

# CRACCUM

## NEVER THE TWAIN...

Palestinian Arab nationalism was not significant between the 1920's and 1960's. Arab nationalists regarded the existence of Israel as a violation of the concept of a unitary pan-Arab state. In the 1970's the Arabs and P.L.O. have succeeded through the expenditure of billions of petro-dollars on propoganda, in making the Palestinian problem a diversion for their refusal to accept the existence of the Jewish state.

The P.L.O. was formed in 1964 by Ahmed Shukairy, famous for the catch cry of 'pushing the Jews into the Sea.' Following the 1967 war Yasir Arafat took over from Shukairy and succeeded in bringing the cause of Arab Palestine to the attention of the World, even though he had no political ideological basis, apart from certain narrow revolutionary techniques such as terrorism and assassination.

Arafat claims contrary to all evidence that he was born in Jerusalem. In fact, he was born in Cairo and later moved to Gaza. In the tradition of the Palestinian 'liberation' movement, fact is often a malleable commodity. Fact is turned to fiction and fiction is turned to fact. Yasir Arafat is 'living a lie.' The transformation of fact for benevolent or malevolent purposes is frequent in the P.L.O. For instance, in June 1976 during the war in Lebanon the Palestinian news agency claimed Syrian forces were only four kilometers from Israel's northern border, when according to Israeli intelligence they were as much as thirty kilometers away. The supposed alarm was a deliberate propoganda attempt by the P.L.O. to pull Israel into the conflict, so as to diminish Syrian attacks on P.L.O. controlled areas, and divert Syrian machinery against Israel.

The more radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, led by George Habash, calls for the extinction of Israel, taking no notice of Fidel Castro's dictum that no true revolutionary ever talks of extinction. The myth of the freedom fighter for Palestine becomes clearer when one examines the Palestinian National Covenant, to which all Palestinian 'liberation' groups adhere.

Article 20 of the Covenant states: 'Judaism in its character as a religion, is not a nationality with an independent existence'. Israel is therefore viewed as a non-nation, and Jewish nationalism (Zionism) as a false, artificial and reactionary phenomenon. Moreover, Article 20 declares, 'Claims of historical or religious ties of the Jews with Palestine are incompatible with the facts of history and the true conception of what constitutes statehood'. This is another attempt to falsely deny the religious, cultural and traditional connection of Israel to the Jewish people. Fact is again turned to fiction to further the Palestinian cause.

Further Article 1 states: 'Palestine is the homeland of the Palestinian Arab people and an integral part of the great Arab homeland, and the people of Palestine is a part of the Arab nation.' This is the uncompromising ultra-nationalistic pan-Arabism which the P.L.O. and Arab states follow. No solution to the Jewish-Arab conflict is even contemplated, and Arafat's 'dream' of 'one democratic state where Christians, Jews and Muslims live in justice, equality, fraternity and progress' is exposed as fraudulent since the Jews - considered solely a religious group - cannot possess national rights.

Furthermore, Article 6 considers as Palestinian only those Jews physically present in the land before 1917 (currently revised to 1947) - a definition which would exclude a majority of the Jewish population in Israel from any right to remain in their own country. If this is not an excusivist, racist conception then it is difficult to know what it is. If Arafat's dream came true, then the bulk of the current Israeli population would either be forced to emigrate, be relegated to second class citizens (as in all other Arab states) or, at worst, be mass murdered by 'freedom fighters'.

The Jewish people and the land of Israel have been linked together for nearly four thousand years. Unlike its relationship to Jewish history and religion, Palestine has at no stage implied a unique national or holy significance to the Arabs. There was never such a concept as an Arab homeland in Palestine, and Arab land was not expropriated by the Israelis. Until 1948 Jewish settlement took place mainly on the coastal plain in the Valley of Jezreel and the Jordan Valley-areas largely unpopulated.

The 1937 Report of Britain's Royal Commission stated that extra-ordinary prices were paid for large uncultivated tracts which belonged to absentee Arab owners, and emphasized that very few Arabs were made landless by the purchases. The survey of Palestine published in 1946 by the British Mandatory authorities showed that just prior to partition 8.6% of the area now known as Israel was owned by Jews, 16.9% was owned by absentee Arab landlords who had left the country, 70% was state land owned by the British Mandatory Government, the ownership of which was passed to Israel - most of this land comprised the Negev desert - and 3.3% was owned by Israeli Arabs.

During the Israeli War of Independence in 1948 more than half a million Palestinian Arabs left Israel. Approximately one fifth of them found permanent homes, or resettled, in Arab countries. There would have been no refugee problem if leaders of the Arab states had not declared war on Israel and urged their Palestinian kinsmen to evacuate Israel and return after the destruction of the Jewish state. Only a very small percentage of the



overall Arab civilian population left directly as a result of the Israeli Army. This occurred in Ramleh and Lydda where the Army was forced to bring about the evacuation after the residents had continued indulging in acts of armed hostility after the capture of the towns. Even so it has become fashionable for pro-Arab apologists to claim that the refugee problem was brought about by the victorious Israelis either chasing the Arabs out or terrorising them by indulging in atrocities. The only atrocity that the Arabs can refer to is the tragedy of Deir Yassin where 200 Arab villagers were killed in the course of a battle with the Irgun. It should however be noted that the village was fortified and in a strategic position and further that the villagers ignored repeated loud-speaker warnings in Arabic of the impending attack.

Following the 1948 war, those refugees who returned to Israel were granted full rights of citizenship. In 1970 there were 422,700 Arabs in Israel, compared with 156,00 when the state of Israel was established in 1948. The only real distinction between Israeli Jews and Arabs is that Arabs are not required to serve in the Army.

Israeli Arabs have full voting rights and are represented in the Parliament.

- All speeches in Parliament are simultaneously translated into Arabic.
- Courts, stamps and coins employ Arabic as the second language.
- There are numerous Arab newspapers, weeklies and periodicals and publishing houses operate free of restrictions.
- There is a network of Arab schools using the Arabic language.
- Arab children, like Israelis, must attend school until the age of fourteen. As a result, over 90% of Arab children attend school as compared with 35% before the establishment of Israel.

- Arabs are full members of the Israeli federation of labour and are entitled to equal pay. The average Israeli Arab wage is four times that of Arabs in the Middle East. The employment rate for Israeli Arabs in 1970 was 97%.

- The death rate of Israeli Arabs has dropped from 20 per 1000 in 1948 to 5.9 per 1000 in 1970, making it the lowest in the Arab World.

Suffice to say, that during the last two wars the Arabs demonstrated their loyalties, despite radio exhortations from neighbouring Arab states to revolt. By contrast, Islamic law has always relegated Jews to second-class citizenship. Indeed, the Koran states that the Jews 'will be punished with degradation and God will rise against them.' (Sura II, verse 58, Sura 3, verse 108). Haj Amin el-Husseini, who was the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, and a prominent figure in the P.L.O. in a speech of 21st January 1944 stressed the need for all Muslims to collaborate with Hitler to destroy the British empire and 'World Jewry', observing 'Nationalist-Socialist Germany is fighting against World Jewry. The Koran says, you will find that the Jews are the worst enemies of the Muslims.'

This serves to emphasize the racist discrimination in the Arab Muslim World - a phenomenon unknown to Judaism. The fate of the Blacks in the Sudan, like that of the Kurdish minority in Iraq, the Coptic minority in Egypt, the Druze in Syria and the precarious struggle of the Christian Maronites in Lebanon, unmask the true tale of the Muslim Arab intolerance in the Middle East. None of these minorities who, like the Jews of Israel, are an integral part of the Middle East have been able to rely on Arab promises to safeguard their rights or secure their autonomy.

In most Arab countries the Jews were forced to pay special head taxes, and faced restrictions such as the necessity of wearing distinctive clothing, including a yellow badge. When Israel was established, anti-Jewish riots occurred and thousands of Jews in these countries were imprisoned. Nearly all the Arab countries have incorporated legislation discriminating against Jewish property and restricting employment, education and right of emigration of Jews. However, there are very few Jews still left in Arab countries today.

In Libya, only 100 Jews remain of 4500 in 1967 following pogroms and murders. In Iraq, the remaining 3000 Jews (150,000 in 1947) suffer restrictions of citizenship, travel, employment, and property ownership, and many languish in prison.

In Egypt, today, there are about 1000 Jews left (80,000 in 1948) and in Syria, there are only 4000 Jews (30,000 in 1948) who are living under a system of terror, and are not permitted to leave ghettos.

By branding Zionism as 'racist' and equating it with the worst aberrations of Western Society, especially Fascism and Nazism, the Arabs can divert attention from their own responsibility in uprooting 850,000 Jewish refugees between 1940 and 1960 from the historic Jewish communities in the Middle East and North Africa. The plight of the Palestinian refugees and the P.L.O. 'cause' are used as a diversionary tactic in attacking the Jewish nation of Israel.

Even if the Palestinian problem is solved, what will be the relationship of the Arab states towards the Jewish state, considering traditional Islamic intolerance? The Muslim Arab insistence on exercising monolithic religious, cultural, and political sovereignty over the entire area between the Atlantic and the Persian Gulf has been at the root of Arab antagonism against Israel. Obviously, Arab attitudes will have to change if peace is going to be possible, and the first change will have to be the recognition of the existence of Israel as a sovereign state in the Middle East by all Arab countries.

DAVID GLUCKMAN

*This article was submitted following the publication, in Craccum, of Peter Gleeson's article on the P.L.O. Neither of these necessarily reflect the viewpoint of AUSA or the Craccum staff.*



# LETTERS & STUFF

Dear Craccum,  
I feel it is time to put an end to the misguided opinion held by women and, apparently, some otherwise responsible members of the A.U.S.A., that the female of the species has some God-given right to claim equality with the Male. I personally see no reason why Man should have had to drag woman through two million years of evolution merely to be asked to hand over the wheel. Physically and emotionally women are clearly inferior, yet some attempt to claim equality in other spheres. Since these attempts appear to have blinded the more misguided Males as to the true state of affairs, I feel it incumbent on me to state the obvious:

Women are INFERIOR to MEN.

Feminists claim that since the beginning of time, women have been oppressed. The pertinent question is: How do they manage this so consistently? Success is a measure of ability, and the contrapositive follows. Bearing in mind that 50% of the world's population is female, if the two sexes were truly equal one would expect that in all the civilisations since the beginning of the human race, Men would have been the oppressed at least half the time. Either this has yet to occur or all such societies collapsed in their infancy. It might be argued that women, if given the chance, being of a gentler nature, would not oppress Men. RUBBISH! Look at those few women who have by some quirk of fate been allowed into positions of authority over Men .... Indira Ghandi, Ilse Koch, Boadicea, the Dowager Empress of China ....

Where then are the achievements of women?

SCIENCE: Looking hard we find Mme Curie, whose claim to fame is that she wandered one night into her Husband's laboratory, noticed that the room was glowing (brilliant observation) and was promptly credited with the discovery of Radium. No matter how hard we try we can find no Ms Einstein, Newton, Archimedes, Pauling.

MUSIC: During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries thousands of educated 'young ladies' were taught to play the piano. None were capable of writing original music. They were similarly taught drawing, but their painting does not deserve mention. In both of these fields however, Men, under the most adverse conditions, were regularly producing masterpieces. I submit that this is not due to 'oppression' or 'class-conditioning', but simply to an inherent lack of ability on the part of women.

PHILOSOPHY: Predictably a disaster area - women seem incapable of original thought.

Women do seem to have some ability in languages, based primarily on an uncontrollable urge to talk. Thus they become reasonable translators, although barely capable of setting their (rare) thoughts to paper. They produce questionable poetry, and such prose as they do exude is merely gossip on paper.

Barely able to master chess and incapable of even comprehending 'Go', it is understandable that women occur naturally as housewives, content with those menial chores they can understand.

Occasional Women have risen above the masses to rank alongside even some of the Greater Men. Upon these Women we bestow the title 'Honorary Male'. Statistically, of course, this group of freaks is negligible.

In conclusion, I hope feminists will come to realise why their campaign is failing so miserably: to succeed, any movement must be managed by Men.

Konrad Pollard  
P.S. This letter was previously submitted to 'Craccum' at the end of 1976, and again at the beginning of 1977, but was 'overlooked into the rubbish-bin'. We hope that the intervening years have somewhat mellowed your sense of humour, or at least your intolerance with regard to points of view which YOU, the members of Craccum, do not personally endorse, or subscribe to.

Dear Craccum,  
In regard to an article in Craccum, March 13, titled 'Melting Pot'. I object to Richard Belsham signing his name to an article which he has ripped off from ACORD, (Auckland Committee on Racism and Discrimination). I have spoken to people from ACORD who have also voiced similar objections.

If Richard Belsham wishes to get his own anti-racist politics, (if he has any) into gear he can contribute to the fight against racism in New Zealand in a far more constructive way.

Rebecca Evans,  
National Affairs Officer (AUSA)

As I understand it groups such as ACORD send press releases to Craccum for us to use for research or publicity. But since no-one in ACORD seems willing to thank us for exposing this information to 10,500 students then we'll say sorry and leave it at that.  
— Ed.

Dear Craccum,  
Re 'Repeal' (ref. Craccum March 13 page 9)

Your correspondents Barbara Goodman and Frances Wright mislead your readers badly in relation to my abortion position.

They imply a shift in my position between 1975 and 1978. That is not true. They say I spoke in December as a hardliner. My Hansard shows I was not. They claim that Eden has clearly polled as liberal. It in fact polled as opposed to abortion on request. They say I have acknowledged that Eden was liberal. I have not.

They neglected to say that in June 1977, before all this blew up I publicly predicted the present problems and put forward proposals that would have avoided them. They have neglected to say that I voted against most of the contentious clauses. They have neglected to say that I was the person who tried to have the contentious clauses recommitted for further consideration at the third reading.

Mrs Goodman and Mrs Wright fall into the trap all abortion issue pressure groups fall into. They put people into little boxes, and in the process they pervert the truth.

Yours faithfully,  
Aussie Malcolm,  
M.P. for Eden

Dear Craccum,  
I should like to reply to Bryan Dowdle's letter regarding the allocation of funds by SRC and the Exec. His general point seems to be that both Exec and SRC are unrepresentative of the wishes of the 10,500 plus students. It is most laudable that he should desire total student involvement. However when even General Meetings fail to get a quorum (being a huge 2% of the student population), one realises that SRC is doing well to get just over the 0.5% quorum level of 50.

The question of Policy is really very simple. It is formulated not by Exec but primarily by General Meetings and secondly by SRC. Once again the question of how representative is a AGM of 250 students arises - but I see no easy solution to that! Therefore it can be argued that by allocating money in accordance with such Policy the 10,500 plus students have already been consulted and are consulted each and every time as they are all members of SRC.

All students have full rights at SRC. They also have the right to be disinterested, apathetic, socially unconcerned, and just not give a stuff - a right that is exercised by the bulk of them.

Bryan's suggestion of a referendum to decide the share of the cake various groups should receive would truly be representative of the 10,500 plus students - if more than 150/200 would bother to vote.

I can only suggest that Bryan joins with me in beating heads against brick walls - perhaps even take an interest in the affairs of the Association he purports to represent (on SUMC).

Regards,  
Greg Pirie  
SRC Chairperson

Dear Craccum,

The letter in Craccum 4 concerning the UBS bears some investigation. I realise that there may be excellent reasons for the price difference described, but it is not the first time that comments like this have been made. The Association has never been able to provide a satisfactory answer for the simple reason that although the UBS advertises that it is 50% student owned and although there is in fact a considerable sum of student money tied up in the operation there is no way by which the students can affect by one iota the policies the UBS pursues.

Now I do not intend to argue that over the years since the UBS was started have demonstrated the ability successfully to run commercial ventures - this is obviously not so - but successive Association appointees have shown the necessary intelligence and discretion to be involved in policy discussions at all levels both within the University and on Governmental advisory bodies.

This being the case I would suggest that it is high time that the Association took up with the trustees and the directors the matter of gaining direct representation on the Board of the UBS. Membership of the Board by some respectable soul like the AUSA Treasurer would doubtless assist the UBS in providing the best service to students and would certainly make it easier for the Association to explain to its members why the bookshop it half owns is reluctantly forced to sell an Economics II text at 32½% above the price at which our partners in that bookshop can sell it elsewhere.

Much love,  
Marion Adams

Please see my article on this subject further on in this issue.

Kitty Wishart  
Manager, U.B.S.

Dear Craccum,  
Has anyone else noticed how serious everyone is this year? People are working on Saturdays (and its barely the first term) the library is crowded and pre-exam depression is setting in already.

What a total change this is from six or seven years ago. I remember finding a cobweb in the set text for my first year paper - now its more likely to have friction marks from frantic fingers.

Doesn't anyone relax these days? I see a new generation who work their rings out and end up just like us - unemployed (and it feels good).

Yours relaxedly  
Chris LaHatte

Dear Craccum,  
Having just read the cover story of the March 13 issue of 'Craccum' (STB Lives by Louise Chunn), I still cannot find why STB is 'heading for a loss of somewhere in the region of \$30,000 for this financial year'.

Your writer informs me well of the cures, but what is STB's sickness? I would have thought that STB has everything on its side to make healthy profits, ie a large captive market of students just itching to travel, monopoly positions on campuses, and it charges \$3 to rubber stamp your ISIC card for renewal.

I'd appreciate some enlightenment on the above points.

Yours etc,  
Neil O. Curtis

Bob Lack, Student Director of STB Ltd replies:

Yes indeed, on the face of things STB would seem to be a profitable exercise, but there are a number of aspects of the situation which may not be immediately obvious.

Despite our monopoly position and captive market we have little control over our own income: prices are in the main set by suppliers, and in any case we would hardly be providing a service to students if our prices were higher than elsewhere. Not having an IATA franchise we are not strictly entitled to a commission on IATA sales, which make up a fair slice of our business, and even as commission-splitting becomes more acceptable it is obvious that with the IATA rate at 8% an outside agent like us could hardly expect more than a half share of the income, that is 4% of sales.

The ISIC scheme Mr Curtis mentions certainly generates a surplus (though the running expenses are not entirely negligible), but this legally belongs to NZUSA rather than to STB. Of late it has become accepted that the scheme is an intrinsic part of the travel operation and moves are under way to change the ownership of the scheme to STB, but even in the draft budget for the coming financial year provision has been made for close to \$20,000 of NZUSA expenses to be met from this source.

Now despite all of this it is quite possible that the Auckland office run in isolation, would generate a profit. We are however trying to run a national organisation and to provide a service to each of the seven campuses. The problems posed by the need for continuity of staffing given the cyclic nature of travel and of the student market can make it difficult to ensure that the smaller offices are even covering their own costs, but on top of that we are trying somehow to support a central administration which as well as servicing the companies has up until now provided an indirect subsidy to NZUSA by providing secretarial and accounting services at less than cost .....

The situation is complicated by several other factors, some of which are directly attributable to lack of experience on the part of those of us who are meant to be running the outfit, and some of which are completely external, such as the Australian STB closing down for a month in the middle of last year's booking period.

Undoubtedly this rather simplistic summary raises more questions than it answers, but we have tried to keep the NZUSA executive and the constituent Presidents aware of what has been happening throughout. If Mr Curtis (or anyone else) wants to delve further into the matter I would suggest contacting Mr Prince or Mr Gosling.

Or alternatively you could buy me a drink and listen to a long and boring ramble explaining how this all goes to prove that running complex commercial enterprises detracts from the real business of a students' association .....

Dear Craccum,  
I write with regard to two of the articles published in the International Women's Day Supplement (Craccum March 6). As a woman who identifies with many of the aspirations of the Women's Movement, I strongly object to the fact that these articles are filled with unsubstantiated claims and do nothing positive to promote the status of women at university.

Firstly, I challenge two naive statements made by Leonie Morris - ironically owner of the curious title, 'Co-ordinator NZUSA Women's Right's Action Committee'. What sort of 'action' does she hope to initiate by making such sweeping assertions as the following?

Ms Morris asserts that the stereotype of the ideal woman is to be 'empty-headed, dependent, submissive, pretty etc'. Whose stereotype is this? Certainly not that of the majority of males I have as friends or relations. Such a statement is ridiculous and not worthy of a responsible feminist.

Secondly, I must express the intense annoyance I felt at the tenor of Lindy Cassidy's article:

'If women are to have the concrete right to university study they must have the right to decent childcare and the right to abortion'.

What may I ask is a 'concrete' right? Indeed, what are 'rights' if not considered alongside the often forgotten concept of 'responsibilities'. It is surely amazing that Leonie Morris and Lindy Cassidy managed to include the words 'rights' 21 times in their rambling tirades without ever mentioning the responsibilities that both men and women have to society. Moreover, to speak of women needing 'the right to decent childcare and the right to abortion', is to reinforce the stereotype that children are a woman's responsibility alone. Surely men are equally responsible for the creation of a child, and thus they too must be involved in the protection of the child's wellbeing - be it before birth, or later in childcare centres, or wherever. To call these 'women's issues' is to make an invalid distinction concerning sex roles that is unworthy of any feminist and of no merit in our case for greater sexual equality.

To conclude, the feminist movement cannot be in any way effective if the kind of journalism exhibited in the International Women's Day Supplement continues. May I suggest that unless feminists have something worthwhile to say then they would be better to say nothing at all.  
(Julia Peters  
(abridged))

Dear Craccum,  
Dermot Cooke is a contemporary rock (Craccum March 2) cheap shots at David Bowie with an air of self-importance no valid consideration dismissed is crime casual ear he has ap

Bowie contends to embody his personments (in these cases), such, the music is in effect. In face of our good friend De Ho hum.' Apart from Jarre having a migraine could not resist), they are unusual, if not

Similarly, Mr Cooke's musical context, the effect; using their sneeringly, 'And you

These are only two incompetent and invalid appraisal of music on 'Heroes' is unequal to such to be summed up by 'We haven't moved' if you don't understand Melody Maker - O

Yours,  
Tim Walker.

Dear Craccum,  
A 26 year old male travelling throughout February, 1979, gave for a book. In addition magazine articles.

He would like to interest in contact accordingly. Your photography work

All interested people self (age, address, etc) to:  
David Pendleton,  
390 Rio Lindo Av  
104 Chico,  
California 95926,  
U.S.A.

Dear Craccum,  
While I am aware of films have been produced I must write a letters published in containing apologies of my original letter behaviour of the of but it seems you have all very well saying it not possible to a Saying the films were now, rather like bo

I feel I must also re we were offensive the like are forever when a student has branded a 'bully' to oppress the weak, am I hired to beat living off the gains exception to Ms Cl these ways insult ' anybody and I think more of an explanation (the Old Maid staff knowledge to us.

Finally I strongly c tion that 'students and charm'. It has that most students library, the booksh diplomatic and hel inquiries. From Mr that he has led a ve contact with the ve In my case I was up welcome service th relations.

Yours,  
Warren Purdy

Dear Craccum,  
The interview with due to my own ca poems and an imp interest as political and Gramsci - then

Yours etc,  
David Parkyn

These letters are 150 word mark on not all will be published and double spaced Reception or bring Student Travel.



## CLUBS &amp; SOX

Grants Subcommittee will be meeting from 10 am until 5 pm on Saturday 8 April and Sunday 9 April in the Council Room (on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.) A timetable will be kept at the Studass Reception Desk for the next two weeks so please select a suitable time for a representative from your club to attend. (This includes clubs which have a member on the subcommittee).

To be eligible for a grant all clubs must have returned their affiliation (and grant application) forms by 31 March and must present audited accounts for last year to the Subcommittee. Also, in previous years, clubs who turned up to Grants Subcommittee to detail their activities for the coming year have fared better than those who didn't bother, but apart from that, all clubs who turn up on 8 & 9 April will get a fair hearing from the Subcommittee.

And while we have your attention .... Craccum offers free advertising to clubs and sox who can be bothered getting info to us. All we want are dates/venues/times, etc for meetings or socials. Please put them in our pigeonhole at Reception or bring them up to the Craccum office. It's all so easy and yet only a pitifully small number of clubs and sox have taken advantage of this service.

## A.U. LITERARY MAGAZINE

Contributors needed

poems, short story, graphics, photos

if you want a space

on a page

in the book

of the year

of the horse

address to :

Editor

Literary Magazine

Auckland University

Private Bag.

or drop into Room 113 Student Union Buildings.

Dear people,  
There is a file bulging with poetry, submitted to Craccum last year, and which is now in a mess. Please could the people concerned come up, look at what we have, and tell us which pieces have already been printed and also which pieces they would like to see printed. Also love to see new work,

Poetry Editor

## Merv Says:

This coming week will be an active one in which the planning for 2 major events will occur. The first which will require much assistance is capping and the second is the dissemination of information on the 10 point bursaries plan.

Capping is held during the first week of May, the first event being children's party on April 29. This is always a great success for all those who participate. The co-ordinators this year are Roy O'Keefe and Hilary Beaumont. Throughout the following week there will be novelty events, staff student functions, dances, the boat race, theatre activities, stalls and the Graduation ceremony. If anyone is interested in assisting with any of the above please contact me.

Chris Gosling, our Education Vice President, is now starting to co-ordinate activities for bursaries action week. The actual date is yet to be decided at National Executive and unfortunately that will be this weekend so it will be too late to be published in Craccum, but contact Chris if you are interested in helping in any way.

We are now well into the year, if there are any problems concerning your progress please come and see us. We are at present printing a handbook for class reps, and it makes excellent reading for all those seeking to improve their learning conditions.

Wishing you a good week.

Merv.

## SENATE ELECTION

On the seventh of April, two candidates are contesting an election for a single place on the University Senate. They are Michel Tyne-Corbould, who is doing an MA, and David Burt, who is battling through a fourth year at Law School.

Mr Tyne-Corbould has six years of student life behind him. He was Welfare Vice-President in 1973 and is secretary of Transcendental Meditation Relaxation on campus. He has also been associated with Contact, and, though in the middle years of life, has been active in the Tiddlywinks & Knucklebones society. He offers his experience to help students cope with problems of University bureaucracy, and to represent student point-of-view, "particularly as expressed through the AUSA executive."

Mr Burt has attained the age of discretion, and has gained experience as a member of the Evangelical Union. If elected, he would try his hand at "pulling University staff out of the rut of seeing the traditional, formal exam as the best method of assessment in all cases"; he would oppose increases in course loads, and "see that courses offered are not geared to suit government policy of the day." He was once Chairman of the school council at his Intermediate school.

## LAST PLACE ON THE TITANIC

Applications are hereby called for the position of Education Vice-President of NZUSA. Applications close on Wednesday 20th April. The Election will be decided at a SGM to be held on Saturday 22nd April.

The position carries a salary of approx \$5700 p.a. The successful applicant will be expected to reside in Wellington. Reasonable removal expenses will be paid. Please address all applications to :  
The Returning Officer  
NZUSA  
P.O. Box 9047,  
Wellington.

## MOSHE MA'OZ ON CAMPUS

Professor Moshe Ma'oz, M.A.D. Phil. (Oxon) is internationally recognised as one of the Western World's foremost authorities on the Palestinian Arabs and the part they have played in the Arab-Israeli conflict. He is currently the Director of the Harry S. Truman Research Institute located at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel. The Institute is an independent research centre specialising in the Palestinian Arabs and the role they play in the Middle East Conflict. The centre has acted as an advisory body to successive Israeli governments.

Professor Ma'oz will be touring Australia and New Zealand from March 26 - April 14, under the sponsorship of the Australasian Union of Jewish Students, the World Union of Jewish Students and the Zionist Federations of New Zealand and Australia. He will be primarily lecturing to students on 'The Sadat/Begin Visits and Their Implications for Peace in the Middle East'.

Professor Ma'oz will be speaking to students on Auckland campus on Monday April 10 at 1 p.m. in B 10 of the library building. All are welcome.

For any further information contact Mark Shenken  
Ph: 602237.

Dear Craccum,  
Dermot Cooke is certainly one of the more pathetic figures in contemporary rock criticism if his 'Heroes' (non) review (Craccum March 20) is any indication. Here poor Dermot takes cheap shots at David Bowie and his music, buzzing around them with an air of self-importance, yet ultimately he leaves us with no valid consideration of the album. That 'Heroes' is largely dismissed is crime enough, but the air of indifference, and the casual ear he has apparently lent it, are disturbing.

Bowie contends such pieces as 'Moss Garden' and 'Neukoln' embody his personal reactions to particular physical environments (in these cases, parts of Kyoto and West Berlin), and as such, the music is often slow, loose in form, and atmospheric in effect. In face of such sophisticated ideals and intentions, our good friend Dermot reflects - 'Very repetitive, very boring. Ho hum.' Apart from a pointless comparison with Jean Michel Jarre having a migraine attack (which, it seems, poor Dermot could not resist), this is all we are told about two tracks which are unusual, if not innovatory.

Similarly, Mr Cooke insists on taking Bowie's lyrics out of their musical context, thus significantly changing their function and effect; using their (intentional ?) banality to conclude sneeringly, 'And you thought Bowie was a Poet, Hah!'

These are only two criticisms that might be levelled at an incompetent and irresponsible review which fails to offer any valid appraisal of David Bowie's latest music. That much of the music on 'Heroes' is challenging is obvious; that Dermot Cooke is unequal to such a challenge is equally so. His attitude seems to be summed up by something Bowie himself has said; 'We haven't moved on at all from that tribal thing - you know, if you don't understand it, have a swing at it with an axe.'  
Melody Maker - October 29, 1977.

Yours,  
Tim Walker.

Dear Craccum,  
A 26 year old male photographer/writer from the U.S. will be travelling throughout New Zealand beginning January or February, 1979, gathering information and taking photographs for a book. In addition, he will be compiling numerous magazine articles.

He would like individuals who can show him various places of interest to contact him as soon as possible so he can plan accordingly. Young ladies are encouraged to reply for possible photography work.

All interested people should send a photo and description of self (age, address, interests, interesting places you know of, etc) to :  
David Pendleton,  
390 Rio Lindo Ave.,  
104 Chico,  
California 95926,  
U.S.A.

Dear Craccum,  
While I am aware and grateful of the fact that many splendid films have been promised for showing in the coming months, I feel I must write and clear up some points regarding two letters published in your last issue. These letters, while containing apologies of a sort, continued to ignore a major part of my original letter. As I mentioned in this previous letter the behaviour of the old maid staff was incidental, (sorry Ms Clark but it seems you have somewhat of a guilty conscience). It's all very well saying now why the films didn't show but why was it not possible to advise students before the screening date. Saying the films were never booked to appear seems a trifle silly now, rather like bolting the stable door etc etc.

I feel I must also reply to Mr (?) Harrison's implied claim that we were offensive in our inquiries. So called 'student reps' and the like are forever telling us what an apathetic lot we all are yet when a student happens to question a person in authority he is branded a 'bully' in Ms Clark's book. To my knowledge I neither oppress the weak, nor am I exceedingly noisy or overbearing, nor am I hired to beat or intimidate anyone and I am certainly not living off the gains of a prostitute, therefore I take strong exception to Ms Clark's suggestion that I did in one or all of these ways insult 'her' staff. Further - we did not 'pressure' anybody and I think even Ms Clark herself would have expected more of an explanation than 'I know nothing'. Surely it is your (the Old Maid staff) business to know and to relate that knowledge to us.

Finally I strongly disagree with Mr Harrison's severe generalisation that 'students in this place are not noted for their diplomacy and charm'. It has been my pleasant experience so far to find that most students in other positions of responsibility, ie the library, the bookshop, the rec centre etc have been very diplomatic and helpful when confronted by problems and inquiries. From Mr Harrison's statement I am forced to conclude that he has led a very shallow existence here and has not had contact with the very many people who enjoy student services. In my case I was upset because I could not partake in such a welcome service through mismanagement and apathetic public relations.

Yours,  
Warren Purdy

Dear Craccum,  
The interview with me published last week contained, no doubt due to my own careless attitude, a couple of misquotes from my poems and an implication that Aristotle and Mill hold my interest as political theorists. Nothing of the sort. But Marx and Gramsci - there's a pair for you !

Yours etc,  
David Parkyn

*These letters are TOO LONG !! Please keep letters around the 150 word mark or we will have to start editing them (that means not all will be published). All letters MUST be type-written and doublespaced. Drop them in to the Craccum pigeonhole at Reception or bring them up to our office which is next to the Student Travel.*



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MERCURY  
**2**

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# Hard Up?

It is becoming increasingly obvious that for people without outside assistance the bursary simply does not meet the basic costs of study. The poor employment situation both over the holidays and for part-time work now has made this situation even worse.

However if you are beginning to wonder where the next cafe meals coming from, you can take a little heart. If you are a student who because of special circumstances (dependents, unable to get vacation employment) cannot survive on the normal bursary, or you simply need a little money to tide you over till bursary arrives, there are schemes to assist you.

After strong representation by N.Z.U.S.A. Officers to the Minister of Education Mr Gandar, an increase in the level of hardship bursaries has been granted.

Previously people on the lower, abated, bursary rate could apply on the grounds of hardship for an increase which would take the bursary level up to one considered sufficient to the Education Dept but no higher than the unabated level. No assistance above this level was provided and nobody on an unabated rate could receive any further assistance. Under the new regulations which go a small way towards recognising the growing plight of students at the present STB level.

Students who are at present on the unabated bursary rate (\$26 a week) may now apply for up to an extra \$7 per week if they can prove that their ability to

complement their bursary with savings from holiday employment was impaired by the employment situation, or any other circumstances beyond their control. Students receiving hardship allowances on top of their abated (\$15 per week) bursaries may also apply for this extra \$7 on the same grounds.

Application should be made at the Bursary Office in the Registry Building. The previous Hardship Allowance for students on the abated bursary rate will continue.

These measures are for all year assistance. If you simply need a little financial assistance to tide you over, the Students Association and University with very generous support from the Federation of University Women and others provides a Needy Student Fund which will make small (up to \$50) loans or occasionally grants to students who have a special short term need.

It is a measure of the inadequacy of the present bursary that by half way through last year the N.S.F. was depleted and more money needed to be raised in a special auction. A similar auction was held earlier this year. If you think you qualify for this strictly confidential assistance contact the University Student Counselling Service.

Finally, a little bit of cheer for those who get them. Bursaries should be available by the middle of April.

CHRIS GOSLING

# New Sports Centre

The Easter weekend saw the new rugby grounds at Morrin Road used for the first time when Massey won the North Island Universities Rugby Tournament. The rugby fields are only a part of the complex, however, which includes pitches for hockey, league, soccer and baseball plus four tennis courts, four squash courts, a netball court and three cricket pitches.

Work which was started in 1975 is still continuing, although it is expected that all the playing fields, bar one hockey pitch, will be used this winter. Also being built are two clubhouses; one for general use by all sports and another which is being built for the rugby club, by the rugby club. The former is a two storey building and is equipped with ample changing rooms, a bar, kitchen and dance floor area with rooms for administration, first aid etc. The rugby clubrooms include a large floor areas which is on three levels - one each for the bar, dancing and general games.

The cost of the new complex is \$3 million and has been paid for by the university, not out of student funds.

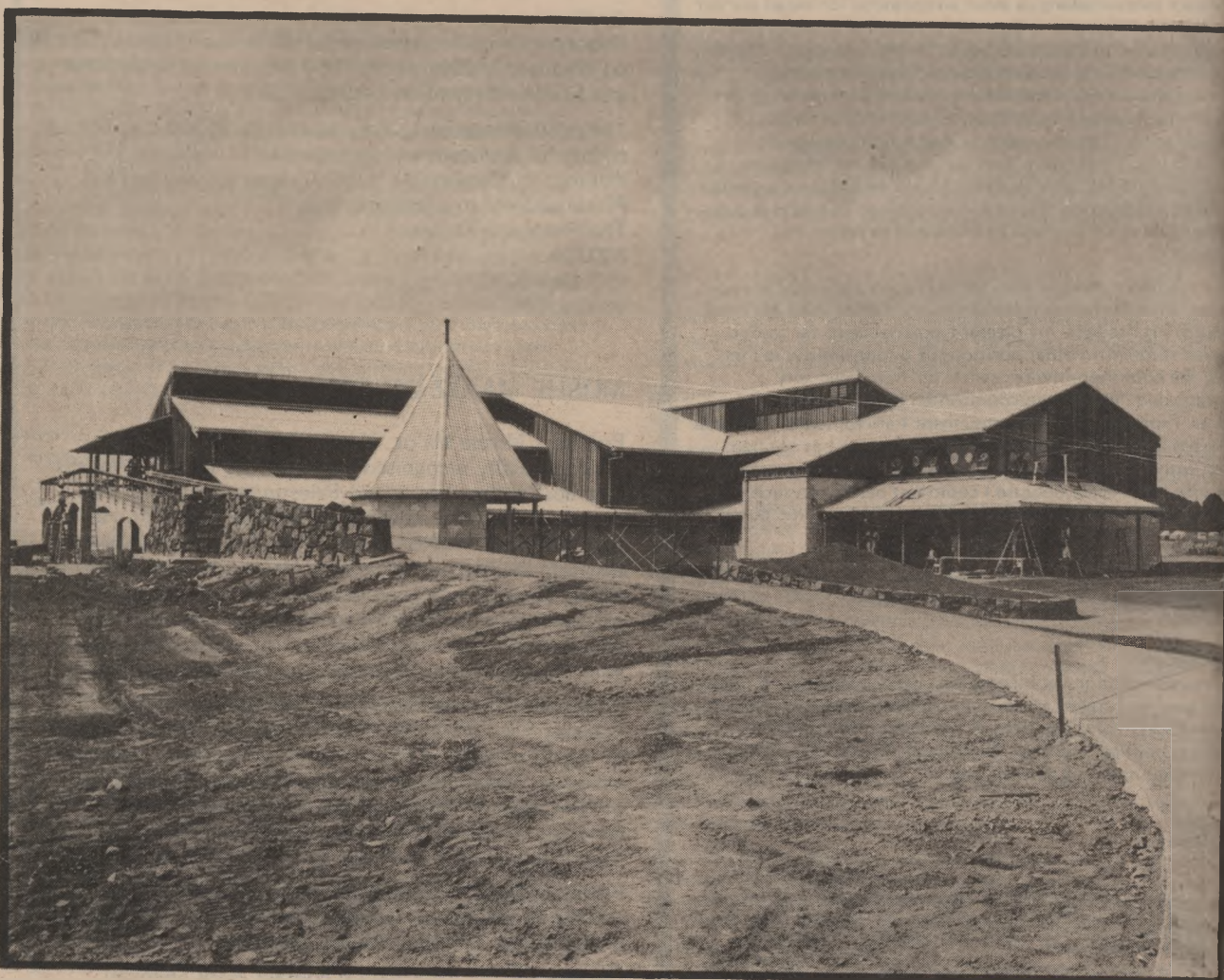
The grounds are situated between Glen Innes and

Remuera on a forty acre site. Aside from the playing fields the grounds, which were formerly waste land, will be covered in thousands of trees, mostly native, thus providing a wind-break to each field and pleasant surroundings for the spectators.

It is also planned to build an athletic track at the complex and work on this is expected to be finished in time for the next summer. Floodlights are being placed around the rugby fields to allow practice to be held there, hopefully by next year. In the meantime University should still have the best team in the competition at playing in the mud - as anyone who has ever trained at Shore Rd will tell you.

By way of conclusion it is only fair to point out that, in the words of Steve Hollings, manager of the Gymnasium, whoever wrote in the Orientation Handbook that 25 cents of your \$35 levy goes to running costs of the gym and the new centre was talking rubbish. All you paid for was half the building cost of the gym - the rest is free.

KEN GRACE



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# HOCKHORRORPROBE



The Sexuality booklet produced by NZUSA is a very thorough piece of documentation. The Dunedin Sexuality Group, which assembled the contents of the booklet, researched the mechanical aspects of their subject thoroughly, and came up with a collection of personal statements on human relationships from abstinence through to adultery. The sections on contraception and venereal disease are especially valuable, since our schools follow a policy of consistently refusing to teach anything that might be of value in surviving the real world.

With its list of further reading to supplement its 48 pages, and a number of important contact addresses for information or practical help, AUSA seems to have got a very good buy at the 20 cents per copy, which was the cost of this publication.

It is unfortunate then that this publishing venture has been marred by controversy. The Dunedin Sexuality Group claims that the bulk of the photos included with the text were omitted and replaced with cartoons, without the consent or even notice of the group, and which the group sees as particularly tasteless. The cartoons, in the opinion of the group, have the effect of trivialising the content of the personal statements, thereby reducing the book from something intended to be moderately serious on the subject of sexuality to no more than titillating capping book material. The group has demanded an apology from NZUSA and a disclaimer on behalf of the group.

Simon Wilson, Editor of Salient, handled the layout and made such alterations to the contents as he considered necessary. He claims to have consulted with Jane McChesney of the Dunedin Sexuality Group over the replacement of certain photographs with cartoons; Ms McChesney denies this. Such did-didn't-did debating is not edifying. Overall it seems certain that Mr Wilson acted in good faith, and seems to be a bit bewildered by the attack on the booklet; obviously he still has something to learn about the nature of the artistic temperament.

Meanwhile, what word from NZUSA? None. An article in Critic names Stephanie Dale, David Merritt and Lisa Sacksen as members of an editorial committee overseeing the production of the booklet. Without full knowledge of the facts one cannot properly apportion the blame, but it is disquieting that the committee has remained silent and virtually anonymous. Early in the year Otago expressed no confidence in the NZUSA editorial committee and passed a resolution to send back the 2,000 booklets which had been ordered for their campus; it is very unfortunate that apparent negligence by NZUSA has sabotaged this project.

NZUSA's other publications include a forthcoming Tenancy Handbook, an East Timor Booklet, an Industrial Legislation Booklet, an Overseas Student Handbook and a handbook on NZUSA itself. The latter is now being distributed free on campus. What's inside it? Let's run through and have a look. NZUSA 1978. Forty pages. Some very pretty advertisements for calculators and motorbikes; I admire the professionalism. 'What is NZUSA?' Here we are: 'NZUSA is the national union of N.Z. students.' And

what does it do? Owns Student Services Holdings and Student Travel Bureau. We've heard about that, haven't we? IATA agency . . . sell travel to South Africa . . . opposes commercial contacts with South Africa.

A lot of photos, yes. NZUSA President, Lisa Sacksen, instructing the boys in blue. How are they going to like that? After all, they've been quite kind over pub crawl and bike rally these last few years. 'Many students think the joker on the right and his mates are planning to use these types below!' The joker on the right I recognise, the man of whom Mc Cormick says 'destiny had not only clapped him on the shoulder, it had also bitten him on the cheek.' But these types below? Jackboots, sub-machineguns, iron helmets . . . I haven't seen them around Queen Street recently. Nor in an army parade, neither.

Anti-apartheid campaigners; East Timorese at Rally; Thousands of students against SIS bill; Bastion Point; march to protest cutbacks in overseas students' numbers; 1976 Thai coup; international solidarity. Very nice pix.

So what is NZUSA doing? Besides selling travel and organising tours to China? Fighting 'inroads on our democratic rights'; preparing to help in 'pointing out the iniquities of South African society'; joining the People's struggle to save Malaysia, Singapore and the Aborigines; striving to express 'solidarity with and support for the oppressed peoples of the world in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racism and for democratic rights', looking for a better bursary, and, here we are, writing songs:

'Marching into the city, we shall not be moved,  
Marching into the city, we shall not be moved,  
Just like Muldoon, sitting on his big fat arse,  
We shall not be moved.'

It all sounds incredibly active and interesting, but there's just one problem. I've been lounging round campus all this year - and for a few years now gone and forgotten - indulging myself in films and conversation and lazy afternoons in the quad, and meeting dozens of students from out of my past, and I've seen nary a sign of this inflamed enthusiasm and action in the rank and file of this national union of students.

If the campus was a hotbed of political dissent and revolutionary fervour, if Mao and Marx were selling strong, if the forums were ringing with debates both wild and feverish red - in short, if all things were well in the best of all possible worlds - then this handbook with its slogans and songs would be just what was needed to cheer along the comrades. But it is not so. The campus is placid. Placid, quiet, calm, stagnant, quiescent. Rotting. Dead. The rock-solid hard-core cadre of the Left labours away relentlessly, churning out articles, speeches, posters, meetings and demonstrations, showing solidarity with someone at least once a week and twice on Thursdays; one does not expect them to falter. But the vast majority of students are sleepwalking.

Many of those now at university will become scientists, lawyers, engineers, doctors, teachers - educated and well-paid citizens who will be in a position to influence their society. As things are going, chances are they will

be like the present generation, dull, unimaginative, and increasingly conservative and authoritarian. Students seem to find it hard to get worked up even about the bursary situation; when money, nearest and dearest to most hearts, provides little inspiration, then one cannot expect much enthusiasm for remoter things like civil liberties, investment patterns, Maori land, environment, oppression overseas, or the nuances of parliamentary debate.

This is the situation our trendy Left-wing leaders in NZUSA should be facing up to. It is not a time for cheerleading, but for hard work. It may also be a time for compromise, a time to soft-pedal the radical ideology so that the average student has fewer reservations about offering his support. At the moment, NZUSA is a talking head without a body to support it.

Your ideal NZUSA handbook would offer encouragement to those activists and local student politicians who keep student associations from collapsing altogether, and it would do this by making a concerted effort to make the average student identify himself as a member of NZUSA. First by properly explaining the workings of NZUSA - this handbook lacks such basic things as a table of the organisation and a breakdown of the budget. As a prospectus, it wouldn't attract many shareholders.

For the uninitiated, the handbook could offer practical advice for those who want to stir up life on and around campus. How does one organise a demonstration? A petition? A debate? A forum? A co-operative? A pamphlet? A magazine? A radio station? A society? A film evening? A commune? Street theatre? How does one make a submission to a Parliamentary select committee? Needle an MP? Harass a local body? Campaign in a student election? Can NZUSA help co-ordinate a national movement or act as a clearing house for information? Would it want to if it could?

Your ideal handbook would provide the ignorant with a list of national and local organisations which might be able to help a given group with expertise, advice, speakers, literature, maybe even finance. What about a mention for the alternative printed matter that one can get to fill in those grey areas the Establishment press never touches? How about picking out ten repressive acts of Parliament that people should acquaint themselves with?

NZUSA is a political organisation with a responsibility to encourage and co-ordinate student activism. As far as the general student is concerned, activism does not exist; lectures, terms and assessment do. But every student, as a citizen of this country, has a responsibility to face up to the problems outside the campus. And those on it. As far back as the foundation of Athens, apathy has been a critical problem for democracy; the apathy of a constituency of forty-thousand sleep-walkers is not solved by waving the red flag, insulting the police and writing polemics to feed the non-existent flames of an imaginary revolution.

The NZUSA handbook cost AUSA nothing; apparently the advertising paid for the booklet. A budget I saw set the cost of the first 12,000 copies at \$1717; a lot of money down the drain.

HUGH COOK



# Merv's Monkeys

It's at the meetings of the all powerful University Executive where diverse matters of monumental importance are discussed and historic statements made, that influence every one of the 10,000 students of A.U.

At the last fortnightly meeting (Thursday 16th March) the Exec. slogged and sweated for 6 hours around the board table coming up with yet another impressive set of minutes.

The first discussion to break through the static was over the timing of nominations for the student Rep. on the Senate and with such illuminating remarks as 'Senate sounds more important to first year students anyway' the date for elections to Senate was set for Friday April 7 (after the first Senate meeting). During this discussion three Exec. members left the room, for what could only be assumed to be calls of nature (for no other explanations were offered). The meeting ground to a halt as yells of 'Get back in here!' rang out so that a quorum could be regained and a motion carried.

Next a speaker from Limbs, the nationally acclaimed dance group humbly expressed the group's desire to occupy 24 Grafton Rd, the old Arts Centre, as their new centre of operations. 'Basically, we need a base'. The idea was to let them have the dilapidated, financial head-ache at 'cost rate', so long as they faithfully promise not to make a profit. Sneakily AUSA will retain the title and not lease the building but only rent it to Limbs so that if they are offered something for it they can boot Limbs out and go ahead with the sale - such is the cunning of our exalted ones. At the moment 'Limbs has something to offer ..... advantages to the University' and with the bribe 'Of course students would get reduced rates both in Auckland and at our other (millions of ?) branches'. The matter was closed, but One Thought: with Limbs being associated with the University, wouldn't they have a cracker of a chance at a QE2 Arts Council grant?

After the first tea break the Exec. swung back into action concentrating on more dynamic issues. Rather than force the cafeteria staff into open rebellion and riot, brought about by long term suffering in cramped staffroom conditions, the Exec. magnanimously agreed to give them another room in which to relax without feeling like sardines. 'The service they provide is worth

20 extra rooms, if only we had them' said President Merv appreciatively.

Then Food Co-op was elevated from the depths of the lower dungeons of the basement car park (very hygienic for food, especially in stormy weather) to the SRC lounge but only on a trial basis of one term, after which a report will be given on the damage done to the lounge floor by the dragging of crates.

'Why don't they use trollies?'  
'They do, but there isn't enough space for many.'  
'Why don't they use sacks, to save damage to the floor?'  
'Too thin, wouldn't make any difference.'  
'Then why not carpet strips.'  
'Who do you think they are? Fortum and Mason.'

The Ski-Club was granted its much needed night service phone and it was decided that financial support would be given to the Young Labour Club to bring a Senior Lecturer in Sociology Mr K. Clements from Canterbury, to give a series of lectures on campus from April 28 to May 1.

After the second tea break, this time a glut of unsold delights from the cafeteria elegantly served by the custodian, such marvellous secrets were revealed as the fact that the NZUSA handbooks were still missing due to the railway's latest fumble-up and that it is the cleaners' fault that the Rec Centre floor is in such disrepair - 'His brushes were too hard.'

Reports were given on the different conferences around the country. The National Anti-Apartheid Conference was a great success. 'Its aim was to bring together all anti-apartheid groups and discuss future action after assessing present action .... NZUSA represents all campuses as a unit but each campus is advised to send students to local anti-apartheid meetings'. On the April 5, a meeting will be called on the Auckland Campus to which every individual or group will be invited and everybody has a vote. A report from the rep. to the Anti-Racist Conference in Wellington gave an outline of the discussion at the conference and commented ..... a lot more still has to be done, there are still too many racist letters in Craccum.'

Finally just before the stroke of midnight the meeting collapsed into an eventful election for the Exec. member

who was to go onto the University Grants Sub-Committee. The Treasurer took the chair as present Chairman, Merv and his Administrative Vice-Chairman, Simon Upton and a Mr Chris Gosling stood for the position. The secret ballot accompanied by the customary 'May the best man win' sentiments, drew from Simon Upton a remark of poignant truthfulness: 'Pity it doesn't work that way.' To the already flustered Treasurer's utter dismay, the election proved inconclusive. 'God, what now? A lottery.' And so after the initial flurry over getting a hat the election proceeded with the names of the candidates being dropped in. 'I want to check those!' said a voice from the right - wing side of the room (such trustworthiness). The remark was characteristically ignored and the winner emerged Hey-Presto the Admin Vice-Chairman Mr Simon Upton, who sat there dripping intellectual acumen as ever.

JOHN BROAD



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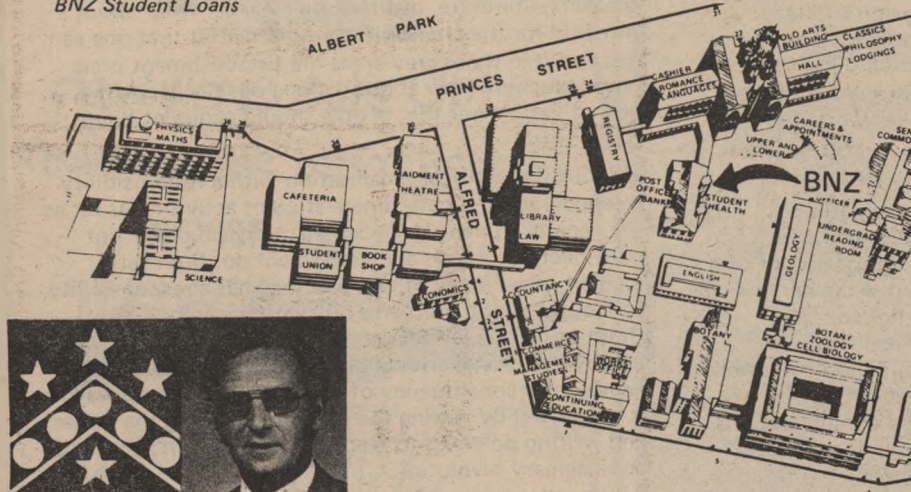
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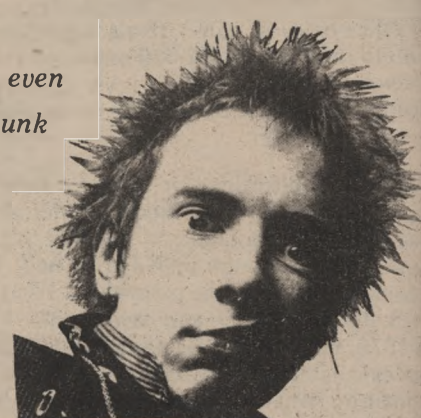
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# University Book Shock

In case anyone missed it, the last issue of Craccum contained a letter signed '\$3.40 better off' which referred to a purchase of an unnamed textbook from an unnamed bookshop downtown which was cheaper than the same textbook at the U.B.S.

I cannot imagine why the writer was so coy about the details. The book was Hirschleifer 'Price theory and applications', the shop was Whitcoulls and the price details given were correct.

The reason for the price difference is this. In May 1977, Whitcoulls received a few copies of the new edition of Hirschleifer from Whitehall, a closed market agency which sets the New Zealand retail price for books it supplies. (More on closed markets later.) The price was \$10.45, and Whitcoulls were still holding virtually all their stock of this title unsold in March 1978. In December 1977 the U.B.S. received its first copies of Hirschleifer's new edition from the same suppliers and the price set by the publishers at that date was \$13.85. To cap the story off, when the U.B.S. re-order of Hirschleifer arrived in mid-March 1978 the price set by the publisher was \$15.40. Whitcoulls have now sold their few copies of \$10.45 Hirschleifers and when they re-order from Whitehall their copies will be \$15.40 also.

The main point I stress here is that neither Whitcoulls nor the U.B.S. have any control over the prices set by closed market publishers. For those who are as interested, as we were, in the reasons why a title jumped in price from \$10.45 to \$13.85 and then to \$15.40 in less than a year, I can provide the publishers representative's phone number, as the explanation provided by him to me would take more words than Craccum can spare.

The U.B.S. has large signs in the shop explaining that in our own bookstock one title can have up to three different prices, depending on the date on which the book originally arrived in stock. We advise students to check the stock to find the cheapest copy. The price variations occur mainly when textbooks have been used for several years and a few copies of older stock still remain on the shelves along with newer more expensive copies. The U.B.S. always has textbooks which are cheaper than those in stock at Whitcoulls. To quote one of many - we have several copies of 1977-purchased English and Cassidy missed by bargain hunting students, whereas Whitcoulls have stock at \$1.10 higher.

Over 90% of all textbook stock is imported, mainly from the United States and Great Britain. Books which are

available on the open market (direct from the overseas publisher) are priced according to Price Schedules which are checked by the Dept. of Trade and Industries. The price schedules move up or down every time currency changes 2½% in one month. Anyone who follows the rise and fall of overseas currency will know how often price schedules have changed in the past three or four years and will understand why different prices for one title can easily occur, even within one year.

Many of the large publishers operate closed market warehouses in New Zealand: some examples are McGraw-Hill, Penguin, Butterworths and Collier MacMillan. Bookshops in New Zealand cannot place orders directly with the overseas publisher but must order through the local closed market operation. The N.Z. retail price is set by the closed market operators. Their prices are also affected by currency changes and in the case of academic publishers, by regular revaluations of stock. The Dept. of Trade and Industries has investigated several closed markets in the past two or three years and keeps a close eye on their pricing policy.

For those who have persevered through this necessarily brief explanation of book pricing and who wish to know about any single title, general pricing policy or supply details, please come and see me.

If the anonymous '\$3.40' had bothered to check with me before blasting into print in Craccum 4, he/she may have more fruitfully spent the time hounding the publishers who were responsible for the price differences.

Marion Adam's letter in this week's Craccum suggests that the Students Association should have direct representation on the U.B.S. Board. This is obviously a matter for the AUSA Executive to consider and I believe there have been moves made in this direction in the past few months. However I would like to make the point that the U.B.S. is actually 50% student owned and does not just 'advertise that it is' in case the letter is confusing.

As a final note, I must comment on '\$3.40's' last line which suggests that the \$35.00 Stud. Ass. fee in some way subsidises the U.B.S. In fact the reverse is true. The U.B.S. pays rent to the Students Association, and funds from the Bookshop provide new furniture and equipment in the Student Union Building.

KITTY WISHART  
MANAGER UBS

## Word From Underground

Amusing little snippet from Critic. 'What happens to student politicians when they go out to pasture? They work for the Government for the rest of their lives. Ex-Trot and ex-President Ross White is finishing his Law degree, keeping fingers in the pie and selling insurance. David Tripe (NZUSA) is working for a bank, Mike Shaskey is working for States Services. David Murray (ex-Salient) for the Education Department .... Alistair Broad is working in the Registry. Funny how they end up doing the very things that the previous year they had been criticising.'

'Is it just the drug traffic or are the wreckers brain-washing the students to such a degree that they now fear the SIS. This should be investigated at top level. If New Zealand exports a bad batch of meat it is returned to New Zealand to be destroyed. Have we imported too much bad meat that needs returning to the country of origin before all our young meat is contaminated? It is a fairly widely known fact that drugs flow quite freely in universities. There are some saboteurs in fairly high places. Should universities be weeded out, ready for a new start for students who are honestly there to learn for the benefit of New Zealand. Straight Thinker, Morrinsville.' Excerpt from a letter to the Waikato Times uplifted from Nexus. Accompanying article: a Masters student in Sociology, doing research for a thesis on the role of trade unions in shaping people's attitudes, had vital papers - transcripts of conversations with union officials on a proposed programme of strikes - uplifted from a locked safe by person or persons unknown. Of course, the SIS was not necessarily involved; the theft could have been the work of some criminal mastermind with lucrative contacts in the pulp-paper industry.

'Kirk died just after I came here .... and since then New Zealand has become more and more repressive until now where we have the situation where the country is run by businesses and a few bigots.' Doug Drever, President, Waikato Students' Union.

Recommendation from a report to the Waikato University Council: 'As a general rule appointments in the University be for an initial period of five years or less, with a review in the penultimate year of the term to determine whether and on what conditions the appointment should be continued.' Comment from Bob Rigg of the Lecturers' Association on future of young

staff members if policy is implemented: 'They will be placed under great pressure academically to represent a moderate line. They will be under intense pressure to produce publications and Ph.D's in an attempt to gain permanent positions. It seems clear that the general political climate in New Zealand and in universities is not actively tolerant towards opinions of dissent. This policy is catastrophic for the vital areas of freedom of right and freedom of speech.' Nexus, March 9.

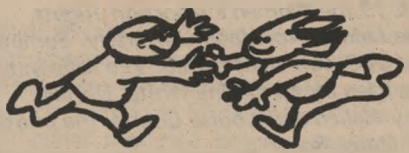
'Some people think that politics is best left to politicians which is like giving children dynamite to play with.' Anon, Chaff.

The Remarkables rise 7,600 feet from the shores of Lake Wakatipu. Now the Land Settlement Board has approved in principle an application by the Mt Cook and Southern Lakes Tourist Company to establish a ski field in the Rastus Burn of the Remarkables, which involves constructing a road to a ski lift terminal at 1475 metres in the Rastus Burn Basin. A very detailed article in Critic March 7 gives the history of this scheme and a list of objections. Two chair lifts are planned, one of them to travel through a 200 metre-long tunnel at 1830 metres above sea-level; 'Road access to the tunnel site, means of excavation and disposal of excavated rock, has not been accounted for in the Company's 1977 report.' What will be the impact on scenery and the effect on other uses of the land? Is there a need for this ski field at all? For serious environment - ecology types who can spare a care for that distant foreign land across the Cook Strait, further information from Remarkables Action Council, P.O. Box 1436, Dunedin.

Little Wanganui River, Radiant Range, West Coast, way down South. Canta March 1. Here is a road 'ending in a giant winch which is merrily engaged in ripping down native rimus. A Coast company is involved in raping this side of the river - a local subsidiary of a Christchurch firm is destroying the other side with a bigger winch, a bigger operation and a chained-off road to ensure no publicity. The subsidiary is appropriately named after the Coast's most notorious bloodsucker - Te Namu, the sandfly. God bless Progress.'

HUGH COOK

**LOVE**  
**CAREFULLY!**



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CONSULT YOUR FAMILY DOCTOR,  
STUDENT HEALTH SERVICE  
OR FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC  
N.Z. FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION  
INC.

**S R C**  
**THIS WEEK**

1. MINUTES 22.03.78
2. BASTION POINT \$200?
3. EXEC. MINUTES 3.3.78
4. APPOINT 2 REPS ONTO SUBCOMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE NZUSA
5. MILITARY FUNDING OF UNIVERSITY RESEARCH
6. CLUBS & SOCIETIES AFFILIATION

**WEDNESDAY 1pm**  
**SRC LOUNGE**

**DANCER**  
**REQUIRED**

MALE DANCER  
Required by the Korobushka Folkdance in education team for part time day work in schools. Further information, please phone - Director, 818-8275

*scavengers at zwiles*

**DANCE THIS FRIDAY**  
**BAMBOO**

Cafe \$1.50 8.30pm

**C**OMPUTER  
**C**LUB

INAUGURAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
THURSDAY 6 APRIL AT  
1pm ROOM 202 STUDENT UNION  
Enquiries to: Chris Sullivan Phone HWK 46510



# WOMEN'S ABORTION RIGHTS

On March 18 & 19 the Women's Abortion Rights Conference was held at Auckland University. Somewhere in the region of 200 women attended. The following articles were written by Katherine White, Donna Yuzwalk, Jenny Hellen and Louise Chunn; the photos were taken by Jenny Robb.

The opening speech at the weekend-long Women's Abortion Rights Conference was given by Kay McVey, the newly appointed National Convenor of WONAAC. Ever so slightly nervous, her speech was nevertheless clear, direct and determined, and its forthright tone set the mood for the whole weekend: the achievement of a woman's right to safe, legal abortion.

Kay began her speech with a reminder of New Zealand in the past, at the turn of the century, when the country was one of the most progressive in the world with regard to women's rights and suffrage. Yet today the New Zealand Parliament has passed the Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion legislation, 'one of the most barbaric anti-abortion laws in the world.'

The demand by the women's movement for 'the right to control our own fertility' has brought more debate and opposition than any other demand, an opposition which Kay termed part of an 'anti-woman crusade'. In demanding abortion, she said, women are challenging all the religious and mystical prejudices, traditions and institutions on which our society is based. Our patriarchal society dictates that woman be exploited, that she bear children and stay at home, within the confines of domesticity. At the core of the anti-abortion philosophy is punishment of women who refuse to accept the role carved out for them in this society.

Attitudes to a woman's sexuality are also strongly punitive, she claimed, as evidenced by the Royal Commission's Report: 'the fact that pregnancy in young girls under sixteen is .... evidence of a criminal offence may seem to provide some warrant for abortion. But it should not be overlooked that some precocious girls are as willing to engage in intercourse as the man or boy involved, and on this account they may have no better claim to abortion than less mature girls over the age of sixteen ....'

But things are changing, and the reactionary forces that have headed the campaign against abortion are losing ground. The latest Heylen Poll shows that 66% of the population is opposed to the new Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion law, and only 15% approve it. Politicians are feeling the pressure, especially from within their own parties. At the Canterbury Labour Party Conference in February the majority of delegates voted for a remit asking that the next Labour Government repeal all existing abortion laws. Bill Rowling was seen to be wearing a REPEAL badge at his recent meeting at Auckland University. And at a National Party Women's Conference a few weeks ago delegates voted two to one in favour of a remit calling for the repeal of the C.S. & A. legislation.

Public protest is continuing throughout the country, with marches being held in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, while the REPEAL petition has gained 100,000 signatures in little over a month. REPEAL has also gathered patrons ranging from prominent businessmen, to church leaders, educators and trade unionists. For the first time the FOL has adopted a policy calling for the repeal of the legislation, an issue that unions have previously ignored.

With this large degree of opposition to present government policy, Kay declared that the role of the Abortion Conference should be to clearly articulate the demands of women, and reflect their needs: 'That abortion is a woman's right to choose, and so that right may be freely exercised, that all anti-abortion laws be repealed.'

This demand needs to be clearly stated, she continued, as often a woman's rights get clouded over in the question of doctors' rights, for example in the debate in Parliament where the main emphasis was on how many doctors were necessary, two or three or four. This is the anti-abortionists' claim that women aren't responsible enough to make decisions affecting their lives. 'Or do they believe that a woman should be forced to shop around until she finds a doctor who will agree to her request for an abortion?'

The question facing the conference then, was how to win the right to abortion, how to force parliament to repeal the laws and effectively neutralise the anti-abortion forces. Through the recognised political channels; the vote, petition, writing to MPs and lobbying ..... But isolated individual or group actions don't represent much of a challenge. 'Its when people take to the streets and take direct political action that the government pays attention. Mass marches and pickets



Jenny Robb

Kay McVey delivers the opening speech.

show that people are disillusioned with the traditional channels .... and are demanding the right to decision making themselves. For these reasons the Government won't admit that mass opposition can change its policies, and is forced to take notice.

What we must do now is get people onto the streets. This will mean a lot of hard work, in taking every opportunity to raise, discuss and debate the issue, working with everybody and anybody who is campaigning against the present laws, and supporting the REPEAL petition. That the Trade Unions are prepared to take a stand, that the FOL now has a policy, will aid the struggle, as will the fact that this is an election year when people are generally more aware of political issues. Some ideas that have already been suggested are running Abortion Rights candidates, forming a Woman's Party to contest the election, or perhaps even boycotting the elections altogether as a mark of protest.

There were only a couple of hundred at the Conference, but there are thousands more women like us around the country. Women who are looking for a way to express their anger as effectively as possible ....

'We have the power, now lets use it.'

## PROPOSALS

The dilemma that motivated these action proposals was that at a time when the movement faces its most damning legislation, the public (through whom any change will ultimately be worked) are likely to be jaded and indifferent to an issue of such long standing. Thus the proposals explored ways of revitalising the issue in the public mind - how to regain and retain their interest and better still their concern.

Some of the women present expressed a great deal of frustration and disillusionment not with the movement itself but with the methods used to keep the movement alive. Plans for marches and leaflet distribution were announced by some only to be flatly denounced by others who questioned the effectiveness of a march when too few participated to ensure an impact. Leaflets are ignored; petitions are stolen or destroyed; the public takes one look at the marchers, pigeon-holes them comfortably as student-radicals and goes on with its shopping.

But what if the ranks of the marchers were swelled by Mrs Wedlock from Pakuranga or your respectable middle-aged mother or mine? This was the notion which countered and defeated the demands of the more militant members of the group. They cited last year's wreath laying incident at the Christchurch Cathedral as an example of the type of activity needed. They believed that the shock value of such activity was more important than the alienation of some of the movements supporters that could be expected to follow.

The discussion reached a deadlock over this point until it was conceded that the increment of support with the involvement of the suburban woman/the conservative N.Z. housewife was essential if the movement was going to succeed and that the alienation of such support must be avoided even if it meant compromising the radical/militant members of the group.

The idea of isolated outbursts of civil disobedience calculated to shock people into awareness was panned in favour of a programme that would involve a great deal more work on the part of those involved. All peaceable activity must be intensified - a barrage of 'letters to the editor', a continuous stream of leaflets, well organised well publicised marches and guerilla theatre in shopping malls and the like where the group could perform, distribute printed matter, then depart.

## WORKSHOP

### POLITICAL PARTIES

With speeches, rallies, buttons, bumper stickers and various other election paraphernalia all vying to catch the voter's attention this year, action on the abortion issue within the political structure is a crucial manoeuvre. Accordingly this was one of the largest workshops, and was led by Cath Tizard. The women who attended included a political scientist, various candidates in the coming election and others active in their own party.

Discussion was opened on the most immediate proposal related to politics, put forward by the Buller Women's Collective: '..... encourage all women to register a vote of no-confidence in either party.' The general consensus of opinion from the group was that this proposal was naive in its assumption of effectiveness. The large number of invalid votes registered would conceal the reason for invalidation. It was also felt that relatively few people vote only on one issue - therefore a vote of no confidence would not necessarily correspond with a protest against the abortion laws.

More workable alternatives to the basic idea of a protest vote were called for. One of the group spoke for a proposal suggested in an earlier workshop: 'to encourage women to vote on the abortion issue, or to consider abortion as a major priority when casting a vote'. The latter part of this proposal received much support. However, arising from this was the problem that so many candidates do not make their position clear on the topic, but prefer to sit on the fence, swaying to the left or right depending on who is confronting them. People should be encouraged to go to election meetings and stand up and question the candidate until they are forced to take a definite stand on the subject.

A further alternative was suggested by Cath Tizard. She said that national abstention from voting as a protest was pointless. However it was a possibility that abstention in one marginal electorate where both candidates were anti-abortion might have some effect. This would, of course, depend on publicity - both urging women not to vote and also noting the significant decline in numbers voting. After further discussion, Ms Butterworth (political scientist) added that a vote for a third party or a non-vote was in reality 'a vote for Muldoon'.

Placing a sticker on the outside of the folded vote pronouncing that abortion was one of the main priorities when voting was put forward as an idea. The Press would be interested in this and publicity would surely result. But the legal aspects involved had to be gone into, as the exact law on defacement was not known.

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# WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONFERENCE

A major point discussed was how to encourage women to go to the polls. No really constructive conclusion was drawn - it is almost impossible to encourage the politically disinterested. However the group thought it important to provide people with information as to candidates' attitudes to abortion. Many felt the best way to do this was to ask candidates a structured list of questions at public meetings.

The question of a national referendum was raised. Some thought it was perhaps the only way left to show public opinion. Others felt it unnecessary; the recent Heylen Poll had done this. Also a large risk is taken with a referendum as the wording of the question is extremely important.

After some further talk and argument the workshop dispersed. Ideas had circulated, and heads were buzzing - now it all has to be put into practice.



Jenny Robb

## ABORTION AND THE LAW

Exactly what was expected to come out of the workshop on 'Abortion and the Law' is debatable. Instead of any definite proposals on legal action, suggestions to pro-abortion lawyers or whatever else may have been envisaged, this workshop dealt solely with the law. And the primary reason for this was that most of the twelve or so women present were surprisingly ignorant of the Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Bill passed at the end of last year.

If one accepts that a conference on abortion is attended only by the converted, this is a surprising fact. But it seemed true. And if the pro-abortionists don't understand the full implications of the Act how can the woman in the street be expected to come to grips with the new situation?

The workshop's only proposal was put forward specifically to overcome this problem. Each woman at the workshop had been given a 9 page booklet published by the Women and the Law Research Foundation. An explanation and simplification of the Bill, it is however too large and complex to be used as a general information handout. Instead the workshop felt that a 1 page leaflet should be printed, for nationwide distribution, giving in the form of questions and answers, a brief summary of the grounds for abortion and the steps required to obtain one.

Although this may have been the only concrete proposal to come out of the 'Abortion and the Law' workshop it was certainly not the only point of interest. Workshop participants represented a surprising cross-section of society. In a conference that seemed dominated by younger women, it was good to see a significant number of women over 40 in this workshop.

Discussion centred around both the procedural aspects of the Bill and the grounds for being granted an abortion. With the establishment of a Supervisory Committee and a system of registered consultants the procedure has been greatly complicated. A woman seeking an abortion may have to see as many as 4 doctors before a decision has even been made. And if her own doctor is against abortion, he can significantly influence the decision of the two consultants through his comments on the matter. He can also ignore the 14 day time limit set between a woman's visit to her own doctor and the visit to the consultants; there is no penalty for taking longer and so decreasing a woman's chances of obtaining a safe abortion.

The new provisions covering the grounds for abortion appear in the Crimes Act. Previously the law allowed for abortion on the condition that the performing doctor honestly believed that the abortion was necessary to preserve the woman from serious danger to her physical or mental health. Although the Woolnough Case was won on these grounds, at the time the Court of Appeal stressed that the Legislature needed to define the meaning of 'unlawful' in regard to abortion.

This has now been done and abortion is now illegal unless the pregnancy is the result of rape, the woman is severely subnormal or the danger to the woman's mental and physical health 'cannot be averted by any other means.' And this is the catch. If lying in bed for the entire pregnancy will 'avert' any danger to the woman's health, she can be denied an abortion. Rape and extreme youth or old age are not grounds for abortion. Although they can be taken into consideration, on their own they are not sufficient reason for an abortion to be granted.

And so, very briefly, that's where the law puts us. In a corner. Repeal of this legislation would provide a chance to re-think the situation. It would also bring the previous legislation back into force, and although that is no real solution, God knows, it's better than abortion flights to Sydney at over \$500 a pop.

## DECISIONS

Any conference or meeting that brings forward proposals must be lengthy. AUSA Executive meetings sometimes carry through till early morning; SRC meetings would too if the quorum wasn't always lost. The Women's Abortion Rights Conference was no exception and although opinion was sometimes divided, it was to no greater extent than for any other issue.

As it turned out the entire Sunday session was devoted to the discussion of and voting on action proposals. The Steering Committee had divided these into sections; those put forward by the Steering Committee; counter-proposals; and amendments and additions. The counter-proposals which were discussed first aroused some of the heaviest debate as they were considered by many to be going against the spirit of the conference.

The first to be discussed was a proposal put forward by the Every Woman Can Collective. In the form of a poem/statement, it hit out strongly at what these women saw as the complacent tone of the conference - 'Men have power over women./ All relationships between men and women are political ..... The proposals so far put forward by this conference are an acknowledgement and acceptance of men's power.' The E.W.C. Collective believed that the only 'valid' proposal would be withdrawal of the 'personal support which each woman gives to the patriarchy through individual men ..... A woman's right to choose ..... to say no, no, no, every time NO.'

And the arguments raged. This sort of action would be 'too private, too personal' when what the conference was trying to achieve was collective action. Another woman argued that it was playing 'men's games' by trying to attract attention through the media. (And it did too - when a week or so later this group formed 'Lysistrata' it gained more media coverage than the whole conference had.) One of the women who'd come from Wellington pointed out that as most women active enough to come to the conference would have sympathetic boyfriends/husbands or whatever this was a negative step which would alienate male support in the pro-abortion movement. Another dangerous aspect would be the very real possibility of women losing their jobs if they refused to work for men.

When this motion was lost in the voting a similar amendment which had come out of the Lesbian Workshop was withdrawn, but only temporarily. It proposed a national day (either April 1 or September 19) on which women would withdraw their support from to protest the abortion legislation. This was fought on the same grounds as the previous proposal and was lost. Sadly, this split the conference to some extent and a number of lesbians then left. Fortunately it was over what sort of action to take rather than the sticky question of philosophy.

After this the conference moved rather more easily through the proposals. The Buller Women's Collective asked the conference to endorse a no confidence campaign in the General Election. This motion was unanimously lost on the grounds that it was a destructive use of women's votes. Janet Roth, the Chairperson for this part of the conference, also pointed out that such votes would be counted as invalid and not specifically as votes against the abortion legislation.

The last of the counter-proposals concerned the great bogey of all organisations - when shall we act. The March 8 Committee from Wellington wanted national mobilisation on the evening of Friday June 2. The Steering Committee had proposed 'peaceful protest' for the weekend of April 1 (when the Bill comes into force), the opening of Parliament, and meetings of the leaders of the major political parties. Also included was a 'nationwide abortion rights mobilisation' on Friday September 15 - Women's Suffrage Weekend.

The question of timing is always crucial and arguments for and against continued for some time. The March 8 Committee wanted time for planning and also maintained that without students (and this could happen as Muldoon can open Parliament whenever he wants) any demonstration would be severely weakened. Finally the motion was put in such a way that it was a choice between demonstrating on the opening of Parliament or on some other date. The former was adopted.

Finally the major proposals from the Steering Committee were discussed and put to the vote. With minor amendments they were all carried unanimously. In brief, the conference adopted the following principles:

- call for the repeal of the Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion legislation and give women the right to choose safe legal and free abortion
- declare 1978 Abortion Action Year
- call on all women's and abortion rights organisations to intensify their activities to advance the cause of abortion rights
- support the Repeal petition
- promote discussion on the abortion issue in every possible way
- publicise the issue to the public and politicians through action (see dates above)

Following the passage of these major proposals the amendments and additions came up for discussion. The Abortion and the Law workshop promoted a nationwide leafletting campaign to explain the new legislation. This was adopted although where the money for such an enormous project will come from is left open to speculation.

The next amendment asked the conference to investigate the opinions of all certifying consultants and publicise a list of those 'unsympathetic' to abortion. Although it was pointed out that few 'unsympathetic' doctors would wish to be interviewed, this motion was carried. It is doubtful however that anything will come of it.

It seemed by this time that everything would flow through with the ease of the last two amendments - but not so. The next amendment read: 'That this conference gives support to individuals or organisations throughout the country that educate on or provide non-exploitative facilities for menstrual extraction to women in need.'

Menstrual extraction involves inserting a flexible tube through the cervix, circulating it for a few minutes and then suctioning out the menstrual flow. In New Zealand menstrual extraction is illegal, the maximum sentence for instruction in menstrual extraction is 7 years imprisonment; for providing facilities it is 14 years imprisonment. The woman who had put forward this proposal spoke strongly in favour of menstrual extraction. In fact it sounded as if it was her only form of contraceptive, even though it is known to be dangerous. She maintained that some doctors do perform menstrual extractions and offered to show the conference the equipment used. But voting mercifully came first and almost overwhelmingly the conference voted against this proposal.

Many of the remaining amendments have little bearing on the issue as a whole. They were minor points concerning organisation and many were considered only as suggestions. The most important of these was the move to consider abortion when voting in the General Election in November. It was proposed that all candidates be polled for their views on abortion and that this information be made public through leafletting and posters.

A large number of the proposals adopted by the conference are almost doomed to hit the dust, and perhaps it would be better if they did. Although action proposals are important (especially those concerning publications, demonstrations and the election) they were not the most important aspect of the conference. It was the women and their strength of conviction that impressed most. There will never be total unity, but to get somewhere in the region of 200 or 300 women together for a weekend to discuss action .... that's something.

But it's certainly not the end. And we'll only be one step closer to the sunset when the oppressive abortion laws are repealed.



# The American Dream

Tom Bradley is one of those suave Americans who dresses in dark suits and sports a snappy moustache. He has a young and attractive wife too. The American Dream come true, except that he's the Mayor of Los Angeles, the 3rd largest city in the United States, and he's black.

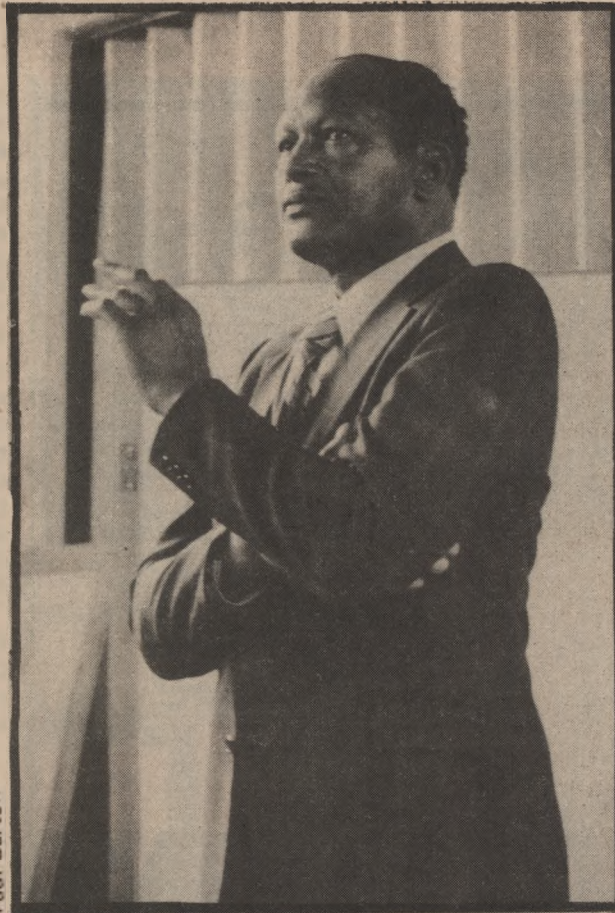
Mayor Bradley was in Auckland several weeks ago on his 'tour of duty' as the Kennedy Fellow for 1978. Although his address on 'The Position of Blacks in American Society' (to a pitifully small audience in MacLaurin Hall) scarcely covered the field it did illuminate the seemingly paradoxical status of Blacks in the U.S.

When Bradley first ran for mayor of L.A. in 1969, his opponent mounted a campaign against him based almost solely on the racist tendencies of the voters. Bradley lost. In 1973 he ran again. Bradley puts the 53% he won down to 'the maturity of the people in Los Angeles' but one wonders just how realistic that assessment is.

Since the Supreme Court's decision to desegregate schools in the 1950s the Black's fight to attain the rights due to American citizens has steadily gained momentum. The Black Power movement of the late 1960s and early 1970s marked the peak of the struggle. But now it's the late 1970s and things have certainly cooled down. Many of the demands made by Black groups have been met, although their implementation still causes problems - for example the rioting in Boston in reaction to the bussing of white schoolchildren to Black ghetto schools.

Mayor Bradley's election to mayor seems more a result of this nation-wide wave of 'liberalism' (largely confined to Black civil rights, strangely enough) than the 'maturity' of Californians. Whereas in 1965 there were only 500 Blacks holding any sort of public office in the entire United States, there are now 4,000 in such positions; 17 of these are in Congress and 160 are mayors.

But desegregated schools and governmental positions for Blacks do not a paradise make. In answer to Prof. Jim Holt's question about Black residential areas Mayor Bradley conceded that the situation had not improved a great deal. The employment situation has been



Paul Barton

greatly helped by the establishment of affirmative action programmes - using a quota system to ensure that all minority groups have an equal opportunity to employment - in many large industries. Although this has, to an extent, allowed for greater 'social' escalation - and this is verified by the growth of a Black middle class - Blacks still live in 'ghetto' conditions. The stigma of the Black next door still remains but as Mayor Bradley

points out total integration will take 'more time and more money.'

Affirmative action programmes have also been established in many universities and colleges in the United States. These have resulted in a great number of scholarships and grants being made available to students from minority groups and special places are set aside for them in graduate schools. This system has caused problems, the most important of which is the growing feeling among white Anglo-Saxon Americans that they are being discriminated against in favour of minority groups. This has come to a head with the Bakke case currently before the Supreme Court. Bakke maintains that although he had higher grades than minority group students who gained admission to a University of California Medical School, he was refused admission. The Supreme Court's decision on this case could, as Bradley says, 'have a huge impact on every affirmative action programme in the country.'

In his own city Bradley has initiated his own reforms in city government. With the motto 'Let us squeeze every dollar before we spend it' he initiated a stringent fiscal policy for Los Angeles. As well as being active in every 'socially conscious' programme one could think of (recycling, community relations, etc.) he introduced 'administrative co-ordinators' who are essentially ombudsmen moving around the city. As an indication of this enthusiasm for the affirmative action programmes Bradley has insisted that in order to do business with the Los Angeles city government a company must be operating such a programme. In addition to all this the crime rate in the city of the angels has decreased in the last 7 years - a situation rare in any American city.

And yet the schools in L.A. have still not been desegregated. Although this is a problem for the Board of Education and not the mayor, it does reflect the strange position of Blacks in the U.S. today. On the one hand they are 'represented' in government and have far greater employment opportunities. On the other - jobs are short and politicians, no matter what colour, are still politicians .....

LOUISE CHUNN

## 'He's Just A Bloody Pooftah!'

This is the second of a series of articles seeking greater awareness of homosexuality, especially on this campus. A university is supposed to be a place of 'light', of understanding and of liberal ideas - but in the area of gay understanding and acceptance this university fails as much as New Zealand society at large fails.

I look around and I see most gays still fearfully in their closets, leading double lives and devoting wasted energies to a straight facade that almost fools everyone, including themselves.

Yet, it is obvious to me why this is. New Zealand has adopted a policy of active rejection of gays, exemplified by the harsh laws and carried out by public attitudes and outlooks. It takes a brave young gay to come out even in these so-called liberal times. First, there is that law, which for guys could result in up to 14 years' imprisonment for loving another guy; then there's the church which condemns homosexual acts, although not the homosexual (what a subtle difference!), and the medical profession which still tends to look for causes of this 'sickness'. However, the most stress comes from the society at large in the form of direct abuse, interference and rejection, and in a subtle way creates pressure after pressure for all of us to be straight. Many gays fear rejection from their most important support systems - parents and friends, and indeed, this is sometimes the result of their revealing their sexual orientation.

All this points to a crazy situation and one that is often intolerable for the gay guy or girl. As a result of this labelling everything we do is interpreted through the framework of our homosexuality. It's like having a straight thief and identifying his crime with heterosexuality - yet this is what happens to gays. Thus, things aren't made too easy for us by the straight-dominated world of which this university is part.

What, then, can we all do to begin to understand and accept our gay brothers and sisters? First we should be aware that anyone can be gay (yes, even that sexy, blond, another student with the plunging neckline) and that we have no right to assume that anyone is straight. Thus, we should use with care questions like: 'Why don't you bring a girlfriend round for dinner?' - and so on. We should also avoid 'queer' jokes because they only reinforce the stereotype and add to the many misconceptions already existing about gays.

I think the real problem is not what you say you think about homosexuality but what you don't say and do think.

Finally, we ask you to come along to our meetings every Friday afternoon in the Exec lounge at 4.00 pm, and to join in our various campaigns for election year.

- any boy under the age of sixteen years; or
- (b) Does any indecent act with or upon any boy under the age of sixteen years; or
- (c) Induces or permits any boy under the age of sixteen years to do any indecent act with or upon him.
- (2) No person under the age of twenty-one years shall be charged with committing or being a party to an offence against this section.
- (3) It is no defence to a charge under this section that the boy consented.
- Cf. 1908, No. 32, s. 154 (1) (c), (2); 1941, No. 10, part Schedule
- 141. Indecency between males—**(1) Every one is liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years who, being a male,—
- (a) Indecently assaults any other male; or
- (b) Does any indecent act with or upon any other male; or
- (c) Induces or permits any other male to do any indecent act with or upon him.
- (2) No boy under the age of sixteen years shall be charged with committing or being a party to an offence against paragraph (b) or paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of this section, unless the other male was under the age of twenty-one years.
- (3) It is no defence to a charge under this section that the other party consented.
- Cf. 1908, No. 32, s. 154 (1) (c), (2); 1941, No. 10, part Schedule
- 2. Sodomy—**(1) Every one who commits sodomy is liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding fourteen years:—
- (a) Where the act of sodomy is committed on a female,

- (4) other person
- Cf. 1908, No. 10, part Schedule
- 143. Bestiality—**Every one is liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years who commits an offence against this section.
- (2) This section applies to any act of bestiality.
- Cf. 1908, No. 10, part Schedule
- 144. Indecent exposure—**Every one is liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years who commits an offence against this section.
- (2) This section applies to any act of indecent exposure.
- Cf. 1908, No. 10, part Schedule
- 145. Criminal Nuisance—**Every one is liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years who commits an offence against this section.
- (2) This section applies to any act of criminal nuisance.
- Cf. 1908, No. 10, part Schedule
- 146. Criminal Damage—**Every one is liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years who commits an offence against this section.
- (a) Where the act of criminal damage is committed on a building,

# De

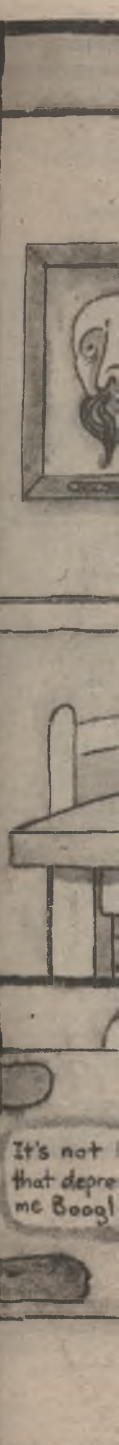
NZUSA in 1978 was small. With only two others, it got its act together in order to first gain increased representation. Both of the other two drew belief, but not action, just not.

Following the National Executive's decision, constituents, average Joe/John, channel where they could receive were sound to being done to.

So the NZUS that the Working Party submissions possible, where association of organisations various ecology will be writing any ideas the You may wish students' association.

The Working Party former NZUS constituent F. John Blincoe 1974-1975 and constituent F. Guy Macindoe Waikato.

The Terms of Reference deliberately left student feedback.





# Death By Suicide

NZUSA in 1978 is beset with problems both large and small. With motions to withdraw from two campuses (Canterbury and Lincoln) and murmurings from one or two others, NZUSA is now in the situation where it must get its act together and initiate sufficient changes in order to firstly get wayward campuses back and secondly gain increased student support on a nation-wide basis. Both of the two campuses that have motions to withdraw believe in some sort of National student organisation, just not NZUSA in its present form.

Following some heated moments at the last NZUSA National Executive meeting it became obvious that constituents, whether they be elected politicians or your average Joe/Josephine student needed some sort of channel where their criticisms and ideas on NZUSA could receive an impartial hearing. And if their ideas were sound they stood a good chance of something being done to implement them.

So the NZUSA Working Party was born. The idea is; that the Working Party calls for (and receives!) submissions from as many students and organisations as possible, whether they be your local students' association or any one of the many affiliated organisations, such as Amnesty International or the various ecology groups. Your local students' association will be writing their own submissions and if you have any ideas then the President is the first person to see. You may wish to have your ideas incorporated into the students' association submission or do one of your own.

The Working Party has a membership of 4 people, 1 former NZUSA National Officer and three current constituent Presidents. The former NZUSA Officer is John Blincoe who was NZUSA General Vice President in 1974-1975 and NZUSA President in 1976. The constituent Presidents are Mike Lee from Canterbury, Guy Macindoe from Lincoln and Doug Drever from Waikato.

The Terms of Reference for the working party were deliberately left quite broad so as to encourage as much student feedback as possible.

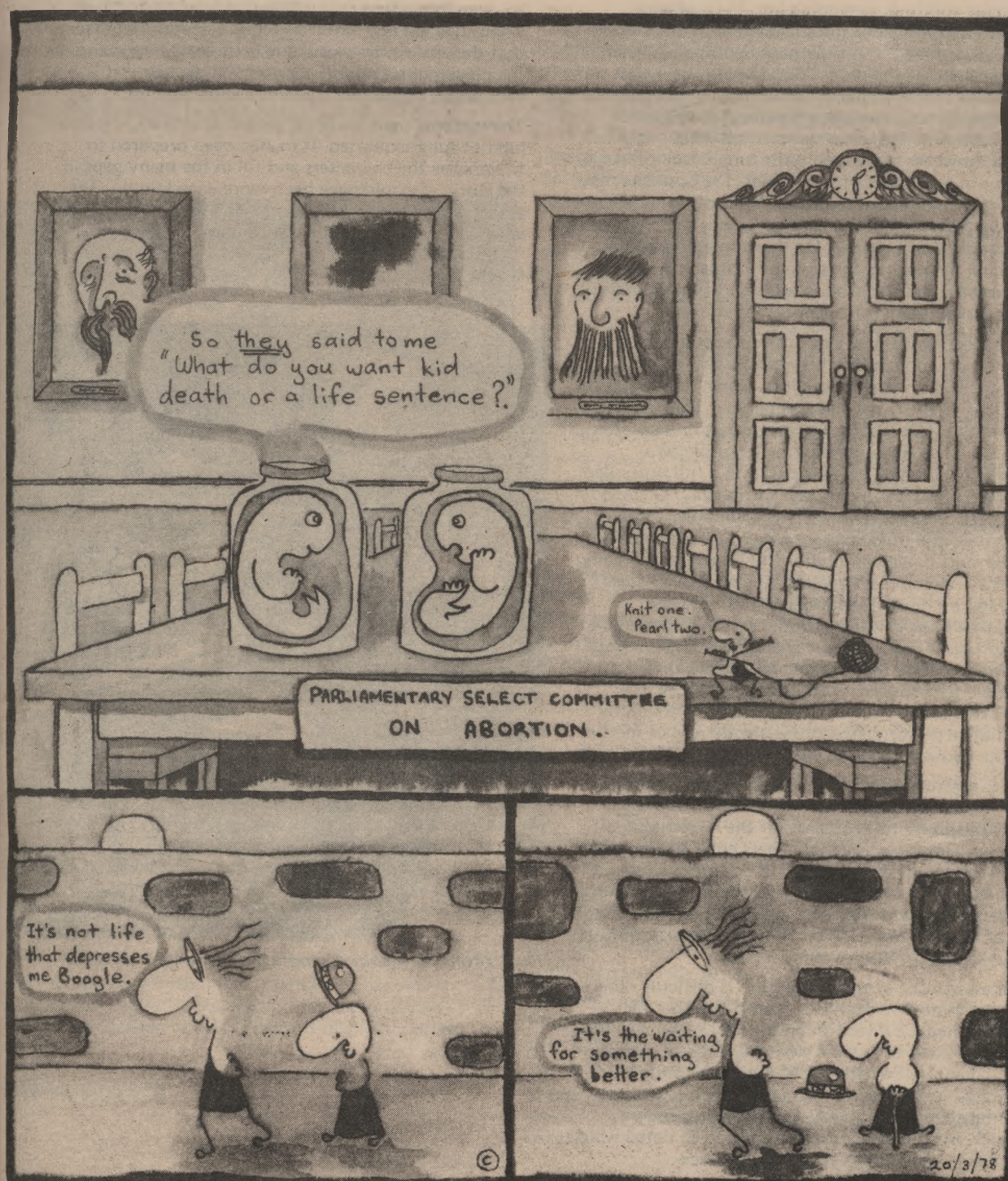
The terms of reference cover three very broad areas, (1) NZUSA's Role, (2) Whether or not it is fulfilling this role and (3) suggestions for improvement in NZUSA and its Structure. If you decide to write a submission or even drop NZUSA a letter outlining your ideas then see your local President first for further details on the Working Party. We'd prefer it if the submission was typed but that point isn't stressed. If you do want to type it then there is secretarial help available at your local students' assoc. office.

All submissions should reach the convenor by no later than April 27th so that the submissions can be compiled into a report to be presented at the NZUSA May Council to be held in Lincoln. The Terms of Reference of the Working Party will come up once again for discussion there too.

Miracles are not expected from the results accruing from the Working Party, nobody believes that. But the Working Party is a start in the right direction if reforms and changes are to come to NZUSA this year. This is a chance to have your say in the running of your national student organisation. And now more than ever your voice has to be heard. Don't let it pass you by.

Send your submissions or queries to:

THE WORKING PARTY ON NZUSA,  
P.O. BOX 9047,  
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# Festival Theatre

THE PRISONER OF SECOND AVENUE  
NEIL SIMON  
NEW INDEPENDENT THEATRE

An enormous number of varying elements can make a production 'good'. And of these one often over looked is its 'suitability' to the theatre company staging it. Often has the heavy hammer of criticism beaten on New Independent for erring wildly in this direction; their facilities are small, the cast is amateur, and they seem so busy over-reaching themselves that almost all their talent is wasted.

But now, like the green light at the end of the jetty, comes a play that suits New Independent down to the ground. It's not too drawn out, it requires only one set and 6 actors and, mercifully, it's funny. It's also an excellent production, possibly the best evening show I've ever seen there.

Robin Turkel, the ex-T.V. and theatre reviewer for the Herald, plays the paranoid New Yorker, Mel Edison. Turkel's a native; he even lived in the same area and he catches every shred of tension and exploits it beautifully.

Equally convincing is Eleanor Wragge, the assistant to the manager of the Maidment, who plays Mel's wife, Edna. God knows why her talents haven't been used more extensively around here.



Eleanor Wragge and Robin Turkel in 'The Prisoner of Second Avenue.'

With the enormous energy exuded by these two it's easy and perhaps best to ignore the rather superfluous appearance of Mel's brothers and sisters. The struggle between Mel and Edna and their struggle with New York and its insane pressures is the play - nothing else is necessary.

'The Prisoner of Second Avenue' is on as a part of the Auckland Festival. Judging from recent reports, the 'other' theatres have not come up with anything greatly stimulating. So it's off to the New Independent for an extremely polished and professional night of theatre.

LOUISE CHUNN

THE ROYAL HUNT OF THE SUN  
PETER SHAFFER  
MERCURY ONE

At the most fundamental level Peter Shaffer's 'The Royal Hunt of the Sun' is vexed by problems arising from the sheer scale and scope of the events which it seeks to portray. The depiction of the conquest of a nation of twenty-four million men by a band of one hundred and sixty-seven foreigners is a tall order and makes demands upon present-day theatrical resources at least equal to those which Shakespeare experienced in trying to reduce the Battle of Agincourt to fit within the compass of his 'wooden O'.

Shaffer is confronted by the problem of presenting the immense and vitally important moral issues inherent in his choice of subject matter in terms of a conventional and complacent theatrical medium. Not surprisingly therefore the play's genuine intellectual content is slight and the emphasis really lies upon relating an interesting historical narrative with the maximum of theatrical craftsmanship and ingenuity. Thus, as in *Equus* in which the horror of the central action is supposedly vitiated by the glib tying together of Freudian allusions which serves as a conclusion, the distinctive features of 'The Royal Hunt of the Sun' are aesthetic rather than moral.



The Mercury's 'Royal Hunt of the Sun'

Hence one must accept that it is intended for presentation principally as a spectacular pageant in the grand manner. How appropriate, one is tempted to observe, to the Mercury One programme where it replaces a proposed season of Ibsen's 'Pillars of Society'.

Unfortunately however the Mercury's resources are rather conspicuously inadequate in meeting the demands of the play's spectacular style. An obvious inadequacy is the rather cramped stage area which lacks the depth of perspective necessary in many of the larger scenes. A thrust-stage addition, extending into the audience, serves only to emphasise the shallowness of the stage proper. Nevertheless this is perhaps appropriate when one considers that the production has also been cast on a small scale and attempts to get by with a minimum of extra Incas. Given more disciplined and purposeful choreography the illusion of greater numbers might be achieved, however there is an unfortunate lack of clarity and focus in the scenes of Inca ritual. The opposite may be said of the common soldiers of Pizarro's army whose refreshingly tight ensemble work provides the real source of the production's energy. On the whole, the attempt at reducing the play to the scale of intimate theatre is not successful and the production's occasional bursts of visual grandeur seem somehow out of context.

At the centre of the play's dramatic structure is the confrontation and conflict between its two major characters, Pizarro and Atahualpa, which dominates the second half as the ritual and spectacle of 'The Hunt' dominate the first. George Henare gives a fine account of the role of Atahualpa, developing from the two-dimensional figure of the first half into a fully rounded and human character by the end of the play. Graeme Eaton copes impressively with the sometimes rather over-written role of Pizarro, however he has about him from the start an air of nobility and breeding not really appropriate to the bluff and brutal mercenary whose origins are, by his own admission, in the pig-sty. Consequently there is little room for him to undergo a growth in personal awareness and stature in the second half comparable to that of Atahualpa, and their confrontation loses some of its dramatic potential as a result. Ernie Stanley gives a finely judged and quietly authoritative performance in the pivotal role of Martin Ruiz, the narrator of the story.

Shaffer's infatuation with the use of ornate language largely for its own sake is apparent in the sometimes rather strained rhetoric of some of the secondary characters. On the whole the players cope well enough with this although there is the odd occasion when one feels that a personal desire to make the most of a purple passage has been indulged at the expense of the overall shape of a scene. Nevertheless most characterisations are marked by a general sense of cohesion.

A final assessment of the production is difficult - there are so many positive elements, drawn together by generally energetic direction on the part of Ian Mullins, that it is difficult to explain why the piece as a whole fails to convince. Perhaps it is simply due to the exaggerated importance which must be attached to incidental elements in a play so lacking in genuine substance, for it is really just inattention to detail which undermines this attempt at stylish spectacle.

MURRAY BEASLEY

EAST STREET  
CHRIS SHEIL  
THEATRE CORPORATE

This is a play set in Auckland in the 1880's. The programme notes call it a documentary play and they are right. It is the reconstruction of a court case involving the death of Hugh Hamilton, a man who lived in East Street, off Karangahape Road.

The play is presented on a set of the court, placed in the middle of the audience. The characters are all dressed in contemporary rather than historical costume and from the beginning the reality alternates between that of the lives of the people involved in the drama of the murder itself, and the actors who are eagerly watching and involved in solving the mystery of the case. I found this quite confusing to watch - the clatter of the judges hammer was heard so often it became tedious. Especially at the beginning, it was difficult to fix one's attention on what was happening - there was so much chopping and changing.

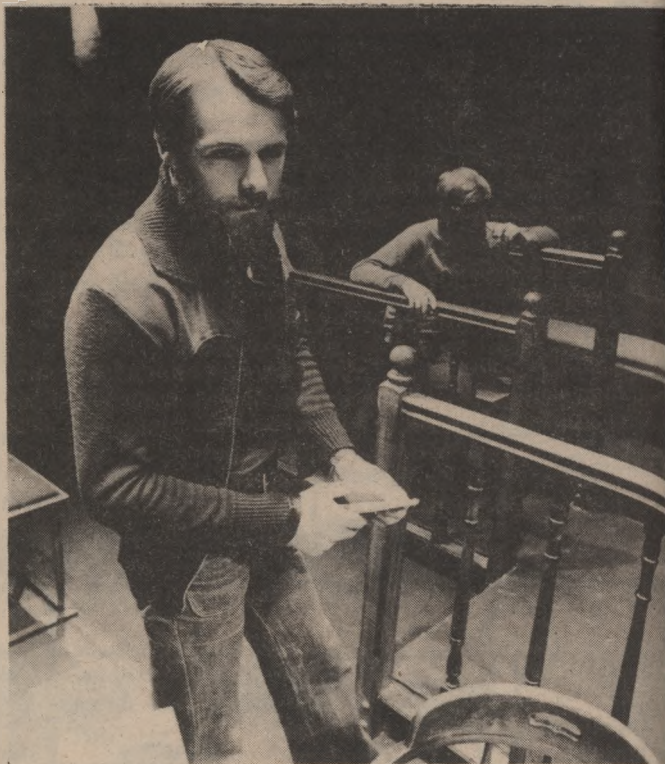
Finally they caught my attention at the end of the first half when the old gossip of the East Street neighbourhood got up and raved in a very accusing and amusing manner about the goings on in the house of Hugh Hamilton. Marion Parry certainly made us laugh.

The second half was more gripping - here we had longer sketches showing the various relationships involved. At long last we had some idea of what was going on. The contrasts in the different scenes were intriguing. The character of Marion Hamilton is however not really convincing. She is the central figure in the play and all we find is that she has a good supply of sexual hangups which are complicated by her relationship with Tom Priestley, a young man training to be a minister. Here the writer wallows in the details a bit much for my enjoyment without making any definite statement which, of course, could offend the descendants of the family. Linda Cartwright as Marion, almost manages to convince us.

The play ends with the verdict of the court case which declares Marion and her young friend Tom innocent of the murder of Hugh Hamilton. No attempt is made to comment on the case, despite the fact that the 'actors' are seen in modern costume and playing themselves when they are not in the sketches. I suppose the fact that this little extra was the idea of the director and not the playwright accounts for this. All the same, it is not very satisfying, in fact it seems a contradiction.

The material used has great potential which Chris Sheil has not fully exploited. If he had been prepared to fictionalise the characters and fill in the many gaps in the story, it would have been more entertaining. The acting and direction has Corporate's usual slick polish which showed it to its best advantage.

C.H.M.



Paul Gittins in Theatre Corporate's production of 'East Street.'

# Li

IMPULSE D  
KENNETH  
MARCH 20

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DONNA YUZ



# Live And In Person

**IMPULSE DANCE**  
**KENNETH MAIDMENT THEATRE**  
**MARCH 20**

For a start, the choice of the Old Maid as a venue was a bad one. The tiny audience formed a nucleus of appreciation in the otherwise gaping mouth of the theatre - so many empty rows of seats can't be inspiring for the live performer. Furthermore, the length and breadth of the stage tampered with the group's visual solidarity; one was aware of the stretches of stage behind and between the dancers, rendering them at times separate entities rather than mutually reinforcing components of a whole. This is but one aspect of an impression of vacuity that stayed with me throughout the evening.

Emotional content is almost non-existent and when it was there, was clumsily handled; neither did one find oneself moved to excitement and delight by pure physical prowess. As for being moved to laughter, it is perhaps from the group's attempts at humour that my impression of vacuity chiefly stems. With the exception of 'A Wedding Album', (Poulenc) a satirical evocation of the excitements and frustrations of a wedding day, we were given neither wit, nor irony nor satire, but a kind of slapstick which smacked of Saturday night at the local church hall.

If you are about five years old (like the row of little girls behind me who chortled throughout) you too might be delighted at the spectacle of a man and a woman dressed in 'outrageous' (and therefore funny?) clothes, moving jerkily and falling over each other in time to 'When I'm 64', but I wasn't. 'New Zealand's Professional Modern Company' doesn't have to engage in a serious grapple with their artistic pretensions, but could at least be amusing, and leave such tomfoolery to second rate circus performers.

The sort of expertise we were treated to in one dance, where a dancer portrayed, with beautiful control, grace and elegance the balancing feats of the flamingo, was wasted at the expense of keeping the audience entertained. The group seemed obsessed with variety and visual stimuli - flashing lights, gaudy costumes, a bewildering diversity of themes and music - while content emerged as somewhat feeble afterthought.

One of the first dances, 'Somebody', had two women fluttering and swooping to the deep-toned tremors of Joan Armatrading's singing. The woman's voice was too powerful for the dancers, her words rang out and moved us, not the dancers movements, which were mere suggestion compared to the emotion of the singing.



Yet I must temper my criticism with mention of the mature, convincing work they could deliver. With the Beatles' number, 'She's leaving home', words, music and movement were wedded and the dancing did add a third dimension to the music, meeting its demands instead of falling far short of them. Two figures dressed in black, and a girl dressed in a pink dress representing the characters in the song; mother, father and daughter. The movements of the parent-figures and their costumes relegated them to the realms of the girl's conscience - they would encircle her, then drop away, pulling her towards them until she, defiant and determined finally, broke away. The dancers complemented the narrative of the Beatles' song with their own psychological interpretation.

Such a performance was almost enough to make me believe that Impulse Dance need not be doomed to a future of performing at rich children's birthday parties after all.

**DONNA YUZWALK**



*Leo Kottke, in his own words a 'total addict of the guitar' and in other people's, 'asix and twelve string guitar player with the brilliance of a virtuoso's virtuoso', is doing an Australian and New Zealand tour this month. Auckland date will be Monday April 17, at His Majesty's Theatre. Only one album is at present available in New Zealand, 'Leo Kottke', which is distributed through Festival Records. And his style? descriptions range from 'the best folk guitarist', to 'American classical.'*

**GEORGE BENSON**  
**HIS MAJESTYS**  
**SUNDAY MARCH 26**

'So de roadies wanna be stars dese days, huh?' So it seemed at the George Benson concert on Sunday night, anyway. One roadie insisted and persisted in repeatedly encroaching into the spotlight with any small task for an excuse - playing with leads, mikes, amps, drumsticks etc; even to the point of bringing the bass player a hat, obsequiously placed on a speaker box and never even worn throughout the night! Private jokes?

Nevertheless, despite a late start - the lights were still being set up as the audience took their seats - the band was in fine form; Benson relaxed and fluent with both his voice and his fingers. The band was picked from the studios of New York and L.A.

Pianist Jorge Dalto performed some energetic solos on both acoustic and electric instruments apart from his off-putting 'Who .... was that me .... did I play that .... am I the genius ....?' manner and general fooling with the audience. Keyboardist Ronnie Foster, a gum-chewing high-balling synthesizer specialist, backed, filled and goofed around admirably. Bassist Stanley Banks was a solid, laid back, head-rolling tambourine-stomping hulk. And Hugo M., a strange little epileptic drummer who grimaced obscenely every time he struck a syncopated accentuation. They were good to listen to, great to watch.

But Benson was the man. Cool and in control up front behind his hollow-bodied electric guitar and all-encompassing grin, clad in creamy white he shone as a star in a spot. His playing was laid well back, quiet, fluid, almost laconic, introspective, and although all his solos and introductions were constructed along much the same lines, his technique was quite dazzling. And his voice a mellow synthesis of Stevie Wonder/Billy Preston. His soul shines black through and through.

The material was largely taken from his three big-selling Warner Bros. albums (we were constantly informed). The presentation was slick but not forced. Various feels, soft ballads ('Lady Blue', 'Masquerade'), rocky soul ('The World is a Ghetto', 'The Greatest Love of All'), quiet pseudo-jazz ('Ode to a Kudu'), funky disco jass ('Weekend in L.A.', 'Breezin'), were all handled fluently and with sophistication. And we were given many examples of his notorious in-tandem-scat-singing-and-guitar-playing - the Benson trademark.

Two surprises were a version of a Brubeck standard, 'Take Five', which didn't really take kindly to a disco back beat; and 'On Broadway', a rousing show-stopper which Wilson Pickett once sang superbly.

It was a good concert; the audience loved him, he loved them ..... what more could you want? Some real jazz maybe?

**TIM NEES**

**POETRY READING**  
**THE ISLAND OF REAL**  
**MARCH 16**

Oh, the anonymity of print - your signature but never your face. Those cutting remarks designed to shrivel the plushest Parker, still the quivering keys of the sleekest typewriter - while viperous you, you can walk amongst the crowd unremarked - secure in jeans and jandals.

Thus, I tottered to the Island of Real on March 16, to review (ha ha) the tenuous vibrations of New Zealand women's poetry ... to find people turned away at the door such was the anticipation.

The cafe is divided into two rooms with an arch between, the first full of tables, the second clear - I say clear, clear of inanimate objects, but packed tight with 200 writhing, heaving, breathy little bodies, (hoping that Riemke might note their presence?)

While poised at the far end were three women huddled round on stools, uncomfortably exposed to the spotlight, as smoke hung ominously above them. (At this point I thought they were taking the 'atmosphere' too far - later I discovered it was Riemke's cigarette.)

Initially Jan Kemp, Riemke Ensing and Margaret Blay each read a poem, then they each read a bracket, Jan and Riemke from a selection of their own work, and Margaret a selection which included work by Ursula Bethel, Gloria Rawlinson and Janet Frame.

Audience reaction/participation was limited; Margaret Blay was obviously reading poetry, and not her own, in her efforts reducing the work to almost facile dimensions. Jan Kemp obviously felt very vulnerable, and her voice raised in pitch, becoming tight and constricted, impeding the clarity, although she began to relax towards the end of the first session. Riemke was less obviously nervous, demanding audience participation for the first time, but initial enthusiasm had slackened.

The second half was much better. Jan decided it was not so bad after all and completely dominated the second session with her outstanding slightly fanatical 'Paper-boy-girl', while Riemke confirmed the impression of the first half - a magnetic speaker, but so forceful as to leave only room for her own interpretation. And Margaret, obviously happier, read some very slick poetry by Rachel McAlpine.

A second break and the third half - as it sounds, the third half was superfluous, and a proportion of the audience had already left or drifted into the other room to sit and talk.

But essentially it was a successful reading, the poetry diverse, individual and curiously personal. We need more of this sort of reading, judging by the response ... and more places like the Island of Real.

**CLAUDIA PERKINS**



*I hat's Graeme Brazier from Hello Sailor - pretty neat, huh? So good that the New Zealand Students' Arts Council are touring them through the country on the first excursion of this kind since the days of Split Enz. And if the Orientation Dance in the Rec Centre with attendance figures of around 2,000 is anything to go by, it'll be a real splash. There will be two Hello Sailor shows in Auckland. On Thursday April 6 they will once again chance the acoustic ideosyncracies of the Rec Centre. This is a dance and will cost \$2.50 a ticket. At the end of the tour, on Sunday April 16, Hello Sailor will appear in His Majesty's for a concert with Citizen Band, now famed for their original and innovative sound. Although it's \$3.00 a ticket (that is, more than \$2.50) it seems a better deal. Less sweat and more music.*



# Reviews

ROCKET TO RUSSIA  
THE RAMONES  
PHILLIPS (THRU PHONOGRAM)

These boys not only play their songs fast, they must write 'em pretty damn fast as well. This is the Ramones third outing on vinyl in one brief year. At fourteen songs an album it's obvious that they're setting a withering pace. The unfortunate effect of this seems to be that they have run themselves a little short of energy this time out.

However it's only by comparison with its illustrious predecessors that this album suffers. Their two previous efforts brought forth such fulsome praises from the Rock Press as 'the perfect Pop Group', 'the Seventies Beatles', 'the Best Pop Group on the Planet'. 'Rocket' will not earn them similar accolades. Nevertheless the brothers from the Bowery in New York are still showing a clean pair of heels (if you can say that about boys who wear such cheesy sneakers) to their fellows in the New Wave and indeed the rest of rock'n'roll. Talking in terms of quality output, while a few can match the quality of the Ramones, none can match their output.

What then of the album itself. Well it goes something like this. Johnny on guitar attacks the riff with unrelenting drive. Brothers Dee Dee on bass and Tommy on drums come roaring in behind to propel the band away at maniac pace. From this frenetic base Joey delivers the winningly inane lyrics with his appealing accent and corny phrasing. It's got to make you smile. Under two minutes later the sonic blitzkrieg is almost over. But as the last notes from the guitar are fading in the air Dee Dee screams the 1, 2, 3, 4, and they're off again in a blast of electricity attacking the next number with similar zest. It's their winning formula and they deliver it with a demented energy and bumbling charm that is all their own.

Standouts are numerous. Afficianados will love the 'frantic headbangers' 'Cretin Hop' and 'Teenage Lobotomy'. 'Hop' features another of their great chants a la 'Pinhead'. They also rework 60's surf bop with delightful results on 'Rockaway Beach', 'Surfin' Bird' and 'Sheena is a Punk Rocker'. 'Here Today, Gone Tomorrow' is another of their slowish love songs to super heavy backing. Joey croons while the band lumbers sympathetically along behind. Of course it's a joke, the speed blitz sound, the odd-ball lyrics, but the Ramones are in on it right from the start.

There are of course poor tracks but no more so than in the past. It is overall that the quality has slipped. Their previous albums were laden with instant classics. It is not so with 'Rocket'. If perhaps the album does not deserve this rave review the band sure does. It may not be another perfect album but it is another album by the perfect pop group.

DOMINIC FREE



THE MESSAGE  
MOUSTAPHA AKKAA  
EMBASSY CINEMA

This is a film whose title is suitably non-committal to attract any unsuspecting movie-goer. The film however makes no veiled allusion to its purpose. It is the story of the origins and essence of Islam. A tract that uses the facts of history as a means for teaching, or communicating, to use a more contemporary word, the salient 'good' points of the message from God to Mohammed.

The film is correct historically in what it shows, a fact verified by the credits shown at the beginning and by some research done by me after the film. This authenticity goes further by the number of the cast who have middle eastern names, including the director. Indeed there seem to be only two or three actors with distinctly European names. One of these being Anthony Quinn who really is only one of several lead roles of equal importance. I get the feeling that his name gets slightly larger type on the billboard, being the only

slightly well-known actor in the cast — as a sort of box office draw card. These little ploys are used on occasions throughout to assure, I suppose, as wide an audience as is possible.

Technically the film is of a fairly high standard. There are some awkward shifts between scenes to use the phrase loosely. The opening scenes seem to be trying to show the wide field that 'the message' covered in a short space of time. It then seems to move back a short space in time to before 'the message' had been given to Mohammed. I use the word 'seem' because of the afore mentioned scene shift difficulty and some awkward over-dubbing. There are some more awkward places where the theme changes from historical story to quasi-documentary on the teaching and practice of Islam. With the film being five and a half hours in the States we may have been spared even more preaching with our version being only three and a quarter hours (value for money perhaps?)

Essentially the film shows the birth and early growth of Islam in the face of persecution. The message essentially is 'There is one God and Mohammed is the messenger of God.' The person of Mohammed is not portrayed in the film, in deference to the Islam edict, not to make any image of God's prophet. This birth is backdropped against a fairly authentic picture of the city of Mecca, Mohammed's home. The society is portrayed as a corrupt social caste heirarchy supporting a plethora of religious practices, animism, totemism, idolatry, etc. Mohammed's message from God is to read and to understand, quite tricky for the illiterate Mohammed. This implies that he must teach the people. He does. 'There is one God.' Such a statement has its consequence in the theme of the film. The claim that all men are equal has implications for the slave system in Mecca. Likewise in respect for women, and other less profound edicts such as not to over-load your camel. The film-makers use the first two principles, or more correctly the abuse of the first two and effectively gain audience sympathy for the cause. One — the inhuman practice of burying female babies alive is recounted by a fortunate survivor with emotional intensity and abhorrence; and two the portrayal of the unjust punishment of a slave for refusing to obey an unjust command by his master.

I admire the dedication that pervades the film. Apart from a few technical flaws that have been mentioned the film is impressive and worth seeing, particularly from a historic viewpoint. The only point I would make in ending is in regard to the comment of Mohammed's that he did not know what would happen to him. A rather aim-defeating comment by the founder of a faith whose God is the same as the God of the Jews and Christians whose hope is in the life of things to come.

TONY WOOLLAMS

THE CONSERVATIVES  
GASH, DILKS, SOUTHGATE & RAMSDEN  
GEORGE ALLEN & UNWIN

NOTE: This book has NO pictures (1)

It must be one of the hardest things in the world to read and review a 492 (2) page text book on a topic which you have never studied, are not studying at the moment, and will probably never study at all, let alone think about. This book is on such a topic.

It's all about the British Conservative Party, 'the longest lived in the State', and traces the history of the party from Formation under Lord Liverpool, through the ministries of Disraeli, Baldwin, Churchill etc, to 1965 when Ted Heath took over (3). The book is particularly interested in looking at basic philosophy, and its application and rejection by the various Tory prime ministers.

Although this is a textbook, the reader does need to be on his or her (the book is unisex) guard. The authors presuppose a fair amount of historical knowledge. In just the first chapter, I didn't know what the 'Reform' and 'Corn' Acts were, or what 'Peterloo' was all about. And all sorts of people enter and leave the scene so quickly without a word of explanation of what they are doing there (4). A previous background in English history is essential, although I suppose it is possible to be totally ignorant of that and still pick up a vague (and I mean Vague) idea of what trends these acts and people entailed, even though you don't always know what the hell they were all about.

The other thing to watch out for is the fact that all the authors are in some way connected with the Conservative Party. Although they have successfully resisted the urge to turn the book into a prosy piece of putrid propaganda, in a few cases I think party affiliation rears its ugly head. Actions by some Tories which either seem to go against basic party philosophy or are just plain mistakes are justified in the name of 'realpolitik'. All opponents of the Tories, especially the Whigs, Liberals and Labourites come in for a particularly bad time. Sometimes these idiots couldn't do a thing

right. It's hard to tell whether these are the authors' opinions, or whether they look at events in the way that the Tories looked at them. Either way this book should obviously not form the basis for any thesis etc. But it does form a worthwhile supplement to any study on 19th and 20th Century English politics (5).

Unfortunately you have to be exceptionally wealthy (by students standards anyway) to afford this book, as it's about \$20, but hopefully it will be available in libraries or paperback soon for anyone who wants to use it.

By the way, some being by the name of Lord Butler (sorry, should be The Rt Hon. Lord Butler KG, PC, CH, lest we forget) writes a foreword and epilogue but the book is quite good despite this.(6).

## FOOTNOTES

- (1) But lots of footnotes
- (2) 494 if you count 2 blank pages.
- (3) Be prepared to have lots of little numbers suddenly pop up out of the page at you.
- (4) This is just another silly footnote. Ignore it.
- (5) Op Cit., Ibid., whatever they mean.
- (6) Review by John Symes.



POEMS  
HERMAN HESSE  
JONATHAN CAPE \$2.30

Tolstoy's greatest fault was that he never wrote anything short enough to allow the mass of aspiring literati easy access to his genius; it's 'War and Peace' or bust - in my case bust. Hesse, however, left a mass of poems and stories at the back of his collected works, and anyone frightened by the weight of 'The Glass Bead Game' can now 'do' Hesse on a more manageable scale with the aid of James Wright's translation.

I bought this collection a few years ago when it was first published in a small green copy of the unique German style of paperbacks, i.e. with its own dust-cover, and cherished it for its ability to fit inside a spare pair of shoes when travelling. Now Cape have reissued it in a bigger, more costly, coffee-table style, with lots of unused paper (following modern poetry-book fashion) which gives more room for personal exclamation and disagreement with the translation, and makes it more difficult to smuggle through the Wall if ever you carry your interests in Germania that far.

Wright has selected some thirty of Hesse's poems, mostly written in the period 1900-1915, and translated them with sympathy and varying degrees of ability. At least it is a double text, so checking is easy, but it casts doubts on the trustworthiness of other translations. Still, that should only bother the linguists, for the value of Hesse's ideas outweighs the value of the book as a German lesson.

Wright calls the book a selection on the theme of homesickness in his introduction, which is a facet of Hesse's exploration of the idea of the journey which preoccupies many of his novels. There is a poem called 'On a Journey' (Auf Wanderung), where he writes: 'Don't be downcast, the time will soon come/When we can have rest. Our small crosses will stand/On the bright edge of the road together/And it rains and snows/And the winds come and go.' This also exemplifies the melancholy common to German poets, but Hesse does manage at times, in poems like 'Spring Day' (Fruhlingstag), to break away from pessimism.

Generally, he is a creator of what Coleridge called 'pleasurable sadness', a forerunner of songwriters like Cohen and Robert Hunter, and truly, as Timothy Leary said, a prophet of the modern age. Hesse is not as great a poet as Rilke, nor as vehement a one as Brecht, but exists as an enjoyable one, more attuned to the rest of the world than his Teutonic colleagues and more significant for anyone interested in what the writers and poets of the past twenty years have been saying.

And if the reasons are not enough, there is always the poetry itself: Hesse could be describing himself, when he writes in 'Ode to Holderlin': 'We turn passionately exhausted by day,/To the ambrosia, the night of your music,/Whose fanning wing casts us into/A shadow of golden dream.'

DAVID KIRKPATRICK

## LEGAL REP

This is open 12 noon to 2 benefit so use

## AMNESTY I

Al is having t March 30 at Building. Peo Secretary, Tr ations will be of Al's North will be a disc future plans. 874 503.

## GAY LIBERA

Auckland Uni invited Father in Community on 'Homosex' from 1 to 2.0

## THREE SPO

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## STUDENT CH

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## THE BIBLE

Is it for real? V SRC Lounge a

## CULTURAL C

The first meet at 1pm in the delegates and on campus sho

## WE

## NOT

Smoke That Gets In Youth's Eyes

## NORML

The Auckland Organisation f while not yet the repeal of a having an AGM April 4.

## 5TH NZ - MA TOURNAMEN

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All Malaysian social evenings sufficient a tou tournament wi mony at the L A registration (players, offici entitle you to a any AMSA cor



# Odds & Sods

## LEGAL REFERRAL OFFICE

This is open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12 noon to 2.00 pm in Room 222. It is there for your benefit so use it and help yourself.

## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

AI is having their annual general meeting on Thursday March 30 at 1pm in Room 203 in the Student Union Building. People will be elected to the offices of Secretary, Treasurer and Publicity Officer so nominations will be welcome. Michael McGill, secretary of AI's North Shore group will be attending and there will be a discussion of last week's meeting and possible future plans. For details, phone Paul Robertson at 874 503.

## GAY LIBERATION

Auckland University's Gay Liberation group have invited Father Felix Donnelly, Senior Lecturer in Community Health and Director of Youthline to talk on 'Homosexuals are Real People'. Thursday, April 6 from 1 to 2.00 pm.

## THREE SPORTS DOCUMENTARY FILMS

'Beautiful Day' is a surfing film made by Andy McAlpine with some stunning visuals taken at Gisborne, Whangamata and Piha. 'The Hum' is the definitive yachting film. It's edited by Tony Williams. The '1977 Sydney to Hobart Race' would rate as the most comprehensive film coverage existent of this ocean racing classic. All these films will be shown in the Maidment Theatre starting at 2.15 pm.

## STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

Contrary to local media impressions we are not as thick, mealy-mouthed, wet, woolly or straight as may be thought. We invite anyone with an open mind (even Craccum staff) to join us. We meet by the band stand in Albert Park on Wednesdays from 1 to 2pm. If you're interested in having a good time, phone 874 503.

## THE BIBLE

Is it for real? Weigh the evidence for yourselves in the SRC Lounge at lunchtime on Tuesday April 14.

## CULTURAL COUNCIL

The first meeting will be held on Thursday April 6 at 1pm in the Exec Lounge. All Cultural Club delegates and those interested in cultural activities on campus should attend.

## WEED with ROOTS In HELL

NOT RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN



## NORML

The Auckland University branch of the National Organisation for the Repeal of the Marijuana Laws, while not yet affiliated to NZMP has similar aims — the repeal of all anti-marijuana legislation. They are having an AGM at 1pm in Room 144 on Tuesday April 4.

## 5TH NZ - MALAYSIAN STUDENTS' SPORTS TOURNAMENT

This event will take place in Wellington from Monday May 8 to Friday May 12. Games included are badminton, basketball, netball, sepak, takraw, soccer, table tennis and volley ball. Following tradition, women will be excluded from these activities, although they may participate in some other games such as netball.

All Malaysian students are invited to attend. Two social evenings have been planned and if demand is sufficient a tour of the Capital will be organised. The tournament will conclude with a prize-giving ceremony at the Lion Tavern on Friday April 12 at 8pm. A registration fee will be levied on all participants (players, officials and spectators). This will entitle you to attend all events. Those interested contact any AMSA committee before April 15.

## DRAMA DIPLOMA

The Drama Diploma group will perform a portrait of Sylvia Plath, the influential 20th Century woman poet, with extracts from her prose and poetry. Conceived and adapted from her writings by Barry Kyle, it was first performed by the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1973. Performance dates are: Wednesday April 12, Thursday 13, Friday 14, Thursday 20, Friday 21.

## COMING EVENTS

The national issue comes out next week, so to keep you up to date here's a list of the coming attractions.

April 3 to 7. Lifesize Drawing Exhibition by Sally Griffin in the Little Theatre.

April 4 to 8 KMT 8.15. The world premier of Tristan and Iseult. This is the work of Gillian Whitehead, N.Z.'s internationally acclaimed composer and this production has been undertaken by Rosalind Clarke. As an operatic production Tristan and Iseult is unique in that it involves both singers, mimes, and puppets. Conducted by Willy Southgate the ensemble is comprised of musicians from the Them Us Group and the Symphonia of Auckland. This production will be preceded by a presentation of Mozarts Impresario, also produced by Rosalind Clarke.

There will be a special student performance of these two works on Monday, April 3 at 7.30 pm in the Old Maid. The admission is \$2.00, a saving of \$4.00 on the regular student price.

April 5, 1 pm in the Little Theatre. A programme presented by David Blyth and Richard von Sturmer.

April 5 to 7 Old Maid 1 pm. Conservatorium of Music lunchtime programme.

April 9 Old Maid 7.30 pm. Peter Schaffer (violin) and Diedre Irons (piano) present sonatas by Mozart, Debussy, Brahms and the Suite Italienne by Stravinsky.

April 10 1 pm Little Theatre. Auckland Central Police versus the University Debating Society.

April 12 to 14 Little Theatre 1 pm. Sylvia Plath - a dramatic portrait based on her writings and poems, directed by Lois de Latour. A Drama Diploma Production.

April 12 to 15 Old Maid 8.15 (plus a Saturday matinee at 2.15 pm) 'From Screwtape to Narnia' an anthology by C.S. Lewis, directed by Dale Bradley.

April 14 Old Maid 1 pm Conservatorium of Music lunchtime programme.

April 16 Old Maid 8.00 pm University Folk Club concert.

April 17 and 19 KMT 8.00 pm John Cairney in person. Sponsored by Theatre International Ltd.

## Cafe Menu

FROM MONDAY 3RD APRIL 1978

### MONDAY

Roast Chicken and Stuffing  
Spaghetti Bolognaise  
Sweet of the Day

### TUESDAY

Chicken Chow Mein  
Casserole of Beef Cooked in Beer  
Sweet of the Day

### WEDNESDAY

Grilled Lamb Chops with Garnish  
Steak and Kidney Pie  
Sweet of the Day

### THURSDAY

Roast Best End of Lamb with Mint Sauce  
Fried Rice  
Sweet of the Day

### FRIDAY

Fried Fish and Chips  
(Served in Restaurant)

## LEO KOTTKE

AT HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE

SATURDAY APRIL 15 At 8.15pm

Bookings at The Corner and Taste Records

Tickets \$7.50 inclusive

Concession bookings (10 or more) \$6.50

SUPPORT ACT

## SCHTÜNG

Scavengers at zwines

## FOOD CO-OP NEEDS HELP!

capping  
is coming

## EAT ON CAMPUS

### MILKBAR

9.00 ~ 5.30

NEW  
SNOFREEZE

## RESTAURANT

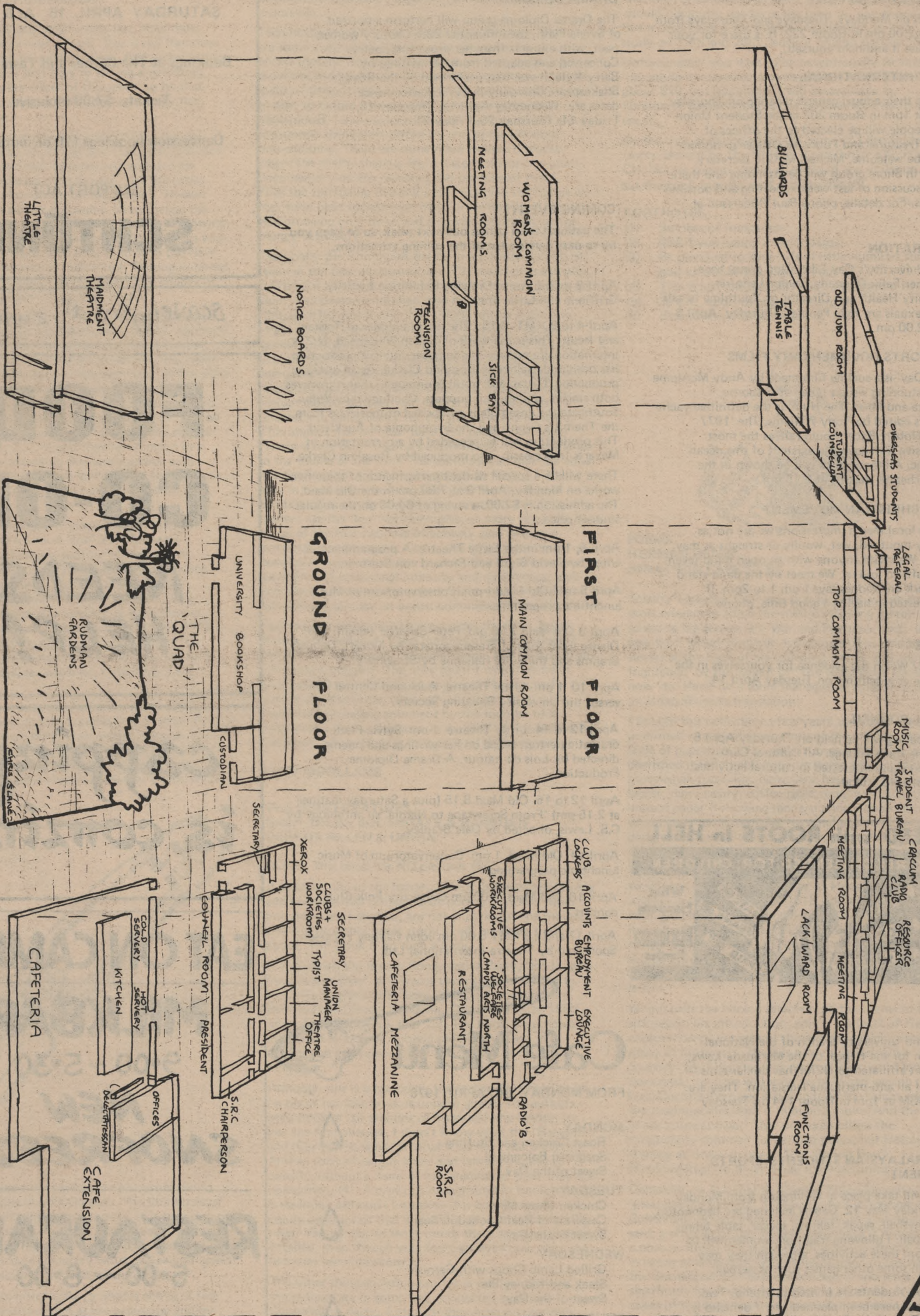
5.00 ~ 8.00

NEW MENU

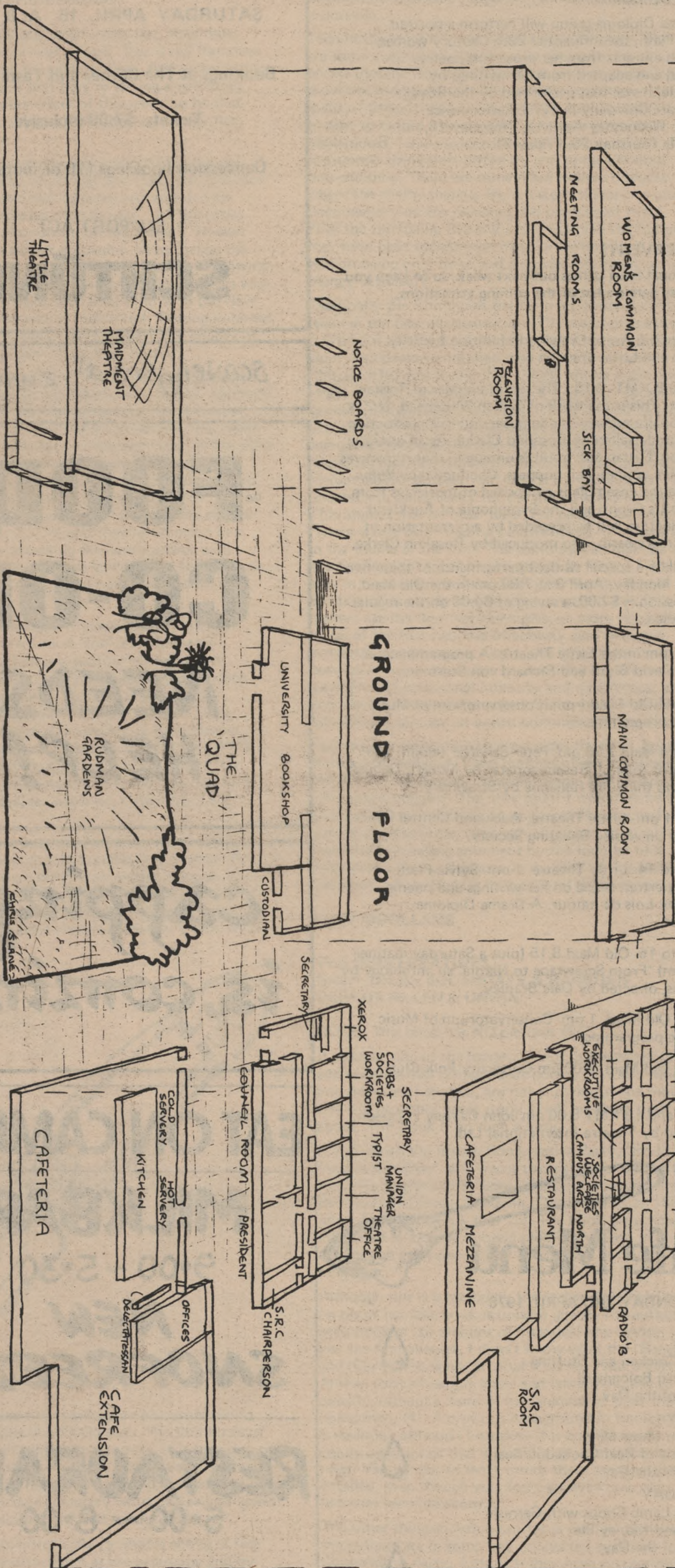
BRING YOUR OWN  
WINE



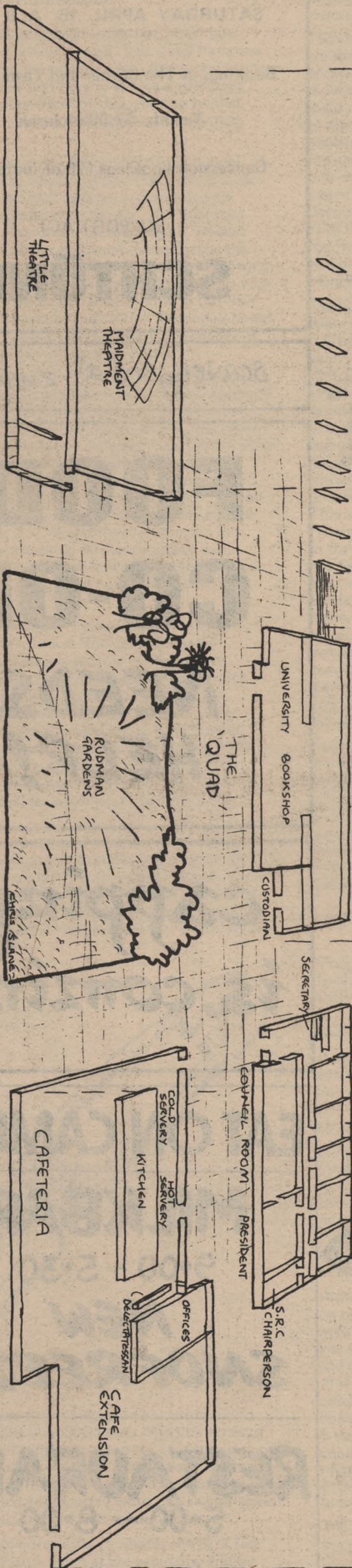
# SECOND FLOOR



## FIRST FLOOR



## GROUND FLOOR



CRACCCUM