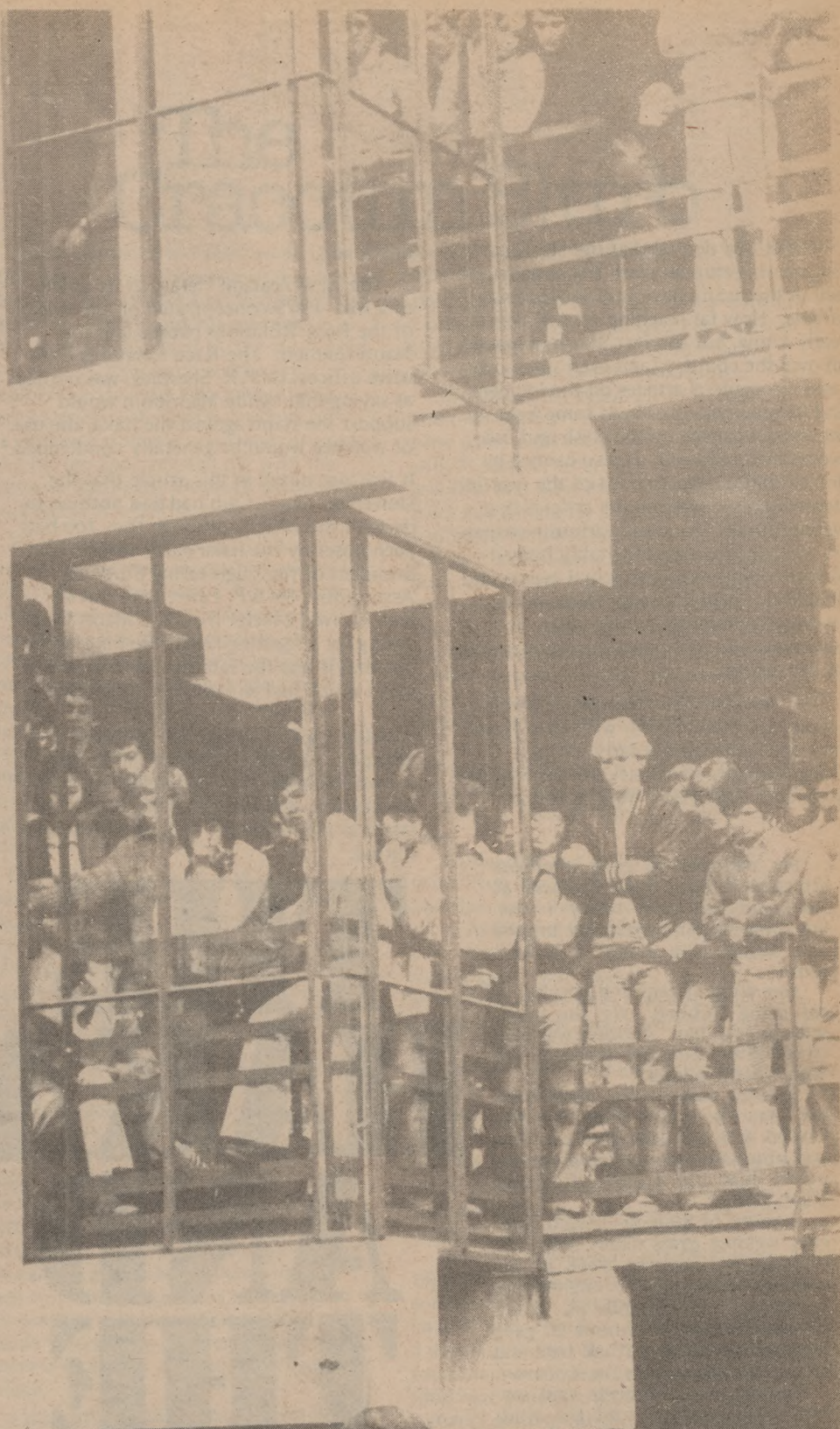


# Craccum



**INSIDE: Arts Festival  
NZUSA Council  
The Haka**



It can't be denied that the He Taua/Engineering student clash has already and will in the future have very far-reaching effects. How far reaching we will never really know, but the fact that newspapers all over the country (and even some overseas) ran copious articles on the incident and its repercussions sheds some light on the impact caused by the clash and the events that followed. It also cannot be denied that a large amount of the reaction stemmed directly from the articles that were printed. The stand various newspapers took on the issue inevitably helped to form opinions of the actual events and the reasons behind them. Here we endeavour to put across to you what the newspapers up and down the country said on the matter.

The Auckland Star was the first to run a report on the incident, with large headlines on that evening's early edition, 'Gang Rampage at Varsity Leaves Students Battered'. The article went as follows:

Six carloads of gang members attacked a mock haka rehearsal at Auckland University today — leaving three students seriously injured and others with minor cuts and bruises.

One student required stitches after being clubbed over the head with an iron bar. Another was badly cut after being hit in the mouth with a crash helmet.

A third student was badly bruised on his body when he was bashed with a length of chain. Several other students suffered bloody noses, cuts and bruises after the 10am attack.

A party of 30 bare-chested students wearing grass skirts were rehearsing for capping week in the common room of the engineering department in Symonds St. They were confronted by about 20 gang members wielding softball bats and metal rods who arrived in six cars.

During the 10-minute raid several gang members told the students not to 'mock the Maoris.'

The gang members — who were not wearing identifying 'patches' — ripped the skirts from the students during the attack. They fled from the basement common room before several carloads of police arrived at the university.

A Maori and Pacific Island group. He Taua (war party) claimed responsibility for the attack. In a statement released to the Star they said: 'The haka party has turned the Maori culture into a racist cartoon to be laughed at.'

The gang members later claimed they were invited to break up the rehearsal by members of the University's Maori Club, which tried to have the haka banned.

This came out primarily as the first factual account of what happened, when all that had happened was still very unclear even at the university itself. However, it still managed to raise several points that were hotly debated later.

The next day, news of the fracas had spread all over the country and the Dunedin Evening Star ran an article based on a letter written to them by painter Ralph Hotere. It said, 'although deploring racial violence of any sort...Ralph Hotere had little sympathy for the engineering students assaulted in the Auckland crash and bash raid.' Further on in the article, it was commented by Teachers'

College lecturer Mr Muru Walters that, 'the pakeha people of New Zealand were upset at the way Otago University students mocked pakeha culture in the capping magazine.....Instead of mocking pakeha culture, the Auckland students decided to parody Maoritanga and the reaction was immediate.' And violent we

might add.

The New Zealand Herald in its article of 2 May 1979 concentrated on the side of the Race RElations people and the Maori Council. The Race Relations Executive officer, Dr P.R. Sharples, was quoted as saying that 'while Maoridom would support the stand against the haka, the use of violence would be generally condemned.'

It was also noted in this article that the University Maori Club had had nothing to do with the attack, although they too had been 'upset by the haka party stunt.' The president of the Engineering Students' Association, Mr S.P. Faire, said that he had received a letter from the Maori Club asking for a meeting about the haka party but that it was too late to stop this year's stunt which had already been organised.

After their initial scoop, the Star seemed reasonably content to look into the whole problem of race relations and the attitude that had generally been taken to the incident. Their backgrounder started:

# THE HAKA AND THE MEDIA

The first casualties of yesterday's clash between engineering students and a Maori and Pacific Island group were a few students and a mock haka.

But even allowing for the unsubtle antics of the engineering students, the real victims seem to have been humour, and a sense of tolerance.

It went on with comments from Race Relations conciliator Mr Harry Dansey. He mentioned that 'there has been a growth in awareness of Maori culture. With this goes an increasing sensitivity to having aspects of it attacked.'

The south spoke again in an editorial in the Southland Times 3 May 1979.

While racial views and attitudes must always be respected, the light-hearted antics of a group of Auckland university students in planning a mock haka during their capping week revelries should not be interpreted as ridiculing the culture of the Maori people. That violent exception has been taken to it is a sad commentary on the way racial attitudes are developing in this country. We are taking ourselves far too seriously.

The Times condemned the action of Rangi Walker saying that 'he appears to be doing the community as a whole, and the Maori people in particular, a disservice when he implies that they should not be

able to sit back and enjoy the traditional tomfoolery of students during Capping week. He seems to have overlooked the fact that other races, cultures and traditions are also the subject of the students satirical railery, without any heat being engendered.' Further on there were comments from Ben Couch, Minister of Maori Affairs. 'Mr Couch adequately summed up the situation when he said that one test of maturity is being able to alugh at oneself.' But the editorial does bring in the other side of the matter in its last paragraph.

In any event, the students have decided that, in deference to Maori criticism, they will no longer perform the mock haka during capping week. In this, they have shown a sense of responsibility. They wish to avoid further friction which, they say, is directly opposed to 'the spirit of capping week.' It is an admirable attitude and it is to be hoped that, in turn, it will not be interpreted as capitulation to violent intimidation.

The Dunedin Evening Star seemed to be mostly content with going over previous statements made about the incident, their editorial on 3 May 1979 shows. But again in their last paragraph, the whole issue of Maoritanga was brought up. It is attitudes like this that the Maori people could have done with for quite a while.

The Maori people today are turning back to their past. They are searching for their roots, seeking and finding the spiritual values of their race and striving to protect their heritage. As they do so, we find some of their attempts at achieving unity and central drive crude and offensive to today's pakeha orientated society. Perhaps they are, but it has to be understood that the Maori people have always been and still are at a disadvantage. They are now finding that causes which were thought to have been lost are not lost at all. They look for understanding from pakehas and too often they do not get it.

And then came the forum. Well, in various papers this was heralded as 'one of the biggest meetings seen on campus in the 1970s' and was described as 'a marathon debate, centred on the split between the students' association president and the executive. But the main point that seemed to come through in most of the articles was that 'the haka was merely part of the

major issue under debate — racism.' (Auckland Star 4/5/79).

But now other smaller repercussions were coming through. A few articles carried comments that the Victoria Capping Revue was not dropping their haka.

The students are performing the revue in next week's students' arts festival in Christchurch. A local Maori group has told them their act would not be interpreted as an insult to Maori culture, according to musical director Miss P. Dodd.

In the revue, students dress as freezing workers and perform a haka-chanting English current affairs satire. A clumsy poi dance follows.

'We thought initially we should not do it,' Miss Dodd said.

'But we're not ridiculing Maori culture. We're pointing out the plastic treatment poi dances and hakas often get.'

The items were affectionate spoofs and not offensive, she said.

However although the engineering students may have apologised for any offence taken by the Maoris at their haka, there was still the question brought up about the racial content of the haka, and its possible legal consequences. The possible charges against the haka party under the Section 25 of the Race Relations Act came up several times, but the papers seemed eager enough to forget about the various charges laid when all was patched up later.

Alas our old 'friend' Truth, being a weekly, couldn't come out with nay shock-horror headlines about the inherent racism, but instead ran two editorials on the incident, one one the Maori view, which really said nothing that hadn't already been said, and another which, bearing the large headline, 'Race War', only really condemned the violence used, saying that Rangi Walker and Pat Hohepa in their complaints to the Race Relations Commissioner are as if 'they seek to justify the brutal attack on students.'

But everything ended reasonably happy for all concerned with both the Star and Herald running articles on the peaceful winding up of the matter. The Herald ran a front page story with the large headline, 'Two Student Groups Sink Hatchet In A Few Beers', while the Star contented itself with a small portion of editorial entitled 'The Right Way'.

It was absolutely natural and the New Zealand way for engineering students and Maori Club members to rediscover common bonds over a few beers last night.

Such is the Kiwi way. A pity it happened, this time, after things were done the wrong way.

So the newspapers leave it virtually at that. But the incident, although out of the main news, will be causing repercussions for some time to come. Some people might be keen to push it under the carpet and forget about it. But alas that can't be done, dear people. The issue of Maoritanga has, albeit violently, (a fact which has rather overshadowed the whole issue) arisen once more and we can and should not ignore it.

Fiona Cameron



# The Gripes of Roth



# The Craccum Blurb

The last week of last term wasn't much fun - not for the Engineers, some of whom had their heads knocked together, not for the Maori students on campus, who were blackguarded by the media and by some other students; not for the members of He Taua (Warparty), who were charged with rioting; and not for the ordinary students, who were braced off with the taua, braced off with the Engineers and spent the week wondering what on earth would happen next.

The Forum in the quad that Thursday was one of the most interesting events in this University for years. I didn't enjoy it much. There were Maoris apologising for being Maori, pakehas apologising for being pakeha, engineers apologising for being engineers, and Maoris blaming the Maoris, pakehas blaming the pakehas, engineers blaming the engineers, and every other possible permutation and combination under the sun. There was also more open bigotry and racial aggression than I've seen at Auckland University ever.

One thing I did enjoy was Tim Shadbolt's story about his uncle Maurice. Maurice Shadbolt, according to his nephew, would hate to be thought a racist, and so would we all - even the engineers and the taua. But one time when James Baxter died at Jerusalem, Maurice Shadbolt was called to the tangi up the Wanganui River. That evening at the Marae, he went out to the car to collect his sleeping-bag and when he looked for it, it was gone. 'Good grief', he thought, 'the bloody Maoris have stolen my sleeping bag', so he got into the back seat and went to sleep in a huff. In the morning when he woke up, there were four elders standing silently around the car. He got up and followed them back to the meeting-house and there, in the position of honour beside Jim Baxter's body, was the sleeping-bag where it had been laid out the night before.

I thought that the spirit of Uncle Maurice was alive and well at the University of Auckland throughout that Thursday Forum. One young engineer who'd just apologised for taking part in the mock haka (and good on him for that), asked a Maori speaker who'd said he was in Kaitiaki at the time of the taua, to apologise for their actions. A lot of students seemed to hold Maori Club responsible for an attack they did not take part in, that they had publicly condemned, and that was completely out of keeping with all their dealings with the engineers, past and present - presumably on the same principle that brown = brown = brown .... (If you knew the kids in the Maori Club you'd know how unfair that was - when they did discuss how they'd react if the Engineers wouldn't stop the haka, a suggestion to throw flour bombs and pies at them was turned down because it was too violent!) Then there was the girl who stood up and said that she had studied Maori last year at the University; she had

learned the culture, the language, the prayers and the haka, so why couldn't the engineers do the haka if they wanted? I reflected sadly that in eighteen years of hard work, I hadn't learned as much, and resolved to try harder in future.

Amidst all the bigotry - conscious and unconscious - and the anger, however, were some signs of an emerging good will. A number of engineers stood up and said that now they realised their haka was offensive, they were sorry they had performed it; a Samoan student stripped off his shirt to show a warrior's body tattoo, then spoke gently about cultural pride; some Maori speakers tried hard to explain how they felt about the haka and Maori tradition; and some pakeha speakers showed that they had heard and understood. Maori Club capped it off by inviting the Engineers to join them at the Kiwi. I could be wrong, but it seemed to me that the anger died down, and most students went away more thoughtfully than they came.

I hope that as a University we can learn from the events of that last week, and that something positive will come of it. As the week went on it became clear that it is high time we had a place on campus where students can learn something about Maori custom outside of the classroom, where they can see Maori tradition in action and where the sort of ignorance and mutual disrespect that led to the taua can gradually be dispelled. Over the past two years the Vice-Chancellor, the Senate and Committee on Equal Educational Opportunities have fostered moves to set up a University Marae at Auckland, and that could be just what's called for.

My own experience of the Marae is that it is a place where differences are settled verbally, not by baseball bats and chains; that it lends to Maori proceedings a depth of tradition and a dignity that even the most bigoted can recognise (and here I include all those who greeted remarks in Maori at the Forum with cries of 'speak English!'); and above all, the marae is a meeting-place where groups can get to know each other. It might be a good move if all concerned student groups - Students Association, the Engineering Students' Association, other faculty associations and any other group that cares - were to offer the marae their unequivocal support. If you have any impulse to pay back the taua by vetoing anything Maori on campus, no matter how positive - resist that impulse; they tried it in Rhodesia & South Africa and it doesn't work. The marae is the best way I can think of to make sure that future race relations at the University of Auckland will be a matter of taua (the two of us, Maori and pakeha, in amity and understanding) and not taua (war parties) on the rampage. And I'm sure that Uncle Maurice, if he'd had a bit of marae education at Varsity, would have known where to find his sleeping bag.

Anne Salmond

during the holidays a number of executive members went as delegates from here to the Council of NZUSA. May Council is equivalent of a general meeting for NZUSA and is the place where policy for the national body is formulated and planned.

The major action plan coming out of the council was for a campaign against education cutbacks. It was decided that the campaign would culminate in a national day of protest on July 26 and we would try to involve all groups interested in education - this to highlight the fact that it is the whole education system, not just the slice given to the universities, which will in all likelihood be cut.

As yet we don't know exactly where the cuts in education spending will be made, or their magnitude - we do know however that they are definitely going to occur. If rumours current at the moment are correct, they will be the most severe we've seen for many years - one at council in fact likened these proposed cuts to what was introduced during the depression of the 1930's! As I'm writing this it has just been announced that there will be a \$3 million cut in the block grant given to universities a year. In the short-term this will affect such things as equipment replacement. In the long-term it will lead to reductions in the number of students going to university and a decline in the quality of education.

Some students have already received a direct taste of what is in store for them with the government's announcement that private overseas students will now have to pay an additional \$1500 in fees. This move means that overseas students from poorer backgrounds will now have no opportunity to gain a tertiary education, adding as it does to their already quite substantial living costs. And if the example of England is anything to go by, this may just be the first step towards a fee increase becoming compulsory for local students also.

There will be plenty of opportunities between now and July 26 for students to join in the education cutbacks campaign and show that we are prepared to fight back against the government's attacks. All those who want to help from the beginning should come to the first organising meeting, which will be held later this week.

Education cutbacks won't be the only issue discussed on Auckland campus this term. Next Wednesday there will be a special general meeting at which some students are going to move a motion of no confidence in me as President, because they feel that I don't represent the views of the majority of students. If the motion is carried, there will be elections for a new president.

This meeting has come about because of my actions at the end of last term ie, I put out a personal statement outlining my views on the haka party and called a forum to discuss the whole issue. I did this because I felt the issue too important to be left to the executive, to the courts or to the news media to resolve - it was something which the student body as a whole should discuss. The students moving the motion of no confidence disagree with the ideas that I put forward and obviously feel that a person with my views has no right to be president.

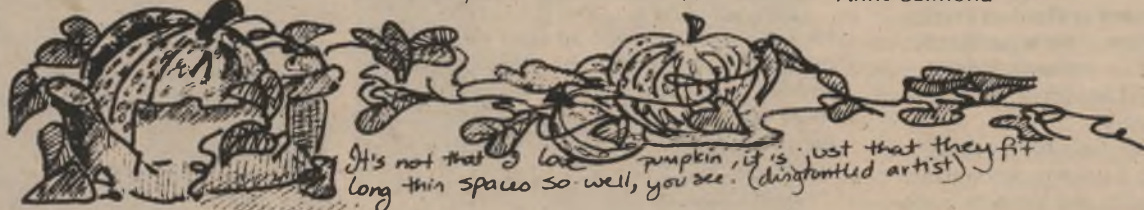
I won't launch into a detailed defence of my actions in this column - there will be an interview with me in next week's Craccum. I hope, however, that students will consider the issue and come along to the meeting.

# craccum

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Well, here we all are again, back after a nice long holiday, at yet another Thursday night/Friday morning layout session up at Craccum. Except today is Friday and things are running a bit late, oh well....to err is human and all that, and I mean to say nobody is perfect, not even us. Oh well, we, that is Dave, (whose flat will soon be no more), Brian (whose flat suffered from little 'visitors' this week), Sarah, Sue, Rachel, Tara (making coffee for culture-vultures), Mike the Ryke (ace with a Rotring), Eugenie, Adam Adam (back with us once more from the denizens of the South), I Don (legal hack extra extraordinaire), Greg (whose mastery at proofreading astounds us all), me (who makes the coffee), Col (who wrote something), David B (whose chess column is being sought by the Russians) wish you all a very good second term and hope you have had a good holiday even if you didn't go to the Arts Festival (which was bloody good!). And lots of love to anyone that hasn't been mentioned (it's late and I can't be expected to remember everything!) especially Comrade, Selwyn (where are you????) and the cast of thousands.



# INTERVIEW WITH HE 'TAUA

Ben is 22, he's married with two kids, was once a student teacher at Auckland Secondary but left after being disillusioned with the education system and the type of teaching methods he was expected to learn and pass on to his pupils. He's an intelligent and fluent speaker. The perfect example perhaps of disillusioned youth in search of alternatives to our society. With one very large exception. Ben is also one of the Maoris who took part in what has now come to be referred to as the 'Haka affair'.

Ben is a member of He Taua, the Maori group which significantly claimed involvement rather than responsibility. Next week we will present two more sides to this controversy, the engineers and the Students' Association President Janet Roth.

Just like everybody else I have my own ideas and opinions about the events at the Engineering School on 1 May. And it may be surprising to learn that my initial sympathies lay with the Engineers. I felt that while the Maoris involved had a fair and very valid grievance to make the violence that resulted from the confrontation was just plain and simple stupidity, the product of insensitivity from both sides.

I missed the forum that was held on the Thursday of Capping week (I was in Wellington) but from all accounts it served in some way to clear the air and set the matter straight for both parties. In some way I hope that the He Taua interview in this issue will serve the same purpose. For me it was a very enlightening experience that served to change my opinions almost completely. Read it please, if only out of curiosity as to what 'club-wielding, gang member Maori thugs' have to say. Read it to hear the other half of the story, which I feel the media have chosen to be so silent about.

Well, the main thing that you have to remember is that it is the whole incident .... you know, the fact that the Engineers had been allowed to get away with doing their haka without anyone really trying to stop it, you know. It can't be regarded as just a student .... people were saying that we can build a university where we can talk these things out and stuff like that .... Thing is that it's not just a Maori student - Pakeha student thing, it's a, you know, all the Maori and all the pakeha people .... The concern really should have been for the feelings of the Maori people, not just students .... they can't say it should have been worked out between students .... it belongs to all Maori people. It was an insult to all Maori people, not just students.

The Engineers, you know, some will start claiming now that they never knew that they were insulting anyone. Well apparently there's people who have gone on record saying that way back .... when was it? .... 30 years ago .... after the war anyway, people have been protesting about it, writing letters to the Student Union and to the Engineers Council or something and I can remember back - about two years ago people doing that .... last year I remember when they were doing it in the Quad a girl came up here and she did the haka ....

Well, what about what happened with the haka party this year then?

A lot of us were pissed off about it with the engineers not taking any notice .... we knew the engineer record, about the way they just disregard other peoples feelings. It's the same as the way they oppress feminists .... they really bowl over any majority, I think they're pretty insensitive people.

That's not just engineering students though, that's also just students.

Yeah .... we sought of realised that just to write letters to them .... That's our trick too 'cos we've got years and years of that sort of protest behind us that accomplished nothing really for us.

He Taua or ....

Oh .... the members of He Taua came out of the Maori Land March, Bastion Point, some of us were at Raglan. Almost all of us were arrested at Bastion Point, some of us at Raglan ... we were on the March to Waitangi .... we were at just about every Maori Take (Protest) that's been in recent history.

How long has He Taua been going?

He Taua? .... He Taua was just a name made up the day after the incident happened.

Just a loose collection of people?

It was made up after, it wasn't made up before this thing happened....the thing about it was that the violence wasn't planned, it was spontaneous....it was just a natural....

That's crucial, that the violence wasn't planned.

If it was planned those guys would be wiped out, and that's not boasting....

What about the talk in the press about weapons such as baseball bats and chains and stuff....is that true?

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Brian Brennan

Well not as far as I know. The baseball bat they found is a kid's baseball bat they took out of a house, you know, one of our houses.... They bowled over to my house after they arrested us. They took my kid's wooden horse....you know those horses? Kids ride round on them.... they took the stick out of the bottom of the horse's head (laughter), took that for a weapon....they took the top of a mike stand over one of my other friend's places, he was arrested and they took that in for a weapon. They were pretty desperate.... you know, used everything they could get their fucking hands on.

Even this thing about chains and that... the press made out that everyone of us went in there armed and just bowled them over you know....Non-violence and passive protest and all this, we've been doing that for years and that's what all us are sworn to. That's why I reckon any violence that came out of that could be labelled definitely as begun by the other side.

Why did you adopt the name He Taua... you know....war party....you know that people thought that it was an established group that had been set up to beat people up who....(laughter)....that's what people thought.

Well, you know....that isn't really true. He Taua was just made up after the incident of the people who were involved and the supporters of it, the people like those organising the defence committee they formed to help those of us who were arrested....

Talk about the cenotaph?

One of the things that pisses us off the most is the way the press made such a big thing out of young white people getting involved in a bit of violence while they were busy insulting a people's culture and abusing the tapu of something Maori.... that being the haka. And when a group of young people....Maoris....eight to be exact, went down to the cenotaph and stood at a very sacred place to both Maori and Pakeha people, they were assaulted by a group of about 300 ex-servicemen and beaten up and no one made any noise about it at all....it was just like the Maoris

I don't really see the need for Craccum to launch into an investigation to try and find out just who exactly threw the first punch or even who provoked who. This is a matter for the courts to discover. Rather I have set out to find out instead just why a group of Maoris, with a long history of peaceful protest behind them should suddenly be moved to violence in this particular occasion. And I think I've discovered why.

It's a pity none of you were there for the interview and heard what I heard. The real drawback to the interview as it appears on the pages of Craccum is that it gives no real feeling....there's not the impression that I got of just plain and simple frustration, of being a Maori trapped in a pakeha world, of seeing your land taken, your culture (in your eyes) ridiculed, your own people turn their backs on you and years of peaceful protest achieving absolutely nothing. Frustration with the realisation that as a Maori it's all stacked against you.

To us what happened on the day is viewed as an isolated affair, some have even sought to make it out to be a student vs student matter. But I feel that this attitude is wrong. It's a matter of concern to all New Zealanders. And to the Maoris involved it was not an isolated occurrence but something which happens all the time. For example, in the interview Ben talks about an incident that he was involved in at the Auckland cenotaph on ANZAC Day, a week before the matter at the Engineering School. From his description of it, the whole incident was similar to the haka incident with the exception that it was whites attacking blacks. Total press coverage of the event amounted to a few column inches. See what I mean?

My questions/comments are in italic type, Ben's replies are in our ordinary typeface.

happening there - you'd be killing Black people who are fighting for their freedom. That's the reason I was down there anyway. We were down there protesting that our people died overseas fighting for freedom and are still not free. We won't be free for years to come. That was the main reason we were there and it was a really strong reason - and then these clowns come bowling down the hill at us as if we were the enemy. Like the way they charged, 'Straight thru them lads.' That was order given to them and they charged at us. They put one of the women on the ground and kicked her head in. We managed to stay up and no one said a thing about that. As if we deserved it for going down there and holding up banners.

What did the police do?

The police were there but they didn't arrest anyone because they had the feeling that these guys deserved it. They shouldn't be standing down there. That's a sacred place. But we had as much right to be there as anyone. Then these guys down here - the engineers. They were going against something really sacred to us - as sacred as the cenotaph is to any pakeha. We went down to talk to the students about the haka first. Violence occurred - and the papers went crazy. Radio, TV and everyone was talking about Maori violence and where's this country going.

Is this the first time someone from He Taua has been interviewed?

Yeah.

Why are you talking to Craccum now?

I think maybe Craccum is a little less biased than the other papers. Also I think the time has come to correct some of the lies that have been told about us. Things like the baseball bat thing.

Were there any members of gangs wearing patches?

No patches - that's one thing we say. Never wear patches. There were a few gang members - one from the Stormtroopers, one from Black Power and one from Highway 61. They didn't go as gang members. They went as concerned Maori people.

Do you think that the gangs could be a force for political change?

Well I sort of ride around with a gang at the moment - the Stormtroopers. They're good guys but not into politics. The gangs want to live thier own lives and that's all. All the papers want to do a gang interview.

Look how they do it. They don't let a person sit down and speak. They take what he says and twist it.

The Woman's Weekly did one the other week. Oh God. (laughter)

Gangs are almost respectable eh.

Gangs are respectable???

It's the Pakeha conscience.

Gangs are respectable - I think the police like gangs a lot better than they like us.

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They're easily handled.

Not only that, but it's blacks fighting blacks. That's different from Blacks fighting Whites.

In the Otara Tavern — on a Friday night I've had a pretty normal Otara upbringing and the haka thing was nothing. I've seen worse brawls just at a party.

Some here (Laughter)

That wasn't much. Those guys were scared because they lost a bit of macho macho.

I've actually seen worse brawls than that at parties in Remuera. (laughter)

Yeah.....

Honestly.....

I've never been to a party in Remuera. (laughter)

The trouble is that the students have condemned the violence.

Yeah, without even doing a fuck about it.

Yeah, but in this case the violence showed its end. There is justified use of violence - WW2 for example. Violence is a funny thing. It can be used in many ways. It's a bad way of solving problems but the ends can sometimes justify the means. Getting back to the haka.....

Yeah — well the haka has to be seen as the most important thing. The racism that these people were practising openly and getting away with. No one doing anything about it. And when a group of Maori people — young Maori people who were really pissed off with it — went down there to talk about it they were told to get off. Those people should take the blame for what happened. They could have scrapped the haka anytime. They should have listened to the countless protests. They just didn't give a fuck — just like the average New Zealander doesn't give a fuck about Maori people's sensitivity.

What have you been charged with?

Rioting. The violence, if people are going to make that the issue, even on that point we win. What about violence to the Maori people. Violence we suffer from the police. Institutional violence towards Maori people. Psychological violence, like the barriers we get going through school and the knocks we get when we go to apply for jobs or to get a house. That's violence of the worst kind. Violence used against Maori in the past — Parihaka, Bastion Point, the Maori Wars. All the battles you can think of — we've always been the underdog. And all this fuss just because the cops got reversed and a few Whites take a few knocks. Everyone gets it out of proportion.

They charged everyone with rioting?

Yeah.

Did they get everyone who was involved?

Some people weren't caught. Eleven are on rioting charges. That's a pretty heavy charge you know. The Panmure incident — when the Headhunters were going to fight Black Power — they got charged with unlawful assembly which carries a maximum sentence of one year. That's because two groups of Blacks were going to fight each other. When some white people — especially young golden boy Whites — get hurt, it's different.

What do you think the court verdict will be?

We'll either get off or go down for the time.

Get convicted and discharged?

Yeah. I think they're going to make out this was a planned uprising. Part of a plan by the Maori people to get military. The judge will be able to say that the people are a real danger and that they have to be taught a lesson. That it's got to be stopped before it gets out of hand. Otherwise other Maoris will realise they've been writing these letters, sending these Royal Commissions, going to these fucking meetings — without achieving a thing.

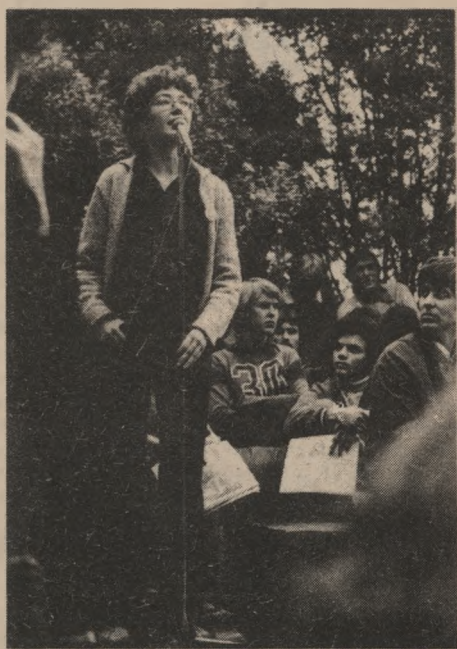
In fact it's got worse eh?

Yeah, the Pakehas realise that they can act the ruling class and just push us around. But these people achieved in 25 minutes what 25 years of writing and protesting couldn't achieve. The ruling class is going to get paranoid about that.

If it was a proper hit, if it was a hit like everyone says it was we'd've had more people, we'd've had masks, we'd've had stolen cars you know, surely credit us with a bit of intelligence, we wouldn't have taken such a lot of small people with us, we would have taken a real stocked team but it just wasn't like that...

Were they happy with that statement that you made, that you were there?

Yeah they were very happy, oh they wanted me to say that I had a baseball



bat and other things you know, I just oh, F off, I never had those.

But they didn't question you about the whole story who actually started the violence, you know?

Yeah they did they kept trying to put words in my mouth, but I just didn't want to talk. They kept trying to ask me where my patch was.

What !!

Where my patch was, you know, I said no I'm not in any gang. They asked me if Dun Mihaka had anything to do with it and if Anna Mason had anything to do with it, things like that, who was the boss? who was the leader? Went over to the pen and they held us for about 28 or 29 hours and they fucked us around by untold times, wouldn't let us sleep, kept turning the lights off and on and checking us every five seconds then they wouldn't take us down to court with the ordinary guys, kept holding us apart to try and



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say that we were extra dangerous. And they had this line up and they were only going to have eight guys, seven of us and eight guys you know. They said it was in our best interest and we nearly fell into it but two lawyers came down and said oh no you've got to have at least eight other people per person, you know, so they had to go and get all these guys from MOTAT and they came down and they were heavy dudes boy, they were incredibly heavy, they were from the Nomads, you know the Nomads. Nomads are just about the heaviest gang in New Zealand, they had all these Nomads standing there and we walked in and they all shook our hands as soon as we walked out 'cos we'd been doing the Haka and they could hear us and they were really proud .....



Who identified you, who did the line up?

Oh, the engineers. We just stood around there and the engineers came in one by one; they would have got up to untold dirty tricks if our lawyers hadn't turned up. Engineers came thru and they could only identify two of us. It was hilarious boy 'cos they came in really cocky 'cos they didn't think they'd be standing face to face you know, and they came bowling down the aisle and they stopped right down the bottom of the stage and started looking at us ch, and they guy with them said 'no, you have to go right up' and they immediately changed their minds 'cos there's 30 or 40 really mean looking blacks all standing in line. And these poor guys had to come along one by one and have a look at us and they tried to look like they really wanted to identify someone but they just couldn't see anyone they knew. And



only two of them had the guts to identify anyone, oh maybe not the guts, maybe they thought maybe it's not worth it, maybe only two of them had the hatred enough to say, you know, 'tab them'.

Anyway, and then they were satisfied and took us down to court and we got out on a thousand dollars bail and we have to report Saturdays and Mondays. And then for the next week we had cops sitting outside all of our houses and had them going thru the houses two or three times each house, my own house got done over a few times.

We had them harassing our wives and the people who were staying at home and that, since then we've had crank calls, people threatening to do us over and the Nazi party slapping up posters around our places.

What!

The Nazi party.

Is this Colin King-Ansell and his mates?

I don't know them, untold wankers.

Where do you live?

Otara

Looking back on it do you, are you glad what happened, happened?

I, well a few of the things I'd change you know like this thing about the weapons, if I could do that all again and make sure no one could make any kinds of weapons, that's the one thing, because if there was no question of weapons I think that a lot of people who aren't on our side at the moment would be on our side.

What do you think about Hohepa and Walker laying a charge against the engineers under the race relations act?

Hohepa and them just encouraged Maori pride, that's all. Mind you they sold us down the drain, they immediately started protecting their little Maori club students .....

One final question, how many people again were involved in He Taua?

About 14 men and 7 women;

Have the police said that they may change the charges?

No - it's not inciting riot, it's rioting.

They hardly ever do that even against gang members, just unlawful assembly and disorderly behaviour.

It's the first since 1951

No, it's the first if you get convicted, the first successful one isn't it?

Needs more substantial evidence, as it is they've got F all evidence really except for our statements, that we were there, that's all. A couple of the guys said in their statements that they did punch people. Well actually when you get bowled over you have to .....

The idea that violence is not the issue, that it's the racism involved, you agree with that? Who do you think is responsible for the racism in NZ - is it the pakeha's or is it both races, is it the government?

The Maori people can't be racists 'cos they don't have the power to be racists they can be prejudiced but they can't be racist. It's just like women can't be sexist, 'cos they don't have the power. Women can't oppress.

What about the involvement with the gangs?

All that gang business got us in the shit with the gangs, most of them didn't — they are proud of being Maori but it's just not their bag. And lots of them were saying to us 'oh why'd you use our name 'cos we know a few of them, we had to explain that was just what the papers had said. All their houses got done straight after. In the end what they say is you fight your battles your way we'll fight ours our way.

Do you ever get assistance from gangs, money or anything like that?

No we never - we just work - I'm in another group, we do disco's for kids and that. All of us are into social work,



# HE'TAUA CONTINUED



just putting sticking plaster on what's happening to our kids and our people like running discos and putting the money back into holiday programmes to get them out of the shit house place for holidays ....

*Get them out of Otago ?*

Yeah. As well as being involved in protests and we're just so frustrated about running our heads into things like the Social Welfare Dept and the Labour Dept and all these Govt agencies. All these institutions just doesn't, everytime we want to do something to help our people we run into a brick wall. You can't help getting frustrated. The average Maori person is just having such a hard time hanging on. Well, in good times in this country its hard for a Maori person, when the country is in a bad time we go down another step. Things like savings,

anywhere, they wonder why violence finally happens. I don't know if the average Kiwi child takes as much shit as we take in a week and still keep his head on.

*What do you think about people saying that Maoris can't laugh at themselves ? That it was a joke ?*

Maoris have finally got enough courage again to stand up and say that its not funny, and don't have to pretend that its funny anymore. Even Walker, he had his time of being a real radical and trying hard but if you beat a man on the head long enough he's either going to hit you back like what happened or else, he's going to - he'll end up being a servant - he'll end up doing what you want him to. And they're hitting us on the head all the time. You can't take it as one little incident.



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the average Maori family doesn't know what a savings book is !

*Or a new Holden, or a caravan, or a colour TV.*

Hell no, Maoris always drive round in a 'Mark 2', that's all you can afford! (laughter) The whole thing is so bad for us at the moment and every time that a Maori person tries to hold up a mirror to society and say look this is what you're doing it immediately gets blamed on us, gets put back on our doorsteps. Especially the young people even our own people start saying that - 'Stop creating the trouble !' We are just the ones exposing it again. They wonder why we get frustrated, after years of doing social work in an attempt to just hold things together and then protesting in an attempt to change and realising that neither of these things are getting

Our own people, especially these people here should face up to their own responsibility of protecting our culture and making sure that it's given the proper reverence. And not deserting us to preserve their own hides cos while they may not have had anything to do with the actual, physical incident they had a lot to do with the background and also the issue doesn't belong to just them it belongs to all Maori people, it was an insult against all Maori people and all Maori people had a right to protest against it and the white people here should face up to the fact that, face up to their own racism and start doing something about it and stop laying the blame back on our doorstep and stop making us the victim of their guilt. If those guys there hadn't been insulting our culture we wouldn't have come down here.

# EPTTAPH

My name is Benjamin [redacted] I live at [redacted] Rd, Otago. I was arrested from my home at 2.30 pm on 1.5.79, and taken to Auckland Central Police Station.

I waited in an office with several cops who were writing things. Then I was taken to the locker area where there was a desk and 2 detectives waiting for me between two rows of lockers. They asked me questions which I refused to answer. I asked to ring my lawyer. One of the detectives said I would be able to in a few minutes. The detectives left the room and a uniformed cop I know came in. He talked to me for a while about being a Maori. The 2 detectives and 1 other came in again, and the cop I was talking to left. They began to question me, but I asked for my lawyer again. This time the 'D' with the dark moustache said to me, 'I'm sorry but you're not gonna see him for a while. You'll save us all a lot of trouble if you talk to me now. Tell me how it happened, everyone else has.'

I said I couldn't until I saw my lawyer. Then he punched me in the face. He said 'you better start talking now.' I still would not talk so he really got stuck in. He punched me twice in the stomach and I fell to the ground. He kicked me in the legs, arms and the sides. Then he grabbed my hair and threw me into the desk then picked me up and said 'tongue loose yet ?' I couldn't say anything so he threw me into the lockers twice. I was on the ground again, so he kicked me again. I stood up to wipe my nose which was bleeding and he hit me in the face. Then he said to me, 'Better start talking now because there's a lot more where that came from.'

During this the 2 other 'D's were waiting about 2 ft away in case I did anything. Ordinary cops walked past while it was happening also. I believe every cop in there knew what was happening. None of them did anything to stop it.

I was taken into an office where I was told that if I didn't want anymore I'd better give a statement, and say I went to the University that day. The phone rang and the 'D' said 'Yes, he talked but he didn't implicate anyone else.' An extra big 'D' came and stood in the doorway to frighten me. He said to the one who hit me, 'Oh, has he got a sore jaw, poor thing, I'll fix it up for him' They all laughed. I can remember the one who hit me, the one who watched and took the statement and the one who stood in the doorway. I can also remember some of the uniformed cops but doubt they will.

My name is Len [redacted] I live at [redacted] Road, Papatoetoe. When we were arrested on 1.5.79, we were taken to Central. A detective I believe to be [redacted], and two of his colleagues accompanied us.

On arrival Joe [redacted] and I were taken into an office. We were sitting there as policemen walked in and out, looking in filing cabinets. Soon Joe was taken into the opposite room.

About 5 minutes later police officers came in and sat around the room. One Maori policeman asked me 'Are you a Stormtrooper ?' Then he started questioning me about an incident at the East Tamaki Tavern. I told him I wasn't there as my brother-in-law and I had been fixing my bike. He then wanted to know where I was from. I told him Tolaga Bay, East Coast. Apparently he was from there also. He and another Maori officer began harrasing me, and one of them started threatening me with a pair of scissors, saying he was going to cut my hair off. By this time most of the officers in the room were grinning and laughing.

Then in came the Detective I believe to be [redacted], with a piece of paper ready to take my statement, which I refused to give. He asked me a question but I just sat there, saying nothing. He got up, walked around the desk and punched me in the side of the head three times, asking me if I was deaf, until I said 'No !' The officers in the room thought this was quite hilarious. I was determined not to say anything until I had legal advice, but I wasn't allowed to talk to a lawyer.

We went into a room where Brian [redacted] was being held, and as I walked into the room there was a slap and I heard Mary [redacted] say 'You saw that !' The police officers with her said 'No'.

We were in there for a long time, until we were taken into a cell room where you get all your stuff taken off you.

[redacted] came in for me. He called me a 'little liar'. Then he pulled my hair, threw me to the floor, kicked me in the stomach and leg. I caught one of his kicks in the groin. He pulled me up and shoved his knee into my guts.

He paused for a moment and I thought it was over, but then he grabbed me by the hair and threw me into the wall. He repeated it again, and threw me into the lockers.

He was pretty pleased with himself and I told him I knew Ben [redacted] and said yes to everything he asked me. He questioned me again in the morning. I can and will identify the detective who hit me and the others who saw it happen.

My name is Veronica [redacted] I live at [redacted] MANGERE. After being stopped by Policemen, I was asked my name and date of birth. The Detective I was talking to told me that I am being held as a suspect to a brawl that occurred that morning (1.5.79) at the Auckland University concerning Engineering students. Each of us that were in the car (6 of us) were then paired off into Police vehicles and taken down to Police Central. On arriving there we were separated and were told not to talk to each other. After waiting around for 2 hours we each went off with a Detective and were questioned. I was taken upstairs. Up there I answered a few questions. I told the 'D' I had nothing more to say until I contacted my lawyer (Mr D Papatoetoe), he said I could ring my lawyer after I've made a statement. He said that those being held at that time have admitted to being at the Engineering School and that they had also said I was with them. I asked for some proof of that statement, he said that my brother (who was in the room next door) pipped. I asked him if he would get my brother in to tell me he said such a thing, as I knew it was a lie. The 'D' left the room and went next door and he and the other 'D' talked outside in the corridor. He returned to the room. He told me that his patience could only go so far. I turned away from him because he started repeating the same questions I'd already answered. He told me to look at him while he was talking to me, I reminded him I had nothing more to say. He then called me a 'fucken little bitch' and then just came at me and whacked me (with the flat of his hand) on the side of my face. He continued calling me names, we started shuffling. I felt him punch me twice in the chest and once in the stomach. He pushed me back, I was able to stop myself from falling. I was standing next to the window which looked into the room next door. The 'D' next door must have seen what was happening and came rushing into the room I was in. From both doors of the two rooms being open, I could hear my brother (as well as see him through the window) yelling to the 'D' that was questioning him, to tell the one I had to leave me alone. I explained to the other 'D' what happened, he denied having seen anything of the sort. I said I refuse to be in the same room with the 'D' that hit me. I was taken into the room next door with my brother. His 'D' came back awhile later and carried on questioning my brother.

I was taken back to my room and was told a Police Woman will be coming to talk to me. She came in though we didn't stay in that same room, instead we went to another just two doors away. There because I was scared (the 'D' that hit me was wandering around outside the room) I made a Statement. I was asked to sign it, as it was to prove that I said what was in the statement and not any one else. I was taken back down stairs. After a while I had my photograph taken, then taken to the Womens Locker Room and was searched. I spent the rest of the time there listening to the other 'D's cracking smart remarks at us.

at 4 o'clock I was told I could go, no charge was made. I had no money and no way of getting home (the car I was in was in the pound), I rang my sister (from the phone in the office). My brother-in-law had the key to the house (he was in the cells), so I went next door and was able to go through his property, no key. I went out into the street to wait for my sister. Every now and then I went back into the Station to ring my brother-in-law to see if my sister was on her way out to pick me up, as there was no sign of her outside. Somewhere along the line we missed each other. The last time I went back inside the Station I didn't use the phone. On the way out I was stopped by a uniformed Policeman, he took me by the arm and lead me to the door and warned me that if I come back inside again he'll have me up for unlawful trespassing. I was really scared. It was getting dark. I started running down town crying, as I didn't know what to do. I asked one woman for 6 cents she just carried on walking. I had no choice but to go back to the Station and hang around outside. A friend arrived with a lawyer. I got a lift with them later.

All the time I was at the Station I asked if I could ring my lawyer, this was refused. I was told I had no need for a lawyer as I had not been charged yet. I felt the need for my lawyer as I am not fully aware of my rights. The only phone calls I was allowed was to ring my sister, to ask how my child was. I made two of these calls. I was told by a 'D' not to mention to her where I was or what was happening.

What happened that day at the Auckland Central Police Station will not leave me for a long time yet.

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# Melting Pot



Bruce Pedersen

The comfortable assumption that New Zealand society is a cheerful integration of European and Polynesian cultures was easily sustained after the widely publicized haka incident during Capping Week. A group of Maoris indicated their displeasure at the staging of a mock haka by engineering students as part of Capping Week festivities by hospitalizing several participants.

As a sequel to this incident a complaint has been filed with the Race Relations Conciliator alleging that the mock haka breached Section 9A of the Race Relations Act which provides:

It shall be unlawful for any person -  
To use in any public place, or within the hearing of persons in any such public place, or at any meeting to which the public are invited or have access, words which are threatening, abusive, or insulting, -  
Saying matter or words likely to excite animosity or ill will against, or bring into contempt or ridicule, any group of persons in New Zealand on the ground of colour, race, or ethnic or national origins of that group of persons.

As his title suggests, the Conciliator's function is to reconcile the parties involved in a dispute; punitive sanctions are invoked as a last resort when a person deliberately persists in a breach of the Act. However if a person's conduct falls within the ambit of Section 9A, and in addition he acts with the intention of exciting racial disharmony, he is liable for criminal prosecution under Section 25 for a 3 month jail term or \$1,000 fine.

In this article I intend to question whether the restraint on freedom of speech contained in these sections is justified, and whether provisions of this nature are the best, or even an adequate, way of tackling the country's racial problems.

The right to express, and to hear expressed, dissenting opinion is central to the concept of democracy. Freedom of speech is the essential lubricant without which the democratic machinery cannot function. People are not able to effectively exercise their right to influence the decision making processes of Government - already circumscribed by New Zealand's fragmented democratic structure, limited biennial elections and the occasional referendum - if information pertaining to issues under discussion is suppressed. The more critical the issue, the more important it is that the proponents of one point of view are not able to silence dissenting voices.

Advantage may be taken of this licence to propose ridiculous or even dangerous ideas and theories. The most effective way of countering such ideas is not by preventing their expression; rather to hold them up for public scrutiny where their weaknesses will be exposed. John Stuart Mill argued several hundred years ago, but in words which have equal applicability to the present:

*... the opinion is right, they (the public) are deprived of the opportunity of changing error for truth; if wrong, they are what is almost as great a benefit, a clearer perception and livelier impression of truth, produced by its collision with error.*

National Front type organizations are now active in New Zealand. Their demand will not be impeded by preventing expression of their racist doctrine. Such groups, dependant upon tolerance and prejudice for their success, can only thrive in this situation. If the theory of racial equality is not permitted to be challenged openly, there is no occasion for its validity to be publicly demonstrated. It remains an article of faith, adhered to by the liberal faithful; not one to which the National Front or other related heresies subscribe. Faith

unfortified by reasoned argument, is not persuasive. It is unrealistic to expect members of these clandestine organisations to exchange faith in racist doctrines for a belief in racial equality unless cogent reasons for conversion are advanced. The only effect of driving these groups underground is to create ideal conditions for growth as, far from the public forum, their theories are less likely to be challenged. Furthermore, the Act's half-hearted persecution, not severe enough to cause the groups any serious inconvenience, only serves to bolster morale and generate a sense of mission.

However restrictions on freedom of speech, such as those imposed by the Race Relations Act, are not without precedent; nor are they always undesirable. The law of defamation recognizes that in certain circumstances a person's right not to have his reputation unjustly attacked is the paramount consideration. But a comparison of the defamation laws and the Race Relations Act shows how much further, and with less justification, the latter goes in curtailing freedom of expression.

Firstly, there must be publication of a libel. It is not actionable unless directed at someone other than the person to whom it refers. In other words the law does not protect a person's feelings - his reputation must also suffer. This rationale behind the law is also shown by the requirement that the libel refers to a specific person - not just a class of which the plaintiff is a member. The force of an allegation is considered to be

so dissipated by its generality that it is not actionable. The statement "All lawyers are thieves" might cause a member of the legal profession intense mental anguish; but his reputation has not suffered significantly and so he can't assuage his grief with a claim for damages.

Dr Rangi Walker, chairman of the Auckland District Maori Council, was quoted in the 'Star' as saying: *The engineers precipitated the violence by ... injuring other peoples feelings. That is just as violent as injuring another person physically.*

The function of the Race Relations Act should not be to provide people whose feelings have been injured by racial slander with a legal recourse. One of the requirements for participation in a democracy is a fairly thick skin. It is unfortunate if tender hides suffer; it would be more unfortunate if their sensitivity was allowed to inhibit the democratic rough and tumble.

It is ridiculous to equate a verbal attack with physical assault. To maintain that an insult is as damaging as a broken arm or cracked head is pretentious humbug. A successful physical attack precludes retaliation: verbal assaults, however devastating, are always susceptible to refutation. Having right on one's side is irrelevant in trial by battle, but provides useful verbal ammunition. If the insulting language is not an allegation of fact, but mere abuse as the haka was felt to be, there is even less cause for offence to be taken as the

invective reflects upon the person who utters it rather than those at whom it is aimed.

Allowing the Race Relations Act to limit freedom of speech in order that people's feelings may be spared has unacceptable implications. The ridiculing of institutions and movements is a legitimate avenue for protest or criticism from which the Maori rights movement should not be granted immunity. Indeed, however real their grievances, the seriousness with which its advocates take themselves and the fashionableness of their cause in certain circles make the movement an appropriate target for a little satirical prodding.

A strong case can be made that the student haka was not protest at all, or anything else except an example of boorish, pakeha insensitivity and that banning similar spectacles would not infringe any democratic right. But who is going to distinguish between what is legitimate comment and what is merely offensive frivolity? The only solution is to recognize that hurt feelings are not the most important consideration at stake and keep restrictions on expression of opinion to the bare minimum imposed by the defamation laws.

If there is any justification for the Race Relations Act it is not to protect the self-esteem of individuals, but to promote racial harmony in this country. I have already argued that stifling public debate will not achieve that goal. Indeed the very idea of legislating to achieve that end is faulty. Politicians can pass as many laws as they like exhorting New Zealanders to live together harmoniously; until Maoris have power in this country commensurate with their numbers such superficial measures will be ineffectual. Maoris are poorer, less educated and more likely to be in jail than Europeans. It is only necessary to walk around campus to realize that education, and the positions of influence to which it leads, are Pakeha prerogatives. While this situation continues Europeans will inevitably be contemptuous of, or at best patronizing to, Maoris: who in turn will look with hostility at those who continue to despoil what little their colonial forebears left of the Maori inheritance. Until there is real racial equality, where Maoris are not only allowed but are also enabled to reach positions of influence, racial strife is inevitable. The old French legal saw:

*The law forbids the rich and poor alike from sleeping under bridges.*

has application to the New Zealand situation. The Race Relations Act makes it illegal to refuse to sell a house to a person because of his race: but the provision is irrelevant if he didn't have enough money to buy the house anyway.

The Government is not moving to eliminate these basic causes of racial disharmony; indeed its actions have served to perpetuate disparities of wealth and influence. The attempts by Maoris to regain their lost land, powerfully symbolic of the will to improve their situation, have been looked on with scant sympathy by the Government. The Maori tent embassy in Parliament grounds and the settlement at Bastion Point were both forcibly disbanded. Economic exploitation is seen even more clearly in the case of the Island communities. The Islands are regarded as a source of cheap labour in times of economic expansion. When the jobs run out the Island families are rounded up and deported.

These policies, and the force used to implement them, sabotage race relations in a way irremedial by superficial legislation such as the Race Relations Act. The Act itself is counterproductive and represents a fundamentally wrong approach to the problem of race relations.

David Beach



# EDUCATION CUT-THROATS: AT HOME

It is nearly 40 years since the 1930's depression brought this country to its knees. Many political and economic commentators feel that New Zealand is again facing an economic crisis which will result in similar widespread social upheaval and dislocation. To all children born since the second world war, stories of the 1930's depression are at best interesting anecdotes of despair and alienation and suffering told by a seemingly self-indulgent older generation. Few of us have suffered deprivation of any kind, except perhaps emotional deprivation at the hands of achievement orientated parents. For most students at university or teachers training college or technical institutes there was never any question about getting the education of our choice provided we satisfied the academic requirements. In an affluent society this has been a relatively easy matter. Our material needs have been taken care of to such an extent that we can devote the necessary time to study free from the prospect of having to struggle just to keep body and soul together.

## ALL IS NOT WELL

So far this year we have seen several signs that this state of affairs will in all probability come to an abrupt end in the near future. Rumours are rife that the government is determined to trim back the internal deficit partly by pruning education spending. One manifestation of this was the refusal of the government to put into practice an Education Department recommendation that the level of the Standard Tertiary Bursary be increased by \$9 to take into account changes in the tax structure and to allow for the corrosive effect of inflation. The government recently announced the imposition of a special fee of \$1 500 on overseas students from areas other than the South Pacific. The present economic situation is so bad that the government was forced to implement the Student Community Services Programme for the large number of unemployed students over the vacation. It has long been recognized that an integral part of the present bursary system is the supplementation of the bursary with vacation earnings.

This year the University Grants Committee has been negotiating with the government to determine the level of funding for Universities for the next five years. The UGC, which represents the universities in negotiations with the government, is apprehensive that the funding grants decided on by the government could force universities to restrict their intake of first year students.

At all levels the education system is suffering the effects of government cutbacks. There is a teacher shortage in secondary schools, teachers college students are faced with the prospect of having their allowances slashed, it is rumoured that creche fees will be increased, apprentices are unable to undertake training, and school leavers are faced with few employment or training opportunities. Unable to cope with the problems created by the present economic crisis the government has been forced to cut costs and education has been a traditional cost cutting area. The rich will still be able to send their sons and daughters to private schools and university to obtain the education denied to children from less affluent backgrounds. The approach of the government was made abundantly clear in the New Zealand Planning Council's report Planning Perspectives 1978-1983 which was published in March 1978.

## THE GOVERNMENT'S APPROACH

The new Minister of Education Mr Merv Wellington is not sympathetic to post-compulsory education or continuing education although the party of which he is a member advanced an election policy stating the 'National believes that education is a lifelong process' and that 'We will keep under

review levels of support now being considered for those in post-compulsory education.' In the March 1979 issue of 'Education News' Mr Wellington said 'The country is now at a turning point and education will have to make some appropriate changes. There are some very important questions to be answered in the next 24 months. It might be painful for some people.'

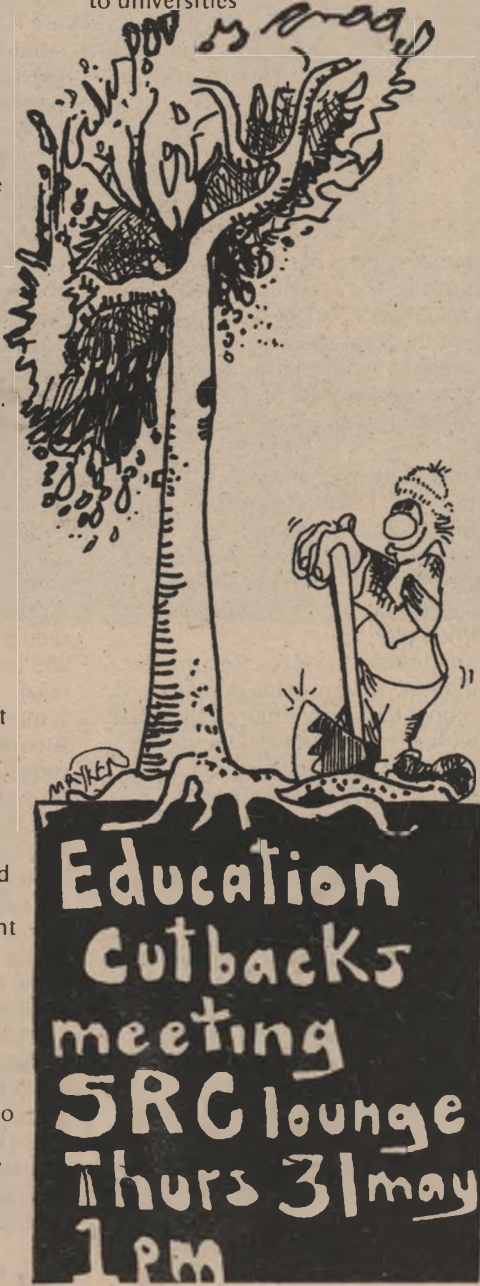
Faced with a similar situation in the 1930's the government of the day cut education costs by adopting the following methods:

- 1 grants for kindergartens were withdrawn
- 2 expenditure on school buildings and maintenance was reduced
- 3 grants for the Workers Education Association were withdrawn
- 4 allowances to Teacher College students were severely reduced
- 5 grants were withdrawn from public libraries
- 6 the number of bursaries was greatly reduced. In 1927 48% of students held bursaries, in 1934 it was only 21%. By 1934 most students were part time.
- 7 two teachers colleges were closed down.

## THE PROSPECT FOR UNIVERSITIES

This is by no means a comprehensive list but it may indicate the course of action likely to be adopted by the government in the present economic crisis. Some likely consequences for universities of Government proposals to cut education spending are:

- no more staff appointments
- further cuts in library services
- students paying to use student health and other welfare services
- abolition of many small courses
- cuts in the equipment grant
- abolition of post-doctoral fellowships
- deferral of building maintenance
- reduction of cleaning standards to below the stated minimum
- phasing out of the open entry system to universities



All in all not a very exciting prospect.

The minister of education Mr Wellington has informed the UGC that the Government intends to cut this year's university budget. Furthermore, although it may not be openly admitting it, the reduced level of expenditure for 1978-1980 will form the basis for future grants. That means that cuts made to services this year will be permanent. It also means that because the university is already committed to almost all its long term expenditure (for at least the quinquennium period of 5 years) that drastic long term cuts will have to be made to bring the cost of running the university into line with the amount of money the Government is prepared to spend on it.

The decision on how much universities will receive during the next 5 years is expected in September. To keep par with inflation and maintain even the present inadequate level of financing, grants will have to increase by at least 40% overall. It now appears that there is little prospect of this happening if the present proposal goes ahead.

The chairman of the UGC, Dr A.T. Johns, says that last year the committee asked for an extra \$14 million from the government to help cover increased costs during 1978 and this year it had received \$6 million. The universities have made ends meet during the last 5 years of fast inflation by appointing fewer staff than was allowed for in the original calculations. There was a shortfall of about 500 academic staff last year, with the result that some advanced classes had 200 to 300 students and were far too large. Dr Johns says that cuts of the magnitude suggested could only be absorbed by the universities by a considerable limitation on the entry of students and a reduction of staff over a period of years if the New Zealand university system is to maintain reasonable standards of teaching and research.

The government proposal seeks to trim nearly \$3 million off the block grant for the current year. Nearly all of this must come out of non-salary expenditure because university staff have security of tenure. Non-salary items amount to \$20 million right around the country so the cut will average 15% across every area of university activity.

The non-salary component is extremely sensitive and vulnerable according to NZUSA research officer Ian Powell. Obvious potential areas for cuts are:

- 1 libraries through (further) reductions in periodicals, books and hours
- 2 Counselling and Medical services. The introduction of and increases in fees is a real possibility
- 3 reductions in equipment grants in, for example, the science and engineering fields
- 4 reductions in the services offered by Registries. For example, employment, accommodation and careers advice

## BURSARIES

Several reliable sources have suggested that \$5 million is to be chopped off the bursaries allocation, in spite of the fact that the level of the bursary is 23% lower now than when the STB was introduced in 1976. There are several ways the Government might try to do this. There could be a direct cut in the level, but as this would clearly antagonise large numbers of students it seems relatively unlikely.

Conditions for getting and keeping a bursary could be made more stringent. Means testing is mentioned as a possibility in this area. This could involve a means test on the parent or student. Alternatively the STB could be tied solely to the 7th form bursary exam, with stricter conditions relating to failure during a student's years of study. The current allowance for students to pick up a bursary while actually at university could be dropped.

A loans scheme could be introduced. This has long been regarded by the Government, Education Department and Treasury as an acceptable alternative. Like means testing it is mooted not simply as a way of redistributing the bursary grant but of reducing its level. A combination of means testing and loans would be in accordance with trends in the Review of Financial Assistance for Post Compulsory Study.

## NZUSA

Because of these recent developments in the Government's attack on the Education system NZUSA decided at its annual meeting in May to call for a combined education campaign to fight education cutbacks. This campaign will involve all groups involved in the field of education.

NZUSA has called July 26 as a day of national action on the education cutbacks. An Auckland Regional Steering Committee will be formed to plan and co-ordinate activities leading up to July 26 and on the day. It is up to students, teachers, parents and all interested persons to take the fight to the Government and show them that the type of policies and tactics adopted in the 1930's are not acceptable to the New Zealand of 1979. The signs are there and if we don't hold our ground the education system as we know it could become a thing of the past.

There will be an organising meeting on Thursday 31 May in the SRC lounge starting at 1 pm. Only if all students get involved in this campaign will it be successful. We will need lots of people to do things like leaflets, posters, write articles etc. Activities for July 26 have to be planned. Hopefully lectures will be cancelled on the day so we can have a gigantic march and other festivities.

For further information contact Studass.

Colin McFadzean

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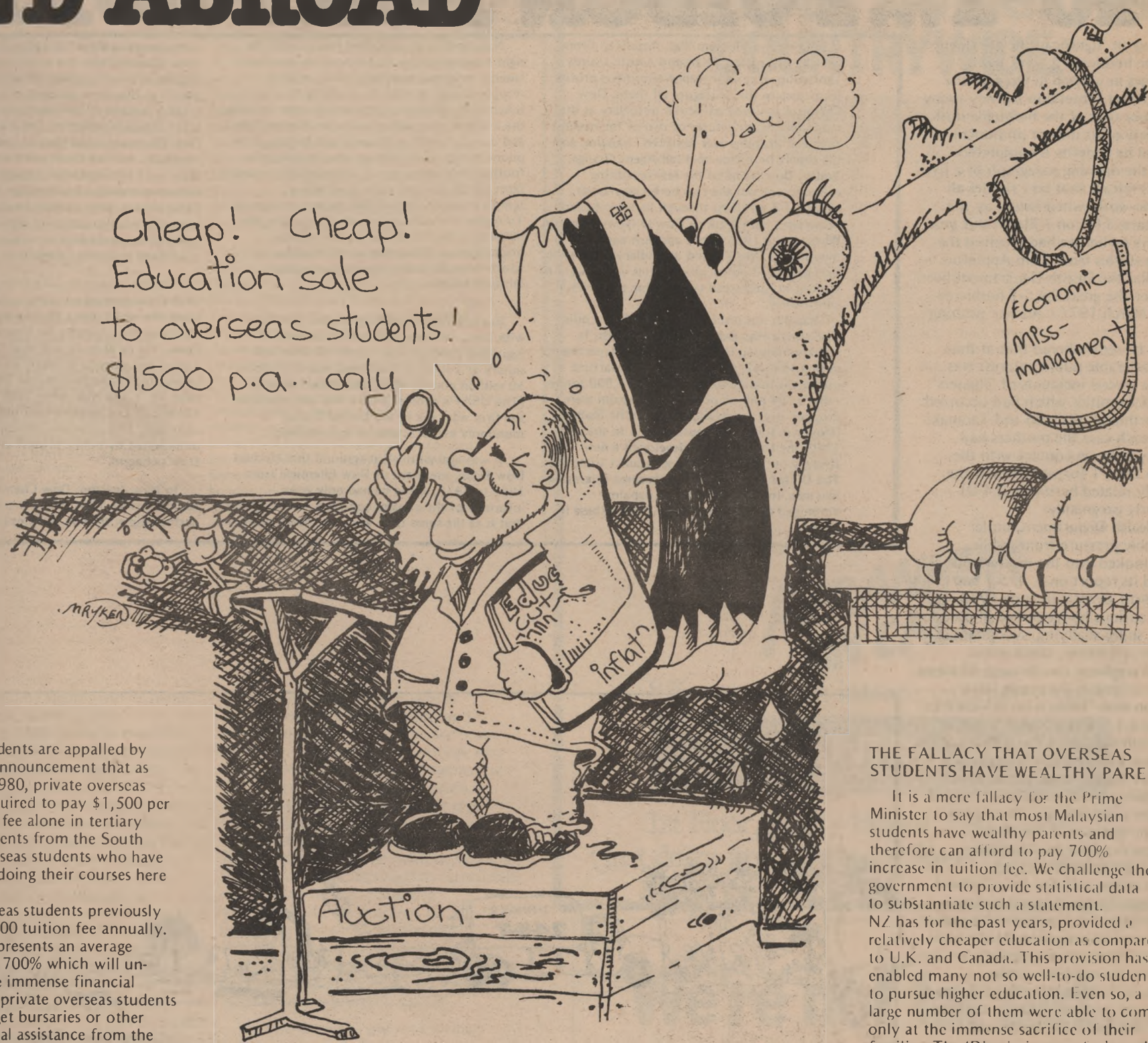
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Education sale  
to overseas students!  
\$1500 p.a. only



## THE FALLACY THAT OVERSEAS STUDENTS HAVE WEALTHY PARENTS

It is a mere fallacy for the Prime Minister to say that most Malaysian students have wealthy parents and therefore can afford to pay 700% increase in tuition fee. We challenge the government to provide statistical data to substantiate such a statement. NZ has for the past years, provided a relatively cheaper education as compared to U.K. and Canada. This provision has enabled many not so well-to-do students to pursue higher education. Even so, a large number of them were able to come only at the immense sacrifice of their families. The 'Discriminatory fee' would therefore block the only opportunity for this sector of students to higher education, thus making education a privilege for the very wealthy few! This defeats the whole philosophy behind the education aid policy.

## UNITE & OPPOSE

Over the past few years, overseas students have been at the receiving end of the NZ Government's unfriendly policies. In 1976 we faced the 45% cut of overseas students, followed by the disgusting 'marriage of convenience' issue. Last year we were confronted by the 'No Capping' issue. Now, the 'discriminatory fee' befalls on overseas students again. There will be more unfriendly policies for us which will take away most of our basic rights. Unless we are united and get organised, overseas students will be further victimised. We must also see that the 'discriminatory fee' is a divide and rule tactic employed by the NZ government to weaken the opposition and resistance from the students. Overseas students should stand as one to fight back this discriminatory policy.

The National Overseas Students' Action Committee (NOSAC) has planned a nationwide campaign against the 'discriminatory fee'. Once again we urge all overseas students and kiwi friends to give an active and fullest support to the forthcoming campaign. For further information contact local NOSAC co-ordinator A. Toong - 764835 c/- AUSA Studass or Malaysian/S'porean Student Assoc.

CRACCUM MAY 29 PAGE 9

Overseas students are appalled by Mr Muldoon's announcement that as from January, 1980, private overseas students are required to pay \$1,500 per year for tuition fee alone in tertiary education. Students from the South Pacific and overseas students who have already started doing their courses here are exempted.

Private overseas students previously paid only NZ\$200 tuition fee annually. This fee-hike represents an average increase of over 700% which will undoubtedly cause immense financial burden to most private overseas students as they do not get bursaries or other forms of financial assistance from the NZ government.

The reasons given by Mr Muldoon on announcing such discriminatory fee are irrational and unjustifiable.

## THE PRESENCE OF OVERSEAS STUDENTS IS A FINANCIAL BURDEN TO THE NZ GOVERNMENT IS A MYTH

By introducing discriminatory fee on private overseas students, Mr Muldoon implicitly means that the presence of overseas students in NZ tertiary institutions is a financial burden to the NZ government whereby the NZ taxpayers can no longer afford to subsidise overseas students. HOW FAR IS THIS TRUE?

According to a survey conducted by S. Anderson and G. Laksh Mano Rao in Australia, the combined expenditure on the sponsored and private overseas students programme cost the Australian government about \$15 million as compared to \$20 million brought in and injected into the Australian economy by overseas students.

In NZ, Malaysian students alone brought into this country no less than \$3.3 million worth of foreign exchange in 1976. In straight and plain terms NZ is making a gain from overseas students!

We appreciate that overseas students benefit indirectly from the government's financial spending on education in this country. However, the expenditure incurred is the fixed cost that have to be borne whether or not overseas students

are enrolled at a particular institution. Therefore Mr Muldoon's assertion that the real cost in providing education for overseas students was substantially greater than \$1,500 is absurd and not justifiable.

## OVERSEAS STUDENTS - SCAPEGOATS FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S OWN FINANCIAL MISMANAGEMENT

Mr Muldoon claimed that by imposing \$1,500 tuition fee on private overseas students, his government would get about \$800,000 next year and expect to reach \$2 million by 1982. Superficially, it makes sense to use overseas students as a source to patch up the country's huge financial deficit. But the \$800,000 from the 'discriminatory fee' is minimal when compared with the nation's deficit. It is ironical that the government is still spending sporadic amounts on military expenditure in S.E. Asia. Therefore we need to question the real reason of imposing discriminatory fee on overseas students in a wider prospective. Overseas students, being a minority and most vulnerable group in the society, are being conveniently made scapegoats for the government's own financial mismanage-

ment. The 'discriminatory fee' is only one of the moves by Mr Muldoon to 'improve' his gloomy economy; it is also the first blow in his entire package deal, 'CUTS IN EDUCATION'.

## DISCRIMINATORY FEE - CONTRADICTION TO NZ'S FOREIGN AID POLICY

NZ has always enjoyed a favourable trade balance with Malaysia and many other countries in the region. For example, in 1976 the trade balance between NZ and Fiji plus Malaysia ran up to \$30 million in NZ's favour. Historically, NZ had been a small 'colonial power' working closely together with Britain in exercising the colonial rule over Malaysia, Singapore and South Pacific countries. Therefore, it is a moral obligation for NZ to provide aids to these countries. The most needed form of aids is in the field of education.

It has been the long standing policy of NZ to provide education opportunities to overseas students. The introduction of discriminatory fee therefore contradicts the NZ foreign aid policy in this area.



# 245-T...POISON FOR PROFIT

"Acting on significant new evidence linking the herbicide 2,4,5-T with miscarriages in women in Oregon, the Environmental Protection Agency today halted major uses of the herbicide until a full review of its impact on human health and its benefits is completed." This was the opening paragraph of a five page press release that sent ripples all around the world when issued by the United States EPA on 1 March this year. A few days earlier we had received the following stories from Tom Appleton.

What has the Health Department been doing since the great 2,4,5-T herbicide scares of March 1977? Answer nothing much.

It will be remembered that at that time considerable public interest was roused by several incidents of 'clusters' of birth deformities which had occurred in the Northland, Waikato and Taranaki areas. In each case the mothers had reportedly come in contact with the herbicide 2,4,5-T (or, sometimes, the chemically related herbicide 2,4-D) during early pregnancy.

The Health Department, under considerable pressure from public opinion, looked into the matter and presented its report on 2, 4, 5-T and Human Birth Defects in June 1977. This report, a curious hodge-podge of pseudo-scientific shilly-shallying, sycophantic solipsisms and screwy stochastic-statistical jugglings, ran through 42 pages and then arrived at the predictable conclusion that "there is no evidence to implicate 2,4,5-T as a causal factor in human birth defects." (The authors of the report didn't really think it necessary to consider the other herbicide 2,4-D)

Two things became apparent immediately after publication of the report. Firstly, the director of the Health Department's public health division which had prepared the report, Dr C.M. Collins, told the *New Zealand Herald* that the government had not wanted to appoint a special independent committee of investigation. Had a high-power committee been especially created for the job, it would have been 'tantamount to suggesting 2,4,5-T was a major hazard and we had to put all our big guns in to get it off the hook,' said Dr Collins.

And secondly, it also became apparent that dissenting opinions were eliminated from the report before they had even had a chance of being uttered. Thus a child health specialist, Professor R.B. Elliott, head of pediatrics at Auckland Medical School, was first appointed to the committee and then quietly dropped without being told. Apart from the fact that it is unusual for a committee of four to get together and never notice the absence of a fifth invited, member - this procedural 'oversight' of not re-notifying Dr Elliott had its sound basis in Health Department policy.

It's a common practice with investigatory committee reports of this kind to append views dissenting from the committee consensus as separate, but integral, parts of the reports. Dr Elliott's views on 2,4,5-T were well known, not least because he had served on a similar committee set up by the Agricultural Chemicals Board in 1972. Had he been given an opportunity to include his dissension in the main report, he could have fairly ripped it to pieces and the whole point of the exercise would have been lost. In the event Dr Elliott had to confine his objections to the report ('they have proved nothing') to brief statements in the press which recorded him side-by-side with the minister of health, burly air commodore Gill, who said he believed that Professor Elliott was satisfied his views had been represented.

Represented? Certainly Dr Elliott did not share the views of committee member Professor E.G. McQueen, chief clinical pharmacologist at Otago University's

During the Vietnam War, American firms like Dow Chemical, Diamond Alkali, Uniroyal, Tgompson, Hayward reaped enormous profits from sales to the Pentagon. Of these, Dow Chemical achieved particular notoriety as the monopoly manufacturer of two of the nastiest chemical weapons ever designed - napalm, and the deadly herbicide-cocktail Agent Orange. Today, Dow is one of the few remaining manufacturers of the two herbicides 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T not least through its New Zealand subsidiary, Ivon Watkins Dow in New Plymouth. When in late 1966 public concern began to mount over Dow's liquid incendiary bombs the firm displayed obfuscatory antics which were to stand it in good stead later during the 2,4,5-T controversy.

Napalm was discovered in 1941 by Louis F. Fieser, a Harvard University chemist. It quickly matured in Dow's R and D departments during 1941-42, and was ready for wartime use by the mid-1940s. A total of 97,000 tonnes - that's 194 million pounds - of napalm were dropped over Japan and some Pacific islands. (Dow was the sole manufacturer). In the mid-1960s the United States developed a new strategy of 'flexible response' against Vietnam. The United States Air Force became interested in a new, improved variety of napalm developed by scientists at the Eglin Airbase in Florida.

Napalm-B as it was called had exactly the right consistency for its purpose - it was liquid enough to spread over large areas, and yet syrupy enough to stick to anything it came in touch with. With two parts polystyrene (making the mixture more adhesive on the human body) and one part each of benzene and benzol, a six pound bomb could turn an area the size of a football field into a sea of flames which would burn for 20 minutes while developing temperatures of up to 1000 degrees centigrade. To render the substance more flammable, the manufacturers hit up the idea of adding magnesium or phosphorus to the mixture, of which even the tiniest squirts cause deep burning wounds.

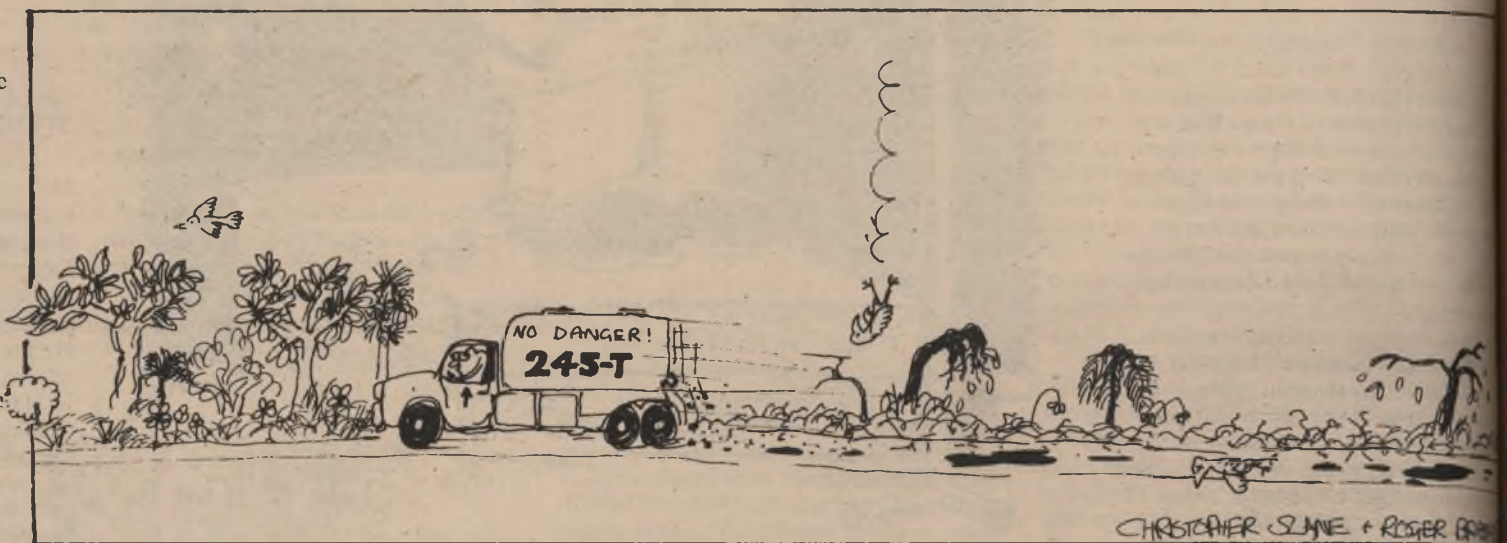
In early 1966 the USAF signed contracts with Dow, ordering 150 million pounds of napalm-B for that year. Later, the Dow subsidiary at Torrance, California was to produce 50 million pounds of napalm-B each month. (The USAF's choice of Dow was automatic as the firm was, and is, the United States' monopoly manufacturer of polystyrene).

It was against this background that Herbert Dow Doan, president of Dow Chemical from 1962 to 1971, stated he had only been informed of the napalm contracts in late 1966 - that is at the same time when the peace move-

ment began to direct its campaign against the firm. Theoretically it was not inconceivable that Doan knew nothing of the napalm order which, at that time, comprised a mere US\$6.5 million of the concern's overall US\$1.3 billion turnover. Theoretically, too Dow Chemical could have cancelled the USAF contracts. Instead Doan and his managing director, Carl Gerstacker, regarded the matter as mainly a problem for their PR-departments. Even though Gerstacker found himself forced to admit on television that he knew of no peace-time uses for napalm, Doan continued to portray himself as a 'dove'.

'We don't consider it right to put pressure on the government on matters we don't understand. We really don't know what are the aims, tactics or the strategies (in Vietnam),' said Doan. Yet he also claimed that 'This napalm is a good and singular strategic weapon and we believe that these people (the USAF) have a need for it.' In November 1969 American Electric of Los Angeles took over Dow's napalm contracts. This company remained virtually unmolested by public protest actions, much to Dow's chagrin.

In New Zealand, Dow Chemical has had a foothold since 1964, when it entered a 50:50 partnership with Ivon Watkins Limited in New



Medical School and a member of the Agricultural Chemicals Board, who said, 'You can put it on your porridge or anything else you like.' Professor McQueen also used to be an enthusiast for DDT, the supertoxic insecticide which has virtually been banned since 1968: 'I recall the extent to which I used it - in places like Algeria during the war. We used to squirt it down the necks of Arabs who had unhappy sorts of infestations and finally end up with a good squirt up the backside as they disappeared.' Nuff said.

Of the remaining committee members, two were Health Department regulars the department usually consulted and one was the department's own senior toxicologist. He also scripted the report.

That's about what you'd expect when one of the parties accused of failing in its duty is permitted to select its own jury,' commented *New Zealand Environment* magazine. It also charged the committee had privately met with a representative from Dow Chemical, the American parent company of the New Zealand, 2,4,5-T manufacturing outfit, Ivon Watkins Dow in New Plymouth.

The Health Department responded by saying there was no representative of Ivon Watkins Dow present. Said *Environment* editor Bob Mann: 'That may be true but is not a rebuttal of what we actually said.'

Since the report was issued almost two years have passed. Time enough, one should think, for the Health Department to get cracking on the report's only half-hearted suggestion that 'an unusual sequence of events has occurred which warrants further investigation.' (Emphasis added.) And indeed the department is investigating, on two fronts. It scans overseas literature for articles on the topic, and it is compiling a survey of domestic birth deformities. To this end, questionnaires were compiled, printed and sent out in the second half of 1977, and doctors were requested to fill them out after each birth and return them. Unfortunately for the Health Department's man who deals with this survey, the doctors were not very happy with some of the questions on the forms.

After consultations with the Medical Association the Department agreed to print a new batch of questionnaires with different questions. The compliance rate continues to be low especially amongst doctors in the Auckland area but the department hopes to have its first lot of figures for a 12-month period ready for display by the middle of the year. Precisely what these figures are supposed to prove or disprove remains a mystery. Ostensibly, further 'clusters' of birth deformities are meant to show up more clearly when contrasted against a background of total national births.

As about two to six per cent of babies are born defective, this figure might be considered the national average. Thus when the Health Department compares say, 1000 births in an agricultural area like the Waikato with another 1000 in the Auckland area, the Auckland births automatically serve as a 'control group.' If the percentage of birth deformities in both areas is similar, even though 2,4,5-T is sprayed in one but not in the other, then this automatically proves 2,4,5-T (or any other herbicide) is safe. Or so this model would have it.

Plymouth, which Dow subsidises, strength on the manufacture of detergents, sheep manufacturer and the bread and butter of 2,4,5-T.

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Plymouth, which became a 51 per cent-owned Dow subsidiary in 1973. Ivon Watkins Dow's strength on the New Zealand market is through its manufacture of polystyrene, as well as detergents, sheep dips, insecticides and as sole manufacturer and supplier of (IWD-jargon: 'the bread and butter herbicides') 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T.

In 1967, IWD negotiated with the U.S. government for a contract to make defoliants for use by the USAF in Vietnam, but the offer was rejected. On the other hand, the New Zealand minister of defence at that time David Thomson, called defoliant use a 'useful tool' in 'assisting rejection of Vietnamese aggression in South Vietnam' and even went on record down-playing the role and the seriousness of the defoliants used.

Later in 1967, IWD sent its largest-ever consignment of weedkiller out of the country. Most of this, it appeared, was destined for the Philippines, but a 75,000 pound shipment was going to the United States in December. Anti-war activist Owen Wilkes was told in a letter from IWD's PR-officer that the firm could not dictate to buyers the destination of herbicides we produce for weed control.

Meanwhile, several million kilograms of 2,4,5-T have been manufactured by IWD and sprayed domestically. Evidence of a link

between the use of 2,4,5-T (and 2,4-D) and birth deformities as well as a host of other symptoms has been steadily mounting, particularly since the Vietnam War. At the same time, Dow Chemical and IWD officials have persistently denied any such link. The New Zealand ministries of agriculture and health have written out all-clear bills for IWD's herbicides (for example, after the 1972 Te Awamutu birth deformity scare, and again in 1977). In the United States both herbicides are severely restricted.

In this context it is interesting to note that IWD- founder and chairman of directors, Daniel Watkins, was also a founder of the New Zealand Agricultural Chemical Manufacturers Federation and was responsible for much of the work that led to the passing of the Agricultural Chemicals Act and to the setting up of the Agricultural Chemicals Board which okays the use of such herbicides as 2,4,5-T. Amongst all the other influential and good-for-PR positions he has held was the post of national chairman of the New Zealand branch of the Pacific Basin Economic Conference, and president of the PBEC's Environment Committee. Beamed Watkins: 'This was an honour for me as environmental issues are something I have had a personal involvement with all my life.'

Quite possibly the figures will be made statistically more meaningful by subdividing each 1000 births by months. That way, birth deformities can be linked (or not linked) to conceptions during peak spraying periods which in the country areas, are between October and March. Again, if urban and rural areas show no significant differences, then this is seen as further proof that herbicide spraying has no effect. Naturally, the Health Department won't be able to make such an assumption on the basis of birth records from a single 12 month period. The less than 70 per cent overall compliance rate further diminishes the statistics' worth.

With this in mind, it's reasonable to expect that for a number of years to come the department will be able to make itself seen to be doing something by issuing periodic press statements urging doctors to send back those forms. The beauty of this scheme, for the Health Department, is that it costs very little, and can be kept going indefinitely by one man's part-time effort. If, after a number of years, the results of this satisfactorily inquiry should be proved to be meaningless, why then another one takes off. In the meantime millions of kilograms of a potentially hazardous herbicide can be produced, sold and sprayed without any hassles.

For that reason alone it's worthwhile to point out the faults of such a statistical survey:

It makes no real sense to compare 1000 rural with 1000 urban births. It takes longer to collect 1000 urban babies in the country. If one wanted to compare all the March babies in the towns and in the country, the rural sample would be smaller. Another factor is the greater 'mobility' in the genetic pool in urban areas. Genetical defects might reasonably be expected to be more frequently manifested in city births than in babies born in the country.

Now this age of automotive transport and the given nature of NZ society rural and urban births are meaningful concepts, only when related also to the place of conception.

The effects of 30 years of spraying 2,4,5-T onto rural areas may long since have become part of the general genetic build-up of rural dwellers and would therefore not show up in 'clusters'. Every child born with any defect might owe it to the effects of a herbicide or other chemical.

In other words: all the Health Department is proving is *that*, and possibly *how many*, children are born defective. The important question, *why* they are so born remains untouched by this survey. For meaningful results, in addition to obtaining the above type of information, it would be necessary: a) to register each canister (or litre) of 2,4,5-T and 2,4-D at its point of sale and its point of application and to record this information on a national grid. b) to conduct post mortems on all (whether naturally or artificially) aborted foetuses; and to drum up publicity requiring all women who have domestic miscarriages to take their foetuses to the nearest hospital.

The important of point b) is this: TCDD, the supertoxic impurity contained in 2,4,5-T is, according to the Health Department report, a *weak* teratogen (foetus deforming agent). The reason: 'TCDD appears to be more likely to cause death of the embryo or foetus than congenital abnormalities.' In other words, any baby born with spina bifida, ancephalitis or any of the other monstrous malformations has had a freak accident in its contact with 2,4,5-T: it has survived. That's why, to prove conclusively what effect 2,4,5-T is having on pregnant women, the aborted foetuses are the gruesome prime research material.

But while it may be argued that New Zealand offers just about the world's best research conditions for this purpose (sparse population, well-developed health system available to most members of the population) it cannot be the purpose of the New Zealand populace to serve as free guinea pigs for Dow Chemical.

Proper prophylaxis, too, is needed particularly in light of overseas research on 2,4,5-T 'Nothing will do,' noted *Environment*, 'except a proper Pesticides Act defining legal duties and criteria for a newly constituted Pesticides Board, free from at least the direct industry influence so obvious in the Agricultural Chemicals Board. The new Board must be legally obliged to advertise that a chemical has been proposed for registration; to hold public hearings, if requested before the decision; and to review the registration, by a public inquiry, when new evidence comes to light as it has with 2,4,5-T.'

This, written in 1977, still holds true today. When will the government act?

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# One

The impressions are a little blurred now, memories of gutters overflowing with red and yellow leaves, the ghostly whiteness of the Christchurch night as one toddled homewards in the wee small hours (each day's programme began in a leisurely fashion with most things happening in the late afternoon and evening). Stretched across the city the different festival venues Town Hall, Training College Museum and University, seemed little enclaves of warmth against the cold outside. There was an atmosphere of friendliness at midnight Pooh readings with fiery torches and crackers and honey and at a rather mellow concert of New Zealand folk music. But there was no linking thread or over-whelming sense of a festival spirit. Perhaps it's expecting too much of something which was essentially a conglomeration of activities and performances involving people from all over the country. And the scrawled symbol should have been a warning. The festival wasn't exactly intended as an exercise in student or artistic solidarity but as a watcher, rather than a performer one got the feeling of being a hanger-on, a vicarious participator only, looking at a colourful but disjointed series of images as they were flashed before one. People seemed happy though, managing to laugh at Highet's witticisms during the opening and punctuating the debate on 'Vanity being the best policy,' with outbursts of laughter as personalities such as David McPhail, Jim Hopkins, the Wizard and others abused each other and the audience.

And perhaps diversity was its strong point. Things began with the pomp and ceremony of a brass fanfare and a few speeches before degenerating into a half an hour of taunts and badly aimed flour bombs being hurled between two grass knolls as Alf's Imperial Army did battle. The raw and punchy sound of Rough Justice filled the same ballroom as the languid drawl of the caller for the Morris dancers, their gaudy net skirts whirling and diamantes flashing. But the performances by more mainstream artistic groups, despite patches of mediocrity, belied any impression that established groups such as Theatre Corporate, Split Enz and the City art galleries have a monopoly on local talent. It seemed a pity then that the registration sales weren't enough to allow the festival to break-even because it wasn't designed as a show-place for incomprehensible avant-gardism. The whole thing was rather more middle of the road and with a potentially



## Bloody Art Students .....

## ...I Don't Know



mass appeal. Even the literary heavies at the various discussions on the state of New Zealand poetry were careful not to take themselves too seriously and didn't allow things to become too academic. One could partake of an assault on the senses though - slithering into a giant black polythene envelope filled with hot air to experience The Plague moving through the blackness illuminated by stabbing beams of light. All part of the

multi-media show and how to transform an ordinary concrete building into a series of polythene tunnels and caves filled with things to tread on bang together crawl through listen to climb over - all an exercise in sensory stimulation and a reflection of the overall effect of the festival.

# Two

A week of sun and fun in the city of shows? Not quite; but then again, not too much less, so long as you disregard the sun bit and have a broad sense of fun and possess the mental and physical stamina to get around to all the shows. Ilam is a big campus, and is a fair distance from the centre of Christchurch: even on a borrowed push-bike with between seven and eight gears it was impossible to keep up with all the events. That said, it follows that I have not the ability nor the intention to review the whole festival item by item. In fact, I did not even arrive in Chch until Monday night, and I left again Saturday morning. Not hurriedly, like some fugitive from disaster, for the festival certainly wasn't a disaster. It will probably lose a lot of money, true, but these things have a habit of losing money, and why not? The whole effing country is losing money may as well let youth have its fling too. No, I suppose the reason I didn't arrive and stay for the whole week (vagaries of transport aside) was because nothing there really made me feel bound to stay, not even the \$15 purchase price of the registration ticket.

It's not that there wasn't lots to see and do: in fact, there was too much to do everything one wanted to, but I kept getting the feeling that there was nothing really worth travelling that far for, nothing that wouldn't probably make itself available during the course of the year in dear old Auckland. Admittedly, you wouldn't get the magnificent background scenario of the University of Canterbury at Ilam. For those of you who have never travelled overseas, Ilam is a very new and rather fascinating campus whose architecture is centred around a prevailing theme of academic domination: its large forbidding buildings make one feel very insignificant. That feeling becomes acute when one learns that the design of the Registry building was based on the knowledge gained from riot control on American campuses in the late '60s. The student union building, where most of the festival happened, is across a small river (how quaintly symbolic). All in all, it's a great place to bring up civil servants.

I really mustn't complain: it was in Chch at the festival sheltered in those edifices that I went to an excellent blues harmonica workshop, and stayed up until all hours in the convivial atmosphere of the Jazz Nightclub, and finally managed to see Dr Strangelove, all of which I thoroughly enjoyed, but.

I dunno, it just didn't seem like a festival. The performers were all there, and the majority of the events were sponsored, sure, but maybe it needed more support. And not even so much from out of towners, 'cos I am very aware how difficult it is these days to travel anywhere, but I know a few Canty students, and most of them were not rapt in the celebrations going on in their midst. The cold doesn't seem to make them any more active, although I don't suppose that we can provide a much better example after our own abortive Capping 'festivities'. One ex-student who was back to take part in a number of events blamed internal assessment for keeping the students away, and true, the people I knew were deep in the assignment racket. Stop in our own library and smell the morbidness. Alright, I agree, most of you have to sit in there all the time, otherwise you won't get your damned degrees. The system has to be changed, and it occurs to me that that is what our student unions are for. Charity begins at home, and perhaps when Studass gets tired of politics (or badly enough burned by it) and turns its attention back to the campus we'll be able to reinsert some life into the university. Abortion: what about the abortion of campus life? Rascism: what about the treatment of students as a group? Stuff it all. Enough.

At least the festival provided the proof that flickers of talent still exist here and there in corners yet untouched by academic mediocrity. The programme boasted a Concerto For Twenty-odd Car Horns among other indigenous creations, including our own Capping Revue, along with a wide range of music,

The children were there too, watching the helium balloons bouncing against the sky-lights in the ballroom, painting and enjoying their own festival of the Ilam School down the road from the halls of higher learning. More sophisticated these days they weren't overly impressed by the flashing lights and zappy music which symbolised the journey to Helbutia and back again in search of Archibald Snowdiddle and the magic custard. But their gleeful answers to questions about the villain's whereabouts showed their enjoyment. Even if the kids were the well-dressed ones from the Remuerish mansions of Christchurch's leafy avenues the festival did try to involve the wider community. Although the Wellington theatre troupe, Chameleon in their improvised street theatre were followed Pied Piper-like around the Square as they attempted to scale the Cathedral and become winged ladies on the front of rubbish trucks, the people of Christchurch seemed vaguely disinterested, aware only of a few more collections of a second-hand motley sitting beside them on the bus passing the university.

For all that and despite the financial hassles of staging the festival, hopefully the over-zealous attempts of some camera-clicking enthusiasts to freeze a moment in time weren't an indication that the festival is to become a museum piece, an anachronism in these times of economic penny-pinching. Another one please.

Eugenie Sage

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by Brian Bre



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## Three

Taihape pub and fish'n'chips on a Friday night, pate de foie in Paraparam on Saturday morning, sleeping on the beach at Kaikoura - the trip down to Christchurch is never without romance made real. Two days of real homeland hills and unsavoury weather (dare I neglect to mention the ever-charm and sophistication of the Aramoana's Cooks and Stewards?) had brought our travel-crumpled quartet as far south as

the most civilised of New Zealand's cities (- no, not Lower Hutt), in search of culture and a dirty-long-weekend. The Garden City was green and gold beyond belief, at least if you looked at the foliage, for the sky stayed a whiter shade of pale which the sun seldom managed to penetrate. Nevertheless the stag-party of an Opening, (despite the presence of Alan Hight) managed to lure from their lounge suites and Sunday television scores and scores of Christchurchers - I mean Ordinary Ones - you know, husbands and wives and kids and buckets and spades ..... what met their eyes was constant drizzle, and yes ..... students! All guaranteed Arty!

I drift.  
The Opening Ceremony of the 1979 National Students' Arts Festival attracted a large crowd who saw a military salute, the perennial Alf's Army debacle - (boring as hell) and pipe bands, acrobatics etc etc etc Blah. But for me it was a chance to run beserk with the old Nikkormat, and finding friends, pilgrim from the brazen north, under every table. More or less immediately after the rounds of hugs and familiar smells, it was time to truck on down to the Postcard Paradise (erstwhile the Town Hall) to see the famous Chunn Bros. Band (again) and others. First up were Te Aroha. All I remember of them was there were two dozen of them, fourth rate Santana, third-rate Rick Wakeman before I woke up to hear Citizen Band had just come on stage. And been cheered loudly (this from a half-full Town Hall). Consistent as ever, CB shook the place from wall to wall, hundreds dancing like demented popcorn across the auditorium before running slightly out of steam. Mike Chunn later explained it as Jet Lag. Then there were this group called Phil Manning Band, who everybody else had heard of (where was John Martyn this year I wondered, or Roy Harper, or Donovan...) and with a blend of Ocker-ultra-arrogance and competent rock and roll had everybody up and going (dancing I mean - oh

what the hell). And suddenly, as if for no reason, they changed to the Blues - BB King and all that. With Midge Marsden (nee Country Flyers) doing trojan work on mouth harp they became quite great.

Bedtime. I pedalled back to the compound on my borrowed gearless, lightless and brakeless bike, successfully negotiating the tortures of the Christchurch one-way system (much-dreaded by those not possessed of calculator-like minds) through the drizzly and shivering Christchurch Streets and wondered if the next five days would be as consuming as the first. They were. And I continued to have a pretty excellent time, SO I won't go into the other days in as much detail and put just what I thought was pretty incredible/boring/amazing through the guts of the week:

Well, there was a film festival at the Avenue (Their version of the Lido), which served to lure from the Campus the cultural aristocracy. And so much the better. I always did prefer hippies.

I drift.  
There were these jazz session rites (nights?) whose inner clique chose to forbid entry to all but a select and greasy few. I mean - passes only and all that. I was not pleased by this display of self-aggrandising elitism in a Festival activity, having recently doled out fifteen bucks for a Registration Ticket. I don't like jazz anyway. Go on, tear me to shreds.

There were lots of interesting things not down from Auckland (Pantagleize for instance), however this was truly made up for by our very own Capping Revue, which tore the pants off everybody else's, and there were Limbs - brilliant as usual, and a very promising play called Shots, which came to bits after the soundtrack, backdrops and Dylan tapes had ended, by virtue of a script which never asked more of its protagonists than to sit there and be he pathetic and she shitty. Theatre in two dimensions.

Oh, and who can forget Jam Burlesque? Subtle as a blow on the head (oops! you scratch my culture and I'll rub yours) and late as an NZR express, they shocked, amazed and embarrassed a huge audience in a tiny room with a show that suffered largely from being so short. Excellent street material.

The Pick Of The Rest (parochialism rears its unseemly head): I dare of the Festival was an 'event' that billed itself, somewhat pretentiously - it appears in retrospect, The Multi Media. Honestly - four hundred metres of black polythene with isolated synthesizers and boring video - a sort of ghost-train ride of Art School cliches.

Here must I put in a plug for the UBS down at Canterbury. It is brilliant - its very own record shop with imports and student discounts!

Of the other 'drama' things, 'Iva Peron' ought to be singled out, or, just taken out and shot. Superb actors wasted on another flat script. After this, only Good Fortune brought me upon Negative Theatre - a couple of Hamiltonian singer/guitarists who were truly intense. My Discovery of the Festival - see them if you ever get a chance. Not for those who despise the lyric.

Well, the Arts Festival made a loss, so maybe that's what I should rave about - but I'm not worried that it's our \$15,000 that's going to salvage it - if you missed it, you've lost out both ways. There might be another in 1981. But, a couple more gems to drop; picture if you will The Plague in the Square, amazing all with weird words and dreams sandwiched between some born-again would be Matthew Connor prophet and a mad Yugoslav who was cursing to every passer-by about the Russians, (I'm just the photographer you know). And Citizen Band, slinging singles into the Town Hall crowd to promote the belated 45 release of 'Julia'. All praise and donations to Mr Festival Organiser John Page. It was all truly stunning. I was stunned then and I'm stunned now.

Brian Brennan



by Brian Brennan





## Four

A week later, safely enclosed in the hibiscus blooms and high rise of Auckland again, it becomes difficult to look back on the Christchurch Arts Festival and make out what happened. Indeed, even at the time events tended to run together in a confusing blur — hence the future shock overchoice symptoms experienced by some people, who were so overcome by the whole thing that they were unable to do more than sit in the Caf or the Bush Inn all week and swap stories about the great time they had in '77.

There was such a varied programme offered that what I saw and did can in no way be representative; the alternatives possible with a week-long registration ticket left plenty of room for everyone to go their separate ways, and one person whom I travelled down with I never saw again all week. Nevertheless, let me say that I had a ball of a time, never ran out of things to do, and never arrived home before midnight. I also managed to catch the most pernicious South Island cold and cough that I've ever had in my life: you had to be tough to stand the pace. But perhaps the best way for me to set out my views on Foreign Towns and Arts Festivals would be, in my best journalese, the expurgated extracts of my Dear Diary. SATURDAY. Auckland Airport, 8 am, and a DC10 crammed full of urchins being packed off to granny, and eager students, the keen cultivators of the esoteric heights of taste and haute culture. Many dedicated connoisseurs had obviously been in training for the solid week of entertainment and indulgence that was ahead of them, and already had that jaded, yellow-eyed look to them.

Christchurch, mid morning, covered in a persistent grey drizzle, with puddles spread over the pavements. I arrive at my friend's flat just as they are getting up for breakfast, and plant my feet in front of the heater to dry out. We set about catching up on a year's gossip-and-cups-of-tea. 'What do you do in Auckland .... there's nothing ever happens in Christchurch ....' says Mary.

We go to see Inserts, a film which has Richard Dreyfuss in some close encounters of a very personal kind. I am rapt in it the whole way through and insist on watching the credits. 'Must be a bloody Arts' student,' mutters Peter disgustedly.

SUNDAY. Still drizzling. I set the alarm for 7.00, to get out to Ilam for a drama workshop at 9.00. Be that as it may, I wake up at 10, and arrive out at the University playing fields in the rain, in time to learn that the Grand Opening has been transferred inside because of the rain. From the shelter of a verandah I watch 20 cars assemble, and a conductor in white boiler suit and tails clambers onto a rostrum of 3 car tyres. He selects his baton — a large size chisel — and the Symphony for 20 Car Horns blasts into being. For me the Festival has begun.

PAGE 14 CRACCUM MAY 29



Sunday night concert in the Town Hall, the uniformed ushers show students in work boots and army surplus parkas to their seats. This is the Triple Ripple Rock Concert: Te Aroha, Citizen Band, and the Phil Manning Band. I am right up the front and the music is loud; I am riveted to my seat by the superb sound and acoustics.

MONDAY. We are in town. There is a dance performance out at the Teachers College. John has a car, so a small horde of students hold their breath and bundle in. Being the last, I am forced to lie back, horizontal and shrieking with all the apprehension of a ticklish soul, over the knees of the others in the back seat.

The dance is not bad — Christchurch and Dunedin groups whose name now escapes me — with lots of costume changes and humorous gimmicks. Paul Jenden does three solo pieces, he has a languid grace that ripples through his flowing costumes. But still, most of the dancers seem quite stiff. Their timing, discipline, and attention to detail is good, yet obviously they do not have the hours of constant training necessary for a body of lightning flexibility. 'We in Auckland are spoiled, seeing Limbs all the time,' a woman reminds me afterwards. 'We are comparing the rest of New Zealand to the very best.'

TUESDAY. And the sun is shining; my first really fine day in Christchurch. The air is still and cloudless, and all the autumn leaves suddenly appear in their most brilliant colours. Tuesday is also Multi-Media Day. Armies of little gnomes have been working late into the night to sheathe half the Student Union building in black polythene, and fill its dim interior with a bewildering compendium of sounds and sights. I wander through a room stacked to the ceiling with car tyres and scaffolding, a room hung with

scrap metal objects that are combined to form a terrifying percussive ensemble, video films, a lift that tilts and wobbles, a giant cage filled with hanging balloon birds and jungle plants, and .... and .... a Limbs concert held in a gigantic inflated plastic tube that I cannot get into because it is too full. I expire piteously on the doorstep as the music to my favourite dance begins, but the attendant is unmoved.

WEDNESDAY. The cast of 'Jamburlesque' having driven all the way down from Auckland in a tiny, second-hand Singer have to cancel their performance because of hitches in the lighting. Their Friday performance is packed out. 'Eva Peron' is performed though, a play described as 'theatre of panic' which begins 'Where the fuck is my presidential gown?' and continues in an exhausting vein of hysteria and abuse.

After several run-ins with the Caf over coffee and pasty, bloated Pink Buns, we get takeaways from down the road for tea and, spreading our newspaper over the table, sit down to 'eat in the 'varsity Caf'.



THURSDAY. Once workshops cannot be held. Everyone has to have electricity. I tell me about the really sets in to see who can with their electricity. A frier with condensing. Alan Loney of I talk on S afternoon, in by American s put out in New Zeala category of sm wonder New Ze difficult.

FRIDAY. I bump i ally stopped on the door', ticket. I mi 'must be a bl' but it does 'ombs tonight', t



# The Page Report



And Limbs are superb. Mind you, they had the audience so entranced that they could have sat on stage eating hamburgers for the second half and still got a standing ovation. The people around me have not seen them perform before, and are absolutely blown out by each new dance. Later Anthony gives me a superior sociology student-type comparison of the adulation Limbs receive, and that of New Zealand's respect for the physical prowess of a rugby team. I beat him to a pulp with my Arts Festival programme. SATURDAY. Satiated with drama and poetry, we decide to go to a pub and listen to a band in the evening. This undertaking assumes herculean proportions, as there are only three music-pubs in Christchurch, and nothing on that we haven't already heard during the Festival, or want to hear. We end up at a very sleazy party: you were right, Mary, there is nothing to do in Christchurch.

And that, dear readers, is the end of the tale, with just a few final comments that I'd like to make. Namely, Christchurch was in many ways an awkward place to stage the Festival, with the University being closeted away out in the suburbs. Events were scattered around the city at five or six different places: - the University and Teachers College out at Ilam, the Town Hall, CSA Gallery, Arts Centre, and Museum in town, with the Avenue Cinema halfway in between collecting, to its own private film festival, a fair number of stragglers who didn't manage the trek from one to the other. As it was, I spent a lot of time trying to plumb the timetabling and initiation rites of the Christchurch Bus Service, and was ignored by a number of unco-operative Canterbury drivers, who displayed no sympathy for the problems of a wet, bedraggled, out-of-town student trying to hitch a ride along Riccarton Road.

A second point: the food in the Caf is worse (honest) than at Auckland. And thirdly, deficits be damned, here's to the future of NZSAC, and many more Students' Arts Festivals!

Katrina White

The man slouches into the room, or stalks in under a black fur coat and jutting proboscium. His black hair is pulled back in a single pigtail. He turns to me: 'If you're going to ask me questions', he says, 'I need a cigarette.'

John Page, Director for the 1979 Christchurch Arts Festival, is 23, and a qualified secondary teacher. He has done Management Studies too - 'but I don't want to talk about that,' and gave away Stage Two English at university last year to run the Arts Festival. The feet, in odd coloured socks, are stuck out on the chair in front of him. 'Come on,' he says, 'where's all these exciting and interesting questions then?'

I take a deep breath and start with the obvious: *Why did you decide to take on an Arts Festival?*

A slow grin. 'Because I thoroughly enjoyed the last one really. After Wellington Arts Festival there were a whole group of us who talked about it, that Christchurch would be a good place to put on one, and that somebody should have a go at doing another. Christchurch has got a lot of good venues, with an excellent Student Union building, and there were a lot of people here who were interested, and who had some experience.'

*And your own experience?*

'Fuck all, I suppose. A fair bit of administrative work; I worked in UCSA in charge of their liquor association, which is, as you might imagine, fairly big business, so that gave me a fair bit of experience with money and administration. I didn't have any particular area of interest in the Arts though; mind you, that's probably just as well.'

*So when was the decision actually taken to stage the Festival at Christchurch?*

'There was a national meeting last May of the Arts Council, and Auckland were interested in doing one - but at that stage they hadn't anything concrete, whereas we presented what you might call fairly extensive submissions. There was me, Grant Amos and Nigel Petrie. We've been working on it part time since May, and I've been full time since September.'

By now the cigarette is gone, and he twirls the ashtray on the table nervously. One gathers from the quick, driving manner of this latter-day hippie that business application and ungarnished work have formed a large part of the accomplishment of this Festival. He mentions working what seemed like 18 hours a day for the last month leading up to it, and learning how to get by on very little sleep. I am impressed, but the glint around the corners of the eyes belies the exaggerated piety. I ask him what exactly his job entailed.

That was the construction of the programme, and setting out of all the events that took place during the week of the Festival, plus publicity, and the coordination of all the campuses. Which means all the tertiary establishments in the country: universities, primary and secondary teachers colleges, community colleges and technical institutes. 'I tried to get round to all the campuses personally - at least the major ones - and see the people involved there.'

For each aspect of the Festival there was a controller appointed; one each for folk, rock, jazz and classical music, poetry, drama, fringe arts and children's festival, as well as one for technical, publicity, billeting and other matters. Controllers were designated in September, and they had the responsibility for arranging acts, and getting workers to help them in their area: within the proviso that John, as programme controller, could veto an item, and that the NZSAC executive had the final say on expenditure. 'The Controllers were just people we knew who were prepared to do the job - friends - or people who we knew of. Mostly we were lucky, we got good

people who knew their area well and who worked hard. But there were a couple of changes, with people pulling out because of job hassles.'

A wry smile. The control room over Arts Festival had operated with the same level of frenzied coming-and-going as a police station in the process of a manhunt. Minus the trackerdogs of course.



'Who needs shaggy dog stories?'

John Page au naturel

*Was there any particular theme you wanted to follow in the Festival?*

Well, obviously it was to be a Festival of Contemporary Arts, although we tried to keep some classical stuff, with the opera and chamber music. But the emphasis was on the contemporary, on what's happening today; any student group who wanted to participate could, if they were willing to finance themselves. It was an 'opportunity for people to gain exposure at a national level' - I've said that so many times before.....

*How about the Phil Manning band; why did you choose them?*

We wanted an overseas act of some sort, and we began with all sorts of ideas of Dragon, or Tom Waites, and so on. Then we found out that Phil Manning were probably going to do a New Zealand tour, and we picked them; then we discovered that they weren't going to tour, so we brought them out anyway. We liked the idea of bringing Midge Marsden back too - the old Kiwi boy stuff.'

*And did you ever wish you'd never started?*

'Untold number of times. But there was no way we could have pulled out, once we'd begun. We'd spent so much money that we were absolutely committed. I learnt a hell of a lot about planning and organisation, and dealing with people. Especially how to work with people under pressure, about politics, and how to organise your own time. But mostly I learnt about people; every person I had to deal with was different, a different temperament. And you're always having to push people for things, while at the same time they are friends, and you have to remain on good terms.'

We have just about reached the end now. He is out of cigarettes, and I am fumbling for my next question. 'You haven't asked the obvious,' he says, 'did I think it was worthwhile.'

*Well did you?*

'Yes, I think it was worthwhile.'

*What about your plans for the future now?*

'There's still another couple of weeks paper work, writing up reports and recommendations for the future - if anyone is foolish enough to do one in the future. After that, my only immediate plan is to have a holiday. I'd like to go back and finish my degree at some stage.'

*Maybe you should organise another Festival next year?*

The look is pure anguish and scorn. The 1979 Arts Festival Director turns to me with a single, terse, commanding phrase: NO.

Katrina White



# Merritt Raves

If there's one thing that student politicians take seriously, then that's usually themselves. And worse than that, it's their belief that they alone have the capacity to bring about change not only to our university environment but also to society as a whole. It's a belief bred out of the indifference of the many to the action of the few, a complacency among students that has over the past five years bred among student politicians and campus leaders a holier-than-thou feeling that the majority of disinterested students are to be scorned, objects of ridicule for their overwhelmingly middle-class values and interests.

It was with this nagging fear at the back of my mind that I recently attended the four day Council meeting of the New Zealand University Students Association in Christchurch on May 11 - 14. And on the whole I would have to rank this meeting of the student leaders from all the campuses as one of the worst I have ever attended.

I'm no rank newcomer to NZUSA, Councils or student politics either. With five councils already under my belt as well as a year in Wellington working for the organisation puts me in a better position than most to make comments on the activities and affairs of our national student body, the New Zealand University Students Association.



We three kings of Orient are..... The NZUSA shooting gallery, Chris Gosling - President, Grant Liddell - Education and Welfare Vice President, and Jim Brown - General Vice

But perhaps a few words in way of background as to what NZUSA is and what it does for you and I, the Joe/Josephine average student. This year NZUSA is 50 years old. Formed as a loose amalgamation of the existing universities colleges in them days) way back in 1929, NZUSA has gone from being largely concerned with sporting and debating competitions to an organisation that now must rank as among one of the most effective pressure groups that exist in New Zealand society today. Its concerns have still essentially remained the same, looking after number one, that's you and me, in the fields of education and welfare. That's why we have the STB, counselling services, health services internal assessment - campaigns waged and won by students on both a local and national level.

The advent of the late sixties and the 'student movement' saw a broadening of NZUSA's interests into the international field. Sparked off by widespread student interest in Vietnam and the Springbok tour, NZUSA appointed first, part-time and later full-time international affairs officers to join the other full-time NZUSA officers — President, National Vice President, Education Vice President. They had a travel company supposedly set up to provide cheap travel for students which was to channel profits to the political wing for campaign funding. Riding on the boyant crest of the student wave, NZUSA in the early to mid seventies took up the cudgel on behalf of students many times with an impressive string of campaigns and more importantly successes. The introduction of the Standard Tertiary Bursary, bitter war over better assessment methods, increased student representation in decision making within the Universities, the areas of NZUSA concern then and now are almost endless. But by 1976 the dream was turning sour.

The Student Travel Bureau and its inability to trade profitably began (and still does) to occupy more and more of the time at NZUSA Council. Its collapse in 1977 and the continuing efforts to 'restructure' STB onto a firm financial footing have robbed NZUSA of much needed income as STB in an effort to trade profitably removes more and more of its subsidies to NZUSA (both direct and indirect) that were once one of the mainstays of its existence. NZUSA bought a building in Wellington, named it optimistically Student Union House and have never since had the money to pay off the interest, let alone the mortgage. The NZUSA levy on students rose in a period of 24 months from \$1.60 to the present \$3.00 and looks like rising once again next year. But the expected increase in NZUSA income generated by these levy increases are not represented in its allocations for campaigns. They still remain at a pitiful 5% of the total budget and get smaller in real value every year.

Disquiet with the elected NZUSA officers reached a fever pitch in 1977-78 with one National officer leaving due to 'disquiet in the head office'. Rumours spread around the country about a real or imagined 'Maoist clique' which some campuses claimed were in control of NZUSA. This in turn fed the fires of discontent on at least three campuses, and for the major part of 1978 NZUSA found itself in the business of just staying in business. While motions of withdrawal at Massey and Lincoln have for the moment been effectively defeated, they still burn bright at Canterbury University where some of the student politicians have made their political fortunes out of anti-NZUSA sentiments. They claim now as they did last year that NZUSA is too preoccupied with matters which they feel are not of direct student interest - barbed reference to NZUSA International policy which reads like a who's who of international hot-spots. Almost everyone agrees that the withdrawal of Canterbury would effectively be the kiss of death and that NZUSA's ability to function would go shooting down the dunne.

In response to these calls for reform, NZUSA over the past few years has undergone a considerable degree of change, both real and cosmetic. The position of International Vice President was dropped and attempts made to trim policy made at Council down to the bare bones. Voting procedures were changed to ensure that policy had a majority of support from all seven member campuses. For one magnificent Council last year at Lincoln College a real spirit of unity came upon NZUSA as all the constituents made concerted and genuine efforts to ensure the survival of NZUSA into the 1980's.

But it seems that the spirit of last year has faded fast in the memories of some of NZUSA's constituents. May Council 1979 saw a return of the old split, and possibly ineffective NZUSA and will no doubt in time provide even further fuel for those who feel that its about time NZUSA was done in with. For the reasons behind why I feel that the demise of NZUSA is almost upon us and just what happened at Council to make a normally sane Merritt feel the way that I do, read on dear reader, read on .....

# NZUSA Council: A I

There are two NZUSA Council meetings each year in the May and August vacations. They comprise representatives from seven constituent Students' Associations and the elected NZUSA National Officers and various other bods from the Student Travel company and other national tertiary student bodies who attend as observers. Council is usually a four-day affair and for those four days various commissions meet to discuss present existing NZUSA policy as well as vote on any new policy any campus may wish to introduce. There are commissions covering National, International, Education, Welfare, Accommodation, Womens and the all-important Finance and Administration Commission. Each campus sends delegates to each commission as well as one or two chief delegates (usually the President) whose job it is to keep a check on their delegates performance (or lack of it!) Each commission meets three or four times to conduct the necessary business of affirming or lapsing existing policy as well as debating any new policy. The commission minutes are then presented to a Final Plenary session where all the decisions made in the commissions are open to review and may be overturned.

Final Plenary is (as you may have guessed) held on the last day of Council and is usually a pretty hectic affair. But before Final Plenary there are three other important Plenary sessions of Council that take place (by the way, if you are wondering, a Plenary is when all delegates are assembled as opposed to commissions where, again you guessed it, just commission delegates congregate).

The first important Plenary session is at the beginning: Opening Plenary. It is here that the reports from the National Officers are discussed and forwarded to commissions for further discussions as well as the receiving of written or verbal reports from each of the constituents. Opening Plenary is usually the time where National Officers get their hands spanked for being naughty or saying things that they shouldn't and the first indications emerge as to just what sort of Council it is going to be. But more on that later.

The other two Plenaries are priorities and the draconian budget plenary. Priorities is, as the name suggests, where the priorities of each individual National Officer are decided as well as the overall priorities of NZUSA until the next Council meeting (ie in August). The Budget Plenary is the most depressing session of the whole Council and has been so for some years. Monies left for the period May-December are reallocated in light of changed NZUSA priorities, but inevitably, because the majority of administration costs are fixed, money-grubbing in the way of cuts in expenditure invariably have to come from the 'political' wing, in the form of cuts in campaigns, travel, etc etc.

So if you're still with me, after that whirlwind tour of NZUSA and its Councils, lets get into the matter of the latest, and how Auckland fared.



a draconian budget plenary!

## OPENING PLENARY

All National Officers reports were comprehensive and in places detailed. All accounted fairly well for their time so far this year and gave good outlines of what they hope to achieve for the rest of the year.

Both NZUSA President, former Aucklandite Chris Gosling, and Education & Welfare VP, Grant Liddell, commented about Canterbury's continuing threat to withdraw from NZUSA at the end of this year. Both of these Officers feel that time spent at Canterbury is time that could be more productively spent engaged on other business to the betterment of all students as opposed to the 7000 or so at Canterbury. The matter of withdrawal of UCSA from NZUSA has been the subject of three Special General Meetings, two referendums and countless hours of debate at SRC's and student meetings over the past 12 months - and in almost every case there has been someone from NZUSA there to answer questions and rebut the arguments used by the opportunist pricks who have used NZUSA as a scapegoat to cover up the glaring inefficiency and almost comatose state that student politics at Canterbury has been in for the last 5 years at least. So fair warning indeed.

Ian Powell, one of the NZUSA research officers, perhaps gave one of the most useful reports to Council, outlining the cuts that he envisaged the Government would be taking in the budget to cut education spending. For comparative purposes he highlighted the steps the Liberal/Country Party coalition Government had taken in the early 1930's during the Great Depression (yes, things are that bad!). The relevant sections of Powell's report are reprinted elsewhere in Craccum as part of the article on Education Cutbacks.

The only other action at Opening Plenary was the failure to appoint a N.O.S.A.C. (Overseas Students) Co-ordinator because the previous incumbent had failed to present her report in written form.

So to the business of Council ..... the Commissions .....

## FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The big daddy of Council Representing Auckland were none other than perennial student Bob Lack and the almost perennial Peter Monteith. As was the norm, F & A spent countless hours discussing the activities or proposed lack of activities of the Student Travel Bureau. The Auckland delegates moved a whole string of motions regarding the winding up of S.T.B. in line with Auckland policy and regarding the internal travel concessions. An unholy alliance with Canterbury (who only wished to do in N.Z.U.S.A.) saw the motion reach the floor. All the old arguments were trotted out, but it seemed that most campuses had defined policy as to how delegates were to vote.

The only new bits of information delegates were to vote on, to arise were (i) that the total indebtedness of STB was approximately \$90,000 not including the debt to the Aussie Travel Company - a sum which would have caused some of NZUSA's constituents to go bankrupt had they been asked for their share. (ii) that STB's company secretaries are at present undertaking a review of their financial projection to 1982 with a view to STB trading profitably without the ISIC income earlier than had been expected. Massey, who had previously been in favour of the winding-up, were unable to vote in favour because an SGM had voted against it, while other campuses were put off by Canterbury's Ace Fucks and financial wizard, Bruce Byer, who hinted that Canterbury would only be



# Oil: A Dream Gone Sour

ports were es detailed. All their time so d outlines of for the rest of

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ISTRATION ouncil were none other Bob Lack and the Monteith. As was countless hours or proposed lack ent Travel delegates moved ns regarding the line with garding the ns. An unholy y (who only S.A.) saw the All the old out, but it uses had defined tes were to vote. f information on, to arise were tedness of STB 0,000 not including Travel Company ve caused some of to go bankrupt or their share. y secretaries are a review of their

1982 with a view bly without the an had been i had previously vinding-up, were r because an SGM hile other campus bury's Ace Fuc- d, Bruce Byer, who would only be

ing to provide their pro rata share of the \$50,000 share capital rather than the whole debt-such a move would have effectively crippled NZUSA and some of the poorer constituents.

With some trepidation the motion was put with even the previously staunch Auckland delegation fearing the possible consequences of the motion being carried. Canterbury's little plan was foiled as only two campuses, Auckland and Canterbury voted in the affirmative.

Auckland came up smelling of roses, because of its principled stand (as opposed to that of Canterbury), and because of a statement from Chief Delegate, Peter Monteith, stating that he hoped the Auckland Exec would support the Board of STB in the proper and suitable running of the company, since the winding-up motion had failed. He also intimated that the question of guarantees to STB might again rear its head at yet another SGM. Applause followed.

Back to the trivia, which was handled by that age-old politician, Bob Lack. But the bombshell which followed was not to everyone's liking. STB are to move from Student Union House, thus further increasing the ability of NZUSA to pay for the building it owns. It also increases the vulnerability of NZUSA's finances, which were previously made even more precarious by the acceptance by F & A of the ISIC income used by NZUSA. In May 1978 was actually the property of STB. So another \$30,000 liability was added to the Balance Sheet of NZUSA, making liabilities outweigh assets. A healthy situation in times of economic difficulties.

The great Budget session arrived, with the money left since August Council for grabs ..... well at least some of it!

With the Education Cutbacks campaign soaking up \$2000 of the remaining \$3000 odd left in the campaign's budget, only \$1000 dollars remained to be split between the Womens Officer, asking for an extra \$250, the Overseas Student Co-ordinator, asking for an extra \$640 and the General Vice-President, asking for a total of \$1400 in his budget.

So the Treasurers' knives were un-sheathed and the trimming operation began. At this stage the Otago President, Emergent Paul Gourlie the self-styled Governor of Otago University (and regarded by some as a bit of a twit), proceeded to berate the Overseas students for their seemingly privileged position in NZUSA. This unfounded and unfortunately widely-held opinion was greeted warmly and the 'speaker was to be heard' after a very short time. Some quick work was done by the Student Editors which saw posters and cut-outs being handled by them, thus saving the budgets.

After a few short, sharp, cuts with the budgetary knife all seemed relatively easy, except the GVP, whose massive commitments were to be undertaken on a paltry sum of \$927 i.e. all that was left.

Auckland made the grand gesture of contributing \$1500 to the National Education Cutbacks Campaign and had other campuses to follow suit. They were committed by the end of the year.

ATION The main interest here was over the Education Cutbacks. It was considered so important that the whole was held over to a special Education Plenary where all delegations and the wonderful TV1 were to be present. The whole thing was a charade beginning to end. The screenplay, from the previous evening for the



David Merritt

Otago's John Judge, Canterbury's Petrie and Victoria's Valdimir Illiyeh Underwood - Student Directors in STB ponder Auckland's position on STB.



David Merritt

Captured at a thirtieth of a second on the editor's untrustworthy Cannon, Gosling looks a bit stunned (Note the dreadlocks - we hear he's into Rasta now).

## Send Chris Gosling A Letter.....

Dear Chris, .....

.....

.....

RSVP

To: NZUSA, P.O. Box 9047, Courtenay Place, Wellington

benefit of the 'goggle box', had the apparent spontaneity of a Pakistani crowd cheering Maggie Thatcher. Gosling and crew spoke wisely about the cuts, but Auckland's contribution from EVP, Kevin Hague, even bored the TV people, who stopped shooting ..... especially since Auckland's position is not that bad ..... word has it that our far-sighted Vice-Chancellor has salted away lots of the folding stuff.

After the TV people left everyone got down to business, with wide discussion over whether to continue the Bursaries Campaign. Some campuses felt it would detract from the overall campaign, but others felt it should be included. It took some time to convince the doubting that it could be incorporated successfully.

A national Steering Committee was to be set up to run the campaign in conjunction with other educational bodies such as the Student Teachers, while all campuses were to liaise with these bodies on a local level. The main thrust of the campaign is to be the close-down of the universities on July 26, with a build-up through the student press, posters, leaflets, forums and possibly a march.

The announcement by our gracious Rob that the Overseas Students were to be charged an extra \$1500 for the privilege of attending our wonderful universities came earlier than expected and caused wide-spread consternation. This issue is also to be dealt with in conjunction with the Cutbacks Campaign.

On the whole, Auckland delegates performed well, with newcomer Hague showing more political acumen than his more experienced co-delegate Barry Hook. In fact Hook's burbling on education and welfare was an embarrassment at times.

### NATIONAL COMMISSION

Traditionally the National Commission policy reads something like a Values party manifesto and this council was no exception. Heavy emphasis on environmental matters, especially energy, and in particular, transport. The commission got bogged down somewhat over the issue of racism and a long period of time was spent discussing the recent 'Haka Party' incident at the Auckland Engineering School. Several campuses wanted to condemn the Maori group He Taua for their use of violence but after eloquent speeches from Roth and Merritt the commission in the end decided to recognise the violence at Auckland as a result of the racism in society. It was also resolved to tour a Maori activist around the campuses in the second term to speak on the matter of domestic racism. It must be stressed here that the matter of the 'Haka incident' is still one which sees the Students' Association Executive split and the Auckland position was more conservative because of the high feelings on campus and the as-yet unresolved nature of the question.

Also discussed were the Security Intelligence Service with NZUSA calling for its disbandment and the nebulous question of civil liberties. As was the norm, the usual trivial motions were passed to sooth the ruffled consciences of the masses. Also up for discussion was an NZUSA campaign in the second term on the matter of the cost of living, but in the end it was resolved to place it in the context of the Education Cuts campaign. The two Auckland delegates, Brian Gray (Environmental) and James Gilderdale (National) did well, considering that this was their first Council, but seemed overwhelmed at times over the scope of topics up for discussion.

## More Next Week

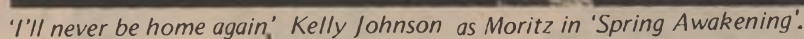


**'Spring Awakening'**  
Frank Wedekind  
Theatre Corporate  
May 23 – June 9

For all its concentration upon portentous moral problems, 'Spring Awakening' remains an essentially lyrical and Romantic work - lyrical in that its profusion of imagery is dependent upon a wide range of pastoral and seasonal associations; Romantic in that this pre-occupation with natural order and morality leads Wedekind to adopt an almost Blakean view of childhood as a state of innocence which must inevitably come into conflict with the claims of mature experience. This admittedly lends a certain bias to the play's treatment of adolescence but it is a bias which I suspect most of us are more than prepared to accept and which, in the light of its biting satire against 'adult' institutions, may even prove therapeutic for many.

A word of praise too for Iain Aitken's superb set which provides an appropriate framework for the action, functional and elegant but impeccably discreet withal.

Murray Beasley  
PAGE 18 CRACCUM MAY 29



Receiving an unseen conglomeration of review copies from various publishers has its advantages and disadvantages. While otherwise unnoticed but interesting books may come to one's attention, we have some rather dubious titles foisted upon us. 'Is Anyone There ?' is such a book. Presumably intended for those proceeding gingerly through adolescence it includes fifteen short stories, a few poems, a discussion of sexuality, sexual rules and labels and a patronising question and answer session with Peter Townshend of 'The Who'. Loneliness is a predominant theme in many of the stories as the book was published to commemorate twenty-five years of the Samaritans - an English telephone and counselling service similar to Lifeline in its aims and operation.

Problems of awakening sexuality are dealt with sensitively and those in Mother England appear to have a more relaxed attitude to homosexuality refraining from straying between pity and contempt as in New Zealand. There's a token concession to the fact that some young'uns dabble with alternate life-styles in 'Transit Passengers' for example, but overall, traditional, middle-class family type values are re-affirmed when all safely go home to Mummy. But as a present for a young brother or sister 'Is Anyone There' may be appreciated.

These are sensitive times indeed. Back in the good old days, before capping parades were outlawed and the raft race could only muster six teams prepared to get their feet wet, the Capping Revue used to command a cast and chorus of a hundred or so, and in the ensuing melee everyone got their corns thoroughly trodden on. Nowadays the haka, last symbol of graduation exuberance, has fallen foul of racial sensitivities, and even scripted jokes in the revue are greeted with cries of Sexist. All in all, being sandwiched between Come Out programmes in Auckland, and Fifteen Dollar Deals in Christchurch, Capping is simply no big deal.

There is a superb beginning, as a twenty pie scout troop, all in kneesox and short trousers, are interrupted in their opening chorus by a powerfully revving easyrider ..... and then the rest of the gang arrive on stage, plus helmets and chains ..... An appreciative audience, exuding good spirits and hilarity, greeted the performance warmly and not too obscenely.

A youthful Marcus Craig waddles on imperturbably in 9 inch rubber soled

J.S.

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# Arts

The so-called press conference was barely attended, not an indication one of a lack of interest in film-making as an art form. Its subject, Krzysztof Zanussi, a Polish film-director whose work 'The Balance' was featured in last year's film festival, was in New Zealand on a short but 'intense' stay. He had spent three weeks in L.A. in April, teaching at the Californian Institute of Arts and this was a continuation of a trip to India to visit the New Delhi Film Festival. Hearing about Geoff Murphy's 'Dead Man' here he was later impressed by its originality and freshness. 'It's meant to be a joke and it works like this. 'Angel Mine' by David Blyth he also found enjoyable in that it was 'a very accessible and pleasant film (a change from most underground films) with a great sense of humour' and a clearly articulated philosophy of life. He did admit the potential for controversy by virtue of some of the possibly obscene sequences.

On censorship, Zanussi while disliking as an 'institutional prevention', doubted that his compatriots would agree and conceded that the basic test for censorship should be whether it reflects the feelings of a society. India he said has 'very puritan censorship but is accepted very easily by society.' On the subject of violence in films he contrasted the increasingly plastic lives of many in the West generating a desire for contrived laboratory made violence to provide stimulation to the Polish situation where there is 'a lot of violence on an everyday basis .... people have to hustle to get a bus, to get food .... even getting a newspaper is a problem .... and there are lots of ways to express aggression every-day.' The real violence of war which all our society went through (and the memories of the Stalinist era) result in audiences boycotting films such as Ken Russell's 'The Devils' because the violence is considered unnecessary and excessive.

Despite the political limitations of working in Poland, Zanussi at the moment finds more satisfaction directing at home, possibly due to his preference for doing films that are close to his own experience. 'My films remain Polish even if I make them somewhere else.' The work of Polanski and others to work abroad he attributes to artistic temperament. 'Polanski likes contrast, violence, strong effects and Western society provides more of these and more reason therefore he feels happier abroad.' Zanussi sees the government subsidies for film-making in Poland as part of an overall view of culture being concerned with something more important than 'business' and a recognition of the necessity for deficit spending here. He had several confrontations with the government, all peacefully resolved but notes that 'There is no single place in the world where something doesn't interfere with your work and the studios encourage artistic freedom and reduce the commercial pressure to cater to the tastes of the mass audience.

But turning to the 'Anglo-Saxon' notion to be 'practical' and the desire of New Zealand film-makers to create an exportable product he stresses the necessity of making films true to one's country and spirit because 'to attract a local audience (you) have to be very local' and any conscious striving to do this usually fails. He noted the similarities between New Zealand and the U.S.A., the homogeneity and naivety but enthusiasm of a young country as opposed to the different and hierarchic structure of European society, but his impressions of 'The Dogs' as a 'very professional competent' film with an interesting unique social and political message about to his belief that N.Z. film-makers are evolving a style of their own

rather than imitating their American counterparts.

Zanussi studied physics at the University of Warsaw for four years before turning to film-making because of a greater interest in people rather than matter. And implicit in the production of his two new films is his belief that 'Film-making is an effort to establish some communication with people, to share my ideas and feeling, .... I don't try to entertain people or to punish them'. One film to be shot in Poland deals with a modern version of St Francis, 'someone young compulsively good and what conflicts he faces.' Yet another example of his concern with values and ethics, something which permeated earlier films 'Behind the Wall' and 'The Structure of Crystals'. Given a choice of slogans with which to describe himself by one interviewer Zanussi focussed on 'moralist - as someone who cares about ethics but not someone who is preaching to others.'

Eugenie Sage

## Spotlights on the Stage Julian Bream Recital Town Hall April 21

With one arm curved over the body of his guitar, and the other snaked about the neck - man and instrument were one; merged in harmony.

From the beginning of his performance to the end, Bream showed a great knowledge of his instruments, their history and their capacity for expression. With a balanced programme he explored the many moods of the lute and guitar.

The first half of the programme was given to a wide range of melodies on the lute. In this skilful rendition, Bream displayed the instrument's unexpected capacity for technical variety.

The 16th - 17th Century compositions began with vivacious rippling fantasias of Francesco da Milano and Luys de Narvaez, followed by whimsical melodies by English composer William Byrd. The performance was concluded with Fantasia by John Dowland, illustrating Bream's ability to use the limited tone and volume of the lute to produce rich expressive music. After the unexpected beauty of the lute recital the audience were well warmed up to receive a masterly performance of the classical guitar and they were not disappointed.



New Zealand Symphony Orchestra in rehearsal (Courtesy of NZ Herald)

New Zealand Symphony Orchestra  
Conductor John Hopkins  
Soloists: Noel Mangin, Lauris Elms  
Haydn Symphony 104 'The London'  
Bartok Bluebeard's Castle

With dextrous fluid control, Bream introduced the mellow liquid tones of the guitar. He began the second half of the programme with a suite by Robert de Vissee. The structured dance melodies of the court musician were followed by the more demanding and expansive works of J.S. Bach.

The climax of the whole performance was a vigorous presentation of an overture by Italian composer Giuliani delivered with technical brilliance and musical sensitivity. A more pendant and haunting melody by Barrios completed the varied programme. Bream returned to the stage for two encore melodies, and on each occasion was well received for a splendid performance.

Elements of tone and intimacy that give smaller recitals their quality were lost in the vaults of the packed town hall and for an instrument such as the lute some of the dimension of the music is sacrificed for a large audience.

As for the man, we can only wonder at the concord between Bream and his work, the sympathy between the artist and the instrument.

As a master his knowledge and technique were superlative. His sensitivity as a musician, superb.

M. Macky

After three weeks of mental sloth all that creative enthusiasm bubbling gently away in inside now has an outlet in the form of the Short Story Competition. For all those penniless writers starving in their garrets and any others desiring a small recompense for hours of brain cudgeling there is a first prize of \$50 from the BNZ coffers and the people down at Record Warehouse are providing five records for the second and third prizes. There's no exact deadline but soon!



It's so refreshing to get away from the seemingly endless diet of 'classics' and hear a relatively 'modern' work. I stress relatively, as Bartok's opera is nearly seventy years old. In fact the choice of Bluebeard's Castle only highlights the general neglect of modern compositions by our orchestras. We seem to be the generation that appreciates everyone else's music except its own.

I notice that apart from one work by Hindemith and one by Prokofiev, the nearest to modern music, this year, that the Symphonica can summon up the courage to play is Delius; 'music to soothe convalescents in well-to-do neighbourhoods' as Debussy remarked. We are more in danger of being bored than shocked with musical laxatives. Even with the NZSO, I get the feeling a few modern works are thrown in to appease rather than as the result of a conscious effort. The Town Hall was fairly full, but I suspect it was to see Mangin rather than to hear Bartok.

Well, they got their money's worth. Noel Mangin displayed his great voice, rich and distinctive. He sung gloriously, evoking Bluebeard's awesome, Freudian personality. Lauris Elms made a wonderfully seductive Judith, conveying the innocent intensity of Bluebeard's 4th wife.

The legend of Bluebeard itself has been treated by such diverse composers as Gretry, Dukas, Offenbach and Reznicek, whose overture to Donna Diana, seems to haunt concert programmes these days. Bartok's opera is a static work, reminiscent of Tristan, exploring the psychology and symbolism of the legend rather than depicting it. That's to say, everyone sings instead of does (perfect for a concert performance.)

The score is a colourful collage of various influences; it follows Pelleas et Melisande in its use of tone colour and orchestration, in the descriptions of what lies behind each door. Schoenberg also comes to mind in describing this opera. It almost reaches the emotional intensity of Erwartung and they are both structured in one act, with a cast of two (if you count the body in Erwartung) and they feature prominently the themes of blood and death and murder.

The wonderful orchestration of Bluebeard even matches the Burre-lieder in warmth and colour, during the depiction of Bluebeard's domain.

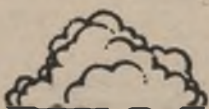
This concert made a strong impact on the audience. Oh, yes! The concert began with Haydn's 'London' Symphony. It was a good effervescent performance but they might as well have played a few Rossini overtures for all the impact it made in the wake of Bluebeard's Castle.

A.W. Busser



# What's happening in N.Z. poetry?

See display June 11th - 15th at



**University Book Shop**

50% Student Owned

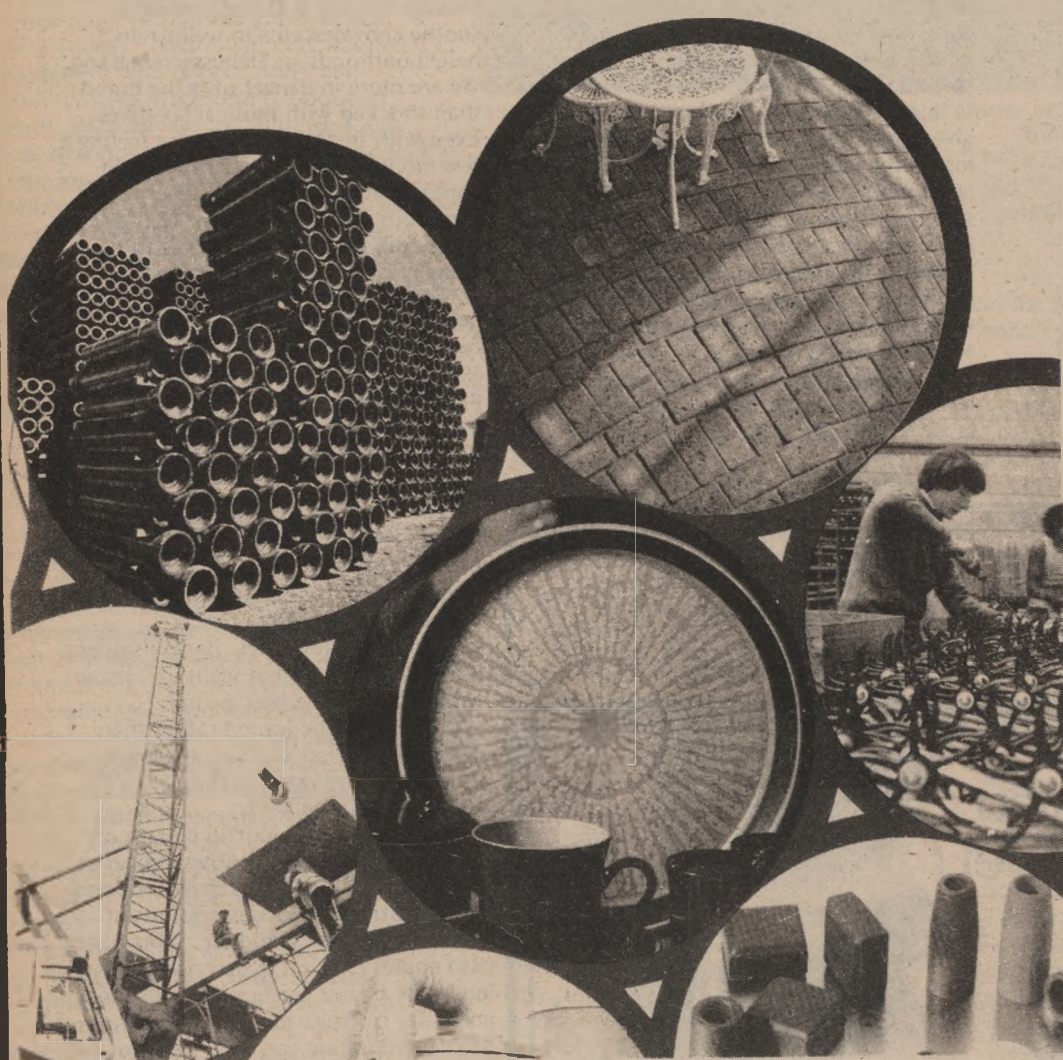
*Capture the rich, round  
flavour of Rum & Wine*

## Port Royal

cigarette  
tobacco



# CERAMCO



## CERAMCO HAS...

- thinking aligned to the outlook of business-oriented young men and women;
- a need for people with a business flair and professional skills and appropriate degrees (B.E., B.Sc., B.Com. (Acc.), etc.);
- a remarkable record of success with executive trainees;
- a record of stability blended with innovation and growth;
- all sorts of companies and functions.

THE COMPANY, CERAMCO, has three main groups:

### Ceramics Group

Manufacture of bricks, quarry tiles, ceramic sewer pipes and field tiles.  
Manufacture and supply of refractory materials and firebricks.  
Manufacture and supply of crockery, vitrified crockery and bone china.  
Manufacture of technical ceramics.  
Manufacture and distribution of abrasive products including grinding and cutting wheels.

### Distribution & Services Group

Wholesale distribution of vitrified hotelware, napery, crockery, cutlery, glassware, kitchen equipment, stainless steelware and other items to hotels, motels, the catering industry and other institutional users.  
Manufacture, supply and installation of fibrous plaster wall and ceiling tiles and other plaster products.  
Manufacture of firedoors.  
Manufacture of potting mixes and horticultural supplies.  
Storage, forklift and crane hire.  
Manufacture, supply and installation of abrasion and chemical resistant floors and industrial linings.  
Construction and maintenance of refractory and specialised installations.  
Supply and installation of ceramic tiles.  
Manufacture and installation of prestressed concrete flooring systems.  
Watermain relining and pressure grouting.  
Mining and processing of clays, perlite, feldspar, peat and other materials.

### Engineering Group

Engineers' merchants.  
Supply of welding, engineering and industrial tools, machinery and accessories.  
Manufacture and supply of industrial gases, and forklift trucks, cranes, hoists, winches and other mechanical handling equipment.  
Heavy engineering and steel fabrication.  
Manufacture of boilers and pressure vessels, pumps, LPG storage and transportation vessels, pneumatic handling equipment, dairy and packaging machinery, earthmoving and contracting equipment, meat rendering equipment and saw blades.  
Iron founding.  
Ship repairs.  
Plant installation and maintenance.  
Engineering equipment lease & hire.

In addition to the extensive N.Z. operations, there are a range of established undertakings in England, North America, Australia, the Philippines and joint investigational civil engineering and contracting programmes in Pacific countries.

The openings are designed for carefully selected undergraduates at or toward the end of their studies. The undergraduates are supported by a bursary (\$1,000/year + book allowance) and then phased into work in Ceramco.

We're particularly looking for able people who do not wish to pursue an academic or purely technical career but who want to apply their knowledge in broader managerial situations.

They will immediately be required to undertake significant projects, tackling such things as property administration, feasibility studies of different kinds, production and industrial engineering functions, price control matters, auditor enquiries, costing studies, product and market development, divisional accounting responsibilities, company investigations, process research.

Every year, a number of graduates find rewarding and successful careers in Ceramco. Applicants are invited to meet and discuss the experience of graduates who are now Ceramco executives. A leaflet is available at careers and appointments office. If you are interested, please phone D. McClure at the address below:-



**D. McCLURE & ASSOCIATES**  
management consultants

Phones 866-756 or 864-137.  
P.O. Box 77-034, Mt Albert, Auckland 3.



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# Spatchka

## SPECIAL GROUP FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS TAKING MASTERS AND PHD'S

Resource Person: Lorna McLay  
Dates: Every Wednesday, starting 13 June.

Times: 1 pm to 2 pm, Room B.  
Place: Counselling Service, above Campus Post Office.

This group is for graduate students experiencing unproductive anxiety during the process of completing theses and preparing for orals. It will be an inter-disciplinary group which will concern itself with support, the sharing of feelings and methods of coping with debilitation and isolation; balancing University and social life; negative criticism; dealing effectively with persons relevant to successful completion of the thesis; and the maintenance of an autonomous and positive self image.

## NOMINATIONS

Nominations are now open for the following vacant positions on the Executive Committee of the Auckland University Students' Association:  
Treasurer  
Cultural Affairs Officer  
International Affairs Officer  
The term of office in each case is from the date of election of 31 December 1979. Any member of the Association is eligible for nomination save that candidates for the position of Treasurer must have passed Accounting I.

Nominations close at the SRC meeting to be held in the SRC Lounge on Wednesday 13 June 1979. Elections will take place at this meeting and all candidates should stand from 1.00pm

## TRADE AID STALL - ROAD CORSO/SCM/EU


12 pm Friday June 1  
Buy Quality Sri Lankan Tea, handicrafts and other 3rd World Products. Aim is to provide 3rd World Producers with a fairer deal for their products.  
Phone Martin Nicholls 689-529 if interested in helping or finding out more information.

## STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

Thursday May 29 1 - 2 pm  
Venue: Room 143 (Beside TV Room)  
1st Floor Student Union Building.  
New Topic. All welcome. For further details on SCM Ph Mitzi 685-192.

# PEPE LOPEZ

## TEQUILA



THE SPIRIT OF MEXICO

## CLASSIFIEDS

Bruce has for sale a Pioneer PL 12R Turntable and it's in good condition and he'll throw in an extra stylus - all for \$175 O.N.O., after 6 pm at 762-263.

Desperately wanted. One womens bicycle preferably with gears. Sue phone 548454 or 30789 ext 67.

## COUNSELLING SERVICE

The following groups will be run at Counselling this term:

- Communication Group - first meeting 1 June, 3-5pm
- Therapeutic Group - first meeting 11 June, 2-4pm (Mon), 14 June, 5-7pm (Thursday)
- Group for Graduate Students - first meeting, 13 June, 1-2pm
- Coping with Stress - one-day workshop, 16 June, 10am - 4pm
- Study Skills - first meetings 11 & 13 June, 1-2pm
- Amity - every Tuesday, 1-2pm
- Assertion Training - first meeting, 12 June, 1-2pm
- Weight Control - first meeting, 14 June, 1-2pm
- Coping with Stress - one-day workshop, 28 July, 10am - 3pm

For further specific information on these groups, please ring the Counselling Service, 792-300, Ext. 595 or 596.

## CORSO

Thursday May 31 1 - 2 pm  
Venue: B10 (Library Basement)  
Film: Last Grave at Dimbaza - A film on the plight of Black South Africans. No Charge. All welcome. Ph CORSO if you wish to help with the Cash Appeal Sat. June 16. Ph 602-543.

## UNIVERSITY GAY LIBERATION

We are everywhere. Sitting next to you at the Caf; on your rugby team; in your Engineering lecture; the next pew in Chapel; at film society meetings; in the architecture school; your lecturers, tutors, & students. We form one of the largest minority groups in the country, we have laws passed against us, our natural, normal, healthy selves. But we still exist, have always existed, and will always exist as long as mankind. We have been given labels such as queer, sinful, our love is a 'crime against nature'; a pretty heavy title. We are ten per cent of this country. We are your worst fears, your best fantasies. We are GAY. And we are angry.

There are over one thousand of us on this campus, either hiding, scared, lying to themselves and everyone else, or open free, enjoying life & themselves, not ashamed, or some halfway between, enjoying their social life & trying to forget their oppression, forget that to most they are objects of fear & ridicule. They may be your best friends.

So, where are these 1000 dykes and poofs on campus? We see a few, not that many though.

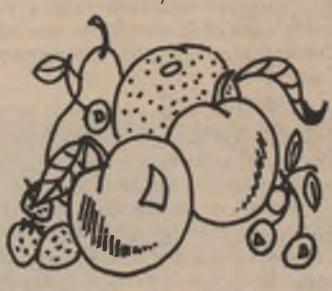
But we do exist. There are at least a thousand persecuted, oppressed people; people who suffer psychological violence every day, in the form of anti-queer jokes, & have to grin and bear it. How do you think it feels to hear your best

## WHAT OF NEW ZEALAND DEMOCRACY?

The seminar on democracy to be held in the MacLaurin Hall, Princes St, Auckland, on 9 June, promises to be a major event and one that we hope will point the way to new thinking about the future of our country and its political institutions. Many different points of view will be represented: Keith Ovenden will examine the Anglo-American democratic ideal; Marilyn Waring will analyse the present parliamentary system; and Bruce Beetham will put the case for proportional representation as a more equitable method of electing our parliamentary representatives. Margaret Wilson will consider industrial democracy and how it can be achieved; Bob Rigg will look at the philosophy of anarchism to see if its principles can be applied to the New Zealand way of life; Morgan Boudrou will put the case for enabling women to take a more active part in our democratic system. Roderic Alley, the Foundation's Wellington Vice-President, will be in the chair.

If this sounds like a heavy day of speeches, it should be made clear that many of the talks will be short and grouped together in panels so that interaction among speakers and audience will be possible. Waring and Beetham, with Professor Robert Chapman as commentator, will form one panel, and Boudrou and Rigg a second, while Margaret Wilson prefers to answer questions as she goes along.

The speakers in the seminar, along with a number of others, are contributing to a book to be entitled 'Democracy in New Zealand - Choices for the 80s' and edited by Dr J.S. Hoadley of the Political Studies Department at the University of Auckland. We expect the book, and the seminar, to be a solid contribution to thinking about trends for the future of our society.



friend say 'look at that fairy, doesn't it make you sick', or 'look at the dyke will you, all she needs is a good fuck' & know that that is one of your gay brothers or sisters that is being put down. Someone like you!

That is why University Gay Liberation exists, or is trying to exist. About six people turn up every week, where are the other 994? We need you, to help us help you, and others. Every poof knows he's oppressed, every dyke doubly so, being female and gay. We want you people, to help us end this vile persecution, & turn Gay Rights into as big a political issue as we can. We are going to make this campus sit up & take notice of us.

U.G.L. started in 1972 with about 40 members, it was the first in the country. We need to keep going. Why? To fight for what this society owes us, with a two thousand year backlog. Total acceptance of us, which won't be easy in this patriarchal, white, heterosexual society. But we must try.

We know you're there, why not join us? It doesn't mean coming out of your closet, it is an opportunity to meet people who have been through what you have, to help others & yourself a positive step in your life. We need you, you need us. Come to the Executive lounge at 4 pm on Friday. Try it.

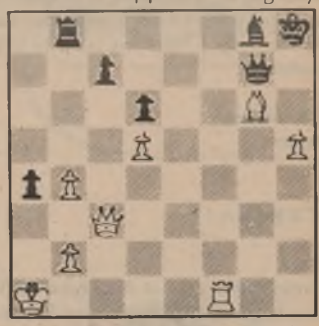
M. Stevens

## IMPORTANT

As you are no doubt aware the Minister of Education, Merv Wellington, wants details of student hardship from NZUSA. What we want you to do is contact Studass if you have experienced financial hardship this year and give us a statement about your specific situation. NZUSA will have a hard time convincing him that the present bursary is totally inadequate to cover living costs without some specific details. What we would particularly like is to hear from anyone who was unable to return to University this year because of financial difficulties. All information will be strictly confidential and any details supplied to Mr Wellington will be on an anonymous basis.

# Chess

Essays, term tests, job, participation in the first ever camel borne expedition to the South Pole, blah, blah .... the chess column will now appear fortnightly



I continue my vendetta against Gavin (!) on this week. Gavin had the double misfortune of not only being White in the following position taken from a recently played game at the North Shore Chess Club, but also suffering this embarrassment when the writer, merciless as any gossip columnist, was in the vicinity. His opponent, Mr Knekt, found a way to bring unbearable pressure on the White position with 1 ... Bf4! threatening a decisive capture on e3. The White bishop's position cannot be reinforced, nor can his black counterpart be captured as 2 gf4, Qg6 ch. is fatal. Retreat was the only option but after ....

- 2. Bd2 Rel ch
  - 3. Be1 Qe2
  - 4. Nd2 Qel ch!
- ... White had to resign as 5. Rel, Rel ch; 6 Nf1, Rf1 is mate.

## CHESS ACHES (SPONSORED BY CLASSIC AND HOLLYWOOD CINEMAS)



In this week's problem White is to play and win quickly. Solutions should be handed in at the Craccum office by midday Thursday. The first correct solution drawn out of a hat wins a double pass to either the Classic or Hollywood cinema.

The solution to last week's problem was 1 ... Rc4ch. 2 Kg5, Rh4; 3 Kh4, g5ch; 4 Kg5, Kg7 and the queenside pawns win.

Last week's winner was M. Barlow. Ticket can be picked up at the Craccum office.

David Beach



# Lettuce to the Editor

TO HAKA OR NOT TO HAKA .....

Dear Craccum,  
I am an engineer and am a NON-PAKEHA. I attended the forum called by our unworthy president and found, to my utter disgust, engineers being called racists. An interesting observation was that those speakers against the engineers (who sounded so convincing whenever they use the term 'racists') have not even had extensive contacts with the engineers (especially the non-pakehas!). Some of those speakers may be good at topics on feminism and socialism but as far as racism goes, most of them know next to nothing. If there is a slightest hint of racism in the engineering school, wouldn't it be true that the non-pakeha engineers will be the first to know it. And yet since March, 1977, I have not seen the slightest hint of racist attitudes. Now on the incident of 1st MAY. I am sure a majority of the engineers would have expressed their apologies if any offence was taken towards the Haka performance of the Haka party; although it is a misconception to take the performance as a racist act against the Maori culture. It is just unfortunate that some people (with that misconception) have to suffer the consequences of their hasty actions. As an engineer, I firmly believe that the mock Haka would not have gone ahead if the engineering society had been properly approached with some time (not just a matter of hours) for consideration.

As for engineers being the majority at most, if not all, general meetings, has it not occurred to anyone to take into consideration that all the engineers combined could not outvote the rest of the varsity. Then, one might ask, why is it the engineers are always the majority at these meetings? That one is up to one's imagination!

Yours in disgust,  
An Engineer

## WHAT A HAKA !!

Dear Dave,  
This is my fourth year at Auckland University and I swore some time ago I would never write to Craccum again (for reasons not worth mentioning here) but I just can't pass up this unique opportunity.

There is a form of intellectual argument which somehow concludes that violence can never be condoned under any circumstances, I've always maintained that everything can be condoned given the right circumstances. Some people use violent means to impose themselves on others. Under those circumstances a reaction of violence is not only condoned but sometimes necessary for survival (eg W.W. II)

In my four years here, few things have generally repulsed me as much as the behaviour of certain members of the engineering faculty. Their disgusting and odious conduct during A.U.S.A. meetings, and forums is one such behaviour. The other, is their so called Haka. It has always been offensive to me (Pakeha) on three counts, and I list these in order of greatest revulsion. (i) The performance is completely devoid of all wit, humour or comic appeal of any sort save for the very first time it was ever done (whenever that was!). I have said nothing profound here, a child of six or seven knows this intuitively when (s)he plays a 'trick' or a 'prank' on Mum or Dad. After the first or perhaps second time it is no longer a trick or prank and he/she stops and dreams up another. The tradition of capping antics all over the world is PRANKS not a tradition of 'a PRANK'. In fact the essence of capping pranks has always been creativity, originality and a certain sophistication and zaniess about the humour involved. As we have all seen the people involved possess none of these qualities in their activities on campus. I would suggest the very nature of their chosen profession probably precludes anything more subtle than a monkey wrench or electric generator. To sum up on this point, the act has never been funny, witty or comic save its first appearance. 'It is as wet as piss' I think is the engineering vernacular.

(ii) This point takes second place only because I'm 6'1" tall, weigh 13st 7 lb and was High School light-heavyweight champion boxer 1974 in N.S.W., otherwise it would be number (i). What I'm trying to say is that if I didn't have my weight my height and my ability to defend myself you insensitive boorish pigs would, over the past four years, have intimidated me with your violent actions

PAGE 22 CRACCUM MAY 29

HAKA LETTUCE NO 2831

Dear Sir,  
Many people seem to be under the impression that because the Engineering Students intended no racial overtones in their haka they were justified in continuing with their performance. It was supposed to have been a joke, a bit of lighthearted fun. But the joke inadvertently put down the Maori Culture which has been the subject of increasing awareness in the last decade. The light-hearted haka epitomised the tacitly accepted caricature of Maoris and their culture which is at the back of many European minds. This caricature depicts the Maori culture as something comical, not to be taken seriously and a trifle uncivilised and inferior. Such ideas were latent in the Engineering Students' haka even though they were perhaps not intended. Peter Love suggested at the forum on the question that Maoris as a whole should be able to take a joke. That would be fine if the Maori culture was recognised as a valuable facet of New Zealand society. But the Maori Culture is not so recognised and it will not be so long as people continue to denigrate it, whether intentionally or not.

Yours faithfully,  
Ian Carter



associated with your 'haka', like you intimidated many other students. You trampled over desks, books, sprayed beer and generally behaved in a violent manner. You and your party epitomised what constitutes a 'GANG'. Come to think of it, almost the way you behave at student meetings and women's rights forums.

(iii) To be male, to be competent at rugby and fixing machines or concrete does not excuse you from being a sensitive human being with a duty to consider the feelings of others less physically or socially powerful than yourselves. In that light your 'haka' has always been a mockery of the Maori people. You see, even our home grown satire T.V. shows have done something similar and its funny once. They don't make a tradition of it. The Maori people both on and off campus are justified in being both hurt and outraged at your mock haka. They have very little to hold dear to them and feel proud of, so what can you expect other than a serious reaction. I can't believe the inanity of Mr G.C. Beach's remark to the Auckland Star 'there had never been trouble before, it's (the haka) done in a light vein'.

Dear Mr Beach, just because nothing happened before doesn't mean everything was O.K. There has to be a first time! To sum up on this point I can only say that if I was Maori it would have to be number (i) instead of (iii) I should say I'm glad you uncouth pigs got your bottoms spanked by He Taua members but I must admit I have sympathy for people hit by iron bars and baseball bats. It's not really cricket! However if it was one of your 'gang' that called the fuzz, you haven't got much to be proud of either. I call on all those people who concern themselves with such issues as 'Apartheid', 'the right of Israel to exist' and the 'annual budget of Ethiopia' to recognise the right to dignity and respect for the Maori people of New Zealand. I challenge the student administration to publicly apologise to the Maori people on behalf of a student minority, and as an act of sincerity PAY the fines of the He Taua members who were arrested. I suspect this will be far too prosaic and look forward to seeing a grant made available to the 'Society for the restoration of the Ugandan National Archives'.

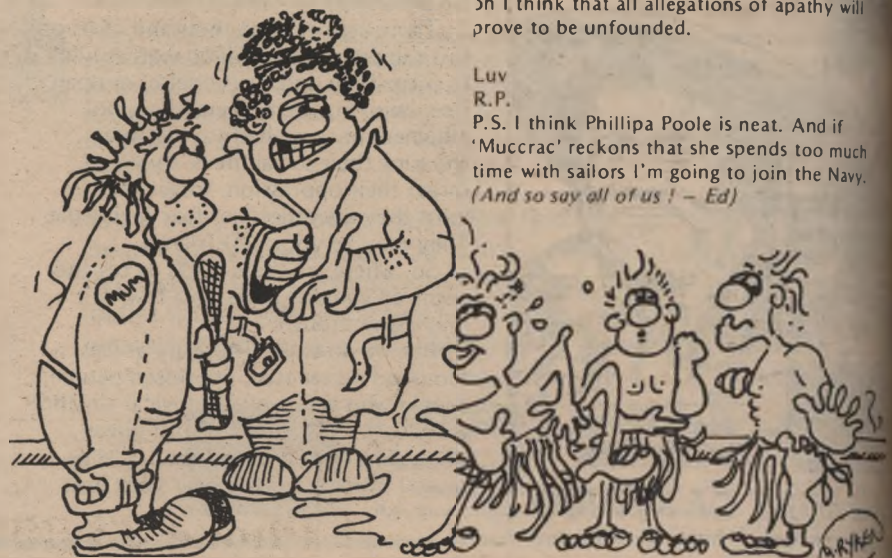
Yours,  
'Whiskers'

HAKA NO. 7811

Dear Sir,  
I felt despair when I read of young students criticising the Auckland engineering students for their 'mock Haka' capping event. If the future depends upon the young, why do so many speak with the pomposity and intolerance of crabbed old age. There are world movements at work dividing the people, stripping away freedoms and creating the necessary impotence for not changing society. None is so powerful as that which is making comedy seem like prejudice, humour seem like sabotage and wit seem like cruelty. There is an element of criticism in all forms of comedy and to censure mockery and mimicry is to prevent such criticism. Over-sensitivity to humour and comedy directed towards ourselves is a stage of immaturity we must all overcome so that the liberating nature of comedy is possible for all. If it is in any way 'disgraceful' to take the mickey out of the Maori haka, it would be just as disgraceful to mock politicians, deflate the pompous, pull the leg of the church or 'knock' the sacred cows of Rugby, racing and 'rooting'. In the end there would be no comedy and at least ten of the best television shows in the world would have to disappear. Those who see thoughts and attitudes and even prejudices as dangerous to society feel justified in calling for laws to stamp them out; such calls are quickly heeded by those who wish to control thoughts and attitudes and prejudices. Government officials appointed to watch over public morals, civil rights, race relations and perhaps 'public safety' have to be men and women of courage and tolerance if they are not to be used to put women against men, Maori against Pakeha, old against young and comedy against seriousness. What could be more dangerous to liberty than Dr Walker's statement that 'denigrating another culture and injuring other people's feelings ..... is as violent as injuring another person physically.' If he checks the word 'violence' in the dictionary he will find its main meaning is 'that which exerts excessive force.'

Surely we expect people to put up with verbal abuse and counter criticism with discussion and argument, because it is not considered as excessive as striking each other. To equate the two is to prepare the way for a completely totalitarian society. The worst that should be said about a 'mock haka' is that it might be in bad taste, but I have seen a popular Maori group taking the mickey out of a Spanish tango and a Scottish sword dance and no Colonel Blimp in high dudgeon rose to protest. Can we not make an agreement, without bringing in government officials, that any Maori or Pakeha or Chinaman, Eskimo etc may satirise the traditions of each other without coming to blows. After all, the worst that can befall a comedian is that no one will laugh. Comedy gives perspective, purges intellectual error, crystallises common feelings and liberates the imagination. That period of Dionysis we call 'Capping Week' is the celebration of an age group, an historic period, a short release from the rule of stern Apollo and any attacker upon its freedoms should be given a sour grape to chew alone.

Yours faithfully,  
Phillip McHale



CAPPING BOOK ?

Dear Dave,  
Meatball-the-magnificent here again. As defender of the free, upholder of truth and justice I wish to moan about the Auckland University Capping Book. Apart from the clever presentation of the Grad lists (I think dole queues are incredibly funny) and the centre spread - 'Fantasy Land' (which incidentally was lifted from A.U. Capping Mag years ago - remember the 'Indecency' Court case?) The magazine was just a half-hearted, weak minded attempt at humour. Is it any wonder that capping mag almost died out? Pathetic anti-Muldoon photos, pages and pages of Robert Crumb (I thought this was an Auckland effort). Boring attempts at dirty jokes (we got the dirt, so where were the jokes) impassioned pleas for the Legalisation of dope (dope being a recurring A.U. Capping Book theme). Pages of pallid, pathetic, paper-bagged posers - kleensaks would have covered them more adequately.

Whoops! I nearly forgot the keen satire - self immolation is so funny. Why, when I think of Buddhist Monks pouring petrol on themselves, and then igniting it, why, I just crack up. Honestly it's so funny you can almost smell the hair burning. I haven't laughed so much since the Kennedys were assassinated.

I guess it just goes to show: 'Perversion is not dead - just incredibly sick! So to those who haven't bought it yet, save your sixty cents and buy a copy of 'The Truth' - the journalism (!) is of a much higher quality, and you can spend the change on jelly-babies. - All yours for sixty cents.

Meatball-the Magnificent  
Upholder-of-Decency  
Housewives Favourite

## CAPPING CRAPS OUT ?

Dear Dave,  
What a piss poor capping this has been. In all of my years at this place I have never seen more of a non event. You could blame it on student apathy but the root of the matter is that no one knew what the hell was going on. I could only find out what was happening by asking the various people in the know. Now the majority of students don't know who the organisers are so they are unable to find out what events are happening and where. For example I knew of a few people who had built rafts but didn't know when the race was and when they enquired they found out that they had missed it. No wonder there were bugger all rafts this year. I wonder how many other people missed out on it. And further, the pub crawl was on a Wednesday this year but there was virtually nothing to tell students that it was not on the traditional Thursday. In fact on the Monday I knew of many students who were labouring under the misapprehension that it was going to be on Thursday. I put the blame for this dismal capping squarely on the shoulders of the Capping controller. It is his job to organise capping. There was bugger-all organisation. For instance cancelling the Capping parade and the unusual objects competition because of the forum is a pretty bloody poor excuse to cover up his failure to co-ordinate the thing properly. Now what do us people, fools that we are, do with all of the unusual objects we have amassed. Next year let's have some sort of notice as to when things are happening, perhaps in the pages of Craccum. If people know what's going on I think that all allegations of apathy will prove to be unfounded.

Luv  
R.P.  
P.S. I think Phillipa Poole is neat. And if 'Muccrac' reckons that she spends too much time with sailors I'm going to join the Navy. (And so say all of us! - Ed)

SMOKE

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# IN SMOKE

again. As of truth and he Auckland Uni. e clever presenta- dole queues are tre spread - tally was lifted ago - remember The magazine minded attempt hat capping mag i-Muldoon bbert Crumb nd effort). Boring t the dirt, so ioned pleas for e being a theme). Pages ged posers - l them more

keen satire - self, when I think of ol on themselves, st crack up. in almost smell the d so much since ed

David, a moan about the 1979 CRAPPING, however now I'm beginning to wonder if it actually occurred. Assuming that it did, I now offer the following observations.....

THE PUB DRY - This had deteriorated mid-year Christmas present for the patrons of the Globe or the Kiwi who have been caught out for years. The Capping Controller sensibly decided to take students' to another establishment and hope- catch the pubman unawares. But why oh he choose the Queens Ferry? Fifty in the inner-city area and the Capping Controller chooses one that (a) is incredibly and (b) dislikes students more than most drinking outlets. Small wonder then that was closed down a short time after the horde descended upon it.

RAWL - This was abysmally short and many people was only half the distance of crawl because several pub managers closed their doors to students. That was not the fault of the Capping Controller, there were a couple of other factors that within his control. For many students the contact they have with AUSA is the Pub

These are the only events that I have any first-hand knowledge of, although I hear that the other events were not the success they could have been. I can only hope that AUSA learns by its mistakes and appoints a competent Capping Controller in future.

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neat. And if pends too much o join the Navy.



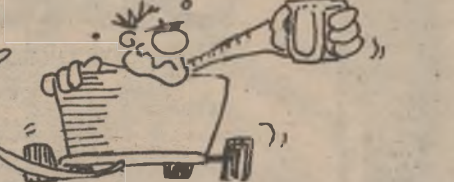
Crawl which has traditionally been on a Thursday afternoon. Capping Comptroller did not seem to appreciate that he only really effectively informed those students who have some contact with the AUSA machine. After all Orientation & Capping are the only entertainment AUSA provides for your average (apathetic) student and more publicity than usual is needed. The other sore point was police liaison. There is no evidence to show that the police were contacted by AUSA: in fact it would seem that the police contacted AUSA. The idea of student wardens is fairly new, the idea being that student wardens go around at pub crawl to defuse any potential arrests and generally keep the police sweet. This is not a statutory privilege - in fact it is granted entirely at the police's pleasure - and the police are much nicer about it if they are asked. If the police choose to enforce the law strictly they could arrest scores of students. As it happened student wardens and police did get together but there was not a student warden in every patrol car - something which I as an ex-warden consider as a necessity.

THE UNUSUAL OBJECTS COMPETITION - This was revived last year by me and the then SRC Chairperson, and consists of awarding a prize to the student that shows the most ingenuity in obtaining his or her 'unusual object'. The rationale behind the game is to provide students with an opportunity of performing a capping stunt and to also provide students with an opportunity of performing a capping stunt and to also provide some lunch-time entertainment for students who aren't as daring or ingenious as the competitors. Last years Competition was very successful in both respects and I know that several people were planning to enter this year. I don't know what happened this year because I took off on Thursday afternoon as did most students. Surely the Capping Controller knows that when lectures finish the University strangely loses most of its students. Anybody who has been at University for over a term would know that rather obvious fact of life.

THE CAPPING PARADE. This (Auckland's first for several years) was called off by the Capping Controller about an hour before it was due to occur, because there weren't enough floats. (In fact the only float completed was one by N.O.R.M.L. which went down Queen St on its own). The reason for the parade's cancellation was ostensibly because of the 'haka party' forum, the impression I got was that there had been little liaison etc done by the Controller and that had the parade gone ahead it might have won mention as the world's smallest parade.

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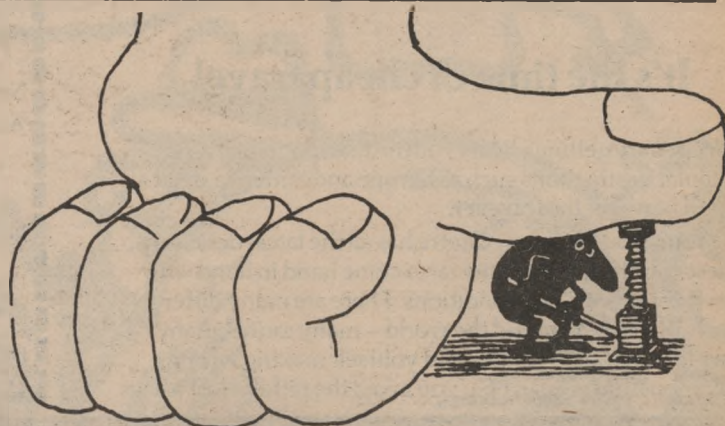
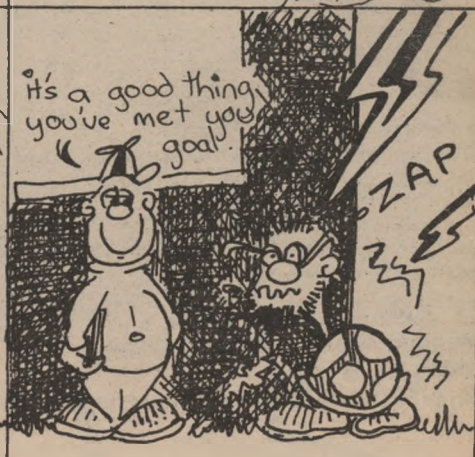
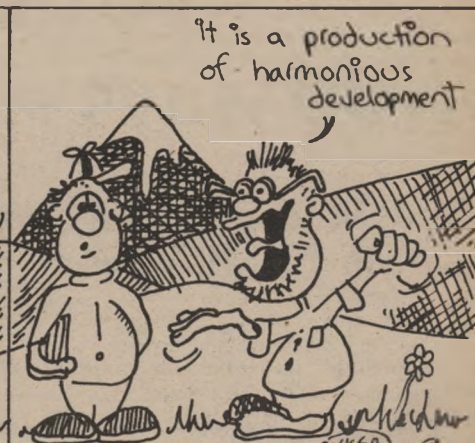
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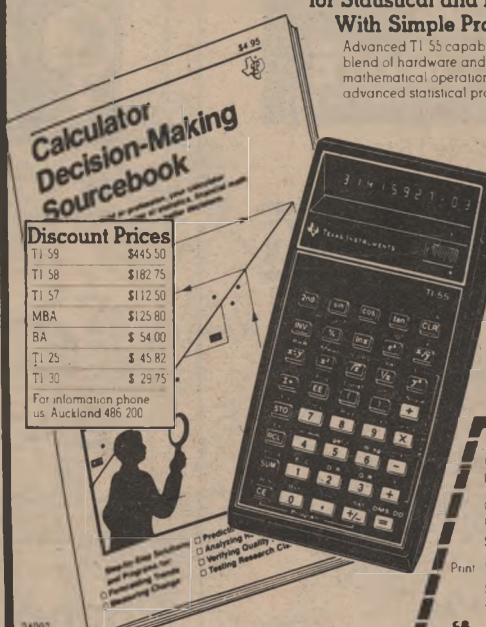
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