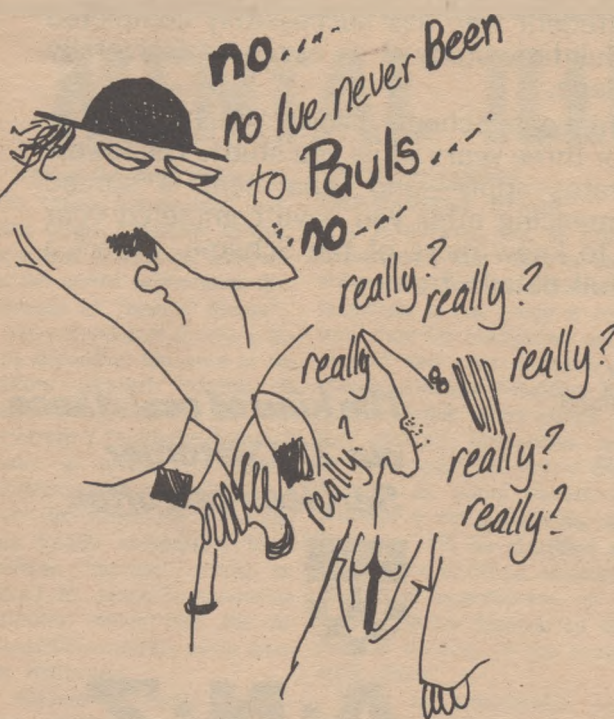
Bob Burleson's "The Shouting Head of Prophet John" had more meat in it than Yeats and was competently handled. Michael O'Donoghue oiled his way rather nicely at times through Herod's lines and Sa'orne certainly knew how to wriggle (though that appendage scar was a bit distracting), but Stephen Gordon as John lost most of his best lines through grinding his teeth too hard on screaming too loudly (though it may have been sexual frustration). Still competent enough and the lighting was a splendid effect. Whoever directed the sexual cavorting must have known his stuff, too.

Overall though, one wonders whether the Theatre Company thought they were presenting stimulating programme or whether they were just out to have a swinging time and play beautiful people.

If the latter, no doubt they did.

— Christine Molr.

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Varsity Fencer Selected for the New Zealand Team

Full marks and a bouquet for Freshman Nick Lorimer, arts student and University Swords Club member, on his selection to represent New Zealand in the Test Match against Australia to be held in Wellington in May. This is one more milestone in a dazzling career. While at Auckland Grammar School he created a record in winning four individual titles at the National Secondary School Championships. In 1967, he became the youngest fencer ever to fence for New Zealand, when he toured Australia as a member of our National Team.

In the Australian foils championships he reached the final, the youngest one to achieve this feat. For him, Edinburgh is a distinct possibility.

Nick Lorimer had a very successful debut for N.Z. in Wellington and won all of his matches. There is little doubt that Nick is going to go a long way in his fencing and we wish him well in his quest for Edinburgh.

But no marks and no bouquets for the New Zealand Amateur Fencing Association. It has been the boast of the national executive that it encourages the sport in schools.

Support for the universities is another matter. Due to the proximity of examinations, a number of promising university fencers were unable to compete at the 1968 nationals, held in Wellington over Labour Weekend. They did expect, however, that there would be a special trial for national selection. Had they genuine reason to believe that the nationals were to be considered as a trial they would doubtless have attended, in spite of the inconvenience. It was only in the middle of these championships that the executive pressed for and succeeded in having the event declared as a trial. By all accounts it was all quite legal, but law is not synonymous with justice. One is tempted to ask whether the



The publicity received this year by the top Varsity Rugby Team — mainly because of the presence of All Black Grahame Thorne — conceals the strength of the game in lower grades.
Craccum photographer

Tim Haslett captured the Varsity third team in action here during a recent game at Victoria Park.

Despite injuries, the team is performing well this season, and is likely to be highly rated in this year's competition.

executive is deliberately trying to discourage younger fencers from aiming at trying to represent their country in this ancient sport, at Edinburgh.

LETTERS Continued . . . E.U. SUPPLEMENT

Sir,—Why the hell must we open our copy of Craccum in pleased anticipation only to find a bloody great wad of propaganda in its middle? Articles on theology could be of great interest by a hackneyed presentation of the usual illogical selfish superficial reasons as to why we should all be Christians insults our intellect and is more than we should stomach.

For the University is nothing if it is not a place in which the intellect is cultivated and evangelism epitomises anti-intellectualism. Indeed the Evangelical Union represents all that is repulsive to what should be the spirit of a University.

Lest my frenzy render my point obscure, I had better quote something from this courageous supplement. R. Yule writes:

"For the unbeliever the truth may also dawn, grey and heavy, as he dimly senses the emptiness of human existence without God."

It is dull habit which lets him use this word "truth" so easily, a word which is beautiful in denoting something which lesser mortals would admit we can never attain, or is it gross presumption, as it undoubtedly is, when he states that the existence of the unbeliever is "empty"?

How dare he tell his educated fellows the "truth" about the cause of the universe, a subject which upon science itself must forever remain silent? Let him believe what he likes, but let him also respect the beliefs of indecision of others. Little less obnoxious is his stupid linguistic play, in the evangelist's search for cheap effect, with the idea of the dead God. But perhaps Mr Yule's most insane pronouncement is that "if there is no God, then we're bloody well done for." "If there is no God, Mr Yule, then by definition there never was one."

If the university does not remain a stronghold against thinking as puerile as this then perhaps we are bloody well done for, with or without a omnipotent God as a helmsman. Unless the university stimulates openmindedness and freedom of thought in the widest sense by helping to free us from the fetters of bias and habit it has no claim to be anything more than a Polytechnic at best, or at worst a cult whose members are so convinced of their opinions that they might as well be senile, and so self satisfied in their conviction that they might as well be blind and deaf.

—DON LAURENSEN

LAW STUDENTS

Sir, — This letter is written to endorse the one sent by 'Reformed Con.' regarding law students.

My theory is that student apathy stems from society's BASTION at University: the clean cut, brylcreem stereotype, suit and tie, law student. They have the best floor in the new arts-library building; spacious settings, thicker and richer carpets, and even a small common room, while ordinary pleb students slave away in the crowded three bottom floors. Why didn't the law students receive the bottom floor or is it that Mr Maidment decided they were socially superior and so gave them the upper floor.

Instead of sending the law school to the American Consulate, why not send them off to the Waitakere's (5th floor and all) where they can still have their panoramic view and spread their chronic apathy to the old age pensioners living there.

—JOHN ADAMS

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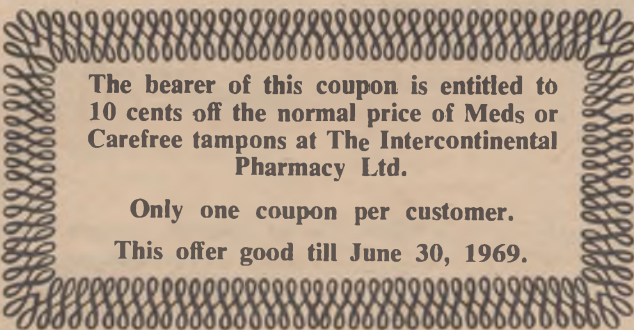
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Following an attempted coup in the Zoology Department by lecturers, Prof Morton has instigated regular coffee meetings to discuss departmental matters with his staff. It has become known as the Mushroom Club — he keeps them in the dark and feeds them with bullshit.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

So it's going to be SIR Henry Cooper is it? All for perpetuating the present outmoded educational system and playing cricket. Next thing we know, John Reid will be made Lord John of Princes Street. Or Grahame Thorne, Attendant to Her Majesty's Bedchamber. Or Rudman — Bishop Bill. Must keep these honours in the family.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

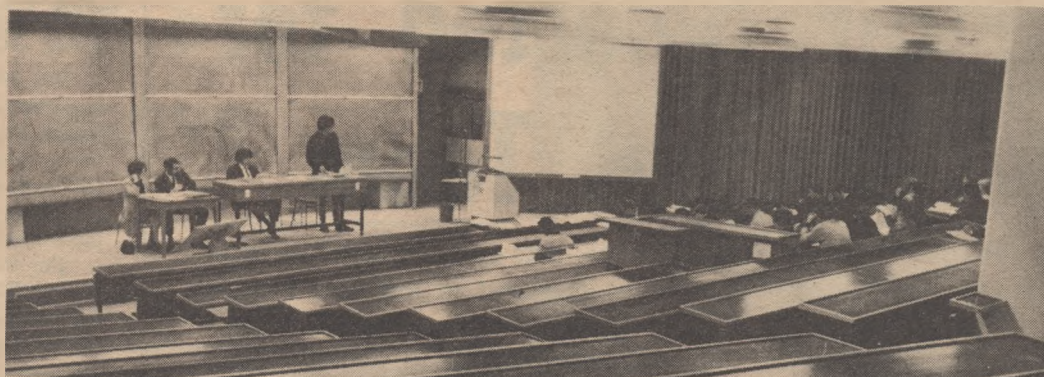
Seen in Grad Bar on the evening of Grammar Centennial Opening . . .

Rudman, Law, Falkenstein and Richards with MP Jonathon Hunt, sitting under a banner inscribed "We're not Grammab boys." Visiting carousers felt it was in bad taste.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Did you hear that a Maori All Black has strong views on apartheid which he, like all All Blacks, supports? "I want separate development and a separate Parliament for all pakehas," he says. "What could be fairer than that? We'll give them a thousand miles of land to themselves, down in Southland, some of the best farming land in the country. This is a historic Maori objective — we've believed in this ever since 1840. But we'll have a Pakeha Affairs Act which will allow the Government to sell pakeha land that's not being used properly — we have to have some safeguards against barbarism."

Thought for the week: Minority views should be respected, especially when they are the Government's.



The crowded meeting begins in hushed expectancy.

**No Quorum
For Special
Meeting**

NEW CONSTITUTION AT SGM

A deserted SGM last week ratified the new Auckland University Students' Association Constitution. The chairman had to delay the starting time of the meeting for half an hour until a quorum could be rounded up.

Speaking for Mr Coster's motion, Mr Witten-Hannah said that his objections were not to the form but to the content of the Constitution. He wanted to see more power granted to the SRC. The SRC, he said, "is a toothless body and should have power to direct Executive on policy matters."

"The gathering together of the Constitution as it was many years ago is not very satisfactory," said Coster.

"There is nothing which urgently needs amendment, but there are a number of points of detail, and consistency and clarity which need to be revised."

Mr Law claimed that these points were only "minor objections".

Mr Rudman said that "it was difficult to revise something which is a living document and is regularly changed to meet conflicting needs."

The motions were not put at the meeting since it was pointed out that there was no quorum.

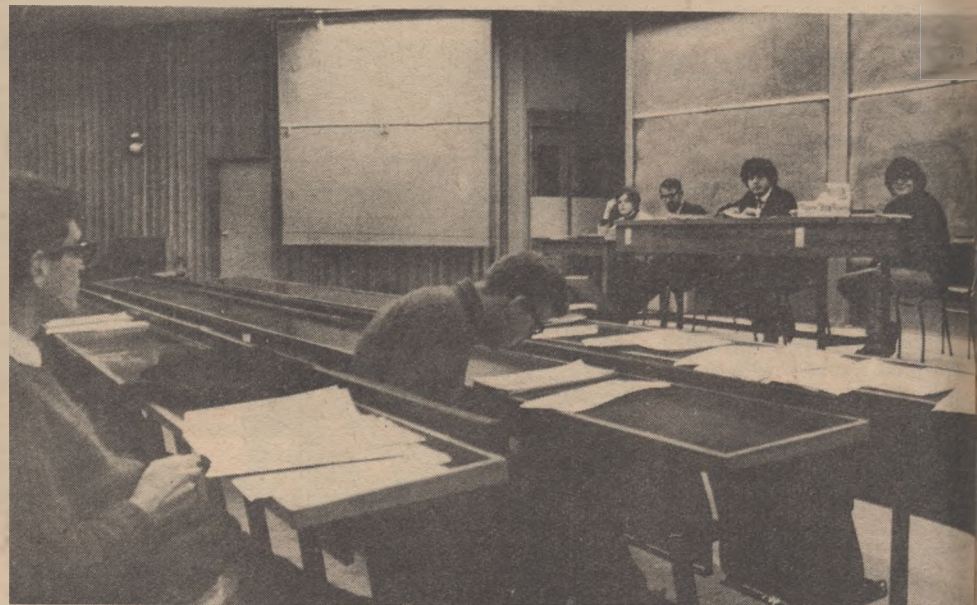
Law Faculty SRC member Bill Spring, commenting on the poor attendance, said that "the whole thing was absolutely appalling".

Former President Ros McCormick was equally critical.

His remarks are unprintable.

Law remarked, "One cannot blame students for not attending notoriously monotonous, constitutional S.G.Ms. But one would have thought that more SRC members would be present. It is incredible how AUSA seems to elect so many supposedly concerned students to positions they are not prepared to fulfil."

These motions were moved by John Coster and seconded by SRC member Witten-Hannah. Speaking to the motion Coster said that the new Constitution was "adequate but not



Rudman, Law, and enthralled multitudes.

satisfactory". He suggested that the meeting "accept the Constitution as it is on the understanding that it will be reviewed".

The meeting closed early without transacting all the business on the agenda since attendance dropped below the necessary 50 people in the course of the meeting. Unofficial sources claim that only 39 people attended for the greater part of the meeting.

The new constitution consists of the 1956 Constitution, along with David Vaver's amendments of 1967 and all the

amendments passed in the three years. There are no substantial changes except for regulations governing the functioning of the SRC.

The Constitution was adopted after motions from Vice-President Law and Publication Officer Volkerling.

Motions to set up a Constitutional committee to revise the new Constitution in points detail lapsed for lack of quorum.

Deans Say Exclusion Necessary

Certain changes in the interests of "efficiency" might involve exclusion of part-time students, and soaring costs, according to a report presented to the University Institutions Conference at Victoria University.

The report, which had been prepared by a joint Otago and Canterbury Universities study group, said: "We have no

reason to doubt that our universities could achieve a British-type graduation rate if they worked in British-type conditions. But we have grave reason to doubt whether New Zealanders as a people want to pay the price of achieving such conditions — not only shutting the door on many of their sons and daughters but also the effective abandonment of part-time study, a doubling or trebling of expenditure per student and immobility of graduates."

The report said that whereas British universities were geared to converting full-time students into graduates, New Zealand universities had developed into multi-purpose institutions attended by full- and part-time students, many of whom did not aim to graduate.

— NZSPA.

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