

THE NEWS

Phone (Editorial and other business) 223 2685
Classified 223 2685

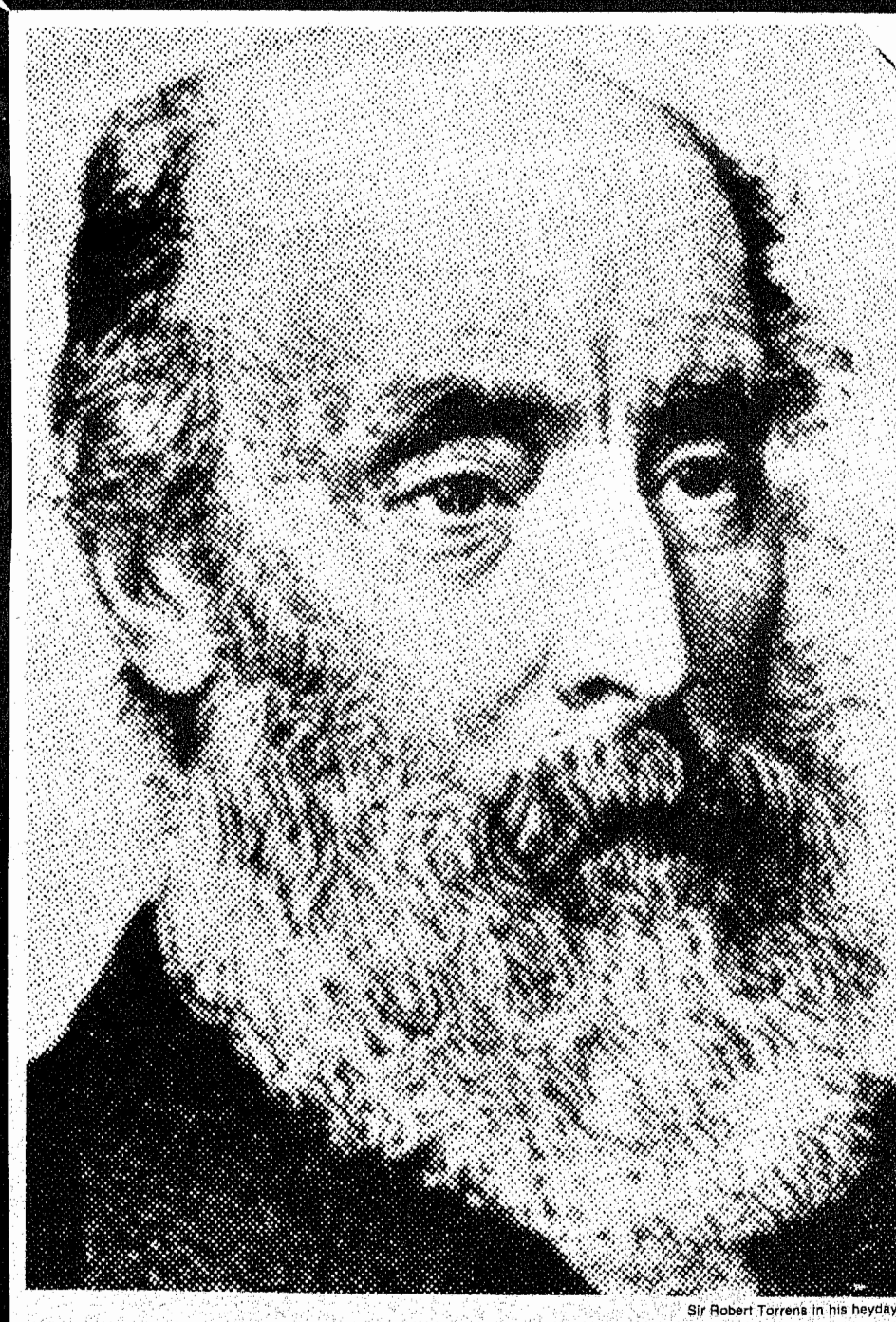
Adelaide: Monday, July 14, 1980 20c*

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WEATHER Rain tomorrow. TEMP. (at noon): 13.8C (57F). Sunset 5.19. (Details, Page 20)

SHOCK ANNOUNCEMENT BY GOVERNMENT

\$23 MIL. TORRENS FACELIFT PLAN



Sir Robert Torrens in his heyday

By the Metwurst Brothers

In the most important policy initiative announced by the State Government since the appointment of Ian Sinclair as head of the Fraud Squad, the Premier has announced plans for a \$23m Torrens facelift.

After intense investigation however, it has been discovered that the \$23m will not in fact be spent on the beautification of the River Torrens as previously reported.

The money will be spent on the reconstruction of Sir Robert Torrens (1780-1864) former colonial promoter and Chairman of the S.A. Commission.

The Government plans to exhume his skeletal remains and construct a body around them. The minister for Industry and Development, Dean Brown, explained: "We have the technology, we can rebuild him. At \$23m it's a steal, considering the Americans spent \$6m on just an arm and a leg for Farrah's ex-husband."

However another government minister, Ted Chapman, wasn't too enthusiastic about the facelift plan: "You think Torrens needs a face-lift, what about me." The minister concluded "And David (Tonkin) - why he's never been the same since that negligent haircut at Luigi Femicellis [the former hairdresser to Yul Brynner]"

Continued page 3.



DIAMONDS SPECULATION v. INVESTMENT!

Some outlets sell a 90pt IF colour G diamond for \$10,000. This is speculative buying, for the price is far above current wholesale. You'd be better off robbing a jewelry store. This pricing pre-supposes there will be a buyer in two years - if you'd robbed the store you'd still be in jail! No one on earth could save you, not even the Supreme Court.

STEALS sell a 90pt, IF, colour G diamond for \$3800. This is investment buying, a guaranteed asset. Our deals are so good that we could take them ourselves.

DESCRIPTION	VALUE	PRICE
1.08 Color G. VS2	\$5900	\$3850
1.12 Color I. VS1	\$5800	\$3600
1.13 Color J. VVS	\$6800	\$4500
1.38 Color G. S2	\$6100	\$3900
1.00 Color I. VS2	\$5400	\$2900
0.69 Color J. V.V.S.	\$2200	\$1350
0.44 Color T.L.B. VS	\$895	\$502
0.21 Color I. VVS	\$456	\$225

Steals

SAFETY — SECURITY — SATISFACTION

WHY PAY MORE? STAY WITH THE EXPERTS

NIGHTSHOPPER ● 4-page lift-out guide to late-night shopping bargains **P.37**

On dit



Every year the Student's Association elections create at least a rash of intrigue within the normally rather pedestrian walls of the Students' Association. Sometimes the rash is bigger than others, on a couple of occasions having left scars that have taken more than a little while to heal.

This year it appears that only three positions in the Students Association will be contested, those for President, On dit editor and Bread & Circuses editor.

We wonder if the rest of the field is an indication of the relevance student politics has to the general student populace.

This isn't to say that the student politicians are merely pushing shit uphill - they aren't. A lot of the jobs done are jobs that have to be done, and not all of the work is frivolous mismanagement of student money. Some of it is hard work, and often frustrating.

It seems that the primary duty of any elected candidates will be to find issues relevant to the student population. With an astute look at what actually interests students, and a high regard for their position within the processes of the Association, new links can be forged.

Awareness is easily restricted to only one sphere of student activity, and ones horizons are limited accordingly.

In other areas it can be seen that students have been extremely active, Footlights and E.U. being cases in point.

The joint Footlights/Law Faculty Revue "Gidget goes to law School!" has just finished a fabulously successful season in the Little Theatre. The season was extended by three nights which were sellouts within a couple of days of the decision.

The E.U.'ers brought over John Smith for a week of a long series of meetings that attracted the attention of many in the Little Cinema each lunchtime.

The question whether the past couple of weeks on campus have been very quiet or not depends very much on what one attaches significance to. It's a pity when large areas of valid human activity go unnoticed simply because our horizons are too narrow to appreciate their relevance.

Thanks to Pappas for kind permission to reprint his illustrations from the 1979 Collins edition of the *Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis in the Editorial.

News

Union Council Notes

Over the last couple of weeks, there have been two Union Council meetings both of which were quite active. One of the most important items discussed was a report by the ERO on TEAS prosecutions.

The Union's Education Research Officer finalised a submission to the Federal Government on the issue of students being prosecuted for unintentionally accepting overpayment of their TEAS allowances. The most staggering fact on this issue is that students are being prosecuted even though they have paid all the money back.

Contrary to the misleading claims made by the State Director of the Commonwealth Education Department (Mr Giddings), six students have already appeared in Court and have to appear again in a few weeks. One wonders what such top-paid bureaucrats must do during their day if they aren't even aware of these happenings, and even state that these prosecutions are not occurring on almost the same day six students are in Court.

Anyway, this issue is far from over and the Union intends pursuing the matter further.

Corbett Committee Report

The University has decided to restructure its decision-making process. In the restructuring, quite a few Committees will get the chop. For a while, it appeared that student representation would also get the chop. However, after some quick action students now have guaranteed direct representation on the new 'Super Committee'. This representation is via a representative nominated by the Students' Association. Different students can be the representative for different issues. So, if you ever find the need to have your say on this Committee you have only to see the President of the Students' Association.

This new structure is planned to take effect at the beginning of next year.

Union Hall

Those who read the *Advertiser* may have spotted an article a few

weeks ago that said the Union was considering closing Union Hall to live theatre. Although, at present, there is no final decision on this, the issue is being debated. The reason for the proposal, put simply, is the cost. Last year, the Hall cost \$34,000 to run.

At a time of financial stringency, several Union Councillors feel it difficult to justify this expenditure and raised the proposal. The debate is not over, so if you have an opinion, let us know soon because the 1981 budget will be partly based on this decision.

Further on Union Hall, a small Committee has been set up to look at the possibility of upgrading the Hall and its facilities. This will have some bearing on the closure proposal.

1981 Budget

The Union is presently preparing next year's budget. With a turnover of \$880,000 (excluding the Catering Department and Bookshop), planning a budget is a major task.

The problems are compounded when one must allow for uncertainty in student numbers and such items as depreciation. (Some of the equipment in Union House is worth \$40,000 and will have to be replaced soon.)

A simple breakdown of the Budget was given in a recent *On dit*. The final 1981 budget will not be known for a few weeks yet.

General Union Meeting (GUMs)

After two disastrous GUMs, the Council has decided to hold these meetings on the Barr Smith Lawns (or another appropriate venue if wet). However, to do this, rules must be drawn up so that the meeting can be concluded fairly and properly in such an area where the number of people present is in constant flux.

These rules will be posted soon, so if you have any objections, see David Muir (Union Secretary), 1st Floor, Lady Symon Building.

Union Constitution

Union Council is intending to put to Referendum several proposals for new or changed clauses in the present Constitution. Briefly, they are as follows:

i) to change the name of one of the Standing Committees from "Activities Committee" to

"House Committee". This is to reflect the new role of this Committee (see "Activities Structure" below);

ii) to set up a mechanism through which all "Union Employees" can appeal against a decision to suspend or dismiss them. The method of appeal is through a special body to be called the Dismissals Appeal Tribunal;

iii) to give Union Council the power to draft and enforce rules on such items as governing committee procedures, use of Union facilities, elections, disorderly behaviour, drunkenness, etc.;

iv) to enable the Union to change the Constitution once a term if it wishes. At present such changes can only occur during the Annual Elections;

v) to hear any complaints against a member of the Union for breaching the rules referred to above. Such complaints are to be heard by a "Union Discipline Committee" which can recommend various penalties.

Activities Structure

The Council has adopted a proposal to form an Activities Council which will be responsible for all social activities and entertainment organised by the Union. It will have representatives from various groups which are responsible for the various extracurricular activities. Resulting from the formation of this Council, the present Activities Committee will become responsible for management of Union House and hence its change of name.

The Activities Council will have the role of co-ordinating and implementing social, entertainment and cultural activities on campus. If you have any enquiries regarding this body, contact Barry Salter in the Gallery.

Bar Nights

These have been very popular and quite successful money-raisers for various clubs on campus. However, organising them does entail some planning ahead, and any late cancellations of these nights causes inconvenience and expense to the Union. Therefore, Union Council has decided to levy a cancellation fee of \$50 for any group cancelling their night less than four weeks in advance of the booking.

Kerry Hinton

On Ethical Relativity

Dear Editor,

Last Tuesday (lunchtime) I happened to see a street play by Colin Smith in which certain pieces of Christian dogma were explained. I found their performance lucid, witty and quite musical although I find certain flaws in their philosophy.

They used an analogy which was so good that I wish that I had thought of it! They compared the Christian doctrine to a piece of music (which is a very good biological analogy when one recalls that Richard Dawkins would describe both these things as sets of "memes"). The pianist played a few notes at a jumpy little 12 bar and then collapsed into a state of total dissonance. It was maintained that unless you play their tune (God's tune) your music would be ugly and dissonant.

I find this a rather odd thing to say! During the Festival of Arts I went to hear the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra play Mozart's *Symphony No. 40*. The total effect of the performance was brilliant and uplifting and yet I do not recall that any of the musicians played a 12 bar during the performance. I imagine that the conductor would not have approved of anyone who had.

I fail to see any convincing argument which proves that a 12 bar is a better piece of music than a Mozart Symphony. Similarly, I fail to see any good argument which proves that Christian ethics are any better than any other consistent ethical code. (Christian ethics are not always consistent, but that is another matter.)

The rules of counterpoint and harmony are purely relative. The fretboard of a violin is not divided up into "right" notes and "wrong" notes. Each note is right in the right context. Similarly the rules of ethics are purely relative and each action is 'right' in a certain context.

It would be better if a musician learned to play many different tunes and played each tune at the appropriate moment. I feel that we all need to be more flexible and less dogmatic.

Anotea Allison.

Care for Kids?

Dear Editors,

The Union seems to be involved in various recreational activities directed towards the student. Perhaps those in the Union believe nothing exists but giving pleasure to the next scholar in line. A fortnight ago while visiting a few of the wards at the Adelaide Children's Hospital, I felt a sad moment. His name was David, an orphan by birth. Out of the entire ward he seemed to be the most lonely child. I sat down near his bed and tried to make him smile. My efforts were not being rewarded however. BUT instead the small boy spoke with no direction, gazing from side to side fearful of meeting my eyes. "I wish I had a brother or sister to talk and play with," he said. "Other boys and girls have moms and dads coming to see them." "I don't have one." I tried to smile but it seemed cruel to do so. David and a few other kids need someone there when they're frightened. I wish that the Students' Union would

perhaps gather a few volunteer groups among the many young men and women at the University, and direct them, if not to help, to just go and talk to a few of these children and perhaps bring with them a warm smile. After all it doesn't cost much.

Frank Rapisarda, Arts

Mind is willing...

Dear Editor,

I am a student of Flinders University doing Social Sciences at 3rd year level. I also have Cerebral Palsy. I am wondering whether there are other permanently disabled students who have found that activities organised for students are organised for those who are physically capable of participating. This feeling is very frustrating and painful. I am interested in meeting any student who feels like myself, that activities need to be re-designed so that physical capabilities are of minimal importance.

There is a lack of an organisation for the tertiary students with permanent disabilities. There is little moral support or nonsympathetic or patronising advice for the tertiary student with permanent disabilities. There is also the feeling of an isolation and alienation. I feel that some of this feeling of being alone could be removed by meeting other people in similar situations as myself.

If there is anyone who is at a tertiary institution and feels left out because of physical disabilities please contact the Flinders University Chaplain Colin Leane on 275 2347 and let him know. He can contact me. Hope to hear from someone.

Yours
Phillip Dowd

Life Cheap in S.A.

In South Africa - secondary industry and mining is supported by cheap black Labour.

Pleasant middle class housing estates are made possible by thriving industrial and mining sectors. All paid for in blood.

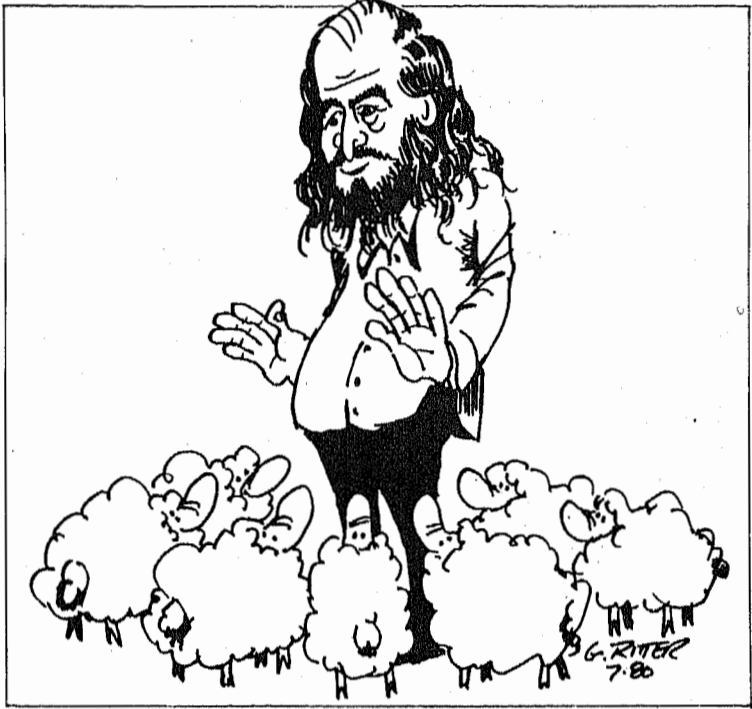
Every 3¼ hours, someone dies in a South African mine or factory. According to figures released by the National Safety Association and Workmen's Compensation Commissioner, 2,500 workers and miners, almost exclusively black died in 1975.

The figures also revealed that every hour of every day 40 people are injured, of these four are permanently disabled. In 1975, 349,000 workers and miners were injured, 30,000 of whom were permanently disabled.

The mining industry for which figures are more up to date accounted for a large percentage of the deaths. In 1977, 654 people died in mine accidents, and in 1978 at least 877 died.

An amount of 46 million was paid out under the workmen's compensation act for the injuries, permanent disabilities and deaths at work.

'Dome' Uni of Natal



John Smith speaks in the Little Cinema.

Successful Visit

A growing crowd of students packed out the Little Cinema last week to hear Melb. evangelist John Smith.

He spoke at lunchtime for five consecutive days on issues such as "the failure of humanism", "Jesus Christ and the destructions about God" and "Faith-trusting the believable".

The response to Smith was mixed, ranging from eager attention and conversion to scepticism and disagreement, however the attendance continued to steadily increase each day.

Smith was one of a team of about six members of the "Truth and Liberation Concern" who

had been invited over here by the Evangelical Union. Other team members included Journalist Alan Austin and singer Dave Diprose.

There was some confusion up in the Bar on Thursday nights when the fourpiece band "Tears and Laughter" arrived unannounced to set up to play.

An astonished Simon Maddocks was picked up from behind the bar and calmed down by a passing *On dit* editor. Apparently E.U. had neglected to notify anyone including Bar Staff that a band would be appearing.

One way or the other, they finished the week and it is now wondered whether E.U.ers will ever be the same again.

Andrew Fagan

Get Well Meet

You make me well? We've all heard the expression, "he makes me sick", or "he's a pain in the neck".

Maybe we've even used them ourselves on occasion. But how often have we heard someone say, "he makes me well"? Logically though if someone with "bad vibes" can make us sick then presumably someone with "good vibes" could make us feel better. This raises the question whether there are in fact sickness-producing people and health producing people.

Leigh Gollop, who co-ordinates a holistic living centre in Adelaide, believes there are and that everyone has the potential of being healthy producing person - a health practitioner in the real sense - but that few people are. He'll look at what lies

behind all true healing at a meeting sponsored by the Natural Health Society at the Adelaide University later this month.

The term natural health encompasses a range of drug-less techniques for treating illness including diet, massage, acupuncture and meditation to name just a few. But which one is best for us? Leigh Gollop suggests that we should not be looking at the technique at all, but at the man or woman using the technique: that techniques are no more than tools and that any tools can be useful in the hands of a health-producing person and the same tool is useless in the hands of a sickness producing person.

The meeting will be held in Meeting Room 1 (behind the Games' Room, Level 5) on Wednesday, 23rd July, at 1 p.m.

Peter Bills



Mungo's audience less than receptive

Mungo shakes up the Press

MUNGO GETS OLDER

The Media in Australia aren't all bad according to Mungo MacCallum ex Nation Review journalist.

MacCallum, speaking in the Gallery on Wednesday, said that the media wasn't the product of a conspiracy as some of the "more paranoid" critics would have it. Rather, the media picked what appealed to them as news, and presented that in a way designed to sell papers.

"We shouldn't forget that the press is a Capitalist press and always will be", said MacCallum Papers run news to attract readers to attract advertising which is "what it's all about."

In a somewhat rambling speech, lasting over half an hour, MacCallum touched on many of the topics which have become trigger issues in the debate about the worth of the Australian Press.

The Meeting

MacCallum's speech, organised by the Media Affairs Committee and funded by the P.A.C., was

reasonably attended, with about seventy to a hundred attentive people coming to listen. MacCallum had already been interviewed by both 5UV and Student Radio since arriving from Canberra that morning, and was obviously feeling the strain of a journalists life.

A number of people who attended the meeting commented on how conservative a line MacCallum took in discussing viability of a Government run newspaper. He rejected speculation by questioners that a "collectivised" newspaper would solve some problems inherent in the present newspaper industry. "Le Monde is the nearest thing to that in the world and look at all the bloody arguments that go on" said MacCallum.

AUS and the P.L.O.

Asked about reportage of A.U.S., and why it had changed substantially from two years ago, when many papers ran stories on policy about the P.L.O. or penis-vagina sexual orientation, MacCallum replied "But there

are no P.L.O. stories this year!" He dismissed claims that the press misreported items deliberately, rather there was a subtle process of self censorship; journalists writing to please subs, subs editing to please editors, editors directing the paper to please proprietors.

Although the crowd took a while to warm up, there were significant points made on both sides; unfortunately the discussion did not move towards a resolution.

Quotable quotes

Sadly the crowd wasn't to benefit much from Mungo's intimate experience with the Canberra polities. This reported wasn't amazed to learn that according to MacCallum, Senator Carrick was indeed "Thick as pigshit" or that our own Grant chapman was known around Parliamentas "The member for Chrysler". Mungo finished with a delightful story about John Grey Gorton chundering in a V.I.P. jet, which just about sums up Australian politics.

Geoff Hanmer

COUNTER CONTRIBUTE

Nominations for the position of editor of the 1981 counter calendar are now open.

The task involves soliciting contributions and then editing them for grammar, spelling and correctness. Soliciting of articles needs to start now, and actual editing takes several months over the Christmas holidays. There ia a lot of hard work involved although the editor does receive an honorarium of \$200. The job is however ideal experience for someone wishing to gain experience in designing and producing a small magazine type booklet.

Faculty Reps

Students interested in working with the editor to co-ordinate contributions from their own

Lost

Hewlett-Packard HP33E Calculator and one Black Gen's umbrella. \$20 reward. If found leave at Physics Department with your name and contact for reward. No questions asked.

particular faculty are also needed. By encouraging students to contribute you will be helping their learning process significantly as one has never really truly studied a course unless they can actually

verbalize a coherent critique of it. Nominations for the position of editor as well as those of faculty representatives will close on July 25. Forms may be obtained at the SAUA office.

On dit staff

Election Nominations

The following nominations have been recieved for the 1980 SAUA elections, to be held from the 29 to the 31 of July.
President: Amanda Cornwall, Andrew Frost.
Vice President: Howard Glenn.
General Secretary: Linda Gale.
Executive Members: Nick Runjajic, Tony Waters.
LocalAUS Secretary: Ken McAlpine.
On dit Editors: Paul Fogden, Paul Hunt & James Williamson, Peter Maddern.
Student Radio Co-Directors: Trevor John & Nonee Walsh.
Bread & Circuses Editor: Andrew Allison, Andrew Chapman & Simon Summers, Dennis Medlow & Scott Mesecke.

Media Committee Members: Megan Dansie, Nick Murray.
PAC: Tony Waters.
Womens Officer: Chris Barry.
Education Officer: Julia Gillard.
International Officer: Gleb Webster
Environment Officer: Kerry Hinton.
Race Relations Officer: Lisa Summer
SAC: Megan Dansie, Meridith Robbins, Francis Vaughan.
AUS Council Delegate(7)
Amanda Cornwall, Greg Ede, Linda Gal
Andrew Frost, Julia Gillard, Howard Glenn, Simon Maddocks, Ken McAlpine
Don Ray, Nick Runjajic, Ross Smith.
AUS Regional Conference: Amanda Cornwall, Julia Gillard, Howard Glenn, Ken McAlpine.



Pres.

by Don Ray

Over the past couple of weeks things have been very quiet on campus. While most people have now recovered from first term examination results and are dutifully studying, many quiet activities have been taking place.

The Union's budget sessions are now in full swing. Union Council within the next few months will be discussing and setting the level of the Statutory Fee. It's more complicated than ever this year with the questions of services vs. money hotly debated by a few dedicated Councillors. But once again, this important decision that will affect all students will be made by very few people with almost no feedback from students themselves. If you care at all about how much you will be paying next year, speak to any of your elected representatives and tell them what you want for your money.

At a time of financial cutbacks within the University the Administration is spending up to half a million dollars on a new computer. Your class/tutorial sizes may still be as large as 100 people, but there is no provision for more teaching staff. Some spare money found by the Uni is to be committed to this project: unfortunately all of the other projects including much needed building renovations and repairs will take a low priority on the list. Who cares if the roof of a building falls down on a class, after all we're only students.

The attitude of some departments towards their students is nothing less than staggering. It seems that teaching ability has little or no relevance in considering the role of academics in the University.

The quality of teaching in some departments has reached an all time low, but no one within those departments could be bothered even acknowledging that any communication problem exists.

With the elections rapidly approaching it will be interesting to see who will be making obviously ridiculous promises. Last year we had the \$65 Union fee farce - who will be the guppies this year. Nevertheless it is very true that proper and fair representation depends upon your vote.

Just remember - **VOTING IS GOOD FOR YOU!**



GAS STOP SHOCK

For the past two weeks South Australia has been 'on the brink' of disaster with an acute energy shortage.

The problem surfaced with the major power blackout a fortnight

ago. The official reason given by Mines and Energy Minister Goldsworthy was that 'human error' had temporarily inter-

rupted gas supplies from Moomba, essential for the fueling of the Torrens Island

power station.

However, in a major scoop, the Metwurst Brothers have discovered that the truth is otherwise. After several dozen schooners at the Globe Hotel, Semaphore, a Department of Energy official sheepishly admitted to us: "Actually, what's really happened is that we miscalculated the size of the Moomba Gas fields, and now there isn't enough gas left to run an oven in Belsen."

So what's been powering the State for the past two weeks? On this, the unnamed official was frank: "Prue Tonkin's Pea Soup. Thousands of litres of it."

Inner Workings

Yes, South Australia's wheels of industry have been kept moving by the flatulence of State Cabinet! As soon as the blackout hit and the real cause became known, the State Cabinet swung into action. Before the plan was fully implemented, dozens of motions had been passed in a cabinet atmosphere that was later described as "highly charged".

Last week we were fortunate enough to be given permission to view the intricate workings of this operation. Apart from the appalling smell, the first thing you notice as you approach the Cabinet Room is the heavy security in force and the large "no smoking" and "highly flammable" signs covering the walls.

Numerous small tubes run directly from the Cabinet Room - where voluminous amounts of

the pea soup are consumed daily - to the Torrens Island Power Station. It was pointed out to us that the soup is of a very high standard - how else could we explain the smiles and gasps of the ministers? But one person not smiling was Prisons' Minister Allan ('Who the hell's Tognolini?') Rodda who could only say, grimacing: "How all this equipment works just escapes me".

And in a rare act of bipartisan unity the ALP Member for Adelaide, the burly (200 kilo) Jack Wright was there pushing along for the State. It is believed that Jack's efforts alone power the whole inner city area.

As we were leaving, Mrs Jennifer Adamson had the final: "This operation certainly gives blow-job a whole new, non-pornographic meaning".

The Soviet Union has hit back at the US Government's criticism of the Russian troop presence in Afghanistan. At the *Kremlin*, a Soviet govt. spokesman said the current campaign against the USSR was unfair, by pointing out that Soviet intelligence recently uncovered evidence that, for a number of years, the United States had extensive military forces in Vietnam.

A *Pentagon* spokesman, General Bruce Kilgore, acknowledged that this was true. "But," he protested "those troops had no offensive combat capabilities. At least not judging by the way they fought."

Whats On

MUSIC

TIVOLI HOTEL

Thurs "The Numbers" - 5MMM-FM presents one of Sydney's most exciting young bands whose "The Modern Song" is one of the best Australian singles of the year. Support - "The Lounge"; Students \$3.50, subscribers \$3.00.

FESTIVAL THEATRE

Sat 'Jasper Carrot' - English Comedian/Folk Singer

TOWN HALL

Sun "The Bushwackers" - Australia's internationally respected good-time Folkies, with "Red Gum" - the witty, acerbic and painted voices of Adelaide political consciousness.

ANGAS HOTEL

Weds "Tropical Gin"
Thurs "Private Eyes" - modern rocking sounds \$1.50
Fri "The Boddies" - rock, rhythm & blues \$1.50

Sat "Full Moon Howlers".

AURORA HOTEL

Tues "Chris Finnen Offering" - British & American Blues R&B

ALMA HOTEL

Tues "Wylie West Band"
Weds "Dubious Brothers"
Thurs "Idle Rich"
Fri "Harlow Wood"

THEATRE

PLAYHOUSE

Mon - Sat 8 p.m. State Theatre Co. presents "On the Wallaby", devised and directed by Nick Enright. A musical recreation of S.A. during the Great Depression. Students \$4.50.

SPACE

Wed & Thurs 8.30 Silk in "Salome" by Oscar Wilde; "a timeless story of hatred, lust, decadence and violence, performed by one of the foremost European contemporary theatre collectives. Students \$4.50

Fri & Sat 6 p.m. "Oresteia" - a three play cycle, the tragedy of Agamemnon, Electra and Orestes, presented by Silk. Students \$5.00

OPERA THEATRE

Mon - Thurs 8.30, Fri & Sat 9.30 "Divisions and Delights" - Vincent Price as Oscar Wilde.

THEATRE 62

Mon - Sat 8 p.m. "Done For The Money" by Bill Agg. The Stage Company presents the world premiere season of a play about love, money & the mining boom, set in Adelaide. Students \$3.90

RED SHED

Tues - Sat 8.15 Brecht: "The Mother" - a "stirring political

play" Students \$2.
OLD TOWN HALL THEATRE UNLEY

Fri & Sat "Bits & Pieces" by Corinne Jacker, directed by John Dick. "A study of the contradictions and tensions in relationships of 3 people who love each other."

CINEMA

A.U. FILM GROUP - UNION HALL

Tues 12.10 "Escape From Alcatraz" - Clint Eastwood as a tough con intent on liberty
Wed 12.10 "Norma Rae" - Sally Field won the Best Actress Oscar for her portrait of a woman's struggle to establish a Union in a Deep South textile mill.

CHELSEA

Mon - Thurs 7.30 "juvenile Liaison" & "Tattooed Tears" - two documentaries on youth crime and the methods employed to punish and rehabilitate offenders.

SAMRC - 1 UNION ST. CITY

Tues 8.00 p.m. "India Song" - set in the French Embassy in Calcutta in 1930, it reflects Marguerite Duras, the writer and director's own childhood experience.

VALHALLA AT THE CARPI

Mon - Wed 7.30 F "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" Joseph Strick's beautifully realised film of Joyce's novel.

Mon - Wed 9.30 "Eraserhead" - bizarre and amazing horror film

Thurs 7.30 "Cross of Iron" and "The Deer Hunter"
Fri 7.30 "The Night Porter" and "Last Tango in Paris"

Sat 7.30 "Outrageous!" and "pardon Mon Affaire"
Sun - Tues 8 p.m. "Gunga Din" TRAK

Sun 3 p.m "Don Giovanni" - the Salzburg festival performance "The definitive Don"

NFTA - LITTLE CINEMA

Wed 7.30 "Juvenile Liaison" & "Tattooed tears" - two documentaries on youth crime and the methods employed to punish and rehabilitate offenders.

DANCE

BALCONY THEATRE

Tues - Sat 8 p.m. "Kinetic Energy Dance Company" - Programmes. Artistic Director Graham Jones. Students \$3.



Bilbo

Bilbo notes that the exigencies of time and the consensus style of Labor politics has forced him into error. Your humble hobbit apologises to the people concerned, and wishes Mark Duffy good luck as

Labor Club President; that is, when the elections eventually happen.

Elections are such uncivilized matters, and your hobbit notes that the Students Association elections are being considerably refined by the absence of many candidates for positions. As things go, there's more of a fight for Bread and Circuses than the presidential job. Could it be that the top member of the student hierarchy is merely seen as a circus without bread?

The things advertisers are driven to. Advertising is supposed to be the graveyard of talent in Australia. In America it's apparently just a graveyard. Bilbo noticed these curiosities in the press blurb for a "Perfect Couple".

There are some neat promo ideas; "Tie in with "singles groups". Invite leaders and organizers of single groups to special promotional screenings to spread the good word around singles bars and clubs about "A Perfect Couple".

"One thing to remember Mr. Exhibitor, A Perfect Couple is the perfect motion picture with the perfect story and cast to guarantee a perfect time at the Box Office." Are they trying to sell the film, Bilbo wonders.

Sometimes things just go wrong, a view shared by a harried pair of On dit editors in bringing out National Student two weeks ago.

A little noticed effect of the state blackout was the disruption of power to Bridge Press, Murray

Bridge just as the paper was being stripped together. A tired editorial crew headed home to Adelaide for the duration and then drove back again later that night to collect the paper. The fact that their car was stopped for speeding on the way and the papers were distributed in heavy rain that night only added to the interest.

Readers of Nation Review would have got a shock had they unintentionally viewed both the front and back covers of a recent issue simultaneously.

The front cover showed a shrewd looking Rupert Murdoch juggling different parts of his empire - The back cover? A full page ad for Ansett with the slogan "At Ansett people make the difference" Rupert Murdoch certainly does.



Dance Club Starts

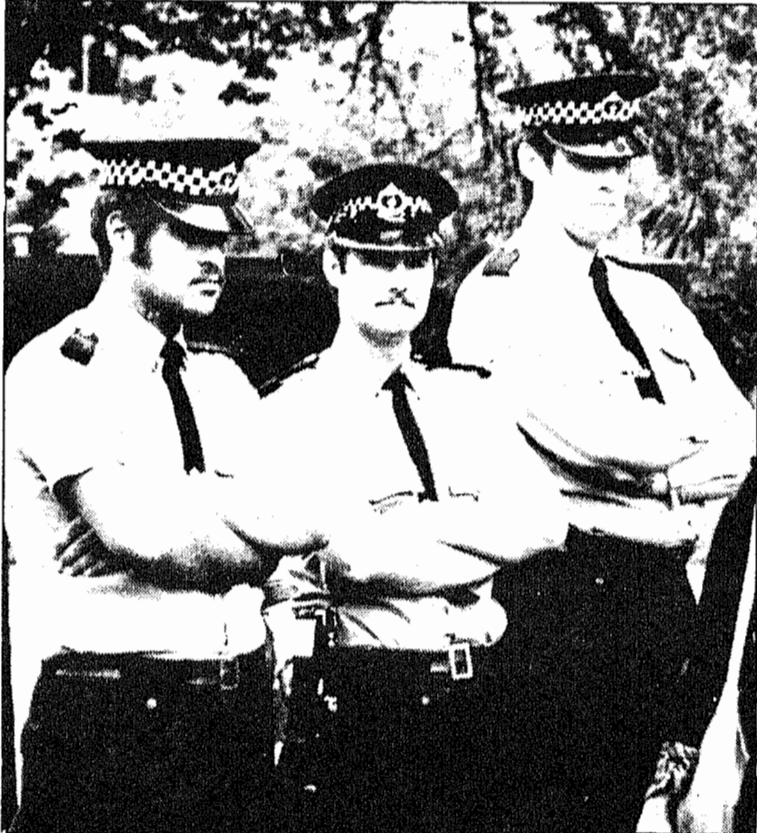
Lundsaka - or ethnic dancing got off to a good start last Friday, with ten people dancing their lunchtime away.

Paul Jewell, organiser of the event said he was hopeful of proceeding to form a club under the aegis of the CSC.

"I'm pleased with the turnout and we had a good time" said Jewell. Originally the dance was

to be held on the Union Lawns, but the weather and providence, in the form of the pre-nocastal society intervened. The North/South Dining rooms became available after that group cancelled their booking, making way for the dancers. "It's unfortunate that the Union has so few rooms available" says Jewell who is now busily trying to find a venue for next weeks dance.

Geoff Hanmer



Polly's Police

Back from the week-end and boy it was rough!! I was sure there was a huge thunderstorm on Saturday until I was informed it was just my hang over.

So into a nearby phone-box and SUZAM (no?) I was changing into SUPER POLLY and I got arrested for indecent exposure. I pleaded that my camera was O.K., they looked and muttered that they were underdeveloped (I don't think they were referring to the photos somehow). The Victor Harbour Police Station is just like any other, damn cold when you have no clothes. In police Stations, incidentally, there are no heaters. I now understand why they are dubbed the blue boys. Anyway, they all started taking photos ... pictures of an exhibitionist, I think they said. Meanwhile, the ship of state was sinking and no-one would bail me out. So my column this week is written from the lonely confines of the Victor Harbour Police Station.

They assaulted my perceptive palate with state food. Just to think our taxes taste like that!! I told them I was the food columnist from *On dit* and they asked if I had eaten anything good lately. Next abusive language was added to my original charge.

It was freezing in there; the only amusing part of the story was one policeman using government banalities said:

"When the cats away the mice do play". And the other replied with a thick Scottish accent -

"Aye, and she looks like a blue moose to me". I had always thought pigs a derisive term without any reason behind it, but you should have seen the swill they served me. It was not silver service either. My only advice is don't eat it and try your lawyer's sandwiches instead or whatever else he has for lunch. Eventually I cried 'Free me or I will die from over-exposure', and they let me go.

P.S. Watch out or some-one will have a lens of you.

Love Polly Unsaturated.



Doesn't anyone have any ideas? Francis Vaughan, Meredith Robbins and Manoy Cornwall out on a limb.

PROSH - JUST RESTING

After extensive investigations, it has now been revealed that a General Student Meeting was held in the Mayo Refectory last Thursday lunchtime.

Students present at the meeting were unwitting participants in one of the most devious "coups" yet contrived by so-called student politicians. It appears that as a result of these nefarious activities, Prosh 1980 will go ahead.

Prosh, as any Student Apathist knows, is an activity occurring during the last week of term devoted to the disruption of the normal academic status quo. In the past such activities have included having early morning chicken and champagne breakfasts. Such disreputables as Dr. D. Tonkin and Mr. B. Francis have attended, thus

elevating these "Prosh Breakfasts" to the level of art forms.

Many students attending the refectory were merely looking for a different kind of bad taste.

At 1310 (ten past one) three persons addressed the assembled students with the aid of a hastily erected P.A. system. After a brief discussion, heard by only a small number of the students, one of the three put a motion. "On dit" has now been able to discover that the motion was couched in terms similar to a deodorant commercial. This is consistent with the fact that most students, upon hearing what to them must have been an embarrassing personal question, raised their arms. The motion to proceed with "Prosh 1980" was carried! When asked if there were any abstentions, a few embarrassed students raised their other arms. It appears that

these students probably came from Non-collegiate Housing where they could only afford to deodorize one armpit.

On dit has subsequently discovered the identity of the three. They are Amanda Cornwall from the Students Association, Frank Vaughan from the SAC and Barry Salter who is believed to moonlight as the Activities Co-ordinator for the Union. They could not be contacted for comment.

One need only recall how this scandalous technique has been used so devastatingly in Federal and State politics, to realize the possible implications of the "Mayo Affair". We are lumbered with Prosh.

Mike Brown

Eds - A meeting to perpetuate this farce has been called for this Wednesday 1.00 p.m. in the Gallery.

Student Radio

Here is your guide to the discussions you can listen to each night of the week on Student Radio.

On **Monday** our long-running Education spot continues at about 11.00 p.m. and is joined by a new series of programmes at 10.30 p.m. on Technological Change and its Impact. These talk spots are all between 5 and

10 minutes each and continue over a number of weeks. **Tuesday** night at 10.30 and the issue being looked at is Redcliff Petrochemical Plant. On **Wednesday** we look at Uranium and at about 11.00 p.m. the Media or Politics. **Thursday** night it's an examination of the Prostitution Bill and its ramifications at 10.30 and AUS report at 11.30 p.m. Friday night's entertainment roundup is at 10.30 p.m.

On dit

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Thanks to: Steve Rogerson, Suzy Oliver, Jo Mausolf, Jenny Brisbane, Paul Hunt, James Williamson, where are you Alan - come back!

Science Fiction

Notice is given that a Special General Meeting of the Adelaide University Science Fiction Association will be held on 25th July 1980 at 8.00 p.m. in the Portus Room, for the purpose of electing a new President. Wine and Cheese. New Members Welcome!

Scholarship

Post-tertiary Research Scholarships, for two years, of \$2,000 per annum or up to \$2,750 per annum at the discretion of the Trustees (2 per annum).

Applications to the Registrar of the University by 31st October.

Tertiary Scholarships, for duration of course, of \$150 per annum (fifteen per annum).

Applications to: Secretary, The Gowrie Scholarship Trust Fund, 47 Cherry Street, Warrabee, 2074, NSW by 30th September.

The Scholarships are available only to members of the Armed Forces who served in a combat area during the War of 1939/45, or to their descendants.

Forms of application and instruction are obtained from the Registrar of the University.

Reparenting

Did your parents' sexual education leave you without guilt?

Do you have the information you need?

Would you like to attend a small one hour group for discussion and re-education each Friday at 1 p.m.? The group is held at the Student Counselling Service, George Murray Building, above the Student Activities Office. The first meeting of the group is on 11.7.80.

Reparenting is a way of reducing sexual guilt by the sharing of feelings, attitudes and experiences with other group members and the male counsellor who will also attend.

Enquiries, Norm Greet, Student Counselling Service.

Tent for Hire

Size: approx. 30 x 18 ft.

Cost: \$60.00 (includes transport and erection fee in the metropolitan area)

If you need any details contact Phil Brook, ph 356 7390.

Wanted to Sell

- 1) Evening dress - cocktail length. Pale coffee chiffon, with faint floral design, over cream lining. Square yoke with frill. Loose hanging. Size 12. \$50. Never worn.
- 2) Chinese handcarved figurine, jade with wooden pedestal. \$350.
- 3) 28" women's bike. 3 gears. Good cond. \$50 o.n.o. Must sell.

phone Angela 278 1793

Renaissance Dance

Do you want to learn to dance the graceful Pavane, the energetic Galliard or a lively English Brawl? These and other 16th century court dances are being taught on Mondays, 1.15 p.m. - 2.15 p.m., in the South Dining Room. All welcome. (Please wear flat shoes or slippers.)

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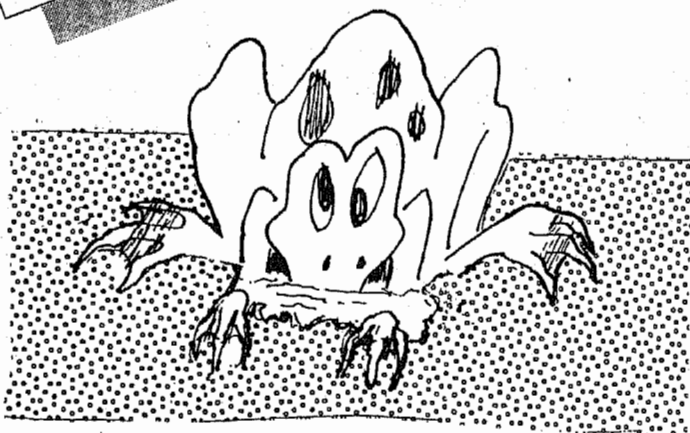
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To a Teas Cheque

Shall I compare thee to a dole cheque?
Thou art less lovely and less temperate:
Rough landlords shake me nearly to a wreck,
And this year's lease hath all too short a date:
Sometime too high the cost of living soars,
And often does my stomach growl at tea:
By chance, or government's changing policy?
But thy infernal cutbacks will soon fade
And give possession of that share thou owest;
Debt shall not brag I wonder in its shade,
When next election time I pray thou goest:-
So long as people see no need to panic,
So long will three in four await a Teas cheque.

Alan Kennington



For active apathy

Come gather 'round students, I'll write you a verse,
you've heard a lot better but you won't hear much worse.
It's about our fine campus in Adelaide town,
and the people who walk it and the crap that goes down.
There's Marxists and Maoists and bearded high-brows
crying "Anarchy rules! The revolution is ours".
They walk in their haven kept clean from the streets
and they preach love and trust from under the sheets.
They rally in circles like the prophets of old,
smooth orators alchemy and a fist-full of gold.
Make war for the TEAS cheque and march on the dole,
overthrow capitalists and lift up the prole.
Feminists and Liberals, the right-wing and left,
oppressed noble-savages and subliminal theft.
Christians and Moslems all squabbling together,
talking salvation like we talk of the weather.
The fractions of factions, all superimposed
on the structures and functions of treading on toes.
They're all ten feet tall and smell like red roses,
big frogs in small ponds with unpleasant odours.
There's a story been told of an ancient knight-errant,
who won back his maiden, then wished that he hadn't.
While you are fighting against dragons obscure
you get caught up in cause and forget about cure.
The brothers of freedom and the sisters of trust
all start revolutions from frustrated lust.
It's the longing for belonging that makes up the gangs
desire for the uniform, not equality's pangs.
So tread these bricks softly and cast your own light;
sweet dreams of perfection you can save for the night.
When you chase freedom, you chase but a word,
but when you seek foot-holds your cry can be heard.
The campus asylum has welcoming fires,
but beware of its prophets and sheltered messiahs.
The truth of the city is elusive and dim,
and the song of the student is a monastery's hymn.
So, star-eyed student, read what is wrote,
and if you're gifted with brains you'll quickly take note.
Don't let them sway you, for they're not what you think,
come belly the bar and I'll buy you a drink.

David Mussared - Arts 1

Expression

My God, the cliches,
I cannot get away from them.
They have always been there,
From our meeting to his death.

They said we were so right for each other,
Why did they need to say anything?
We had said it all,
Said it to each other,
Through our silences and our love.

And then we hit a rough patch,
They said it was all okay,
A lovers' tiff,
It would all blow over,
everything would be alright tomorrow.

And, it did blow over,
But it left an emptiness,
That we ignored.
We said hollow phrases,
Such as "I love you".

I should have expected it,
The phone call,
He used all the cliches himself,
The phrases he had hated,
He couldn't say it any other way.
He couldn't see any other way out,
Too many things were working against us,
Don't be worried we can still be friends.

Well they told me that men weren't worth it,
That he didn't realise what he was losing,
And that there were many more fish in the sea.
And so I forgot him,
Except in my dreams where he wouldn't leave me
I still loved him - the Bastard.
And I hated him - but I got over that.

The hospital phoned me immediately,
An accident they said,
And my friends who were there said,
Don't worry he'll be alright,
They pulled out every cliché in the book,
And then he died.

I went to the funeral,
And I cried again and again,
Until they said they were sorry he'd passed away,
they were sorry he was deceased,
But I, I was crying because he was dead.

And I felt sorry for them,
they had to use other people's words,
they couldn't express themselves by themselves,
Nor exercise silence.
If only they had touched me, held me, hugged me,
I could have coped,
I could have picked up the pieces.

As it is I can't
And so goodbye,
I would like to be cremated,
And please don't wear black to my funeral,
It's too much of a tradition these days.
It's as meaningless as the cliches you use.

Elaine Batton

**Department of foreign Affairs:
Annual Report 1979.**

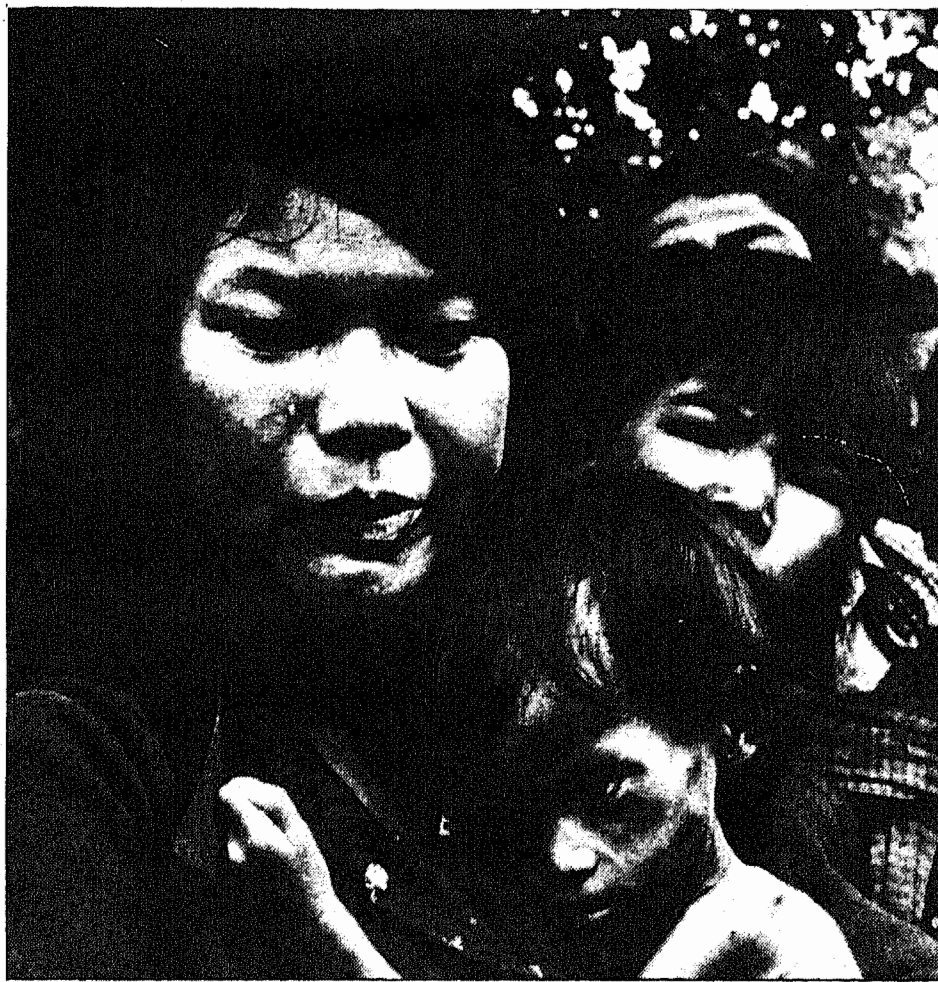
Departmental reports tend to be dreary documents which only reveal facts which the Minister wants revealed. In this respect, the most recent annual report of the Department of Foreign Affairs is unexceptional. Anyone wanting an understanding of Australia's role in world politics would be well advised to read Alan Renouf's recently published works before consulting this official line which is heavy on bureaucratic jargon; relieved only by lots of pictures of a smiling Andrew Peacock.

Buried amid the platitudes are a number of issues which display the unprincipled drift in Australian foreign policy over recent years. The report on negotiations about the seabed boundary between Australia and Indonesia is mentioned briefly. Hardly a contentious issue, one would think, until reading further that "the start of these negotiations amounted to an acknowledgement of the incorporation of East Timor as the twenty-seventh province of Indonesia. In other words, Australia now officially recognises that the use of military force against an independent state can result in the loss of that state's independent identity, and it's incorporation as part of the aggressor state."

Yet this same report, predictably, condemns the Russian intervention in Afghanistan, and the Vietnamese incursion into Kampuchea. Incidentally, the report notes that "The Government has continued to recognise that same Pol Pot who's been accused of massive genocide against the Kampuchean people. We must remember that we are only aware of this appalling crime because Vietnam sent in her army to remove Pol Pot. However, as the report states, "Australia suspended its aid programme [to Vietnam] because of Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea."

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Malcolm Fraser is content to foam at the mouth about Afghanistan while armed incursions of a more dramatic and worrying nature are occurring in our own "sphere of influence". Terry Connolly examines the official line and wonders if our hypocrisy.



Kampuchea and the genocide factor

Similar action by Tanzania which resulted in the overthrow of Amin in Uganda is applauded by the report and Tanzania received "special additional assistance," for her trouble.

The pattern of Australia's foreign policy is thus revealed - unprincipled responses based on the political colour of a particular nation. Foreign aid, the Vietnam example now makes clear, is to be conditional on political behaviour.

The key test in the case of any conflict is to be "which side do the Soviets support?" Our policy in South East Asia is full of hypocrisy - China's armed invasion of Vietnam is not even mentioned, while Vietnam is taken to task for toppling Pol Pot. Perhaps this is to be expected, as after all the people who make our foreign policy - Malcolm Fraser and his "foreign minister from central casting" Andrew Peacock - were responsible for sending young Australians to fight in Vietnam a short 10 years ago.

This is not to say that Australia ought to condone Soviet military activity, but our actions with regard to Vietnam only pushed that unfortunate war-ravaged country further into the Soviet camp. If we wish to see Vietnam as a peaceful, independent nation, we must help rebuild the damage caused by thirty years of warfare.

As the situation now stands, the only nation willing to supply such aid on any major scale is the USSR.

As far back as 1947 Paul Hasluck, one time diplomat, Liberal Minister and Governor General, wrote that our contribution to world peace, order and justice should be that of clear, objective, honest thinking; of logical and unprovocative delivery of views and of unswerving goodwill in the steady pursuit of international co-operation. Sadly, as this official report makes clear, that advice is not being heeded in the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs.

There's always something new in **SPACE**

The Space is Adelaide's leading Alternative theatre. An experimental multi-purpose theatre in the Adelaide Festival Centre, it regularly houses productions which show Adelaide audiences the best of innovative, experimental and avant-garde theatre companies from South Australia, interstate and overseas.

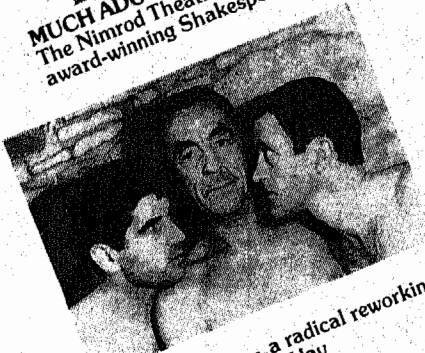
Just look at these blasts from the past:



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The Nimrod Theatre's rollicking award-winning Shakespeare



KOLD KOMFORT KAFFEE
Robyn Archer and John Gaden - a winning combination



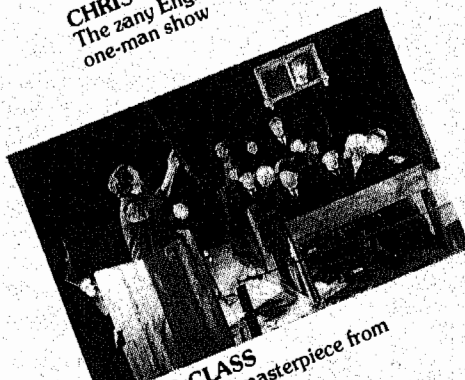
THE MAIDS
Genet's masterpiece - a radical reworking by actor/director Alexander Hay



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The zany English comedian in his hilarious one-man show



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**THE SPACE THEATRE
BOOK NOW
Tickets at all BASS outlets**

NOTE: Persons offended by nudity on stage should not book for these productions.

UNEMPLOYMENT-LAISSEZ FAIRE

How does Unemployment affect those unlucky enough to be part of the latest CES statistics? *Ross Langmead*, one of the co-ordinators of the Inner Northern Education Programme for Unemployed Youth in Melbourne reviews the Governments efforts on behalf of the Unemployed.

There is quite a range of government programmes for the unemployed. But a closer examination reveals that their combined effect on unemployment is disappointingly small.

Some of the programmes are worthwhile, others futile. But hardly any of them contribute to the creation of jobs. It is becoming increasingly obvious that ad hoc initiatives are no substitute for systematic economic planning with employment as a priority.

Lyn is a participant in an Education Programme for Unemployed Youth (EPUY). She left school at the beginning of third form, having always had personal problems that have ranged from legal convictions to homelessness, from poverty to violent relationships within her family. She has never held a job for more than a fortnight.

Because she is between fifteen and twenty-four years of age, has been unemployed for at least four months in the last twelve and suffers from "educational disadvantage", she is eligible for an EPUY course.

Such a course will be between twelve and sixteen weeks in length. Although the emphasis varies from programme to programme, Lyn will probably brush up on literacy skills, basic maths, job seeking skills and "survival skills", all in a supportive and informal setting.

EPUY staff will probably find that Lyn grows rapidly in confidence and self-esteem. She may well show untapped ability in English and Maths, a commentary on the school system. But the staff will face the question of how much to prepare her for work when the jobs just aren't there.

They will be frustrated because the course is too short for real achievement. And they will feel guilty when they have to push her out of the programme with raised expectations of employment but still little chance of gaining it.

Being eligible for EPUY, Lyn is also eligible for the Special Youth Employment Training Programme (SYETP), which is part of the overall National Employment And Training (NEAT) scheme.

Under SYETP employers are given a subsidy of \$45 per week for four months to provide on-the-job training for young people. Lyn might, for example, get a job as a sales assistant, clerk or machinist.

When the four months period is up, however, Lyn is likely to be retrained. This is not simply an abuse of STETYP by some private employers. Bodies such as the Victorian Public Service Board explicitly state that SYETP is now justified, not on the basis of providing leading to a job, but on the basis of providing work experience only.

SYETP was meant to encourage the creation of new jobs with the help of government subsidy. In fact it only provides temporary cheap labour for employers. No new jobs are created.

There is also no follow-up for SYETP participants, so Lyn might find herself employed for four months and then back where she started, apart from having a bit of experience.

Whether or not Lyn had left school early, she could take part in the local Community Youth Support Scheme (CYSS). This is usually a centre running various activities with the official aim of helping to maintain the motivation and morale of youth while they are unemployed.

Depending on the local group, Lyn might find herself learning a craft, going on a social excursion, doing some community service or just relaxing with others. Some groups, of course, ignore the federal CYSS guidelines and actively look for jobs, or try to create them.

If she did find something for her at a CYSS group, Lyn would be part of only a small minority of unemployed youth who

take part in CYSS groups. This is due to several reasons, such as the limited number of groups, the narrow guidelines imposed on them, the varying success of local programmes and the tendency for groups to attract only one type of youth in any one area.

If Lyn were handicapped she could be eligible for the NEAT Handicapped Youth Programme (NHYP). This is intended for those with physical, intellectual or psychological handicaps which are a barrier to gaining work and which restrict their capacity to learn work skills.

Under NHYP Lyn's employer, (supposing one can be found) receives a full award-rate subsidy for six weeks and then a reducing subsidy over a period. There are similarities to the SYETP scheme.

This scheme is meant to create jobs for the handicapped, but in fact very few (if any) new jobs are created. A substitution of handicapped people for others occurs, with the likelihood of being retrenched at the end of the programme or soon afterwards.

NHYP also overlaps with sections of the main NEAT scheme which favour handicapped applicants. The two schemes are quite uncoordinated, having differing allowances, subsidies and periods of subsidy. It is not known which scheme is preferred by CES staff, or on what basis they ever choose on behalf of handicapped people.

So far, all the schemes have been youth oriented. They all have major failings and between them cater only for a small minority of unemployed youth.

SYETP and NHYP are aimed at creating jobs for youth with the help of subsidies to employers, but fail. EPUY assumes that if educationally disadvantaged youth can gain basic skills they will get a job, but the jobs are just not there. CYSS, even more negatively, is aimed at merely occupying the unemployed.

If government programmes for unemployed youth are ineffective and available only to a few, the same can certainly be said of its other schemes, where no age limits apply.

The National Employment and Training scheme covers several programmes, including, for instance, SYETP, but its main aim is a scheme for trainees after either on the job or in educational institutions.

The NEAT scheme trains or retrains people who are unemployed or at risk of being unemployed, either by subsidising employers (who pay award rates) for on-the-job training or by paying allowances to trainees who are studying.

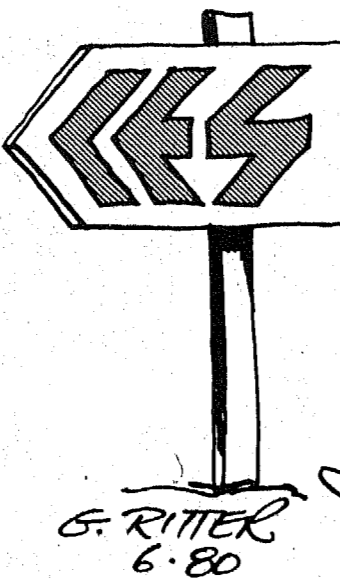
The scheme pays special attention to skills in short supply, and caters for a small number of physically or mentally handicapped trainees.

NEAT courses in education institutions are closely related to forecasts of labour shortage, and do have a positive effect in matching unemployed workers with skills in short supply. But in Australia there is no accurate labour forecasting mechanism available. Various bodies attempt predictions, but in a limited and uncoordinated way.

NEAT training on the job, on the other hand, appears to be less useful. No new jobs are created. Meanwhile trainees simply sharpen their skills and become more competitive on a tough labour market, while employers manage to train employees on the cheap.

Although the NEAT scheme is the only programme available for older workers, it caters for only a small minority. Strict quotas are applied to courses in educational institutions so that skills in short supply don't become skills which are over-supplied. And NEAT subsidies to employers are only available if there are no applicants registered at the local CES office with the required skill for an advertised job. Then someone is employed at award rates and the

Library Note : This is the best copy of this page possible. For better detail, please see the original document.



AS HOWIE BALANCES THE BUDGET

employers receive a subsidy. The total number of NEAT trainees at any one time is less than 20,000.

The Relocation Assistance Scheme (RAS) offers financial assistance in moving house for those who cannot find a local position in their usual occupation, but have a definite job offer in another area. The number of people involved in RAS each year is not great (about 1,000).

The Fares Assistance Scheme either lends or grants fare money for going to job interviews when a person cannot afford the fare. The tickets issued do not have to be paid back if a person is eligible for unemployment benefits. Fewer than 10,000 people used this scheme last year, and the cost to the government is small.

The Commonwealth Rebate for Apprentice Full-time Training (CRAFT) is a rebate to employers to compensate for the off-the-job training done in institutions by apprentices during their apprenticeship.

The various adult NEAT schemes just listed involve small numbers of people. Accurate figures are not available, but less than 10% of unemployed adults are catered for in any one year.

The same criticisms made of the youth oriented schemes can be made of the other schemes. Very few new jobs are created, despite subsidies to employers; some workers are simply substituted for others. Assistance in fares, or in moving house, or in acquiring 'work skills', merely helps people to more effectively go for the few jobs available.

The manpower programmes of the Federal Government are ad hoc reactions to the unemployment crisis, limited in scope and ineffective in creating employment (except, of course, for administrators).

The government would probably want to include the recent School-to-Work Transition Programme under the heading of manpower programmes, but it is clear that it will have little effect on unemployment except in the short term.

For Education, announced in November 1979 that the government would spend \$25 million a year, increasing to \$40 million a year in 1984, for various transition programmes in educational institutions. The details of how this money will be spent vary from state to state.

The main criticism to be made of this policy is that it transfers the spotlight in the unemployment debate to the early school-leavers. It attempts to throw the blame back into education instead of the economic situation.

Instead of bashing 'dole bludgers' it implies that if only levels of literacy and numeracy could be improved, and education were more vocationally oriented, young unemployed people would get jobs. The scheme will soak up

large numbers of potentially unemployed youth for a short period in an election year. Enough said.

The short list of programmes just described hardly represent a co-ordinated manpower strategy. It is hardly surprising, given the 'laissez faire' tendencies of the Liberal Government.

It would prefer non-interventionist policies, stimulating the private sector, reducing public expenditure and reducing taxes. The social cost is enormous in a period of high inflation and high unemployment.

There are several levels on which a government could act to reduce unemployment.

First, there is the use of macro-economic policies which increase employment. These would involve an increase of public spending in socially useful areas. The present government is ideologically opposed to such measures. It would prefer less intervention in the economy. What intervention does occur is directed to stimulating the economy through the private sector. Whether this is correct is, of course, the centre of the debate in the long term.

Secondly, a government could increase labour efficiency, this approach assumes that there would be enough jobs if only skills were matched to jobs, and disadvantaged, handicapped, or untrained people are given training. Most of the current programmes are in this category.

This approach does not increase the number of jobs, and often results in the 'substitution effect' mentioned above, where recently trained workers replaced other permanently or temporarily. It may be socially desirable that disadvantaged workers be made more competitive in the labour market, but this approach robs Peter to pay Paul.

Thirdly, a government could redistribute employment, by offering early retirement, reduced working hours, part-time work and job sharing.

There is value in this approach, but there are several thorny areas, quite apart from the false assumption that we should accept the shortage of employment as inevitable. Only higher-income earners can drop their salary without reaching poverty. Current programmes for youth redistribute jobs from older workers to younger ones. But this raises the problem of various groups competing for a share of an undersized labour market.

Fourthly, a government could create jobs. In practical terms, this is the area where government strategy should be vigorous. Job creation is the employment of labour which is permanent but not permanently subsidised, and which would not otherwise have been employed.

The experience of other countries shows that job creation is not as expensive as first estimates might indicate. Even more importantly, certain kinds of job creation projects (for

example, those involving community participation in meeting social needs) can have enormous potential for social change.

The present government has refused to get into job creation, arguing that it would rather stimulate the private sector to grow and create jobs. The strategy is obviously now working.

Unemployment: Muddled or Managed? is the title of a booklet by the Brotherhood of St. Laurence. It encapsulates the issue well.

Australia's manpower programmes are neither adequate nor integrated. They are late reactions to the political unacceptability of unemployment. There is an urgent need for economic planning, followed by integrated manpower planning.

The Liberal Government's yearning for a non-interventionist approach simply cannot be satisfied. Whatever else is needed, full employment in the long term will require planning, coordinated policy and more extensive programmes. □

Welfare held back as company profits rise

The government has paid millions of dollars less for unemployment benefits and pensions than budgeted. Treasurer Howard announced this with glee last week. *Alan Austin* poses the question whether Fraser is really "governing for all Australians".

The Fraser government's economic strategy has met with remarkable success over the financial year just ended. Preliminary reports indicate that payments to pensioners, the unemployed and other parasites have been restrained whilst the profits of big companies have moved along nicely.

Several reports came to hand last week. One was the Financial and Profitability Study 1980 published by the Sydney Stock Exchange. For those unable to afford the \$180 cover price, this is what it says:

Profitability of listed companies "rose in 1978-79 after steady performance in 1977-78 and a major improvement in 1976-77. Earnings of shareholders' funds for all companies rose from 9.80% in 1975-76 to 11.49% in 1976-77, eased to 11.22% in 1977-78 and rose in the latest year to 12.78%.

Earnings/total assets also "indicates the same trend in profitability as earnings on shareholders' funds, with increases in the latest year."

With these record profits one would expect, in normal circumstances, that company taxes would have risen proportionately.

Not so. We do not have normal circumstances. We have Malcolm Fraser. The Stock Exchange report states: "In fact, the effective tax rate for all companies has consistently fallen from 43.13% in 1974-75 to 33.54% in 1978-79. The Effective Company Tax Rate in 1978-79 varies significantly from the prima facie rate of 46%.

That was up to 1978-79. What about 1979-80? Recently released Bureau of Statistics figures show that for the first three quarters this trend has not only continued but accelerated.

Company profits are up 14.62% in the corresponding period a year earlier. Are company taxes also up 14%? No, they're only up 8.9%.

The above profit figures, incidentally, refer to reported profits. One of the first things we accountants learn is triple entry: one set of accounts for the directors' showing actual profits; a second set for the shareholders showing about half that; and a third set for the government showing a dead loss.

Clearly, the private sector is enjoying remarkable profitability.

The opposite is true of those least able to manage financially: welfare recipients and the unemployed.

As Treasurer Howard and Minister for Finance Robinson joyously reported last week, the government paid \$73 million less for unemployment benefits during 1979-80 than budgeted. And \$60 million less for pensions.

Why? The government would have us believe this is due to "improvement in employment opportunities during the year". The figures and the facts, however, indicate otherwise. Quite clearly, the government's concerted efforts to hound the unemployed and disabled from the registers have been effective.

Earlier this year Social Welfare Minister Guilfoyle announced major changes to

the application forms for unemployment benefits. Applicants must now complete four pages of intimidating interrogation (and risk \$500 or six months for getting it wrong).

Prior to this, Minister for Unemployment Viner brought in harsher work tests for assessing eligibility for benefits. Both these moves are regarded widely - by social workers, CES staff and others - as having prevented large numbers of legitimately unemployed people from claiming their rightful benefits. The Treasurer's own figures now substantiate this.

Precisely the same has been happening with invalid pensions. Sydney psychiatrist Dr Yolande Lucire told the *Sydney Morning Herald* last Wednesday that the government was "simply not telling the truth" in denying there was a crackdown on invalid pensioners. She claimed that 60 to 70 of her own patients had had their invalid pensions stopped in the last two years.

In some cases, she said, after an appeal which took more than a year to hear, pensions had been reinstated, but without retrospectivity. "This has caused grave distress to invalid pensioners who have had to live on the much lower sickness benefit."

Dr Lucire claimed the government began taking a harder line two years ago. "Events since then have indicated a search for justification rather than for justice." She told the *Sydney Morning Herald* of cases where up to six doctors recommending a patient for an invalid pension were over-ridden by an administrator in the Social Security Department.

What makes the payment of below-budget welfare payments particularly disturbing is that the allocations were pretty miserly in the first place.

After her critique on ABC radio of the 1979 budget, Eva Cox of the NSW Social Service Council concluded: "Most of the gains have been made by people who could well afford to have done without them. The unemployed - and the disadvantaged generally - are taking the brunt of this economic crisis. The government has callously written them off."

So niggardly have Fraser-Howard budgets been, in fact, that an *Australian Financial Review* editorial stated, after the 1978 budget: "During the Menzies years, budgets were without exception structured with a keen eye on equity. The same cannot be said about the Howard budget. It is a singularly insensitive document that uses the guise of austerity to engage in a number of redistributive exercises which have as a direct consequence the shift in the burden of taxation and economic adjustment to the lower end of the income scale."

At each of the last two elections Fraser made much of his commitment to governing on behalf of 'all Australians'. It will be interesting to see if this theme is replayed during the coming campaign.

1 Quarterly Estimates of National Income and Expenditure, Australia, March Quarter 1980. Australian Bureau of Statistics.

SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

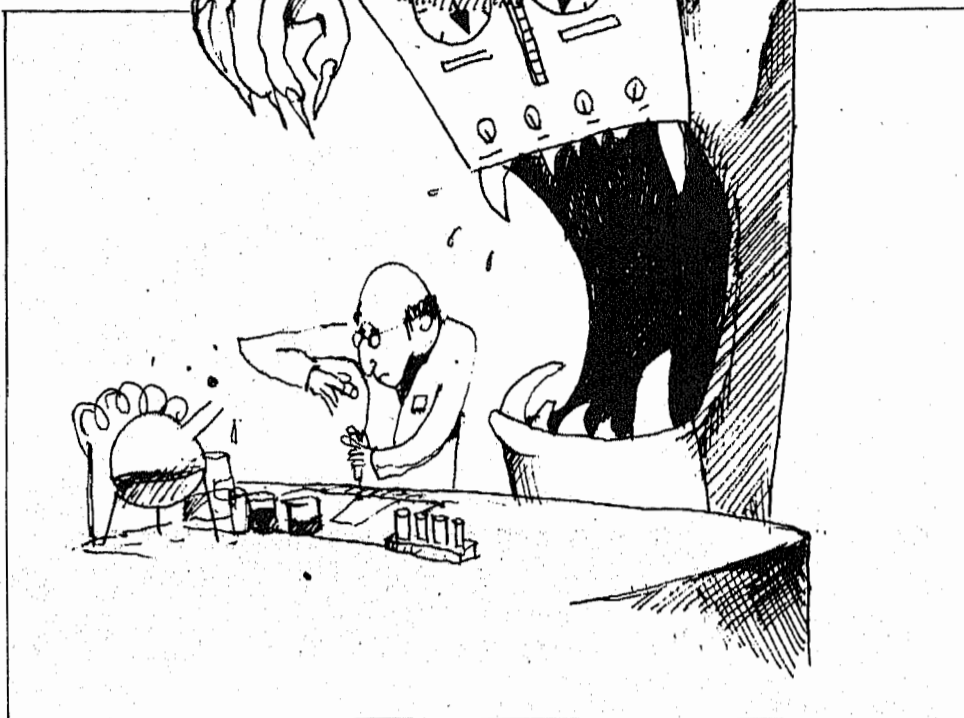
Today, more aspects of our culture (all modes of thinking and doing) are influenced by science and technology than in the whole history of human civilization. There has grown up what can be adequately described as a "scientific or technological view of the world". The following sentences are evidence of such a tendency.

"Different people have different needs which have to be satisfied by different means. Science will tell us what these are and how to satisfy them. It is science that will make it clear that religion is necessary". (F.H. George)

Now it seems to me somewhat absurd that modern society should speak of a scientific or technological view of the world when the only proper view of the world can be philosophical. What is probably meant by this strange appellation is that our modern world now looks to science and technology to solve our social problems in the same way it once looked to religion.

Science, of course, has tended to mean different things to different people; this is the essential difficulty of dealing with any topic relating to science. For example the secondary student views science as simply the amalgamation of one fact after another while the man in the street views science as the activity of people who work in laboratories and whose discoveries have made possible modern industry and medicine. The other difficulty, perhaps more complex, is that science has come to be associated so much with technology that people consider them to be one and the same thing. This view, though not altogether incorrect, is naive, and highlights the social problems of completely understanding the work and nature of science. Nevertheless, there can be little doubt that the practical values of science, worked out in technology, have been a primary reason for the rapid spread of the scientific-technological world view. 'Scientific' thought, as applied through technology, has worked, and the common person has been loath to argue with success.

Perhaps it should be stated from the start that science itself has undergone vast changes. In some respects - and this appears to be the criticism of some scientists and humanists - science has lost that essential innocence that was part of 19th century scientific investigation. To express the point simply, science used to be valued as a means of getting to know the world; now, owing to the triumph of technology, it is conceived as showing how to change the world. The modern idea that the ultimate reality waiting to be uncovered is material, and that there is no knowledge other than scientific knowledge, is the philosophy of scientism. Clearly it is a wholesale misunderstanding of the limits of science, and as such, is not science ... that divides all thought into two categories; up-to-date understanding of the limits of science, and as such, is not science. Holton defines scientism as the "addiction to science ... that divides all thought into two categories; up-to-date scientific knowledge, and nonsense." The dangers of such a philosophy gaining a popular hold on the social imagination are twofold. Firstly, science may become perverted by its reduction to a simple technique. The crop of 'sciences' (Library Science, Administration Science, Domestic Science) that have been on the syllabuses of some American colleges suggests that it has already done so. I shall argue later that the social sciences are presenting further difficulties, not only to science, but to moral values. Secondly, the religious and artistic values (which, in the broad sense, can be defined as our capacity for love, faith and goodness; all those qualities that establish the human personality) could well become a sphere for scientific-technology.



Is science to blame for the ills of our society? Was the atom bomb necessary merely because we gained the capacity to produce it? Michael Logie tries to distinguish between Science, Technology and Scientism.

Though we are told that we live in a scientific and technological age, presumably because of the direct effect science and technology has had on improving the standard of living and providing humans with a greater capacity to adapt to their environment, the majority of people have little idea of what is meant by science or technology. By defining science and technology (simply and with working definitions only) I will try to set our problems more clearly into context. Technology is the totality of the means employing organized knowledge to achieve practical ends. Science, on the other hand, is a more difficult thing to define, since it is both knowledge and method. Conant, an organic chemist, defines science "as an interconnected series of concepts and conceptual schemes that have developed as a result of experimentation and observation and are fruitful of further experimentation and observation." This takes into account both the organized intellectual methods of science and the dynamic character of the consequent scientific knowledge.

Much of valid science begins with observation statements that are made in the language of some theory. For example the observation statement 'the earth is round' presupposes some theory that such a thing as the earth exists and that its shape is round. Observations and experiments are carried out in order to test or shed light on some theory and those incomplete theories can only be improved or extended by purposeful investigation. Theory rather than observation is of primary importance. However, as Chalmers points out, "the statement will be as precise and informative as the theory in whose language they are formed is precise and informative." So the Newtonian concept of mass is more precise than the concept of democracy because the former's concept plays a specific, well defined role in a precise, structured theory unlike the latter, which is often clothed in vague and imprecise language. From this, theories must then be seen as organized structures of some kind that offer some prescription as to how they should be developed and extended generally in research programmes.

Science as a Craft

In a technological society, dependent largely on scientific knowledge to create industrial production, the dangers to science are immense. It has now become an illusion to think of a natural science standing separate from all involvement with society. What has developed "is a growing feeling that the theoretical results of science are closely

connected to destructive technology. Consequently, both the epistemological and the instrumental values of science have suffered" (S. Krinsky). Clearly the purposes of science have become perverted. Modern science, and its research, has become such an increasingly expensive business that its progress has been taken into the hands of politicians and private corporations that subsidise its practices. It should be made quite clear that the production of a marketable commodity like soap, though it uses some scientific knowledge, is quite different from that production of scientific knowledge created by delicate and specialized work. The dangers of scientists being obligated to the sources of their patronage are clear enough. Centralized groups, often run by 'experts', establish precisely the role of scientists and determine what will eventually come on the market. Science, dominated by 'experts', is prone to four main abuses which Ravetz lists as shoddy science, entrepreneurial science, reckless science and dirty science.

Technology in our modern society is clearly a potent force. While Ernest Junger could write "technology is the real metaphysics of the 20th century", Lord Todd, much closer to our times, declared that "it is the new technology which has revolutionised our lives in this country and which has advanced at an ever increasing speed, fed by, and itself feeding, a similarly advancing science". To the humanist the idea of a technological society based on scientific knowledge is quickly eroding our capacity for moral decisions. Most of us are sufficiently conversant with Orwell's 1984 and Huxley's Brave New World to understand the seriousness of our present position. Social problems, though, never remain static and a special feature of our present problems is their novelty. Never before has human society been faced with such serious and immense moral problems. The technological society is guided by two principles: the first principle is the maxim that something ought to be done because it is technically possible to do. This principle is made quite clear with reference to Jacques Soustelle's remarks about the atomic bomb: "Since it was possible it was necessary." The motor car, though it has provided great service, continues to be produced and to take millions of lives on our roads each year and yet few speak of the significance of this tragedy. Clearly this idea that we should produce because we are capable of doing so is negating all those values upon which our civilization

has traditionally rested. This tradition said that things ought to be done because they were needed for humans, for their growth, joy, and reason, because they were beautiful, good, or true. Once the principle is accepted that we can produce because we are capable of doing so then our human values are prey to a form of technique that simply begets further technique. Perhaps that is why we are passing through a period of reckless progress unaware when we are to reach the peak of its expansion. The second principle of technological societies, and it follows from the first, is that of reducing the multiplicity of means to one end - maximal efficiency and output. Jacques Allul correctly notes that "here reason appears clearly in the guise of technique". Put more crudely, it is the modern meaning of progress.

Perhaps the greatest modern advances in technology have taken place in the fields of psychology and biology. Most behavioural psychologists believe that deviate social behaviour results primarily from maladaptive learned behaviour rather than from some organic or chemical disorder. Indeed as early as 1929 the influential behaviourist psychologist B.F. Skinner proudly announced that if he was given a dozen healthy children he could mould (train) them into whatever type he desired - from lawyer to beggarman or thief. With all the new scientific knowledge available on the workings of the brain and the sophisticated advances in drugs complete control of human behaviour could well become a distinct possibility. The ethical questions are manifold: Who will decide what behaviour is normal or abnormal? Are we to look forward to the Orwellian nightmare state where abnormals (non-conformists) are brought into 'learning centres' for reconditioning to behaviour deemed desirable by the authorities? The social psychologist Herbert Kelman is clearly right when he suggests: "For those of use who hold the enhancement of man's freedom of choice as a fundamental value, any manipulation of the behaviour of others constitutes a violation of their essential humanity, regardless of the 'goodness' of the cause that this manipulation is designed to serve". The other great 'developments' have taken place in the biomedical technologies. New work and understanding has been achieved in gene structures and how they can be suitably changed to create a more adaptive human being. An ideal position indeed, but the ethical questions raised by one obstetrician that "the business of obstetrics is to produce optimum babies" (quoted from Truitt/Solomons' book *Science, Technology and Freedom*) are large ones. To remove the process of procreation from the home situation to the laboratory is to dehumanize the act of procreation; no matter how 'perfect' the product. The act of procreation is one of the most human activities since it engages us spiritually, physically and rationally. The other problems remain that prospective parents could demand genetic counselling as a right, and that what are now considered minor defects might well become undesirable. The argument that such developments have not taken place as yet is a spurious one indeed. We live in a society that considers what can be done must be done. As Kass states "A more radical formulation holds that one knows only what one makes: knowing equals making."

The most vital question that needs to be asked in our modern societies is why the civilizing influences (science, art, religion) have proved so weak in the face of technology. The answer perhaps lies in the fact that technological societies, are ideal power states. In our own democracies one of the greatest power sources lies in that of 'expert' social science control. Though they lack the precision and formal validity of the natural sciences, the social sciences have gained great respect-

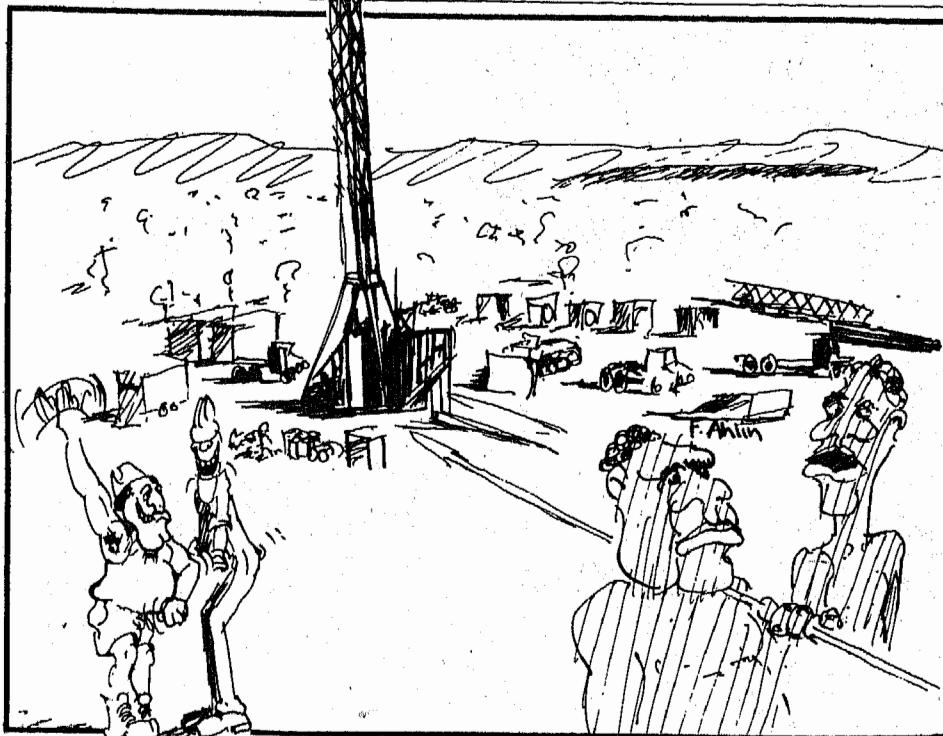
Can mining operations be profitable for mining companies and genuinely take into consideration the detrimental social and environmental effects of their operations and to what extent do big mining ventures benefit the whole of society, rather than company shareholders? Will uranium mining companies stick to strict environmental standards such as those recommended by the Ranger Uranium Environmental Enquiry and will the government set up an effective, independent body to monitor and control the operations of uranium mining companies.

Mining companies have a history of being environmentally negligent with their activities. Uranium mining involves the added problem of radiological hazards. The whole nuclear fuel cycle exposes people to increased levels of radiation. What levels are safe is a hotly debated point.

Sister Rosalie Bertell, Ph.D, a US expert on the dangers of low level radiation, says that her research shows that the legal maximum radiation exposure level is exceeded and abused so that people are exposed to radiation at levels higher than the limits. Furthermore, she states that the effects of low-level radiation, its mutagenic and carcinogenic effects, are understated by ten to twenty times.¹ Ionizing radiation can cause mutations in cells. If this mutation occurs in the reproductive cells of the body, the sperm of the male or the ova of the female, it is mutagenic; the children of such people who have mutated reproductive cells shall be adversely affected. If the mutation occurs in the other cells of the body then malignant tumours and cancers can be produced. If we do not wish to take the risk of possible increased incidence in society of deformed children and cancers in the general population, then it would be most sensible to refrain from adding to the natural background radiation levels which man has lived with since existence.

Uranium mining involves the increasing of the amount of radiation in the environment. Workers in the nuclear industry are particularly vulnerable to such increased exposure to radiation. According to the Ranger Uranium Environmental Enquiry, if all safety measures and safety technologies are used, and effective, thorough monitoring is allowed to occur, then the danger to workers in the uranium mine and milling plant would be at a level low enough to be safe. The Enquiry Commissioners stress, however, the importance of maintaining very thorough monitoring. They recommend that constant review should be kept of opinion on what constitutes a safe level of radiation exposure. Taking into account the opinion of Rosalie Bertell, we should recognize that no level of radiation exposure is entirely safe.

The mining of uranium, besides increasing the general level of radioactivity releases heavy metals into the immediate environment. This is shown at the infamous Rum Jungle mining site, which is in the Northern Territory. Uranium mining ceased at Rum Jungle in 1963, and in 1971 the milling of uranium was discontinued. In March 1962 an engineer reported to the Northern Territory Administration that "severe pollution existed for eight to sixteen



U-MINING

kilometres down the East Finnis River from the uranium mill".² The pollution continues to exist and affect the environment years after the closure of the mine. In 1975 the Australian Atomic Energy Commission (AAEC) the body in Australia which promotes nuclear energy and its development, published an evaluation of the Rum Jungle area. This report admitted that the East Finnis River was devoid of fish and plant life, and that only sparse vegetation lived on the river's banks several years after operations at Rum Jungle had ceased.³

Poorly designed tailings dams were the main reason for the pollution problem. During the wet seasons the dams overflowed; and during floods successive dam retaining walls were

washed away. Radioactive elements were spilled and large quantities of heavy metals (manganese, copper, zinc and radium) were leaked into the environment.

Today the uranium mining companies and the AAEC argue that what happened at Rum Jungle could never be repeated. The uranium industry says that it has learnt from experiences such as this and, further, because of new environmental legislation, such wholesale neglect of environmental consequences will be illegal. Now improved technology and methods mean that the risks to the environment have been decreased substantially.

We should, be wary of what we are told by the mining corporations and the AAEC. They both have a vested interest in

What do you think the responsibilities of your University Council should be? To whom should it be accountable? Should their decisions on the financial running of the University be determined only by financial considerations, or should the social, political and moral implications of such decisions be investigated?

At present the majority of the University Council believes that it should not involve itself in moral, social and political issues. They believe that Council should maintain a neutral position in relation to controversial social issues.

But when the University Council owns shares in companies which are involved in industries which are controversial, it in effect supports these contentious industries. The University Council by owning shares in companies which are involved in uranium mining does not maintain a neutral political stance; it financially supports the development of the nuclear industry.

The University Council, being part of an institution supposedly concerned with the wellbeing and future of our society, should make decisions which are socially responsible. Because of the dangers inherent in the nuclear fuel cycle, because of the long term economic non-viability of the nuclear industry, the University Council should not own shares in companies involved in uranium mining.

We call upon the University Council to sell shares in such companies. To achieve this aim, we hope to gain mass support from the people of the University. To show this support people can sign a petition which we shall be circulating during second term.

To circulate the petition throughout the University we need as much help as we can get. If you could help come along to one of our weekly meetings (1p.m. Thursdays, Meeting Room 1), or drop us a line via our pigeon hole in the Students' Union Office.

ability by using the symbols of science-quantitative measures and systems analyses. In short the social sciences are far more adaptable to the desires of officials and administrators. For instance, a large number of psychologists devote whatever knowledge they have of human nature to big businesses to determine the suitability of particular applicants for executive positions.

The technological society becomes increasingly a knowledge-based society; dependent upon scientific-technological information as the legitimate basis for action. In this case the use of the experts—who we can define as people having the knowledge we don't have but whom we feel we need to make decisions legitimately ('scientifically') in a chosen area—become all important.

Advertising companies continually clothe the value of their products with scientific 'authority'; a tooth-paste contains such and such a material to toughen and clean teeth. The other accepted form of presenting authority-

based information is through statistics.

A good example of this pseudo-scientific approach to information can be seen in the way social scientists handle the problems of crime and suicide. The problems are studied first and then, as if to placate the public's thirst for 'knowledge', the statistical evidence is published. Here the social scientists can go further in their predictions than the natural scientists without appearing to lose themselves in unscientific speculation. This technologizing of the sciences by the social sciences has been responsible for another change in our society; the destruction of the belief in individual freedom and responsibility.

Throughout most of history humans have believed in some form of free will. Today humans are seen as the products of their physical, genetic and social situation. The deterministic position put forward with the 'order' in official statistics of crime and suicide by such men as Durkheim, Quetelet and

Wagner all seemed natural since they believed free will would have produced disordered results. This assumption that free will does not determine human action is now the core of all social scientific education.

The technological society is a peculiarly modern phenomenon; in some respects it has resulted from our attempts to counter the vast change created by a greater awareness of our environment. This understanding and capacity for change has come largely from the vast body of knowledge made possible by science and technology. I mentioned earlier in this article the great possibilities and achievements opened up by science and technology and the social difficulties of understanding these two bodies as separate things. As such there has grown up in our modern society a profound respect and fear for both science and technology. Science has been wrongly criticized for creating the dangers that now face us. Sadly, like science, ethics too are perverted. Morals

the development of the nuclear fuel cycle. Safety procedures and equipment recommended by the Ranger Enquiry commissioners will cost the mining companies money, and will therefore decrease the profitability of the uranium mining industry. The industry may decide to save on costs and cut its expenditure on safety devices such as ventilation systems. If the environmental legislation is to be effective then it needs to be policed, and for this to occur an independent body of scientists needs to be set up. These scientists would have to be given the powers necessary for them to be able to thoroughly monitor the industry and to affect what the companies did.

When looking at uranium mining one has to look at the possible effects on the immediate social environment. In Australia the situation often occurs that mines are in close proximity to Aboriginal sacred sites or on land claimed by the Aborigines. The question arises at to whether the needs and desires of the Aborigines should be considered paramount, or whether the mining corporation should prevail. If we believe in the rights of minorities in our society, and especially in the rights of the indigenous minority, then we should be considerate of the effects of mining on Aboriginal communities. Mining can be damaging to the welfare and interests of the Aboriginal people there. As the Ranger Commissioners say in their Second Report: "despite sometimes sincere and dedicated effort on the part of all concerned to avoid such results, the rapid development of a European community within, or adjacent to, an Aboriginal society has in the past always caused the breakdown of the traditional culture and the generation of intense social and psychological stresses within the Aborigines."⁴

There are many more social and environmental implications necessarily associated with uranium mining and the development of the nuclear fuel cycle than have been outlined above. As the Ranger Commissioners say in their First Report, "many of the questions which arise are social and ethical ones." The Commissioners "agree strongly" that "given a sufficient understanding of the science and technology involved, the final decisions should rest with the ordinary man and not be regarded as the preserve of any group of scientists or experts, however distinguished."⁵ So far there has been insufficient informed public discussion issue. If we live in a democracy, then the development of the nuclear industry should not proceed until a majority of the population agree with the nuclear power. □

Glen Giles AU CANE

¹ See Bertell's article "The Nuclear Crossroads" in the *Amalgamated Metal Workers and Shipwright's Union Monthly Journal*, March 1980 issue, pp. 16-19.

² Wieslaw Lichacz and Stephen Myers "Uranium Mining in Australia" pp. 25-63 in Mary Elliott (ed) *Ground for Concern* (Penguin books, 1977.), p. 31.

³ Ibid: p. 34

⁴ Ranger Uranium Environmental Enquiry *Second Report* (1977), p. 232.

⁵ Ranger Uranium Environmental Enquiry *First Report* (1976), p.6.

MUNGO

Pushing Back

BARRIERS

The Media in Australia aren't quite as bad as paranoid critics would have them says *Mungo MacCallum* ex *Nation Review* journalist. Here Mungo talks about what he's done since 1978 and Australian Journalism.

Give us an idea of what you have done after you worked for *Nation Review*; since you left the paper in 1978.

Since then I've tried to earn a living freelancing. It's not an easy thing to do in Australia. The *Financial Review* got me on to parliamentary coverage for them; the *Sun Herald* got me to do a column for them; the *National Times* got me to do a column for them. The *Age* started to give me some work; book reviews and so on. I had to do broadcasts for 2JJ in Sydney. So that's quite a lot. Freelancing is always a little hard to mouth and has the disadvantage that you don't get sick leave or holiday pay. But the advantage is that you're not working for a boss; that does mean I can pick and choose a bit what I want to do.

Are you happier doing that than working for the *Nation Review*?

Certainly happier than I was at the end of working for *Nation Review*. *Nation Review* had really run out of steam. Then Gordon Barton eventually sold it. It meant a lot of unhappiness between staff, and Richard Walsh was running it in a more secretive and authoritarian way. I think *Nation Review* was a good idea for its time, but its time was more 1972 than 1978 - so yes, I am happier doing what I am now than working for *Nation Review* then. There's also the advantage that I'm getting to a much larger audience, and an audience which isn't committed. I think most people who bought *Nation Review* did so to reinforce the prejudices they already had. This way you've got a chance of making a few converts.

So you're happier working now, but you're not writing in such a fiery way, with such vigour, as in 1975.

That is true. I think I've mellowed a bit too. I think 1975 gave us all a hell of a shock. Probably the fact that the Fraser government is on the whole a pretty dull government has got something to do with it. A lot of the writing I'm doing now, particularly for the *Financial Review*, parliamentary reporting, is really pretty similar to what I was doing towards the end of *Nation Review*. I think one of the good effects that *Nation Review* had is that it did drag some of the establishment press slightly forward. I'm not saying that they wanted to imitate *Nation Review*, but we did show that conservatism was not necessarily a virtue and that the sort of larrikan approach that *Nation Review* took was not necessarily merely anarchy and vulgarity, and had to be kept out of all other publications forever.

Do you see yourself as a larrikan?

I think I've got a larrikan streak in me certainly. This is part of the way I write; deliberately in a larrikan manner. Politics is an extremely important thing. You find it's quite hard to make people read about it unless you jazz it up a bit - sugar the pill and make them take it anyway.

What is it like to be a journalist in the Canberra Press Gallery?

The two great endemic illnesses of journalism are alcoholism and divorce. I think I've steered clear of alcoholism, just. I've been divorced a couple of times. I don't know whether journalism attracts a certain kind of person or whether journalism makes people into maniacs. Most journalists are mad. I think anyone who wants to be a journalist has got to be a bit mad. The hours are frightful and the health hazards are terrible. You're either working terribly hard or you're not working at all. It's just one of those things - nobody who's entirely sane would want to do it.

Do you think that the Labor Party gets unfair treatment from the media?

I think some do and some don't. For instance the Murdoch press, who seem to have a thing about the Socialist left taking over the world and makes a huge exaggeration of it. But I think the Labor Party has to be aware that a split in the

Party is news. It always has been and always will be and the Labor Party does very little to try and hush it up and keep it under cover. The Liberals always try but they're not always successful.

What will you do in the near future?

I think I'll probably say in for another couple of years at least. I can't see anything I want to write except Federal politics - I think it's just too important. To coin a very good phrase, politics is the most important invention of human kind because it's the only way to solve disputes without killing people. I think politics is more important than almost anything and I like living in Canberra. But I might try and have a change from that and try having a year overseas.

What about politics in Australia? Is the system as it is doomed to failure?

It's the best we've got as they say. I think it could be improved. I mean the problem's always been the bloody Constitution. Unless you can somehow draw up a new Constitution we're always going to be hamstrung with this idiot federalism type problem, which of course stretches well beyond formal party politics. The whole thing is an absolute disaster. Given that it's such a bad platform from which to work, I think the Australian political system is reasonably efficient. It's structured against the left of course, but it's very hard to see any democratic system which wouldn't be weighted against the left.

What do you think about State politics?

Well, I wish there weren't any. This is what I was saying about the idiot Constitution. I did think the Whitlam government was on the right track in its early days when it was talking about regional development. Adelaide obviously has far more in common with Melbourne than it does with Cooper Pedy and yet for some reason we have decided to establish this entity called South Australia. Lines drawn on paper by bored British civil servants and jealous colonialists. There's no doubt that while we've got State governments we've just got to make the best of them and try and make them work as efficiently as possible.

Some people have called you an instant cynic.

I don't think so. I think I'm romantic. I don't think I'd still be a journalist if I wasn't.

Who do you think are the most successful Members of Parliament?

In Federal Parliament, I think Hayden himself, Bowen Young, and there's quite promising stuff on the back bench; people like John Brown starting to come forward. On the Liberal side, I think Howard is the most successful Cabinet Minister; Nixon's a very tough little politician - a very effective one. But there's not very much on the Liberal bench. It's a bit of a disaster area, a lot of exhibitionists but not much real talent.

Today you were talking about the Australian press and you took what many people saw as an apologetic stance for the whole system.

I wouldn't say it was apologetic. I certainly acknowledge the Australian press has faults, but I don't think they're the sort of faults most of the critics of the press believe. I've been around politics long enough to know that if you set up a conspiracy theory of politics, you're almost certainly wrong. I know this to be true of politics. I see no reason why it shouldn't be true of the press. Sure there are occasionally conspiracies in the Australian media, in the sense that the press decides to take one issue and beat it to death, or there's somebody they particularly want to get. It does happen but it doesn't happen very often. It certainly doesn't happen anything like as often as the paranoid media critics I've heard of.



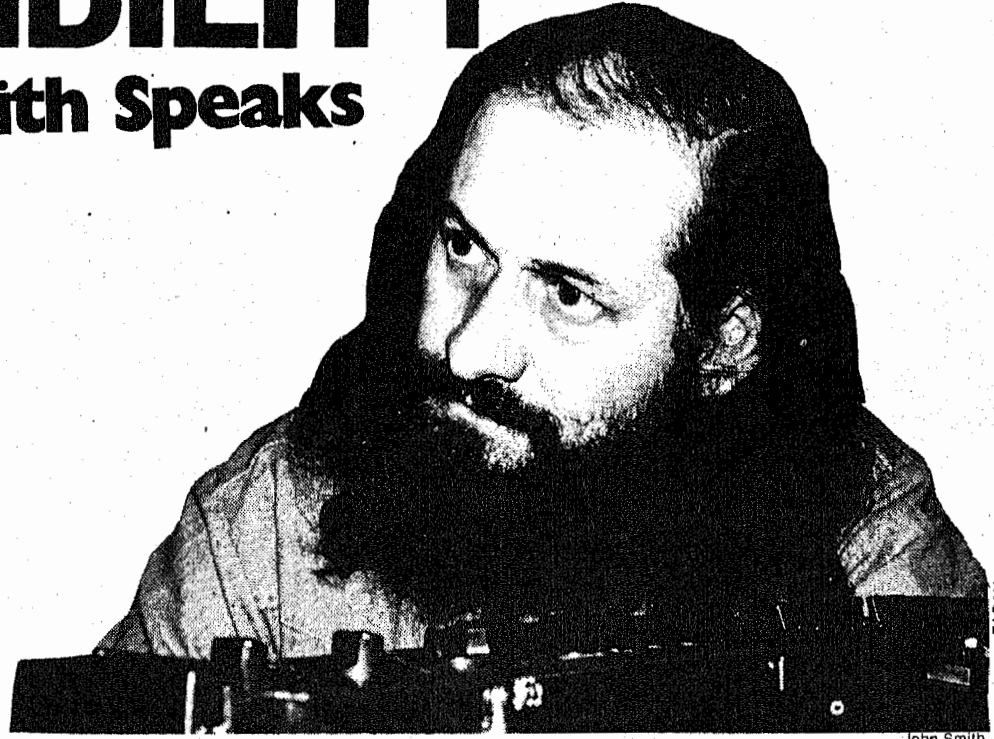
Mungo MacCallum speaks in the Gallery

ENTERING A NEW ERA OF GULLIBILITY

John Smith Speaks



Terry Connolly



John Smith

John, speaking as someone who's not a Christian, one thing that concerns me about the Christian Church, particularly Evangelical Christianity, is that it often seems to be concerned more with the miracle, the magic, rather than with real concern with human needs and human concerns. Is "being able to speak in tongues" the witness of knowing Christ, or is taking a real concern for one's fellow human what it's all about?

Well, if you were to take every verse on tongues in the New Testament and line them up you couldn't fill a page. That emphasis is not Biblical or Evangelical. Those who hold it are just caught up in a very narrow band of distortion of the Christian Faith. Now it's not my business to attack the personal experience of speaking in tongues, but if ever there was anybody that talked about the wholeness of the whole person, Jesus Christ did and I find it abhorrent, I feel angry that Jesus Christ should be ripped off by those who claim to be his followers. He began his ministry by saying "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me" - not to speak in tongues - but to bring good news to the poor and to bring imprisoned people out of prisons, to give sight to the blind.

At almost every point where there is a conflict with Jesus Christ, it's conflict where he is against the establishment.

The point of Christ being against the authorities is of course an interesting one because the Christian Church in a very short time, in fact some 300 years after Christ's death, became authority. How much did what Christ the man had to say suffer by the Christian Church becoming in effect a temporal authority?

Immeasurably. I've got no doubt about that. I think the period we rejoice in, where the Roman Empire gave way, and the church took over the range of government, was a sad day for the history of the church. I believe we have a prophetic role in society, not a manipulative role. After all Jesus' concept of leadership was that of suffering servanthood. That is so strong in his teaching.

If anyone wants to be great, let him be the least. If anyone wants to be the leader, let him be the servant and quite frankly, from Marxism, right the way through, I don't know of anybody else who consistently lived and taught the servanthood role like Jesus did.

Many people who've been very concerned with those sort of human needs, the need to search out justice and do something about it have, of course, not been Christians. I'm thinking of Gough Whitlam, for example, who said in a very celebrated interview with Michael Parkinson (I think)

Evangelist John Smith, notorious for his shaggy appearance and biker image was interviewed last week by Terry Connolly. Here they talk about "speaking in tongues", humanism, the "born again" movement and the future of Christianity in Australia.

that he wasn't a Christian, that he was a fellow traveller with Christ. That statement evoked a lot of hostile criticism. Is it possible for someone to be a fellow traveller. To accept the concern of Christ for the condition of mankind, and yet not accept the divine or magical aspect of Christianity?

Well yes and no. I think it's tragic that Christians reacted to Gough's comment like they did. I think it shows how inept the Christian presence is at present within our country. Gough was one of the greatest men we have ever had in this country - and saying that would really alienate me from an enormous number of Christians.

But I find a lack of integrity, and an intolerance in the humanist position when it seeks to take the rationality out of the Christian faith. When they try to say "look, take away the reason for the activity of Christ", they ask me to be irrational. Christ's teaching and mode of behaviour is bound up in who he said he was, in his cosmology, his view of who God was and his view of who humanity were, under not a God who overlords but a God who suffered to create friendship and companionship.

You mentioned tolerance. A lot of people who have recently adopted the Christian faith seem to me to be adopting a very intolerant position. Their whole reason for conversion, or when they attempt to convert others is a carrot and stick approach. It's a "frighten you" into Christianity and a very zealous self-righteous approach saying that they have the right answer and that every other religion must be wrong. Is it necessary to condemn the two thirds of mankind who don't adopt any religion or adopt another faith in order to be a Christian? Can a Christian see goodness in a devout Muslim or a devout Hindu?

Personally, I'm sure I could see a great deal of good in other religions. At the same time I don't think I should be cowered if I do think that the Christian faith is the all embracing true statement. I think what you're talking about has a lot to do - not with technicalities of the faith, but with attitudes. The attitudes of Christ were extraordinary. He accepted people before they accepted him.

Jesus once went to a Pharisee's party, and he said to his host - which must have been very embarrassing - "next time you have a party, don't invite your friends or your relatives because you know that if

you do, you're going to get a pay off at the other end. Why don't you invite your enemies? Why don't you invite the blind, the lame, the sick, the unloved?" Now to me, that's the way it is. Not paternalistically - where you think 'I'm the nice guy and everyone else is bad'. I mean real love and I can hardly see a place where the Christ of the New Testament, and his approach to people even has a meeting point with probably the majority of Christians that I've viewed over my life time.

You talked about groups seeming to be on the ascendancy. Christianity does seem now to be on the ascendancy. Are people cashing in on that? Is the "Born Again" movement sincere?

I think [the Church] is on the ascendancy in the States. It's not on the ascendancy here. If you look at the statistics on the church here, the Uniting Church will cease to exist by the year 2000 and it's probably one of the most developing churches in this State. In the American thing you've got a problem, a double problem. America's always been an enigma because it has the French rationalist root right the way from the beginning with the Thomas Paynes, the Jeffersons and so on. Then you've got your more Christian root from the Pilgrim Fathers right down to even men like Abraham Lincoln. They are genuine roots in American culture and must be understood. It's not just a matter of hypocrisy but that there are two different flows of thought and they've always been there. In the American scene you've got the real and the false. Jesus said this. He said that "Tares and Wheat will grow up together" and he said that if you go to pull up the tares (which did look like wheat until it produced its head), you're likely to grab some wheat and pull it out. Now I think with blokes like Flint putting out porno where they're eating human crap and so on ... Gary Flint claims to have been born again. Wonderwoman claims to have been born again. Now I want to see evidence in their lives. If they're still going to be in the Fat Cat set sitting there in Las Vegas making big bread, selling bodies as a product and carrying on with all that kind of exploitation, I get questions about whether that can be a Biblical new birth. But I think blokes like Charles Colson are fair dinkum. When you look at his life, even from the time when he claims to have been born again to his latest book, you find that from being a very conservative, very rich, very power-mad man, he's

going through metamorphosis, incredible change.

I haven't heard any secular humanist say more innovative things than Charles Colson has in recent days.

When I asked whether Christianity was on the ascent or descent in Australia, you replied in terms of attendance at an organized church. Surely you're not saying [Christianity is] the organized church? People in Australia who avow their Christianity, who are very active in organized churches would seem to me to be often very unchristian. I'm thinking in particular of a premier of a Northern State here ...

No names? Well I agree with you. I think you've raised a good point. The fact is that Christianity is on the ascendancy here in Australia. The very fact that I could come here this week and hold together four meetings in a row with a more than full theatre, slightly growing each day with a position that is strongly struggling with the rational questions is itself something that should encourage us to see changes within Christianity.

Is that going to be the future of Christianity coming into the next century? More of this perhaps individualistic approach, rather than through the organized church that's been there for hundreds of years?

I think both will happen. As resources diminish I think there will be a scramble for them. A bread and butter style Christianity will thrive. The common people will be very susceptible to a lifeboat style evangelism where all you say is "the boat's sinking, hop on board, we've got a boat". This may partly be true but it's not good enough. I'm frightened because I think there's an atmosphere where people will be entering into a new gullibility, an openness to any sectarian view that promises some instant salvation, some analgesic as an answer to the suffering of meaninglessness, of lack of being.

On the other hand, as there is a demand on Christians to be responsible as Christ was to those who are in need, then any religion that says "you don't have to be responsible, you may be rich, prosperous and not be responsible to pay your taxes. Try and get out of every tax lurk you can so you can support the church and not support the government and Social Welfare. A lot of "Christians" will be glad for that. That sort of thing would send the rich young ruler away happy, not sad.

On the other hand, while all of that will happen those of us who are deeply embedded in the teachings of Christ are also going to thrive because there will be many people looking to think in that time and we hope to be there in the midst of that. □



Neale Yardley

by Neale Yardley

Details of the next six month's Valhalla at the Capri programme are now available. Coming first-release seasons include Peter Brook's *Meetings With Remarkable Men* and Francois Truffaut's latest in the Antoine Doinel series *Love on the Run*. Other first-releases included are Lina Wertmuller's *All Screws Up*, Derek Jarman's new punk film *Jubilee* and *Rust Never Sleeps* with Neil Young.

Now screening at the Forum Theatre is James Ivory's *The Europeans*. Adapted from the Henry James novella of the same name, *The Europeans* is a love story which centres on the meeting of cultures when two Europeanised expatriate Americans return home to visit their cousins outside Boston in the mid 1800's. The film, which was screened at last year's Adelaide Film Festival, stars Lee Remick.

The National Film Theatre presents two films this Wednesday about juvenile imprisonment. *Juvenile Liaison* is a documentary on the Juvenile Liaison section of the Lancashire police force and functions as an expose of the daily mechanics of the maintenance of class and paternalistic authority. *Tattooed Tear* (a sequel to the above) documents the workings of a Californian prison for 18-21-year-olds. Both films are directed by Nicholas Broomfield and Joan Churchill.

This Tuesday the Film Group presents *Escape from Alcatraz*, the powerful prison escape adventure about the isolated island in San Francisco Bay where the infamous Alcatraz prison was established. Wednesday's screening is *Norma Rae*, a brilliantly realized portrait of a woman's fight to establish a Union in a small American town's textile mill.

Joyce on film

Portrait of an Artist as a young man
Capri - 7.30 till July 16

James Joyce has been accredited with never having published anything but masterpieces. Thus, when Joseph Strick decided to adapt the novel "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" to the screen, he set himself a daunting task. Strick however has done an admirable job of taking Joyce's strongly autobiographical story of an artist's development from childhood to manhood in the suffocating atmosphere of turn of the century Ireland over the difficult transition from novel to film.

This is not to call the film perfect however. Strick has managed to omit some important and dramatic scenes for seemingly no reason at all. In its favour, it does attempt to follow the novel closely, but this, in places, leads to misinterpretations and tends to make the film bitty and possibly hard to follow for someone who has not read the novel itself.

The acting is one of the high points of the film. The artist, Stephen Daedalus, played by Bosco Hogan has been cast to resemble a young Joyce - tall, thin and with very thick glasses. He stumbles romantically from scene to scene. Strick has relied heavily on the use of short strong images, a strategy which for the most part works. Perhaps the single most striking scene is that of the "hellfire sermon" where the inmates of Stephen's college are threatened with ghastly images of eternal damnation if they do not repent their evil ways by an almost fanatic preacher played by Sir John Gielgud.

A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man is not a light entertainment but a serious attempt at representing a masterpiece of literature in a different medium.

James Williamson - Law/Arts

The Europeans

The Europeans
Forum; starts Friday 11th July

The Europeans is a movie which combines excellent production and acting with a humorous, well-planned plot. The story, based on the novel of the same name by Henry

James, is that of two Europeans descending on their conservative American cousins and totally rearranging their lives. Lee Remick, at her brilliant best, portrays the high society Baroness who disdains her American relations and their Puritan ways. One of the most authentic roles is that of Mr. Wentworth, the austere patriarch of the American family, played by Wesley Addy. It is he and the amorous priest who add the wit to this film.

A series of unlikely relationships develop through this movie which culminate in a final confrontation of all concerned and this, of course, results in the happy ending. The plot is so cleverly contrived as to provide everyone with a suitable partner for the duration of the film and hopefully after its conclusion.

It is worth seeing this film for the magnificent scenery. The nineteenth century settings seem far more English than American, and this film is certainly a change from most of the trash that American studios have been churning out over the last few years. The costumes and make-up are authentic and beautiful, as are the homes in which the story is set.

From the reaction of the audience I would say this is a movie aimed to appeal to women with romantic tendencies. Although I did enjoy "The Europeans" I must admit it is lacking in parts. The plot becomes slightly insipid and could use more intrigue to hold the interest of the audience.

The brilliant direction by James Ivory and the excellent settings make this film a success, - especially amongst the more senior citizens.

Debbie Churchman
Arts 1.

Relaxing Jazz

Spyrogyra
'Spyrogyra' (MCA INF 9011)

Over the last twelve months or so, Spyrogyra have gradually increased in popularity, helped in part by the chart success of their single *Morning Dance* late last year. Their music is really modern jazz in style, but has a lighter approach, making it appealing to a wider audience. The new album, simply entitled *Spyrogyra*, is the first of two albums which have been released about a month apart. Perhaps Spyrogyra are making another assault on the charts. Judging from this album, they deserve success.

Some tracks have a fast-moving, yet cool and relaxed feel; for example *Shaker Song* and *Cascade*. In fact, the whole album is very

relaxing and easy to listen to while still demanding your attention with a tight, professional sound.

There are many good solos, especially by Jay Beckenstein on saxophones. *Opus d'Opus* is of particular significance, since it starts with sax put through an echo unit to good effect. This leads to alternating solo and melody sections and an impressive solo by drummer Tom Walsh in true jazz style.

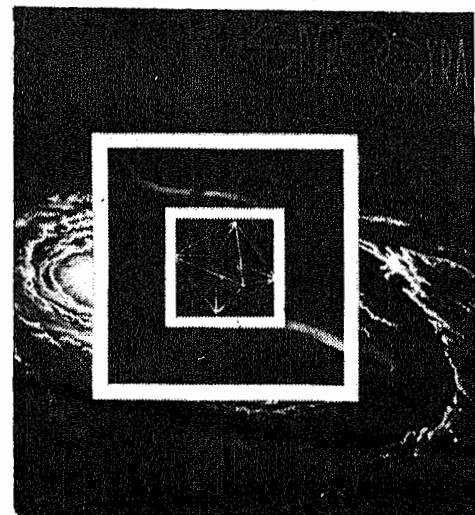
In *Pygmy Funk*, the most abstract of all the tracks, the saxophone sounds are sharp and punchy and multiple tracking produces an impressive barrage of sax chords. There is also a marimba solo by David Samuels and a constant tight rhythm section.

Jeremy Wall's keyboard work is not only excellent technically, but also interesting and innovative. The sounds range from the eerie and spacy chords of *Mallet Ballet* to sharp saw-tooth solo runs on *Mead*. In addition, white noise, phasing, ring modulation, panning and other electronic effects are important components of a number of tracks.

As far as I am concerned there are no dud tracks on this set, which is a nice change from some new releases. However a few cuts sound too similar, undoubtedly due to the fact that Beckenstein and Wall wrote all the material. They were also responsible for the arrangements and production, both good.

This disc is definitely worth a listen to if you are interested in light jazz and a must if you're an established modern jazz fan. Here's hoping we hear plenty more from Spyrogyra.

Rhys Williams (Science II)



RUSSIA AND THE WEST

by Michael Orlovsky

Now that the air has cooled over the Olympic Games and we are going, I thought I would put pen to paper and write on a few issues and on my experiences. I feel I have the credentials to write on these issues more than the average person having experienced life behind the iron curtain for a period (Czechoslovakia).

First of all some of my experiences. It is a completely different world over there. They only know what they are told about us. For example, one night on the news service I was surprised to hear some news about Australia. It was about the time early this year when the government took action against the kangaroos which had reached plague proportions and were destroying good land. Their news service talked of the senseless slaughtering of these lovable animals (the kangaroo is a big thing over there); a chance to put down our government, but nothing was said of the reason.

About Afghanistan they said that the friendly Russians only went into Afghanistan to clean up the American infiltration in the government and would leave once this was done. They haven't left yet!! The propaganda is enormous; the slant against the West in all news is startling.

About equality; I do not deny that the people over there are more equal but this must be put in perspective. The range of income there varies much less than here but the average over there is approximately \$50 per week. There are still the poor (the wealthier are members of the Communist party) and overall they are much less well off than us. I would venture to say that the poorest there are worse off than our poor; we have a good welfare system by their standards!! One can put forward theories to explain why their average standard of living is low, e.g. no resources, lack of incentive, etc. It is true enough that people have little feeling for their work, for the simple reason they are not doing it for themselves. The public

flats the people live in look shabby on the outside (because no one owns them); but once you get inside their little flats people take pride in their own little world and their few possessions. Freedom is certainly restricted. For example, all boys once reaching the age of 18 must serve in the army for two years and their condition of living in the army is nothing compared with how our soldiers live. Their allowance is minute and their training strenuous.

Women must work and when they have a baby they are allowed two years off to care for it and then they are back in work again and the baby stays in a nursery during the day. Definitely not freedom! I am thankful for the freedom I have now; but before, I took it for granted as so many of us do.

Now to the Olympics and Afghanistan. I could imagine what was shown in the media behind the iron curtain when Australia decided to go to the Olympics. Nothing would have been said of our government's disapproval and the public disapproval or the withdrawal of some of our team. The people behind the iron curtain know we are coming and this is all that matters. Since Australia is such an important sporting and political nation this would be regarded as very significant by many. A boycott by Australia would have been very effective to tell the people behind the iron curtain of our disapproval about Afghanistan even if the communists probably wouldn't have told the people why we weren't coming; people would have asked questions though. With regard to a trade boycott, they could have got their things elsewhere with little trouble. The only way the West could have brought Russia down by trade would have been by a widespread trade embargo.

I'm no arm-waving fanatic; these are just the facts from a person who has experienced life there. For many of you this will be difficult to accept as it was for me before I experienced communism. All I ask is for some thinking on the matter.

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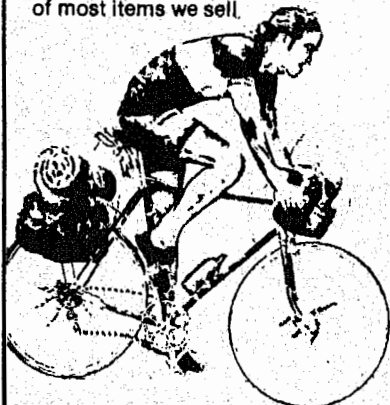
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(This article appeared in the *Melbourne Herald* March 27, 1980)

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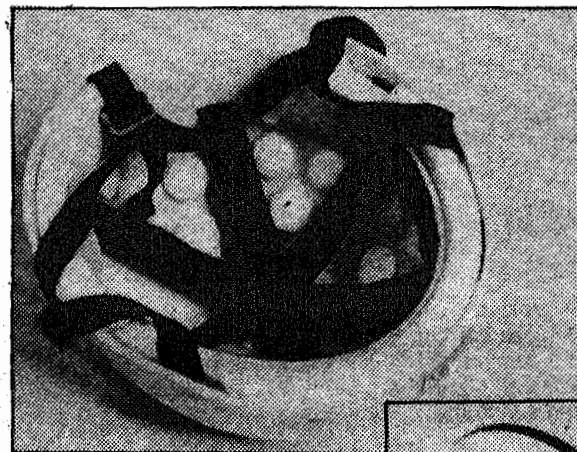
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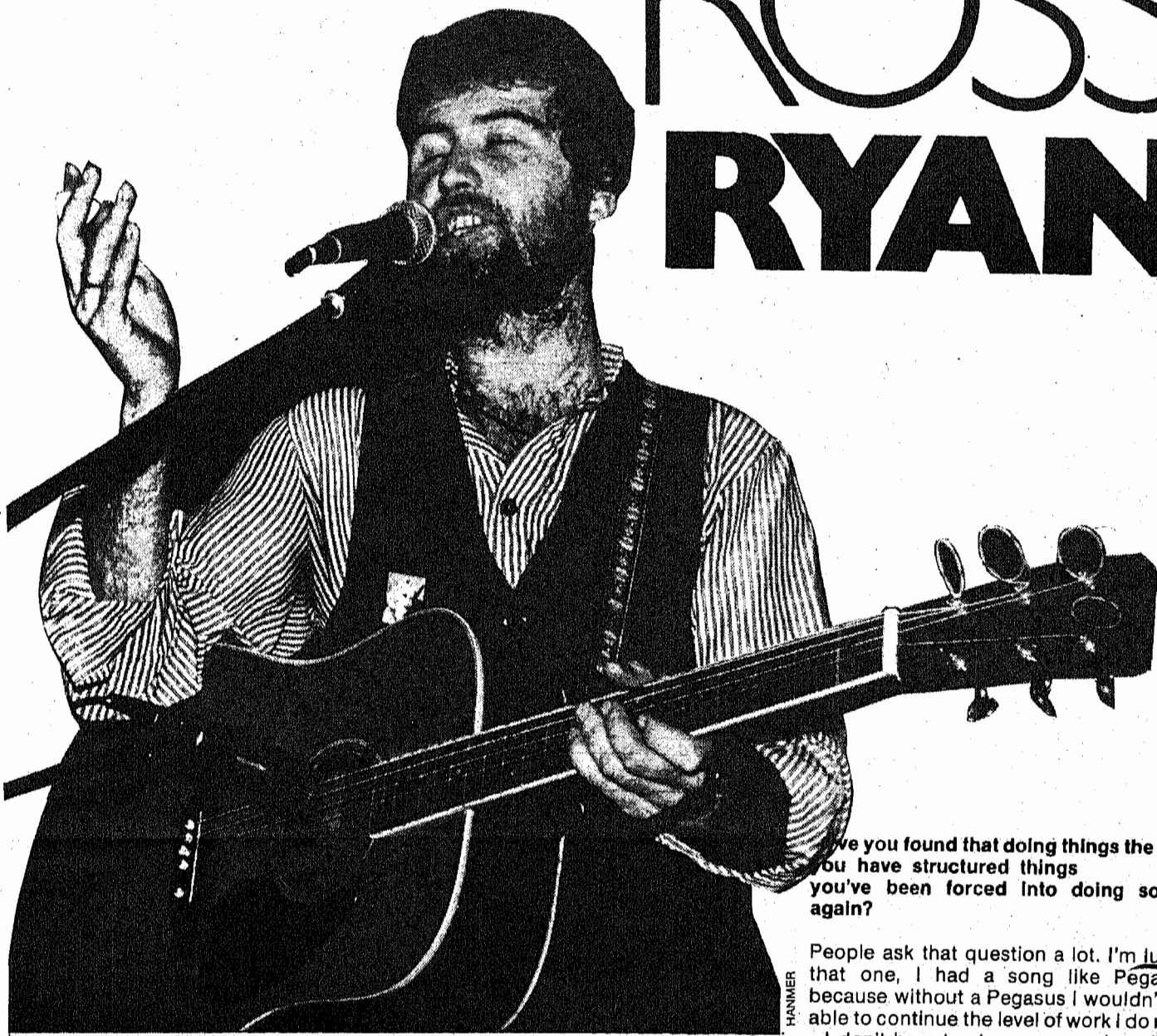
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HORSING AROUND

WITH ROSS RYAN



It seems a problem; people have trouble deciding what kind of entertainer you are.

I can understand people's confusion as I have the same problem.

What sort of stuff do you like to do? Where is your music heading?

My own tastes, the kinds of things I listen to and the stuff that I write, are a lot broader than people probably realize. I started singing almost by accident and as a result I didn't really have any ambitions in terms of music - it just happened and people started paying me for it.

I got a "folky" image because I worked acoustically; that's how I started out doing it. I managed to get on some tours which did me a lot of good, for example the Roy Orbison and the Hollies' tours very early on in my career, and I was given very good reviews from the tours and so got recording contracts. I was easy to stage - just one guy and a guitar. I was more or less pushed into that kind of image, not that I minded because I enjoy working acoustically, but it's really only part of the story and I haven't really had a chance to get beyond that.

You work with a band on record. Are you going to tour as a band?

I put a band together last year which was the other side of me (a Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde situation) called the "Ross Ryan Brothers" which was an experimental band with a tongue in cheek name which a lot of people didn't understand. A lot of people thought we were all brothers. Some people thought that Paul and Barry Ryan (of Elouise fame) were in the band. It was ridiculous! So I'm looking for a new band name and the band that I've got now in Sydney is a totally different band to what I had last year.

What have you actually been doing recently? You mentioned last night that you'd been to New York.

That was some time ago; a couple of years ago. I stopped singing for two years at the end of 1977. My contract with EMI had expired and when asked what my plans were I had nothing written. I didn't really want to write or perform any longer.

Why was that?

I got sick of it. Playing by myself was sending me round in circles and I felt as an entertainer and as a writer that I was getting very stale and assumed that it would be conveyed to an audience. Playing wasn't giving me any pleasure, and that was a drag - it wasn't fun any more and it was boring to come up with material to meet a deadline rather than feeling right about it. Living out of a suitcase wasn't fun either and I did it for five years.

What did you do then?

To be hypocritical, I went overseas and lived out of a suitcase! I hitched my way through Europe and America with a lady friend and became a different person. Whilst away, I didn't write or play anything but became a consumer - I listened only, when it came to music, instead of having to worry about it. The thing that I dislike about what I do is that you lose touch with the flash a consumer has - it's hard just to be a consumer and difficult to be a passive person who simply listens to music and says that they either like it or don't.

When I listen to music I sit there and think about where the bass is going and where a guitar comes in, so by the time I've finished the song, it's not a song, but a technical essay and that's why I don't like recording. For me, the novelty of recording wore off very quickly. I don't enjoy sitting for hours wondering what an instrument will sound like - I couldn't care less.

Ross Ryan, in Adelaide recently as part of his Australia wide campus tour, played to a packed Union Bar on Saturday July 5. Despite his somewhat erratic presence in the musical spotlight, Ryan remains a singer songwriter to be reckoned with. *Geoff Hanmer* talks to him.

Is there any chance that you may try to record yourself just with guitar?

No, because I don't think those kinds of records work very well - one, I never listen to them and the ones I've heard I find quite yaunish.

Are you going to record an album?

Yes, but being able to take material on the road for the first time before it's recorded and to watch it grow, change it, bounce ideas off people over a period of time, is something I've never had the luxury to be able to do. My recording experiences have consisted of writing a song on my acoustic guitar, the song would be taped and given to a record company and we'd all turn up at 10 o'clock in the morning to make a record. The first time I've heard the song and the players too is at 10 o'clock in the morning. And you've got three hours to do it.

How's the single "Chaplaln and Harlow" going?

It's getting very little airplay which doesn't surprise me as I'm always surprised when it gets played at all. We've just done a film clip which we hope will kick it a lot.

You're going to be appearing on "Count Down" soon I suppose?

There have been approaches made to "Count Down". I don't know that "Count Down" considers that I'm suitable fare for their programme.

You wouldn't object to going on "Count Down"?

Oh no, I'm in the music industry. If I was a true artist as they say I wouldn't even bother to write down what I think and what I create but the mere fact that I write down and make records and go out and play in front of people means I've made a decision - I'm going commercial. And so long as you don't find yourself compromising a lot of things you believe in, appearing on "Count Down" doesn't bother me because as much as I rubbish "Count Down" in terms of my stuff or stage act, because it's very trendy to rubbish "Count Down" and people get off on that. I think "Count Down" is quite a good show actually. The politics of "Count Down" frighten me a little bit because I know that they're very strong, and I've personally been burned by "Count Down" when I had a single which went down the tube because we did a film clip which they sat on for six weeks without giving us an answer. "Count Down" have first sitting on any film clips made in this country and any performance of a song, so if you've got a single you have to offer it to "Count Down" first because if it goes anywhere else they won't touch you and they've got the biggest audience. This annoys me a bit because "Count Down" is a "Government (ABC) People Funded Station" and I don't think they should be in the business of competing with other programmes. This competing has a detrimental effect on the industry.

Have you found that doing things the way you have structured things that you've been forced into doing songs again?

People ask that question a lot. I'm lucky that one, I had a song like Pegasus because without a Pegasus I wouldn't be able to continue the level of work I do now - I don't have to starve or wonder where my next meal is coming from which is a lot of name bands are doing. Also it's a song about me. It's very personal. It means "horse" and my name "Ross" means horse and it's like a theme song, almost a hello. I would prefer to have a Pegasus than "Tie a Yellow Ribbon". Imagine being labelled with that for your whole life.

What sort of issues have inspired you over the years? You used to write about Vietnam and were about the age group that came through that issue. What sort of things interest you now?

I've become apolitical because I'd become very disillusioned with mankind. I was a Labor supporter in a sense. I appeared at rallies for the Labor Party when elections were held for Whitlam, and Opera House rallies with Patrick White wondering "what am I doing here?" I was very pro-Labor and if I examine my motives now, I was probably pro-Labor for trendy reasons. I did feel strongly about the war in Vietnam, but then again my feelings were also kind of trendy, and I can't say that I sat down and logically worked out for myself but looked at it totally from the point of view that there was a war going on and let's get out of it as distinct from whether we should be fighting a war at all.

That was in 1972 that you were involved in the Labor Party?

No, it was 1974. When the Labor Party was thrown out in 1975 I became apolitical and like everybody else I was very outraged by that happening. I watched that election go through and I saw Whitlam and Fraser standing up in front of the public and I got the impression they didn't really care what they said so long as they were elected and that they were quite prepared to say anything to get back into office. I didn't blame them for it because that's the system and it's kind of sad. □



Wed. July 9
Arkaba Top Room

Eric is an English singer-songwriter and chronicler of the everyday life, in the style of Ray Davies, Joe Brown, Paul Weller of the Jam, and Pete Townshend. An early member of the *Stiff* stable, he has established a sizeable following through his three *Stiff* albums and solid gigging over more than a few continents, of which Australia is the latest.

After a tight, competent but particularly exciting warmup from local band *The Loops* Wreckless Eric and band burst on stage, and into the fast and powerful "Let's Go to the Pictures". The stage was set for a racy, pacy and totally entertaining night.

After "A Pop Song" Eric, resplendent in canary yellow shirt, green waistcoat and knotted green silk scarf, exclaimed "Adelaide ... if my geography teacher could see me now". He then launched into a brilliant, and threatening version of "Semaphore Signals" with Colin Fletcher (late of the *Troggs*) contributing harsh biting guitar and elbowing the Wreckless One off the mike.

As the evening progressed, it was very evident that the main presence lay with Colin and Eric, the latter joyfully thrusting the mike stand around, bashing most effectively on his guitar ("this isn't a guitar, it's three yards of mangled American plywood"), hurling the mike heavenwards or just shaking rivulets of sweat off his tousled mop and having himself a good time, while Colin, coolly clothed in black suit and white tie, wound out his excellent lead lines and made forays across the stage to Eric, jostling him, dancing past him and leaning on him. Dave Otway, the drummer, former member of Sandy Shaw's backing band and an outfit called *The Entire Population of China*, Walter Hacon, one time member of *The Automatics* and now rhythm guitarist, and the bass player John Brown, founder member of the legendary seminal *London SS*, form a very tight, very effective driving unit.

Eric reeled off many top hits, from "Reconnex Chez" and "Whole Wide World" through "Roll Over Rockda" [a song about "a type of jukebox that's world famous ... all over South London probably"] to his "Big Smash" album, shining with "Broken Doll" and next single "It'll soon be the Weekend", not forgetting an excellent first encore of "Take the Cash (K.A.S.H.)", segueing into a manically berserk number called (I think) "A Little Bit More". After a second encore of "Strange Towns" the band went off, leaving a crowd of satisfied punkers and two intrepid journalists in search of a sensational scoop interview.

In the hotel room we settled down on portions of bed and carpet, equipped with coopers, cassettes, and questions to put to Wreckless Eric and Philippa Thomas, Eric's girlfriend. She has worked for *Stiff* as "total blaggard for the last three years", merchandising and is now *Stiff Records'* tour person.

We started with a few general inquiries about the tour, now almost over, and almost universally great except for one or two odd ones - Doyleson Leagues Club, where Dave Otway the drummer got somewhat mixed up in local rites, and the Village Green in Melbourne -

We got 82 people, all pissed out of their heads and intent on not enjoying themselves. Highlights have included playing to 1750 people at a "dry" show at Melbourne Uni. in a 1200 capacity venue.

How's *Stiff* panning out?

Well *Stiff* have had me just under four years, and I'm starting to do something with them. I went out on two *Stiff* tours, and one thing after another seemed to be



Wreckless Eric and part of his band

WRECKLESS ERIC

Wreckless Eric, in town for a show at the Arkaba top room last night gasses on about the English music press, the Punk Rock boom and wasting his time.

Bill Loftus and Steve Rogerson get it all down.

wrong; something in the band or record sales or something. Now I've got something everywhere ... except South Africa ... oh and Afghanistan, places like that.

How have you been going over in America?

We've had a few problems with our record company. We put out the first album there on *Stiff* and sold 22,000 copies out of a two person office in New York on a COD basis rather than sale and return. CBS wanted everyone on *Stiff* except us ... This CBS executive said "Uh, listen man, I mean, they're great but they're too real".

Last time we were in America, we played Texas for the first time and they checked us out. Like there were these fucking great big cowboys with stetsons on and big riding boots and they started off going like this (imitates blank Texan stare), then feet started going and then clicking their fingers. I suggested, why don't we get this place on its feet. By the end of the evening they went fucking mad and whooped it up something shocking.

When you look at the musical trends in England, it seems to be really fragmented.

It's fickle. (Phillipa ... People are really quiet at the moment.) Music hasn't got a place. (Phillipa ... The world is looking as it has always done in England. You ought to look to your own country rather than looking to England.)

Eric went on to speak about the Punk Rock boom:

The music was right down the fucking tube but the huge hit of punk rock, Christ, this is a weird fashion. Everyone was desperate for something to happen, so that it got built up into something it definitely was not. The energy, the vibe in the air was incredible. The music was downright disgusting. Those bands could not fucking play. I always thought that punk also began to imply that you lived in a dust bin and sat around in heaps of your own fuckin' puke. I never really wanted that. I thought it was lacking in any kind of

style. But the energy was great. Since then everyone's been panicking ... It's all revivals, like a mod revival and a ska revival latest thing is a rockabilly revival.

Is it really big, the ska thing?

Yearh, sure it is because it's been hyped by the press. Like you see some kid on the bus looking like a million dollars' worth of idiot in some new serge suite saying "Well, loik, uh, a couple o' weeks ago ol was a punk but oi got a bit sick of it loik, so oi'm a mod nay".

In Australia you get the impression that music in England is much more important to young people, whereas here you go out and get pissed and listen to a band at the same time.

(Phillipa ... That's the way it should be.) Music in England has gone off the same way as football in England - it's a hooligan sport. (Phillipa ... If you don't look right, you're in trouble.)

[There followed quite a long talk by Eric and Philippa about the London scene, its factionalism, violence and bigotry, and the number of bands whose main aims seem to be a kind of destructive fascism. The general impression was that we don't know how lucky we are here to be able to go wherever we want without being accosted for wearing the wrong clothes or having the wrong haircut.]

(On John Brown, his bass player) He was offered a job playing bass in the Clash which he actually turned down. He gave Mick Jones his first bass playing lessons. [John was a founder member of the *London SS*, a band that also spawned Rat Scabies (Damned), Mick Jones and two members of English band *The Boys*.]

Joe Strummer was in the *101ers* a rock 'n' roll band. I've seen pictures of him wearing drab suits and teddy boy jackets. When I first saw the Clash he had on a shirt which had on the back of it "Chuck Berry is dead". I always suspected that band.

What sort of things did you listed to when you were young, in your formative years?

I started off with Chuck Berry. I got spooked very early on by John Lee Hooker with that blues thing in '65 in the wake of the *Stones* ... obviously the *Beatles*.

On the subject of student papers and fanzines versus the big papers.

(Phillipa ... This is the horrible thing that happened to *Stiff*. In the beginning it used to depend on the fanzines. Once they started to get a record company and get organised they forgot the punters and fanzines. The press officer with *Stiff* in England now just deals totally with the four papers.) I won't turn down a student paper. I read better stuff in student papers. You must be doing it because you care about it.

And that was it. After three dates in Perth, Eric and Philippa are off to Sydney for a week. As Eric says "I just want to be a punter, pay the bucks and see the bands, have a few drinks." Then, after another week in London, Eric and Colin will be working on some demos, and generally not touring, after eleven months solid gigging. Meanwhile, the entire population of Australia are "all invited back to our place" by Eric. But, as Philippa warns "Our place is horrible ... We live in a 300 year old house. They didn't even know how to spell bathroom when they built it."

And some of the best news I heard was that we can expect to see Wreckless Eric and band back here next March. □
Steve Rogerson and Bill Loftus.