

# WOMEN'S WEEK

What is Women's Week? July 26th - 30th.

It is a week of activities on campus, a festival of events to bring together women in a variety of serious and not so serious activities. We extend an invitation to all women, including those non-academic women on campus and non-university women to participate in any of the events. An important focus and meeting point for the week will be a tent on the lawns outside the Barr Smith Library - a Women's Embassy, which will act as an information centre, general display centre general meeting place...

Hopefully women will come along and visit the tent and use it as a venue for raising any issues they feel like or just having a chat and a cup of coffee.

(Tentative) Programme for Women's Week. Intermittently throughout the week we will have video and Street theatre and Child care facilities will be available at selected times.

Mon 26th 1.00pm. Sexuality Forum - Speakers from the Gay men's group, the women's group & maybe others - GALLERY

Tues 27th 1.00pm. Poetry Reading - in the Gallery.

Wed 28th 1.00pm. Rape Forum - Discussion and Questions  
8.00pm. Films by and about women - GALLERY  
\$1.00 including coffee.

5.15 Lecture on 'The Social Construction of sexuality by Rosemary Pringle' lecture room 3 Fl. Napier Building.

Thurs 29th 1.00pm. Self Defence Demonstration on Lawns or in the Cloisters  
7.30pm. Feminist Scholars and Drinkers and friends drinking at Royal Oak - (Hindley Street) in Front Bar.

Fri 30th 1.00pm. Sue Chillie - Black Feminist from Queensland who attended the International Tribunal of Crimes against Women - speaking on Lawns.  
4.00pm. Barbeque with (hopefully) the Shameless Hussies.  
Party to follow - dancing, singing, and music. GALLERY



**THE FAMILY IS THE BACKBONE OF THE NATION  
AND THIS IS ON DIT 13**

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## DIRTY ELECTIONEERING

Dear Editors,

I am not affiliated with a political party, but I must comment and protest at the Liberals pretensions to bringing up party politics under the name of the "Liberal Club". They have lowered the tone of student elections.

A series of "endorsed Liberal Club" candidates have sought election to a number of posts in the students Association. It should be noted by all students that they are acting as a mob. They all think the same, they all talk in cliches, "moderate", "antiextremism", "fully representative". Who do they seek to represent in the mythical student majority. (nump?), and, even more amusing they define themselves as honest and progressive". What hollow rhetoric! A number of questions must be asked. Why are so many of them standing for one committee - the P.A.C. - could it be that they wish to control it by numbers? Dare I suggest that these "honest, progressive men (they have no women candidates) are purely interested in power?

They speak of the environmental issue. What is their personal commitment? - Do these children of the bourgeoisie use public transport, or bicycles. Do they regard the consumer societies packaging as wastage?

What is their attitude to Uranium and foreign exploitation of resources?

In short, why do they speak in generalities and avoid concrete issues?

They demand a return to "local issues" directly affecting students. How mundane can they get? The experience of the 1960's and 1970's is that students must loudly and vigorously complain against evils at home and abroad. We are the only people who will do so. It is the privilege of our position, and our right. Let us ensure that is not defused by these "Liberal Club" pretenders. Of course the Labor Club has endorsed its candidates as well. They speak of the importance of bullshit and grass.

Yours truly,

Christopher Charles.

**NEW PLANS OPEN THIS WEEK  
 BOOK 12 DAYS IN ADVANCE  
 It's the hottest ticket in town!**

**CLINDSAY KEMP AND COMPANY IN**  
**FLOWERS**

the sensational mime musical coming to  
**THE PLAYHOUSE**  
 SEASON CONTINUES TILL AUGUST 14



Party Bookings -  
 Save \$1 per seat  
 Ring Judy Thyer at  
 51 4498 for details

BOOK NOW  
 at Festival Centre  
 and John Martin's  
 12 days in advance  
 Nightly at 8.30 p.m.  
 Matinee Sat.  
 July 31 at 2 p.m.

Prices  
 \$5.80  
 Pensioners and  
 Students (over 18 years)  
 \$3.80

Please note: If you are offended by nudity on stage do not book for Flowers.  
 No one under 18 years admitted to performances.

## THE DE GAULLE OF WORLD CINEMA STRIKES AGAIN!

JACQUES TATI, IN HIS FUNNIEST HULOT  
 ADVENTURE, TOPS THE BILL AT EVERYMAN  
 IN A WEEK OF MAGNIFICENT ENTERTAIN-  
 MENT COMMENCING JULY 30TH.

Friday and Saturday July 30 and 31 at 5 and 8: VINTAGE HITCHCOCK  
 - The original THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO MUCH (1934) and 39 STEPS  
 (1935 with Robert Donat and Madelaine Carroll).

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday August 1,2,3 at 5.30 and 8: Jacques Tati's un-  
 forgettable comedy classic M. HULOT'S HOLIDAY plus HOLLYWOOD  
 THE DREAM FACTORY.

Wednesday and Thursday August 4 and 5 at 5.30 and 8: The Marx Bros.  
 in NIGHT IN CASABLANCA and Buster Keaton's THE GENERAL with  
 brilliant new sound track.

ADMISSION TO EACH SESSION: \$2.00 (STUDENTS \$1.50) SORRY NO BOOKINGS  
 TICKETS ON SALE 30 MINS. BEFORE PERFORMANCE.



**Everyman 13**  
 ART CINEMA

45 WAKEFIELD STREET (off Victoria Square)





## FANSHEN revolution in a chinese village

With Herr Fraser's recent visit to China, Australians are once again forced to realise the importance of that large and mysterious country in Asian and World affairs. So it is timely that the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild has chosen, as its next production, FANSHEN by David Hare.

The play, a documentary-style examination of the Chinese Communist Revolution as it took place in one small village, opens in the Union Hall on July 14th. The script is based on the large - some say the definitive - book on the Chinese Revolution by American Journalist and academic William Hinton, who actually observed the events in Long Bow village during the 1940's. In his preface, Hinton writes:

"The relevance of Long Bow's history to the present day can hardly be over-emphasised... Without understanding the land question, one cannot understand the Revolution in China, and without understanding the Revolution in China, one cannot understand today's world".

THORNTON  
WILDER'S

## OUR TOWN

THIS SEASON MUST END JULY 31ST BOOK NOW

DON'T MISS THIS CLASSIC PLAY BY NOBEL PRIZE- WINNER

"LIVELY, NATURALISM.....A GREAT NIGHT OUT..."

LITTLE THEATRE UNTIL JULY 31ST

The word FANSHEN, loosely translated, means "to turn over", in other words, to start a new life, adopt a whole new outlook, to rebuild a country. Obviously, then, it was a time of social and political turmoil; but the strength of the play is not that it concentrates solely on this easily visible upheaval, but that it shows us the INNER turmoil of individual villagers caught up in something new and awesome. Their hopes, plans, problems and mistakes are all faithfully and clearly recorded. It is therefore an extremely useful play for the student of History, Politics, Sociology or Economics, but it is more than just that: it is a very human play - sympathetic, occasionally comical or sad, raising as many questions as it answers, and is therefore very entertaining.

FANSHEN will also be the first public performance by the Guild's permanent acting ensemble under the direction of Jim Vile'. For four months, a group of some 20 actors and actresses have been learning acting skills under Mr Vile', drama lecturer and Artistic Director of the Guild. These skills include movement, dance, improvisation and even karate! Work has been hard and enthusiastic, with actors often surprising themselves with new-found abilities. Now they seek to apply these techniques to FANSHEN.

The play has proved to be an ideal vehicle for ensemble acting; it should also prove a unique experience for Adelaide audiences.

Production details are as follows:-

"FANSHEN", UNION HALL, The University of Adelaide  
Wednesday to Saturday, July 14th - 31st. 8.00 p.m.

Special concession price for School groups \$1.00

Adults.....	\$3.00
Student/Pensioners.....	\$2.00
Adult Groups.....	\$2.50
Student " (tertiary).....	\$1.50
Student " (secondary).....	\$1.00

BOOKINGS - Guild Office, Union Hall, Phone 223 4333  
Ext. 2407 - Allans, Gawler Place, Phone 223 2050 (plus booking fee)

Further enquiries - Mrs Avis Urlwin, Guild Secretary,  
223 4333 Ext. 2407

## prosh

....and now from the produces of The Godfathers  
Breakfast Part III

David Freeman and Craig Allen, present the totally  
new prosh breakfast for 1976....

.....The Adelaide  
University Academy of Motion Art and Science 1st  
Bi-Centennial Yogi Awards.  
This will be a Black tie function with a chicken and  
champagne breakfast.

....who will win the gold Yogi for worst performance  
by a politician ..... will Norman will his first gold  
Yogi.

See you on Friday August 6th at 8.30 am, tickets on  
sale 30th...\$3.50 single.

Build your black tie now....????....prizes for the  
biggest, smallest and the most colourful black tie.

....you may wear a tie by its self or with anything.

## AUS Exchange Program



## Tour of China

January-February 1977

The Australian Union of Students has arranged for a group of twenty students to tour China from 18 January 1977 to 4 February 1977. Tour departs Sydney 14 January 1977. The cost will be approximately \$350, but this does not include Australia/Hong Kong and return air fares. Includes the cost of the trip through China and 2 days accommodation in Hong Kong. Application forms are available at your Students Association/Union/SRC/Guild, or your AUS Student Travel office. Applications close 15 August 1976.

## House Needed Patch Theatre Co

from July 24 - August 29

Company comprises 4 very civilised young people, performing for schools and general public, they need a comfortable living place with basic furnishings while they're here, can pay up to \$50.00 per week.

PHONE:- RUTH GOBLE 421951

## ROSS RYAN

UNION HALL  
FRIDAY 30th JULY

1-2pm

membs 60c

non-mem \$1.00

jazz rock and blues

## LITTLE CINEMA

FLO  
AND  
EDDY  
GUITAR WORKSHOP

mon 2nd Aug.

1-3pm

FREE

## Womans Softball

Players wanted - We have a number of girls interested in playing softball next season but not quite enough to form a team. If you are interested leave your name and contact department with the Sports Association Secretary.

## Target Archery

A target archery club is in the process of being formed. A range is available on the Wait Oval, and coaching is being arranged through the Adelaide Archery Club. Classes will be starting later this month, and are limited to 10 persons in order that adequate personal attention can be given - all equipment is provided. If you are interested in trying out this sport or joining the club please leave your name and contact department with the Sports Association Secretary.

## Major Bijou

## Moondance Masquerade

August 7th - Saturday

Food - Meat and Veg.  
Music - 4 Bands  
Films - Vintage

AT CRAFTERS INST. \$1.00 "Dig It"

Bring your'e mask & stuff

A REAL FREAK OUT!!!!!!! Anything goes?

## Lead Singer

Lead Singer required for original rock band.

Are you into

- Little Feat
- Steelye Dan
- Recording
- Stage appearance
- Intending professional
- Writing material

If so contact Ivan 793880 after 6.00 pm  
or Simon 3568376 after 6.00 pm



## HEALTH FOODS IN THE UNION!

In case you missed the launch of a range of health foods in the Upper Refectory on Tuesday July 27th at 12.15 pm, here is a list of the range which is now available.

### HOT FOODS

Pies	32c
Pasties	28c
Rissoles	28c
Vegetarian Dish	45c

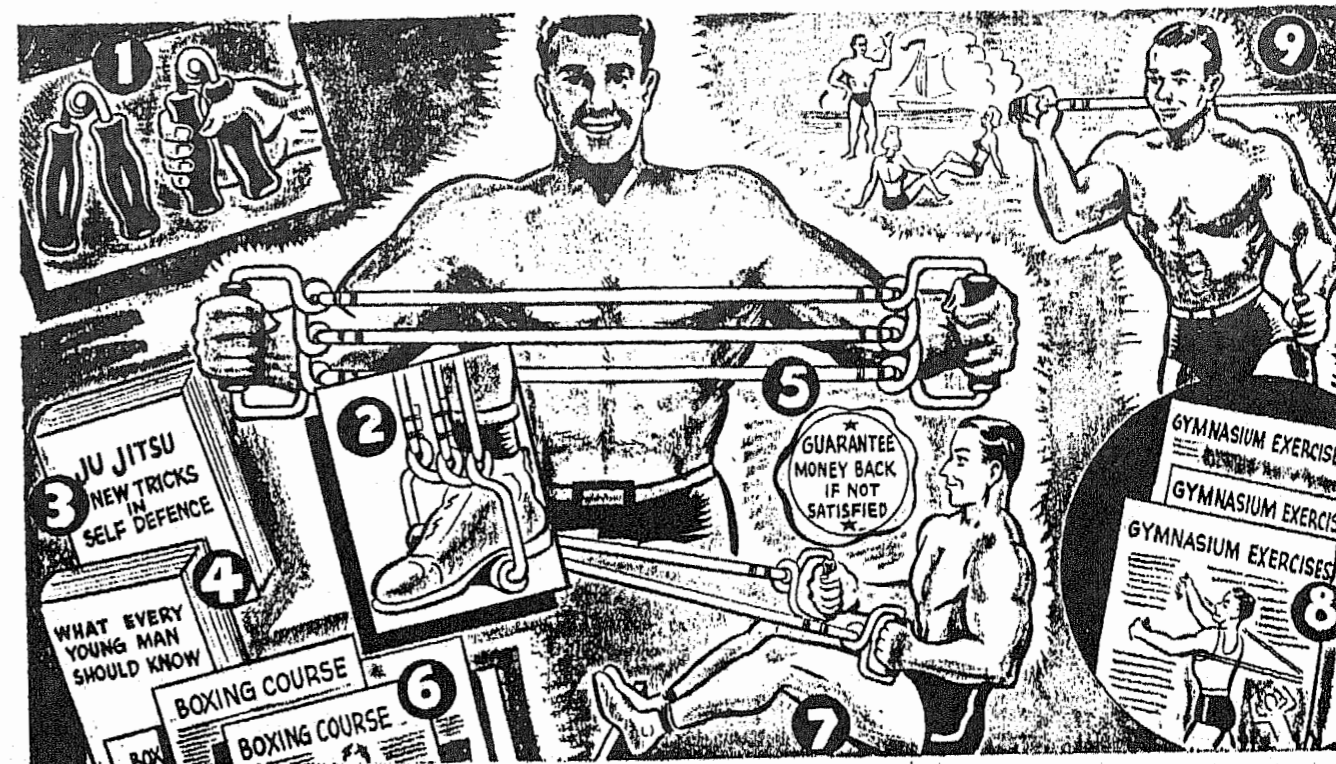
### CAKES

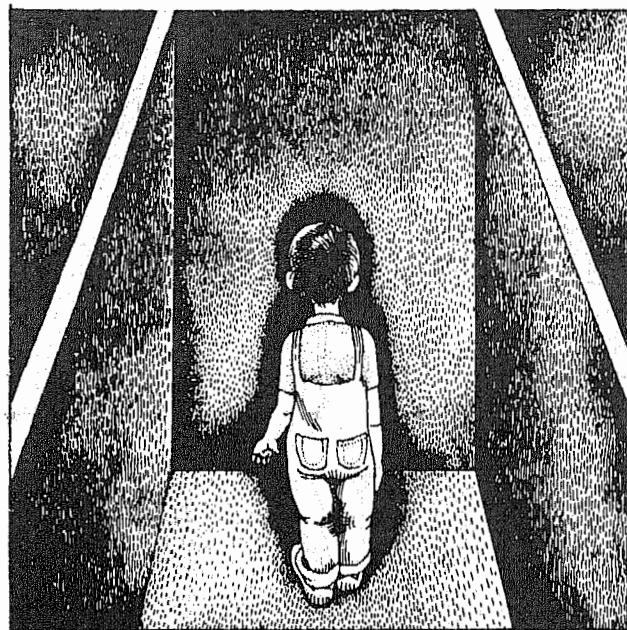
Apple Slice	20c
Sultana Slice	20c
Portobello Buns	20c
220 gm Biscuits	20c

HERB TEAS	10c
FRUIT JUICES	12c, 17c, 24c
NATURAL YOGHURT	28c
ROLLS	12c
PACKAGED FOODS (85gm)	
Almonds	36c
Mixed Unsalted Nuts	36c
Roasted Cashews	36c
Roasted Unsalted Peanuts	15c
Dried Apricots	32c
Dried Raisins	20c

### ORGANIC FRUIT

(prices according to season)





## DO YOU WANT TO PASS ?

### ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS, 1976.... AND/OR ASSESSMENT OF YEAR'S WORK

#### 1. LAST DAY OF ENTRY

Students are reminded that if they intend to sit any annual examination in or about November or wish to be credited with a result for their year's work in any subject in 1976 they must lodge the prescribed form before the last day of second term, namely - **7 AUGUST, 1976**.

The prescribed form should be lodged at the University Office about 1 July, and not later than 7 August.

A Student who is taking her/his FINAL SUBJECTS FOR A DEGREE OR DIPLOMA, and who wishes to receive the degree or diploma if he/she becomes qualified for it, should also lodge an application, on the proper form, for admission to the degree or diploma.

#### SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

A candidate who has special circumstances which she/he would like the University to take into account when the timetable is being prepared, or when other examination arrangements are being made, should get in touch with the Academic Registrar before the last day of second term, namely 7 August.

## law students legal aid service

REFERRAL SERVICE: Any student or staff member of the University may seek assistance from the Legal Aid Service. There is no charge. A roster of volunteer U.A. law students will regularly attend to keep appointments and give advice. The service will maintain confidentiality.

PLACE: In the A.U. Union Building cloisters at the Western end. Enter through the double glass doors.

TIME: On Tuesdays, 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm (other times will be added as the need arises).

APPOINTMENTS: Please register appointments by filling in an appointment card (available 10.00 am to 4.00 pm in Western Cloisters Office of Work Action), or give the brief details by phone; 223-4333, Extn. 2915. Appointments will be registered at 20 minute intervals.

CASES: The Law Students Legal Aid Service has found the following to be frequent areas of legal enquiry by students and staff:

- . Motor Vehicle Damages and Injuries.
- . Landlord - Tenant Obligations.
- . Matrimonial Enquiries.
- . Other Legal Questions.
- . Student Allowances (Concerning interpretation of T.E.A.S. Regulations and appeals to Tribunal, see Welfare Officer direct.)

FURTHER ENQUIRY: Concerning the Legal Aid Service, any general questions should be directed at any time to the Welfare Officer in the Lady Symon Building, (Telephone 223-4333, Extension 2131).

## MEDICAL WOMEN'S RESOURCE GROUP

Each Monday lunch time, this term, a group of medical students have met together to learn about and discuss common problems in women's health and health care. Sherry O'Leary, from the Women's Community Health Centre, provides the information for discussion either by giving a talk or arranging for someone else to come along for topics in which they have special experience. Thus, in the discussion on breast cancer, one of the women who works with the Mastectomy Rehabilitation Service in the R.A.H. and who herself has had a mastectomy, came along and shared her experiences with us. In addition, Sherry taught us how and when to do breast self examination and gave us some of the statistics about breast cancer.

The other topics we have covered include vaginal infections, venereal disease, contraception, pregnancy, menstruation, menopause, sexuality, abortion, rape and child and wife beating. The emphasis of the material presented has been towards understanding practical details and whenever possible handling equipment used eg. actually doing a urine pregnancy test. It is hoped that this bias on practical women's health care will counteract to some extent the dryly academic, male orientated medical course that most of us are undergoing.

Apart from formal topics one of the major benefits of this group is as a form for discussion and the sharing of experiences and information. This is either about the day's topic or about more general situations encountered within the medical course or personal experience. The group is mainly drawn from the preclinical years and is one of the few regular informal meetings including all these students. Although the meetings are open to males, few attend: the information exchange is probably of a much less practical and immediate use to them.

One of the delights of the group is the growing freedom and frankness of our discussion. There is also the satisfaction of having a previous introduction to some topics of the medical course eg. menstruation, menopause, breast cancer and of having explored some topics which are only tentatively touched on eg. sexuality. The course Sherry provides is a stimulus for self learning and for a greater self awareness which is not doated by the esoteric academia of the medical course.

We are hoping that the Resource group will run again next year with this year's members reporting to the new group on topics of special interest which they have researched. There are also opportunities at the Women's Community Health Centre to be more closely involved in health care for women, either in a practical or research capacity.

K.R. Allen



# RAPE ; THE ALL MALE CRIME

## RAPE AND THE LAW: A WAR (AUSTRALIAN WOMEN AGAINST RAPE)

The law states that rape is sexual intercourse without consent, carrying a maximum penalty of life imprisonment, and including conditions with which a woman must comply to be "eligible" for rape, i.e. she cannot be married to the rapist and she must be of "sound moral character".

Sexual intercourse is defined by the law as the insertion of a penis into a vagina. This excludes anal and oral intercourse and the insertion of foreign objects into a vagina (e.g. beer bottles), all of which are common forms of rape.

The procedure of convicting a rapist is arduous and traumatic. The woman must go firstly to the police who automatically assume that she consented to her alleged rape(???) and interrogate her in any manner and for as long as they please, until they decide whether or not her complaint is genuine. Women are frequently insulted, ridiculed and bullied by the police, and asked such questions as "did you like it? Did you come?" If the woman tires of this treatment and decides to withdraw her complaint, she may be charged with false complaint.

She must undergo a medical examination, for corroborative evidence, along with the testimony of the first person to whom she spoke about the attack. Rape is the only criminal offence which requires corroborative evidence by the complainant and in which complaint is not taken as evidence of non-consent. Imagine reporting a robbery and being asked by the police to prove that you didn't consent to your robbery, and whether or not you enjoyed it!

The police dismiss the majority of complaints, and only a very small percentage of women who are raped report it to the police, which is not surprising. If a woman makes it through the gauntlet of the police station, she must attend a Committal Hearing at the District Magistrates Court. The assumption that she is "guilty of consent" continues and she is cross-examined, this time by the defence lawyer. If the magistrate agrees that there is a case the woman goes on to the trial, where she is subjected to the same cross-examination again, this time before a judge and jury.

In court she has to testify on oath; the rapist does not. Her past sexual history is examined in minute detail (to determine whether or not she asked for what she got), while his is inadmissible as evidence. This is blatant sexual discrimination by the law; that it is

designed to oppress women is painfully clear.

Outside of rape charges, a woman can attempt to sue a rapist for physical or psychological damage in a civil case. A woman cannot charge her husband with rape but she can try to sue him.

A War is a national campaign to fight rape and rape laws. National conferences were held in March and April, and a draft of a new rape legislation was decided on. The new legislation includes the following demands:

- legal recognition of rape within marriage
- corroboration requirements to be dropped
- previous sexual history of the victim to be inadmissible as evidence
- the legal definition of rape to be changed to "criminal sexual conduct" and extended to include oral and anal penetration and attempted penetration, and the intentional touching of the victim for the purpose of sexual gratification.

The right to a closed hearing and an all-female jury will also be fought for.

Politics of Rape - (I have never been free of the fear of rape and it is the most deep-seated fear which women

share. From a very early age we are taught to fear it and come to accept it as inevitable).

- Rape is a crime by men against women
- Rape is the deprivation of sexual self-determination
- Rape is a man's fantasy and a woman's nightmare
- Rape is all the hatred, contempt and oppression of woman concentrated into one act.

Women are everywhere regarded as the possession of men, so human heterosexuality everywhere finds its expression in male dominance over objectified females. In this society we are taught that we need male protection and approval because our only status can come through being attached to a man. The manipulation of women by coercion can only be seen as a method of maintaining male dominance.

"Physically violent rape is a form of mass terrorism, for the victims are chosen indiscriminately but the protagonists for male supremacy broadcast that it is women who cause rape by being unchaste or in the wrong place at the wrong time-in essence behaving as though we were free." (Susan Griffith, Rape, The All American Crime).

Sheer physical force is not the only method of coercion. Economic and emotional blackmail are also used: a woman



does not refuse to have sexual intercourse with her husband because it would mean that she and her children would lose their only visible means of support. There is a conditioned desire for male approval and conditioned belief that we should obey social "norms"; e.g. that letting a man fuck you because he's taken you out in his car and supplied you with food and entertainment is "fair enough" - not to mention that it's prostitution; and the fear of losing (his) approval or company if you don't please (him); and the endless promise of love, endless security and material wealth are all part of the net of co-ercion.

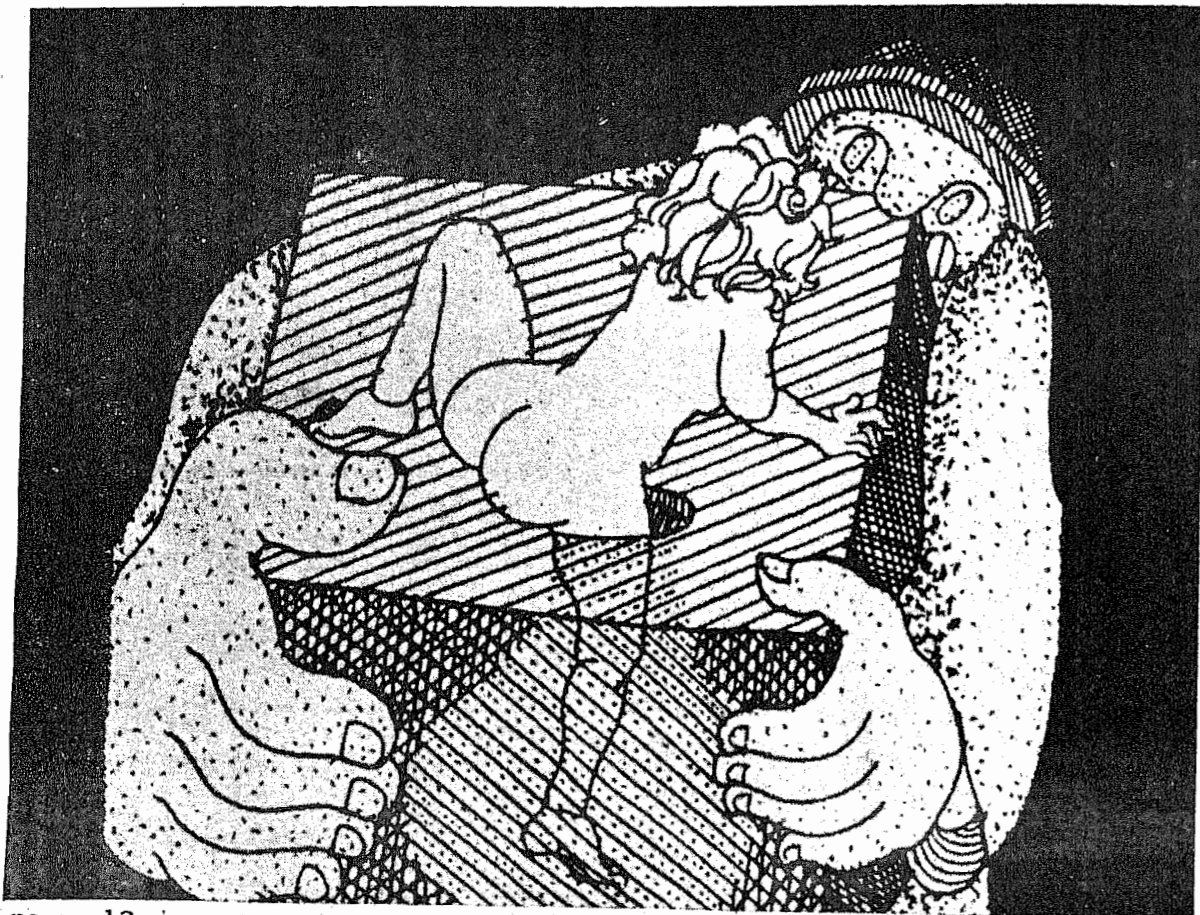
"Morally those of us who have a high opinion of sex cannot accept the idea that absence of resistance sanctions all kinds of carnal communication: rather than rely on such negative criteria, we must insist that only evidence of positive desire dignifies sexual intercourse and makes it joyful. From a proud and passionate woman's view, everything less is rape". (Germaine Greer, Seduction is a Four-Lettered Word).

When intercourse is achieved through co-ercion it becomes the final statement of a patriarchal system which asserts that a woman's only function in society is her biological/sexual one and thus are "logically" the possessions of men. This oppressive attitude is assisted by the fact that women internalise this function

and learn to equate our "natural" selves with those male-imposed traits which serve to keep us in a physically inferior state - in stature and in health - making us unable to resist acts of violence, and keeping us tied to one man with the commonly false belief that he will protect us (from men!). (The main point of John Mill, On the Subjection of Women).

Some Myths About Rape - That Women Are Raped by Strangers, abnormal, psychologically deranged sexual perverts who should be locked away if they are caught. In reality, the majority of rapes recorded are performed by men known to the victim. Statistics taken from the women who contacted the Sydney Rape Crisis Centre between October 1974 and September 1975 show that only 21.9% of the women were raped by strangers, while 67.9% were raped by men they knew, 15.1% by members of their own families, 10.1% by their fathers. Only 8.4% were raped while hitchhiking.

That a woman causes her rape (she "gets what she asked for" theory), by the provocative way she is dressed or the place she happens to be in. Closely tied with this myth is That only young "attractive" women are raped. Both these myths are quite false: women of all ages, from young children to old women are raped regardless of what they are wearing, what their social back-



ground is or where they happen to be. Home in bed is considered a "provocative" place to be to a rapist who breaks into your room. Statistics from Sydney Rape Crisis Centre show that 28.6% of women were raped in their own home, and 47.1% were raped either in their own home, a friend's home or the rapist's home. If you don't believe it, read the daily rag more carefully. Strong bodies and self-defence techniques are our only protection.

That men have a stronger sex urge than women and that they reach a point of sexual excitement from which there is no return. In fact the majority of rapes are planned before hand or pre-meditated. Only in a society that views women as passive sex objects are women thought to be inherently sexually provocative. Yet, since "woman's sex urge is much weaker", women are not expected to be overwhelmed by desire at the sight of a man. As a sex object a woman is held initiate in a man an uncontrollable sex urge which ultimately causes her to lose any right to say no.

That women really enjoy being raped. If this is so, how do we explain past victims who wash their hands 20 or 30 times a day, sometimes for the rest of their lives, to get "clean", or who dress in black thenceforth so as not to be "provocative". Women are severely damaged by rape, always psychologically and often physically, and are often unable to relate emotionally or sexually to other people - again, for a long time or for the rest of their lives.

STOP RAPE - Rape, then is an effective political device. It is not an isolated and arbitrary act of violence by one individual against another (consider gang-rape in this context), it is a political act of oppression by members of a powerful class over members of an oppressed class. Rape is supported and encouraged by consensus within the male class. It is preached by male-controlled all-pervasive media with only the barest minimum of disguise and restraint. It is commercialised in our "active dating" system. It is communicated to men as an act of freedom and strength and a male right not to be denied or forfeited at any cost.

Sources:  
 Andra Medea, and Kathleen Thompson: Against Rape - A Survival Manual for Women (1974).  
 Susan Griffin, Rape, the All American Crime (Ramparts)  
 Germaine Greer, Seduction is a Four Letter Word. 1974. (Playboy)



**RAPE IS ABOUT POWER RAPE IS ASSAULT BUT MORE THAN THAT BEING DELIBERATE & MOSTLY PREMEDITATED VIOLATION OF WOMAN SELF RAPE IS AN ACT OF WAR AN INVASION AN ASSERTION OF MALE DOMINANCE**

# learning to know your own body

## SELF HELP

Ginny has just returned to Australia in March this year after spending two and a half years in Germany. The last six months she spent on the dole just living and working with women in Berlin. She joined "Women on Campus" at Adelaide University and has begun a self-help group which is still only in its initial stages but which will, I feel sure go on to bigger and better things.

When did you first hear about Self-Help Groups. And what was your first reaction?

When I was in Germany. My first reaction was one of distaste - a feeling of having distaste for my own body, especially my sexual organs. It could possibly be something to do with sex or just that I felt that generally it was up to a Doctor to fix me up. The distaste indicated that I couldn't accept myself. I asked myself, why? Wasn't it important? The very feelings of aversion I had made me determined to overcome this.

What did you do?

For about six months in Germany I avoided it. Then I went to a meeting at the Women's Health Centre where a woman gave a demonstration of a self-examination; inserting a speculum and showing us where her uterus was and just generally what things looked like. This woman impressed me because she was able to demonstrate facts about the body with no trace of horror. It was totally de-mythified.

What effect did joining the group have on you?

It was probably the first time I felt good and well with other women. I had nothing to hide - no secrets anymore.

What made you want to start up a group in Adelaide?

I got a lot from the group in Germany. I'd always felt bad with my body, I'd never liked it and feelings of sexual competition between women only strengthen one's own feelings of shame. The feelings in the group helped me overcome all this - I knew it was only the beginning, and I wanted to continue when I came back to Adelaide.

What are the implications of self-help?

Well, it's a means of de-mystifying our sexuality. We are learning to have a new relationship with our own bodies and therefore to have new relationships with other people.

We now have started the group in Adelaide. What sort of practical things can we get into?

The first practical implication is that you can simply observe whether you have a healthy uterus. Finding out, for example, that you may have a healthy uterus even when a doctor says you don't have.

You can learn to observe monthly changes in the niucus in a monthly cycle - which is a great help to women who want to rely on the rythm method.

You can learn to diagnose simple things like thrush, and trichomonas. You can learn to take some smear tests; to observe if you have cervicitis and to see if you have venereal disease.

By observation and using smears you can note with cervicitis that your cervix is red with scratches on it and the mucous membrane sometimes comes out of the opening. You will learn that the thickness, colour and smell of your mucous will change throughout the month. You will sometimes be able to diagnose pregnancy up to two weeks before tests will show positive, by noting the bluish colour of your cervix. Some women in Germany are beginning to experiment with folk cures for everything. For instance, thrush can be cured with yoghurt.

Basically it means that with simple illnesses, even if you want them handled by a doctor, you can go along without terrible feelings of guilt and helplessness. You can have some idea of what's going on. Going to a doctor involves moralising and now you are free to avoid all this.

Are there other things we could get into as well?

Some really radical women in Germany are working with menstrual extraction. This involves inserting a fine tube into the uterus and removing the menstrual blood under slight pressure. It does not require a local anesthetic and involves only slight discomfort.

Menstrual extraction is forbidden in Germany where abortion is outlawed almost totally. The woman who attended our Self Help group wouldn't talk much about it to us but said they'd been experimenting for about a year with no ill effects. You see, menstrual extraction could have side effects due to risk of infection when inducing anything into the uterus. Menstrual extraction is so easy and demysifiable, like abortion. They should stop telling us abortion is so difficult when menstrual extraction has proved to be so simple and can be performed with no anaesthetic. Doctors now could perform menstrual extractions which would be of great help to women who have bad menstrual cramps. They could have periods which would be over in a couple of minutes.

What about Self Help for younger women?

I think it could teach girls not to be afraid or ashamed of their bodies.

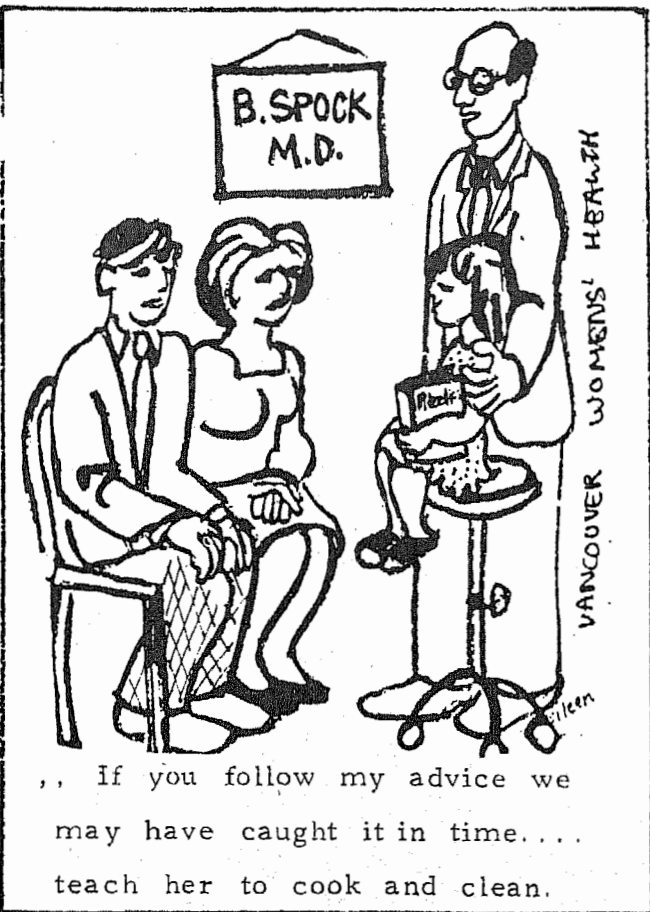
How do you feel about the Adelaide group now even though its just begun? I remember the first night we got together - the incredible curiosity everyone had about everyone else's cervix and just the sheer wonder of knowing after all those years.

The group here is not really established yet. There were a lot of women who said they wanted to come along and didn't. They are feeling the same shyness that I felt. There is still quite a lot of shyness but the interest is definitely there. We will have to persevere.

All you need to do a self-examination is a speculum which can be bought for about forty cents from a wholesale surgical goods place. Get the ones with the ratchet as they stay open better. A torch and a mirror. If you have a lamp you will be able to manage on your own but someone should probably hold the torch for you.



The group here is rigging up little globes on clips to be attached to the speculums with long wires attached to a battery. Don't worry if you can't find your cervix at first. We have them in all different places and they can all look quite different and still be normal. We have ordered some slides from Germany which we may be able to get copies of for anyone interested. If you wish to know anything else please contact Women's Self-Help Group, c/- Adelaide University Students' Association, or the Women's Department of AUS.







For ten days during the May vacation, the Adelaide University Students for Australian Independence in a coalition called the Campaign Against Foreign Military Bases engaged in a protest at Alice Springs against the Pine Gap military base, which nestled in the beautiful Everard Ranges, is masked under the euphemistic title of "Joint Space Research Facility, Pine Gap".

This base receives and relays information about U.S.S.R. and Chinese nuclear bases - for example, when nuclear silos are preparing to fire and the sites and times of firing of any nuclear missile. This information is essential to the U.S. if it is to retain its nuclear retaliation capabilities and hence its aggressive imperialist foreign policy strategies.

Obviously such a base situated on Australian soil would automatically place Australia as an ally of the U.S. in any nuclear exchange and also make Australia a prime nuclear target. The Americans have no established ICBM defence system in Australia so one can conclude that in the event of such an exchange this base, along with other U.S. bases in Australia and the surrounding Australian people would be destroyed.

# a holiday at pine gap.

With the present U.S. policy of detente, the continuing U.S.S.R. policy of aggressive expansion in the Indian Ocean and in Africa, and the concept of limited war between these superpowers, bases outside the U.S. such as Pine Gap, become evermore threatening to any country that harbours them. The protestors hoped to create an awareness of this threat both to Alice Springs, which is only 15 km from the base, and to the Australian nation as a whole.

The protest group left Adelaide in two buses with about eighty people all told. One bushload went to Whyalla and one to Pt. Pirie to hold protests and later they met at Pt. Augusta. Both protests met with a positive reception, and along with local reaction at Pt. Augusta, this boosted the protestors' morale over the three day drive to Alice Springs. On the trip up most ideological differences amongst the group members had been resolved and they arrived much more united than initially.

Upon arrival they were met by a vanguard group who left a week earlier to leaflet the town, check out the cops and establish friendly relations with the townspeople.

It was discovered that one hundred police had assembled, Commonwealth, A.S.I.O., C.I.B. and military and that the local paper had ran a scathing article about the demonstration, headed "Ignore Thugs' Plea as Police Prepare". This article was well studded with quotes from the police and the Country Party spokesman, Senator Kilgariff. The latter was quoted as saying,

"My feeling is that we should ignore the mob, attend none of their rallies and if they overstep the mark, leave it to the police to enforce law and order" and

"give no favour to this latest bunch of stirers who have come here in an endeavour to tell us that the presence of our American friends is dangerous to our health".

This opposition only served to strengthen the resolve of the protestors. Symbolic of this was a desire to stage a protest at the base even before setting up camp.

At the base the full importance of the protest was exhibited by the reaction of the police. A large group was engaged in constant vigilance at the base, while several plain clothes police were to be seen by demonstrators maintaining a constant watch over the camp, over locals in pubs talking to demonstrators and even photographing local people who lingered too long at street theatres. They were also standing

at the entrance of a meeting hall used for a rally, checking for townspeople.

In Alice Springs, the intimidation by the Commonwealth and military police was evidenced many times by townspeople saying that although they supported the demonstration they wouldn't join in as they recalled previous cases of brutality by the police against local citizens especially aborigines.

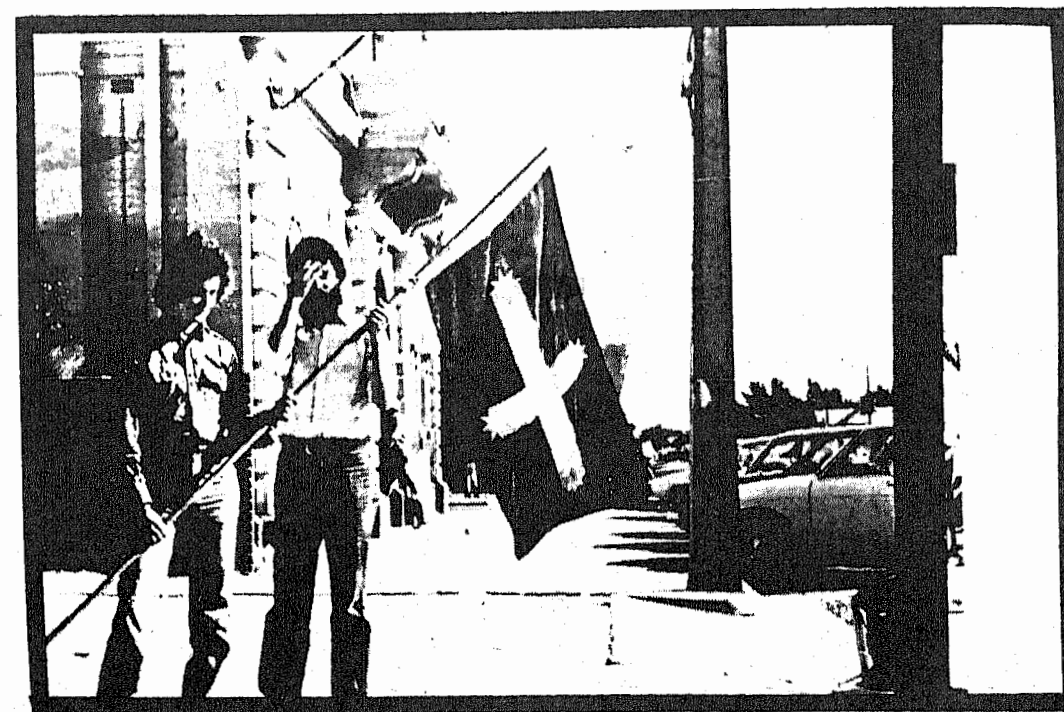
Street theatre, leafletting, public relations and a rally in a hall occupied the three days spent in Alice. Public response was generally good; however, a cynical pragmatism toward the base seemed to be the most common reaction with little hope expressed that the base could be removed. However, well-wishers were numerous and a local organization was established to destroy all gross apparatus of U.S. militarism in Alice Springs.

One special event on the trip was a 'picnic' out to the base in which the majority of the demonstrators drew off the police while others entered the base area gaining valuable information and photos. This will be used to further the case against the base. The area around the base assumed the character of a guerilla war situation as police on bikes, foot and in jeeps combed the countryside for demonstrators. They arrested two, but simply drove most they caught back

to boundary fences. The whole tenor of the police action was one of intimidation, not direct confrontation. This low-key response of police was probably to avoid publicity about their actions.

The trip back to Adelaide was made even more uncomfortable than the trip up as one of the two buses broke down, and everybody had to pile into one, and between the potholed roads and the dust and taking turns at sitting in the aisles, the result was a worn and weary group of patriots, glad to finally see the welcoming faces of friends at Adelaide University.

A party was held to consolidate friendships and discuss the trip, with the general opinion being voiced that it had been successful in achieving its aim of alerting not only Alice Springs to the dangers the base poses but of creating a heightened consciousness throughout Australia concerning the threat of foreign bases.



# I NEVER SAW SO MANY SHOCKING BAD HATS IN MY LIFE!



Welcome folks! See the all-smiling, rip-off, shady actors (including Reagan) of the real world - the American politicians! Come on Malcolm, Gough and Joh - aren't you a few years behind your 'friends across the Pacific'? Just take a second gander (er - sorry, "duck!") at Ronald, Gerry Ford and the other guys. Aren't they just ever-so-subtle in how they win over the people! Just put a big grin (like Jimmy Carter) and put on a hat. If you are a politician and are conning a mob of ship-building workers, the talk is bound to float at least 100 kilometres over their heads - and it's the same for firemen, pancake makers, trendies at Thredbo, cowboys and nurses. So what do you do?

As said before (unless you read from the bottom instead of the top) put on a hat and so before you have said a word, the most unintelligent voter is bound to catch onto your tokenism. And tokenism it is, just like baby-kissing, hand-shaking and backslapping; the newspaper cameras are all that count so long as the politician is caught with a smile and not a groan.



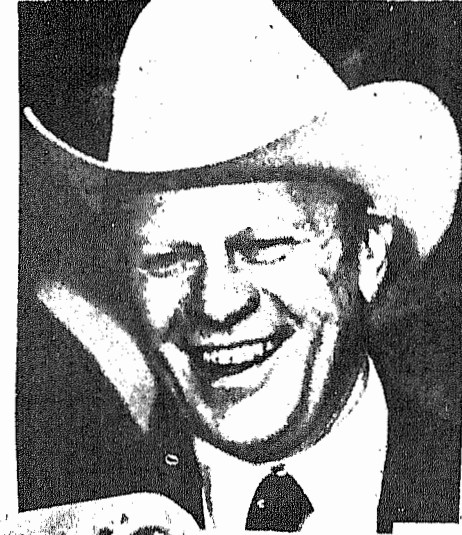
Lewis Carroll ALICES ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND.

"Take off your hat," the King said to the hatter.  
 "It isn't mine," said the Hatter.  
 "STOLEN!" the King exclaimed, turning to the jury, who instantly made a memorandum of the fact.  
 "I keep them to sell," the Hatter added as an explanation.  
 "I've none of my own. I'm a hatter."

Malcolm F. should have worn one of those little Chinese cloth caps, while in China, with an 'I like Mao' badge on it, in Chinese of course. After all, how many Chinese understand English and so understand him talking? (How many Australians understand him talking?) Have the Chinese even HEARD of Australia, kangaroos and F.J. Holdens? Gough W. would have had a problem; he would need a couple of extra cases to carry his (large size) hats while on his Grand Tour of Europe. WHO is going to pay for the excess baggage charge? Joh B-P could wear a nice little straw number while sunning himself in the Torres Straights so that he wouldn't be THAT conspicuous among the locals. And did Don D. wear a furry cap (or whatever they call it) over in Russia?

The possibilities are brimless. Ah well, it would be a fitting change to the heads of state.

# MANY SHOCKING BAD HATS IN MY LIFE!



"Pass the hat for your credit's sake, and pay-pay-pay!" - Rudyard Kipling (therefore, students would be better off financially with hats on?)

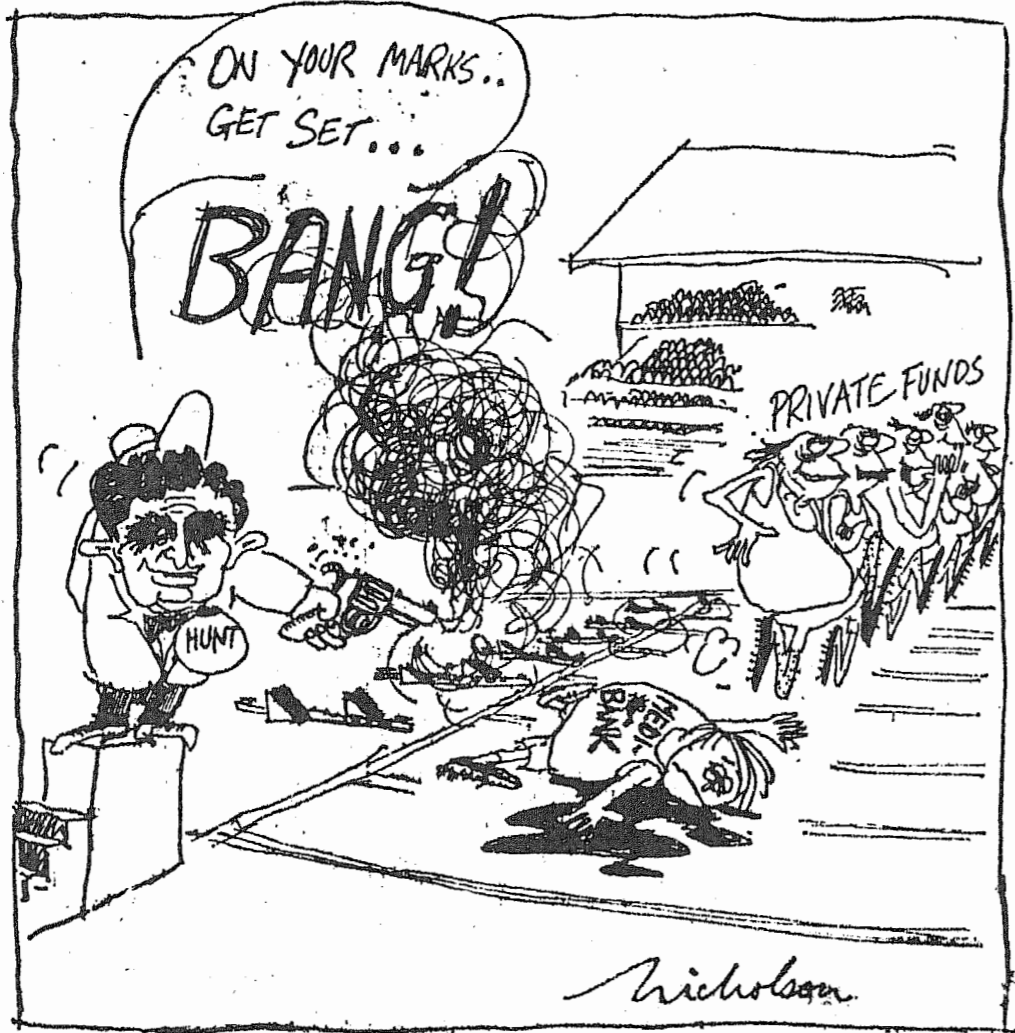
On top of the Crumpetty Tree  
 The Quangle Wangle sat,  
 But his face you could not see  
 On account of his Beaver Hat.  
 For his Hat was a hundred and two feet wide,  
 With ribbons and bibbons on every side.  
 And bells, and buttons, and loops, and lace,  
 So that nobody ever could see the face  
 Of the Quangle Wangle Quee.  
 Edward Lear.



"Where did you get that hat?  
 Where did you get that title?  
 Isn't it a noblely one, and just the proper style?  
 I should like to have one just the same as that!  
 Where'er I go they shout, 'Hello!  
 Where did you get that hat?'"  
 James Rolmar



Sir William Fraser on seeing the first reformed parliament.



As soon as he was elected, Fraser did the opposite of what he promised. He set out to destroy Medibank as a universal health scheme.

In January 1976 Fraser set up a Medibank Review Committee to plan its dismantling as a universal health scheme. At the same time he held regular meetings with representatives of the Private Health Funds.

A plan was drawn up to force over half the population out of Medibank. Then what was left of the scheme would be gradually destroyed. Medical care would be put back entirely into the hands of profit-seeking private insurance companies.

On May 20th 1976, the Liberal Treasurer announced a 2.5 per cent tax levy on incomes would be applied from October 1st, to pay for the cost of Medibank. Why 2.5 per cent? During negotiations between the ACTU and the Government in June it became clear that this figure was not related to the actual cost of Medibank.

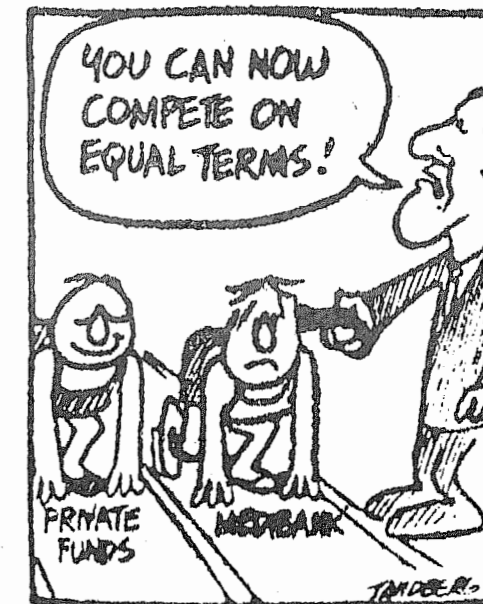
The tax levy was set at 2.5 per cent because this was the levy which would make it more attractive for over half the population to take out private health insurance and leave Medibank.

Thousands of wage earners protested. Through their representative body, the ACTU, it was suggested that wage earners should pay no more than the actual cost of Medibank. Repeated attempts were made by the ACTU to negotiate with the Government on the issue.

their living standards. On October 1, pay packets will be lighter. Action must be taken now.

## what is happening to living standards

Medibank is only one aspect of the Fraser strategy. Don Dunstan summed it up recently with the comment that "Australian workers are facing the gravest assault on their living standards since the late 1920's."



# WHY THE FUSS OVER MEDIBANK ?!

## medibank history

The Liberal Party tried to destroy Medibank from the start. Malcolm Fraser is completing the job.

Medibank was part of Labour Party policy at the 1972 Federal election. The people voted for it.

A bill to set it up was introduced into parliament in early 1974. The Liberals in the Senate refused to pass the bill.

A federal election was called in May 1974 to let the Australian people decide if it should go through. A majority of people voted in favor of Medibank for the second time. Despite this, the Liberals still obstructed  
page 20

it. The Liberal-Country Party Senators refused to pass a bill for a 1.35 per cent levy on all incomes to fund the scheme. The Labor Party was forced to fund it out of general taxation revenue.

The cost, in any case, was more than covered by the increase in government revenue from taxation. In the next two years the amount of tax being paid by Australian taxpayers increased by much more than the cost of Medibank.

In 1975 Malcolm Fraser got elected on a number of promises. One of them was that he would preserve and strengthen Medibank. On 27th November, 1975, he said: "We will maintain Medibank and ensure that the standard of health care does not decline".

The Fraser Government pretended to listen at first. But on 2nd July it flatly rejected the ACTU request to reduce the levy. It said the levy would remain at 2.5 per cent. No adequate grounds were given for the rejection of the ACTU proposal.

The real reason for this refusal was suggested by Health Minister Hunt on June 14. He admitted that with a lower levy more people would remain in Medibank.

This would work against the Fraser Government's policy of cutting government expenditure by dismantling social services.

The Liberal Government behavior has given wage earners no choice but to take direct action to protect

The Fraser Government is attempting to bring about a revival of investment in the private sector by transferring real resources from wage earners to private company profit. This means pursuing policies to reduce the real living standards of people in the workforce. This has been done in a number of ways:

- In February the Government cut expenditure on Social Services by \$360 million.
- Fraser tried to reintroduce television licences and abolish child endowment and the funeral benefit for pensioners. His party had to restrain him.
- The expenditure cuts and the credit squeeze which the Government has applied means that unemployment remains high. The effects will be increased unemployment by the end of the year.

- The Fraser Government has intervened in wage indexation hearings twice this year with the aim "to reduce real wages". The second attempt was successful, resulting in the introduction of a "plateau" system. This reduces the real standard of living of workers earning more than \$125 per week.

- On May 20, a mini-budget was introduced. The effect of it was that from October 1, workers earning between \$140 and \$200 per week will pay more tax than before. The Medibank levy was a part of this package.

- In early June, at a Premiers Conference, Fraser cut back Federal Government grants to the States. This will further reduce social services.

- In August Fraser intends to bring down the worst "horror budget" in living memory. The cuts in welfare and social services will further reduce living standards. Wage earners must act before this happens.

## what is happening to health care

### Public Health Care is Being Dismantled

This is happening in the following ways:

- Cuts of \$100 million have been made in health care

expenditure. More cuts are to come. Medibank expenditure has been cut by \$450 million.

- Over fifty per cent of the population is to be "encouraged to insure privately" by the high Medibank levy. The rest will be forced out of Medibank eventually as public health care funds are progressively cut back.

- Not only is the Fraser Government destroying Medibank it is requiring taxpayers to pay an extra \$50 million to help with the destruction. The Government is giving a \$50 million subsidy to private health funds, so that they will be able to offer rates close to the Medibank rate. See Australian Financial Review 3.6.76 p.1 "Government's Anti-Medibank Tactics"

- Fraser has returned 50 per cent of the running costs of public hospitals to the State Governments. The Hospital Development program has been slashed by \$43 million.

Because of this public hospital day charges have been doubled. There will be overcrowding, staff and service shortages. The standard of public health care will deteriorate.

People on lower incomes will receive sub-standard medical care. People on higher incomes will pay much more for health care.

- There will be an expansion of high-cost private hospitals as patients are forced from the inadequate public hospitals system. Eventually, Fraser hopes, the entire health care system will be in the hands of private companies.

The effect of this, as seen in the U.S.A., is to make health care the captive of monopoly companies; to increase the costs enormously for those who can afford health care; and to deny adequate health care completely to low income earners.

## the levy

The Fraser Government will impose a 2.5 per cent income tax levy from October 1, to finance Medibank. The ACTU argues that a 1.6 per cent levy would cover the cost of Medibank.

An example of what you would pay is given in the following table:

WEEKLY INCOME	TAXPAYER WITH DEPENDANT SPOUSE	TAXPAYER WITH DEPENDANT SPOUSE
WEEKLY INCOME	FRASER'S 2.5% LEVY: WEEKLY PAYMENT \$	ACTU 1.6% LEVY: WEEKLY PAYMENT \$
\$ 100	2.50	1.60
120	3.00	1.92
140	3.50	2.24
160	4.00	2.56
180	4.50	2.88
200	5.00	3.20
220	5.50	3.52

The Government levy cuts out as a percentage of income at \$12,000. Above that it is a flat rate, based on 2.5 per cent of \$12,000.

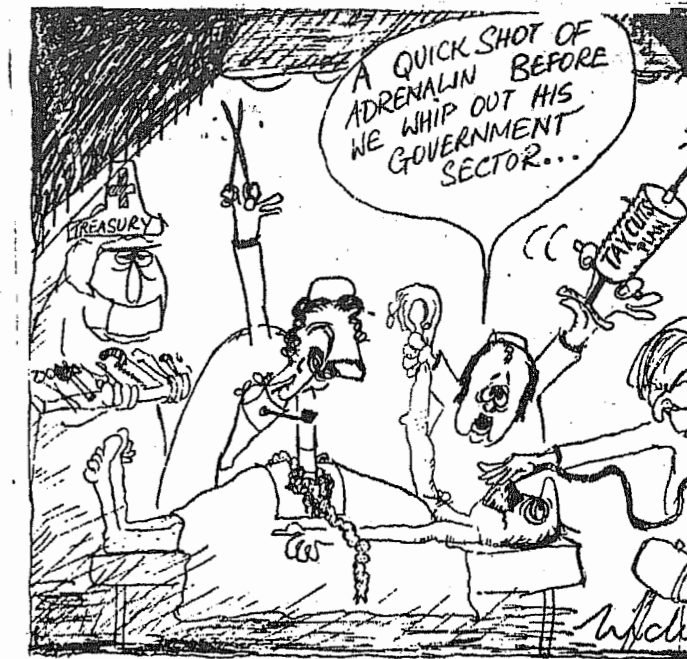
The ACTU wants the percentage of income levy to apply right up the income scale.

The 2.5 per cent levy has been set to force over half the population out of Medibank. However the Fraser Government has refused to give a guarantee that the levy won't be increased if private health funds fail to match the performance of Medibank.

If too many people stay in Medibank the levy will be increased to drive them out.

The levy is not a fixed sum. If workers wages go up, either through indexation or outside of it, their Medibank payment will increase. If they work more overtime, the amount they pay to Medibank will increase.

Medibank now provides for intermediate and private



ward cover. But the cost of these, according to Government estimates, means that it will be cheaper for people to obtain full private health insurance than to stay in Medibank. Even low income earners would be forced to pay this same cost, and thus to insure privately. This can be seen from the following table:

FAMILY ANNUAL INCOME	BASIC COVER 2½%	INTERMEDIATE COVER
\$	\$	\$
8,600	215	135
9,000	225	125
9,500	237.5	112.5
10,000	250	100
10,500	262.5	87.5
11,000	275	75
11,500	287.5	62.5
12,000	300	50

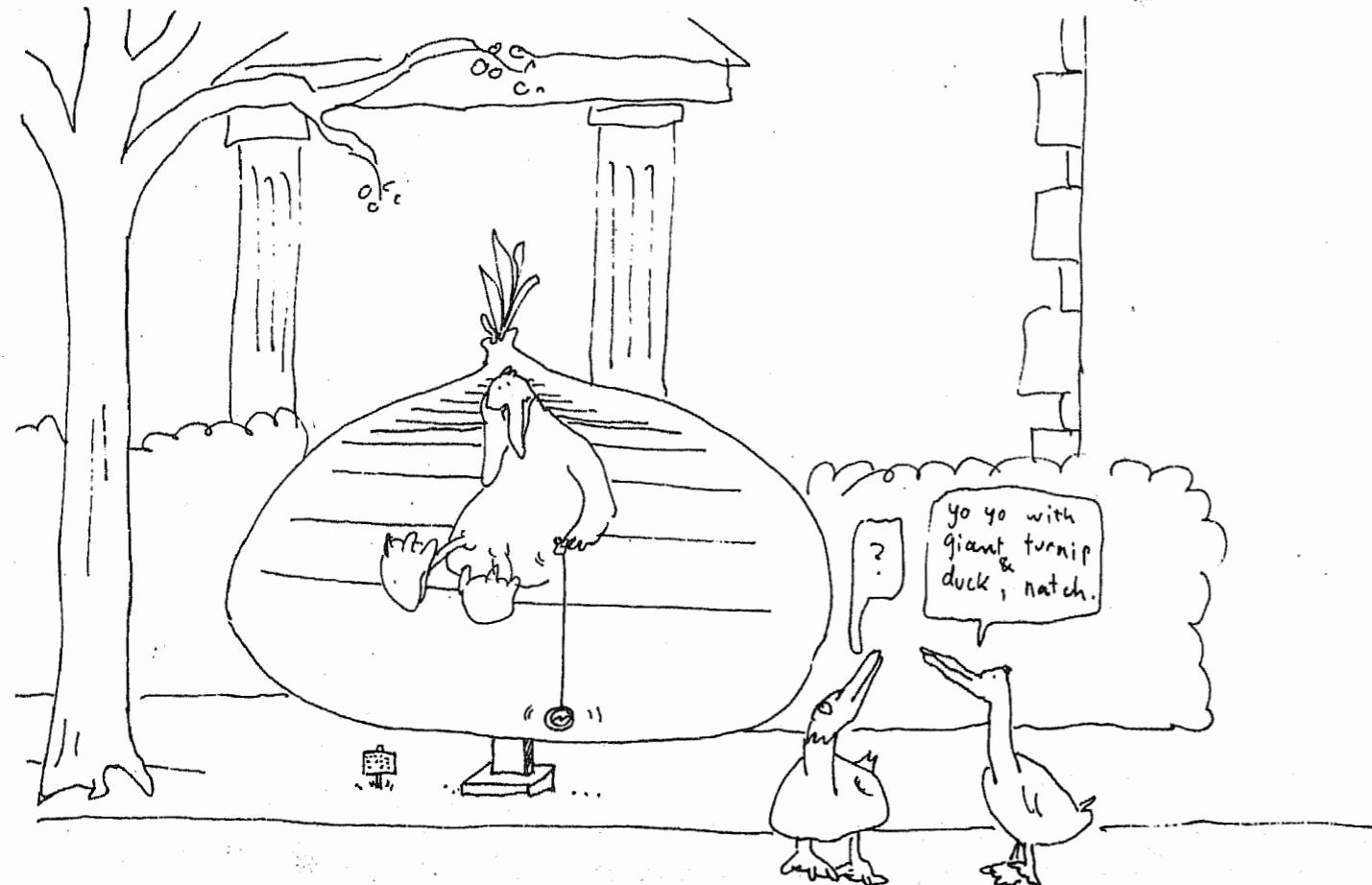
### THE IMPORTANCE OF MEDIBANK

The attack on Medibank is only part of a broader attack on the living standards of wage earners. This makes resistance to what is being done to Medibank all the more important.

Fraser believes that if he can get away with dismantling Medibank - which a majority of Australians voted for twice - then he can succeed with his whole strategy to reduce living standards.

Fraser must be forced to back down. But more than that, he must be made to honour his promises. In 1975, before he was elected, Malcolm Fraser said: "We will lead Australia to prosperity, creating jobs and opportunities. We will protect those in need of help. Medibank, pensions, education and social welfare will all be strengthened by honest, responsible government."

He has done the opposite. It is time the Australian working people made him live up to these promises.





# Ananda Marga and Gandhi's India

"Struggle is the essence of life. Yours should be a pauseless struggle against corruption, hypocrisy and animality", wrote Shrii Shrii Anandamurti to his disciples on New Year's Day 1960..

Then his words seemed only inspirational rhetoric. Now Anandamurti and his disciples are fighting for their lives. In 1960, Ananda Marga, the organisation founded by Anandamurti was barely five years old and just beginning to exert its moral and spiritual influence on Indian society. Today it is bearing the full force of Indira Gandhi's repressive attack on civil liberties and dissent. Anandamurti himself has been imprisoned for over four years; for the past three years he has been on a liquid fast in protest against the mistreatment he has received in jail, including an attempted poisoning.

The crisis engulfing India today is the legacy of British colonial rule and the failure of the Indian independence movement to solve the basic social problems created by that legacy. The British Raj was basically an economic venture which exploited the subcontinent for all it was worth and left behind a very inequitable social and economic system presided over by a thoroughly Westernised ruling class. The fact that the colonial government gave the Indian peoples a common language (English) and a sense of identity which helped them to fight for independence represents poetic, but hardly intentional, justice.

Many Indian leaders saw the dangers inherent in passive acceptance of Western ways. Shrii Ramakrishna embodied the power of Indian spiritual tradition and scorned all forms of materialism, while demonstrating that all religions are essentially one. His great disciple, Swami Vivekananda,

carried this message to America, where he overwhelmed the World Parliament of Religions with his spirit and power. Returning to India, he devoted himself to rekindling the spirit of his people through the Ramakrishna Mission, an order of renunciates dedicated to service and education as well as contemplation. Swami Vivekananda never entered politics but many who heard his message were inspired to join the independence movement. One of these was Subash Chandra Bose who gave up his early desire to follow Vivekananda's path in order to lead the radical wing of the Indian National Congress. Bose's chief concern was that independence should be followed by internal reorganization that would put an end to indigenous economic exploitation.

However, Mohandas Gandhi, concerned more with a unified political front than with the program for basic economic reorganization, drove Bose out of the Congress in order to maintain the coalition of capitalists, labourers, conservatives and radicals that composed it. This strategy may have hastened Independence Day, but it left the new nation with a divided leadership incapable of carrying out any effective reforms.

Eight years after independence Anandamurti (then known by his given name, Prabhat Rainjain Sarkar) took up the work pioneered by Vivekananda and Bose. In 1955 he gathered together several of his personal disciples and formed an organization to propagate Ananda Marga (the Path of Bliss), a synthesis of traditional tantric and yogic practices with a carefully planned program of service and social reform. By the early 1960's the organisation was large enough to support full-time workers, and it formed an order of renunciates who spread all over India, initiating others and found-



ing schools, children's homes and relief teams. The renunciates' motto was "Liberation for Self and Service to the World".

The goal of Ananda Marga's service work was not simply to fill minds and bellies and to bandage wounds, but to engender a dynamic spiritual society. It gave out inspiration and hope, along with the bread and milk - "You are the child of a great Father, the whole universe is your home, you have every right to use it to the fullest." It raised expectations and offered a means for realising them.

The effectiveness of ERAWS (the Education, Relief and Welfare Section) in dealing with the problems of poverty and disaster greatly accelerated the growth of Ananda Marga and gave it a base among the common people. In one village that had been struck by an earthquake, the Ananda Marga workers were on the scene almost before the tremors had stopped, and well before other agencies had a clear idea of what had happened. The villagers were so impressed by the promptness and efficiency of the relief that they joined Ananda Marga en masse.

In another village, the Margiis performed a different kind of service. A band of thugs who styles themselves as communists were extorting protection money from shopkeepers in the local market. Members of Ananda Marga visited all the shopkeepers and persuaded them to resist the extortion. The next time the "communists" came to collect, the people refused to pay. Returning that night to destroy the shops, the

thugs found the market well defended by the organised shopkeepers, and so were forced to end their harassment.

In just eight years (1963-71) ERAWS founded 250 primary and secondary schools, as compared to 153 schools being operated by the Ramakrishna Mission after 66 years (in 1963). At the height of its popularity, Ananda Marga had two million members, many of them intellectuals and government officials dissatisfied by India's slow growth and pervasive corruption. The Congress Party paper "Current", reported that half the police superintendents in Bihar State were members of Ananda Marga, a situation that disturbed the central government since Ananda Marga was becoming much more specific in its criticisms of the Government and the social structure. A few Margiis had joined a political party (the PROUTist Bloc of India) based on Anandamurti's social philosophy (PROgressive Utilisation Theory) and had contested a number of elections, though with a notable lack of success: not even all the Margiis voted for the PROUT candidates.

In 1969 the Government tried, unsuccessfully, to ban all government employees from membership of Ananda Marga, claiming that it was itself a political organisation. Elsewhere its opponents were taking more direct action, Ananda Nagar, the Ananda Marga headquarters, located on a large tract of land in rural West Bengal, had a children's home, primary school, liberal arts and technical colleges, a lepers' home and a medical clinic, as well as an ashram and printing press. These programs gave it a strong local influence and local officials sought its support for their own careers.

Rebuffed, they began a campaign of public denunciation and harassment of Ananda Marga, stirring up the villagers with tales of land grabbing and sacrilligious acts by the Margiis. They succeeded in gathering a mob which attacked Ananda Nagar and killed five unarmed workers on March 5, 1967, while the police stood by. After several years of legal wrangling nine of the conspirators were convicted and given sentences ranging from three years to life, while none of the sixty five charges brought against the Margiis held up in court. After protracted trials sixty-three cases were acquitted, two are still pending. Last July, however, Ananda Nagar was totally destroyed and all the workers either spread or were imprisoned.

Anandamurti calmly presided over this growing turmoil, guiding his disciples and preparing them for each ordeal. His whole life seemed remarkable to those who knew him, but he never showed any personal inclination towards the prominence he was acquiring. A brilliant student, he had left college to support his family when his father died. At the railway office in Jamalpur where he worked as an accountant, he soon became known as "the walking encyclopedia" - he seemed to know about everything. After the formation of Ananda Marga, he continued to work there until the workers requested that he devote himself full time to the mission he had founded. As

president of Ananda Marga, he refused to draw a salary and supported his wife and son on the small earnings from his published books.

Despite his quiet demeanour, there was no ignoring the powerful effect Anandamurti had on other people, and in 1971 Ananda Marga's enemies singled him out for attack. This group was not composed solely of corrupt officials and wary politicians. Conservative Hindus reacted against his campaign to abolish the caste system; prosperous businessmen and landowners felt threatened by its socialistic ideals; and, most importantly, communists found it eroding their base among the poor and among disaffected intellectuals. The Communist Party of India (CPI, the pro-Soviet bloc) was an important factor in Mrs Gandhi's rising power, and it was not averse to contributing its power to the effort to suppress Ananda Marga. Anandamurti has accused the Soviet KGB of organising much of the anti-Ananda Marga activity; recently the Soviet press carried articles denouncing Ananda Marga and calling for its abolition not only in India but throughout the world.

Serious harassment of Anandamurti began when he was arrested in June 1971 in connection with the alleged discovery of bombs and weapons at the recently vacated Ananda Marga headquarters in Ranchi, Bihar (where it had moved in 1967 following the trouble at Ananda Nagar). The office had also been raided several weeks previously while it was still in operation, and nothing had been found. At the time of his arrest, Anandamurti was already living in Patna, the capital of Bihar, a city some distance from Ranchi. After six weeks he was released on bail.

Also in the Ranchi incident was a monk known as Madha-

vananda, who some time later voluntarily confessed to having murdered a number of disaffected workers at Anandamurti's behest. In exchange for a pardon, he agreed to testify against his former guru. In December 1971 Anandamurti was arrested again and charged with conspiracy to commit murder.

In December 1975, after four years, the case had finally been brought to trial. From the beginning, Anandamurti and his co-defendants have maintained that the charges are fabricated and the case itself is politically motivated. The judge who originally committed the case to trial did so with major reservations, citing inconsistencies in Madhavananda's testimony and the lack of corroboration. Since then Anandamurti has survived an attempted poisoning. When authorities failed to allow a judicial enquiry he began a protest fast which he still continues over 3 years later, taking only rice water each day.

Following the State of Emergency, declared June 1975), Ananda Marga along with several other organizations was banned. According to Indian sources, 90% of Ananda Marga monks and nuns have been arrested along with 50% of the lay members. Increasingly violent persecution has tested the strength of the Margiis conviction. Although the majority have left the organization (current membership in India is probably less than 10,000) those who remain are clearly willing to die for their ideals.

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"Mother, what is a Feminist?"  
 "A Feminist, my daughter  
 Is any woman now who cares  
 To think about her own affairs  
 As men don't think she oughter."

- Alice Duer Miller, 1915

# WOMEN & MEDIBANK

The Health Care and Social Welfare system in Australia is in chaos. Health costs are exorbitant. Public and Private hospitals are overcrowded with bursting casualty departments, which means hospital workers, of which the majority are women, are overworked and underpaid.

Costs of drugs and prescriptions are skyrocketing. Women are prescribed drugs by doctors who have no understanding of women's bodies or of the long term effects of these drugs on women's bodies and minds.

Nursing home beds are a luxury and pensions are totally inadequate.

## WHAT THIS MEANS TO WOMEN

Funding Womens Health Centres  
 page 28

The Womens' Health Centre, (Phone 46 6521), was planned and set up by Women's Liberation between 1973-76, and was officially opened in February, 1976. It was funded by the Federal Labor Government and also with money from the S.A. Labor Government. It was set up as an alternative for women seeking proper health care, where they could understand more about Women's health through other women and learn more about their own bodies.

At the moment there are no charges for health care, counselling, health education, English classes for migrant women. With Frasers proposals on Medibank and existing Health services the possibility of charges to poor women is high. If the Health Centre is to continue functioning it will be necessary to charge for everything that is now free. This in itself wrecks the whole concept of Women's Community Health Centres.

## ABORTION

The cost of abortion in S.A. under Medibank is nothing. With the changes that Fraser proposes, once again rich people will be able to get abortions with ease and minimal cost to them. Women who can't afford a child for financial and mental reasons will be unable to afford an abortion. If they are working it will be harder for them to take days off, because of the risk of being sacked.

With the likely slashing of single mothers' benefits, no financial help after pregnancy, no job, no free child care, etc., she will then have to try and support another human being.

This effectively means Fraser's Government gives doctors and backyard butchers the go ahead to perform unsafe illegal abortions, as well as the power to charge any amount they choose. This means once again, only the rich benefit under Fraser, and the poor will get poorer with no choice.

## PRIVATE ABORTION COSTS UNDER MEDIBANK

Service	Doctor	Total Cost	Under Medibank	What Women Paid
1st Con- sultation	Gyneac- ologist	\$18.00	\$15.30	\$2.70
Hospital (1 day)	"	\$54.50	\$16.00	\$38.50
Operation etc.	"	\$64.00	\$49.00	\$15.00
Anaesthetist	An- aethetist	\$33.00	\$24.35	\$9.65
Total:			\$104.65	\$65.85

The cost of an abortion in a private hospital is approximately \$170.00. At the moment Medibank pays \$105.00 and the woman pays \$65.00-\$70.00.

## EFFECT ON SINGLE MOTHERS

At the moment, the benefits for single mothers are:-  
 Women - \$82.50 and \$15.00 for each child fortnightly.  
 Initially, \$12.00 for each child under six.  
 \$8.00 for each child over six.

Fraser plans to tax all benefits. Single Mother's benefits are paid to single unemployed women, with children. If the woman gets a job, the benefits are immediately stopped. Most women on Single Mother's benefits are poor. If they choose to live by themselves, rents are high and if they live with a man, the Department of Social Security immediately assumes that the man is financially supporting her, no matter what his financial situation is. Her financial situation is always in jeopardy. Living alone with a child is only possible for women with money.

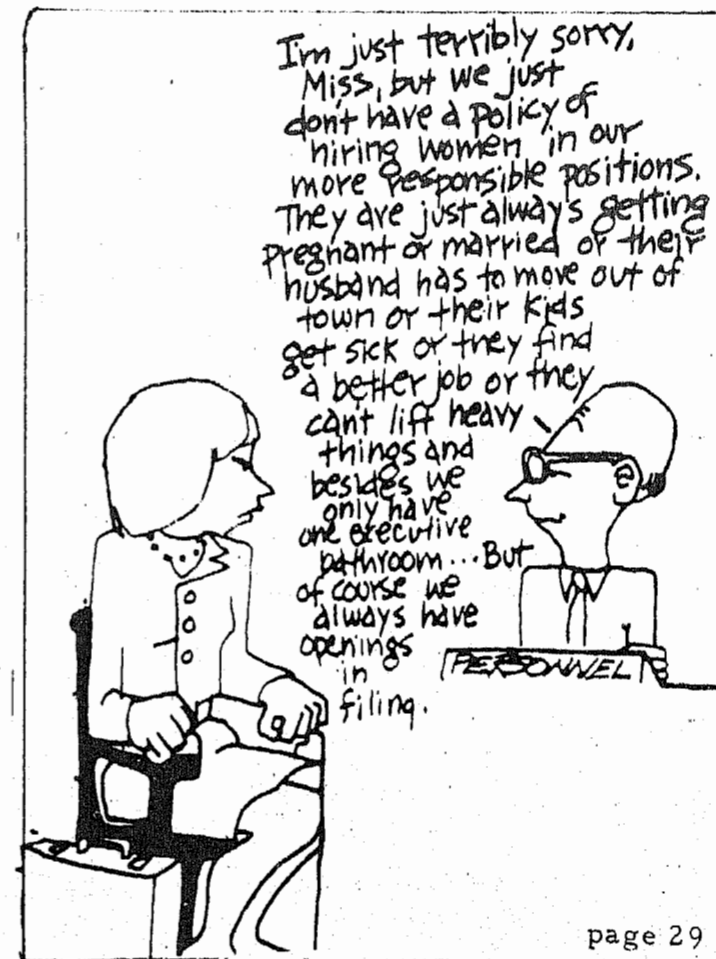
## TAX ON UNEMPLOYED WOMEN

83% of people receiving benefits from the Australian Department of Social Security are women. Women on unemployment benefits are single women without children who have to pay rent, eat, etc. As with Single Mother's Benefits, unemployed women will be taxed in the same way or will be forced to join a private health scheme, which is another financial burden, to be carried by the already poor.

## SINGLE WOMEN - EMPLOYED

The average weekly earning for a single woman is \$100 plus. They will join a private health fund because of the extra benefits, rich private health funds offer; for e.g., better medical attention because of Fraser's restrictions on proper health care under Medibank, and because of a high levy which will make private health schemes seem cheaper. This in itself will help cause the collapse of Medibank as a nationalised health scheme.

The Federal Minister for Health, Mr Hunt, has refused to guarantee that the levy for Medibank won't be increased if the private health insurance funds won't match the Medibank premium and not enough people opt out of Medibank. In fact, the levy will rise even before you begin paying it.



# FOUR PLAYS

## some good and some not so good

A REVIEW OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN THEATRE COMPANY'S FIRST SEASON OF PLAYS AND WHY OTHERWISE ENGAGED IS BETTER THAN A HANDFUL OF FRIENDS.

The South Australian Theatre Company's first season of plays (currently concluding with Otherwise Engaged at the Space) began with Shakespeare's Coriolanus and Tennessee Williams' Kingdom of Earth during the Festival of Arts. Next came the Nimrod Theatre Company with a two-play programme, Mates and Brothers, followed by two new plays - David Williamson's A Handful of Friends and now, Simon Gray's latest.

I found the season's productions rather uneven in choice and quality. It is difficult to see for example why Kingdom of Earth was performed. It would seem that the company banked on the appeal of producing the

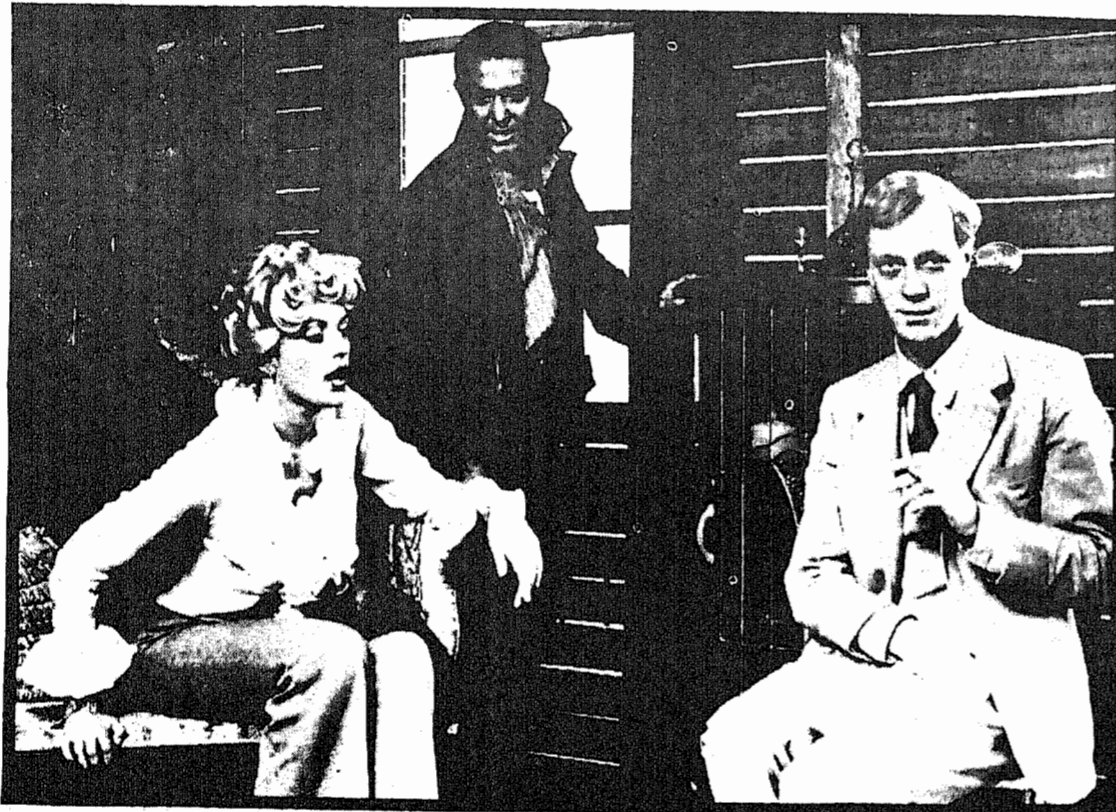
"latest" play by a visiting "star" because the play itself is little more than a predictable, slow-moving rehash of what Williams did so well long, long ago in such plays as Sweet Bird of Youth and A Streetcar Named Desire. If this was the reason, then it is a sorry state of affairs to see a state subsidised theatre company yield its artistic standards to the box office. (Remember - you pay twice to see any S.A.T.C. production - once at the ticket office and twice through the taxman). Even more disappointing was the experience of watching a professional group of actors squander their undoubted talent on a pot boiler. Anyone who saw the play knows the real reason Tennessee Williams chose not to come to the Festival...

Coriolanus was a different matter. The choice was good. Although debunking Shakespeare as the Great White God of English seems a trend current in some quarters, Shakespeare is still...well Shakespeare and Coriolanus,

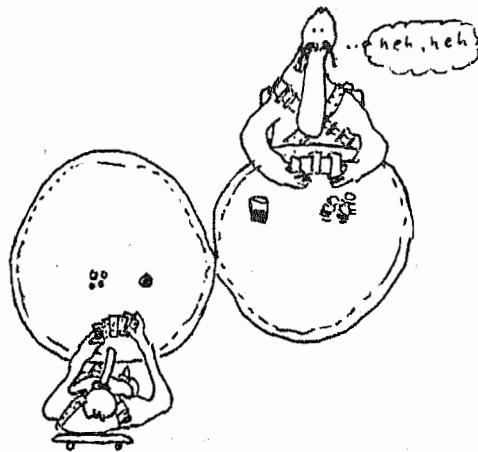
with its overtones of Capitalist Vs. Communist and State Vs the Individual is still very relevant today. But while the S.A.T.C's productions gave me an increased understanding of the play, I found it curiously flat in places. Despite (or rather, because of) all the glitter and glamour of the costuming and set, the productions, on occasions, lacked life. It was, at times too neat and tidy. This was most obvious in the battle scenes. Instead of an all-out ding-dong affair with swords clashing and heads rolling, director Ogilvie opted for a slow-motion mime scene in which swords moved sluggishly through the air (without actually hitting anybody) and bodies fell somehow grievously wounded, only to recover for the next scene. Surely if the designer takes pains to provide an authentic set, the director should try to ensure realistic action.

Unfortunately for the S.A.T.C., the Nimrod Theatre's production of Ron Blair's Brothers provided the first

highpoint of the season. In contrast to the excesses of Coriolanus, Brothers was a starkly simple production, requiring a minimum number of props from the Wardrobe Department, but the maximum amount of skill from Peter Carroll who played the one-man role. One of the play's great strengths is its capacity to heavily satirise the shortcomings of a narrow Catholic education without losing sympathy for the lonely, aging Brother who instructs his class in the faith he is no longer sure about. For all his violence, the Brother was revealed (in Carroll's sensitive performance) to be a pathetically human figure, striving to find meaning for a life from which the old certainties have disappeared. The most moving parts of the play were those when the Brother, stripped bare of dogma and ceremony (at the climax he actually removed his gown), told his "boys" about himself. Interestingly it was then, when he was most exposed,







that he seemed to relate best to his class. Thus while the destructive powers of religion were revealed and while the morality of imposing religious doctrine on children was severely questioned, one was left with the impression that there is hope yet for the Catholic (and for that matter, State) education systems while their administrators remain like Blair's and Carroll's Brother, simply human.

The second half of the season has seen the performance of two very recent plays, Williamson's A Handful of Friends and Gray's Otherwise Engaged. Quite accidentally (originally Steve Spear's There were Giants in Those Days was to have concluded the season), the choice of these two plays has given the Adelaide theatre-goers a chance to compare the standard of contemporary Australian and English drama.

There is sound basis for such a comparison. Firstly, on the production side, both plays were quite evenly matched. The set design for both was good (although ...Friends required more props - a dual stage in fact). The direction and standard of acting was also, on the whole, adequate and comparable, although again Otherwise Engaged was perhaps more striking in this regard because of the fine performance of Edwin Hodgeman in a role for which there is no real equivalent in ...Friends. Secondly, both plays concentrate on the life of the better-educated bourgeoisie. Both seem intended, moreover, for a middle to upper-middle-class audience. These are not necessarily limitations. As society becomes better educated and more affluent it is quite natural that playwrights of the social scene will want to focus closely on such an influential group. Furthermore, while ...Friends and Engaged contain a certain amount of "in" humour, both plays share more basic themes (beneath the surface of social satire) which the theatre-going proletariat (if it exists) should be able to relate to. Both plays are, in their different ways, about selfishness, self-fulfilment and the apparent helplessness of

the weak in the face of the strong. All the characters (in both plays) are searching for fulfilment in some form. In their search however the weak come up against the blatant self-interest of the strong while the strong, (in Williamson's play at least), have to overcome the pressure of their consciences before they can trample over the weak.

Williamson takes three rather vulnerable characters: a phoney academic with a weak wife and a two-faced sister and pits them against two of their oldest "friends" - an unscrupulous movie-director and his bitchy, movie-star wife. These adjectives are of course simplifications. All the characters (with the possible exception of the director's wife) are given reasonable credibility and a certain amount of depth by the presence of other, "redeeming" features in their personalities. There is some sympathy for the director's energy and artistic impulse for example, even if there is serious doubt about his taste and real talent. At the end a balance is achieved. The film director and his wife go off, apparently in triumph, to make their new film. The other three are left, apparently defeated, to adjust and pick up the pieces. During the other couple's stay however they have gained in self-knowledge. While it appears then that the meek will never inherit Williamson's earth, they at least learn humility and arrive at a fuller understanding of themselves. It is a tribute to Williamson to say that by the end of his play it is apparent that the professor, his now-separated wife and not-so-hypocritical sister are somehow ahead of the other couple in the stakes that really count. Strangely for an Australian audience however, the English play proves most stimulating on a more fundamental level than entertaining social satire. Gray's play is distinguished from Williamson's by its greater subtlety of structure and the greater complexity of its central character to any of those in ...Friends. The lucid exposition of Simon Hendi's personality gives ...Engaged a depth and concentration that ...Friends lacks. Coupled with this concentration on character, is an almost classical economy (interestingly ...Engaged observes the Greek dramatic unities of time, action and place) which makes ...Friends, with its dual stage, larger time span and murky revelations about the past seem rather loose and nearly clumsy in comparison. More could be said about the general superiority of Gray's play to Williamson's, on the level at which a good many people enjoy both plays - as social satire, or in the way that Gray's characters compliment each other and Williamson's don't, for example. However, if I suggest two of the underlying themes of Otherwise Engaged, its greater substance will hopefully become apparent.

Firstly, like A Handful of Friends Gray's play is (on one level) about the power that the "strong" wield over the "weak". Simon Hench for all his lively wit is a passive

figure, subject to annoying interruptions which prevent him from doing what he enjoys most - listening to Wagner. He cleverly disposes of the self-seeking Divinia in the first half of the play but she is able to turn his critic friend against him in the second half. Similarly, while he is too clever for his sponging student lodger at first, the student is reinforced later and continues to exploit his even-tempered host. Life for Simon Hench then is a constant stream of interruptions which prevent him, in very everyday terms, from finding fulfilment. He is, in a most frustrating way, Otherwise Engaged.

But Simon is "Otherwise engaged" in another sense too. The play's title also refers to his manner which is that of a detached observer rather than that of someone who is fully engaged with life. And while on the one hand Simon's surface passivity makes him vulnerable to the self-seeking, his even-tempered response to all that comes in his way has much to recommend it. His ironic manner allows him to confront his thick-headed brother for example without letting on what he really thinks of him. Most strikingly his detachment enables him to resist the temptation(s) of Divinia. When he does so we applaud his taste and good sense and one might well ask how, without irony as a defence, would Simon keep his standards intact. In a sense Simon, like most of us, is trying to lead his version of a normal, balanced life in a topsy-turvy world. Most importantly in Simon's favour, the reasonable love he feels for his wife is contrasted with the Lolita-like obsession of Wacker Stratley for his mistress. Stratley must know everything about his girl's love-life; Simon wants to know nothing about his wife's affair, not even when she insists on telling him. Why? Simply because he can't see that they're going to solve the problems in their marriage by talking about them. And he's right. What good does it really do to talk about your love life? Given the temptations that confront a marriage such as his isn't it better to keep one's affairs private? When you know that your wife is going to be hurt by the knowledge why tell her? To do so in one sense is the extreme act of selfishness.

This is one side of the picture. Otherwise Engaged (like A Handful of Friends) achieves a balance. The episode with Wacker Stratley is crucial. It comes exactly in the middle of the action and is the pivot for the whole play. For in the second half of ...Engaged the limitations of Simon's outlook are revealed. Firstly, while Stratley vindicates Simon's good sense he highlights his greatest failing - his inability to understand his wife. Secondly, when the critic reappears we realise that for all his faults he possesses something which Simon distinctly lacks - a spontaneous zest for life. The eye-ball contracting climax comes when Simon turns off Stratley's suicide message just before Stratley pulls the trigger. By

implication, Simon is unable to face the full force of life direct. He has to filter it through a persona mechanism before he can respond. Thus, by the end of the play (when he and the critic sit down to listen to Wagner - significantly Simon has forgotten that his friend introduced him to the composer in the first place), it is obvious that Simon's response can only be a partial one, limited by the emotional straitjacket he has placed on himself.

So if you're looking for a lively and entertaining night out plus something to think about over supper afterwards (particularly if you're seen A Handful of Friends), try Otherwise Engaged. I have spent so much space comparing these two plays not because I dislike Williamson's work but because if he is to be labelled as Australia's Greatest Playwright by some critics then we should be aware of where he stands internationally.

Unless you're

an S.A.T.C. fan or are sure that all the plays next season are good, don't bother with the S.A.T.C.'s subscription booking system. Pick your productions and go when you feel like it. That way you'll be able to exercise your own taste and discrimination rather than having to rely on the Company's. Another useful tip is to book for later in a play's season. Actors, like most people, improve with practice.

Barrie Burton.



# A STUDENT LOAN SCHEME ?

The first part in the last ON DIT discussed the various proposals for loans schemes and considered arguments for loans in place of Tertiary allowances.

Loans as a replacement for Tertiary allowances can be opposed on other grounds. These grounds are to do with the effect that loans have on educational opportunity, problems in administering loans schemes and their low cost effectiveness.

Providing tertiary allowances are adequate, the overall effect of a means tested scheme for assistance through allowances, is to discriminate in favour of those from lower income families. If loans are substituted for allowances, students from lower income families are forced to take out loans whereas students from higher income families are more likely to have family support.

The following statement illustrates the problem "AUS has already expressed a well founded suspicion of the introduction on its own, of a loans scheme for funding students. On examining overseas loans schemes, particularly in the Scandinavian countries, it has been shown that loans work against disadvantaged students. In Sweden, for example 80% of working class students took on loans, in comparison with 30% of wealthier students. Students from wealthy backgrounds have the choice of a loan or parents' resources; students from poor backgrounds do not".

The prospect of having to pay back large sums of money at the end of tertiary study is sufficient to deter many from taking on such study, especially for people without a solid financial background. Tertiary education then becomes the province of those who can afford it.

The following table illustrates the magnitude of loans that would have to be paid back, and is based on the following assumptions:

1. a loan of \$2,000 for the first year i.e. \$38.50 pw.
2. 10% inflation.
3. No interest.

Course duration	Amount to be paid back
3 years	\$6,620
4 years	\$9,282
5 years	\$12,210
6 years	\$15,431

A number of points need to be made:

1. If a person fails and drops out (and students always do) There is the prospect of repaying large amounts of money on a low salary.
2. If a student fails and continues the course, the amount owing is multiplied.
3. If a graduate cannot find a job there is still the debt to repay.
4. The size of the debt incurred would be a strong factor in discouraging people from taking long courses or post graduate work.

Then there is the problem of bad debts. It has been found in United States of America for instance (7) that most loans are defaulted and the government usually writes off the loss. Bankruptcy accounts for about 5% of loan defaults.

When the administrative and collection costs are added to the cost of loan defaults it is easy to see that there is not much advantage in cost to the Government. Charging interest may ease that problem at the expense of properly supporting students through tertiary study.

In any case it would be many years from the inception of such a scheme before the government could hope to recover the initial outlay.

The above arguments show that a loans scheme would not be a viable alternative to tertiary allowances. What about loans as a supplement to TEAS?

At election time this is what the co-alition parties were proposing, as the following statement by Senator Margaret Guilfoyle shows (8).

"A Liberal and National Country Party Government when returned to office would determine the feasibility of introducing a comprehensive tertiary loans scheme as an additional means of assisting students. However, the Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme would be maintained regardless of any decisions that might be reached on a loans scheme".

Considering the other promises broken by the present government there is no guarantee that a loans scheme would not be introduced as a replacement for TEAS.

A distinction should be made between supplementary loans which are available to people, not eligible for TEAS and loans which would supplement allowances for those on TEAS.

A case for the former has been presented by the S.A. Liberal Federations as follows (9).

"TEAS has failed to reach certain areas of need. The fact that the allowance is subject to means testing of parental income is one shortcoming. The fact that the student's parents are wealthy does not automatically solve the student's financial problems. The particular parents may be on poor terms with their offspring, or simply do not feel responsible for financial assistance to their offspring once they reach a certain age. Whatever the reason, the fact that some well-to-do parents do not support their children brings hardship to the students concerned".

"A supplementary loans scheme could be introduced to cover the deficiencies of TEAS for the 10,000 or so full-time students in S.A. not receiving the allowance. The cost to the taxpayer of a suitable loans scheme as a supplement to TEAS would not be all that significant".

Apart from the fact that the cost of a comprehensive loans scheme would be significant, there are problems with the proposal. It would be good if the present government could be trusted to upgrade TEAS and at the same time introduce a tertiary loans scheme but it can't be trusted.

Already Senator Carrick is investigating restricting the eligibility for TEAS as is evidenced by the following statement (10).

"A close examination is being made of the general conditions for the Tertiary Education Assistance of the general principles of the scheme, those conditions might be modified to achieve savings".

Loans are no substitute for TEAS but they could well be introduced at the same time as the eligibility for TEAS is restricted.

The problems of financing the whole of one's tertiary education through loans was dealt with earlier in this article.

Loans could also be used to supplement the TEAS allowance. At present the allowance is so inadequate that most students on TEAS are forced to find supplementary finance, not only by working during the vacation but during the year as well.

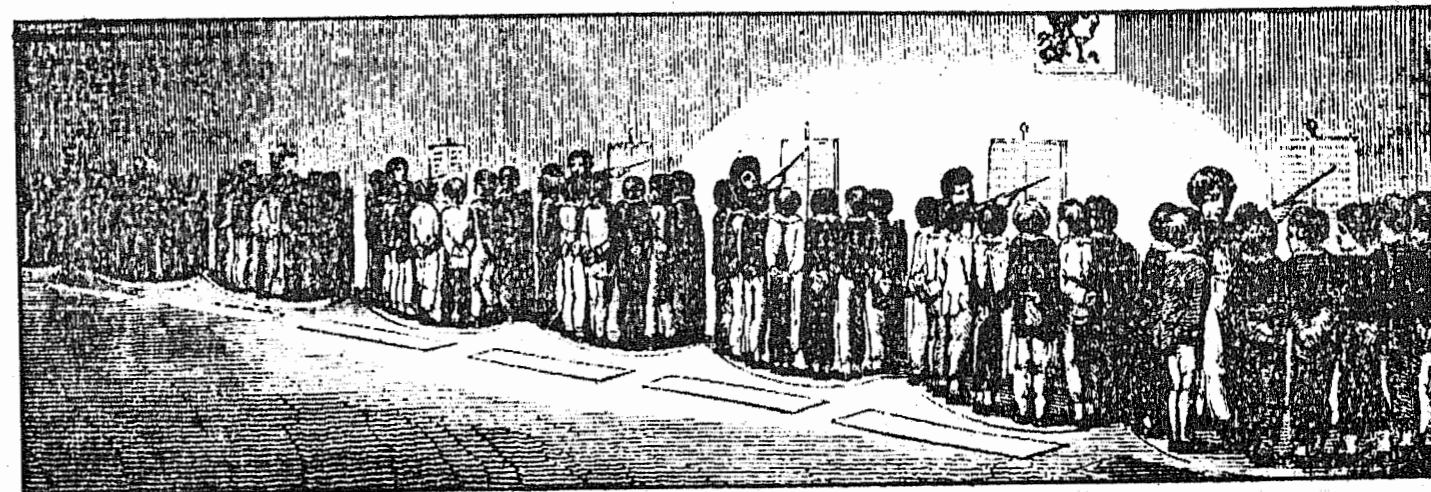
However casual jobs these days are hard to obtain and besides extensive casual uses up valuable time that should be spent on study. Loans would be one way of providing this extra finance.

The trouble is that if loans are introduced for this purpose (other than the emergency loans schemes operated by universities and colleges), tertiary allowances would tend to remain at the present low level and their value would continue to steadily erode.

For this reason the following motion was passed by delegates at the last AUS Annual Council(II) "AUS total rejects any attempts to introduce a loans scheme to complement TEAS, for if an adequate TEAS allowance is paid, there should be no need for loans".

At first consideration, loans whether they be instead of TEAS or as complement to TEAS, may seem to be an attractive proposition, but considering all the problems involved, loans are a very inadequate form of student financing.

Peter Love.



# REVIEWS

## AN OPEN LETTER TO ALLEN LYNE.

Dear Allen Lyne,

It made me very happy to see your letter in On Dit II. It shows that I am read (I was starting to have doubts) and that at least one person is moved strongly enough to write a letter expressing his own views. It also proves that, while your general public might allow themselves to be spoonfed by newspaper writers, the student sensibility has not been dulled yet. Good for you!

Before I answer to the specifics of your letter, let me say that theatre reviewing is not a matter of being right or wrong. The reviewer tells you what he saw and, if you're lucky, what he felt, the emotions he experienced and that you too perhaps might experience. That much is subjective. You are right, of course, in expecting a certain amount of objective appraisal from your critics. They should do their homework. I cannot agree more. In addition, I feel, a critic should state his criteria of judgement clearly and say under what circumstances he shifts ground from them in a particular review. If you look through your copies of On Dit, you

will find that I have made such a statement in On Dit 8. It was a partial statement and I should now like to add to it:

Theatre exists when you have a play, players to perform it, and an audience to respond to the performance. It is obvious, but often overlooked, that you must have all three parts of the puzzle or you do not have theatre. It is my personal view -- and there are others -- that theatre should entertain or affect emotionally as its first priority. Its facility for proselytising or education must be subservient to those two functions. If I want politics, I don't go to the theatre; the visitor's gallery at parliament is free and the newspapers cost only cents. This implies quite clearly that a writer who writes unproduceable or unsuccessful plays will not get a good review from me simply because I admire his politics or the fact that he cut off his penis in public or his good taste in girlfriends. All these matters are extraneous to the effect of his play as performed before an audience.

Let me reply to your letter in the light of these criteria. You say, without any apparent basis in fact, that I do not know Lorca's work and add that I have read Yerma only once. You further imply that I did not talk to knowledgeable people about his work before I wrote the review. None of this is correct. I have read all the Lorca plays available in English. I had several long discussions with knowledgeable people, including Frank Ford whom you say you admire, before seeing the play. I reread Yerma three times. I have long admired Blood wedding. As for the production failing "to properly (sic) interpret what the playwright tries (sic) to say", as a member of the audience I am not interested in what the playwright tries to say but in what he says. If he does not convince effectively, perhaps he should try again. But he must not expect me to pay for egotripping practice runs.

Your opinion is that the production failed with a good play. It is my opinion that the play is unproduceable in the authorised translation and that Frank Ford's production for the Adelaide CAE at least saved a modicum of intelligence from it. I have heard Yerma produced in Spanish, and you don't need to understand the language to grasp the beauty of the poetry, but as drama, as theatre, that production failed as well. I think you are confusing the issues here. I think a play should,

# REVIEWS

## THE SPIRIT OF THE BEEHIVE

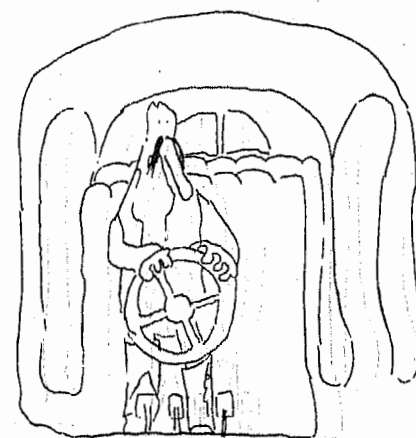
by preference, be beautifully written. But it should also be convincingly and effectively affective or entertaining. If it is neither it may still be beautiful poetry but it will not be theatre.

You also go on a bit about how Lorca "had the courage to die for his convictions in trying to bring about the end of the order which had oppressed the common people of Spain for hundreds of years." So what? There aren't any Fascisti walking through Yerma. Lorca's political persuasions are a red herring in this discussion. His courage cannot earn him better reviews for bad plays. Yerma is not a political play; a bad political play by anybody, including Lorca, would get a similarly adverse review from any sensible and honest critic as a bad play about universal human conditions by anybody, including Lorca, such as Yerma undoubtedly is.

Finally, let me suggest that in future, when a play by a writer you admire for his political stance is presented in Adelaide, you don't just whinge post factum about my review. Why not go out and review it yourself? If your review is at all intelligible I am sure the editor of On Dit would love to publish it.

Sincerely

Andre Jute



'The Spirit of the Beehive' had only a brief screening in Adelaide, during the last week of June at the Everyman 16 Art Cinema; and perhaps my response to this unusual and beautiful film was heightened by my knowledge that I would not be likely to see it again for quite some time. At any rate I was inspired to the point of wanting to write down my impressions of the film in the hope that people who may not have seen it will watch for its return.

This film, made in 1973, is the first film of the Spanish director Victor Erice, and while the dialogue is in Spanish, this version had perfectly adequate English subtitles.

The film is set in about 1940, and focuses on life in a small village in Spain, where two little girls watch a screening of the film 'Frankenstein'... and begin to imagine that he really exists, and that he lives near the village. In one sense this proves to be true, for a fugitive from the military takes up hiding in a deserted stone house nearby, and is befriended by one of the girls, Ana. Unlike the Frankenstein of Ana's imagination, however, this man is mortal, and meets death in machine-gun fire in the late of evening. The effect on Ana of the physical disappearance of her 'spirit friend' is the main subject of the last scenes of the film. To go into more specific detail about the 'plot' of the film would be to risk rendering banal what is essentially a very mysterious film, a film which captures effectively the feeling of the village, and of the life of Ana and her sister Isabel, in a slow and deliberate unfolding of scenes.

It is mainly this strong sense of mystery, which permeates the film, and which is at moments transformed into suspense and fear, that gives the film its power. The creation of a sense of the unknown lying just beneath the surface of everyday life is achieved through sensitive and contemplative photography, relying on the extensive



# REVIEWS

use of visual scenes which are primarily symbolic and only secondarily aesthetic.

Ericc has made beautiful use of light in his film with frequent changes from the arid and hot whites and yellows of the village-by-day, to the soft-darkness of night, of the children's world of mystery and imagination. As the film progresses there are many junctures at which a whole new realm of possibilities, connections and associations are hinted at, and an ever-larger number of parallel threads are drawn into the film: but many of these strands are not to be pursued or developed before the end of the film.

In this fashion the film gives the viewer brief sightings of different aspects of the main characters - Ana, Isabel, and their parents Fernando and Teresa - whilst never fixing the characters as concrete or 'final'.

Out of the many elements that comprise the film, the most dominant one as far as I am concerned was the exploration of the experience and characters of the two children, Ana and Isabel. It is very seldom that children are made the central subject of a film, and in many films where this is attempted, the result appears to be a mere external caricature of childhood, a popularised notion of children as seen through the eyes of adults.

So it is very much to the credit of Victor Ericc that he has been able to explore these two children with such sensitivity and thoroughness. Much of the time of the film is passed in quietly watching the two children during their day's experiences, both with each other and alone-and it is only with this amount of patience that the nature of a child's personality can be captured on film: for whilst the character of an adult can often be depicted through that person's outward actions, the character of a child can only be really understood with the exploration of the inner realms of imagination and fantasy.

Ericc was able to create two full and very distinct kinds of people in his two children, thereby avoiding a stereotype of childhood.

It is this exploration of the daily life of the two girls which is the essential source of the film's mystery, for it dwells upon dimensions of experience which are all but lost for most of the adult viewers. On a number of occasions we see how the same event or object is perceived and comprehended by the adults and the children in very different ways, with the most obvious example of this being in the respective vision of 'fugitive' and 'Frankenstein'.

'The Spirit of the Beehive' is a film of considerable beauty, and of mystery-but it is not the mystery of a typical adult 'thriller'; rather it is the mystery of being an adult watching through the eyes of children, and trying to understand, trying even to remember.

Max Hicks.

# Jazz, rock + blues

## Chuck Mangione

Bellavia ASM-L35793 (Festival)

Chuck Mangione has pioneered the fusion between the jazz group and the orchestral setting. In doing so he has gained a quite large following in the U.S., although he is unknown here.

The album is pleasant stuff, but hardly earth shattering. The music is innocuous, with little variation between any of the tracks. The quartet musicians are all good, but hardly startling. Although the orchestra fits in well, the arrangements are not original enough to add to the music. Its clear that this is not a bad album, but it is not a good one either. The orchestral-jazz fusion has much promise, but I don't think that Mangione has come up with anything new so far.

Mike Prescott



## Jade Warrior

Waves Island L35826

Jade Warrior are a strange English duo who only produce concept albums. This one, as the title implies, concerns waves, whales the sea and other thing of that nature. The music is instrumental with nearly all of the instruments being played by the duo. A notable helper is Steve Winwood who acts a few keyboard solos.

They create very soft music, using more effects on this one album

than Pink Floyd have on all theirs, Such indulgence usually has dire consequences, but Jade Warrior use effects intelligently such that they do not become victims of their own inventiveness. Although the album is basically strange, it is still good. I should add that personal experience has shown that first hearings may not be as satisfying as subsequent ones.

## Capt. Matchbox

WHOOPEE BAND - Making Whoopee Image ILP 4915 (Tempo)

Theres one thing about this last Captain Matchbox album that I can't understand. Why release a collection of different takes from the ones released on their albums? I would have thought that it would have been more sensible to release a "Best of", especially when this version of "Wait for me Juanita" is definitely inferior, and the rest are not all that different from the originals. In spite of this, it is not a bad collection of Captain Matchbox material, since it spans their entire history. If you don't have any of their albums, it is worth getting, because it only sets you back \$4.98.

Mike Prescott.



## Doobie Bros.

DOOBIE BROTHERS - Takin' It To The Streets (Warner Bros. BS2899)

The Doobies have undergone changes since their last album. The most significant difference is the lack of contribution from Tom Johnston, whose guitar and voice had more to do with the original Doobies' sound

than anyone else's. The Johnston sound is evident only on "Turn it Loose", his own composition. His place in both playing and songwriting has been taken by Michael McDonald - a keyboard player. Nevertheless this album offers nothing startlingly new or original from the Doobies. They still rely on the same basic formula of a shuffling rhythm section and sweet, swirling guitars, keyboards and horns etc. And as usual the playing is impeccable. It's still a good album, even if it does seem uninspired.

Tony Lewis.



## Bette Midler

Songs for the New Depression.

Atlantic JD 18155 (WEA)  
Any album with a title as brilliant as this new Midler album has is going to have a great deal of trouble living up to the expectation, created by it. That just about sums up their album, she simply hasn't been able to live up to the hype she received when she debuted. To be totally fair, this is not a bad album, but it reeks just a little too much of "product" to be totally enjoyable. Any album which features so many big names (including Bob Dylan, Rick Derringer, Randy Brecker Mel Lewis, Todd Rundgren etc. etc.) from so many different musical fields is bound to have problems, although there aren't as many as I thought there would be.

Mike Prescott.



# Jazz, rock + blues

## Norman Blake

The fields of November. Real R316 (Electric Records) After being more than a little enthused about his latest album a few weeks ago, I was more than pleased to be able to secure a copy of this earlier Blake Album. This album re-enforces my earlier conclusions concerning Blake. One listen to "The Old Brown Case" is enough to convince me that he deserves to be placed among the legendary guitarists, and his fiddle and do bro would send many exponents of these instruments into early retirement. Aside, from this all the songs are excellent. Complementing Blake perfectly are Charlie Collins (guitar, fiddle) Tut Taylor (dobro) and Nancy Short (Cello): 3 musicians Blake could never embrace into an early retirement. I conclude with a warning: this album has an amazing propensity for making new listeners \$6.90 poorer.

Mike Prescott.

## Clements, Bromberg

VASSAR CLEMENTS/DAVID BROMBERG - Hillbilly Jazz. Real 317/8 (Electric Records). Clements and Bromberg have kept the Bob Willis spirit alive on this double album of hillbilly jazz, otherwise known as western swing. Essentially it's a combination of big band jazz with country music: here 10 musicians take part. The group launches into the Bob Willis' classic "San Antonio Rose" with great gusto, and never ease the pace until the final track, a beautiful new Dave Bromberg song. All through its good time country music at its best, with Clements (fiddle) and

Bromberg (guitars) the leading soloists, augmented with some tasty licks from the rest of the band. I fear the album's title and content may not win many fans, which is a great pity because there's some great music on this double album.

Mike Prescott.



## Santana

Amigos C.B.S. - (A.R.C.) I just can't understand this album's big sales, because it is simply awful. Why Santana followed up the last 3 masterpieces with this is beyond me. My advice - forget this crap and buy the triple-live set, "Lotus", which may be Santana's best album. This album is so bad I can't see how he can do worse.

Mike Prescott.

## Bob Willis

The Best of Bob Willis. MCA COPS8345 (Astor) In many interviews with country musicians, and on the composer credits on country albums, the name of Bob Willis often appears. He was one of the few who integrated country music with big band swing jazz. This unlikely combination became a "big hit" from the 1930's through to the 1950's and Willis was the most influential of all those bandleaders. This album recorded god knows when, contains the great members of Willis' Texas Cowboys, including Leon McAuliffe (steel guitar) Eldon Shamblin (guitar) and Al Stricklin (piano). (not credited

on the totally useless cover) in circuitous performances. Also included is Willis' trademark, the comments that flow continuously from start to finish: eg's- "ahh-ah" and "take it awayyy Leon". This is real country music, and although good, you'd really have to love country music to really appreciate it. Note: I haven't fully appreciated it yet, but I'm trying!

Mike Prescott.

## Oregon

- In Concert. (Vanguard VSD - 79358).

If you know Oregon, don't read any further, because either you've already got this album or you're crazy. If you don't know Oregon, they're four superb musicians, who between them play instruments as diverse as oboes, and sitars, as well as guitars, piano, flutes, violin, etc. The music is very light but very intricate jazz, incorporating many different flavours. Not exactly top 40 material, but musically incomparable. Required listening for anyone whose into jazz or progressive music.

Tony Lewis.

## Head East

HEAD EAST - Flat as a Pancake. (A & M L35744).

Head East are a five-piece rock and roll outfit from Illinois, and... well you've all heard the old story of the Home Town Heroes who haven't been heard of outside a radius of five miles from their practice joint. Musically, all five members of Head East are in the same category: optimists.

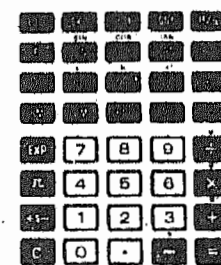
Tony Lewis.

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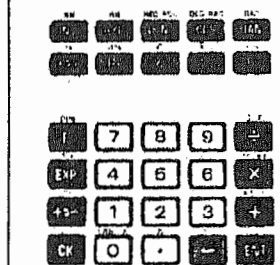


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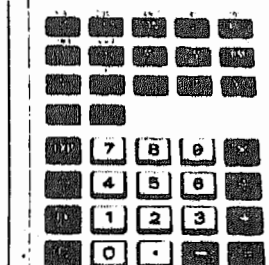
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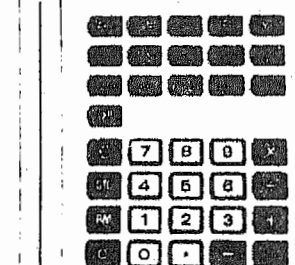
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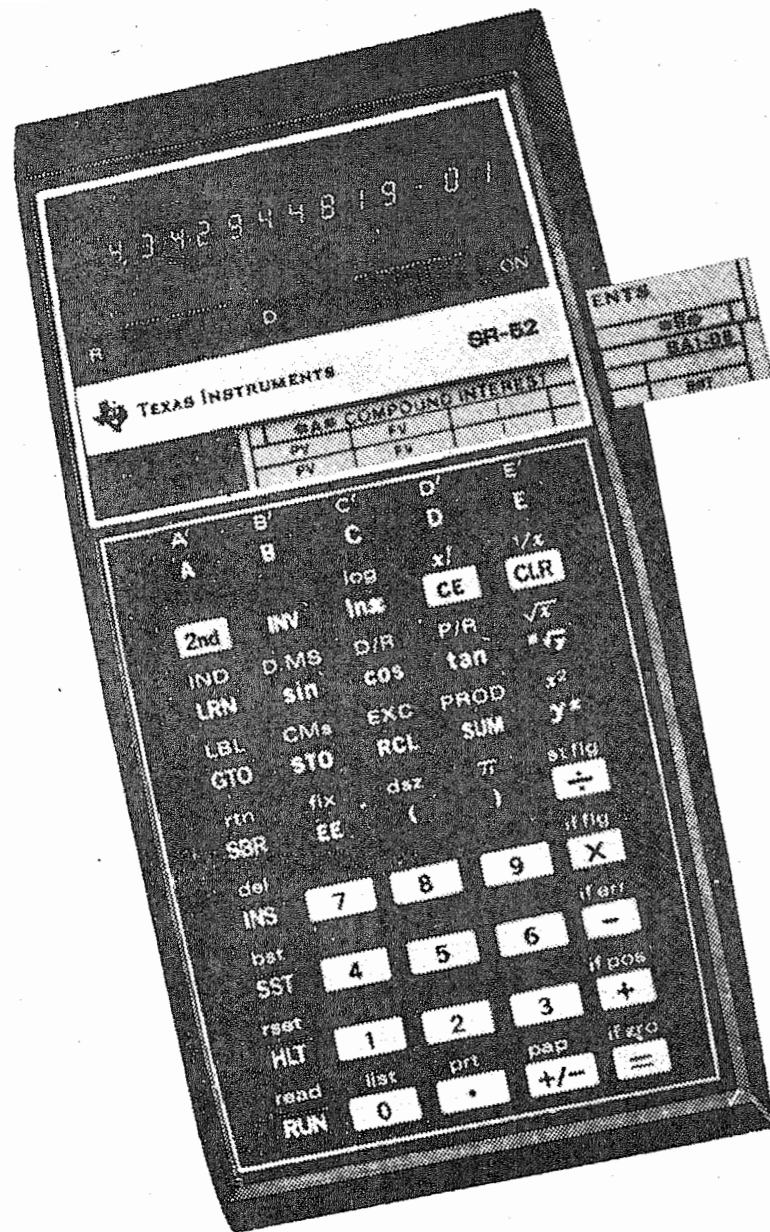


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# BREAD AND CIRCUSES

## thursday

THE GAY MEN'S GROUP meets at 1.00 pm Thursdays in Meeting Room Three of the Union Complex (University). Come along for social contact and discussion relevant to the problems encountered by homosexuals on campus.

AUMA At 1.00 pm on Thursday the 22nd in the South Dining Room the Adelaide University Mathematical Association will be discussing Pentominoes, Visitors Welcome!

"CONTEMPORARY DANCE CLASSES:  
THURSDAYS 5-15pm, NORTH & SOUTH  
DINING ROOMS - BARE FEET -  
EVERYONE WELCOME - 50¢"

AUSFA 7.30 - Thursday 22nd in the bar - In answer to a multitude of requests, Punday Night rides again (and you thought your threats could scare us!)  
Topic for the night: SPACE.

Thursday 7.30 pm MODELLERS CLUB - Regular meeting in Craft Studio, Level 4, Union.

L.S.F. Thursday 22nd July - 1.00 pm  
Kristen and Drama at L.S.F. Rooms.

## friday 9

Friday 7.30pm MODELLERS CLUB - Regular meeting in craft Studio, Level 4, Union.

Friday 30th July 1976 - Jazz, Rock and Blues Club in association with Campus activities  
South Australia present  
"Ross Ryan" Union Hall  
1 pm

FRIDAY 30TH - 8.00PM

MOUNTAIN CLUB - General meeting Macbeth lecture theatre (organic chemistry building). Pictures of recent trips and show afterwards.

## Saturday

Saturday 31st July 1976 - Live Music in Union Bar with  
"Backstairs Passage"  
Free 9-12 midnight

## AAAGM

A.G.M. ANGLICAN SOCIETY ON WEDNESDAY  
1ST SEPTEMBER AT 1.10 pm  
ANGLICAN SOCIETY ROOM (Apologies to Secretary)

## PECCATA MUNDI

A Tragedy with tapes, choir orchestra and Solo Speaker. A Dramatic concert rediscovering the end of a world. How Mankind died, "Insects killing Insects". Presented by the Adelaide University Choral Society, written by Tristram Cary, conducted Malcolm Fox. Saturday August 7th, 8.15 pm, Bonython Hall. \$2.50 adults, \$1.00 Students, Pensioners.

## ITS A PLAY !!

FIRST CLASS TO MANDALAY

A prosh week Special - lunchtime theatre. Mandalay is a play being presented in the little Theatre on Wednesday 4, Thursday 5, Friday 6 of August prosh week from 1.20. Its about Paradise, Suburbia, Professors of Monoscrabsylabic subjects, the repression of women, the repression of men, Bus Stops, pills and dills, cost only 20 cents - DONT MISS IT.



CHARCOAL/TAN AUSTRALIAN TERRIER

10 years old - Male  
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Straight tail - top tail bone broken  
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Missing Tuesday 15th June 1976  
Stephen Terrace, Walkerville  
Approximately 4.00 pm

R E W A R D .....\$50.00