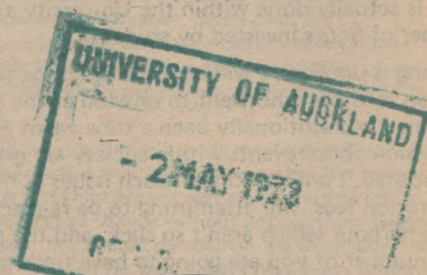


CRACCCUM

BIKIE BASHING



At first people couldn't believe it! No government would increase our registration fee by up to 400% in 12 months. But it was soon realised that this was for real.

Yes!! The motorcyclist is again under fire from misguided government action. At the moment, the Accident Compensation Commission is trying to increase its levy on motorcyclists relicensing fees. This proposed increase will mean that most motorcyclists will have to pay massive increases in Reregistration fees.

Owners of 50cc machines take heart!! Yours is the only category of machines that will not face this vicious attack on motorcyclists wallets. New Zealand Post Office registration statistics show that this class of machine comprises less than 10% of all those registered. The other 90% can expect capacity related increases of up to 400% for the larger machines. Yes, that's over \$80.00 for 12 months registration. It doesn't take much of a nose to smell a big RIP OFF in the making.

The Minister in charge of Accident Compensation, Mr Gordon, offers an explanation of the proposed crippling increases. In his words motorcycle accidents are costing the Accident Compensation Fund far more money than is at present being collected from motorcyclists by way of the existing levy, and that this situation is clearly at odds with the concept of 'The Fund' being self supporting. In order to match motorcyclists claims on the fund with their contributions, huge increases in monetary input are going to be demanded.

This is a blatant example of bureaucratic short sightedness. It seems as though Mr Gordon is not prepared to look further into the nature of motorcycle accidents. What New Zealand government study has ever been carried out? Overseas figures show that up to 70% of motorcycle accidents occurred because of circumstances beyond the control of the victim, eg inattentive car drivers, poor road surfaces, oil on the road.

The situation in New Zealand can't be much different. What is being done to limit the number of motorcycle accidents? How many more times will we be forced to endure that notorious apology - "I just didn't see him". Car drivers quite often don't see motorcyclists, simply because they aren't looking for a motorcyclist, only other cars. Streets are being daubed with more and more of that slippery white road marking paint. When are non-slip paints going to be used? Obviously the lives of motorcyclists do not warrant the expense involved.

Instead of initiating a programme to reduce motorcycle accidents, government is prepared to merely tax the victims of motorcycle accidents. The increase in costs of reregistration will affect students by way of a massive and immediate requirement, right in the middle of the year. It's no secret that students are not wealthy people and those who have bought bikes as a cheap and convenient form of transport are certainly no exception. An increase in motorcycle registration fees delivers yet another blow to those lower income people who use motorcycles for cheap and reliable transport. An increase in levy would be better directed at those who can afford large prestige luxury cars.

The number of accidents that are caused solely by the negligence of motorcyclists is indeed small compared to the total number of accidents involving motorcyclists. Much of the fault lies in the hands of other road users,



Brian Brennan

and to tax the victim of an accident rather than those who caused it is not only bad sense but also downright immoral. Motorcyclists cause little or almost no injury to other road users, so it almost makes sense that their contribution to the Accident Compensation Fund should be lowered rather than increased.

When users of low energy input, low parking requirement, ecologically cleaner transport are forced to endure crippling registration disadvantages compared to car owners, something has gone amiss in legislative logic.



Brian Brennan

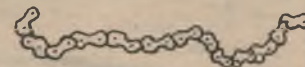
Spot the '60s cult hero.

Some people will say - "But it's only proposed, not yet law". Indeed now is the time to act before it becomes law. Large scale protest is necessary to show that motorcyclists are determined not to become pawns in a discriminatory power game. This is going to be one minority group that government is not going to push around.

Write to your MP. Demand that the proposed amendments be abandoned and that the existing relativities be maintained. Watch out for public meetings near you. Sign the petition to the Governor General currently circulating in bike shops and on campus. In the ultimate protest, refuse to pay ridiculous price increases. Keep this protest in mind. If the proposed amendments go through, keep your eyes on these columns as your support may be needed to take this cause to the courts to fight a case for students and other motorcyclists who aren't going to be quietly pushed aside. Talk to your friends inside and outside of university. Watch out also for a rumoured student protest around about Capping Week. You may get a chance to ride responsibly to show your protest.

If the concept of the motorcycle as economical, convenient, and reliable transport and recreation is to survive, we may have a fight ahead of us.

MARK PAVLETICH



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Merv Says:

Last week saw a successful Bursaries March which will provide NZUSA officials in Wellington with concrete evidence we are not satisfied with the present levels or the present anomalies. There is still a large amount of work to be done in informing the general public about what is actually done within the University and the number of hours invested by students.

Capping is upon us, I will at this stage, urge some caution to those who want to unwind at the end of term. Capping has traditionally been a time when witty honest expression about events within society are greatly appreciated. I am thinking of such issues as motor-cycle registration fees, Gill attempting to be re-elected, ships in the harbour which aren't so slick, and the problems a large number of you are going to have finding work over the holidays. If there is any doubt in your mind as to whether a 'stunt' is legitimate then consult me or at least other members of the Executive, before acting on it.

Over the May break there will be a May Council of NZUSA where policy for national organisation is determined. If you have any ideas on what students should be acting upon at a National level then once again come into the StudAss office and leave a message or contact me.

Happy Days,
Merv,
The President.

NASTY NASTY

A motion to get the aims of the National Gay Rights Coalition adopted by AUSA was defeated at an SRC meeting on Thursday April 27 by a vote of 54 to 26. A block of Christians arrived just in time to stack the vote. The motion will come up again before the first SRC meeting in the second term.

THROW OUT RESTRICTIVE ABORTION LAWS

Repeal all the abortion laws - abortion is a Woman's right. Support the protest to be held on May 11 - the opening of Parliament. Come to the rally at the CPO at 12.30. For further info call 30789.

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FOOD POISONING

Food Poisoning includes a number of disorders presenting with diarrhoea and vomiting due to acute gastroenteritis developing up to 48 hours after the consumption of food or drink. It may be due to a bacterial cause, or intestinal allergy such as to shell fish or unripe fruit but in the vast majority of cases the infection is considered to be due to a virus.

The simultaneous occurrence of symptoms in more than one member of a household often simplifies diagnosis. The incubation period which is usually short is a useful pointer to the aetiology.

The principal symptoms are nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and central abdominal pain. Vomiting and diarrhoea may be mild or in some cases severe but in most cases recovery occurs within 24 hours. In considering treatment, it is important that solid food be avoided and the patient should take fluids only and this by sips at a time - a quarter of a teaspoonful of table salt added to one pint of water flavoured with a small quantity of fruit juice provides a satisfactory replacement of fluid lost. When symptoms cease, it is important that solid food be reintroduced into the diet slowly. Drugs play little part in treatment except in the rare cases of bacterial origin or those due to allergy.

CRACCUM

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| | Jenny Robb |
| Advertising Manager | Anthony Wright |
| Typesetter | Barbara Amos |

'My name in full capitals please' says Peter Topzand, but Eugenie Sage bites his knee. Chris Thompson screams with delight and David Pointon sighs. But isn't that Chris Slane in the shadows and Martin Van Beynen behind? Jenny Hellen runs in giggling but Donna Youzrunnin ain't around. Hugh Walter Gilbert Cook is moping because he is not receiving enough fan mail to support his ego trip. But that's all by the bye. See ya next term.

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Letters

WHAT PRICE PEACE IN THE CRACCUM OFFICE ?

Dear Craccum,
Once more Craccum finds itself the vehicle for PLO propaganda - see issue April 17 on the subject of the Middle East. Yes, Carson is back yet again to haunt us like a horrible Golem thought to be long dead. Only two years ago he slyly misused his executive position as International Vice-President of NZUSA. In spite of that body's policy recognising the existence of the State of Israel, Carson misrepresented the students of New Zealand by initiating a motion at the Asian Students Association (ASA) to eject the Israeli Students Association (ISA) from that very union. Yes, Don, we still remember the facts !!

The very things that he alleges the Israelis have done to the Palestinians he himself did to the Israeli students. In effect the Israeli students no longer have a strong body to represent them. Carson and his cronies have denied their right to self-determination. Hypocrisy is one of the most effective weapons used in any political activity. Throughout the world people say one thing and do another with impunity.

The fact that Carson is now stationed in Massey and sending articles to Auckland proves that he is on the rampage once again, and we can expect the same sort of tactics that he has used in the past. For example at the Massey AGM Mr Carson attempted to pass a motion condemning the Israeli Government for intransigence 'by preventing developments towards the creation of a secular, democratic and unitary Palestine.' This motion was lost. The next motion that he supported but which was also lost, claimed that the P.L.O. be recognised as representing the Palestinian people.

Reading the article Carson submitted to the April 17 issue of Craccum one was struck most by the uncritical use of propaganda. This is exemplified by the statement attributed to Mr Menachem Begin, the present Prime Minister of Israel, concerning his attitude to Deir Yassin - 'The massacre was not only justified, but there would not have been a State of Israel without the 'victory' at Deir Yassin'.

Just recently, however, the Council for the Advancement of Arab British Understanding (CAABU - a pro-Arab source) deleted this very quotation from its booklet 'Who is Menachem Begin ?' after they established it to be false. After investigation, the source of the 'mis-quote' was found to come from a book called 'Bitter Harvest' by the former director of the Institute of Palestinian Studies in Beirut, Sami Hadawi. CAABU's press officer said 'It seems that the quotation is (an) interpretation of what Begin really said about Deir Yassin This is obviously an embarrassment.' (See London Jewish Chronicle Feb. 3rd 1978)

So much for the credibility of Carson. His source is obvious ! Later on in the article he notes the words of Sami Hadawi, who he describes as 'a Palestinian scholar and lecturer who visited New Zealand in 1975'. It must be remembered that Hadawi is a strong supporter of the P.L.O. On his lecture tour around N.Z. Universities he obviously gained a following amongst a minority of students who still use his propaganda to push the P.L.O. barrow and to distort the position of the Israeli government.

If the above is an example of Carson's objectivity, then his statements are best regarded with extreme scepticism.

Mark Shenken

CARSON ATTACKED

So what else is new ? We've learned that Gleeson and Carson hate Israel. Gleeson's distortions of Professor Ma'oz's scholarly and objective presentation of the Middle East conflict was to be expected. But now the ghost of Don Carson has been resurrected. Don Carson's most notable 'triumph' as International Vice President of NZUSA, for those who weren't around at the time, was to get the Israeli Student Association kicked out of the Asian Student Association. He did this in the name of the New Zealand University Student Association against the wishes of the overwhelming majority of New Zealand students who consistently support Israel in her struggle to exist.

Now he's back with the infamous Dier Yasin falsification. The refutation of this libel appeared in the Jordan daily Al Urdun of 9 April 1953. On the fifth anniversary of the battle, Yunis Ahmed Assad of Dier Yasin wrote : 'The Jews never intended to hurt the population of the village but were forced to do so after they met hostile fire from the population which killed the Irgun commander.'

It is not surprising that the Gleeson/Carson attack on Israel from the so called 'left' has worthy allies in the Arab feudal regimes and reactionary military dictators of the right. The well-oiled Arab propaganda machine would be overjoyed to see Gleeson/Carson in Craccum. We would find them merely a bore if their lies didn't have the potential to warp the minds of the gullible against Israel.

Lilo Sylvan

Dear Craccum,
Re Don Carson, April 17.
I admit the massacre of Dier Yasim should never have happened and most Israelis and Jews in general were horrified by it. But this was not unique or unknown to the Arabs who massacred many Jewish settlements, which they won't usually admit. I don't believe that 'if you can, I can' is a satisfactory reason but the article uses this to justify the PLO.

Yours etc,
Prina Brem

AT LAST ANOTHER LETTER !

Dear Craccum,
re: 'THEATRE OF THE ABSURD'
In the National issue of the University Students Magazine, April 10 was an article which I found deeply disturbing. My first reaction was shock and anger. Here was a distinguished colleague who has gained my deepest admiration and respect during her domicile in Auckland, being attacked in a National Students magazine in a petty and smallminded manner.

However, people who work in the public eye in positions of responsibility learn to cope with this. Certainly Ros Clark can rise above such an attack. No, the lasting impression was much more significant. This was one of sadness. The University has on its staff, in Ros Clark, a brilliant director (e.g. Tristan and Iseult) who can stage a production at a world standard. In Tristan and Iseult a New Zealand artist, a New Zealand composer, musicians, singers and actors, many of whom are students or graduates of New Zealand universities were involved in an exceptional, invigorating and creative experience. One of the professional musicians (ex Auckland University) said to me that he felt all the disappointments and frustration of his job were vindicated through his association with this production. And this is only one of the activities undertaken by Ros Clark. She is at the moment producing The Students Annual Review. Her theatre workshops are highly regarded throughout Auckland and involve age groups from five through to classes for adults (including many students). She has also held successful workshops for students at many other New Zealand universities.

The weekly diary from the Maidment Arts Centre is packed with activities such as lunchhour concerts from the Conservatorium of Music, Theatre productions by University Drama students, debates, Campus Arts North Productions, exhibitions e.g. photography, folk concerts (University Folk Club), theatre from the Italian Dept, films etc, etc. The list is endless and every day seven days a week is crowded with events. All these events are programmed through the Maidment Arts Centre Manager - Ros Clark.

Yes, the sadness for me, as an Auckland University Graduate, professional musician, part-time University tutor for several years and now professional community worker in the cultural field, comes from the implication in the article that the University should not involve itself with or is not part of the community as a whole. If this is true, and I sincerely hope it is only a minority view, the University itself is defining itself as an entirely irrelevant institution in our society. The University is to me an integral part of the community and both are dependent on each other for support and inspiration.

The other aspect which saddens me and is a sick, sick, sick aspect of our New Zealand community is our inability, in so many fields to accept, appreciate and integrate exceptional, talented and original (or just plain different) individuals into our society.

One explanation a colleague suggested was that we are 'casting pearls before swine'. I prefer the analogy of the Kea who is attracted by and loves to peck at the brightest and shiniest objects he can find. Ros Clark is indeed one such bright and shining individual in our community.

Yours sincerely,
Dale Hunter

The Editor replies : The information for the article 'Theatre of the Absurd' came solely from individuals actively involved in the Maidment Arts Centre. Most of these 'informants' were students; most of them were dissatisfied with Ros Clark's performance of her duties as Students' Activities Officer.

Ros Clark was not employed to be a 'brilliant director', and nowhere in my article do I 'attack' her talents as such. My argument rests solely on the premise that the function of a Students' Activities Officer is to involve and instruct students in the use of the Theatre. Students inform me that Ms Clark is not doing all she could in that sphere.

Note : This is only the second letter that Craccum has received concerning the article on the MAC. The first, from Merv Prince, was published last week. A storm in a tea-cup ?

BADMINTON BULLIES

Dear Craccum,
I would like to point out a few things with regard to the article on the Children's Party in Issue 8 Vol 4 Craccum.

Dirk Flower was first contacted about Children's Party two weeks before Easter, when it was stated we wanted the Gym for the Party from 11 am till 3 pm on Sat. April 29. Since the Badminton Club has a 5 hour booking on Saturdays and three 2 hour bookings at other times of the week I considered this request not unreasonable. The Badminton Club committee appear unable to make their own decisions; they approached Steve Hollings.

They did not realise the PR value of the Party, not surprisingly so since Dirk is not a university student and so has nothing to gain from a successful Children's Party. Steve Hollings was thus able to set a precedent. Student Association activities, if displacing a club, pay to allow the club to find an alternative venue.

Finally I was approached on Monday 24th April by Mr Siew. He said that the Badminton Club committee had met on Saturday (22nd) and had heard a rumour that Hugh Cook's article was anti Badminton Club. If this was so, the Badminton Club would not allow Children's Party to use the Gym. He also said the Badminton Club would probably not use the gym after 3 pm on the 29th anyway.

Rory O'Keeffe

MIDDLE EAST POLICY

Dear Craccum,
In your editorial comment on articles by Gleeson and Carson in the issue of April 17, you say, 'AUSA must have a policy on the Middle East, and it is the student body who must decide that policy.' This statement is indeed true, but in context you seem to imply that AUSA does not have such a policy.

AUSA does have a policy on the Middle East and that policy has been renewed nearly every year for years past, either in general meeting or by referendum. AUSA policy is, in summary, to support the right of Israel to exist, but not to support expansionist tendencies in the Middle East whether by the Arab states or by Israel.

This policy has been affirmed and reaffirmed by voting majorities of students over and over again, despite the attempts to change it of the noisy minority of the extreme left who do not now nor ever have represented any students on campus but themselves.

The great majority of students on Auckland campus and all other N.Z. campuses are conservative. Some of us are conservative on the left, while others are conservative on the right. A few are radical on the left and join one or other of the communist sects. Rather more are radical on the right and join the National Party.

The biggest and most noticeable (to the perceptive) difference between the right and left is that the radicals on the left enjoy the limelight, writing articles and organising demonstrations on whatever topics (subject to change without notice) their overseas masters have decided they should pursue. On the other side, the radical right are far too busy, as they always have been, acquiring useful technical and commercial degrees so that they can rule the country as soon as possible after leaving varsity. A pox on both their houses !

Meanwhile the conservative majority of both left and right persuasions take whatever action they can to ensure that AUSA policy remains reasonable, e.g. supporting the right to exist of both Israel and Arab states without being committed to the expansionist policies of any.

Unfortunately, as always, they do not often realise what the radical right are up to, because, by and large, it all happens smoothly and quietly over there, except when someone like Muldoon gets out of control and the rusty iron fist begins to show. Thank God there have always been a few idiots among the radical right, so that the conservative centre finds out what is going on and votes them out, either out of their party or out of government.

Yours faithfully,
Michel Tyne-Corbould

CRACCUM MISLEADS

Dear Craccum,
The article on 'Computers' by Robert Leyland (Craccum, April 24), contains at least one misleading staff-student ratio.

The Biochemistry Department has at present about 30 students enrolled in about 60 papers in the Faculty of Science. However, the Department is also part of the Faculty of Medicine and teaches in all three years leading to the BHB degree. Thus about 400 students are enrolled in about 540 papers and Mr Leyland's 60/9 ratio is, in fact, a 600/9 ratio. Of course such comparisons are very misleading anyway, since 'total enrolments' often consists of many short courses. A more objective comparison could be based on 'student contact hours' plus 'preparation time' per staff member. Mr Leyland's case for Computing Science would probably still be strong on this basis, but is only weakened by his present misleading comparison.

Yours sincerely,
Dr G.K. Scott,
Lecturer in Biochemistry

THE END PLEASE ?

Dear Craccum,
In reply to your latest Konrad Pollard letter:

Dear Mr Pollard,
To myself and many others, common prejudice such as that expressed by your first letter, does not fall into a category of intelligent argument. My reason for replying therefore, was purely to point out that your argument : 'women are inferior to men' was based on historical reflection, and because of this, it reflects a common historical bias : namely, that women who contribute to history are often ignored, because a lot of history appears to have been written or published by a few men like yourself. These men profoundly speculate and zealously guard male rights to fame and glory that is why it is called 'history' 'HIS-STORY'. You can obtain a 'HERSTORY' calendar (1978) from U.B.S. for only one dollar ninety five cents. To believe in such generalities like 'women are inferior to men', reminds me of the old proverb : 'the narrower the mind, the broader the statement'. I further think it fair to point out, that whilst you see my first reply as rude, I see your first letter as rude Rude of you to feel it necessary to put down one half of the human population, presumably for the sole purpose of maintaining an illusion of superiority, which could only be satisfying to a truly inferior person.

Robert N. Leary

CORNY BUT NICE

Dear Craccum,
There once was a student at 'varsity,
who thought he could live off a bursary,
but Muldoon would not sway
and stood in his way
so the student went on a protest march

NB Roses are red
 Violets are blue
 Some poems rhyme
 But others don't

Bursary isn't even in tune with the cost of living ! How can you expect me to find a rhyme for it.

Yours expectantly
A lad from Bagdad
Who thought he was mad

Letters continued on page 5

Info For All

One of the advantages of university life is that it gives you the opportunity to develop a wide range of interests, often at little or no cost. With the new Recreation Centre now in full use this is especially true of sports.

The centre was first used in August last year when Auckland hosted the annual Winter Tournament of all the New Zealand universities. Since then it has been used at an increasing rate so that now it has over 2000 people through it each day. Chances are that you have been one of the 2000 at some stage and quite possibly this discourse won't tell you anything you don't already know. The purpose of this article is principally to provide information to those who would otherwise be making use of the Centre but are not aware of procedure and the facilities available.

The Recreation Centre caters to everyone with the slightest interest in sport or personal fitness. Sports areas consist of a main hall, a work out gym, dance studio, martial arts studio and seven squash courts. The only restriction on using the facilities is that you be a student at Auckland, although visitors are allowed at a cost of 50 cents.

Sports catered for include squash, tennis, table tennis, badminton, basketball, volleyball, cricket and golf. Clubs exist for these sports and times are set aside during which they have sole use of certain areas of the Centre. For those who are more interested in casual sport a far greater part of each day is available. In the case of squash a tally must be bought from the Centre for \$5 before any bookings can be made - and each half-hour booking costs 30 cents, making squash at Auckland University cheaper than almost anywhere else.

In order to play badminton advance bookings must also be made but all you need to do this is your Library ID card - no charge. Racquets for squash, badminton and table tennis can be hired from 10 cents to 50 cents. If you feel like touching up on your goal shooting basketballs can be borrowed at no charge.

Perhaps you would like to use the facilities but not having played a certain sport before would feel a little, uh, embarrassed in front of those 2000 pairs of eyes. Or maybe you would like a bit of coaching in your sport. To meet these needs classes are run on a regular basis

for most sports, and are designed to cater for the complete novice to the beginner. These classes are completely free as equipment is provided at no cost.



If, however, your interests are more towards team sports on a casual basis then the intra-mural sports programme may well give you what you're after. This is designed to give Departments and other groups within the university a chance to enter teams in a lunchtime competition of badminton, basketball, volleyball, table tennis and squash. The competition is primarily social and although many who take part are quite skilled, the vast majority are there for the exercise and enjoyment. At present there is room for more teams and if you think you would like to take part contact Lance Hadfield at the Rec Centre. This type of sport can be a lot of fun as it gives you the chance to get away from your books for a while each week while making contacts with some of the faces you see in your lectures.

As you wander through the Centre you will undoubtedly notice a blue object in the Workout Gym which looks like one of the props out of Doctor Who. This machine is in fact used for weight training and is situated in its own carpeted area long with the weight-lifting equipment. Weight training is an excellent way of

building up strength and also of putting on weight without putting on fat. While you may just walk in and use this equipment, if you are reasonably serious about building yourself up it is a good idea to seek advice first and work out a programme of exercise. To this end classes are run on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9.30 to 12.30 and from 2.00 to 4.30 respectively. Over the other side of the work out gym are a rowing machine and an exercycle.

Another activity available in the Centre is the Keep Fit class, which might also be described as the Get Fit class, as it is not designed to turn anyone into a John Walker, just to help people maintain a reasonable level of fitness so that they can run for the bus when classes are over. These are run fairly often and times are available at the Centre.

Having shed your sweat all over the squash court you may well benefit from the sauna which is situated in the changing rooms. Humour has it that a sauna does wonders for all sorts of health problems - particularly skin problems. Undoubtedly a sauna after hard exercise is very refreshing. Before using the sauna, however, read the instructions on its use on the changing room notice-board.

Other activities which take place in the Centre include the martial arts - which have their own room within the complex. These activities are organized by their various clubs rather than the Centre's management but information on joining is available at the Centre.

As I mentioned earlier most of this article is pretty much common knowledge for most. If you haven't had a really good look at the Centre, though, you may well have missed an opportunity to take up an activity in which you have some interest. The Recreation Centre has been described as the best of its kind in New Zealand and it is readily accessible to everybody at this university. If any of the above sounds interesting to you, then further information is on hand at the Centre. Got your ID card?

KEN GRACE

Note: Guests in the Rec Centre must at all times be accompanied by their hosts who must hold bona fide identity cards.

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M Let

SEND THEM

Dear Craccum,
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No-one knows

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Randy Aardvar

P.S. We are a
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Comrade R.M.A
Aardvark Liber

Dear Craccum,
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Chris Slane

P.S. I would lik
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More Letters

SEND THEM TO SALIENT

Dear Craccum,
Aardpeople got no reason to,
Aardpeople got no reason to live,
They've got honey-coloured fur and big brown eyes,
They walk around telling great big lies,
They got little voices going bleat, bleat, bleat,
They don't wear no shoes on their tiny little feet,
(Cos') Noone knows Aardpeople
Noone knows Aardpeople down here.
They got funny little snouts and tiny little minds,
They're gonna get ya every time,
Their fur gets so dirty cos they're built so low,
You gotta pick'em up just to say hello,
No-one knows Aardpeople,
No-one knows Aardpeople down here !!!!

Yours,
Randy Aardvark

P.S. We are all Aardvarks no matter how high,
We are all Aardvarks till the day we die,
It's an Aardvark world !

Dear Craccum,
The day of reckoning has come ! The Liberation of Aardvarks is at paw. This year we shall take over the Country and free our brother (and sister) Aardvarks snout !
"DEATH TO THE PIG"

A crack Aardvark/Gorilla squad have hijacked the entire RNZAF and flown it to Aardmore Airport. Unless the Government gives them guns and hostages and safe passage to South Africa (where they will establish an Aardvark homeland or Aardvarkstan) they will sell their planes to Albert Henry (Sir Albert has given us a promise that he will fly in Aardvarks in the next election if an Aardvark Government will boycott Ecuador banana's and N.Z. postage stamps).

ALSO, we want to see more 'Adventures of Aaron' in Craccum. If you refuse to meet this demand a crack team of commandos (disguised as Wombles) will take over the Children's Party and throw offset presses through your office windows. YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED !!!!

By this time next year we shall have an Aardvark in every home. Don't call the Anteaterorist squad, we've got them licked ! Aardvarks of the Antipodes unite - you have nothing to lose but your snouts !

The Aardvarks' flag is deepest red,
It's stained with blood our Aardvarks shed,
'Ere their fur grew stiff and cold,
Their hearts blood died in every fold,
So raise the Aardvarks banners banner high,
Beneath this flag we'll live and die,
Through termites flea and mongeese snear,
We'll keep the Aardflag flying near.

Comrade R.M.A. Dillo,
Aardvark Liberation Army

Dear Craccum,
My friends and I are not amused at the spread of vicious rumour-mongering about Aardvark sex in such an eminently respectable paper as Craccum. We abhor these blatantly discriminatory satirists who sensationalize such things. They should be castrated - nothing is too bad for them. The whole subject should have as little publicity as possible, that is why I am writing this letter. Some of my best friends are Aardvarks and I do not have sex with them - much.

Chris Slane

P.S. I would like to ask if the editoress writes all these letters - and is this one written by her as well ?



Hometown Boy

A few weeks ago David Merritt wandered into the Craccum office on a Thursday night. We were kind of busy so Hugh Cook sat down and kept him occupied doing this interview.

David Merritt left high school and came to Auckland University at an early age. He became involved in Craccum, graduated to student politics, engaged in all kinds of unorthodox activism, and possibly did a little study on the side. Having a facsimile of the wild man from Borneo shuffling around campus probably did little for the Association image, but the wild one did manage to coax an occasional flame from the dying embers of student enthusiasm.

Merritt is now National Vice President of NZUSA. Age and responsibility have mellowed him somewhat; he admits 'It's a pleasant change to wear shoes and socks, have a bath and not smell any more.' The image is still not conventional - he recently turned up at the Craccum office wearing battered strides and an army surplus jersey; thank God someone had torn the corporal's stripes off. In a world which places great emphasis on image, Merritt's failure to wear a tie, trim his hair and proclaim for a favorite brand of scotch makes him an easy target for criticism which some, to a degree, are protected from by their carefully cultivated facades of respectability.

With this in mind, the natural place for an interview to begin was with a consideration of the National Veep's workload. When in Wellington, Merritt usually arrives in the office at 9, 10 or 11, and leaves at 4, 5, 6 or 7, often working a few hours in the weekend. Others who lack the same inspiration grind harder, but Merritt, by his own account, is not slacking. He had a few words to say about the charge that NZUSA politicians are virtually invisible:

'That's a common criticism that we face but I think that I may make a conscious effort nowadays to talk to students and not just executive or the student press, for example. I've been in Hamilton for the last few days, and while I was there I was collecting signatures for the bursary petition. That means sitting on a desk all day, talking to students, explaining the policy I went round the hostels at night just knocking on doors and talking to students. I found a lot of insecure and lonely people.'
'What, seriously ?'
'Yeah.'

But there is only so much time for travelling and meeting people. The office schedule above represents essential work, including answering correspondence, drafting reports, studying the media and doing essential background reading. The priorities in the National portfolio this year are Civil Liberties, Maori Land Rights, Energy and Accommodation.

Civil Liberties denotes an area of concern ranging from trade union legislation to the state of the economy. NZUSA has a fair degree of trade union contact on an ad hoc personal basis; maintaining contacts like this bears no obvious fruit, but could be useful some day. As regards the SIS amendment bill, it seems that individuals and organisations are preparing to engage in acts of civil disobedience, something to look out for.

Two marijuana smoke-ins were held in Wellington in Parliament Grounds; the first drew 300-plus people, and uniformed and plain-clothed policemen turned up to observe the proceedings. No sophisticated drugs were seen to circulate, only the good old weed.

After general discussion on the matters above, the interview turned to a number of widely disparate issues. First up, student newspapers. Merritt was firm; 'I think it's marvellous what's happened this year on the National Student Issues; really fucking amazing !

Withdrawals: 'I think the attitude of at least 2 of the campuses who have got withdrawal motions has changed in the last month, maybe 2 months; when, for example, when Lincoln and Canterbury passed the motion for withdrawal last year, the rationale was that NZUSA is fucked, let's get out, hope that it will change and come back in. Now, people are saying it may be fucked, but if we pull out it's going to get worse. Even collapse completely. So we'll try and change it from within. People are starting to talk about policy now, not personalities.'

Mike Lee. Now Lee is President of Canterbury, and rumour has it that he is not universally beloved, either in his own republic or in international diplomatic circles. In fact, a writer to Canta lists 7 grievances that are troubling his mind, and numbers 1, 3, 5 and 7 are stated quite simply as 'Mike Lee'. However, when asked to comment, Merritt displayed a rare flash of that political sophistication whose mastery qualifies one for Parliament, and said simply, 'No comment.'

Stephanie Dale, Education Veep of NZUSA, resigned. Why ? 'I suspect as far as Stephanie's resignation goes that a lot hasn't been said. I know that her resignation was partly motivated by academic problems she would have experienced in the preparation of her thesis. A year in NZUSA would have meant a two-year delay in her thesis because her lecturer was on leave next year.' Apparently Stephanie did not discover this 'till March sometime.'

Is it a good idea for people to work for a year between leaving school and starting University ? 'Most certainly. I actually think it should be 2 years.'

National Elections ? 'I pick National to win. I think the Labour Party's in its death throes, and I think that something will emerge as a phoenix from the ashes, probably still called the Labour Party, but which isn't so unviable.'

Do you think Labour should try and return to the socialist ideals ? 'To the '30's ideology ? I think so, certainly. Most Labour MPs and candidates honestly don't know what democratic socialism is.'

Your own education ? 'When I first started University, a degree seemed quite important, but I feel that I've thrown it away for student politics, which on reflection isn't the most noble and heroic cause that one can throw a degree away for. I'm not satisfied with University Education per se; I don't think anybody is. There are a lot of changes that could and should be made, but students just don't seem to be interested, or care. I'll be back.'

With Ivan Illich hitting this campus later in the year, it seemed appropriate to ask for some thoughts on alternative education - the learning webs and WEA style of activity. Should this have government or community support ? 'Community support is essential, but I'd be wary of Government interference, which is basically what their support would eventually be. The basic shortcoming of the so-called alternative education is that it's still very much a middle-class sort of toy. They're not getting to your freezing worker or your shop assistant. I hope they may be now even doing that, heading in that direction.' Would you say the Maori language movement was this sort of toy ? 'No, I wouldn't.'

General thoughts on Auckland University ? 'It's a funny place. It's one of the most depressing points on Earth - and nobody seems to want to change it. When people painted the quad,' and here Merritt refers to flowers, bright colours and designs laid on a few years back, 'they sandblasted it off the next day. It's a very trendy university as compared to the more old-style university such as Otago and Massey - that's probably because you've got the specialist professional faculties. Those students do tend to be more fashionable.'

When you say trendy, do you mean clothes and politics, or just clothes ? 'I mean everything. Stark last year called them The Blank Generation.'

What do you think of the \$3 million Tamaki sports complex, provided free and gratis by the University ? 'Where's the University's priorities ? 3 million dollars would have gone a long way on other things. 2 million dollars on the gym would have gone a long way on other things. The 1½ million on the theatre would have gone a long way on other things. Why don't they spend a few more thousand dollars on the creche, or on a new building for the student counselling service, or on lowering the student/lecturer ratio, or on stopping overcrowding in lecture theatres ? I mean, I'm not knocking sports or the theatre, it's just that the quality of education here has dropped so tremendously in the past few years.'

Those fond of statistics can quibble with the above - the Theatre only cost us \$950,000 or so - but it's worth thinking about. And now for a tried and true technique for ending up. Merritt handles it quite well. If there is one thought that you would like to leave for people to ponder over, what would it be ? 'Shit probably it would be a comment on New Zealand society. Students, particularly University students, have lost their social conscience. And I don't mean the social conscience that was evident in the late 60s early 70s - you know, Vietnam, apartheid - but a knowledge that they do bear one hell of a lot of responsibility as the self-styled leaders of society. Like, where are we going ? What's happening in New Zealand ? As you've pointed out, and God knows how many other people, like Shadbolt, pointed out - students mirror all the complacency, all the she'll-be-right attitude that is so typical of New Zealand society. There's no attempt to stand off and look and think critically, and find alternatives. On the whole New Zealanders are a happy lot, living in a fool's paradise.'

Islands in the Stream

Recently in the national rags I noticed a reference to the planned take-over of the Mornington Island Aboriginal Reserve by the Queensland Government of Bjelke-Peterson. While having many doubts about and feeling negligible sympathy for Bjelke and his fascist boys I can only wish their Department of Aboriginal Affairs the very best of luck.

It is from the paternalism, by no means benevolent, of the Uniting Church that the locals, all of whom are Aboriginal Peoples, desperately need rescuing. When coupled as it is with contact provided by fishermen and prawn processing companies the effect is devastating. On the other hand the swiftly growing Queensland Department of Aboriginal Affairs is slowly achieving a more humanistic and Aboriginal-centred approach through development and educational programmes.

Far reaching changes are necessary all over the Australian minor continent before Aboriginal peoples in general, and reserve peoples in particular, can even approach such questions as integration or segregation. We are speaking instead of combating chronic malnutrition, rape, exploitation and the destruction of a 50,000 year old native tradition. And, let us not forget ethnocide.

Australia has a sad history of Sunday 'Abo' hunts and other more covert oppressions of any minority group. It is in the outback that strong resistance to such 'sport' needs to be established by an official body.

Paint a picture. Envisage a tropical dream where the sun rises from the sea and sets into it without the intercession of clouds for weeks on end during the winter; where the coldest night of the year suggests using two blankets; a land where summer cyclones light up the night sky for hours on end enabling you to read uninterrupted through a complete news paper, if you wished to do so, and rain falls for hours.

On winter days after amazing star-filled nights, a bush and scrub covered necklace of narrow tropical islands spreads out in front of you. Coral surrounded, golden beached, shallow waters of a fishy haven. In this land of nautilus, kangaroo, sharks, turtles and sea-eagles, rainbow fish, sting rays, perhaps cannibals and definitely prawns, beer cans and guitars the 'Neanderthal' - looking man was once king.

Imagine making landfall on a deserted island and watching giant turtles making love as they swim through the waters. Later you come across a group of fifty or more



basking in the shallows. You hitch a ride into the gentle surf. Sea-eagles whirl aloft as you view their chicks in a lightning burnt tree, squawk of crazed mama in your ear and smile of heaven on your laughing gear.

You're on a ship freighting prawns and dropping off provisions. Here the sadness grows. Unloading white sugar, tea, white flour, white rice, the only supplies, for the church man at Mornington. You discover that the

sugar habit is being maintained at 1 lb per week for every man, woman, and child. Tooth decay had been virtually unknown until the natives' discovery of sugar and Coca Cola.

We bring decay in our wake but when we see that the soils and the people are mineral and vitamin deficient we do nothing. This is most evident visually in poor bone formation. They have legs like sparrows. The Uniting Church have abused their responsibility to God and Man. While the former can take care of himself the latter are little practised in defence by discrimination on our levels. These people are by our standards rather naive. It is evident by their interaction with the environment that they do not expect adults to eat and share inferior foods in a land of plenty. But it does not stop there. Fishermen and other transient workers visit the adjacent island bringing the all too usual rip-off attitudes, alcohol and gonorrhea.

In common with the North American Indians the Aboriginals pursue visions as an important part of their cultural existence. It is often through the experience of such visions that their mana is established. Alcohol can thereby be seen as a tool. It is certainly very popular. While away from the Reserve we hear that one of the visiting ships sold the natives sherry and meths at 300% profit only to be attacked late at night. It is from such actions that stories as to the undependability of the 'Abo' are established. The seamen received a broken arm, jaw and heavy bruising between them. Removed and despairing, we can only applaud the fact of the retribution if not the ideal, and regret the continuation of such attacks on a culture that seems to be more loving towards people generally than most of ours.

Amidst the continuing oppression by Church, Government, companies and individuals it seems that organisations along the lines of the Dept of Aboriginal Affairs have a chance of preventing the extinction of all native peoples in the Australian sphere of influence. The Tasmanian natives are now extinct and it is in areas like Mornington Island, small and too easily penetrated, that the greatest danger lies at present. It is particularly in their nutritional work and the policing of outside interference that the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and its young and often part-Aboriginal employees hold out some hope for Aboriginals and any others who care.

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CRACCUM 9

Boomtown Blues

Industrial unrest seems to be a part of New Zealand life and many of us would just as soon hear about something else. That probably goes for the people of Kawerau too but for them, the old injury is playing up again and it hurts. And not only in a financial sense.

Willie Wilson, Chairman of the Combined Council of Timber Workers' Delegates spoke at the University on April 20th. Wilson discussed the present dispute at Kawerau and outlined its origins. The current dispute which has 2500 men out of work, the Tasman Pulp and Paper Company losing three quarters of a million dollars each day and the town of Kawerau completely out of phase, started 5 weeks ago.

the stoppage will not necessarily end. The Timberworkers, the Engineers and the 11 other Unions will probably want some sort of recompense for lost wages before resuming work. Which is not entirely unreasonable considering they did not go on strike, but were suspended because another Union was on strike.

The plot thickens; enter Willie Wilson and the Timberworkers Union. The function of the Timberworkers is to supply the Tasman Mill with logs. The majority of the Timberworkers are employed by the Forest service, the remainder by private contractors. All Employer-Worker negotiations are carried out through official representatives of the Timber-Workers' Union.

last Union election was that all the eligible candidates were divorced by a number of years from actually being timberworkers. In fact, Hamilton and Gray at the time of the election appeared to be better than their opponents.

Wilson says that official approaches have been made to the Federation of Labour to have the Union Constitution changed (so that, for example, any timberworker with, say, a years experience on the job could be elected to any Union position) but nothing has been done. Also, according to Wilson, the Timberworkers have looked into the formation of a new Union but found that under existing law this was legally impossible.

An interesting point is that only the employers can get rid of Hamilton and Gray (because they are still employed and can be fired) and its hardly likely that in this event that all the Timberworkers would down chainsaws and go on strike in 'sympathy'.

There are some good reasons for the Timberworkers to want control of their own Union. There is work to be done especially from a safety angle. Together with top-dressing pilots, bushmen have the highest recorded accident and death rate of any occupation in New Zealand.

Wilson: 'Death is mainly through falling trees, lack of experience and knowledge about falling trees. The second main accident cause is from chainsaws'.

Wilson's workmate and sidekick on this trip to Auckland (who declined to be named) chipped in on this one: "The employer pays lip service to safety, he says we must all be safe and gives us a helmet a pair of gloves and says now go out and be safe. He also institutes a bonus system on which you are paid by results which means the more stuff you produce and the faster you work the more money you make. The faster you work the more risks you take and the more risks you take the more accidents you have. Thats one pressure great numbers of Timberworkers have got." He also added that bushmen are given very little training before being sent into the forests.

Willie Wilson: "I was under heavy pressure when I was at Kaingaroa, trying to make money (for domestic reasons). I took risks and nearly got killed. You're not supposed to drive trees. As long as the employer doesn't see you, he says don't drive trees but he knows everyone does it. What you do is scarf and backcut a line of trees. The trees will usually be on a lean. I had about nineteen trees this day, and one big bugger. You cut one and it hits the next and they all go. The big tree slipped off (instead of falling) and caused one of the others to come straight back. Well, I was in scrub and I couldn't get out. I just watched it coming and turned my shoulder (indicates by thrusting right shoulder at the tape recorder) and copped it. They found me unconscious. We had no ambulance at that time and they put me on the back of a truck to take me to the nearest doctor."

Wilson and his companion outlined a few other bones of contention. Primarily the struggle to obtain any sort of facilities for the townspeople of Kawerau. The way Willie Wilson figures it, since the Tasman Pulp and Paper Company dominates the town (just about everybody in Kawerau depends in one way or another for their livelihood on the company) then it is the company's responsibility to at least help the residents obtain much needed facilities. The Company has in fact hindered the residents in this respect.

Wilson's companion: 'In the Company towns, they hold the house and the job over you as a weapon if you engage in any activities, Union, political or otherwise. They can always use that weapon against you and it frightens a lot of people from taking part in anything.'

There has been a lot of industrial strife in the timber-towns in recent years and nobody likes it. The Timberworkers are good people, they just want to get on with it. Do their jobs, raise their families etc. But they have a certain amount of pride and would no doubt like to feel that they are getting a fair return for their efforts. Which they believe they are not at the moment. And before they can successfully negotiate with their employers for improvements they must sort out affairs within their own Union.

As to be expected the same old ho-hum labels have been trotted out. Willie Wilson has been called a Commie and industrial unrest in the timber towns has somehow been linked with the Kremlin. Sure, the Communist Party and various Socialist Parties have been all too eager to take up the Timberworker's cause and it only serves to confuse the issue.

However this is not basically a political affair and the Timberworkers as a whole don't have any particular leanings to the left. Your ordinary timberworker just belongs to that nebulous body "the average man on the street". And hey ; whatever happened to the fair go for the average bloke ?

RICHARD CLARKE



Wilson: "The Pulp and Paper Workers were getting paid an hour overtime for work in excess of their normal duties, that is, for cleaning up around the paper machinery. Without consultation the Company withdrew this payment. Consequently an all up meeting of Pulp and Paper Workers decided that until such time as they received payment for the extra duties that they would withdraw their labour." (for that extra hour). This led to a steady deterioration in the mill operation.

After a short time the Timberworkers, the Engineers and 11 smaller unions involved in the Tasman operation stopped work too. The majority were suspended. The remaining 114 men could have carried on working but with everyone else suspended and the plant all but moth-balled there wasn't much point so they resigned.

When considering the consequences the cause seems all too trivial. Nothing that a good, hard talking, biro chewing, overflowing ashtray style session between the Company and the Union couldn't have sorted out. After all both sides have everything to lose and both sides comprise of down to earth, reasonable men. Or do they ?

It's at this point that things start to get complicated. If the Company negotiates a settlement with the Pulp and Paper Workers' Union concerning the hour overtime,

Willie Wilson, his fellow delegates and workers claim that the 2 top officials of the Timberworkers Union do not represent them but that they in fact misrepresent them. So that before the Timberworkers can be truly represented in negotiations with their employers (concerning the present dispute or a few other grievances that the timberworkers are nurturing) these 2 characters have got to go. Wilson and his fellow delegates have the support of a large number of the Timberworkers on this one.

Wilson claims that R. Hamilton and B. Gray have developed a cosy relationship with the employers and in fact in past situations have often come out in support of them rather than the Timberworkers. A number of 'crime bulletins' citing offences committed by Hamilton and Gray have been published by the Timberworkers. If these are accurate then Hamilton and Gray have been behaving like a couple of poodles and indeed must go in the best interests of the Timberworkers.

All this raises an important question; why were Hamilton and Gray allowed to achieve their present positions in the Timberworkers Union ? According to Wilson, the Union Constitution says that candidates for the positions in question must have served a number of years in various union positions. What this meant at the

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CRACCUM 9

Round Four...

For thirty years, Israel's leaders have been calling upon the heads of the Arab states to join them - at any time, in any place, at any level - for negotiations to achieve a peace settlement in the Middle East. For thirty years, the Arab leaders have ignored these calls, or rejected them out of hand, and have, instead, persisted in a policy of seeking Israel's destruction, by all available means - diplomatic, economic and military.

Finally, in November 1977, President Sadat took up Israel's challenge and, in a dramatic political about-face that left most of the Arab world looking on in horror and open hostility, came to Jerusalem in search of a peaceful solution to the long-standing conflict, but on his own terms. In Israel's Knesset in Jerusalem, President Sadat put forward two demands which, he insisted, must be accepted by Israel if peace was to be achieved. The first was Israel's withdrawal from all the territories occupied in the 1967 war; the second was the realization of self-determination for the Palestinian Arabs, including their 'right' to an independent state.

This was the opening statement of the Egyptian position. There was nothing intrinsically conciliatory about it; in fact, it reflected the very same position that had been stated and reiterated by Arab leaders for years. Israel, therefore, had every right to expect that, in the give-and-take of the direct negotiations President Sadat was proposing, there would be concessions on the Egyptian side - as on the Israeli. Indeed, mutual concessions are absolutely essential - not only because they are part and parcel of any normal negotiating process, but also because the maintenance of Israel's long-term security is incompatible with total acceptance of the Arab demands as they stand.

As matters turned out, however, no Egyptian concessions were forthcoming. On several occasions since President Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, he and other Egyptian spokesmen have repeated the same two demands, without the slightest indication that Egypt was prepared for any compromise whatsoever.

At the same time, without waiting for a reciprocal move by Egypt, Israel proposed far-reaching concessions, both in Sinai and on the question of the status of the Palestinian Arabs. In accordance with international law and practice, Israel had every right to demand a rectification of its border with Egypt, since the Sinai Desert had been used, again and again, as a base for aggression against it. Nevertheless, it waived this right, and offered instead to return the entire area of Sinai, up to the international boundary line which had been in effect since the end of World War I, to Egyptian sovereignty. For Judea-Samaria (the 'West Bank') and the Gaza district, Israel presented a comprehensive proposal offering the Palestinian Arabs in these areas self-rule - with a democratically elected council that would be responsible, in the true spirit of self-rule, for all their civilian affairs.

President Sadat's visit to Jerusalem was, without a doubt, an act of unquestioned political courage, considering the adamant policy of diplomatic, economic and military

aggression against Israel maintained by the Arab states for the past thirty years, on the basis of the barren doctrine of non-recognition of Israel and non-negotiation with it. But, dramatic as it was, the visit in no way justifies President Sadat's insistence that Israel capitulate unconditionally to his political and military dictates.



On the contrary: the same 30-year record of Arab non-recognition, non-negotiation and open aggression that made the Sadat visit such an historic event calls for extreme caution, on Israel's part, in acceding now to demands that appear to be designed to achieve, for the states, precisely what they have, for those three decades, failed to accomplish by blockade and the force of arms. Let us not forget that President Sadat, in his apparent readiness for peace, remains alone in a treacherous sea of Arab hostility towards Israel. On what possible basis can he demand unilateral Israeli concessions in the name of his Arab colleagues, not one of whom has agreed to negotiate directly as he has?

It would be reassuring to believe that President Sadat is sincere in his wish to negotiate peace with Israel. But surely, if he is, he must stop trying to impose his terms, and start negotiating. Regrettably, this is not what he has done so far - as the record shows.

'We have fought, we are fighting, we will continue to fight for two objectives: the return of the lands occupied in 1967; and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.'
Sadat, October 17 '73

'The establishment of a Palestinian state is the price Israel has to pay, in addition to returning all the territories that were occupied in 1967'
Sadat, December '77

Both before, during and after his visit to Israel Sadat has refused to make concessions. Israel, on the other hand has consistently done so. In 1956 Israel gained control of the Sinai, but returned it in the hope and expectation that this would be interpreted as a sign of goodwill by Egypt, which had promised that the peninsula would never again be used for blockades or military aggression.

These promises had the formal backing of the United States and 15 other maritime powers. UN forces were stationed in sensitive border areas. When the time seemed opportune, in 1967, President Nasser expelled the UN force from Sinai, blockaded the Straits of Tiran and massed troops along Israel's borders, with the avowed intention of destroying the Jewish state.

The result was the Six Day War, in the course of which Israel occupied the Gaza district, the Sinai Peninsula, Judea and Samaria, and the Golan Heights. Israel's offer, immediately after the war, to negotiate permanent borders in the context of a peace treaty on the basis of withdrawal from most of the occupied areas, was rejected outright at the Arab summit conference in Khartoum ('No recognition! No negotiation! No peace!') on September 1 '67.

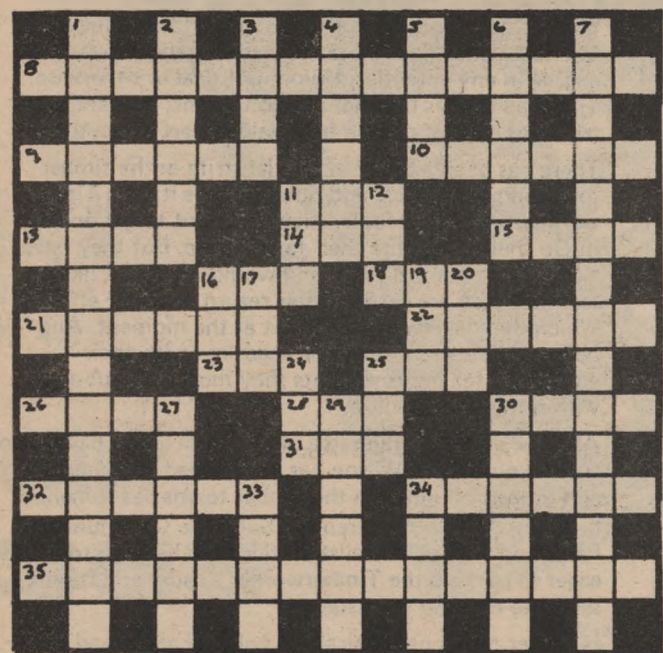
During Sadat's visit Israeli Prime Minister Begin said, 'Everything is negotiable No side shall present prior conditions. We will conduct the negotiations with respect.' On December 25 '77, after consultation with the US administration, Begin presented a comprehensive peace plan to President Sadat, offering him the return of Egyptian sovereignty over all of Sinai, despite its repeated use in the past as a base of aggression against Israel, and proposed an elaborate 26-point programme for self-rule through a democratically elected council for the Palestinian Arabs in Judea-Samaria and the Gaza district.

On January 8 President Sadat abruptly recalled his delegation to the Israel-Egypt Political Committee from Jerusalem - after barely one day of negotiations, in the course of which substantial progress had been made, as disclosed by US State Department spokesman Hodding Carter. Whatever Mr Sadat's reasons, therefore, for breaking off the talks, they could have had nothing to do with the actual progress of the negotiations.

Despite this unilateral move, the Government of Israel has pledged to continue to make every effort to achieve peace. It is convinced, however, that progress in this direction can be made only if the two sides sit down at the negotiating table - whether in Jerusalem, Cairo or elsewhere - and, in a genuine spirit of give-and-take and readiness for compromise, begin negotiating.

CONTRIBUTED BY
M. SHENKEN

Crossword



DOWN

1. Epic film with Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh (4, 4, 3, 4)
2. Scattered.
3. Rearranged river becomes a banker's asset.
4. Promise - but unwelcome here.
5. Dried out in a far idea.
6. A sticky thing sounds as if it is the place for arithmetic.
7. In reference to American cosmonauts.
11. Unoriginal - we repeat across.
12. Catch fish in this - backwards.
16. Lower limb.
17. Anger.
19. Romany term for male person.
20. Male cat.
24. Sounds like the past tense of a leg of lamb!
25. Basic approach to written language.
27. Backs out.
29. The only swimming costume used for testing bombs.
30. Small and slim.
33. Search puts it ever for place.
34. Where to win coconuts. (1, 3)

ACROSS

8. Common title for 1 down. (4, 4, 1, 6)
9. To an illiterate, the number of rivers in the West of England?
10. Lecturers never are!
11. Mixed act features feline.
13. King of the jungle.
14. Past tense of anagram of itself.
15. Italian mountain in fret nail.
16. What rests a Frenchman could well burn the English.
18. Backwards, slightly more than a million grams.
21. Shake, as if with a cold.
22. Public mortuary.
23. Precious stone.
25. Confused friend from France is on target.
26. We have him to thank for, for example, April 27th.
28. Wasting off.
30. Homophone with colourless.
31. Insect.
32. Oscillating inside his win goes.
34. Pertaining to drama?
35. Roughing it out between 8 pm and 7 am (5, 2, 3, 4)

This crossword was compiled by AUSA's treasurer Julian Leigh. We would like to print more crosswords but rather fancy the idea of originals. And so, we hereby announce the opening of our crossword competition. All entries will be published. They must be type-written and include the answers and name of the contestant. The prize will be announced at a later date. Entries should be brought up to Craccum or placed in our pigeon-hole by the Reception Desk on the Ground Floor of the Student Union building. The answers to this week's crossword will be printed in the first issue of the Second Term.

In

The violence of 1976 which h... tip of the syst... Africa. Sydne... of Steve Biko... system of law... In the same ar... the widening... and the writin... of people for... Act under wh... indefinite dete...

Other organis... Race Relatio... the executive... impose perma... effective colle... of South Afri... soon Tswana... ence of their... Institute sum... and methods... in the place o... Nationalists h... a closed syste... practice, in w... the confines o... Nationalist pa... state will con... South Africa...

This systemat... history, but h... the coming to... Nationalist pa... capability and... on mineral an... same time sca... these two pro... isation has be... which provide... in concert wit... resources and... brought them... protestors a... confidence in... suitable enviro... substantial ou... a further four... restore that c... proscribed or... enacted furth...

It is this perio... the vital link... systematic op... government's... development... will only occu... not too high... withdrawal o... the carrot, ra...



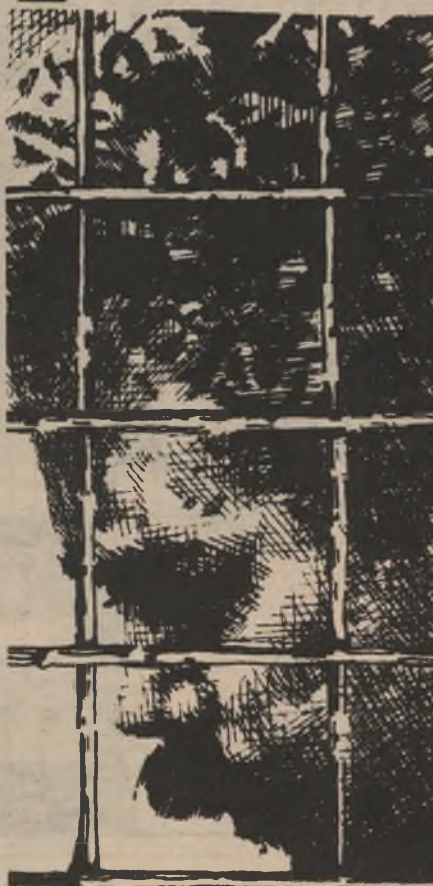
Insuring Apartheid

The violence of the South African police in Soweto in 1976 which hit the headlines here is but the explosive tip of the systematic oppression that occurs in South Africa. Sydney Kentridge, who appeared for the family of Steve Biko, puts it: 'We have been departing from a system of law which was one of the best in the world.' In the same article (NZ Listener 29/4/78) he mentions the widening of 'terrorism' to include strikes, boycotts and the writing of revolutionary poetry; the prosecution of people for actions that were performed before the Act under which they are prosecuted was enacted; and indefinite detention for interrogation.

Other organisations like the South African Institute of Race Relations point to the concentration of power in the executive arm of government which may now impose permanent martial law; to the restraints on effective collective action by black workers and the loss of South African citizenship for millions of Xhosa, and soon Tswana, people with the declaration of independence of their bantustan. In November last year the Institute summarised the situation: '... Western norms and methods of change are being firmly shut out. And in the place of the western model, to which even the Nationalists have made cursory abseance, we are getting a closed system of government, both in philosophy and practice, in which change will only be allowed within the confines of the system.' It is by such means that the Nationalist party vision of a white, Christian, Western state will continue to be imposed on the people of South Africa for some while yet.

This systematic oppression has roots in South Africa's history, but has become clearer and more vicious with the coming to power and continuing rule of the Nationalist party. The development of manufacturing capability and the move from classic colonial dependence on mineral and agricultural products occurs over the same time scale, and it is now widely accepted that these two processes are intimately related. The industrialisation has been made possible by foreign investment, which provided capital, technology and plant, working in concert with a government that actively sought these resources and partnership with the investors who brought them. When, following the shooting of unarmed protestors at Sharpeville in 1960, the investors lost confidence in the ability of the government to provide a suitable environment for investment, there was a substantial outflow of capital from the Republic. It was a further four years before the government was able to restore that confidence, having banned individuals, proscribed organisations, jailed or exiled leaders, and enacted further 'Security' measures.

It is this period of South African history that provides the vital link between the two processes. There is systematic oppression because it is necessary for the government's grand design which includes manufacturing development, dependent upon foreign investment which will only occur if the returns are right and the risks are not too high. South African law now prohibits the withdrawal of overseas capital investment, but in general the carrot, rather than the stick, has been used.



The first campaign against this partnership seems to have been in the United States, where a variety of groups and individuals sought to bring pressure to bear on the consortium of American banks that were, in the early 60's, providing a revolving loan of substantial proportions to the South African government. They called on customers of the banks involved to withdraw their business. Despite some substantial withdrawals, particularly by some church organisations, the campaign failed in its primary objective, the cancellation of the loan; but did lead to the formation of the Inter-Church Centre for Corporate Responsibility which has spearheaded many of the subsequent attempts to make corporations responsible for the social and political consequences of their decisions. In these efforts much use has been made of various forms of shareholder pressure, and several tactics have been developed.

In 1973 the World Council of Churches announced that it had sold its shares in corporations having direct investments in Southern Africa, and called on member churches to do likewise. The booklet produced by the WCC, 'Time to Withdraw: Investments in Southern Africa' described the options for these corporations as: supporting the apartheid system; reform within the system; and disinvestment. It argued that only the latter would create effective pressure for change in South Africa.

While many, particularly those with investments in South Africa, have contested this conclusion, there is no evidence that corporations investing in South Africa can produce change; and very little evidence that they are even interested in effective changes. The argument that investment, by creating a demand for skilled labour which must be satisfied from the black community, will lead to upward mobility and a breakdown of segregation proved incorrect. White unions and the government have ensured that there is a minimal spread of skills and increased wages to the black work force; corporations have gone along with procedures like job reservation, or renaming and restructuring of jobs as the wage bill is often lowered, while complaining of such restraints.

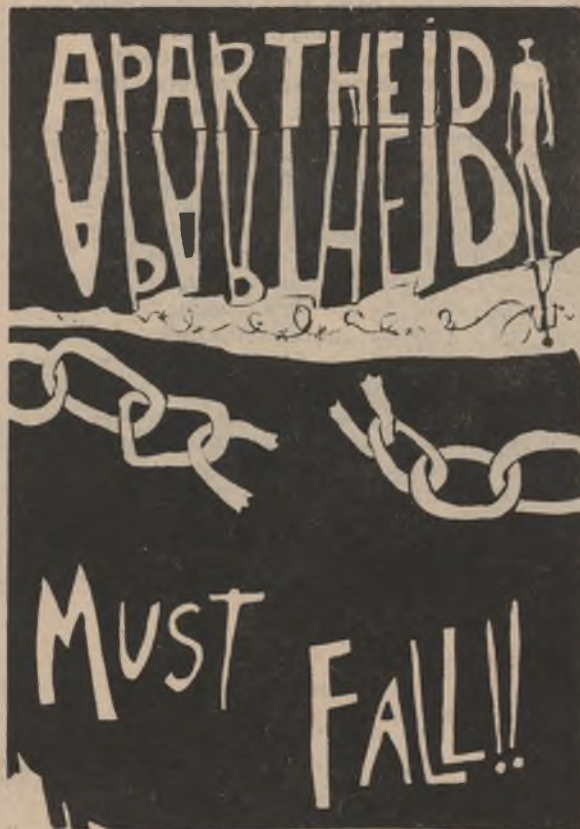
Two New Zealand companies, New Zealand Insurance and South British Insurance, have direct investment in South Africa. Both companies had branches there before the turn of the century, and both companies now have subsidiaries: New Zealand Insurance (South Africa) Ltd, and Union National South British Insurance Co, which contribute 9% and 7% respectively of their group's premium income.

At the annual general meetings of these companies in 1973 a motion was put calling on them to withdraw from South Africa; the directorates opposed the motion, and in both cases it was lost by substantial margins. The initiative for this first action came from NZUSA. Since that year there has been a variety of pressures exerted upon the companies. NZUSA, NAAC, Presbyterian and Methodist churches of NZ and the National Council of Churches have written and sent delegations to the companies, asking questions about their South African operation, and putting the argument for withdrawal. Individual shareholders have written putting the same case, and a few policy holders have written cancelling policies because of the company's involvement with apartheid.

At the annual general meetings there have always been representatives of the National Anti-Apartheid Committee asking about the treatment of staff, participation in the apartheid system, and the morality of the company's behaviour. In 1976 the Presbyterian and Methodist churches moved a motion at each annual general meeting, calling on the company to take such steps as are necessary to make equality of opportunity a reality in their South African subsidiary. This motion, a direct consequence of the WCC call to its member churches, was opposed by the company directors and lost by a substantial margin. Both companies presented alternative motions which affirmed that the company's policy was to provide equality of opportunity as the situation permitted and in both meetings this motion was enthusiastically endorsed.

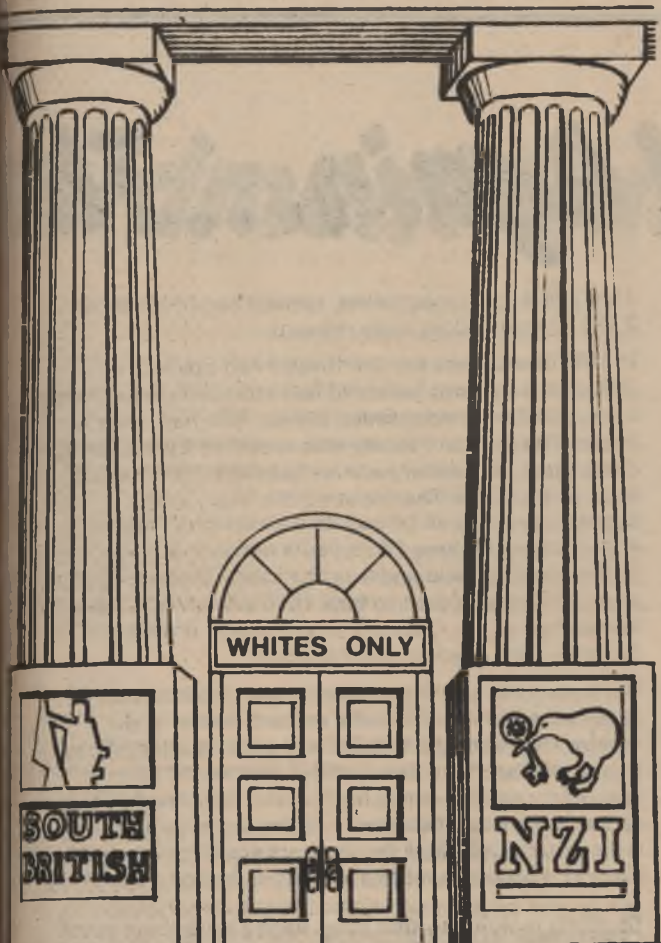
At the 1977 AGMs the companies showed different reactions to the events of the previous year: at NZI it was business as usual, no changes in the South African operation were reported or described in response to questions, and the directors declared they would consider the possibility of new investment in South Africa on 'economic grounds'. South British Insurance, in contrast, reported that they were integrating their counter staff, providing some training programmes for black workers, and making substantial donations to the Urban Foundation which was established to assist urban blacks in various ways: the directors said that they are not contemplating any new investment in South Africa.

Both companies are still in partnership with the South African government. Though they are very junior partners, they still assist in the administration of the pass laws, they still do not give blacks responsibility over whites, and they have a certain proportion of their assets in government bonds. Probably the most important contribution that the firms make is their good name: an association which enables the apartheid system to appear respectable when it is reprehensible.



For 1978 the campaign is being co-ordinated in Auckland where the companies hold their general meetings. We have several tasks: to develop a register of sympathetic shareholders; to encourage interested people to buy small lots of shares and to enlist supporters who can picket the general meetings or take up proxies. Our goal is to have a greater number of people attend these meetings, not only to increase pressure on the companies, but also to learn how shareholders, directors and company personnel relate to these matters. As a start, we have produced a leaflet outlining the options and giving background to the campaign. Further information is available from 'Insurance Company Campaign' P.O. Box 2436, Auckland.

RAY NAIRN



All You Ever Wanted To Know

It is now five years since the introduction of Community Committees in Auckland. They appear to be flourishing, but enquiry shows basic discontent within the structure. The whole topic is in fact a bit touchy - people tend to be afraid of 'treading on toes' (namely the Council's). But fortunately others were willing to speak their minds. The ideology behind the scheme is not quite as admirable as it seems at first glance.

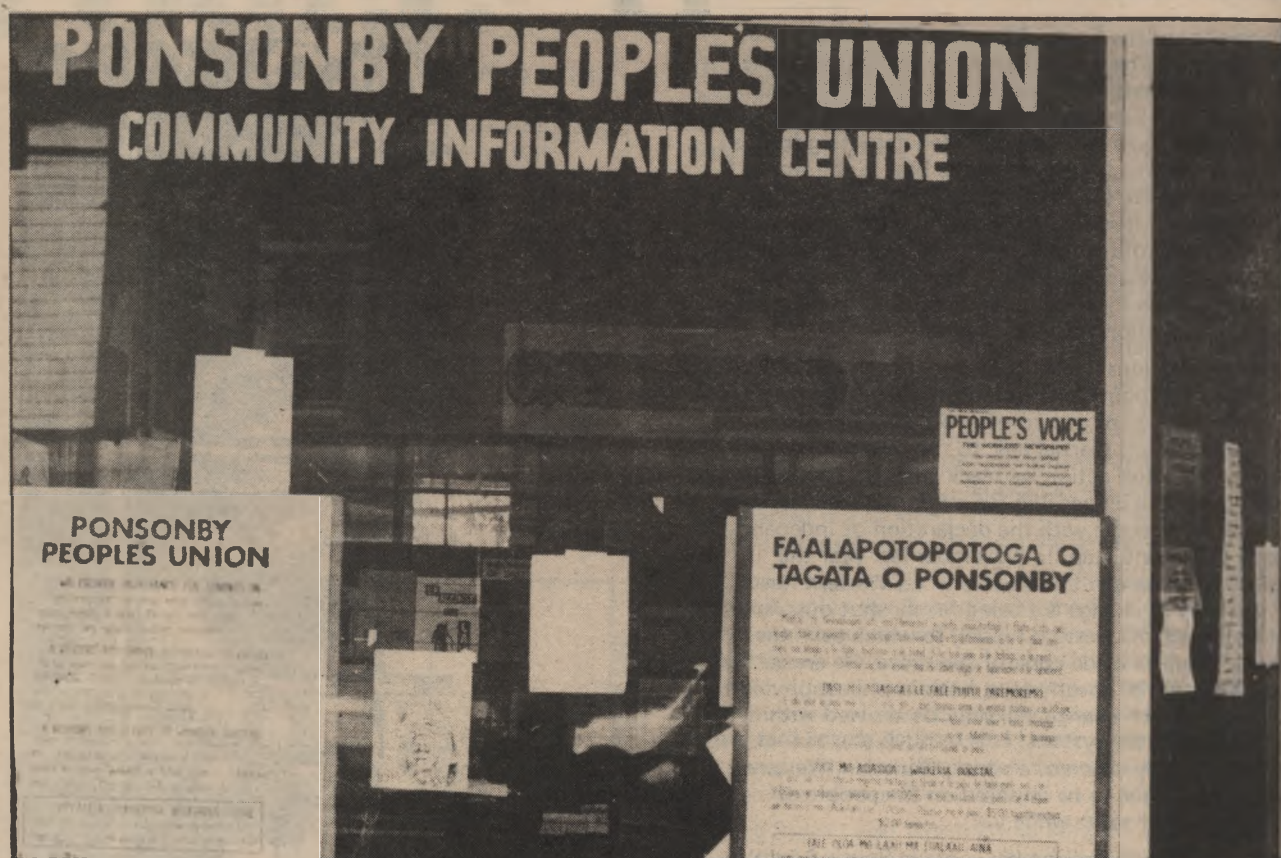
It seems that the basic motivation behind the setting up of the Committees was political expediency on the part of the Auckland City Council. By creating these Community Committees, the Council had two things to gain. Firstly, they provided the Council with an effective way of deflecting the ward system. Wards are the divisions of an electoral area, and under this system councillors are elected to the Council as representatives of each ward. However the ACC did not want to adopt this system, as about half the sitting councillors would have lost their seats because a majority lived in the Eastern Suburbs. So, it was a rather useful strategy to set up these Community Committees. It meant that the 'people' of the city were granted some representation on the Council - although no actual power. A token gesture - is another way of putting it.

Secondly, by anticipating the Local Government Act of 1974, ACC hoped to show that it was a forerunner in innovative thinking, and thereby gain some prestige. The Local Government Act, brought in by the Labour Party, allowed for the establishment of Community Councils, which were designed to be advisory bodies for the views of a community. One person from each council would be nominated to speak at City Council meetings, only on matters pertaining to the particular community.

The Community Committees instituted by the ACC were not set up under this Act. Despite their independence, they were designed on the same basis as the Community Councils. The one major difference, however, is that Auckland's Committees have no legal status, and can be abolished at the whim of the Council.

When the Act came into being, the Committees could have been reconstituted, granting them statutory protection. But it seems that the ACC had second thoughts over this matter, and decided to retain the independence of the Committees. Thus they remain in an extremely vulnerable position.

A further legal complication was added by the 1976 Amendment to the 1974 Act, passed by the National Government. National considered that this lower tier was not necessary. If the Council divided areas into wards or ridings, then the Community Councils were not needed, as there would be sufficient representation. Therefore, the amendment cut down the right to establish Community Councils. Effectively they can now only be established in a rural part of an urban area - thus excluding most cities. This means that it is now legally impossible for Auckland to form Community Councils under the Act. If the ACC had already reconstituted its Community Committees before 1976, they would have had legal status, but the amendment has placed a total barrier on this.



Jenny Robb

The objectives issued by the ACC, as a guideline to activities, set up the Committees basically as a communicative body. Their role is seen as one 'expressing and co-ordinating' opinions from the community to the Council; taking action 'in the interest of the community with respect to any matter as is appropriate, expedient and practicable'; and to carry out functions and powers 'as may from time to time be delegated to it by the council.' Thus supposedly the main function is that of an advisory body. Whether the Committees are satisfied in this capacity is a debatable point. But that's how the situation stands at the moment.

So, what does all this mean in practical terms? From speaking to some of the local chairpersons of Community Committees, there seems to be general unanimity in their attitudes towards the role of the Committees, and their value. The Committees have very little power in Council decisions but do have an advantage over the average citizen. Any group of citizens, concerned about a certain issue, can make up a deputation to present their case to Council meetings. However, they are not permitted to remain for discussion and voting on the issue. Committees, on the other hand, can nominate a representative to attend Council meetings and join in discussion although no voting powers are granted. It seems that the Committees can accelerate change but in no way initiate change.

Council grants each Committee \$2000 a year (there are 14 in the Auckland area), and co-ordinates secretarial and accounts services for them. Each area is now producing its own community newsletter, which is typeset and printed by the Council - although the Committees foot the bill themselves. People involved in all this seem to think highly of the Council Secretary for the Committees. His is an awkward position - being on both sides of the fence, acting both for the Council and the Committees. The Council, then, cannot be completely blacklisted as 'the bad guy', as it does provide assistance, if only on an arbitrary level.

Yet, it is a known fact that some of the Councillors are strongly opposed to Community Committees. It also seems that the bureaucratic nature of the Council tends to be a hindrance rather than a help in getting things done. Council appears to be rather taken aback by the growth and strength of the Committees - this is evidenced by attempts to tighten the reins.

Disillusionment is rife among those members of committees who have worked long and hard to effect changes, only to be thwarted by inaction on the part of the Council. Vince Terreni recently resigned from the Grey Lynn Committee. He felt that the whole structure was wrong - 16,000 people is just too many to serve adequately in one area. Vince also found the rules far

too restrictive. Committee sub-committee bureaucracy the Council. Because the New on very few to be taken Of the \$2000 went back.

Despite all this, Committees in the Student last summer students to including the newsletter projects - but important.

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Jenny Robb

At Last, And Again... Theatrical

Incredible though it may seem the Maidment Arts Centre was officially opened only 2 years ago. Although hardly raging, debate over its use, by students and others, has gone on since then and will probably continue to do so for a long time to come. And that's not necessarily a bad thing.

The MAC was opened with a flourish in April '76 with a festival which continued for over 3 weeks. Looking back it was probably one of the most successful of all Maidment events in terms of campus representation. There was dance, drama, music, film screenings, a poetry reading, a debate, exhibitions, a conference, and the Capping Revue. All of these fields have been covered since but never with such an emphasis on University and student participants. The Departments of English, French, Classics, Music and Fine Arts were involved; StudAss affiliated clubs and societies represented included HART, Theatre Workshop, Film Makers, Maori Club, Photographic Society, University Feminists, Debating Society and Chess Club.

The attendance figures for the festival were relatively high, especially for lunchtime events. The success of '76 prompted the planning of a festival for the next year, on the same scale and covering the same period. The emphasis however was changed somewhat. The previous

year's festival had featured 6 'drama' events; in '77 there were 10. In '76 there had been 6 concerts of the non-jazz/rock/folk variety; by '77 this total had almost doubled.

The festival had taken on a new look; many of the events were dictated by the theatres themselves. Certain groups had become regular theatre-users and they were well-represented in the festival. Other groups, in particular those clubs and societies which were not particularly arts-orientated but which had featured in the MAC during the opening festival, were absent.

For various reasons Theatre Management Committee, a joint University - Students' Association sub-committee of the Student Union Management Committee, decided in '77 not to have a festival this year. Attendance figures for last year's festival were not as high as they had been the previous year and in an attempt to discover why TMC circulated a questionnaire on the theatre to students. Approximately 500 students replied.

Several weeks ago - at almost the same time 12 months later - Craccum published a questionnaire on student use of the theatre. Due to space and other limitations it was far less comprehensive than TMC's survey. Only 16 students replied to the Craccum survey compared to

TMC's 500, but nevertheless, comparison between the 2 sets of results does seem relevant.

In '76, 12 months after the theatre had opened, only 20% of the students surveyed had attended performances in the MAC 5 or more times; almost 40% had never been inside. The Craccum survey was answered by a diversity of students. A number had not been in either the Old Maid or the Little Theatre at all this year; others calculated as high as 14 and 20 performances attended. Attendances by these 16 students however averaged out to 4 in the Old Maid and 1 in the Little Theatre. Student attendance seems then to have risen since '76 but the low sample of the Craccum survey makes it difficult to see by how much it has increased.

The answers to the Craccum survey on the question of adequate coverage of specific cultural media in the theatre were extremely varied and often quite opposed to one another. Well over half felt that music was adequately catered for in the theatre; very few felt that dance, lectures or discussions / seminars were well-represented. Only 6 of the students who replied were content with the number of plays produced in the MAC.

Students replying to that same survey were more vocal and specific about inadequacies. The majority cited

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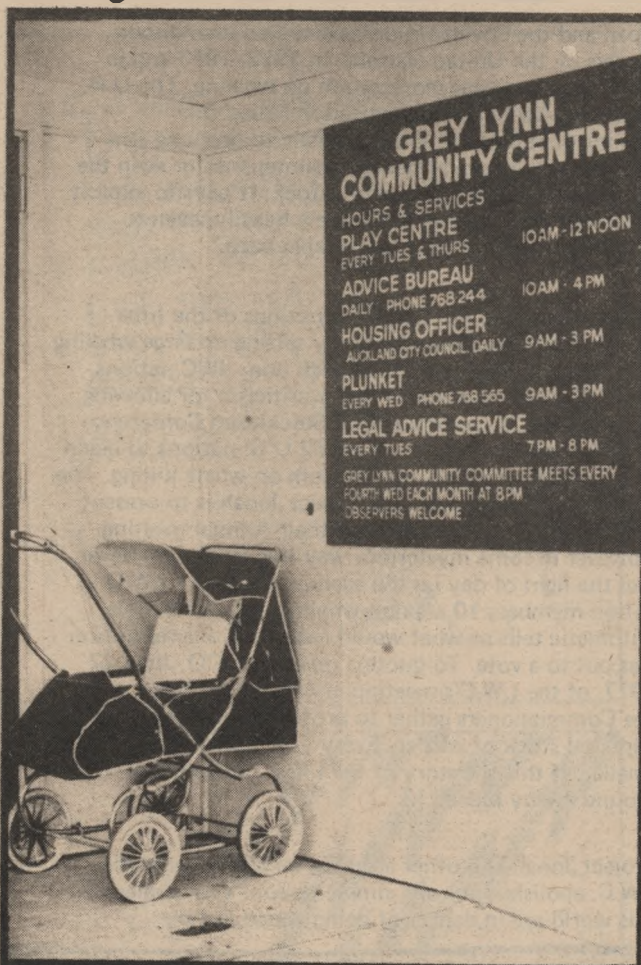
Now about Community Committees

too restrictive at Grey Lynn. Apparently the Grey Lynn Committee is almost a mini-Council with a hierarchy of sub-committees making the structure rather rigid and bureaucratic. As Vince said himself, to achieve anything, the Committees must work in an opposite way to Council - quickly and in a non-administrative manner. Because this was impossible at Grey Lynn, Vince moved to the Newton group, which is newly formed and moves on very few rules. He also feels that another look needs to be taken at the way money is spent by Committees. Of the \$2000 allocated to Grey Lynn last year - \$1600 went back to Council one way or another!

Despite all this, Vince can see the value of Community Committees - he is particularly proud of the involvement in the Students Community Service Programme over the last summer vacation. The Committee employed five students to work on various community projects, including the revamped production of the community newsletter 'Flash'. Success can be achieved in such local projects - but it is a different story when larger, more important issues are concerned.

The Committees have stimulated many objections to the proposed new District Scheme. An example of this is the objection put forward by the Central City Committee to the demolition of the Courtville flats in Waterloo Quadrant. Mrs Daly-Peoples (Chairwoman) and her committee feel very strongly about this. The building is of historic interest and houses many people in the city area. The Committee has repeatedly voiced its opinion to the Council - but to no avail. The lack of power in such a situation is frustrating to say the least. Council seems to be saying - 'What do the residents want?' and in the same breath - 'We don't care what you want, we're going ahead anyway'. A slight contradiction, but not surprising, considering the way in which the Committees were set up. Mrs Daly-Peoples described this as 'a breach of faith.'

However, she sees the role of the Community Committees as dealing with a wider range of functions - particularly in the social sphere. The Committees liaise not only with the Council, but also with independent bodies. For example, some inner city residents were



Jenny Robb

having trouble with their milk deliveries. The Committee stepped in and gained some success from the vendors, where individual residents could not have.

Mrs Daly-Peoples also expressed concern that the Council tended to use the Committees to do their 'dirty work'. Recently the Ministry of Works asked the Council to see to tree-planting in such areas as Grafton Gully. The Council in turn asked for voluntary labour from the Community Committee. The Committee felt strongly that the Ministry of Works should fix up themselves what they had destroyed. At the very least, voluntary labour should not be called for - the employment of relief labour would be more practicable. It seems that the Council and the Committees have rather contrasting conceptions of the Committee scheme as a whole.

Gerald Wakeby (Chairman, Ponsonby Community Committee) reiterated this when he spoke of the Committees' development not occurring in the same way that Robbie and the Council had intended. Whereas Council would no doubt be quite happy for Committees to remain as a body whose chief function was 'to

articulate to ignorant councillors what is going on', the Committees themselves are forging ahead with the intention of doing much more than that. Mr Wakeby sees the fact that the Committees can actually influence change, if not initiate it, as very important. He cites the case of the Westhaven struggle with the Harbour Board. It is, he says, 'much less of a disaster than it might have been'. Here again, the problem of Council's bureaucracy cropped up. Mr Wakeby spoke of the frustration encountered when reaching the Council level. Although some departments were very helpful, divisions were noticeable in others, and the hours spent in chasing matters up made action difficult.

Despite all obstacles and opposition, the 14 Community Committees have participated in numerous activities for the well-being of the community. These projects range from a play group in Newton to the successful push for the removal of heavy traffic from Parnell streets.

With the obvious split in opinions as to the exact function of Auckland's Community Committees, the future seems uncertain. The ever-present knowledge that Council can, at any time, disband the Committees must surely inhibit action to some extent. Yet, it is doubtful whether Council would ever exercise this power as the Committees have well and truly established themselves, and include several influential people. Perhaps, though, moving away from the Council and its power, the strength of the Committees lies in their ability to organise and mobilise people on important issues.

Whether or not the cause is won, this is a valuable asset - to collectively oppose or encourage certain action, must be an innovation in city living. As always, this calls for dedicated individuals prepared to get their hands dirty. A problem often encountered in such organisations, but one which will hopefully be overcome.

JENNY HELLEN



Jenny Robb



Jenny Robb

The Maidment Questionnaire

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drama first. A large number of these specified 'straight', 'good' or 'serious' drama and some requested visits from drama groups from other universities or overseas. Film was the next gripe: there should be a greater number of 'specialist' films; film screenings should be weekly; why is our film programme so disorganised when Massey and Canterbury have such a good and efficient programme. (On the same line: an overwhelming preference was shown for film screenings in the Old Maid. This question was inserted at the request of the organisers.) Only 3 out of 16 students felt that music was under-represented, but they referred primarily to concerts featuring 'modern' music.

In '76 students were not specifically asked what they would prefer to see more or less of in the theatre. Instead the TMC questionnaire investigated regular attendance at arts events, not necessarily on campus. Of the 500 or so students surveyed the largest proportion - 39% - attended feature films more regularly than any other cultural or sporting event. The same group of students were also questioned on 'preference' for specific art forms. The largest group came under 'multiple preference' but in the individual categories film won out again with drama and 'modern' music not too far behind.

In both surveys the clear majority of students felt that outside groups should be able to use and benefit from the theatre. Almost all who replied to the Craccum questionnaire felt that there should, however, be restrictions. Most felt that students should have priority over outside groups for booking; others cited the need for revenue from the higher rental charges. One student wrote: 'Outside groups are necessary for the development of student talent and awareness. Distinction should however be made between groups of this kind and commercial interests - eg groups like the Pram Factory provide stimuli; 'The Boyfriend' by an amateur opera group gave nothing.' Another reply read: 'Students should always have first priority - why all these bloody pantomimes?'

The most interesting answers in the Craccum questionnaire were for the last question: How would you suggest involving more students in events at the Maidment Arts Centre? A thorny one, but obviously a question that had been well-thought out by those who replied. The most common suggestion involved cost - both of hiring either the Old Maid or the Little Theatre, and of tickets. A number felt that the theatres should be available free or at least very cheaply to amateur student groups, outside groups should have to pay far more. Ticket prices got the

same treatment - way down for students, way up for the public. There was also a marked interest in mounting a number of large, 'all-comers' dramatic productions.

Other suggestions included better liaison and publicity; more constructive help from the MAC staff; more interesting and varied plays and films; and the idea of employing part-time paid student directors to run productions. And the award for the best suggestion? It goes to the Masters student who thinks we should change the name to the Katherine Mansfield Arts Centre - we wouldn't even need to change the initials!

Although hardly an overwhelming success the Craccum questionnaire was an interesting exercise; at least it gave students the chance to say what they wanted. Perhaps only 16 students want to use the MAC, or maybe the rest of you just couldn't be bothered thinking about it.

The unfortunate thing about the survey results is that I can't do a thing with them. Except publish them and hope that the powers that be will read them. But then, Theatre Management Committee itself has been sitting on its own illuminating survey results for a year now. I may be wrong but it appears that little has been done with them. So much for the student voice?

LOUISE CHUNN

Save Our Seas

What do Spike Milligan, John Denver and Brigitte Bardot have in common? They all have an interest in the wildlife and ecology of the world and actively participate in trying to save it. Spike Milligan laid a wreath in London last year to protest the slaughter of whales by Japan and Russia. John Denver was instrumental in stopping big business from turning a forest area of Colorado into a ski-resort. Brigitte Bardot has forsaken the screen in order to help save the seals of Canada from extinction.

Project Jonah is a non-profit volunteer organisation dedicated to preserving the remaining large marine life such as whales, dolphins and seals from ruthless and unnecessary slaughter be it commercial or otherwise. The following report appeared in the New Zealand Herald on the March 4:

'The Japanese Government yesterday described the slaughter of more than 1000 dolphins by fishermen as unfortunate, but it indicated that it did not have the power to prevent such an incident from happening again.'

'A Foreign Ministry spokesman said many telegrams had been received at Japanese missions abroad protesting against the killing.'

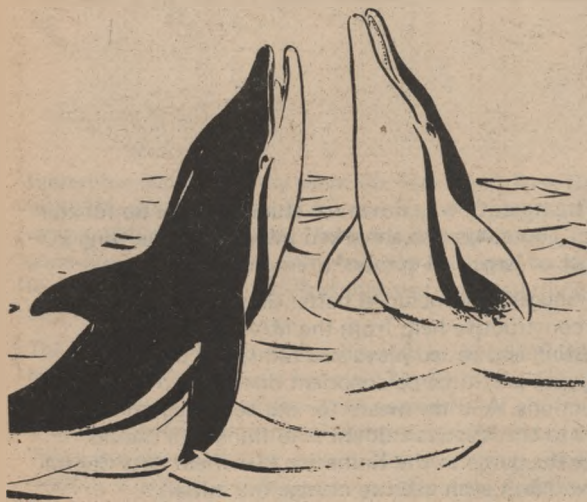
'Fishermen on the southern island of Iki claiming the dolphins were eating their catch of yellowtail and cuttlefish, herded the mammals into an inlet with their boats and killed them with clubs and knives.'

'The spokesman said there were no laws against the killing of dolphins. A spokesman for the Fisheries Co-operative said killing of dolphins off the coast of Japan would continue.'

'Mr Tadayoshi Ogawa, head of the anti-dolphin section of the co-operative, said the co-operative voted yesterday to continue killing dolphins in spite of criticism.'

This in effect seems to tell it all. On March 18 in the same paper, it was reported that Helen Reddy and Olivia Newton-John had cancelled tours to Japan in protest of the slaughter. Project Jonah state that only four of the great whales species are left in any large number to warrant commercial killing. Once there were eight. Due to this imbalance, smaller whales and dolphins are being caught to supplement low catches. Shoe polish, car wax, margarine, crayons, perfume, fertilizer, lipstick and pet food are just some of the products derived from whales, yet these products have an acceptable and economically viable substitute.

Russia and Japan account for 85% of the annual whale kill at present. Japan insists that it needs whale meat to supplement the protein intake of its population. Yet less than 1% of the protein intake of the Japanese is currently supplied by whale meat, in fact for several years the Japanese exported large quantities of whale meat as pet food. The Russians use whale meat to feed ranch-bred fur bearing animals such as mink and sable. Dolphins are caught in the purse seine tuna nets used by foreign fishermen. The tuna are caught, canned and sold. The dolphins are thrown back, belly up. Nearly one-quarter of a million dolphins are killed each year by Japanese whalers.



For centuries the dolphin has been a friend to man. Today the dolphins are being slaughtered for monetary gain, trained as soldiers and circus clowns. Is this the way to treat a creature with the proven intelligence of the dolphin?

'To the dolphin alone beyond all others, nature has granted what the best philosophers seek - friendship to no advantage. Though it has no need at all of any man, yet it is a genial friend to all, and has helped many.'

Japan and the Soviet Union have defied unanimous appeals by the United Nations, in 1972, 1973 and in 1974, for a ten-year moratorium on whaling. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation issued this pessimistic report: 'It is not realistic to presume (the whalers) will ensure either the maintenance or even the continued existence of a whale stock. It pays to exploit a resource (the whales) excessively heavily, even to extinction, and not on a sustainable basis.'

Japan has evaded the quota restrictions of the International Whaling Commission by setting up large whaling operations in Peru and Chile, both non-IWC nations. The IWC itself must come under criticism for allowing this slaughter to continue. The Stockholm Conference of 1972 passed a resolution by 52 U.N. nations to begin an immediate ten year moratorium on whale killing. The aim of this Conference and Project Jonah is to present this resolution to the I.W.C. at their Annual meeting. However in some mysterious way this resolution never sees the light of day on the agenda. Of the 17 I.W.C. nation members 10 are non-whaling nations. Simple arithmetic tells us what would happen if this resolution was put to a vote. To quote a report in ECO, June 22 1977, of the I.W.C.'s meeting in Australia: 'Every year the Commissioners gather to protect yet another depleted stock of whales. Every year the numbers get smaller. If this the story of the I.W.C. why keep it around? Why indeed.'

Project Jonah and other agencies fervently want the I.W.C. abolished for one simple reason. The whales of this world are in danger of being wiped out by

"quota" killing. If the Stockholm Resolution reached the I.W.C. it would cease to exist. After all it is only a matter of time before there are no whales left to kill. Man has killed more than 2,000,000 whales in the last fifty years. How much time do the whales, dolphins and seals have left unless action is taken now?

The situation is summed up quite simply in the following manner by A van der Struick Netherlands Commissioner to the I.W.C.:

'The small, reduced, populations of Blue Whales, White Whales and Humpback Whales (not to mention the western stock of Grey Whales) are an international disgrace and mankind would be dishonoured permanently if the same were to happen to other kinds of cetaceans Furthermore, from an economic viewpoint the whaling countries would have killed the goose which laid the golden eggs.'

But 'What can I do?' you may ask yourselves. If you are interested in helping Project Jonah fill out the form on this page or contact Peter Dorman at 74-740 ext 760. If that's not enough, nicely worded letters of protest to the Japanese and Russian embassies are very helpful.

Embassy of Japan,
Box 6340,
Te Aro,
Wellington.

Russian Embassy
57 Messines Street,
Karori,
Wellington.

M.A. STIRLING



PROJECT JONAH (N.Z.) INC., P.O. BOX 42-071, AUCKLAND, 5, NEW ZEALAND.

I am interested in hearing more, please place me on your mailing list. I enclose a donation to cover the cost of duplicating, postage and your quarterly Project Jonah Advocate.

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PROJECT JONAH is a non-profit volunteer organization.

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SEASONAL BAD TASTE PAGE

Capping book has always been the ultimate in bad taste and depravity. To anyone with a sense of decency or a tinge of prudishness, it has always gone down like a cup of cold vomit, but your average Kiwi bloke or blokeess has always been able to stomach the mixture without too much trouble. This year there is no Capping book. But here are a few samples of what might have been. Almost like the real thing.

The only difference is that the following selection is refined enough not to say which of the blokes is a bit queer, which of the girls is a bit gay, whose who committed suicide, which pig is married to a sow, which enticing titbit stripped for Customs and where else he's been stripped, who is Weightwatcher's most conspicuous failure, and which arselicker is a bit green about the abortifacients now that tenders have been opened to see who will get the contract to give him a terminal enema.

We won't mention all that, we'll keep it clean; but maybe I'd better take out a little life insurance anyway. Read on; this is :

CAPPING PROGRAMME '78

Wolings Wockers, aka The Spineless Wonders, are coming via MOR to give us HEL. To be found hiding in the skirts of the Old Maid on someday afternoon, as support act for Jingle Bells & The Trumpet Blowers.

Technoflash Rob, alias the Subliminal Kid, will be on the StudAss TV screen soon with another cartoon series starring bashers and robbers. Production by Wanganui Online Unlimited, guest stars courtesy of the Cultural Improvement Agency and the Bureau of State Semantics.

The SPUnCy WASPS are gigging tonight at that oldie goldie nightclub, Castle of Righteousness. Pick up on their new album, Baby Burn Baby. Bring along your best punk trend-gear, your razor blades, your safety pins, your knitting needle, your bottled foetus and your favorite atrocity story.

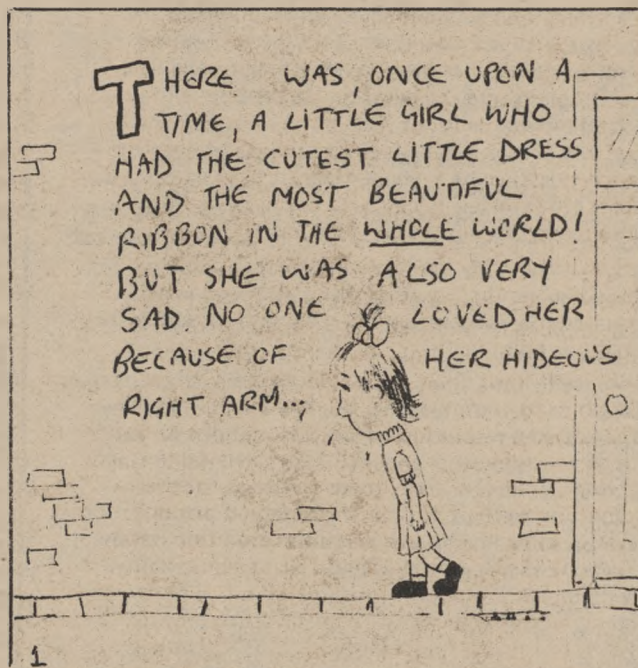
Those of you with no taste for that kind of new wave pathology can attend a mellow benefit concert given by the Mayday Sisters in support of Export Year '78. Lead cheerpersonness, Ms Juniperperson, says quote, 'we are sure that those as yet unborn will be as happy as we are to make a life commitment to Australia-New Zealand trade relations.' All your waste money is welcomed by the cause.

Stop Press! New religious group hits town! The most honorable reverend Sun Yung Dark Side of the Dollar, ex Korean Munitions Ltd., is in Auckland now. With backup groups Whitewash, Brainwash and The Intellectual Onanisms, Sun Yung is sure to be a fav rave with the hip and easy. You too can grovel at the feet of the great guru! Lick the toes of the master! Drink in the golden wisdom at the fountain of white porcelain!

Horrorshow of the week, nominated for the Alice Cooper memorial award: Simon and the Funky Aardvarks. Animal fornication on stage. Marx rolls in grave nightly. The most salient point about this show is the special kick you get from being in with the in.



Buzz: which keen local athlete recently indulged himself by unloading \$4½ million on a physical workout area for his back-yard? A bit self-indulgent, but we're sure all his fans think he deserves it. The superstar is currently at work on a new LP, Energy Scenarios And The Four Horsemen. When that's through, he's going to buy himself a swimming pool



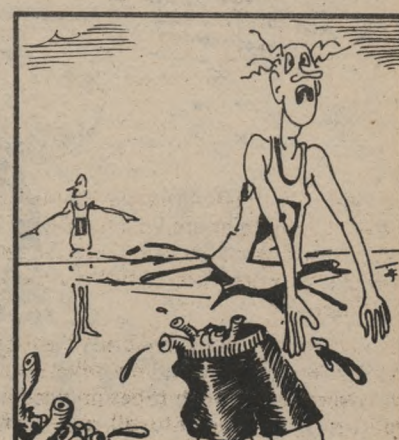
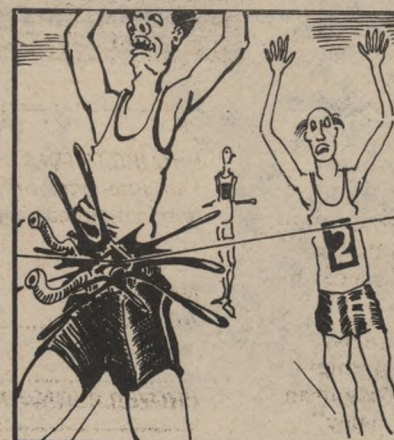
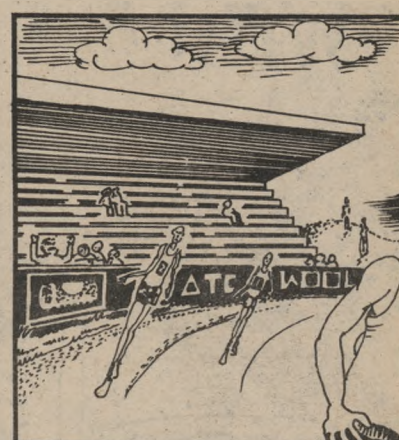
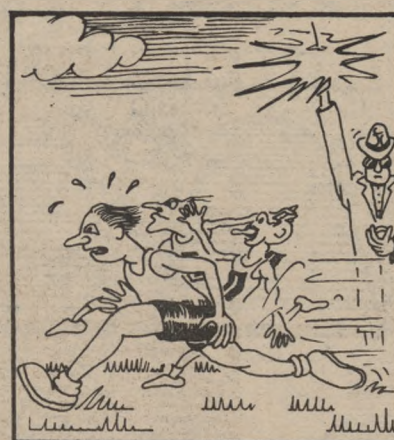
Flop of the year: Scurvyn Mervyn, the comic incognito. Commits political hara-kiri every time he opens his mouth, but nobody notices. Playing to empty dreams in Apathy House seven days of the week.

And now a little compulsory intellectual uplift, included so we are not Indecent in Whole and so can survive Prosecution - some poetry, a selection from a poem of some length: 'The domes of Capitol Hill/Flower as pus flowers/ On the face of syphilis. / E pluribus

unum / And other dream labours / Flounder in the mud. / The statue of liberty / Has crabs in her cunt : / America's foreign policy / Can be followed by its trail of blood. / The world is no virgin, but still / No excuse to avoid the Bicentennial Bill.'

All proceeds from this Capping section go towards buying an electric train for a little boy called Robbie.

HUGH COOK



Coming Out

I am gay. I reserve the 'gay' to describe how I now feel about my own normal, yet somewhat unconventional, sexuality. I'd have to admit, in retrospect, that I've always been homosexual as reflected by my innermost thoughts, desires, and fantasies. Homosexuality then, from my own experience, is permanent; I always have and always will have an erotic preference for men. I grow impatient with those who search for 'the cause' or look at homosexuality as a 'passing phase' in one's life. I believe these attitudes only indicate a misunderstanding of sexuality by many straights and gays.

Probably largely due to the uptight perspective that society holds against 'sexual alternatives' and 'sexual liberation', I long denied that my sexual preference for males was a reality. In fact I was totally blind to it. I clearly remember one night about two years ago when my female 'lover' suggested having a beer at one of the city's largest gay bars; I was terrified, I wouldn't be caught dead in a gay bar!

I knew that I fancied men, and this homophobia reflected the fears held about my own sexuality. Three to four years of rather boring heterosexuality had passed for me as I continually denied my true sexual preference. I was profoundly dishonest with myself. I felt confused about the gay world particularly because of old stereotypes well-established in my own mind. If being gay really meant high-pitched voices and liberal wrist movement then I wanted nothing to do with it.

As sex with women seemed less meaningful, and my conception of sexuality slowly broadened I reasoned that the time for at least a gay experiment was long overdue. Several months passed before my desired 'experiment' happened. I'll never forget my first gay lover. He was visiting Auckland University on business from overseas; I was so pleasantly surprised to learn that this sophisticated and handsome bearded man was gay.

With this first short affair came the striking realisation that I must be gay, emotionally and sexually. 'Being gay' wasn't going to be easy; I knew that from a life of blatant prejudice and indoctrination about the evils and perversions of homosexuality. For a few months I was uneasy, depressed and secretive about my new-found sexuality. Only the most trusted friends learnt about my gay feelings and experiences.

How could gay love be wrong in so many people's minds when it was so natural to me? I remember that fortunately as friends and acquaintances learnt of my sexual preference they reacted with acceptance. There was no screaming, crying, fist flinging, vomiting, or abandonment. People seemed to genuinely accept me without regard to my sexuality.

I was at first very reluctant to join the University Gay Liberation group as I envisaged them as terribly blatant and strictly politically-radical gays. I saw Gay Liberation as public homosexuality and an end to anything discrete about being gay. My preconceptions were quickly modified at the first meeting that I attended and fortunately Gay Liberation is big enough to hold a diversity of opinion.

Many gays feel that they must remain discrete about their sexuality for various reasons, and fair enough. I believe that Gay Liberation is not only a social and political struggle, but it is also a personal issue. Attending Gay Lib. meetings has certainly made me aware of the struggle, but perhaps more immediately important it has been a personal liberation for me achieved through meeting several other happy gays and discussing sexuality with them.

It soon became more apparent to me that some gay people had not found coming out and being gay as easy as I had. Indirectly through meeting happy gays (at Gay Lib. functions) I soon learnt of a few gay people that didn't seem happy. These people, it seems, avoid or loath their sexuality and remain unhappy and confused for years. Others apparently accept being different but only with the accompaniment of guilt, shame, and self-degrading opinions. No doubt, society is to blame for its part in perpetuating a misunderstanding and prejudice of homosexuality, some rightly call it 'heterosexism'.

However, gays must come to realise that the heterosexual ideal that we've been taught since childhood is largely inapplicable in their lives. Instead gays should regard themselves as happily gifted to see people of their own sex, or both sexes, as romantically beautiful. They should be freed of stereotypes, misgivings, guilt, shame, and of need for self-inquisition. It seems that once gay people have conquered the ignorance of society, and gained their own self-esteem, they have entered the realm of true individuality.



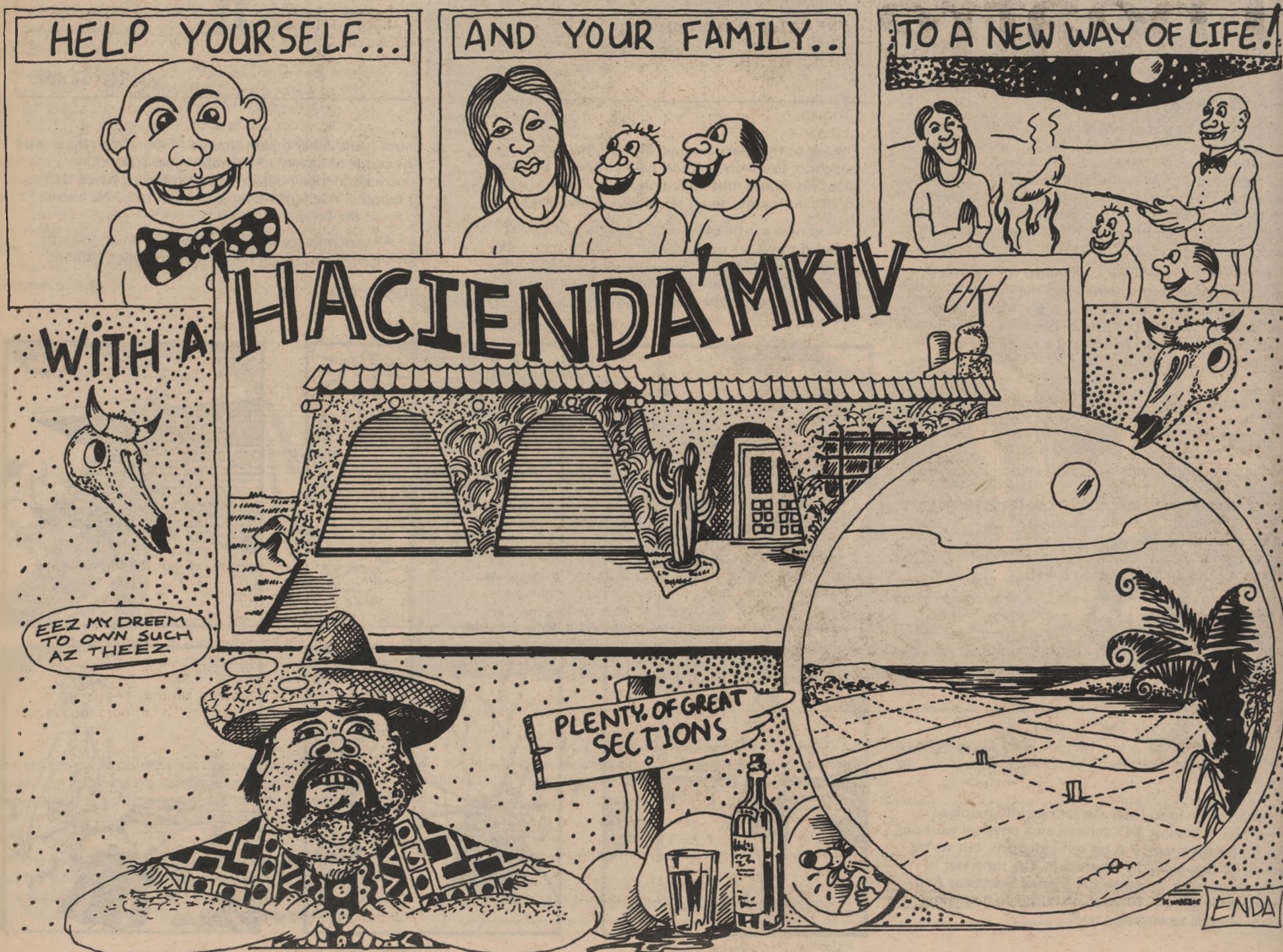
TRANSFORMATION

'We know your problems from our own personal experience. One of us, Gillian is a male to female transsexual, now living as a woman; the other, Margaret, knows the wife's point of view. Our experience involves our own children, parents, friends, work situation, etc. In addition we can call on the experience and knowledge of other transsexuals and transvestites whom we know personally, as well as other resources in NZ and overseas. Once we needed TransFormation, but it didn't exist; maybe it can help you.'

TransFormation is a charitable, non-profit organisation established to help transsexuals. Its main service is to provide information in the form of leaflets, intended to promote knowledge and understanding. These leaflets include 'Hormone Treatment', 'Transpeople and Law', 'List of Transsexual Surgeons' and many more, all available free to transpeople and their families.

TransFormation is no fly-by-night organisation. Its founders, Gillian and Margaret Cox, have spoken to Marriage Guidance Counsellors and Probation Officers and have received a \$50 grant from the Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand. Although the Coxes want their services to be as free as possible, resources are limited and donations are most welcome.

For further information on any problems, involving transsexuals write to:
Gillian and Margaret Cox,
5 Windsor Place,
Levin.



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Happy Days Are Here Again

'Mouth, as Beckett calls her, was born a bastard, deserted by her parents, brought up in a loveless, heavily religious orphanage. She became a lonely, frightened, half-moronic adult forever trudging around in the countryside and avoiding others. Once she appeared in Court on some unnamed charge, and couldn't speak. Once, and only once, she wept. Occasionally, mainly in Winter, for some reason, she was seen in the public lavatory, mouthing distorted vowels, but otherwise nothing of note apparently happened, until this experience at the age of 70. And suddenly her mouth began to pour out words so many and fast that her brain couldn't grasp them, even though she senses that some revelations and discoveries were occurring.'
Benedict Nightingale, on Samuel Beckett's play, 'Not I'.

'Not I' opens at Theatre Corporate on April 10. Elizabeth McCrae is Mouth, Roy Billing is the Auditor. Directed by Roger McGill. Roger McGill and Elizabeth McCrae spoke to Sandra Kyle about the play.

ROGER : Unlike the other Beckett plays where there is an element of hilarity, of jocularity, there is none in 'Not I'. 'Not I' is one scream of anguish from go to woad. It's taking the lady between after the relatives have gone, and the undertaker arrives. She's got no hope, just this miraculous thing that happens to her. The meaning of the play is quite comprehensible, I think. Some of the detail, because there's such a wealth of it, could be lost, but we're particularly looking at the areas of understanding within the play.

ELIZABETH : I don't think you have to understand 'Not I' in the usual sense, but that you have to be open to the feeling of the woman. It's highly emotional, it's not monotonous, and it switches from one emotion to the other.

ROGER : See, she uses three pretty basic sorts of things. There are the thoughts which occur to her as she goes through the play, the dialogue and the meaning. The dialogue action is the stream of words which she can't stop - her mouth's on fire, it's racing away from her -



and the dialogue meaning is the description of the thoughts inside her head which are anguishing her. What she does to escape from the pain is what a lot of people do; she reverts to the past, and she suddenly starts talking about what happened in Croakers Acres, what happened in the Supermarket, what happened in jail. There are a number of different areas that form a quite comprehensible past, and you see the link. We see how she's handled the whole of her life, how she's only been half there, shut off. And I feel very strongly that the whole play, as well as being a literary piece, is a visual thing.

ELIZABETH : I also feel this. The image is so compelling, of a mouth moving around, high up on a black stage, brought up by a pin spot, and another figure, the Auditor, just picked out in a little bit of light.

ROGER : Space in Theatre is one of the areas Beckett's been working in. That's why he puts people in urns, why he puts them in mounds. He's playing with and working with space. Here, it is the relationship between the Auditor, which is the cowed figure onstage who makes compassionate gestures a number of times during the play, and Mouth. Beckett gives very strict instructions on the relationship of the Auditor and Mouth. He was very conscious of it being a statement in space as well as a statement in philosophy, and a statement in literature. Can you imagine: A disembodied mouth spilling out a stream of words during the continuation of the play, as well as another cowed figure, for which there is no indication of male or female, big or small, only that it is situated beneath the mouth, and who makes compassionate gestures a number of times through the play, which relate to specific parts of the play. The shape of this play gives forth an ideal. I think of it as a piece of living sculpture, and I think it will appeal very much to Elam students.

We're doing this play with a University audience in mind. There's a lot of people studying Beckett and it's a good opportunity to see a Beckett play - and we are anticipating doing other Beckett plays. We're very lucky to have Elizabeth McCrae available. There's not many ladies that can actually play the part. It's a lot to do with having a very good trained voice, a verbal dexterity, and having the kind of brain that allows itself to accept Beckett. The passion in Beckett is very strong, and this requires an openness of an actress to express and experience - for that you've got to reach right down to the bottom of your heart. You have to be able to accept Beckett on an experience level. You experience it, and get the well of feeling that comes from it. Beckett is not something that you intellectualize, it is something you experience, and everyone gets something different out of Beckett, I think.

Theatre

MIME INTERNATIONAL
ROBERT BENNETT & LOUISE TRAVERS
LITTLE THEATRE APRIL 21

Mime is a subtle art. Without words the body and face must 'speak' for themselves. Overt exaggeration can ruin the rather whimsical effect of body language; there is a fine line between suggestion and overcompensation for the loss of the voice.

Robert Bennett and Louise Travers are technically adept in the art of mime. They know the basic rules and stay with them - from white painted faces to wide opened mouths. But technical proficiency is simply not enough. They lack the subtlety and delicacy that makes mime beautiful; in short, they lack a magical sort of imagination.

The performance in the Little Theatre was made up of a large number of short skits and one longer mime. Almost without exception the shorter pieces were uninspired and dealt with hackneyed mime topics, from a jumping flea to outlining the area of a box. The longer mime was far more intricate. With a backing of jazz music and poetry Bennett and Travers acted out the breakdown of a relationship. Although potentially powerful the whole piece failed to impress. The music was startlingly inappropriate and even distracting; the mime was unadventurous and soon become dull.

The show was not, however, a disaster. Any sort of mime is exciting and despite its pedestrian content this performance succeeded in that quarter. But, frankly, I'd rather watch Marcel Marceau in the Polaroid ad.

LOUISE CHUNN



THE CAT AND THE CANARY
JOHN WILLARD
MERCURY THEATRE

Another night of fun and frivolity at the Mercury. Something light and easy to digest before the champagne supper, nothing to jar senses lulled by the gin and tonics and social chit-chat of the intervals. Light entertainment seems to be the preferred mode of theatre for patrons of the Mercury yet there is no need to be as disparaging. Despite my determination not to be moved by what I was convinced was going to be a jaded resurrection of a clichéd twenties genre, I found the production zestful, the characters delightfully inane and the horror as real as promised.

The action takes place in one evening. The relatives of a wealthy old man assemble in his drawing room to hear the reading of his will, all anticipating some share in his riches. However, once they discover that the old man has left his entire estate to his niece (our heroine) her assorted relatives break into angry, bitter dispute quelled only by the housekeeper's presentiments of evil spirits and fatal events bound to materialize that night. As it had already been decided that the entire party was to stay the night at the mansion we begin to apprehend the unknown.

We are not sure which characters are sincere (with the exception of the heroine and her country cousin, as opposed to the other relatives who are of the city and therefore not to be trusted), which are harbouring evil designs, or whether a spirit is indeed going to manifest itself. Therein lies the suspense. The comedy lay less in the witty one liners (which were few and far between and recognisable when they did occur by the unrestrained laughter of the man behind me who my companion informed me was a Mercury employee), than in the quality of the characters as caricatures. The heroine was an Ideal Woman - feminine enough to faint at moments of crisis yet full of common sense, courage and moral virtue. The two city slickers, dressed in flannels, their hair as sleek as their manners were definitely not to be trusted, unlike the country bumptious cousin whose gaucherie and sincerity made him the most delightful character in the play. The two female relatives smacked of the ugly sisters in the Cinderella fairy tale. Shrill voiced, hysterical, malicious, their unattractive qualities were exploited to the full.

Needless to say good triumphs over evil in the end, each receives his just reward, and the heroine lives happily ever after.

DONNA YUZWALK

PASSING THROUGH
GORDON DRYLAND
NEW INDEPENDENT

New Zealand-flavoured drama has a habit of not 'coming off'. Not so with Gordon Dryland's 'Passing Through'. He convincingly combines an Auckland setting with a personal situation which could happen anywhere. This time, you don't get the uncomfortable feeling that a few token Ponsonbys and Kowhai trees have been thrown in.

Lorna (Estelle Woods), a young easy-going Maori, has met Tony (Harold Kissin) a middle-aged businessman whilst hitching. She finds she has nowhere to stay so arrives at his plush home - much to the dismay of his rather correct, cold wife Brenda (Elaine Bracy). They let her stay on a while, and grow rather attached to her happy, bouncy ways. This cheery nature has a profound effect on Brenda and Tony, whose marriage is hanging together by the threads of respectability. They begin to 'stop to look at each other'. When everyone notices evidence of Lorna's impending pregnancy, compassion melts Brenda's steely heart. With their new found interest in life, Brenda and Tony decide to look after Lorna until the baby is due, and then to adopt it. The future looks rosy and husband and wife are filled with smug self-satisfaction at their benevolent plan. But, they have omitted one major thing - that is, to consult Lorna. And this is when Dryland drops the bombshell.

Lorna demands to know 'What's it worth', and goes on to inform them that their proudly doted-on home and garden would be 'no home for a Maori baby'. In fact, she has already arranged to go and be housekeeper for Charlie, the aging gardener (Bob Finch).

The whole tone of the play turns about face, and we are landed back with a discontented, quarrelling Tony and Brenda. The cosy domestic scene is disrupted, never to be whole again. Lorna, on the other hand, is quite amused by the situation but is far more interested in watching MASH on T.V.

As the blurb says Dryland 'writes comedy with disturbing and profound undertones'. 'Passing Through' seems a perfect example of this. The comedy mainly centres around the contrast between Lorna's unabashed simplicity and Brenda's rigid and inhibited sense of propriety Lorna remarks 'I'm crazy about purple, aren't you?', to which Brenda retorts 'Well I must confess I rather like lilac.'

The play is well worth a spare lunch hour, and makes for a thoroughly entertaining time.

JENNY HELLEN

Reviews

UNIVERSITY MUSIC GROUP
MAIDMENT THEATRE
SUNDAY 23RD APRIL

The programme presented by the University Music Group last Sunday night was, to say the least, quite easily understood. From the Mendelssohn Piano Trio in D minor to the ever popular Schubert Trio in B flat major there was a lightness of playing and what is increasingly rare, a characteristic happiness apparent in the execution of the works.

Mendelssohn has a very noticeable textual variation in many of his works and this was obvious in this performance. At times I thought the piano melody prosaic but then Mendelssohn seems to have used the piano role as filler until a resumption of the strings into the body of the melody.

Skalkottas' 'Eight variations on a Greek Folk tune' were the highpoint of the evening. Skalkottas, during his time, studied with (according to programme notes) Kurt Weill, Jarnach and Schoenberg. The easiness of listening and effervescent joy of the music, not to mention an eccentric division of the music into long and short sequences (among other structural oddities) was played with a delightful ease by the group. Without any of the more didactical intricacies of the rigid twelve tone technique it made its mark as a tidy lyrical piece.

Schubert was the dedicatee of the concert but the Trio in B flat was a slight disappointment. Suffering from an overdose of 'technical' playing available on disc I can never overcome this Pavlovian bias against the slightly 'cruder' sound one gets in performance.

This time, I think the Trio didn't have the 'guts' one would like to hear (although I liked the force of bowing evident from Georg Pederson's 'cello playing). As a result such really vital points as rhythmical power lost their hold over a discriminating audience, nevertheless, as was evident throughout the whole concert there was a thorough professionalism in their rendering.

The encore of the adagio (?) from Beethoven's Piano Trio (in D Op 70 ?) was a truly sympathetic piece of precision playing illustrating a total unity in approach and a sensitive response to one of the more captivatingly beautiful of Beethoven's works.

In all it was an enjoyable evening. One could wish for a slightly more varied or adventurous approach, but at least it compensated, in part, for my disappointment at not hearing the Gagliano Trio in Auckland. Last Sunday's concert was the first in a series that will be presented by the staff of the University conservatorium on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

C. THOMPSON



JULIA
FRED ZINNEMAN
WINTERGARDEN

A little pretentiousness can be a dangerous thing and so it proves with 'Julia'. Not that the film succumbs completely to this most unforgivable of cinematic vices but it leans perilously close at times. The plot is slight and the film flounders at times due to its very leisurely pacing. It is as if its makers think each episode in this film is so important that it is worth lingering over. Indeed in the final analysis it is only the intrinsic worth of its subject matter which saves 'Julia'.

Set in the 1930's the plot focuses on the early career of playwright Lillian Hellman and simultaneously presents in flashbacks her friendship since childhood with the Julia of the film's title. As these two skeins of the plot proceed Miss Hellman achieves critical acclaim and financial rewards while her lovely and altruistic friend becomes involved with the anti-Nazi underground in Germany. Inevitably their paths must cross once more and this brings the narrative to its climax. Lillian undertakes at her friend's request the perilous task of smuggling a large sum of money into Germany to aid the underground.

The mutual devotion of two courageous and intelligent women is a subject little traversed in the cinema at any time, though obviously as common in human experience as its male counterpart it is not nearly so oft lauded by film makers. So it is doubly refreshing to see it here and

full credit must go to the film for this. Indeed it is this particular merit in 'Julia' which makes the viewer more inclined to overlook its slight failings technically and intellectually.

Fred Zinneman is a director with a wealth of experience yet this time out he seems to have let his technique get the better of him rather than vice versa. The frequent flashbacks are of course essential but must the camera dwell so dotingly over these scenes. Literally direction is absent. The plot wends its way with gay abandon through past, present and future showing scant regard for any sense of an ongoing momentum to its climax.

Similarly Douglas Slocombe the director of photography seems to have got carried away with this film. The photography certainly does have a glossy loveliness about it. The shot of the train leaving the station at night amid billows of smoke is lovingly composed of light and shadow. But Slocombe goes right over the top with the shot which opens and closes the film of the now aged Hellman nestled in a small boat fishing on a darkly tranquil lake. The self-serious artiness of it is all too much.

Sources of more satisfactory consideration are the performances of the cast. Jane Fonda pitches her performance at just the right level for the material (almost the only person involved with this film to do so) Her Lillian Hellman has a tough-talking exterior trying to suppress inner fears. As the frustrated writer and as the newcomer to public acclaim she is at her most effective losing a little authenticity as the too inept conspirator. Praise too for Jason Robards for bringing plenty of conviction to his slim role as Hellman's crusty laconic mentor and lover Dashiell Hammett. Regretably Vanessa Redgrave does not have a similar measure of her crucial role as Julia. Being continually bright eyed is the closest she can come to inner fire. Luckily she does not get the chance to embarrass herself and the audience too often as her role takes up little screen time.

If I have given the impression that I loathed this film then I hasten to add I found it quite watchable. It is just that when I pay the price of my ticket I would rather it was for a film with only a few ambitions which achieves all of them. In 'Julia' I got a film which is all ambitions and achieves few of them.

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M.V. BEY

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A.H. & A.V
1968

HARMONI
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1971

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More Reviews

Hey, hey, hey! She's really coming! Joan Armatrading will be playing the Auckland Town Hall on Monday June 12. And Students' Arts Council has done it again. They've arranged for a student discount of \$1, making student ticket prices \$7.50 each. But, wait for it We also get preferential booking. Student tickets start selling on May 10; the public can't get theirs till May 15. Get in there!



MASSKERADE
MASSEY UNIVERSITY
CAPPING BOOK 50c

Don't let the cover fool you. The word 'censored' played across the cover is liable to bring out the 'voyeur' in us all. But if you have visions of bounteous beauties in provocative poses and saucy raucous dialogue you will be disappointed with the lame caricatures and the repetitive doggerel presented in the mag.

The Capping mag is packed full of jokes, some smutty, few good and most well worn. There is a general pre-occupation with the reproductive machinery but this is understandable in the view that our pastoral relations are in continual contact with the baser aspects of our existence, and admittedly some of their cowshed humour had me chuckling.

Most of the graphics are lacking in refinement if not plainly obscene and the other attempted 'funnies' usually fail to squeeze out a giggle. Taste, subtlety and culture are of course foreign words to our churlish cousins.

If the scribes of this prurient propaganda had only wanted to produce a joke book all well and good - but when these bumbling agriculturists enter the field of political comment they can no longer hide behind their rural charm. The political caricatures strongly emphasize the excretory functions and although this may bear some relevance to the PM's endeavours the effect is spoiled by the painfully inept captions and laboured graphics.

Generally the Capping mag lacks originality, character and polish and is probably best left back on the farm from which it sprung.

M.V. BEYNEN

HARMONIC 33
BRUCE CATHIE
A.H. & A.W. REED LTD
1968

HARMONIC 695
BRUCE CATHIE & PETER TEMM
A.H. & A.W. REED
1971

Bruce Cathie became interested in UFOs as far back as 1952, and since then has developed his 'grid' system to cover the entire world (imagine a map of the world drawn on graph paper). He believes his system is the one that has been used by the saucerians for navigation, orientation and as a motive power source for thousands upon thousands of years. Proof? UFO's are sighted with regularity only along the axes of the grid, and frequently at the intersections. Nuclear testing facilities, volcanoes, earthquake zones and even oil wells all seem to be located on the axes. Coincidence? Crap!

Muroroa Atoll is a minute speck in the Pacific where the French carry out their occasional atomic armament testing, and in 1968 they were doing so. Cathie was asked, on the basis of his grid system and the theories relating it to atomic reactions, to calculate the times that the bombs would be exploded over the month the French had set aside for testing. He was dead right each time.

Cathie maintains that through his system he discovered an interesting and vitally important fact - that one can't simply construct a nuclear weapon and blast it off whenever the urge is felt. A harmony must exist, between the sun and the location on the world grid, before the device will so much as go pop. This means, of course, that the popular nightmare in which intercontinental missiles are hurled back and forth between countries suddenly becomes impossible. To take a hypothetical example, if the Russians were to launch a nuclear missile at the US (and please feel free to invert the roles of these two nations if your political affiliations make this more believable), it could be days, weeks or even months before the US could retaliate. When viewed with this in mind, the idea of an international nuclear war becomes less feasible, the limitations being as they are. This information is obviously not new, or the Americans would not have been able to destroy Hiroshima and Nagasaki as they did, back in 1945.

Cathie's theories cover an incredible spectrum of topics, ranging from the Bible to volcanoes, earthquakes, gravitational fields and such mysteries as the Bermuda Triangle - even that mysterious explosion that demolished a factory in Avondale a few years ago. He explains it all, and although it must remain up to the individual whether to believe it or not, I must add that his are the best and most logical explanations I've ever heard.

There is, however, one theory expounded in his works which borders on the paradoxical, and that is that there is an international fraternity of scientists who have for years utilised the knowledge of the saucerians and who are actually co-operating with them in their task, whatever that may be. Cathie suggests man-made links in the grid system and therefore that a 'close encounter of the third kind' - actual contact with saucerians - is a thing of the distant past.



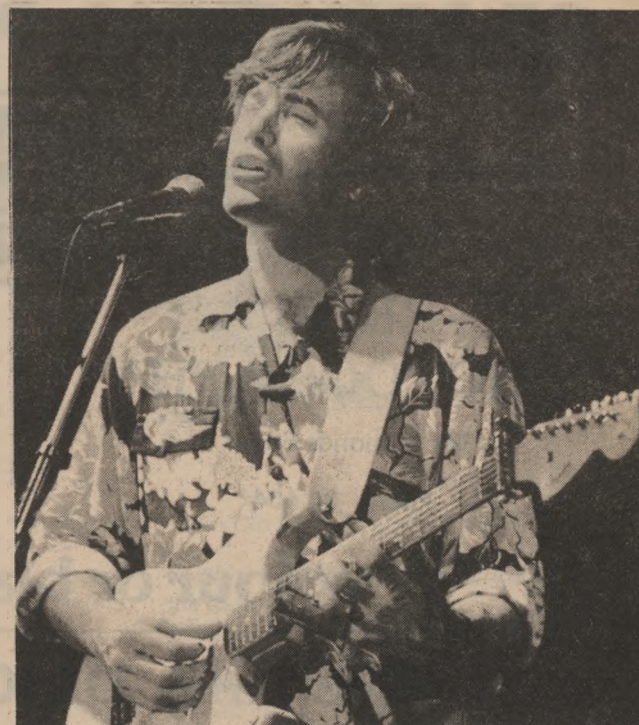
Paul Barton

There is much evidence in his books to suggest a conspiracy to cover up these facts is in full swing, and the quote from an American Embassy official in Wellington that 'there is research being carried out in New Zealand today that is beyond the control of the New Zealand government' is frightening, whether you believe it or not. But the only way to know the truth is by reading and thinking about these phenomena.

PETER TOPZAND



Ry Cooder, a noted American guitarist will be playing in Auckland at the Town Hall on Tuesday May 16. Cooder cultivates a wide range of music, taking inspiration from 'authentic examples of folk music to ragtime/calypso/blues.' With that how can you miss your favourite style! One up for the grass-roots.



THE CLASH
THE CLASH
CBS

Forget what we told you a couple of weeks ago, this time it really is the future of rock'n roll. They're The Clash and this is their debut album. Yes they're a punk rock band but hold on. Even those of us who wear flared trousers and have long hair would have to admit that the bands today who could produce an album of this quality could be counted on the thumbs of one hand.

Been wondering what happened to the true aggression and tension in rock'n roll that bands such as The Stones, The Who, The Kinks and The Troggs delivered in the '60s? Well even if you haven't I'm telling you The Clash have brought it back and with a vengeance. So if you have ever liked any of the afore-mentioned stars of rock's greatest decade then give these new boys a listen. If you don't let the safety pins put you off you may be in for a pleasant surprise.

Now to introduce the band. Joe Strummer does a nice line in menacing sneers and snarls by way of vocals. He also shares guitar duties with Mick Jones. These two play with the sort of snap and sting all too rarely heard in these limp-wristed days and you can bet there's no self indulgence when Jones takes the lead breaks. He is brief and economical, has plenty of bite but isn't scared to use simple melody. Beneath the guitar and vocals is the solidly based rhythm section of Paul Simonon on bass guitar and Tory Crimes (get it) on drums.

These boys have the musical muscle and they use it on a set of rock songs written in the classic mould. The songs are tightly structured featuring nifty guitar intros and invariably catchy choruses, which positively bristle with strong guitar hooks and addictive vocal chants. All songs sustain their drive from beginning to end, seldom straying over the three minute mark. The lyrics are equally strong. Indeed, this is music both to dance and listen to.

With an album like this its hard to leave a number out of the standouts' list but the following tracks merit special attention. 'Janie Jones' walks easily into classic status. The politico-rockers 'Career Opportunities' and

'London's Burning' are gems. 'White Riot' is all energy. But lastly a mention for the one long track on the album. The Clash adapt the Junior Murvin/Lee Perry reggae classic 'Police and Thieves' to their own high tension high energy style and it's brilliant. When they get their version of Toots and the Maytels 'Pressure Drop' on record it will be something to hear. So that's The Clash and their debut album. They're great and it's great. The future of rock'n'roll? Well, for this week anyway.

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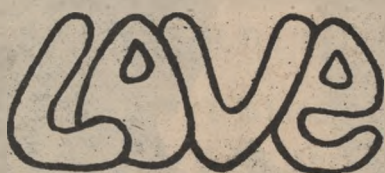
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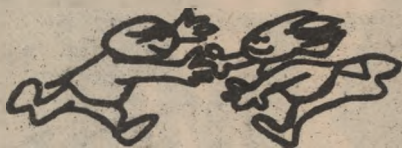
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Odds & Sods

VARSITY FOLK CLUB

The following events have been planned for the last week of term.

Tuesday 6 - 7 pm Guitar Lessons for Beginners and Intermediate, Womans Lower Common Room;
7 - 7.45 pm Advanced Guitar Lessons taken by Peter Rolinson, Lower common Room. Only 50 cents.
Wednesday. Party and Club Night from 7.15 pm in the cafe extension. Everyone is welcome. There will be food, floor singers, club performers, drink, jam sessions etc. Only 30 cents plus a plate of food.
Thursday. There will be no folk dancing in the Rec Centre this Thursday.
Don't forget the Ceilidh Folk Dance on Monday (May 1) in the Cafe. Barleycorn will be playing and the event will be free.

SOUTH AFRICA - THE WHITE LAAGER

Screenings of this important new United Nations film are planned for the following dates:

May Tuesday 9 Glenn Innes Community Hall 8pm
Wednesday 10 Mangere Nga Tapuwae College 7.30pm
Thursday 11 Henderson Pomaria School 7.30pm
Friday 12 Greenhithe Hall 7.30pm
Monday 15 Ponsonby Peoples Union 7.30pm
Tuesday 16 Onehunga Hugh Watt Labour Hall 7.30pm
Wednesday 17 Mt Eden Methodist Hall 8pm
Friday 19 Manurewa St Lukes Hall 8pm
The films are being shown under the auspices of CARE and the Auckland Soweto Day Committee.

SAY CHEESE!

The NZ Students' Arts Council have recently announced their sponsorship of a national photographic competition. Photo-Art '78 emphasises the need for greater opportunities for recognition, rather than material gain; the prizes are inclusion in a national tour of the final few works and publication in Photo Forum. The final closing date for entries is June 1. Entry forms are available from the Reception Desk at the StudAss Office, on the ground floor of the Student Union Bldg.

CAPPING TIMETABLE

MONDAY Stunts
Cultural groups in quad
6.00pm Pooh reads poetry in quad
8pm Old Maid Capping Revue
8pm May Day Square Dance with Barleycorn

TUESDAY Hyper activity in Rudman Gardens
12.00 Passive warfare under the auspices of the Colonial, bikies and tea for the defenders of the Dominions and beer in kegs for all the Bruces of the world.
12.00 Movies at the Maid. Young Frankenstein and Fearless Vampire Killers.
8.00 Capping Revue Dance with the Virgin Sturgeons.



WEDNESDAY 6.30 am Square Dance and push bike ride heading for Mt. Eden.
Mid-day: Environmental Day in Quad - cookery by sun power
12.00 Motor cycle rally leaves the Old Clock Tower.
12.00 Push bike ride round inner city.
1pm Raft race - Devonport to Okahu Bay plus Drink the Pub Dry (at the Wynyard Arms).
7pm Folk Club Social in cafe
8pm Capping Revue in Old Maid



THURSDAY 11am Old Maid Airport 77 will be screened.
11.30 & 2.00pm Street Theatre group in the quad.
12.00 Little Theatre: Tale of the White Hand - a solo performance by Richard von Sturmer being a stream of objects, images, words and movements surging under the skin of reality.
1pm LT Ten campus poets
1pm Quad Prize giving for the Most Unusual Object Competition.
People go Fuzzy and Brown on Heffa-Lump-Hunt or the Pub Crawl.
3pm LT Limbs Dance Company.
Sunset: all into the cafe for a drinkers disco - a haven for the weary footed - don't forget to smile nicely at Mr Plod the Policeman or move along when asked.

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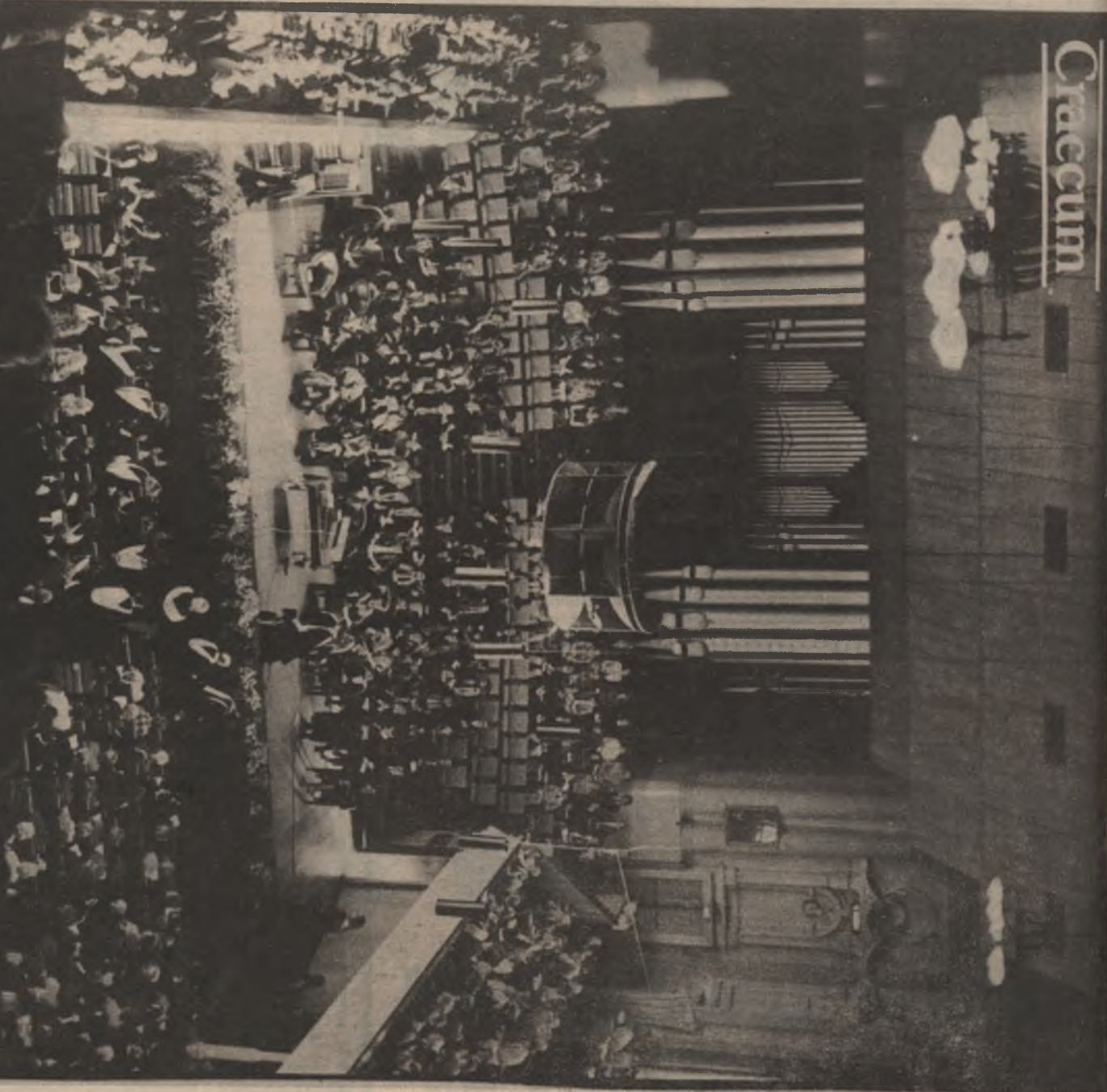
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