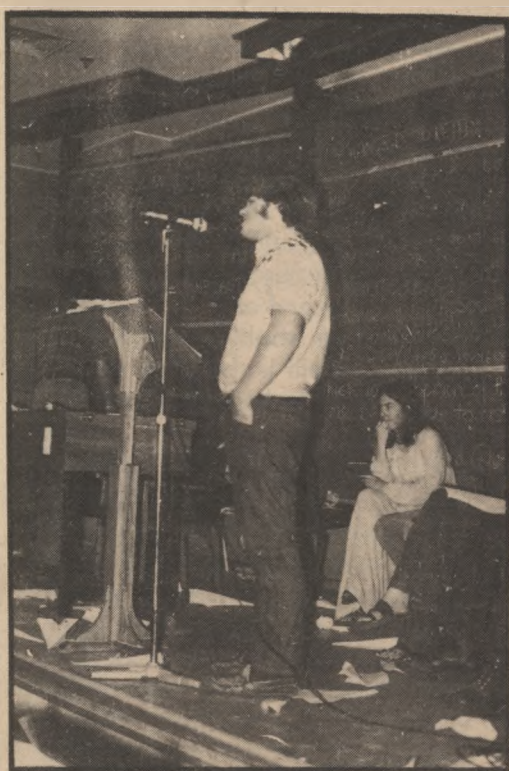


CRACCUM

Issue No. 6 3rd April 1974



OF THE PEOPLE... ...BUT NOT FOR THEM

AUSA is now powerless to give Association funds to any non-student organisations, unless they are officially registered as charities. (and that means only the Boy Scouts, Red Cross etc.)

It is illegal under our present Constitution, and an attempt to rectify this anomaly lapsed — because of a deadlock — at last week's A.G.M.

The vote was a coup for our young engineering pupils — easily identifiable by the fucking noise. Of the 800 (approximate) students present, about 350 were engineerings — not enough for them to have a majority but enough to stop the motion being carried.

The issue was not how much money was to be given, nor to which groups. It was simply to try and rectify our crazy Constitution.

The motion which created the frenzy stated:

That the motion be amended to read:

"To donate or expend any of the funds of the Association to assist any causes, organisations or groups (whether incorporated or not), which are approved by a referendum."

An amendment was proposed by an engineer (the only semi-intelligent thing any of them did all night) that changed the wording from

That the rules of the Association be amended by the inclusion under OBJECTS of a new clause to read as follows:

"To donate or expend any of the funds of the Association to assist any causes, organisations or groups (whether incorporated or not) which in the opinion of the Executive it may be desirable to assist."

So what actually happened at the A.G.M. apart from all this? The engineers had a good attempt at getting themselves pissed, filling the place with darts and assorted objects, and singing in their inimitable manner "Bullshit, bullshit, it's all bullshit." (To fully appreciate this one must first sight an engineer, imagine his trou falling down as his gut retracts, bottle in one hand and a God-awful noise emitting from a rather God-awful throat.)

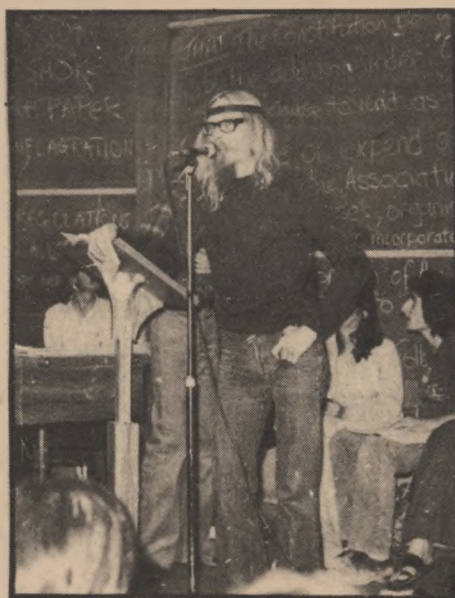
Comments were wide, and very varied...

Engineer: "They're trying to change the Constitution so a few people can rule 10,000 others. I came along to listen. Now you fuck up and listen... I think we should spend the money on us first. WE SHOULD HAVE THE MONEY SO I CAN FILL ME GUT."

Roger Ros-Smith (also an engineer): "I'm not standing with you because you're all a bunch of bastards." (to the engineers)

David Colbourn: "It is not an earth-shattering motion. It restores the status quo. The lawyer said he was surprised at the ruling he had to give. He said it was against the spirit of the Constitution as it had always been seen. If it is a contentious issue it will go to an S.G.M. as it always has done in the past."

Mr (Bartlett) Smith: "I believe the amendment (supporting the referendum stand) should be supported... I feel there should be curbs on the Executive. It is a transitory and sometimes irresponsible body. The number of mini-elections throughout the year shows this."



When I was president, I was able to commit the Association to \$850,000 in debts which the Executive may or may not have noticed."

Interesting... Mr Smith...

Bartlett again: "The Executive should have power with a check on it. There should be no unfettered power in the Executive."

I would like the people who came along to vote against the motion to support this amendment...

The following day President Ted was asked what the hell would happen now...

"The motion was put and failed to attain the two-third majority required. However it was obvious that it was a contentious issue and thus it will go to an S.G.M. in the light of the confusion which reigned."



Should the Constitution be amended in your opinion?

Haysom: "Yes. The Association has a certain duty to the community. It has to be relevant to the community which means we must give aid in some form or other. It seems logical to me that money should be available to groups so long as it does not penalise our own members' interests."

So deadlock for now... but the S.G.M. will see just how relevant students feel they are to our community.





Our dullard of the week award goes this week to that archetypal moron: the engineer. One wonders what one can do with wankers like this. The rumour is that the United Nations is organising a Freedom from Illiteracy campaign in the School.

Anthropologists have been quoted as saying that engineers are the last specimens of neolithic man, basing this observation on their habit of beating their chests and emitting ape-like sounds.

While most people go through school, engineers go under them.

A child psychologist maintained that engineers suffered from a form of retardation he labelled as "the mechano complex".

What to do about the problem? Well, a Child Welfare Officer said that the only answer was a good gobstopper.

The saddest thing said one educationalist was that some of them may even be of normal intelligence, although he emphasised that like acne it was probably only a passing phase.

Generally in this survey the reporter found that people thought that engineers should be seen and not heard. Most people claimed that some of their best friends were engineers but as Mrs Bloggs of the Court said, "I wouldn't really want my daughter to marry one."

P.S. Only letters with good spelling objecting to this article will be accepted.

LETTERS

Dear Sir,

Many misleading words have been spoken and printed about making our money available to outside groups. One pamphlet talks about victims of droughts and earthquakes, but in fact the recipients involved are Gay Liberation, Women's Liberation, Polynesian Panthers and five other socialistic pressure groups. All are well represented here and quite capable of soliciting voluntary contributions. Even if 90% of the campus supported the aims and methods of these groups, they have no right to force the other 10% to contribute.

The whole concept of one section of students forcing the whole

body to contribute to outside causes is wrong. The money was raised by a compulsory levy for the AUSA to spend on student affairs. An amendment proposing to make real charities, less controversial, eligible for this year's grants was defeated. The people behind the whole campaign made it very clear that recipients are, and will be chosen on the basis of their political activities, regardless of the fact that these could well be obnoxious to significant numbers of students, who will have to pay up anyway.

Under the present system, in theory, students are still free to support whatever parties or charities they like, individually, without forcing others to do so. (In practice, the AUSA has already given away money illegally and is trying to legitimize a fait accompli). If the Constitution is changed, not only will \$4,000 be spent this year, but a precedent will be set for spending more and more of our money on ever more dubious left-wing causes. The time has come to stand firm.

C.G. Bilham

Dear Sir,

I was most appalled by the general behaviour and procedure at the General Meeting held Wednesday night to try and pass a motion on whether or not students should give money to outside organizations.

There are 10,000 students at university but the meeting was held in B.28!

First of all, there was a block of engineers who were just being negativistic in a general bull-shitting fashion. They even carried around sticks to give force to their raucous singing!!?

There was also a paper dart competition going on.

The most tragic fact is still to come

There was no serious discussion at all on the matter in question i.e. if we give money to outside organizations — then what are our reasons. What are, or should, our motives be.

Instead we had gentlemen raving on about the wording of the constitution, or how the money should be spent on engineers (all in jest no doubt). One person did come to the point by saying that all the money should be spent on students, but his illustrative example was ludicrous — concerned with his belly. He raised the point for the grave need of solid food — Quote: "I'm hungry when I leave that bloody place (meaning the caf)".

It is very sad that the majority of students hold to the same values as many of those outside the university of whom we are often critical — mainly we're all in for ourselves. Why should we support any community project. Shit!!...

another interesting point was raised — the Union fee is taken by force. What a ridiculous argument. Most of us go to this place for little or no cost; you can't have your cake and eat it.

But that is what we want, so it seems.

All we pay for is 26 dollars Union Fee, our books, and our living expenses. Nobody in our society gets money to fill their bellies with!

Yours sincerely,
FRANCESCA POWER

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Dear Editor,

Last Wednesday's AGM can only be described as a complete fiasco.

A mindless, misinformed, insensitive rabble of oversized schoolboys masquerading as engineering students, gathered together at one side of the room for the security their "leaders" equipped with signs to tell them when to yell — so they wouldn't get confused — was able to cower a somewhere terrified President into submission and to turn any pretence of rational discussion into something vaguely resembling the Impossible Dream.

CHRISTINE BERESFORD

Dear Brent,

The exhibition turned on by the engineering students at the autumn general meeting of the association on Wednesday was nothing short of contemptible. One ponders how supposedly intelligent people can behave with so little regard to the canons of good taste and personal maturity. Why is it, we may ask ourselves, that the engineers must continually strive to stand out as the misfits of the university, those who are still being weaned on an overworked,

citizenship and social responsibility which still seem to me to be relevant despite this age of future shock. Perhaps that is why he is such a half-baked human being: his brain is so clogged with barren figures, crumpled pieces of metal and iron faggots that he can't see the bridge for the girders.

The engineer stands to the rest of us, in effect, in the same way that the apes stood to Darwin. He has a mentality that is at best semi-evolved and with scarcely the dimmest perception of himself as an individual and all that that implies. The trouble with these kind of people is that they simply don't know how to think properly for themselves and must instinctively flock together like sheep or cattle at a watering hole. They can only find security within the walls of the group and are loathe to violate corporate norms for fear of letting the side down. The extraordinary thing is that they actually relish their role as symbols of universal contempt, for they achieve a group identity and standing that would otherwise lie far beyond their feeble powers. But status ac-



over-abused mother's breast, while the rest of us presumably forge ahead into the green pastures of adulthood? What is the nature of that twisted component in the engineer's soul that causes him to mock and debunk our most worthy endeavours and achievements, yet without in any way showing that he, humanly speaking, is worth his salt? Perhaps it is something to do with the kind of mental discipline he must undergo in his grope for a passport to material status. Certainly the stresses and strains of 3-span bridges and cloud-piercing high-rise apartment blocks would tell him little about those old-fashioned values of good

corded to the individual as a member of the group is quickly dissipated when transferred to the individual in isolation from his fellow travellers. If you corner him long enough and pummel him hard enough you might even make him realise that his today opinions are indefensible, that his strengths as a member of the group can only be crippling flaws when confronted eyeball-to-eyeball with an adversary who spurns the boosting succour of the herd. It may even be possible to melt down this living atavism and remould him anew. I move, therefore, that in the interests of human growth and progress that we set aside a teach-an-engineer-how-to-be-a-tolerable-human-being week in an endeavour to speed up his flagging evolutionary cycle.

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ENGINEERS - THE STIRRERS SPEAK

The final curtain is almost to fall at the 1974 Autumn A.G.M., the "contentious" amendment has let emotion get the better of it and has slipped off furtively backstage, leaving the audience to think that surely there's another scene to come; the Engineers ("We won't") dispersing; the — Aha, a voice, a loud voice, a persistent voice. "The motion," it says, "You've got to put the motion. The Constitution says you've got to put the motion!" The sheep catch on, (they're quick, these boys); "The motion", they bleat, "You've got to put the motion!"

And that, says Richard Rowe, is just about the worst example of petty politics he's seen in years.

The incident typifies what Engineers have grown to dislike so much over the years. The back-biting, ego-tripping, obsequious aspects of student politics are well known to all, but to us the ultimate stupidity of these types is that they take themselves so seriously. So seriously, that is, that they have to all purposes and intents stopped living. Don't laugh, they say, lest the ill-educated think the laughter is at their expense. Don't tell racial jokes — it makes a mockery of the oppressed minority groups (P/oms included). Don't work too hard — people might get the idea you're at University to get a degree. But above all, don't let on that you're enjoying life — it shows you have no social conscience.

So, once we have committed the deadly sin of laughing at the radicals, the engineers sit back expectantly and wait for the shit to fly. And fly it does. From all corners come the looks of intense hatred, the foul-mouthed slaver from the threatened factions, the self-righteous priggishness of certain female elements:

We love it.

We love it because deep down there is a sneaking suspicion that if the prevalent anti-Engineer feeling failed to materialise, we would lose our vital strength — our cohesiveness. In a sense the rest of the University created it; the much repeated comments of "Bloody Engineers" sets the new first Pro student apart from his friends in other faculties, and gradually he enters into the spirit of the Engineering fraternity.

In pre-1968 days, when the Engineering School was at Ardmore, the process was much simpler: after passing through an unspeakable initiation ceremony, the newcomer was made to feel "one of the boys," and a loyalty was established which never lost its fervour.

These days the so-called "Ardmore spirit" infiltrates the School in many ways; the mahogany Engineering Society Past President's Board, dating back to 1948 and featuring names such as Colin Maiden and R.W. Bilger; the Engineers Tee-shirts; the sports trophies and others in the trophy cabinet; the Common Room built by Engineers; the publications of "Engineuity", and "Proceedings"; the Engineer's Cabaret, Ball and Annual Dinner; the list could go on, but probably the single most important factor is the existence of the Engineering Society. In co-ordinating and running the above as activities, and instigating concerted action such as at the A.G.M., it forms a nucleus group which would not be paralleled in any other faculty.

And so the stage was being set for the A.G.M. Dave Colbourn suddenly decided two days beforehand that he would like to speak to the one-twelfth of the University that he had thus far neglected — the Engineers. With tears

in our eyes, we heard his tale of not having been to lectures for a month because he had been speaking at lectures, in the quad, etc, about is Amendment. (Perhaps poor Dave was preaching to the converted — he certainly got to his chief opposition a bit late).

If the groups needing money had spent half this time talking about what they did, and then asking for donations, they would have collected twice the sum suggested of \$500 per group.

In spite of Dave's speech about maintaining the status quo if his Amendment was passed (completely irrelevant), the Engineers felt that they had strong reasons for opposing the motion.

(1) Any social conscience that is compulsory makes a mockery of the words "social conscience".

(2) The much-vaunted "relevance to the community" can surely be applied on an individual basis, at least as far as finance is concerned.

(3) Even a referendum has the drawback of being an uninformed vote because of the general apathy of students in bothering to find out the issues at stake.

(4) Money for outside groups can easily be collected by inviting the groups to speak and sending collection boxes around.

The A.G.M. started in fine style with the minutes of the Winter A.G.M. and the September S.G.M. being passed, and those of the March 1974 S.G.M. being passed, and those of the March 1974 S.G.M. being rejected on the grounds that they had no record of the fact that a motion passed was ultra vires to the Constitution.

Whenever the Engineers felt someone was too stuffed up with his own

self-importance, they sang an appropriate song, guaranteed to deflate anyone's ego. The Commerce students set up in opposition by trying to copy us, but failed dismally. The Arts students wanted to laugh at us, but decided that our level of humour was somewhat low, so we got self-righteous glares instead.

The meeting continued with the usual stuff about accounts, auditors, etc, which no-one really understands but doesn't like to say so. Bob Lack's constitutional Amendments were pushed through in fine style by the Engineers (proving we don't discriminate against people of his racial origin).

There followed an hour of wrangling over Colbourn's Amendment. Only about two people made any sense. Wayne Taylor brown-eyes. Steve Hunter makes a Presidential presentation. Trevor Hogan thinks he's a Law Student. Much singing and general merriment from the populace. President thinks "What the hell am I doing here?" He decides to see how the voting is going to go, but since the motion was on the floor, the voting was final.

The meeting ends with a general air of anti-climax.

We have much to thank Dave Colbourn for.

He and his cause generated more Engineering spirit than we have seen for months. If we can get students to take a good look at themselves and learn to laugh at themselves a little, well and good; if not, we'll do it for them.

One other thing. If Nga Tamatoa, People's Union etc, send round a collection box, put something in it if you want to. You don't need the Association to do it for you. After all, you're big boys and girls now, aren't you?

MICK WOOD

LETTERS cont.

We must always be careful however, never to let our disgust prevail over our patience to instruct, for despite his swagger and brazen bonhomie, the engineer is really a person to be pitied and one should handle him as one would a child in the nursery. I can only suggest that we grant him a probationary period of something like six months and if he still shows no sign of improvement by the end of that time, then there is nothing for it but to put a motion amending the constitution so as to expel him from the varsity altogether and declare him persona non grata on the grounds that he is a nasty, parasitic and therefore wholly undesirable appendage to varsity life,

Yours ever,
Viggo Monrad

Dear Sir,

Homo confusum manifested itself at the A.G.M. of 26.3.74, where beer-bottle pragmatism triumphed over the alleged forces of Reds, Pommie Bastards and Dave Colbourn's dictatorship. In a boozy display of bad manners, the boorish boys from the Engineering department formed themselves into the customary unthinking lobby that chanted and heckled in typically mob fashion, childishly cheering their heroes and drowning opposition speakers with a chorus of loud noise and a hail of paper darts.

The Boys in the Band ranged all the way from uptight fuckwit partisans to little old feather-headed rag dolls caught up with the surge of hop-breathed trouble makers come up from the pub. Mob spirit was disgustingly apparent as ill-conceived opinions rippled through their crowd, alternatively seized with fervour, then dropping the very next moment as a new temporary stance was adopted. But don't be mistaken. This was no random rabble; several facets of their campaign of intimidation were carefully engineered. Before the meeting opened, many displayed the constructive skill taught to them, by folding a plethora of paper darts. When the first speaker proposing the amendment that they opposed began to speak, one particularly hard-core group of twits produced boxes of prefolded darts and proceeded to join their drinking mates in showering the said speaker. When a vote was to be had, THE FLOCK's leaders made certain the braying donkeys knew which way to go by holding up notices with the appropriate enconium written on it — yes — or — no —. I've heard of pre-conceived thinking before, but this sort of primitive behaviour is worse, it's robotism.

Man, I used to wear a white-liberal T-shirt that had "People's Power" on the front; am I glad I stopped after seeing that grovelling, belittling pack!

Ah, but at last, through the hubbub, and the squeals and grunts of hogs, a breath of fresh air came when speaker Russell Bartlett injected sense with a fine and rational speech that had even

the Engineers floored and silent for its duration. From that point the meeting took, in its conduct, an improvement. The amendments to the wording that the engineers had arranged began to take on some sense by restricting executive powers, and restoring some to the everyday student.

But when the vote came, what happened? Of all the most incredibly inane things the Engineers rejected it, and they had earlier rejected the minutes of the previous meeting, thereby preventing last year's welfare donations being paid out. Tut, tut, you greedy little peevish hypocrites, you even defeated your own motion, a motion born on foolhardiness but which surprisingly made some sense when others pointed this out, and then you went and rejected it.

The Engineers have emerged as the most powerful, and influential political force on campus, and the most irresponsible, primarily through their consolidation, but they persist in masturbating themselves and showing their total incapacity for free thinking.

J.S.MILL

NOMINATIONS

Applications are called for one vacant position on the **Student Union Management Committee**. Nominations forms are available from the A.U.S.A. Office.

Nominations close at 5 p.m. on the day of the second Student Representative Council Meeting.



BROKE!

What happens when you're a group struggling to sustain yourself and you are promised money that doesn't eventuate?

This is the situation faced by eight Auckland groups which were each promised \$500 by the Students' Association, but now have to struggle on without it.

I spoke to representatives of three of these groups. Polynesian Panthers \$500 was to be used for two purposes. A budget had been worked out based on assurances of that \$500 would be available and without it, the group will have to find money by other means.

Panthers had planned on producing a paper in English, Samoan, Rarotongan, and Tongan. This will have to be deferred.

They had also planned on giving some financial help to their two community workers who have been unpaid for the last two weeks. These two people do a variety of tasks — finding houses for Polynesians who have been discriminated against, giving them legal help, and helping them, as far as it is possible, with their financial problems.

They also need \$300 in fares to go to Wellington, as they have just been

informed by the Chairman of the Social Services Committee, Dr Wall, that they will have to pay their way there, to remake their submissions on the Young Persons Bill. They say that they were under the impression that the Government would pay this.

Te Huinga is wanting to bring out a new issue of Rongo. The \$500 would go towards the \$1,000 that it costs to produce the newspaper.

Rongo is the first Maori newspaper and it has made many people aware of Maori feelings and culture.

Te Huinga is also organising a conference in May which will be a forum to raise ideas. Out of a similar conference last year came Rongo itself and Maori Language Day.

The ideas engendered in such a conference, are thus carried through to a conclusion.

However, to hold a conference requires more money than Te Huinga has.

Tenants' Protection Association has no money in its account. Its phone will be cut off by the time you read this.

It is also faced with having to pay off back rent that it is liable for as a result of the rent strike last year.

Because it has no money, Tenants Protection Association cannot function effectively to help tenants with

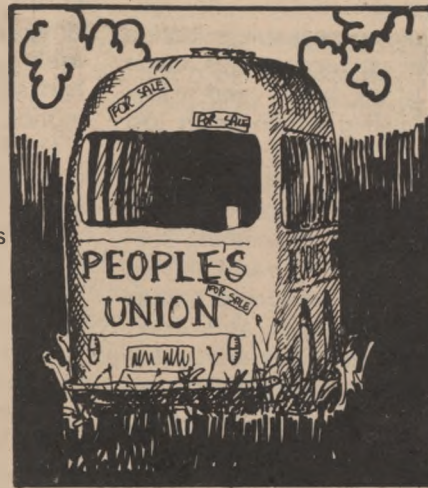
any problems they have with landlords.

People's Union, we also know, has already bought a bus to enable people to visit relatives friends in Paremoremo.

They are liable for this money now.

They bought the bus simply on the assurance that the Students' Association would be giving them \$500.

These groups methods have not been very business-like, but groups concerned with social actions often think in terms of people first and money second.



Maxi-Gracum next week
— so see you then
the Gracum crew.

Heard at the party..

Lemon & Gin the crystal bright drink that mixes well

- ☐ Lively with Lemonade or Lime
- ☐ Young with Cola
- ☐ Worldly with icy sparkling tonic
- ☐ Fun with Fruit Juices

...or light & bright on its own if you prefer. There's nothing quite like Glenvale Liqueur flavoured with Lemon and Gin.



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Manuaku River Scow. Approx 30 yrs old 25' launch, double skin kauri hull — sound condition. Cabin Rough. Needs paint. \$200. Ph. 601-595, ask for Mark.

BLUES-JAZZ-ROCK CLUB
WINE & CHEESE NITE
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-WOMENS COMMON ROOM
MONDAY 8th APRIL 8pm

THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND JOIN P.S.P. SOCIETY PEOPLE SPELL POLLUTION

AIMS:

- 1) To keep N.Z. population at three million.
- 2) Abortion on Demand
- 3) Sterilization Bonus
- 4) Maximum Migrant Quota of 15,000

**DON'T LET PEOPLE WHO SCREAM:
"MORE PEOPLE"
WHITTLE AWAY YOUR HERITAGE**

MEMBERSHIP FEE : \$2.00
Box 5037, Wellesley St., Auckland

Religious ?
revival

KIWI

Wed 4th
4 pm Ho hum!

NZUSA



EASTER SOUTH ISLAND TOUR

STB, as has been previously announced, has moved into the field of local student tours. The first is due to leave Wellington on Thursday 11 April, returning by 7.00 am on Thursday 18 April. Those who wish to, may join the group and leave it, at Christchurch. Highlights are a scenic drive through Arthurs Pass, a visit to an old West Coast Goldmine, Fox Glacier, and an excursion by launch to the Te Ana-au Glowworm Caves. Motel/hotel accommodation is provided throughout. Our capacity for the Easter tour has been extended to over 21 participants. The tour will be escorted by a student employee of STB. Non-students may participate at our discretion for a small surcharge of \$5.00. Bookings close on March 29th. Any applications received after that date are subject to \$2.50 late fee. Forms are obtainable from your local travel officer of

**STUDENT TRAVEL BUREAU
VUW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
PRIVATE BAG
WELLINGTON
Tel. 70319 ext 59**

**COST: Wellington/Wellington \$110.00
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Financial assistance for students... BNZ education loans!

BNZ EDUCATION LOANS:

The great thing about these is their flexibility —tailored to fit your needs and expectations.

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Enquire about a BNZ Education Loan for just a few days, to tide you over the rough spot till the end of term.

Long Term

To help you plan things out over the years that you're at University.

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Overdraft facilities and other assistance can be arranged to help you over an establishing period in a recognised profession.

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Call at the BNZ Campus Branch, Old Student Union Building, and arrange time for a chat with Russ Blakeman; he'll be pleased to talk things over.

Or, ring him direct on 370-385.



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Campus Branch,
Old Student Union Building.