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Ever since 1975, when a Government got itself elected by convincing people of the existence of an economic crisis that they had hitherto failed to notice, we have been walking about sagely shaking our heads and saying, 'Everybody knows times are hard.'

Moreover, 1937 is recent enough history for all of us to know just what the ugly face of depression is like, at least second-hand. Three generations of New Zealanders have grown up fearful of the spectre of economic recession, and now they are sure that the day of reckoning is here. Sugar bags, bread and dripping, no jobs for the able-bodies, and queues for everything are just around the corner - soon we will be back to inspirational songs and soup

kitchens.

The trouble with these confidently woeful predictions is their failure to tally with observed fact. A stroll through Parnell Village, a look at used car lots or a dozen other Saturday morning pursuits reveal a different image of depression altogether. New Zealand may be just an inch away from disaster - but it is forty unbridgeable years away from 1937. If we are experiencing a Depression, it is like nothing our forebears endured. You could call it the New Depression.

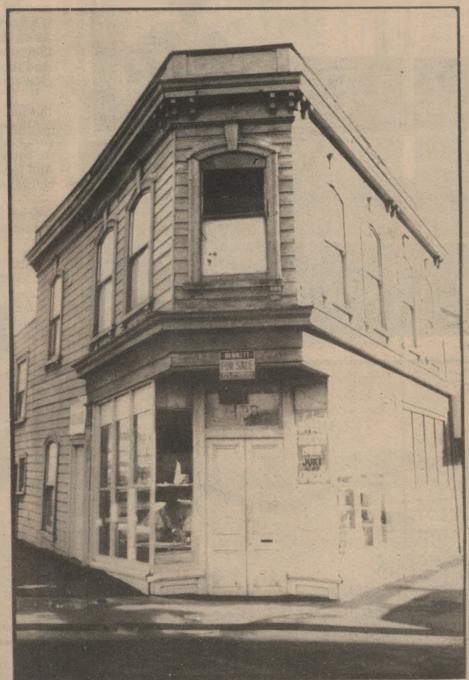
Economics is far beyond my understanding, and listening to my attempts to unravel it would be pointless, yet I can see evidence of the New Depression everywhere. Whereas the soup kitchen was once the symbol of hard times, now it is the Hamburger Heaven. Conspicuous consumption may once have been the prerogative of the wealthy, now it is a social necessity for everyone, and it is the treadmill of consumerism which both causes the economic malaise and prevents it manifesting itself as the kind of slump our parents knew.

The New Depression is different from earlier recessions in that it is not a sudden collapse after a period of boom inflation, but, rather, the result of inflation that has not been allowed to collapse. New Zealanders spend more and

more, not only on less and less, but on things that they need less and less. The boom in over-priced, mass-produced, ready-cooked food is a simple example. Our average nuclear family could quite happily feed themselves for a week on the price of three meals of Kentucky Fried Chicken, yet profits are growing faster than they can be spent on new expansion.

Tales for the Donnes

recent enough history
for all of us to know
just what the ugly face
of depression is like, at
least second-hand. Three
generations of New
Zealanders for the grown



The New Depression is the destruction of small services by large ones (grocers by supermarkets) and the replacement of small services with luxuries (empty grocers shops with boutiques). It is the escalation of debt (from a flat in Ponsonby, to a home unit in Papatoetoe, to a house in Mangere Bridge with a steadily gaining mortgage). It is the decrease in value

of money spent on social services and the distorting values of where that money should be spent (footpaths breaking up in Grey Lynn and street tree planting in Glendowie).

The New Depression is yards full of ruinously expensive motorcars that people undertake huge hire-purchase obligations to pay for (only to trade them in on a bigger one and

begin more payments). It is huge piles of uncollected rubbish in the middle of the most prosperous commercial area in the country. It is all the weight of steadily accumulating, useless trivia which drives people to such a blunt, and

thoroughly admirable sentiment spray-painted onto a wall - 'Fuck it all.'

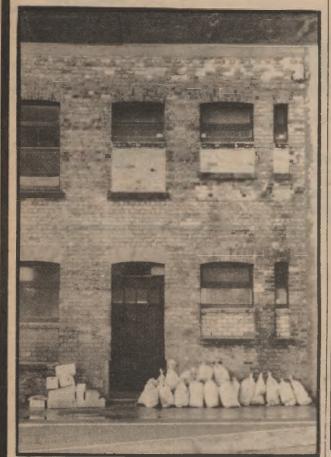
Perhaps all this headlong rush into pointless expenditure is simply the result of all those years of suppression. It is a truism that those who experienced the depression of the 1930's were almost pathologically thrifty. The greatest virtue was the strength to wait until something could be afforded before it was purchased - however essential the item might be. Now, people may be sick of waiting until they can afford things when the price always remains just beyond reach, and have decided they might as well spend for all they are worth.

On that morning stroll down Parnell rise, you can stop at the various little shops selling things that are vaguely familiar as relics of the anti-materilistic counter-culture that never quite took the 1960's by storm. The whole concept of hippiedom was based on the pointlessness of endlessly slaving to produce useless objects simply to acquire the wherewithal to buy them back and put them to no real use. It is pertinant to note how short a time it took for the merchandisers to enter the race.

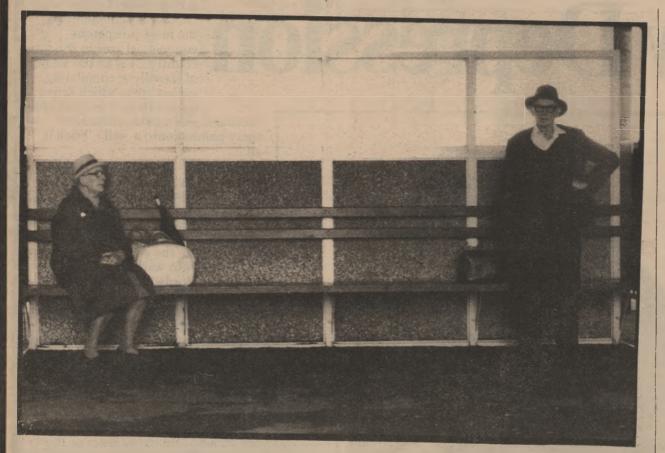
Within weeks of the rumours of San Fransisco reaching Remuera, the first Hippy Headbands and luminous posters of Brigit Bardot were on sale in Queen St. 'Headshops' suddenly became the thing no shopping centre could afford to be without. By 1977, the gloss has gone from the dayglo, and you are more likely to find those kinds of goodies merchandised through Woolworths. An attack on consumerism, has quite comfortably been assimilated.

This is not simply the result of a piece of frantic band wagon-jumping

but also symptomatic of the anxiety of the Establishment to incorporate all potentially dangerous forces within its compass. The plethora of publicity about Charles Manson, drug deaths, and decaying Haight Ashbury was a reflex action, and sent together with the selling of a safe, homogenised version of the movement. All the publicity was a sure-fire market-







Some of them knew pleasure, some of them knew pain,
And for some of them it was only the moment that mattered.
As on the brave and crazy wings of youth they went flying around in the rain,
And their feathers, once so fine grew torn and tattered.

But in the end they traded their tired wings for the resignation that living brings, And exchanged love's bright and fragile glow for the glitter and the rouge - And in a moment they were swept before the deluge.

Jackson Browne, "Before the Deluge" Warner Bros. 1976.





WITHIN-

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ing gimmick and the wheels of industry never missed a beat as they ground right over the Hippies. One could say that the Revolution was not so much lost, as bought out.

It is ironic that the generation that claimed to be on a crusade against big business has now become its biggest client. A glance through 'Rolling Stone' Magazine should convince anyone that people under thirty are reckoned by advertisers as being well-worth wooing.

ALL this sounds rather like the kind of corner-store economics preached by Mr Muldoon and the National Government, but really has a fundamental difference. The answers put forward by the government are only superficially based on frugality. Their connections with those making inflationary fortunes out of the New Depression are far too strong to ever allow them to seriously attempt to put an end to it. If the people of this country tightened their belts as much as we are told we ought, I am sure the Manufacturers Federation would be less than pleased.

low

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The massive effort necessary to get off the gravy train would also damage the profits of many enterprises that it would destroy them. Imagine the effect of a public admission that advertising was largely pointless. It would destroy overnight a huge consumer of money, and

NCE ACCEPTAGE NO STOPPING

at the same time expose the shaky base of our myth of full employment. Our extremely low unemployment figure could well be attributable to our singular ability to expand the total number of jobs available to fit our population, regardless of the productive worth or satisfaction provided by the individual jobs.

This also gives the clue to why the Labour party is no more likely to cure the fundamental problem. Just as the National Party is committed to continuing the race against inflation, so too does the Labour Party owe too much allegiance to groups whose existence depends upon the continuation of the status quo. There is no possibility that a Labour Government would feel strong enough to run the risk of significant unemployment in an attempt to break the cycle, even if it should want to.

When the last forty years of New Zealand politics have been built on the doctrine of full employment at all costs, any policy which questions the purpose of a significant proportion of the labour undertaken by New Zealanders is doomed. In this, even conservative politicians are forced to follow the will of the nation, and not merely pay lip service to it. Much as it would suit the shakey superstructure of industry in this country to have a high number of unemployed workers to call on when convenient, the myth is too strong to break. How much harder, then, to



undertake a complete revision of the philosophy

The New Depression, if it exists, is not so easy to define as that our grandparents suffered. It hasn't changed any major social landmarks in New Zealand, simply magnified many of the grosser ones. Its symptoms are everywhere - in the bankruptcy courts, on Television advertising, on the windows of untenanted office blocks, in the Real Estate columns of the daily newspaper and its cause is nowhere to be seen. Or perhaps its cause is so large that it is invisible for that reason.

When it is expressed in these terms, it is terribly difficult to see an answer to the problem. In 1935, we just sat tight, did the best we could and waited for it all to blow over. Now that we are so dedicated to the maintenance of such expensive intangibles as a 'high standard of living', it may no longer be possible for us to sit it out. The steady acceleration of progress towards the New Depression indicates that it may not end with a whimper as did the boom of the 1920's, but with a bang.

This article was written by FRANCIS STARK, with help from DON MACKAY, and the photos were all contributed by JAN GEARY.



CRACCUM

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ROLL CALL

Assistant Editors Louise
Pechnical Editor Rod M
Photographer Jan Ge

Advertising Manager.....

Francis Stark Louise Chunn Don Mackay Rod Macdiarmid Jan Geary Anthony Wright

The end of another week, and as we all trudge miserably up the queue to collect our dole payment for this week, we can all reflect back miserably on the jobs we once used to hold. Back in the good old days, Rod used to wield waxer and scalpel as technical wizard, Virginia was once a feature writer, Andrew, before he starved, could be relied upon to help in every way, John, until his illness, was a fine distribution manager, Paul used to come and provide us with photographs - but no more. The New Depression got them all, and left me here to write their epitaph.



I never suggest to people to do what I would not do myself, and I have done a bit of this thrift in my time that I am recommending to

I was the sixth of a family of ten and my father was a clergyman who died when I was three. So I was not brought up in what you might call affluence, and when I got into the Army I had to live as best I could on my pay, which was pretty small.

It was a bit of a struggle. It meant among other things no breakfast or midday meal at the Mess, no smokes, no liquor, and it meant earning what I could outside my military duties by drawing and writing.

But I worked hard and enjoyed the struggle. And I "got there" in the end. I had any amount of luck, but I must add, that I snatched a good deal of this for myself. What is commonly called luck is really largely the power to spot your opportunity and to jump at it and seize it.

SIR ROBERT BADEN-POWELL BART

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

DOWN: 1, Pains. 2, Arrest. 3, Souvenir. 4, Pill-box. 5, Rebuffed. 6, Restoring. 9, Acre. 14, Mercenary. 16, Olive oil. 18, Reclaims. 19, Mercury. 21, Bats. 23, Parish. 24, Manna.

ACROSS: 7, Patriotic. 8, Rebel. 10, Interval. 11, Crusts. 12, Sten. 13, Open fire. 15, Detours. 17, Trading. 20, Scribble. 22, Cope. 25, Intent. 26, Chairman. 27, Train. 28, Promising.

GARGOYLE LEO AYLEN

The only way to drown In shallow water's keep head down

One say's to crawl so close That the sand crabs nip your nose, -Never mind your toes

Or you can stand on your head; But you make such a splash when you're dead.

Why not drown in your own armchair. Stick your nose in a ladle of soup And hold it there.

From BOUND FOR GLORY by Woody Guthrie

I'd liked mostly th' union workers an' th' soldiers an' th' men in fightin' clothes, shootin' clothes, shippin' clothes, or farmin' clothes, 'cause singing with them made me friends with them, an' I felt like I was somehow in on their work. But this coin spinnin', that's my las' dime - an' this Rainbow Room job, well, rumors are it'll pay as much as seventy-five a week, an' seventy-five a week is dam shore seventy-five a week.

'Woody Guthrie!'

'Comin!' I walked up to the microphone,
gulping and trying to think of something to sing
about. I was a little blank in the head or something, and no matter how dam hard I tried, I just couldn't think up any kind of a song to

sing - just empty.
'What will be your first selection, Mister

'Little tune, I guess, call'd New York City.'
And so I forked the announcer out of the way with the wiry end of my guitar handle and made up these words as I sung:

This Rainbow Room she's mighty fine You can spit from here to th' Texas line! In New York City Lord, New York City This is New York City, an' I really gotta know

This Rainbow Room is up so high That John D.'s spirit comes a-driftin' by This is New York City She's New York City I'm in New York City an' I really gotta know

New York town's on a great big boom Got me a-singin' in th' Rainbow Room That's New York City That's New York City She's old New York City Where I really gotta know my line!

I took the tune to church, took it holy roller, in a few split notes, oozed in a fake one, come down barrel house, hit off a good old crosscountry lonesome note or two, trying to get that old guitar to help me, to talk with me, talk for me, and say what I was thinking, just this

Well this Rainbow Room's a funny place ta play It's a long way's from here to th' U.S.A.

An' back ta New York City God! New York City Hey! New York City Where I really gotta know my line!

The microphone man come running out and waved me to a stop, asking me, 'Hhhhmm where does this particular song end end, sir?' 'End?' I looked over at him. 'Jest a gittin' strung out good mister!'

The number is most amusing. Excic 'The number is most amusing. Exciting. Extremely colorful. But I'm wondering if it would be suited to the customers. Ahemm. To our customers. Just a couple of questions. How do you get out to the microphone and back again?

'Walk, as a rule.' 'That won't do. Let's see you trot in through that arched doorway there, sidestep when you come to that flat platform, prance pretty lively when you go down those three stairs, and then spring up to the microphone on the balls of your feet throwing your weight on the joints of your ankles.' And before I could say anything he had run out and trotted back, showing me exact-

ly what he was talking about. Another one of the bosses from the table at the back wall yelled, 'As far as his entrance is concerned, I think we can rehearse it a week or two and get it ironed out!"

TILLTHATEAGLE GRINS

HERE ON THIS HEAVING SURFACE LEO AYLEN

With sudden fog Knifing our eyes and brain, Black wings of panic Pecking our ears,

While traps snap open, Clutching our ankles, And everywhere holes Gape through earth's crust,

No longer possessing streets and cities, But only mountains and marshes' Loose rock and squelching tussocks,

Here, on this heaving surface Bombarded with lumps of molten cliff, We have set our conference table. Quick. We haven't much time in which to reach a decision.

*From SUNFLOWER, by Leo Aylen, published by Sidgwick & Jackson, 1976. And you might call that a review

NOBODY KNOWS YOU WHEN YOU'RE DOWN AND OUT (Traditional)

Once I lived the life of a millionaire, Spent all my money like I didn't care, Took all my friends out for a mighty fine time, High class liquor, champagne and wine.

But then I began to fall so low, Didn't have no money, no place to go, If I ever get my hands on a dollar again, I'm going to hold onto it till that Eagle grins.

Because nobody knows you when you're down and out,

In your pocket not a penny, As for your friends, you haven't any. Soon as you get back on your feet again, Everybody wants to be your long-lost friend.

It's mighty strange, without a doubt, Nobody knows you when you're down and out ...



Woody Guthrie

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INSENSITIVE BUNGLING?

THE decision by New Zealand not to fully endorse the establishment of a common Fund to be used for primary commodity stabilisation at the Geneva Conference in March of this year, must have left many people further wondering about the current state of the National Party's Foreign Policy.

The present government, through its illfounded sports policy has already done much to undermine New Zealand's standing amongst third world nations, and isolate us from dominant world opinion.

Now with the recent conclusion of the North-South dialogue, we find New Zealand once again left out in the cold owing to the shortsightedness of our decision-makers.

The 18 month North-South Paris dialogue was a forum attended by 8 developed and 19 developing nations, aimed at creating a basis for the so called 'New Economic Order'. The NEO, a preoccupation of United Nations organs these days, basically involves getting a fairer deal for poorer countries through more mutually beneficial international trading agreements, and a redistribution of the world's wealth.

Predictably, the poorer nations did not get all they wanted in Paris, in fact very little headway was made. But one of the more tangible decisions to result from the dialogue was an undertaking by the industrial nations present, (including the US and Australia) to participate in the establishment of a Common Fund to moderate fluctuations in commodity prices, supply and earnings. This represents a reversal of the U.S. stand at Geneva earlier this year - a stand which, at the time New Zealand chose to identify with, and which has now rebounded

Proposals for a Common Fund were one of the major decisions to emerge from the 1976 UNCTAD 4 Conference in Nairobi, at which NZ was represented by Lance Adams Schneider, and in an unofficial capacity by the New Zealand coalition for Trade and Development.

The March Geneva Conference was later convened with the explicit purpose of discussing in a more detailed fashion the setting up of a Common Fund. It was proposed to establish a pool of money to be used for the buying and storing of buffer stocks when prices are poor, to be released when prices rise. The aim is to reduce as far as practicable fluctuation in commodity prices, which can be so damaging to the vulnerable economies of many Third World countries, particularly those dependent on one or two major exports.

The benefits to N.Z. of such a scheme are obvious, for even if our primary products were not amongst those initially chosen for consideration by the Fund, the stabilisation of Third World economies can only be in our long-term trading interests.

At the Geneva Conference, New Zealand showed itself more keen to identify with the rich nations than the poorer ones. We were one of a small group of five rich nations, including the US, Japan, Canada and Australia, who were not prepared to give a positive "yes" to the establishment of a Common Fund, despite our insistence that we "agreed with it in principle". The Conference subsequently failed.

Yet a couple of weeks after the Geneva Conference, at the European Summit meeting, President Carter announced US agreement with the principle of a Common Fund and her intention to work towards its establishment. The recent North South dialogue commitment followed.

The changed US stance was probably related to energy questions, one of the focal areas of the North-South dialogue. The developed nations of course, have been concerned to extract from third world countries assurances of continued supply of energy sources at stable prices, in exchange for economic reforms. On the second-to-last night of the Geneva Conference, Ambassador Alatas from Indonesia, one of the major spokesmen for the underdeveloped nations stated that the failure of the Common Fund talks also meant the failure of the North-South dialogue. No doubt this threat filtered through

to US officials in Washington, hence the more amenable attitude to the Common Fund idea.

The US and Australian defection now leaves New Zealand in the position of being one of the few countries who have not officially recorded their willingness to positively support and participate in a Common Fund. Our Prime Minister has not indicated he will be seeking to rectify this situation at the Commonwealth Conference. where the Common Fund will be discussed as part of the report from the McIntyre Committee - a body formed at the Kingston Commonwealth Conference to examine economic policies related to the Third World.

One of the most vocal critics of NZ's stand at Geneva, has been Reverend Bob Scott, from the New Zealand Coalition for Trade and Development (an offiliate of the International Coalition for Development Action, one of the growing number of non-governmental organisations that are acquiring an increasing role in international efforts to bring about a 'New Economic Order'). The Coalition's aims are threefold: to monitor the performance of our government at International forums such as Geneva, to disseminate this and other information on Third World Affairs and to bring pressure to bear on the Government to fulfil any promises entered into. Most governments are thir least of the standard of the sta

Most governments aren't really accountable to anyone in particular on this level (for instance, how many of us really know what our government said or committed us to at the 'Habitat' and countless other Conferences. Consequently the UN, in an effort to counteract this, has given non-governmental organisations an official status at UN conferences. At Geneva, for instance, N.G.O's were responsible for the production of the Conference newspaper.

Government officials maintain that New Zealand adopted "a low profile" at Geneva, remaining on the periphery with "an open mind" that was "appropriate to our standing in the world". But this, says the Rev. Bob Scott is inadequate. "It is all right to say we are open and creative about the plight of Third World countries; we listen but that doesn't cost us anything". New Zealand's stance, he believes, can only be interpreted by Third World nations as unhelpful and negative in spite of the fact that we don't deliberately adopt that attitude. "It's really because we don't ever take a positive stand and say we don't want to be with the hardlipers".

Soon after the failure of the Geneva Conference Mr Talboys made a speech to the Wanganui North Rotary in which he outlined New Zealand's reservations about the Common Fund. For the Rev. Bob Scott, the speech epitonized New Zealand's current handling of third World issues. "It was a considered speech which set out New Zealand reservations. We say we agree in principle with the concept but the whole speech was about reservations. New Zealand must learn that people overseas read NZ articles and speeches. They won't be fooled when New Zealand says "we're positive".

Government reservations about a common Fund centre on two main areas. Firstly, it is concerned that the Fund should be viable. According to one government official, the only formalized scheme so far presented is by the UNCTAD Secretariat. He claims it has been demonstrated by the OECD to contain flaws of such magnitude to throw into question its viability.

Secondly, the government is worried lest commodity stabilisation becomes commodity subsidisation, with prices not really reflecting the true market value. It claims products like jute, which have a dimishing demand due to synthetics would be extremely difficult to sell off, once stockpiled. Furthermore, they are worried about the cost involved. They feel the fund will need to be extremely large, for trade cycles, rather than acting independently of each other, tend to be closely related. The Fund depends on some products selling well when others were not, in order to provide the funds to pay out on the latter.

The UNCTAD model, claims the official,

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could "well be a monster, consuming a lot of money to protect commodities whose existence is questionable anyway". Consequently, the Government "feels justified in being cautious given the present situation."

The developing countries had a different view of the Conference from developed countries. They wanted all countries to commit themselves to the principle of a Common Fund, whereas 'we wanted to be satisfied that any realistic common Fund had been well explored before giving strong commitment". It is claimed that even the EEC and Scandanavian countries, who had already pledged money, were not happy with the UNCTAD model.

But, according to the Rev. Bob Scott, New Zealand's objections can be answered, and he points out that the Conference was meant to be for the specific purpose of discussing details. Clearly, most other countries, including it now seems, the U.S. are of the opinion that the technical problems are not insurmountable, and besides, it required a firm commitment from participants at the Conference, in order for these problems to be resolved.

In the long term, New Zealand's reluctance to endorse more positively the idea of a common Fund at Geneva won't unduly effect the course of negotiations which are scheduled to resume in November. Our cautions, nit-picking attitude was probably inappropriate in the initial stages of the negotiation and can't have done our standing much good amongst Third World Nations.

It brings to the fore once again the inadequacies of current New Zealand foreign policy. In the case of the Common Fund episode, New Zealand policy had all the indications of having originated with Treasury rather than Foreign Affairs. Short-term economic considerations were allowed to dominate long-term enlightened

Like sporting contacts with South Africa, the Third World has focused on a Common Fund as a symbolic of the rich nation's commitment to helping them with their problems. New Zealand's complacent deafness to the nuances of Third World diplomacy, so apparent at Geneva, is fast losing us friends.

VIRGINIA SHAW

NCE upon a time, in 1963 in fact, an Act of Parliament brought into existence a government cultural funding organisation, the Queen Elizabeth the Second Arts Council of New Zealand. Its objectives, according to the Act, included providing finance for "the practice of the arts" and promoting the development of a cultural appreciation in New Zealand. Since that time, \$10 million has been invested into the cultural institutions funded by this Council and without a doubt the position of the arts in New Zealand has improved because of it.

And so all the artists, actors, singers, potters, musicians, authors, film-makers, and dancers red happily ever after on Arts Council grants? Sadly, no. The last two years of the Arts Council's programme clearly reflects a period of retrenchment in government spending on the arts. When, in 1975-76 public spending rose by 281/2%, public funding to the Council increased by only 11/2%. In the following fiscal year this was raised to 3½% whereas public expenditure is expected to increase by 8½%. In the year 1976-77 this is equal to 3.2 cents for every \$100 of

government spending.

The effect on the arts has been drastic. To complicate the financial situation further, the announcement of grants is never made until after a quarter of the year for which the assistance is given. This means that a company which budgets for the forthcoming financial year in October the preceding year, must do so without any knowledge of how large their grant may be, or even if they will receive one.

The demise of the New Zealand Dance Centre, under the direction of Russell Kerr, illustrates the funding problems of the last few years perfectly. A grant of \$25,000 for the year 1975-76 proved inadequate to finance both the dance



Hamish Keith - Director of the QE II Arts Council.

company and its subsidiary ballet school. Inflation and the uncertainty of the level, or even the continuation of its grant from the Arts Council for 1977-78 forced both the school and the fessional company into liquidation in May of this year.

Although not as extreme, the story of Theatre Corporate also corresponds to this trend of financial depression in the arts. For the year 1975-76, before the company had established a permanent residence in their Galatos Street theatre, the QEII Arts Council grant was \$3,648 or .9% of the total amount awarded to the dramatic arts. For the following year the grant was increased considerably - to \$23,520. This sum, however, totals only 15.7% of Theatre Corporate's gross income. In a cry for help to its patrons, the Company pointed out that a "nationally acceptable average grant is 40-45% of a theatre's gross income, according to an Arts Council representative." As a result of poor funding, Theatre Corporate is in a position of "severe jeopardy", if not of going out of existence, at least of strict curtailment of spending, particularly in any experimental work.

The Council itself loudly mourns the reductions it has been forced to make in the 'real level' of funding to the arts. In the last financial year, 1976-77, assistance has been withdrawn totally from opera which, in the preceding year

had received 6% of the Council's total expenditure on the arts. The four companies who had benefited from this assistance must now become totally self-sufficient or go out of existence. Last year, there were no new individual awards for overseas training, no awards for refresher courses for teachers involved in the arts and a substantial decrease in grants for touring exhibitions, festi-

In spite of these cuts, the Council has continued to grant financial assistance to a large number of institutions and individuals. The performing arts received the greatest subsidy in 1975-76 with 22.6% of the total expenditure on the arts going to theatre. The Mercury received a grant equalling 31.7% of this, and yet even that bastion of culture, inexistence for over ten years now, is in financial difficulties. The largest single recipient, however, is the Auckland Symphonia which in 1975-76 was awarded 10.1% of the total expenditure of the Arts Council, in response to 'grave financial problems', that arose soon after its establishment.

Nor have financial setbacks prevented the Council from planning a decisive programme for the future. One of their most important aims is to establish a separate Film Development Corporation to provide finance for the growing film industry in New Zealand. The government has accepted this proposal but nothing has yet been one abou ontinues ardvark Solo' wit akers in ufficient roductio rts, the p reative a

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done about it. Meanwhile the Arts Council continues to subsidise such ventures as Aardvark's 'Sleeping Dogs' and Tony Williams 'Solo' with a total of \$72,000 granted to filmmakers in 1975-76. However this sum is hardly sufficient for the successful support of local film production and here, as in every sphere of the arts, the problem of finance severely restricts creative activities.

Since its inception, the grant from the government to the QE II Arts Council has remained static at \$1.4 m. This year for the first time it has been increased, by 13.5% to \$2.1 million - a significant rise but still not equivalent to infla-

tionary cost increases. Hamish Keith, the Chairman of the Arts Council, in the N.Z. Herald last week, hailed the increase as a milestone in cultural advancement, but pointed out that the \$2.2 million asked for was the "minimum amount to retain the status quo." Keith is reported as saying that 'creative areas' could not have their grants cut but that instead the performing arts - theatre and dance companies and orchestras - would be affected. He added, "Some may not survive."

This emphasis on creative rather than performing cultural activities reflects a growing discontent among artists and the Arts Council over the exorbitant costs of supporting professional

institutions. In 1975-76 the Mercury was awarded \$127,760 by the Arts Council; the Auckland Symphonia received \$180,000. These vast sums are awarded to maintain these institutions at their present level of professionalism and performance. However as Hamish Keith pointed out at the November Council of New Zealand Students Arts Council in 1976, professionalism is not necessarily superior to amateurism in the fields of drama and music. The maintenance of "establishment" art forms could be seen as a burden on the Council's limited resources.

The performing arts will now be left to sink or swim and without the massive grants of the past, their real status in the arts will be revealed. This may well reduce the number of companies, but in the future prove less of a drain on the Council.

The creative fields which the Arts Council plans to promote and fund at past levels (with adjustments for inflation) require far less financial assistance. Playwright/actor Bruce Mason received a \$5,000 grant this year, the Mercury's grant would enable 25 artists to receive the same assistance. Although the results of funding on an individual basis are not as tangible as that of grants to professional companies, financial assistance will undoubtedly afford improved conditions for artists in this

On June 16th, the QE II Arts Council will announce its allocation of funds following two days of meetings here in Auckland. Although the probability of decreased grants to the performing arts does not bode well for the future of many professional companies, the plight of the individual artist is probably worse at the present time. Benefits to the 'little men' of culture will undoubtedly help out individuals, perhaps it will even inject into the arts a new life sadly lacking of late. Because, if there is in fact a true depression it is not as obvious in Arts Council grants to institutions, but in many of the institutions themselves.

LOUISE CHUNN



ADVENTURES of AARON!



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DOLE QUEUE ROCK



TIMES is tough and no bugger'll give you a chance. The boys and me was down the Courthouse throttling pigeons (the dole cheque was late) when some fuzzies chased us all the way down town. So we ducked into this place Moody Richard's, missed a meal AND got copped \$2.50 before we put boot to boards.

The Scavengers were having their first show there. Interesting crowd. Tame, but good clothes. Innovative use of black PVC and holes is all I'll say, but get down there and see for yourself. Good to see companions in perversity there from Suburban Reptiles, and the ubiquitons Junk: also from the near-legendary 12-piece art-punk ensemble Grand Cremant. Shame all those sex and drug offences broke them up.

The sound? They did covers of everyone - the Rods, Ramones, Feelgoods, Oo, even 'Anarchy

in the UK'. Twice. Their fourth set was all stuff from the first three sets because they don't know that much. But they do it all pretty well. A bit too well. At times it sounded very rehearsed. But they seemed to have a good time and they had the right spirit. The man holding the guitar broke two or three strings and found all kinds of neat tunings between songs. The thing I liked best about them was their perfectly beautiful bassist. He can jerk off into my hanky anytime.

The only trouble is, they don't have the credentials to play the role they do. They should do more of their own songs. The singer should try something other than rotten posing. If I was an utterly cynical bastard, I'd say it's hard to scavenge when you've got a silver spoon stuck halfway down your throat. But since I'm not,

I'll say they stuck bloody well to the image they choose for themselves. But with a little more effort they wouldn't have to be so definitive. Still, I bet that's what the glitter critics said about Space Waltz. And look how successful they were.

There's a nasty rumour going round that someone's threatening to put the Scavengers, Reptiles and Junk on stage in Auckland on the same night. I'f we're so lucky, be there. It'll be chaos.

IRV. 'PINKY' STINKER

LOW DAVID BOWIE RCA

BOWIE takes another turn
'Low' is mood music for the new depression. It is emotionally desolate, though no more so than any discofunk LP. And it is lyrically devoid of any kind of reality.

lyrically devoid of any kind of reality.

That doesn't mean it isn't good music. Side one lines up a number of short jingles, some with very effective hooks. 'Breaking Glass', surely written for Iggy 'Idiot' Stooge, and 'Always Crashing in the Same Car' are among the best.

And Bowie's ear for textures is still evident.

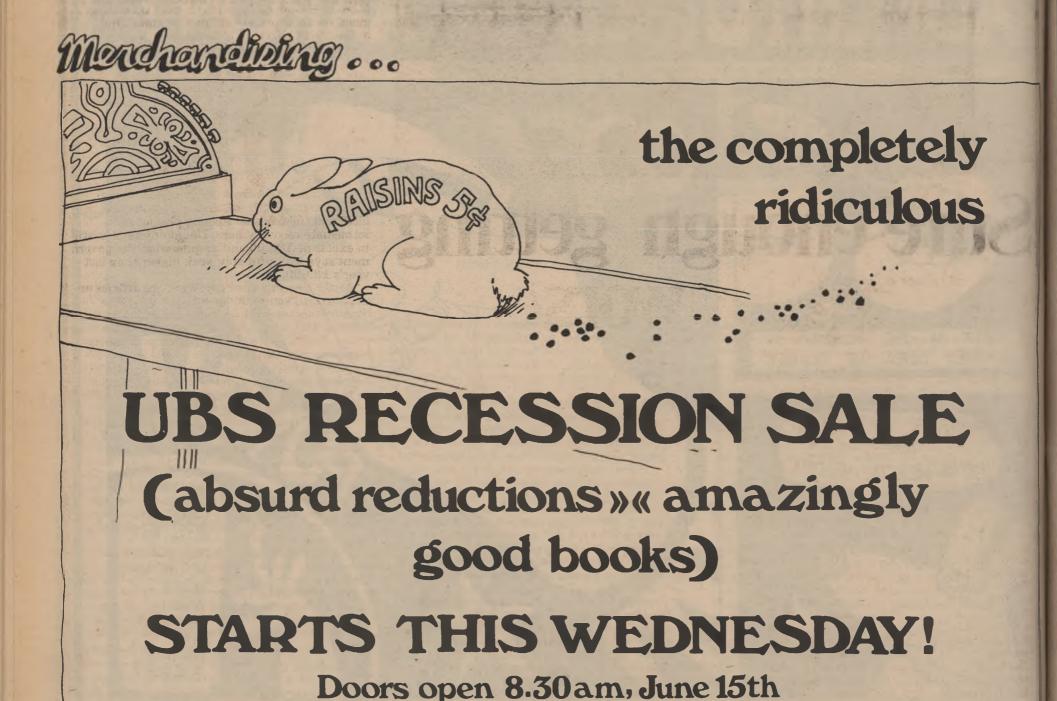
The distinctive drum and practice.

And Bowie's ear for textures is still evident. The distinctive drum and phasing effects on this side are addictive; unfortunately, Eno's contributions here get in the way of otherwise workable tunes, something which happened on his own early albums.

Side two fares far better with a number of spacious aural landscapes rather than tunes. Eno's later albums are the obvious influence, and these pieces compare more than favourably. Put these on in the dark when your pulse is slack and I'll guarantee you a good time.

'Low' is my choice for overground cult record of the year. Everyone will talk about it at some stage, but I doubt very much whether anyone will buy it.

GRANT DILLON





Sure enough getting "A bad enough situation is sure enough getting worse

Everybody's crying justice just so long as there is business first" Mose Allison

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OR years now, NZ has stumbled blindly from 'economic crisis' to 'recession' and back again to yet another 'economic crisis'. The 'blindly' is not used lightly, since the last NZ government to really have an economic policy was the first Labour govt which (God rest its soul), deceased in 1949. At first, it did not really seem to matter too much. We made good through the 1950's and even into the 1960's, mainly on the profits of two wars which lifted food and wool prices abnormally high. By the time the first serious jolt hit us in 1967, the writing was already on the wall.

There are of course some people who would have it that the 1967 recession was deliberately arranged by the then Minister of Finance. They flatter him grossly. It has become accepted doctrine, of both major political parties, since World War II, that it is not enough for NZ to be a food producing nation. It was also necessary for us to manufacture for export, to give the economy some degree of stability in the face of fluctuating, and generally declining prices for agricultural products. This is just jim dandy in theory but one cannot help but feel that in

practice it has miscued.

Everybody is familiar with the Matai Industries fiasco. The Labour Government proposed to have Matai produce plastic flowers on the West Coast to bolster that depressed area and presumably make Westport the plastic flower capital of the Southern Hemisphere. It didn't work. And everybody stood around and laughed and called the government a bunch of idiots for ever having tried such a hare-brained scheme. However it is difficult not to believe that much of our effort to become an exporter of manufactured goods represents precisely the same sort of lunacy, only given the appearance of sanity by virtue of its scale. As the recent rubbishing we received from Australia over the so-called Free Trade agreement demonstrated, in hard times the world is going to want our consumer trinkets even less than our imitation cheddar.

One wonders whether, without all the artificial incentives, these exporting manufacturers would even pay for the cost of their own imported plant, and raw materials.

Also, as everybody knows, the various incent-

ives of export tax concessions and loan monies

offered by the government, have been a gold mine for all manner of 'fast back freddies'. One cannot help but feel that the effort might have been directed into the processing of our agricultural exports. The processing of these goods for the specific markets for whom they are destined is potentially a higher profit area than the original farming itself. Sadly, we remain backward in this regard. Such activity as is conducted in this area is largely foreign-controlled, (freezing works) and infamous for poor industrial relations, and its general disregard for the interests of NZ as opposed to those of its foreign owners.

Even our agriculture itself is not, as we keep telling ourselves, very efficient except in the narrowest of senses. The myth of our agricultural efficiency, like the myth of our advanced welfare system, has become so far removed from reality as to be a dangerous self-delusion. Efficiency is not, as our leaders often seem to assume, an absolute quality, but is only a measure of performance against a particular goal. One could spend a long time searching in vain for the objectives of NZ's economic activities. It is one of our national characteristics that since we are incapable of making decisions for ourselves we are also unable to set ourselves goals. In the area of agricultural policy, this mindless drifting is obvious.

The wrangle over dairy products and the EEC is a prime example. NZ has known for years that sooner or later the crunch has been coming. However, all our efforts in this area have been directed towards postponing the crunch and virtually none of them to preparing for its inevitable arrival. It would seem obvious that if the market for 80% of our dairy products is also to fold on us, then we would be well-advised to start looking not only for new markets for them which is not easy, but also at alternative forms of production that could replace dairying. However this has not happened. Every few years, we send a PM to Europe to discuss the problem, he comes back, delivers a Dunkirk speech and then procedes to forget about it all until his next trip

Farmers can hardly be expected to solve this one for themselves. The lack of investment in agriculture has led to the situation where many farmers cannot manage to do more than simply maintain their present output let alone find

money with which to experiment.

It is not just this gradual decline we are faced with, however. There are signs that the crunch may be just about upon us. Like everyone else we were adversely effected by the world-wide trade recession in 1974-75. Indeed, the Labour Government paid with its life. However, 1976 was hailed as the year of recovery. Economic analysists throughout the world predicted a healthy recovery and although a degree of recovery has occurred, it is generally not quite so good as predicted. In some places, of course, it never quite happened. NZ is one of those places. In 1976, NZ still had a 1.5% decline in GNP and the overseas experts predict no immediate recovery here. Unemployment is still in excess of 10,000 and despite what the government says, will probably peak higher than last

As the census returns showed, the official unemployment figure under-estimates the true situation by several hundred per cent. Add to this, the thousands of unemployed we have shunted back to the Pacific islands and things look pretty grim indeed.

The latest aspect of our economic collapse to make news is the exodus of everybody with the available means, to other countries. Not only are most of these people of that age group which places them in the productive work force, but they are, one suspects, the people with the most skills, brains, and initiative. Nor are they just going for a holiday, or the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations, as the government would like us to believe. They are leaving because they do not wish to live any more in a country which seems destined to become a backward and repressive banana republic.

The 'new depression' may indeed be just around the corner. Only this time it seems unlikely we will have the comfort of having the rest of the world go down with us. It is not the collapse of capitalism which is in the offing, although the world trade situation is far from rosy. It is the collapse of NZ's economy, and with, it seems likely NZ democracy. This may not be NZ the way you want it, but as the man said 'You can't always get what you want

DON MACKAY



LL OUT! Wednesday

This Wednesday, June 15, students around the country will be protesting against the government's refusal to provide an adequate living allowance to full-time students in tertiary educ-

TO student could have failed to note, by way of direct experience, the general effect of inflation on what we can buy with our incomes. This problem is being felt by most sectors of the community, but all have been more or less compensated for the consequent rises in prices and service charges. Wage and salary earners, though by no means adequately compensated for increases in the cost of living, have, over the last twelve months, received increases of about twelve percent. This rather miserly increase has been the governments response to their failure to control prices and the need that they saw to increase service charges and abolish subsidies on certain basic foods.

Power, telephone, postal and travel charges have increased quite sharply over the last eighteen months. Bread, butter, flour, sugar, eggs, cheese, meat, vegetables and fruit have increased in price to the point where some are now almost luxuries, this especially in the case of meat. And, now we find that the old exam time favourite, coffee, is so expensive as to be generally out of the price range of the low wage earn-

er and the student.

Rents also have shown an alarming tendency to rise, despite the government's short-lived and rather unsuccessful attempt to introduce rent controls last year. In halls of residence, the problem of increasing accomodation charges is more acute, in fact it has come to the point where halls of residence must be the most expensive and least rewarding way for students to house themselves. The average cost of accomodation in halls of residence in 1977 is fifty percent higher than the cost of the same accom-

A survey of students at Otago University undertaken by four academic staff and four students for the University Senate, concluded that 'no student on a Standard Tertiary Bursary .. can hope to make ends meet, even if he stints himself severely.' They further commented that .. we believe that a large number of students will be short of about \$460-\$730 for the academic season of 38 weeks. Students would have to earn substantially more than the average wage for summer employment in order to save sufficiently to cover this deficit. They can balance their finances only by cutting down to a substandard living, or by not participating in those recreational activities which are everyone's birthright, or by neglecting to purchase the books and equipment that are essential to a proper programme of university study.

There is also evidence that many students must take part-time night and weekend work during term, and seek employment during the May and August vacations. These practices severely reduce the time available for proper university studies. These calculations were done for those receiving

the unabated bursary (\$24 p.w.)

Despite this and other overwhelming evidence the government still expects us to live on \$13 per week, or \$24 per week if you happen to live outside your parents' home town. Moreover, not all full-time students receive a bursary, and many who should receive an unabated bursary, such as orphans, widowed and divorced students, only get \$13 because they are deemed to live in their parents' home town.

In August 1974 the Education Department recommended that the bursary be equivalent to the basic social security benefit with no separate

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boarding allowance.

In December last year, the Education Department convened a conference of all interested organisations which made similar recommend-

The conference chairperson, the Assistant Director of Education, Mr P. Boag, said when he opened the meeting that it was the biggest conferences of educationalists since the large-scale Educational Development Conference of 1974.

All three national student bodies were represented, as were the six teachers' organisations. The universities and technical institutes were there and other groups included; the education boards, State Services Commission, University Grants Committee, Vocational Training Council and the Catholic Education Commission.

The conference worked on the basis of consensus and agreed that a number of changes needed to be made. They recommended that the bursary should be a fully supportive allowance for students during the academic year, that it should be regularly increased for cost increases (as reassured by a reliable indicator such as the consumer price index) and that the abatement should be abolished. And immediate step recommended was an increase of 15% for 1977 to take account of inflation during 1976.

The government has turned a deaf ear to these proposals of its own department and all the interested organisations. It has refused to increase the bursary to a living allowance, rejected tying the bursary to a cost-of-living index, refused to abolish the abatement, or give a cost-of-living rise this year. What happened to National's promise to 'increase the value of bursaries to take into account increasee costs since the last adjustment and thereafter increase them annually

Continued on Page 15

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CUTBACKS

N 1976, the New Zealand Government proposed a 40% cut-back on Malaysian students. The "reason" given then was to limit the intake of any single nationality to 40% so as to achieve a better balance between overseas students coming here. The reduction has since been imposed, and in the aftermath of that drastic cut this year, it is clear that what has actually happened is a drop of 45% or even higher in the intake of private Malaysian students to New Zealand without any increase in that of other nationalities. This is contrary to the

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original policy of redistribution.

A total of 544 private Malaysian students were admitted to first degree, certificate, and diploma courses at New Zealand's tertiary institutes last year. The figure for this year is 296, according to the Secretary of the Overseas Student Admissions Committee (OSAC), Mr. P.G. Morris. This means a total reduction of some 250 (or a cut of 45% on) Malaysian students admitted for further studies at technical colleges and universities in New Zealand. At the same time, there has been no significant increase in the intake of other groups of overseas students, whether from the South Pacific or the Middle-East. A cut of 250 Malaysian students has effectively brought about a cut of 250 overseas students. And this is despite the fact that when the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Talboys first disclosed the decision to reduce the number of Malaysian students, he stressed that "the number of countries from which NZ will accept private overseas students is being increased". Relating that statement to what has actually happened, it is clear that the reason which the NZ Government has so conveniently picked up to support their decision cannot stand.

Therefore, we question the logic of cutting back Malaysian students without first carefully considering the possibility of taking in more students from other countries, if the intention was to redistribute and to correct the imbalance. We seriously question the rationality of implementing a major Government policy aimed at achieving a certain objective (and affecting hundreds of people) without first making sure that that policy will at least work in a big way towards achieving that objective. The Minister of Immigration, Mr Gill said, in a letter to NZUSA that "The purpose of the restriction is to achieve a better balance, more clearly related to our general overseas aid objectives, in the same letter and coming just before the above statement, he admitted that "It is impossible to say at this stage what effect controlling the entry of students from Malaysia will have on the number of students from other countries.'

If the cut-back of Malaysian students was introduced for the purpose of allowing more representation of students from other countries as has been claimed, then logic tells us that there must be a large number of students from other countries who want to and can come to NZ in the first place. But the Government has been saying that it does not even know if the cutback will have the effect it was intended for. Our question then is: Which comes first - are olicies the means to an end, or are "ends" the means to policies? When they realised the need to further back-up their decision, subsequent arguments were put forward in the attempt to justify the cut-back of Malaysian students. These include the current economic recession experienced in NZ and the myth that overseas students constitute a burden to the NZ

We would like to pin-point the fallacy of

these arguments.

First of all, overseas students are not entitled to any bursary payments, a fact which many New Zealanders are unaware of. Hence, overseas students bring in a sizeable amount of foreign exchange into NZ each year (a rough estimate puts it at NZ\$3 mil. a year but actual figures could well be higher than this). In addition, private overseas students have to pay tuition fees for each academic year of study.

Secondly, overseas student numbers do not directly affect monetary grants to universities. A reduction in Malaysians studying at NZ universities will not necessarily lead to a reduction in education expenditure of the country.

Moreover, overseas students are often used to "gap-fill" classes. For instance, the School of

Engineering at Auckland University saw fit to lift its quota on overseas students (of which almost all are Malaysians) due to a decline in the enrolment of local students in 1975 and 1976. This year, however, due to an increase in enrolment of local students in the First



Strange things happen now and then, As we're sure you're all aware, Some of the strangest are politicians' games, Games that are beyond compare.

One of the recent ones they played, They staged last year in May: 'Too many Malaysians here, we must cut-back,' So Talboys wrote to NZUSA.

We use the taxpayers' money? We enjoy an education subsidy? By the looks of it we may appear to be, But look closer and deeper and you'll see That what they claim has no validity.

First of all, let's make this clear: We Malaysians get no bursary while we're here. On top of that we've got fees to pay, And fees cost money, whatever they may say.

We bring in foreign exchange each yar, An inflow of money more significant than would appear, Anyway, by cutting down Malaysians coming in, Did we hear of any budgetary savings?

Unreasonable excuses made, with insults thrwon, Conjuring up 'taxpayers' burdens' and 'marriages of convenience'. We question their honesty and integrity -Are their motives ulterior, for political expedience?

But students refused to be snubbed, all were united Petitions collected, and Varsity Councils recommended: 'Withdraw the cut-back, it is premature' But they listen not to reason, they turneed a deaf ear.

We pay our fees and we keep the peace, And we are not any of those (sic) trendy lefties'. Why then, this unwarranted penalty? This hasty implementation of an unjust policy?

We do not ask for undue sympathy, Nor beg to be given educational opportunities. What we ask is our right to education, In view of our countries' economic relations, past and present.

This then, we demand; and justly so: That the cut-back be discarded and exposed, Unless it can be justified, and soon By whoever can - Talboys, Gill or Rob Muldoon.

In black and white then, no shifting around, No hiding behind reasons unsound. No using as a convenient cover-up, Unreasonable 'reasons' like economic 'droughts'

Listen to reason (for a change) this time, Lift the cut-back, and begin a new line.

Professional Year of B.E., the number of overseas students admitted was reduced from 64 last year to 50 this year. Similarly, the Commerce Faculty has introduced a 5% roll limit for overseas students this year. This means that there has been a reduction of the overseas students intake from 40 to 23 students in Commerce. The "justification" for the tighter roll limit? The Deans Committee Chairman, Associate-Professor B.R. Davis said: "Without the tighter roll limits it might be necessary to decline some local students - and there is a strong demand at present for Commerce graduates." Even more significant is the fact that overseas students are ineligible for admission into some professional courses like Medicine which are in great demand by local students. Overseas students therefore do not usurp the study opportunities of local students, but are more often than not allowed to fill up places only when they do arise. We therefore feel that the sincerity of the NZ Government in providing educational opportunities to Third World countries as a form of foreign "aid" is to be questioned and doubted, even more so in the recent cut-backs of Malaysian students even if the economic factor put forward to explain it were acceptable.

Fourthly, overseas students, like their Kiwi counterparts provide a source of cheap and convenient labour during the peak period around Christmas each year. This contributes to the economic development of N.Z. Unlike local students, however, they are not entitled to any unemployment benefits should they be out of work during this vacation period.

Fifthly, overseas students contri bute in no small way to the NZ society in terms of research and other services. There are between 20 to 30% (equivalent to more than 400) of the total Malaysian students here who are completing post-graduate degrees. Their invaluable contribution in the area of research and experimental projects is provided to NZ at no charge.

In addition, overseas students, of which Malaysians constitute a majority enrich the educational, social and cultural life of NZ universities, schools and the society in general. Contributions in forms such as this can never be priced. Even Mr Gill, the person who, on behalf of the Government arbitrarily set the limit at 40% recognised the "undoubted contribution these students make in our educational institu-

We wish to bring to attention the irony of the NZ Government's stance. On the one hand, they claim that overseas students constitute a burden to the NZ economy and therefore justify the cut in a more humane form of "aid". On the other, they continue to maintain a military base in S.E. Asia at a cost in excess of NZ \$20 million each

It is apparent that the economic argument put forward to explain the cut-back of Malaysian students is, like the first, unsound and totally unacceptable.

The decision to cut-back Malaysian students was obviously made without first consulting the departments and universities concerned. The most important and primal group it chose to ignore was OSAC which was established under the Universities Amendment Act of 1970 to coordinate and regulate the flow of overseas students into NZ according to the availability of places in the various universities, technical colleges and secondary schools, as it has been doing since 1972. At the recent International Students Congress held in Wellington in May this year, the OSAC Secretary himself, Mr P.G. Morris admitted that OSAC has become no more than just a puppet of the Government!

We strongly urge that a review of the drastic cut-back of 45% or even more implemented on Malaysian students this year be made at the OSAC meeting soon to be held, in July. The review should gauge the success of the cut-back policy in achieving its main objective: have private students from other countries been admitted to replace the number reduced from Malaysia? As Mr Gill maintained, in all sincerity, that he did not wish to see the total number of overseas students fall, it is our contention that the cut-back is premature and has been hastily implemented without prior consultation; without seriously considering whether it will bring about the effect it was supposedly intended for. We demand that the intake of Malaysian students be put back at the level of 1976 unless and until there are sound and valid reasons for any reduction.

This article was submitted anonymously by a group of Malaysian Students.



HELLO AND GOODBYE ATHOL FUGARD MERCURY THEATRE UPSTAIRS.

brilliantly presented insight into a smalltime South African family whose immediate crisis threatens to upturn the hiatus of

their lifestyle.
Allanah O'Sullivan as the frousy whore daughter returned to the hated and still poor bosom of the family shares with Chris Sheil, as Johnny her stay-at-home brother, delightful accents and intimate family bitchiness. Their second-hand life unfolds in all its 'poor white' perspective as the search for the father's supposed compensation, the princely sum of \$500, turns into a search for just one happy memory of their childhood.

From the memories of depression days (rediscovered in the old newspapers with white men doing kaffir work for soul destroying hours and pay) to the carefully kept-for-a-rainy-day (and therefore never enjoyed) special shoes, the

frenzied search throws up each bitter day again.
The characters come off beautifully. Hester the misfit, frustrated sister desperately hungry for life and grabbing each and every opportunity and her brother caught by the love of his father and giving up his future until he becomes totally dependant and eventually consumed by the father's personality. This play maintains the high standard expected from the Mercury's studio and is a feather in the cap for young director Tony Forster. Set design and lighting incidently have also done their bit to further the rapidly growing reputation of the 'Upstairs' in this area.

Athol Fugard has written more racially biting

plays than this one as the racial situation has worsened in South Africa, but 'Hello and Good-bye' as the second of a 'family' trilogy shows the universality of life and adversity of this multiracial climate. Fugard's plays have caused laws to be passed forcing segregated audiences during

their performance. To which he replied by initiating a boycott by English speaking playwrights who refused to grant South African performing rights for their own plays.
In a still-deteriorating situation this most well

known multi-racial playwright refuses to be isolated or cowed and continues to celebrate human resiliance in the face of perpetual persecution. He is well represented in this production.

ROGER MCGILL



MAJOR BARBARA G.B. SHAW NEW INDEPENDENT

HAW introduces this play as a parable, and so it is - sometimes nearly at the expense of enjoyment. He was neither a capitalist nor a Christian, but in some scenes goes to lengths to engage his characters in debate on the merits of these, and other points of view. However, to the credit of the cast's ability with the incidental wit, these scenes avoid becoming too static.

Much of the play deals with Shaw's wry comments concerning morality. On one hand, we are presented with a Salvation Army shelter where the energetic young Major Barbara tries to save souls, and on the other, we see a prosperous armaments factory run by her millionaire father. Despite the apparent contradiction of settings, the variety of moralities that Shaw's characters display serves to justify both.

Murray Beasley, as the son-but-not-heir, gives us a pitiful yet appealing character. Merilyn Hey, playing the acidic, domineering Lady Britomart, contrasts well with Desmond Woods, as her husband and an unscrupulous but candid businessman. Major Barbara herself, played by Deanna Williamson, is both compassionate and powerful, while Peter Cox, as her fiance and the scholar with loyalties of convenience, creates a figure witty yet sinister.

On the opening night, the initial nervousness of some of the cast came across as forgotten or incoherent lines, but these incidents ceased as the play progressed and as actors perhaps felt more at ease.

Exaggerated characteristics and gestures belabour the comic aspect of 'Major Barbara' in places, but the play loses no impact for this, and in fact benefits where Shaw himself has become tedious in his writing.

Much thought and work has gone into this

production, the first full-scale project since members completed renovations to the theatre. Give or take the odd late starting time or difficult set-change, the play lasts for nearly 3 hours, but nevertheless this is an entertaining, thought-provoking way to spend an evening. JULIET KIRKNESS (1)

end of year travel to north america



united states canada

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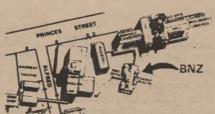
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FROM GHAS THE S DERA



Malaysians

Dear Editor,

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I feel that Mr Tseu has misunderstood some of my statements concerning overseas students. Never have I equated overseas students with Malaysian students. Some criticisms were directed at the Malaysian students. I merely responded to them. Mr Tseu should have read

my letter carefully.

As Mr Tseu questioned the ability of Malaysians to speak well in public I would be glad to have a debate with him over the issue. I am also pleased to inform Mr Tseu that an Overseas Student Action Committee was formed a week ago, consisting of representatives from the three major overseas students' club i.e. MSSA, Fiji Club and the Samoan Club. At the present we are dealing with the Overseas Students Cut back issue and trying to get in touch with overseas students of other nationalities.

As for the overseas students grouping together and speaking their own "lingo" - what else did he expect them to speak? Greek? However, I am glad to learn from Mr Tseu that Kiwis are willing to communicate with overseas students but have the impression that we are putting up barriers. So that was a misunderstanding after

all. What a tormenting love affair!

Yours sincerely, S.W. Yee

Dear Frank,

The intended castigation of Christopher Lloyd Harder for the horrendously flagititious offence of soliciting funds on campus is as despicable a piece of nastiness as has been perpetrated round here of late. Now this is not to suggest that Comrade Harder is deserving of any sympathyhis activities have been totally obnoxious and contemptible. He should be subjected to strong criticism and censure. There seems, however, no need for the Association to descend to the depths of underhand trickery currently envisaged.

The rule against collecting funds without permission is silly and pointless and is normally completely ignored. It is being used here rather like that revolting document the Police Offences Act - as a catch-all for those in power to use against someone they dislike. Perhaps those responsible can rationalise some difference between acting like fascists and actually being fascists - if so could they please elucidate for my

edification.

No; Harder is deserving of being done, and he should be done, but for the offence which he has committed, not through this trumped up trickery. There is in our rules provision for dealing with members who bring the Association into disrepute, and this seems much more applicable. "Disrepute" is of course a very subjective term, and an exercise such as this might be an excellent test of the Association's support for the Executive in their attitude to the Tramway Workers' dispute.

IN WHICH THE PRESIDENT COMES DOWN WITH A CATERING COMPLEX

Dear Frank,

As you will probably be aware, there is a Bursaries Action Day on Wednesday. Major features will be a forum at midday, followed by a march at 1 pm.

followed by a march at 1 pm.

Also this week, we begin the regeneration phase of the Association. Nominations are opened for the office-holders of the Association to close on Friday at 5 pm for elections after Mid-Term Break.

For many years, student politicians and others have complained about the meals in the cafe. Graffiti such as, 'Flush hard - it's a long way to the cafe' abounded. Well, it has finally worked. We are going to close the hot servery.

Within the next week, a decision will be made at the Catering Committee. I wish to report to you the facts. If you have suggestions, come to my office and make them. In the first four months of the year (ie the First Term) the cafe lost \$15,754, the Restaurant lost \$1,347, the Medical School catering lost \$782. On the brighter side, the Coffee Bar made \$3,108, the Milk Bar \$1,445.

The major problem area is the night servery. An obvious trend is developing. Students do not eat at the University at night. One possible solution is to amalgamate the Restaurant and the hot

servery.

From complaints I have received from students, the meals in the Restaurant appear to be too expensive. I will agree that for a student on bursary, this is true. Students are forced to eat at home. It is getting too expensive to eat in the cafe. A recent study shows more people are living at their parents' homes than was the case four years ago - presumably because it is cheaper to do so.

However, the cafe cannot survive on casual meals. At times during the First Term we weren't even covering wages of staff, let alone the cost of preparing the food! So there are only two solutions that I can see: one is to increase sales - and that is up to you; the second is to cut costs - and we can do that by closing some outlets down.

This year, the Executive budgeted \$20,000 to the Catering Complex. At the rate things are proceeding, it will lose \$25,000 or more. Corrective management has got to be undertaken, so do not be surprised when it is.

Love, Bruce.

For what it is worth students can rest assured that Harder's actions have brought the Association into disrepute in the eyes of the workers effected. The only question is whether the Association regards their opinion as important or whether Mr Harder is seen as a further 'hero' in the long line of student black-legs and anti-worker activists.

With love, Bob Lack Dear Editor,

My name is "Matthew". I am well known by all students at Auckland University where I have spoken for many years at the Thursday Forums.

I am writing to express my support for the students' demands for a fair and substantial increase, and improvements in the rates of bursaries available. I fully support the action being taken by students on the 15th of June. In relation to bursaries the present and former governments have treated the students with contempt. I call upon the government to increase without delay all forms of bursaries in order to alleviate the financial strain placed upon a majority of students and to compensate students for the increase in the cost of living, especially food and rent.

The Government is responsible for providing students with a reasonable standard of living

which they have not done in the past.
So Students get up off your backsides and support the 15th June rally which is being convened on behalf of your well-being. Students I support your cause.

Matthew E Connor BA (Hons), M Phil (Hons)

Dear Editor,

To many Asian students, politics seems to be a hideous thing to think of or speak on. Some even isolate themself from the happenings in their surroundings like a frog under the coconut shell. But it is only through paying attention to the development of the national and international situation that we can understand where we stand and what we can do to improve or even innovate the situation. Just like solving any problems in the varsity; we have to understand the problems wholly first, then do some reading to have a better knowledge of the problems in order to solve the problems objectively. But what is politics?

It seems to me that politics is concerned with human relationships in general, be it economic, social values, power, culture, administrative structures etc. More specifically it is concerned with the ability to impose or influence other peoples' ideas (e.g. religion), values, way of life, norms, etc by ones own conceptions of these, and also the expression of one's own values, ideas etc. Politics is not restricted to Government functions. Thus the relationship between the father and the son is very political (you do what he tells you or else - - - -). Thus you and I are speaking politically when we say that 'this movie is better than that movie'.

In terming something as 'political' or not, must inevitably involve many other things which have any effect at all on the subject. Sport is in itself not political but when a team represents a country, wear track suits with flags or national symbols on, win medals not for themselves but for the country, and stand on the winning platform when their national anthem is played and their flag raised, then it inevitably becomes 'politics'.

In short, we are actually, living in a world of politics. Let's wake up; discard the old and take up the new ideas to improve our life.

Northern Neighbour Southern Brother

Next Week

CRACCUM NEXT WEEK BOX BRINGING YOU THE REAL OIL ON ALL THE GOODIES THAT YOU CAN EXPECT TO FIND BETWEEN OUR IMPECCABLY ARTISTIC COVERS NEXT WEEK. AS FAR AS I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DETERMINE FROM THE CROSSWORD SOLUTION (WHO'S A TERRIBLE GOSSIP) WE SHOULD BE SEEING A SPLASH ON THE UNIVERSITY "FRINGE" FILM FESTIVAL, A REPORT ON THE UNITED WOMEN'S CONVENTION (BETTER LATE THAN ...), SOME MORE DISTRACTED NONSENSE FROM BADEN-POWELL, ANOTHER **GHASTLY BELOW-THE-BELT ATTACK ON** THE STALWARTS OF NZUSA, PLENTY OF DERANGED LETTERS AND, OF COURSE, A NEXT WEEK BOX.

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Gordon Lightfoot, Genesis, Gary Wright, and many others

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Election Results

LECTIONS were held last week for the positions of Administrative Vice President and Senate Representative. The post of AVP was made vacant by the resignation of David Merrit upon his assuming the burden of chairing SRC. The election of the new Senate Rep brings the student representatives back up to a full compliment of four after a spate of vacancies had occurred last term. The new Senate Rep is Carolyn McGinley. The scoreboard at stumps read :

C. McGinley 280 H. Smith 212 No Confidence 170 Invalid

The contest for AVP was won in fine style by Chris Gosling over a gaggle of rivals. The complete scoreline;

249 170 C. Gosling A. Wright A. Ewing N. Goodinson 114 82 78 No Confidence Invalid 16

The special Craccum prize for best advertising effort goes to A Wright and the man of the match award to,



SOCIALIST FORUM

A socialist forum will be held each Monday of the Second Term beginning on the 13th of June. It will meet in the Exec. Lounge of the Students Association and will run from 12.30 to 2.00. The object is to present analyses of the contemporary capitalist crisis and of New Zealand society, mainly from a Marxist point of view. Each session will begin with a half hour introduction to be followed by discussion.

The following speakers and topics have already been arranged.

13 June Dr John MacRae, The internationalisation of capital.

20 June Dr David Bedggood. State capitalism in New Zealand.

27 June Margaret Wilson Legislation: the legiron of labour in New Zealand.

11 July Walter Pollard. Cambodia and Viet-

nam since liberation.

Friday 15 July Rob Campbell should be speaking to Princes St on Labour's Economic Policy and the Economic Crisis.

Other speakers are being approached and other topics for discussion could be considered once the meetings start.

VOLUNTEER!

The VSA Selection Officer, Ms Julia Sutherland land, will be at Varsity on June 16th. If you are interested in doing VSA at some stage make an appointment through the Careers Officer to talk

You would also be able to contact her at the Citizens Advice Bureau on June 17th.

BASTION POINT SUPPORTERS MEETING

We will be meeting to discuss how best to publicise Bastion Point on campus, down town, at stop-work meetings, and anywhere else that people might want to suggest. Bring along all your ideas on how to build support for Bastion

1 pm Thurs 16 June in the Executive Lounge.

FLAMENCO

Classes in Tanguillos, the dance of Granada, Spain, will be held at lunchtime, Thursdays 2nd to 23rd of June, at the Unity Hall, 323 Queen

St (next to Classic Cinema)

The fee for these Flamenco dance classes is \$10 for 4 lessons. The teacher is Mari Hunt, if you are interested come to the Unity Hall on June 2 at 1.00 pm.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS

The Young Socialists have started a discussion series on campus. These will be looking at problems facing students and other people.

On Friday 17 June, we will be looking at the importance of the uprisings which took place in and around Soweto a year ago.

The next week we will be looking at the case for open immigration, especially in respect to the Pacific Islands.

1 pm Executive Lounge.

EDUCATION ACTION COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting of this committee this Tuesday, June 14th at 1 pm in the Council Room of the Student Union Building. Come along to help organise the campaign against education cuts and for a cost-of-living bursary.

ELECTIONS

Nominations are now open for the positions of President, Administrative Vice President, Education Vice-President and Treasurer of AUSA for 1978.

Nomination forms are available from Studass and applications close with the Association Secretary on Friday 17 June 1977 at 5 pm.

Elections will be held on Monday 18 July 1977 and Tuesday 19 July 1977.

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ALL OUT! continued from P. 10

(announced May 30 1975 by Muldoon):

Restricted employment during vacation combined with raging inflation has produced a 75% increase in applications to the Student Employment Bureau, but only 27% of these could be found jobs. Gandar's announcement that we may work as many hours as we like in lecture hours, is no solution to our problems. Maybe he should be reminded that we're at university to study.

With hostel costs being \$27-\$29 per week, the unabated bursary is totally unrealistic. When all other expenses are taken into account it becomes absurd to expect students to live on \$24 a week, let alone \$13.

Since its election, National has also promised to introduce their New Reformed Bursary in 1978. There is now no chance that this promise

will be realised.

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The Auckland University Students Association has decided to fight back against deliberate government delays, Join the demonstration on this Wednesday, June 15, assemble in the Quad at 12 noon and add your voice to the demand for a cost-of-living bursary.

MICHAEL TREEN



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

History Weekend Party - entitled 'By word of mouth', Friday June 24th (evening) to Sunday June 26th, concerns the oral tradition in history (ie how history became known, in forms other than writing.)

Weekend includes films, talks, discussions and music, it will be held in the Alpine Sports Club Hut in the Waitakeres. Cost of weekend \$8.50 (for one day only, \$5.00) - includes food and

drink. For further information, contact Claudia Orange (Room 20 History Dept Extn 9472) or Peter Guinness (Rm 13 Extn 9975)

CHRISTIAN CLUB MIDTERM

Do you want a Holiday with a difference? If you're behind with your study, here is an ideal chance to catch up. Yes, it's a Study Camp, but at the same time providing ample time for relaxation and group activities as well as study. For those who don't like studying for hours on end (most of us!) there are plenty of breaks such as morning tea, free time etc. The total work load being approximately $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours a day. Or if you are keen there are the free time periods to study in ??

Are you interested? If you are, it will be held at Camp Adair (the addition) at Hunua from Friday 1st July to Monday 4th July. For those needing transport we leave from University at 7.00 pm. The total cost is \$8.00. For further information contact Mary at 4789414 or Maggie OH (27) 64814 or find your study camp brochure in the quad noticeboard area under Christian Club.



APPEALING

CORSO will be holding their annual house-to house appeal on Saturday June 18. This is your chance to aid CORSO Self-Help projects in: Latin America, the South Pacific, The Indian Sub-continent, Africa, South-East Asia and the Middle East. Only \$1 per household would allow CORSO to send \$1 million overseas this year.

Since they have cut costs at home by 19% in two years, the organisers claim that they can ensure that your money reaches the place it is intended for, through their "Living Village" Programme.



MIRACLE ROW JANIS IAN INTERFUSION (Thru Festival)

THEN Janis Ian was sixteen she wrote and recorded a song called 'Society's Child'. It was the sixties then and lyrical indictments of modern-day hypocrisies turned rapidly into bucks and stardom. She lay down for a while and then came 'At Seventeen'. Some labelled it a female-adolescent-heart's-stringstugger but they missed the point while it hit the charts and Janis Ian entered the limelight once

Sadly, her latest album 'Miracle Row' has moved away from the sheer simplicity of her previous work. But although her songs suffer from this change, the essence of 'At Seventeen' still remains in many of the tracks. 'Party Lights' for example, despite its disconcerting resemblance (in content only) to Joni Mitchell's 'People's Parties', is filled with the half phrases and incomplete cliches that denote social imbibing sessions. She's on safe ground here, she knows what she's singing about and so she sings it well.

'Miracle Row/Maria' is much the same. Its achingly personal tone almost removes it from common understanding, but somehow the crazy, jumped-up beat and complete change mid-way through negate any feeling of distance and make it one of the best tracks on the album.

There are those songs that work because of this very personal, emotional tone, there are those that work in spite of it, but unfortunately there are also those that really don't work at all. 'Will You Dance?' is a jumble of confused and seemingly meaningless lyrics, its failure only compounded by the phoney flamenco-type

It's a pity that an otherwise praise-worthy album should be marred by a few tedious and uninteresting tracks but Janis Ian's music can so easily fall into the background that gliding over these is no difficulty. Perhaps that in itself is a bad point point but neither she nor her backing band are bidding for undivided attention. She's just offering a piece of herself, and if that appeals, then so will Miracle Row.

NICHOLAS DORSET

CRYSTAL BALL A & M RECORDS (DISTRIBUTED THROUGH FESTIVAL)

TYX, in the likely case you aren't familiar with them, are an all-American band who try to emulate the best traditions of British heavy metal Rock and Roll (their song Lorellei received a lot of airplay about six months ago). The first Styx tapes lay unnoticed in a record company's vault for a couple of years before being re-discovered and setting the band on the way to fun, fame and fortune.

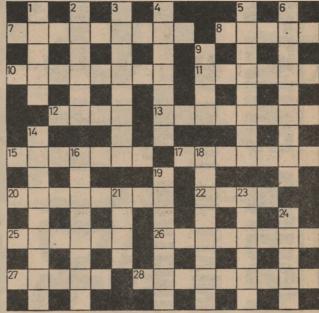
The Styx sound can be described as an amalgam of Boston - Status Quo - Foghat type guitar and bass playing mixed with Queen like vocals with a sprinkling of synthesiser on top. Exactly how well Styx succeed in their noble aim is debatable, but this album anyway is good en to at least keep the band in mind for future reference. The album contains seven well mixed composed and performed tracks, beginning with Put Me On, a hard driving song about the song itslef, continuing in the same heavy vein into Mademoiselle, then changing tempo and style for the rhythmic Jennifer which leads into the title track. The second side continues in a similar style with enough changes in tempo, dynamics and instrumentation to keep things interesting.

The major criticism of the album wouldbe that listening to Styx occasionally conjures up deja-vu i.e. 'where have I heard that sound ear. However, those who are into heavy guitar riffs and soaring solos backed by hand-in-glover drums and bass, with the occasional keyboards break and harmonising vocals will not be disappointed and will find this album eminently worthy of a thrash on the "old tin box"

So perhaps the best thing that can be done with this record is to follow the advice contained in the first track;

> "Put me on and play me loud, turn your stereo up all the way."

RICHARD YOUNG



ACROSS

- 7. State one like this is for it . . . (9)
- . And state he wants to go against it! (5)
- 10. Travel in an odd way to get a break in the theatre. (8)
- 11. They're food containing bread. (6)
- 12. It shoots to break nets . . . (4)
 13. . . . And a command to start shooting an old-fashioned blaze. (4, 4)
- 15. The roundabout ways of the French sightseeing trips. (7) 17. Such posts changed the trappers' merchandise. (7)
- 20. Quickly write something. Something meaningless, perhaps?
- 22. Manage to bear up the monks' clothing. (4) 25. Showing concentration is the objective. (6)
- 26. Little church flier goes to see the head of the committee. (8)
- 27. Exercise, to pull a carriage. (5) 28. Swearing? That's hopeful! (9)

- They're hurtful, but a craftsman must take them. (5)
- Stop a criminal proceeding? (6) It's taken to be a reminder! (8)
- Medicine container used by the army. (4-3)
- Polished again, and snubbed. (8)
- 6. Bringing back to the original condition and returning to the vault:
- 9. Race round a piece of land. (4)
 14. Fortune of a soldier? Almost exactly the reverse. (9)
- 16. Used to dress something from the Mediterranean. (5, 3) 18. Gets back from the sea. (8)
- 19. An element found near the Sun. (7)
- Commonly crazy mammals! (4) 23. French capital is mainly responsible for this church area.
- 24. Not nectar or ambrosia, but another heavenly food. (5)



THE NUREYEV IMAGE ALEXANDER BLAND CASSELLS

UDOLPH Nureyev was born on the 17th March 1938 and was fortunate that during his school days, singing and dancing to folk music was part of the curriculum. By the age of eleven his talent was observed and he began classical lessons in ballet. Despite paternal objection he persevered with his desire to become a dancer and at lifteen joined a professional company as part of the corps de ballet. By 1955 he was in Leningrad where he joined the Kirov School. His ambitions were not satisfied by the tours he made to East Germany and the Russian provinces and he felt his career in jeopardy. When in Paris with the company he was told to return home; at this point he decided to seek political asylum.

Bland makes a fine study of this wayward restless character and gives a full and varied coverage of him with chapters of biography, the man, the dancer and the choreographer. The text however is superbly overshadowed by magnificent illustrations - there are more than three hundred depicting more than eighty roles, many danced with Margot Fonteyn. His films include 'Romeo and Juliet', 'Don Quixote' and 'Rudolph

Valentino,' the last mentioned directed by Ken

The author who earlier edited an autobiography of Nureyev and a history of dance, has here produced a beautiful volume of a very great artist for whom dancing is the sole avenue of fulfilment.

JAMES BURNS

SUPPORT THE BURSARY MOBILISATION

WEDNESDAY JUNE

MARCH - ASSEMBLE QUAD 1pm

Jan Geary

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