In true Kiwiland racing tradition the National Party galloped past the post first, winning the 1975 elections to take over the governing of our country. Some of those who had put their money on the winning party met in Rotorua last weekend, from 23-26 July. There was a record attendance of delegates and observers totalling nearly 1,100. Predictably, optimism, confidence and jubilation were themes of what Rob Muldoon described in his opening speech as a “victory conference, where we will be indulging ourselves a little with the joy of being on the right side of the Chambers”.

Indeed, there seemed to be very little point in doing much else. National Party conferences have a reputation for their efficiency, smooth running and highly organised formats. This year’s effort was probably one of the most successful ever. Contentious issues such as the Olympic boycott, the tour to South Africa, and the proposed Gill Bill, were skilfully steered clear of any discussion on the Conference floor, through the able management of the Party President, George Chapman. Ministers intervened in the more touchy subjects to smooth the waters.

Ministers intervened in the more touchy subjects to smooth the waters. It is not known whether the case of the thematic passivity of the Conference lay with the management, or with the unwillingness of the delegates themselves to disturb a Conference that had been marked down to be a celebration of the election victory. Perhaps a bit of both. The murmuring voices were there, if not ex officio, then in the bars and dining rooms, where the delegates exchanged views rather more freely. But they never really made it out to the open.

Dissolving Dissent

An attempt was made to push the controversy over Gill’s proposed Bill through to the Conference floor. Some delegates were disturbed that the Bill, aimed to tighten up the Hospital Amendment Act of last year, should be passed through Parliament before the reports of the Royal Commission were submitted later this year. Delegates hoped that an emergency remit would be allowed through when full Conference met on Saturday morning, but this was checked by Chapman.

The bubbles of dissent surfaced when the Conference split into four remit committees on Saturday afternoon. To a remit that the National Party give consideration to the formulation of a population policy, was added the amendment that “as a first step, no legislative action be taken in this whole area until the Royal Commission on Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion has reported.” Because the Commission had already received submissions from about 350 groups and individuals, it was felt that the passing of legislation before the Commission reported would override the thousands involved in making the submissions.

After some debate the remit was carried as amended, the three MP’s Dr. Ian Shearer, Marilyn Waring and Richard Wills voting for it and Depute PM Brian Talboys voting against it. The point was made - some healthy objection amongst the ranks to the rather dubious political tactics of the Minister. It was hoped the issue would be discussed in more depth on Monday morning, when the remit committees’ reports were submitted to the Chair. The ordered procedure was that he move the adoption of each report. And so he did - in three seconds flat, allowing very little time for “discussion”.

There was yet hope as delegates made points of order concerning other remits - but nothing about the issue in question was raised.

“Bolshy” Tories

The Young Nationals’ Conference held on Sunday offered a little more encouragement. The Auckland Division submitted a remit opposing the intentions behind the Hospitals Amendment Act 1975, and expressing concern at any legislative changes that would reinforce the original aims of that Act. After hearing five speakers arguing for the remit, the 67 delegates attending passed it unanimously. This remit took opposition to Gill’s Bill a little further than that carried the day before. Where the former had opposed Gill’s tactics, the latter objected to the aim of the Bill itself, with arguments on State interference in the bedroom being put forward. A general lack of confidence in Gill was also expressed.

“The Minister has no moral right to introduce legislation at this point - one man has used his position to ride roughshod over the views and feelings of 60% of the population,” said Stuart Wardel (Karori Young Nationals). It was also suggested that this Parliament was not competent “to correct the rash decision of the last.”

With such disapproving noises from within the Party itself, Gill seems to have little choice but wait for the Royal Commission report. However, he is under no strict obligation to do so. When asked how he felt about the Young Nationals’ objections, he indicated some disregard for their views. And the amendment to the population policy remit calling for no changes yet was ignored as he claimed rather

Continued on page 2
Continued from page 1

blusteringly that the proposed Bill had "nothing to do with controlling population".

Tea, Cakes and Politics
An interesting development came from another offshoot of the party proper. The Women's seminar groups held on Sunday afternoon produced a minor upset in the ranks. A few women from Auckland Central electorate felt they were not getting what they wanted from the Conference, a feeling not confined to this group. They claimed women in the party tended to be too content with taking a passive role, making tea and cakes, and doing all the dirt work. There was also some dissatisfaction with the fact that no women had been appointed to the new Broadcasting Corporation, despite mouthings by the National Party policy on women promoting they be appointed to Boards, Commissions and Tribunals in the future.

A resolution was submitted to chairman Mrs. Helen Sinclair, that "as this is the only annual gathering of the National Party women from all parts of New Zealand, we consider it important that the time period of this afternoon's seminars be devoted to topical matters of concern to women". The resolution was ignored until one of the women concerned called a point of order. One delegate said that the women could listen to speakers any time of the night, but it was the only chance they had to get together and bash out a few issues.

"The mood of the meeting is not to look at controversial issues," said Sinclair. "The women here are interested in trying to find out how they can be more effective politically." Such discussion had not been slotted into the timetable Sinclair told delegates and if women were interested in seeing that it was, they could arrange it with the next Women's Vice-President. Three women then rose and walked out of the meeting. The rest stayed on, however, to get their annual dose of inspiration from the appointed speakers.

It was interesting to note that seminar groups discussing law, security, transport and agriculture were held at the same time as the special session for women. This was forcibly pointed out by Colleen Dewe, MP for Lyttelton. She was disappointed she had had to attend women's sessions, and would have preferred to be spoken to than to take part in the more politically relevant discussion groups. Perhaps the women's interests lay elsewhere, however - one woman described the dissenting women as "some bunch of women worried about their rights or something."

Policy Facelifts
Some economic and policy changes were also announced at the Conference. Minister of Foreign Affairs Brian Talboys presented a rather ambitious paper, New Zealand in the Last Twenty-five Years of the Twentieth Century. He outlined plans for the reorganisation of the economy into a more open, more internationally competitive and more export-oriented economy. He explained the need to break the protective barriers of locally manufactured goods, as this protectionism was becoming more costly and inefficient. "Instead," he said, "we must build up our commodities and export them more competitively, with third world countries playing a far greater part in our export trade."

The delivery was followed by what the Conference programme described as "contributions from the floor", but no real criticism was made of what seemed a fairly radical change in economic policy, one affecting the small-time free enterprisers which make up a reasonably large proportion of the Party. Something was mentioned along the lines of "What about the workers" but Talboys gently pointed out that decisions lay mainly with the management and that it was a question of their willingness to explain to the workers what they were doing and why.

One woman drew some applause from the floor when she departed from the general course of the discussion and asked Talboys about New Zealand's role in race relations over the next 25 years. Reminding her that the Government was elected on a policy of non-interference, he said that New Zealand would be displaying more interest in the economic development of the Island communities and helping them to develop their own resources.

That night, Muldoon underscored Talboys comments. "We are going to change the thrust of our foreign policy programme," he said, "and direct more of it to our neighbours in the Pacific, and less to countries further away."

With the recent threat of trade boycotts in "those countries furthest below the belt. Snide remarks were made about the "trendy lefties", the "pathetic creatures outside the door", and Greens. They were saying that it was to be discussed in this year's budget, as it was too late to make any changes in the next budget, as it was too late to be considered in this year's budget reform.

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With the recent threat of trade
Presidential candidates faced a hectic run last Tuesday when election results were finalised. With a very low poll of 1700 votes, the No Confidence category polled 194 Presidential votes to ensure that no appointment could be made.

Administrative Vice President candidates Dave Merritt and Denis Purdy narrowly escaped the purging influence of No Confidence. The pair attracted a total of 838 votes to the no confidence poll of 823. Joe Gibson was elected Welfare Vice President with 893 votes to 73 for No Confidence.

Presidential candidates were a title dependant by the organised No Confidence campaign waged over the five days before the poll. A closed current rumour suggests Hugh Cook may stand again, although last week he could not be contacted for comment. "The best candidate won," was Henry Harrison’s assessment of the result. Harrison said he believed the job was justified in a narrow sense: "Students are entitled to vote the way they want," he said. Harrison believed the Presidential candidates didn’t get sufficient of what they were standing for over the students. "We had similar positions on most issues," he said. "Our policies were all roughly the same.

Alan Dick spent most of last week in bed, ill with flu. He announced that he would be seeking a job at the end of the year and going on to study abroad again. It is widely expected that the Young Socialists will field another Presidential candidate and informed sources indicate it may be Mike Treen.

Nominations for President have re-opened and another election is expected to be held on 13 September.

PGA REPORT

Audio Visual Facilities

In May, a new committee of Senate was set up to develop the audio-visual services in the university. Previously discrete sections such as the Photographic Unit, the Television Unit, the Loan-Out Unit and the Language Laboratories as well as the audio-visual units of the Medicine and Architecture Facilities came under one central administration enabling the streamlining of costs and procedure. Of immediate concern is the rationalization of equipment. It was found that in some areas of the University, there is basic equipment, such as overhead projectors, being used as classroom aids, space that would have been eliminated if the equipment was used properly.

One early decision, therefore, was that the Audio-Visual committee is to set up a list of conversation openers and ringing the bell. This idea is being seriously considered.

The Auckland papers have begun to report on the existence of a new broadcast, the Auckland Medical College, which is now broadcasting. The College has announced that it will begin its first broadcast on 16 September.

Dr. Mike Fraser, Lecturer in Administration, announced that he would be making a presentation on the development of the College's audio-visual facilities. The presentation will take place at 2 pm on 16 September in the Old Arts Building.

The Auckland Medical College has been granted a licence by the New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation to broadcast on the local radio station. The station will be operated by the College and will be staffed by volunteers from the College and the local community.

The College has also been granted a licence to broadcast on television. The College plans to begin broadcasting on television on 16 September.

The Auckland Medical College has also been granted a licence to broadcast on the Internet. The College plans to begin broadcasting on the Internet on 16 September.

The College has also been granted a licence to broadcast on mobile phones. The College plans to begin broadcasting on mobile phones on 16 September.

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On the weekend of 16-18 July the economics department colloquium was held at Auckland University. Attendance was poor - estimated by Organiser John Hinchcliff at 50% of last year's. Student representation was abysmal. This was a great pity, as there were many interesting papers given and this writer wished he could have gone to many more. Perhaps that creeping tyranny, on-course assessment was responsible for the poor turnout.

Nihil desperandum! Hereafter follow a few of the highlights of the weekend. On Friday night we had Professor John Morton talking on town planning - Christian-style. I didn't attend this, but if his thoughts were as broad as those expressed in his series of broadcasts 'Christians and the World', then his audience had much mental stimulation. The gist of his thoughts was that the urban landscapes should be in the vanguard of alternative ideas.

On Saturday morning Keith Rowe gave a paper on the Clergy for Bowling campaign last year. Some important points were brought out: 1. That there is a gap between liberal clergy and conservative laity that is becoming more serious. 2. Clergy cannot dissociate themselves from their role as spokespersons and activism. 3. Both church-going and non-church-going laity have definite expectations of clergy (comforting, reconciling status quo). If the clergy break, will result in loss of public confidence. Keeping the government on a leash is a rather remarkable achievement for a student population of 2000 students got off their backsides, or submarines. It won't help to raise money to save the university, to increase our numbers, or to raise more money to save the university, to increase our numbers, or to raise more money.

Craig Robinson
Periodicals on the Block

Nearly 400 periodicals subscribed to by the Library are to be taken out of circulation. Added effects of inflation and devaluation have meant a price increase of over 40%. The library budget has been raised by 18% but this falls short of the costs involved. Some were selected on a basis of use and interest value. This was a difficult task to assign according to librarians and often depended on whichever angle was taken. Journals dealt with a wide range of topics and their value could not be confined to one particular area. The Australian Financial Review, for example, was assigned to the Economics Department for consideration, and was rated as low priority. However, it was a valuable source of information in other fields and while the Economics Department may not have considered it as top priority, other individuals may have. Also due for the chop are more specialised journals used by graduate students in their work. It is a pity that this group of students, already handicapped by the bureaucracy system - or lack of one - should be further inconvenienced. Pracda and Krokidil are also marked down.

If you should happen to catch sight of the shortlist floating around the different departments, and have a good case for any violent objections to a decision, then it may be taken to the Sub-committee. Your chance to join in with the scramble for concessions. Good luck.

And things are not going to get any better, either. Prices are still rising and it is doubtful that library budgets are going to increase proportionately. But with the cut back on students next year and the discouraging bursary situation, perhaps there will be less need for the journals anyway.

Jill Ranstead

Civic Trust: Dr Peter Phillips lecturing on 'Household Energy - Public Attitudes'. admission free.

FRIDAY 6TH

LITTLE THEATRE: 7 p.m. Film Makers Rock Concert - admission 50 cents.

SATURDAY 7TH

LITTLE THEATRE: 7 p.m. Film Makers Club: Multi-media Evening - admission $2 general public, $1.50 students.

SUNDAY 8TH

OLD MAID: 1 p.m. Movement Theatre: 'Four Pall-bearers Walking Out of Time' by L. G. and Picnicquet, directed by Reesom admission $1 for students and general public.

TUESDAY 3RD

OLD MAID: 7:30 p.m. Film '76. The Buchan - admission 50 cents.

EDNESDAY 4TH

OLD MAID: 1 p.m. Movement Theatre: 'The Bride Goes Green' by Adi and Picnicquet, directed by Reesom admission 50 cents.

LITTLE THEATRE: 7:30 p.m. Auckland Civic Trust - admission $1.

The 7 O'Clock funeral march, wake us a huge hit with the erle faces offed, the glow of the candles and for pall-bearers walking out of time step to Frank Stark's poor drumming like the main body of the march didn't wait (to impale yourself people a nap of repose) there was in fact a separate march that night ... the note about four blocks ahead and its funeral march to the rear. The main march finally halted and the funeral proveth cut a swatch through their minds to take the lead.

Into the Town Hall we trooped, Silent the ground floor (about 1500) sat down quietly waiting for the gates to start. And surprise of surprises there in the stage was none other than Paul Amos, former Labour Minister of Education and the man responsible for the much heralded STB bill. After a few speechess were given he was called on to speak by the crowd and after much heckling got up to talk. He was interrupted by interjections several times but in true Parliamentarian fashion dealt with them with ease. The meeting ended at around 9:45 and again it was back up to Varsity for another no. (for make more free Frank). It was also a pleasure in Wellington Gendar said in an interview with Radio B 'I'm aware that Students Associations are not happy with the message I gave recently to the representatives of their National Organisations. There will be no increase in the Standard Tertiary Bursary this year. The level of the S. T. B. was set last year by the Labour Administration. Student representatives knew then that the figures announced were for the Bursary this year, I think it is unreasonable that the students are now asking about a bursary increase even before the first year is over.'

Makes you want to cry doesn't it?

David Merritt

Editorial

An exclusive interview with our new President

CRACUM managed to obtain an interview with Mr/Ms No-Confidence who was celebrating a resounding victory surrounded by an awesome flood of vodka and well-wishers. The first question we put to this political phenomenon concerned the reasons for the landslide result:

Er, Gidday. I think the reason the other candidates lost out was because they all were saying the same thing. They put forward these ideas on how to reorganise the Students' Association, how to give away the Canteen, and so on and so forth. But everyone knew they were just fishing bits of policy out of the pool of what other people were saying at a recent Exec meeting. I was the only candidate offering a real alternative.

Were you surprised that Janet Roth polled higher than your other rivals?

Not really. She's the only one who has much claim to the ideas they were all putting forward. Since most of it originated with Tren, the Young Socialist leader, Roth had a perfect right to those ideas. The others didn't. I'm surprised she and Tren didn't try to sue them for breach of copyright or unlawful possession of policy.

Once that Engineer fellow Collins withdrew there was no real alternative to Roth. And she has put forward the Young Socialist label, and the fact that she doesn't look impressive as a potential administrator. But about all the others could offer was varying degrees of administrative incompetence.

Do you think the No-Confidence campaign organised on your behalf did much help to?

No, I'm quite capable of doing my own electioneering. All that did was to make people aware that there were other no-hoper candidates.

And it's ironical that one of the prime movers in that campaign was the SRC chairman, who probably wouldn't survive a No-Confidence motion himself. We No-Confidence candidates always have the problem that we stand in every election, and a lot of people vote for us out of pure frivolity. When we get in, it's always against people who for one reason or another never had a chance, like Gavin Muldoon or Beverley Austin. Then another election is held soon after to see if someone can beat us, so we never actually take up office.

Who do you think will be your main rivals in the next election?

Well, some people never learn, so it's possible that one or two of those who lost out this time may have another try. But they haven't a hope, obviously: the electorate is wise to their inadequacies already. No doubt Mike Walker will try to jack up somebody who's a bit more capable, and I hear Clare Ward may have a hopeful in mind.

The old lags who've been around for years and never quite made it I'm starting to crawl out of the woodwork in the hope they might have a chance. I wouldn't be surprised to be up against people like Tren or Lack or Kidd in September. And if that's the case, I'll probably lose since they at least might have some ideas of their own and the ability to carry them out.

Allan Bell
The most devastating story of this century.

At times it looked like it might cost them their jobs, their reputations, and maybe even their lives.

REDFORD/HOFFMAN

"ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN"

EXCLUSIVE SHOWCASE PRESENTATION FROM FRIDAY AUGUST SIXTH

WESTEND
QUEEN STREET

BERKELEY
MISSION BAY

PERSONS UNDER 16 YEARS NOT ADMITTED
Hostel Sellout?
The Government Grants Committee has not yet decided whether to withdraw its loan of 11 years standing from Y.W.C.A. The Committee has not yet decided whether to sell or release to pay the money back. The Government could, on the other hand, decide the loan to be sold or released to pay for accommodation.

What are you going to be...?
If you don't want to get lost in the rush after finals you should do something now about a job for next year. Try to get help by inviting your tutorial and lecture assistants to come to the University on recruitment visits.

Ants Again
The Architectural Students Congress Society has been granted $200 toward the cost of Art Farm from the Speakers Fund. The Art Farm is an extension of the Arts Department. The Ants who are enjoying the programme believe that the value of participating in Arts related work to the Arts Department is increased when the students become involved outside the Arts' domain.

Enrolment Rehash
The new enrolment regulations which the University has proposed and passed will mean that enrolment week is February 14-18, one week earlier than usual. Then there's one week's gap to sort it all out, and Term 1 begins on February 28. More on this St. Andrew's in next week's CRACCUM.

Learning and Communication
"Grants" Committee?
It seems that the University Grants Committee is increasingly tight-fisted these days. In line with the Government's belt-tightening policy it has refused the University finance for a five-bed flat for the Theatre precinct, equipment and furnishings for the new Society of Arts library, heating for the Recreation Centre, and the purchase of Broadwood Street from the City Council. The Committee has, however, agreed that the foyer of the new Human Sciences building will need to be covered.

Death of Former Student Accountant
Former Students Association accountant Stan Nelson died in Hamilton last week. Mr Nelson was survived by his wife and three daughters. Association Secretary H. L. Cotton said last week that in the time Mr Nelson worked with the Society he became friendly with all he came in contact with. "Stan was always very helpful. He was a quiet man and a good conversationalist," said Mr Nelson. A former lecturer in Auckland at the University College before the Second World War, teaching French. He took up accountancy when he returned to the service, but continued to lecture in Modern Languages part time under Professor A.C. Keys. Mr Nelson joined the Students staff near the end of 1974. On his retirement earlier this year, he moved to Hamilton. "His influence will remain," said Sherry Cederman, "not only through his work but also through the effect of his personality and the standards he set."

Overseas
10 Malaysian Aircraft Shot Down.
An Australian report that guerrillas had destroyed or damaged a number of Malaysian aircraft was described as "utter rubbish" by an official of the General of Police. He admitted that one helicopter had been shot down and two others damaged by gunfire, but "that was all."

Australian troops in Malaysia
During his recent visit to China, Australia's Prime Minister Fraser announced that Australian government would review the military aid to Malaysia in the face of any Soviet threat. This statement overlooks the longstanding presence of Australian troops in West Malaysia, e.g. Port Butterworth, where they are engaged in anti-communist activities in conjunction with Malaysian forces. Using the pretext of "Soviet expansionism", increasing numbers of Australian military personnel have been sent to the growing insurgency problems facing Malaysia. New Zealand troops are also engaged in these activities. Local territorial recently joined Singaporean solders to gain experience in jungle exercises which by now have become "second nature" to the regulars. The need for familiarization with such techniques implies that Australian troops anticipate even greater involvement in Malaysia in the future.

Radio Australia and Post
The threat of nuclear war is the gravest danger facing humanity. All of the surface nuclear-powered warships of our allies, and most of their submarines, always carry nuclear weapons even in foreign ports. By allowing visits by nuclear-powered and nuclear-armed warships into New Zealand ports we would be directly implicating New Zealand in the threatened and possible use of these weapons.

Nuclear weapons are grossly wasteful of scarce resources and are psychologically destructive both for those who wield them and for those threatened by them. Their use in war would be immoral, futile and counter-productive for both for those who wield them and those threatened by them. Therefore, if we allow nuclear warships here we would be seen as participating in the immorality of threatening other people with these obscene weapons. We would also clearly be inviting the use of such weapons against the ports they visit. This would result in the annihilation by instant vaporization or lingering radiation sickness and cancer of most of the people in our main cities.

We are also opposed to visits by nuclear-powered vessels of all nations under their present method of operation. Like all nuclear power plants, they produce radioactive waste that cannot be disposed of with safety and for thousands of years it remains dangerous to life. Also this waste material can, with quite likely will, be used to make nuclear weapons.

Everyone also agrees that there is a small but real chance of a major accident to the reactor of one of these vessels. Those who are reassured by suggested figures about the improbability of such an accident should remember that before the explosion at the New Plymouth Power Station the Minister of State Services, Mr. Gordon, had dismissed the likelihood of such an explosion there as a ‘one-in-a-million’ chance. On Mr. Muldoon’s recent radio talkback programme his team of experts admitted that the “worst conceivable” reactor accident would result in about 2000 cancer cases, about 400 of which would be fatal.

No one has told us of any real benefit that we will gain from these visits to justify such terrible risks. Contrary to the impression given by Mr. Muldoon, the U.S. Government does not accept total liability for any damage caused by nuclear accidents. The relevant passage of Public Law 93-513 reads: “The President may authorize, under such terms and conditions as he may direct, the payment of such claims ... proven to have resulted from a nuclear incident involving the nuclear reactor of a United States warship.” The words “proven” and “reactor” were added as amendments at the insistence of the U.S. Defense Department and their effect would be to eliminate claims resulting from an accident with a nuclear weapon on board, and from all the victims of cancer and birth deformity because they clearly could not be proven to be a result of the “nuclear incident.”

The Government is being hopelessly idealistic in believing that merely by going along with every military idea and action of our allies they will be able to save us from every conceivable threat, in particular the threat of nuclear attack. In fact the dubious nuclear umbrella provided by ANZUS and the warship visits is one that not only could leak but could attract a deadly radioactive hail. Also the effect of Government policy is our participation in the aimless but increasingly inevitable drift towards a nuclear war breaking out. The only realistic and hard-headed policy New Zealand can adopt on this issue is to take independent determined efforts to counter the nuclear arms race and bring about nuclear disarmament.

This country must adopt an independent, positive and non-aligned stance in foreign affairs. We should withdraw from constricting military alliances with the nuclear power weapons. We must make every effort to initiate and press for concrete measures to limit the spread of nuclear weapons and to achieve nuclear disarmament agreements.

In particular, New Zealand must not abanodn but pursue with renewed vigour the attempt to establish a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific. Such a zone is feasible and could make this region infinitely more secure from involvement in nuclear war, nuclear weapon systems and nuclear testing. It would also be a major contribution towards regenerating the largely stalled progress to achieving nuclear weapon limitation and nuclear disarmament agreements in other areas.

New Zealand could also play an important role in efforts to achieve a ban on nuclear weapons testing in all environments, including underground, and to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons to countries not yet possessing them. However, if New Zealand were to welcome nuclear weapons into our territorial waters we would be so clearly involved with such weapons that no-one is likely to take any efforts we might make to promote nuclear disarmament very seriously.

New Zealand has a proud international record in the establishment of the United Nations, in setting up the first nuclear weapons-free zone, in Antarctica, and in stopping atmospheric nuclear testing in the Pacific. We must build on these achievements not wantonly destroy them.

It is crucial that those who are against the aim of the Mobilisation Committees say no to nuclear warships by marching on August 6th.

Richard Northey
After decades of foreign intervention and warfare, the people of Vietnam now have the opportunity to rebuild their country in peace. In doing so they face a task even more difficult than the one which confronted them during the long years of war. In a recent interview in Paris, Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, Foreign Minister of the Republic of South Vietnam, stated that the people of the south were waging an all-out struggle against the "anguish of the war, which are felt daily, hourly and are weighing heavily on our country." She added: "And the situation will last for a long time."

Considering the terrible effects of the brutal military conflict in Vietnam, it may seem surprising that the country has not collapsed into chaos and anarchy. In actual fact remarkable progress has been made. The most striking development since the end of the war almost a year ago has been the decision to reunify the country. In November last year a political consultative conference between a wide cross-section of leaders from north and south agreed that Vietnam should be reunited under a single government. In April 1976 all citizens over 18 years voted in an election throughout Vietnam to elect a National Assembly.

As the United States recognised when Kissinger signed the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam in January 1973, Vietnam is one country. The end of foreign intervention, and the remarkable steps taken so far in the reconstruction of the south have now made the reunification of the country possible.

Effects of the War

As the biggest and longest military conflict since the Korean war, the Vietnam War saw the United States and its allies use some of the most sophisticated weapons in the arsenal of modern destruction. The US not only provided South Vietnam with US$22,331.3 million in military aid between 1948 and 1975 but also resorted to massive bombing, including the use of biological and chemical warfare.

The effects of the war on the Vietnamese countryside, people and the country's social fabric were almost catastrophic. As a result of the use of American chemical and biological warfare over 43% (or 5000 square miles) of all plantations and orchards were totally destroyed. About 44% (or 9,650 square miles) of forest lands were entirely destroyed. This means that in the area of total destruction plants or trees must be replaced. It will take from five years to a century before this land can become productive.

According to incomplete statistics published in Saigon last September, nearly 2,283,000 south Vietnamese have been ill or have died as a result of poisoning by herbicides. By 1969 half of Vietnam's crop land was sprayed with herbicides by the United States forces. Between 1963 and 1973 the human population of South Vietnam increased from 15 million to 19 million people. In the same period, the number of buffalos declined from 2,280,000 to 400,000 and the number of cows and oxen declined by one-quarter.

In the latter years of the war the US forces adopted the strategy of trying to isolate their guerilla enemy by driving the people from the countryside into the cities by means of massive bombing. In 1964 the population of South Vietnam's capital, Saigon, was 450,000. By 1971 it had risen to 1.8 million. Two years later it had more than doubled to 3.6 million. By the end of the war 3.5 million people in South Vietnam were unemployed, according to the Prime Minister of the Republic of South Vietnam, Huynh Tan Phat. Over half of them were from the American-backed Thieu regime's army, paramilitary units and police, and their "camp followers" such as black marketeers and prostitutes.

When peace returned to the south, the country was left with 370,000 war orphans, while 430,000 children had died of war-related causes. There were one million victims of venereal disease (over 350,000 of them in Saigon alone), half a million prostitutes and half a million drug addicts, one million people suffered from tuberculosis, a disease most closely associated with impoverishment.

Reconstruction of South Vietnam

When the new government took power throughout the country at the end of April last year it faced enormous social and economic problems. The day before Saigon was liberated, the police abandoned the prisons and 7000 ordinary criminals escaped, helping themselves to weapons abandoned by the disintegrating army. On top of this law and order problem, the new government became responsible for a city with terrible health problems. "Saigon was once known as the 'pearl of the Orient'," said the new administrations official in charge of public health and social affairs. "But that we found was a mountain of garbage."

One of the first tasks was a massive inoculation campaign and a vast "clean-up" operation carried out mainly by students and the public.

In a very short time Saigon changed from a city with one of the highest crime rates in the world to one with a lower crime rate than Paris, a city of comparable size. Days after the new administration took over, most of the city's factories were back in operation. New enterprises, such as artificial limb factories, were started to absorb the unemployed, including former soldiers.

To try and overcome the twin problems of massive unemployment and the threat of starvation, the new government has encouraged the hundreds of thousands of war refugees in the cities to return to their native villages and go back to farming. To assist them, the government provides food for six months, seed and tools.

Already the restoration of agricultural production has had its effects. Last year south Vietnam did not have to import rice, whereas under the old government it was importing up to 700,000 tons annually. This year the country is expected to have a small exportable surplus of rice. Government action has also been taken to stabilise the price of rice and other commodities. In September there was an official crackdown on profiteering, monopolies and price-fixing by hoarding essential goods.

After reunification of the country the aim is to build a socialist society throughout Vietnam. But because of the particular situation in the south, the continued existence of some private enterprise will be necessary for some time. Privately-owned enterprises and even foreign investment will be permitted so long as they benefit the strengthening of the country's national economy.

Today they are rebuilding their devastated country against tremendous odds. While they cherish their independence and stand firmly on their own feet, they need our help in the mammoth task of reconstruction. By assisting the people of Vietnam, people in New Zealand can help heal the wounds of a brutal war in which our country was involved.

Peter Franks
Students Revisit Home
A Deep Sense Of Liberation

In January and February of this year, five Vietnamese students in Australia revisited the South of Vietnam. Some had not been home for thirteen years. The magazine Liberation interviewed Nguyen Van Anh, Duong Tan Trung, Nguyen Phan Dien, Nguyen Anh Thu and Trung Phuoc Truong.

How did you feel about returning to Vietnam? It was a tour with a purpose of getting to know my country since the end of the war. My first feeling was very emotional when we landed in Ho Chi Minh City. I remember the feeling of oppression and humiliation when I left 4 years ago from the same airport. My country was then still under foreign domination and was being slowly destroyed by a war of genocide. So my feeling was a deep sense of liberation, and that we had finally become masters of our own country.

As we were flying from Hanoi to Saigon, you could see craters of various sizes along the own country. You can see craters over 10-15 yards only from afar. The most visible thing we have seen for ourselves was when we visited Cu Chi, which is called the "iron fort of the liberation fighters". You can see craters over 10-15 yards and there are just lots, and that is only about 40 km from Saigon. Apart from that you also see a lot of houses as you go along Highway No. 1 filled with shots.

With a lot of bombs being dropped on Vietnam, have there been any accidents in relation to live ammunition during their daily activities? We have not seen many accidents, but we were told there were many problems of that kind. The Government is now looking at this problem and before people are sent to the new economic areas of production the Government send in a team to clear the mines carefully. We know of some cases where children were misled and killed because they don't realise the danger when they play. Although you realise that the Americans dropped a lot of bombs and virtually they are everywhere, you cannot control the children and they go to all the places.

You have described some of the physical problems from the war. What are the medical and social problems?

Certainly there are a lot of medical and social problems. Among most women who took part in the liberation, it is believed about 30% of those would be latently sick with some sort of illness. The main diseases are to do with their reproductive organs, because of many years of lack of hygienic conditions and of hiding in damp trenches, they have many infections. Of those 90% about 20% are at the moment seriously ill. There is a great lack of medicine to treat those illnesses. Not only do they suffer from the physical problems but the women who came out of many years of torture under the Thieu regime, some of them suffer from mental illness. Through the years of electric shock treatment or similar barbarous treatment and they also need a lot of care.

Did you come across the orphanage situation in Saigon or in the South of Vietnam, and what are some of the problems associated with orphans now?

We did not actually go and visit an orphanage but we had a talk with the Secretary of the Union of Liberation Women in Ho Chi Minh City. She said that the statistics were about 500,000 orphans in Saigon at the moment, and the policy of the Government is to encourage adoption as much as possible.

The process of de-urbanisation from the cities has meant that some of the areas which have not been developed in Vietnam for many years are now being redeveloped. We have heard them described as the "new economic areas". Can you give us some idea of the purpose for these areas and what are the main problems in these areas?

Well, we know there is a very big employment problem in the south. The current problem of the present Government to solve is employment so a persuade people to first of all move back to their native villages and those who don't have any more links with their villages are persuade to move into newly cleared areas called the new economic areas or zones. There are many young volunteers in the youth brigades who go there first to clear the land, to dig canals and to build roads. They also erect simple houses for the people. When the people move in each family is given a plot of land of about 1,000 square meters. This is their own property. Apart from that each family is allocated, according to the fertility of the soil, around 2 hectares of land which is collectively owned by the new economic area. It is believed about 6 months of their settlement the people are given issues of food, especially rice, free by the Government. They are also given agricultural instruments to support agricultural production.

During the years of US involvement in Saigon several large factories were built. What has happened to these factories since 30 September 1975? What management structure is currently used for the factories and what is the future of industrialisation in the south?

First of all I am against the question of what happened to the factories. I think that with the owners who left the country the Government took over the management and it became a state-owned factory. As for those factories, the owners of which are still in the country, they are still in the hands of their former owners.

The flag of the republic flies outside a Danang school.

About the management of these factories, for all of the management will consist of the people who own the factory, the representative of the Government, and the technical people. At the moment the workers are not represented in management but in the future when workers will have their own union they will have their representation in the management to look after the welfare of the workers etc.

The main thing is to raise the technical standards and also the educational level of workers, because in some of the factories we went to nearly 90-100% of the workers are illiterate before the Government took over. So they do not understand anything about the technical problems. The Government has now started on the illiteracy problem and in the future the Government is going to educate workers on technical study as well. This will helo with the future of industrialisation of the country because you cannot industrialise without a body of the workforce that is technically competent.

Talking about the problem of the factories in the old days when the American and other Western capitals set up companies they were mainly as processing places so that the majority of factories imported raw materials which were available in Vietnam. For example one of the foremost American companies was producing fruit juices and you know Vietnam can produce sugar cane but even this was imported. As most of these raw materials cannot be imported from these western countries anymore the Government is trying to get economic ties with Western countries on the one hand to solve the problem of raw materials and also to ask for aid on the construction of new factories.
The Legacy of Devastation

Try to conceive of the destruction that can be wrought when people are prepared to drop the equivalent of 3/4 Hiroshimas a week, and you have a picture of what the people and the land of Vietnam have suffered. A few figures for the whole of Vietnam:

- 7 million tons of bombs were dropped, and 7 millions tons of ammunition used.
- 15 million gallons of herbicides poured.
- 2 million people were killed.
- 5 million people were wounded.

Social Worker: NZ Must Help

In June, Onesta Carpena, a social worker who has worked in Vietnam for eight years, and was present in Saigon for several months after the Revolution, paid a brief visit to New Zealand at the invitation of Father John Curnow, the Director of New Zealand Catholic Overseas Aid. She is actively involved in Fraternite Vietnam, a French-based organization coordinating aid efforts to Vietnam. She spoke to CRACCUM reporter Fraser Folster:

Could you tell us generally what sort of problems Vietnam is facing in terms of reconstruction? What are the problems that the people have to fight?

You certainly know that the 30 years of war in Vietnam have caused a lot of damage to the country. This for sure cannot be calculated, but in any case there are certain problems that are very clear - such as the maimed people, all the widows and orphans, so many acres destroyed by the war, so much land damaged by the bio-chemical products that were thrown on the land, and of course there are the social problems such as prostitution and drug addiction and so on. So there is a spectrum of problems which have to be faced now that peace has been established in the country.

The Vietnamese people started immediately to face up to the different problems. I was there during the change of Government and the first four months of revolution in Vietnam and I found it was the most interesting revolution that I could have imagined. Immediately after the first two days of the change, effort was being put into re-organising the population and stressing the fact that each individual person could be an effective contributor towards a better world for everybody in Vietnam.

That was what started immediately - organizing people and discussing together with neighbourhood and family what their needs were and the problems that they could solve by themselves, and seeing how each one could fit into the bigger task of reconstructing the country.

What can your organization, Fraternite Vietnam, do to practically help in this reconstruction?

The work that is needed in Vietnam is so big and ours is a small, really a small contribution. But we have different projects that have been worked out with the Vietnamese authorities and that seem to fit within the bigger plan of Government reconstruction.

The priority of the Government is in terms of developing agriculture, developing light industry together with the heavy industry - otherwise the country will not be able to be self-sufficient. Their priority too is to make a survey of all the resources they have - both material and potential - in terms of land and people - in order to develop a better distribution and to find work for all the people who are out of work now. Unemployment is a very big problem in the South because of all the people who have been displaced because of the war. So relocation of the people, especially those who are living in overcrowded conditions in the city but come from elsewhere, is a priority. And of course one big task of the Government is to try to make Vietnamese people who are not yet conscious of what has been going on during this year conscious of the situation so that they will not be passive members of society but active in its development.

What can New Zealand do to help?

New Zealand, like other Western countries, has a responsibility to help in the reconstruction of Vietnam. All over the world, people are realizing that they were co-responsible for what happened in Vietnam. Vietnam became a battle ground of the super-powers, and millions of Vietnamese people suffered. The least they can do now is to help Vietnam to rebuild its shattered country.
The Most We Can Give Is
The Least We Can Do

The British Medical Aid Committee for Vietnam regularly supplies the N.Z. Medical Aid Committee and Corso with urgent requests from Vietnam. Present requests include:

- Vitamin tablets, at $2.00 per thousand.
- New Spectacles, at $2.50 each.
- INH Tablets, for fighting TB, at $3.50 per thousand.
- Streptomycin, at $7.00 per twenty.
- Streptomycin, for fighting TB, at $17.00 for 50 ampules.
- Penicillin, at $23.00 per hundred ampules.
- Baby food, at $33.50 per twenty tins.

All these needs are urgent. Please make your contribution by using the coupon on this page.

"The most we can give is the least we can do".

NZ MEDICAL AID COMMITTEE FOR INDOCHINA

This committee, representative of a wide spectrum of political and religious viewpoints, was founded in May 1965 as the N.Z. Medical Aid Committee for South Vietnamese Peoples in N.L.F. Areas. Its original policy was to provide medical aid in the areas of South Vietnam where the war was most barbarous and intense, areas where few if any of the established agencies were able or willing to send aid. This policy was based on humanitarian, practical, and political considerations: humanitarian because these were the areas of greatest need; practical because the aid reached its destination rather than being siphoned off by the blackmarketing and corruption of Saigon; political because the committee believed that the policies and activities of the United States, New Zealand, and their allies in Vietnam were utterly immoral and illegal, and should be opposed. By this policy the committee was able to act as a rallying point for those New Zealanders who wished not only to dissociate themselves from their Government's involvement in the war, but also to make a direct and practical expression of their concern.

As the war expanded into North Vietnam with the commencement of American bombing campaigns, the committee extended its area of concern to the whole of Vietnam and changed its title to N.Z. Medical Aid Committee for Vietnam. Later again, when the extent of American aggression in Cambodia and Laos was revealed, the policy was extended to cover all areas of urgent need in Indo-China but also to make a direct and practical expression of their concern.

The committee's methods have remained essentially unchanged throughout. Newsletters are published every 3-4 months giving up-to-date information on the general situation in Indo-China, on the medical requirements of the people and the good use they are making of the materials being provided by Medical Aid Committees all round the world, and on current fund-raising activities in New Zealand. These newsletters are posted to a country-wide mailing list, whose individual donations make up a substantial proportion of the funds raised. The committee's own activities in Auckland, such as jumble sales and door-to-door collections, are another major source of funds, and sympathetic organisations in other parts of the country undertake similar projects on the committee's behalf. Administrative costs are kept to an absolute minimum of unavoidable expenses such as postage, and have never been more than 1-2% of the money raised.

All funds are remitted to London to the British Medical Aid Committee for Vietnam (President: Prof. Dorothy Hodgkin, O.M., F.R.S., Nobel Chemistry Prizewinner). The British committee, guided by its team of medical advisors in Indo-China, together with other European Medical Aid Committees, buys medical equipment and supplies to fulfill specific requests from the Red Crosses and Health Ministries of the countries of Indo-China, and arranges for the transport of the aid to Indo-China. In this manner, the N.Z. Committee was able to provide $11,500 worth of medical aid in Indo-China during 1975, and in the 10½ years of its existence it has remitted a total of $35,700.

With your help we can continue to make our small contribution to alleviating the enormous medical problems and the suffering of the Indo-Chinese peoples in the aftermath of war, and to support them in their task of rebuilding a happier and healthier future.

VIETNAM MEDICAL AID APPEAL 1976

Sponsored by Corso (Auckland and Northland Region) and the New Zealand Medical Aid Committee for Indochina.

"It would be easy for us to forget the war. Vietnam is far away. But we must not forget this war because, throughout the world, we are all involved.

- Georges Boudarel, Paris University.

Return this coupon with your donation today. All funds will be sent to the British Medical Aid Committee for Vietnam.

To Vietnam Medical Aid Appeal,
P.O. Box 68-185,
Newton, Auckland 1.

I enclose ................................ as a donation for Medical Aid in Indochina.

I would like to contribute $ ...................... to your appeal at regular intervals. Please send me monthly reminders with stamped addressed envelopes.

Name: ..........................................................
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.................................
The Campaign to keep nuclear warships out of New Zealand ports appears to be gaining momentum with the organising of public protests around the country on August 6th. On that date (thirty-first anniversary of the first use of a nuclear weapon in war, on the city of Hiroshima) there will be protest activities in Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, Hamilton and possibly other centres.

In Auckland, the August 6 Mobilisation Committee Against Nuclear Warships has organised a protest march leaving Albert Park opposite the Student Union building shortly after 7 p.m. The marchers will walk down Princes Street, Waterloo Quadrant, Anzac Avenue and Customs Street East to join up with other protesters who will assemble outside the Chief Post Office from 7.20 p.m. The march will then go up Queen Street to a public meeting in the Town Hall which will begin at about 8.15 p.m. The meeting will include short statements by Barry Kirkwood - a member of the Auckland Harbour Board; Bishop Eric Gowing or his representative; Dr Bob Mann - a director of the Environmental Defence Society; Dr Gover Foley - a noted U.S. writer on nuclear technology; Dr Rangi Walker - Chairman of the Auckland District Maori Council; Peter Purdue - Secretary of the Auckland Trades Council; and probably Clare Ward of the University Students' Association. There will also be performances of specially composed protest songs, guerrilla theatre, poetry readings and opportunity for members of the public to participate, such as suggesting ideas for future action.

Those initiating the idea for this protest march did so because they believed that the ordinary New Zealander must be given the opportunity to show his or her opposition to the government's intention to allow nuclear warships into New Zealand ports. The Prime Minister has tried to portray the opponents of his nuclear policy as minority groups who are either foolish and misguided or disloyal and subversive. However this is negated by the nature of the organisations that are sponsoring the march, by the evidence of a number of public opinion polls all showing about twice as many opposed to nuclear warships coming to New Zealand as support them, and by the flood of letters to newspapers, peace groups and MPs from a great many concerned people with a wide range of backgrounds and political beliefs. The organisers believe that most New Zealanders are opposed to nuclear warships coming to this country, and most derive their opposition from a thoroughly realistic concern about preserving their port cities from a nuclear accident or nuclear attack and from a desire for New Zealand to take a lead in countering the nuclear arms race rather than becoming implicated in it.

Tens of thousands of leaflets, posters, bumper stickers and buttons have been produced to publicise the protest and state the case against nuclear warships and for a positive non-aligned foreign policy including support for a nuclear weapon-free zone in the South Pacific. These can be obtained from the protest headquarters on the first floor of the Student Union Building, phone 307789 extn 88. The protest activities are costing more than $2000 to organise and publicise and the August 6 Mobilisation Committee needs donations urgently to pay the bills involved, and hopefully to initiate a continuing campaign on the issue. These donations and any further information about the peace and environmental groups sponsoring the march should be directed to the Secretary at P.O. Box 5890, Wellesley Street.

The August 6 Mobilisation Committee was formed on the initiative of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and the Auckland University Students' Association. It soon won the active support of many peace, environmental, political and church organisations. They include the Peace Squadron, Greenpeace, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Campaign Half Million, International Convention for Peace Action, Friends of the Earth, Environmental Defence Society, Values Party Auckland Region, Auckland Regional Council of Labour Party, N.Z. Youth Council of Labour Party, Young Socialists, the Religious Society of Friends, the Church of England Auckland Diocese, the Auckland Council of Churches, and the Auckland Trades Council.
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After my guide to this year's Film Festival as published in CRACCUM, I received a letter from the General Manager of the Kerridge Odeon Corporation.

9 July 1976

Dear Sir,

In the introduction to the printed synopsis of Festival Films, you say "In 1975 Kerridge Odeon refused to make a Queen Street theatre available for the Festival and the Festival ended up in Amalgamated's Lido". We cannot understand the purpose of your making this statement, with the unfortunate choice of the word "refused". It is evident that you are unaware of the relevant circumstances and of the contractual commitments which Kerridge Odeon was obliged to honour.

It is regrettable that through your incorrect understanding of the facts, the public of Auckland should be given a misleading impression as to the policies and disposition of this company.

Yours faithfully,
N.J. Glover.

Mr. Glover wrote to me again five days later, enclosing a copy of his 1974 letter to the Festival as documentation. He again urged me "to rectify the incorrect and misleading impression" he had created.

My "purpose" in making my statement about Kerridge Odeon's "refusal" to provide a Queen Street theatre for the 1975 Film Festival was simply to recount part of the history of the Auckland Festival Society that it was "not practical" to present in a K-O theatre - having used a K-O Theatre for its first six Festivals. Then, in November 1974, Mr. Glover informed the Auckland Festival Society that it was "not practical for us to retain a cinema for the International Film Festival. As I explained to you, to set a fixed date months in advance is not possible under current screening patterns.

In Mr. Glover's opinion this was not a 'refusal'. I have printed his original letter so CRACCUM readers can make up their own minds. Personally, I still feel that the word 'refusal' is appropriate. My remark that K-O was unwilling "to make a Queen Street theatre available" seems to have been an understatement of the word 'refused', but the word seems to me to be the correct choice of the word "refused". It is evident that you are unaware of the relevant circumstances and of the contractual commitments which Kerridge Odeon was obliged to honour.

It is regrettable that through your incorrect understanding of the facts, the public of Auckland should be given a misleading impression as to the policies and disposition of this company.

Yours faithfully,
N.J. Glover.

Mr. Glover has taken me to task for my use of the word 'refused', but the word seems to me very restrained in comparison with those remarks of Sir Robert Kerridge about 'a dilletante minority', 'pedantic students of cinema', etc. The Kerridge letter is surprisingly heated considering the mildness of Wynne Colgan's original criticism. A cynical observer would be tempted to see a connection between the K-O letter of October 24 (which announced that it was no longer possible to retain a cinema for the International Film Festival) and the publication of Wynne Colgan's article five days earlier. (Wynne Colgan is the Chairman of the Film Festival.) However there is no proof of a connection, and the sequence of events may have been pure coincidence. It is at least clear, however, that the timing of Mr. Glover's letter was unfortunate from the point of view of public relations.

When Mr. Glover wrote to me about my CRACCUM article, he said: "It is regrettable that the public of Auckland should be given a misleading impression as to the policies and disposition of this company." I assume that K-O's policies and disposition continue to be those outlined by Sir Robert Kerridge in the letter I have just quoted. Such unadventurous policies are bound to alienate film-makers and filmgoers, and not merely "a dilletante minority."

Roger Horrocks,

Auckland Film Festival
Did K-O Say No?

This week the position is exactly twice as bad as almost every cinema in the city continues to squeeze the last driblets out of no fewer than eight films of varying merit.

Good luck to any show popular enough to chalk up a success story. But surely the time has come - even long past - to switch most of them to the suburbs and thread up a few of a score or more new productions well received overseas, even elsewhere in New Zealand.

Mr. Colgan went on to name sixteen movies "on whose storage cans the dust has thickened". He concluded:

"Obviously I only scratch the surface. Aficionados will have no trouble at all trebling the list. And that with ten films, or half a dozen, muscled into the field of the foreign film, which would provide an interesting catalogue in itself."

Two weeks later (November 2), the Herald published a very interesting reply from Sir Robert Kerridge.

The primary function of the commercial cinema is not to cater to the sophistication of a dilletante minority. It is to economically necessary.

In New Zealand, as in many overseas, there is a resurgence of interest in cinema-going. Producers have been successful in making pictures of wide contemporary appeal, and the intensity of public demand results in longer seasons.

The screening policy of the commercial cinema is dictated by public demand. We screen the films the public want to see.

If we were to screen in Queen St films of the type and specialized appeal that Wynne Colgan listed we would be inviting bankrupcy. The paying public does not want them.

The letter goes on to point out that K-O does "make provision for exhibition of a reasonable range of specialised and foreign films," but adds:

"There is a basic difference between the film societies and the commercial cinema. Each has its separate function; and it is useless for pedantic students of cinema to try to superimpose their tastes and priorities on the ordinary picture patron, who is looking for relaxation and enjoyment."

In our modern society one of the most disturbing and disruptive phenomena is the strenuous effort of vocally persistent minorities to impose their will on the majority. This must not be permitted to happen to the cinema.
"Take it easy, but take it!" Every student folk music freak knows that these words were first spoken by Woody Guthrie, folk hero of the American dust bowl era. Sadly, Guthrie is no longer with us, but his words are, for Ralph McTell finishes each and every show the same way and presumably will do so when he plays at His Majestys Theatre here in Auckland on August 12th.

Ralph has been writing and singing songs for over 15 years and is something of a cult figure with all singer-songwriters. Almost every person who picked up an Acoustic guitar learnt Ralph's song Streets of London which became a world wide No. 1 hit in 1975, a mere seven years after being recorded. Ralph is a solo performer in the best sense of the term doing the whole show himself moving from his acoustic guitar to the grand piano. His own guitar-picking style has been copied but never emulated by thousands of folk singers the world over.

Recently Ralph headed the bill at the Montreux Festival which included Leonard Cohen, Tom Paxton, Gordon Lightfoot and The Dubliners.

Unlike many folk stars who emerged in the early sixties, McTell's 'rambling man' image was a genuine one and not the creation of some record company publicist seeking to capitalise on the Woody Guthrie hobo image. McTell picked up a lot of his musical experience on the road, and earned the odd lump and bump at the hands of the Paris Gendarmes as a street busker there. Not that he escaped unscathed from the promo machine; his surname is the result of some scathing from the promo machine: the words of Ralph himself for - "He'll show you something, to make you change your mind."

It's a long way from the familiar hobos training ground of Cornwall and Paris, but Ralph has made it. He doesn't do too many concerts in a year (about 12) and this is his first trip to Australia and New Zealand. If you are among the unenlightened, believing Ralph to be a one-hit wonder, who sprang to fame overnight, then I can only reiterate the words of Ralph himself for - "He'll show you something, to make you change your mind."

Robert Douglas
ff. Shakespeare of love and all's well that ends well in Theatre Corporate
Shakespeare's lighter genre? Perhaps not. The play seems to owe just a little - the
tones of malicious wit colour the dance of pervading the whole performance. Over­
changing fortunes between lover and loved.
Dilettante J.R. Kelland) as Hermia displayed in the vigorous performances of
Demetrius (Paul Gittins).
The spirits of the haunted grove, outrageously his company of "Most dear actors" who
jto a maternal siren surrounded by an sried by Jenni Dalziel has been transformed
d by Mark Baldwin and
by Jordan Bell allowed the dancers to create
when it was precise; both:
the film's atmosphere is frighteningly
rally factual. No doubt you've heard of
reality of rot in the highest places takes
influencing people. The audience is,
unintrusive voice on a distant TV. The
shadow of a carpark basement. Even the
capital, exist alone. Bernstein's contacts
in Africa. It is certain that the overthrow of the white
countries depends on the attainment of their
ultimate goal. In this confrontation for human rights the two worlds can only sacrifice principles to expedience, which explain why they can neither
share Gothic glory as secondary to human
welfare and dignity. This materialistic
West fails dismally to comprehend. The
author investigates the background from which current problems developed, with
a penetrating examination of the leaders who can never achieve the goals that
have bedevilled so many emerging nations.

When he was here some weeks ago, Abraham Ordia expressed surprise at
New Zealand's ignorance of African conditions and aspirations - which could
help us to widen our knowledge. For already recent blunders indicate an
incredible complacency. We say 'we', our experience the ramifications of our foreign policy, to
which sport is inevitably linked, which
may pay dearly for the lack of vision shown by our present government. But
we can face our critics with a no-nonsense blueprint for winning friends and
influencing people.

Barry Lett
Old Maid
Jul 1976
The current Movement Theatre season
has sufficient signs that the embryo
capital of the company has undergone
uplifting growth. The programme was
the nicest and most varied I have seen for
very long.
I felt the most ambitious sequences
in the most successful, because the 
company appeared to be working
not together when faced with demanding
material. Without careful composition,
modern dance does not succeed. Two
pieces had form and structure which
abolished the rest; these were Raywn
Robert's A Piece and a Time and Chris
Ashby's The Lord is a Parent Man. The
company seemed to have control of the
material and was able to give fluency and
coherence to both these pieces.
I was least happy with Dominion, a
trance to A R.D. Faiburn's poem of the
1930's Depression. The multi-media
combination of sculptural projection, music
and voice put the dancers on edge with the 
film content they had built up during the first hour or so.
Humour during the evening
was obvious: at times there was an 
event of pace and slackness of pitch.
Facial control was one area in which I
felt both flexibility and co-ordination
could have achieved a higher note.
The chief satisfaction of the evening
was watching a company come to terms with its own material, and as the performance progressed, ensued each member of the company as an individual dancer.

Peter Davis

Tony Fonison
Paintings
Barry Lett Gallery
Tony Fonison graduated in sculpture from the Ilam School of Art in the fifties but has since then been recognized objectively as a painter. He has been paint­ ing in Auckland for the last three years and this year he had one of his works selected for the Lenon and Hedges Art Award in June.

Barry Lett exhibition shows evidence of Fonison's interest in the expressive aspects of the Gothic and the late Gothic period with sombre colours and sculpture aiming at a strongly 'built-in' effect to his work. One may detect under­ tones of MacCohon in the treatment of his landscapes and some "face" studies, but this does not detract from the artist's concern with form. Fonison has been in contact with MacCohon for a period of time in Canterbury, but was never formally taught by him.

This is a fairly large exhibition and the pictures range greatly in size. Some of the small paintings are amusing with interesting framework - two portraits are framed with old silver broadsheet
surrounds. Hanging with these small exhibits are two very detailed drawings,
which form a contrast to theloor technique applied in Fonison's paintings.

One of the most striking paintings is Waiting for the Answer - striking in distribution of light and shade, if not its sheer size.

Another eye-catcher is Looking Out Looking In, a fore-shortened face peering
through a turned cell window, with the canvas outlining the window, and a similar background of brick. Despite some repetition in form, this exhibition is well worth a visit. The Gallery is open from Tuesday to Thursday 10 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. Friday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. The exhibition closes on August 6th.

Mary Pat Sheahan

Robert Redford
All the President's Men Preview
"All the President's Men is not about the President's men at all. It's about Washington Post Reporters Carl Bernstein and Robert Woodward and their search for the truth behind Republican slash and dirty tricks.

Robert Redford (Woodward) stated early in its making that the film was about how honesty was so easily the
government came to getting away with its
decisions demanded of the actors in order to strike an equilibrium between
discipline demanded of the actors in

John Hatch
Two African Statesmen: Kaunda of Zambia and Nyerere of Tanzania

The author traces the lives of the two
Africans from mud hut to presidential
residence and beyond, their struggles and
triumphs, not omitting the incarca­tions by which they joined that group of
..
To Those Demanding Higher Bursary Payments

Before the Education Action Committee hung up their loafers at the Arts Building spire by the toe nails for being a reactionary and I, as a member of the National Party, nor do I approve of the way politicians of both parties use bursary payments. If we aren’t handed out on a financial point of view AUSA would be better supporting something more important than a dance for a few hundred workers and citizens of New Zealand more than a charity appeal yet requests money for a student dance. Sure, the Telethon does pander to mass hysteria, its effects are certainly hypocritical, if even twenty-four hours of prime viewing time. But is not the charity, the Child Health Research Foundation, a worthwhile one? Besides, many of the male members of the med school wouldn’t qualify as men anyway.

2. Dave describes us as funny. Humorous, yes, funny, no! I will concede that med students are known for their sparkling wit and incredible sense of humor, but we still retain the dignity interest in our chosen profession. I will admit that there are some members of the med school who let the standard down but the behaviour of these members does not reflect the group as a whole. (Dave must have been observing the performances on Ninety-Mile Beach during mid-term break.)

3. And students do not all wear white coats. With the meagre pittance we get to wash it. Besides, Dave Merritt, as is his usual habit, doesn’t know what he is talking about. Describing med students as the first research fellowship for the Research Foundation was set up at this University surely provides reason enough to support mass hysteria.

At a recent SRC meeting a petition of some 600 signatures was presented, asking for reintroduction of the coffee service in the cafe to be considered. The Inter-national Affair Officer Mike Treen dismissed the petition in "petty, childish and a waste of time". In his considered opinion there were far more important things to spend time on.

My question is: Where are the petitions about StudAss fee increases, about Bursaries, about limitation of enrollments? Where are the angry young students demanding action on these "far more important things"?

As a result of Mr. Treen’s impassioned speech the petition was ignored. During discussion of the petition a member of the Young Socialists requested that a report be written on the whole issue of the coffee service. However he was totally against the setting up of a group playing is "Stuart and the Belmonts" (who the hell is that?)

Here is a person who refuses to give support to a charity appeal yet requests money for a student dance. Sure the Telethon does pander to mass hysteria, its effects are certainly hypocritical, if even twenty-four hours of prime viewing time. But is not the charity, the Child Health Research Foundation, a worthwhile one? Besides, many of the male members of the med school wouldn’t qualify as men anyway.

The Totalitarian Executive?

I feel obliged to make public my dissatisfaction with the behavior of the Present Executive, stemming from certain incidents which occurred recently. At a recent executive meeting Mike Walker pointed out that the students of AUSA had donated $250.00 of their own pockets towards the Telethon appeal and that the rest of the committee and the donations had asked the Exe to donate $15, to make a total of $100, from Association funds.

Immediately, Frank Stark, Social Control Officer, woke up to support the request. As he put it: "The Telethon appeal is a great example of mass hysteria." Other Exe members suggested that it might be better to give the money to some pensioner.

One suggestion, no further mention was made of the matter by any Exe member.

Instead, Mr. Stark, humanitarian that he is, turned and in the same breath requested that the AUSA underwrite a dance on Fri. 23rd to the value of $250.00. The group playing is "Stuart and the Belmonts" (who the hell is that?)

Here is a person who refuses to give support to a charity appeal yet requests money for a student dance. Sure the Telethon does pander to mass hysteria, its effects are certainly hypocritical, if even twenty-four hours of prime viewing time. But is not the charity, the Child Health Research Foundation, a worthwhile one? Besides, many of the male members of the med school wouldn’t qualify as men anyway.

Judy Corkill (1st year med student) P.S. If you want to observe gnomes in their daily work, hang around the Studass office.

Paul Robertson
The Silent Majority

Letters: Leave at Student Office or post to Craccum, A.U.S.A., Private Bag, Auckland.

Dilemma does not imply editorial agreement.

government's) job for them. Many areas of research into child health have been left by the National Government, who said they were very grateful to be given the chance to remove such expenses without having to publicly fund a few government-funded would provide.

The question of mass hysteria is not actually important, but in the worst case it may prove to be the most significant of all. The ease with which people were prepared to part with their money leaves me wondering how much easier it will be to persuade them to do something free like casting a vote.

The matter of the dance can be simply explained. A USA has given no money whatever for this dance, simply agreed to carry any losses up to the sum of $200. It is unlikely that any loss will be incurred at all because of the expected profit from sales of 'vrestments'.

Bismarck and the University

This morning I had a glance through a pamphlet urging students to rally round the Student Union complex from Albert Park. As a student of Philosophy and Christians, I am not concerned with its contents. Finally, as Tertiary education is an privilege, not right. We students are fortunate enough to be able to study at least three years in a idyllic vacuum, working as and how we please, studying what, in many cases, are unseen subjects. That we are paid to do is merely a success of the wealth of nation and of the kindheartedness of others given to us. Our studies exist to make our existence a God-given right: it is, I repeat, a privilege which must be earned.

In our idyllic existence, we have a lot of time to spare for putting the rest of the world right, but somehow it doesn't seem to have penetrated through the intelligentsia that New Zealand is a nation and needs people to pick it up again, not to kick in its pristine body. The good old idea of 'pull together' could very well be applied and demands for increases on allowances which are enough if people are prepared to live up to the 'poor student' image of you do not set an example to our less enlightened countrymen.

Further, as graduates find increasing difficulty to find work, I think it is just possible that selectivity will become superior in the matter of admission and of course at University. Engaging failure to retain in a place where they do not seem to be able to cope (excluding those who fail for reasons of health etc) is unfair to both them and the economy. Witness the arguments against keeping unqualified and unskilled children at school until the age of 15.

More money is in some ways a nice idea and I think some student idealism for a change?
E.J. Poletti

Student Union Access

I would like to add my support to Joy Eaton in pointing out the absurdity of closing the main entrance to the Student Union complex from Albert Park. This is ridiculous because a number of the pedestrian movement between these two areas occurs naturally alongside the Cafe at this route is more sunny and logical as it links the path directly to the pedestrian crossing. Such logic was not overruled by the placing of an earth mound in the path as most students continued to tread the way over the top, preferring muddy ditches to the attractions of the Old Main building.

If it is necessary to have a garden mound, why, can't provision be made for a simple slab path through it? If something is done to remedy this situation you can bet your portion of a Students' Association fee that more money will be needed to keep the newfangled fence 'deterrant' in student proof condition. Sure the powers that be aren't so silly as to think they can solve planning problems in the new theatre building by forcing students to walk past it, are they?
Brian Cocker

4400 Muenster
All Wai 20
West Germany

The Embassy of New Zealand in the Federal Republic of Germany told me that you could send me some addresses of students who are interested in a correspondence. I am 15 years old and I speak German, English and French. I am now starting to study English and German.

Thank you for your help.
Monika Laasermann

More on Fags

While indulging in my usual efficient perusal of CRACSIMM this week, I was amazed and somewhat distressed by the contents of a letter (re. Smoking in the Cafeteria) which I have received. It is technically inaccurate. Of course, Mr Walker is annoyed by the very last paragraph. He writes:

Mr Walker is distressed that he doesn't 'like peering red-eyed through a blue fog to see our companions seated at the same table.' Now, unless Mr Walker is handicapped by a considerable ocular disability (in which case I suggest one consult an optician), the above is impossible. My reasoning is as follows: from my own detailed measurement and calculation I have ascertained that the average rate of ventilation in the cafeteria is in the vicinity of 5 air-changes per hour. Now any reputable technical manual will tell you that it takes a ventilation rate of LESS than 1 air-change per hour to precipitate the appearance of any noticable fog in a room the size of the cafeteria. Hence Mr Walker's statement is technically inaccurate. Of course, given his right of poetic licence, this may be entirely inadvertent.

As for his paragraph, let me give you a few figures of my own. I smoke the length of 160 cigarettes a week (8 packets). At 50 cents a packet, I spend $49 a week or $2080 a year. In ten years I have spent $2060. Let us assume that the tax on cigarettes doubles by that time. Of this every ten years I have given $857 to the Government. Translated into real terms, this would be the cost of installing three toilets cubicles in the Vanity. And Mr Walker is annoyed at having to part with a fraction of his $823 to accommodate self-sacrificing smokers who indirectly provide for his insurance. But tis air.

No sir, the truth is that cigarette smoking is an act of PATRIOTISM, a noble manifestation of all that is humane and decent in man. We smokers pay your taxes like everyone else, but we also give the Government (without complaints) extra revenue which might mean a new hospital here, another ambulance there, or another much needed Drug Dependence Clinic elsewhere.

Mr Walker, your weak cry of protest is drowned out by the happy and thank- ful emollient prayer of anotheritet cured alcoholics.
SAY NO MORE.

J.A. Andrews

RADIO BOSS DISCOTHEQUE

Thinking of running a dance, social or party this week ? Radio B Disco offers an efficient service at reasonable cost. Why not give us a call - Ph. 30789 Ext. 73 or 59. After hours Tgn 1212 (Pete).

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS ROUND 2

Having failed to elect any identifi- able personage as President of the Association, we must now call for nominations for President: to close on Wednesday Sept- ember 8 at 5 pm, with the elections on Thursday and Friday of the following week.

EXEC ELECTIONS

Now to take place on Monday and Tuesday August 9 and 10: the last week of term.

WINTER GENERAL MEETING

All are to roll up at 7.30 pm on Wednesday August 11 in B28 to listen and defeat the Exec's constitutional amendments.

Abortion Retort

Although strenuously avoiding the central issues I raised in my letter, Christine Dann's reply (June 28) has raised some points that demand clarification.

I do not doubt that most people answered "yes" to the loaded question asked by the Prime Minister. It was this because they had any under- standing at all of the issue because of the peculiar success that pro-abortion interests have achieved in promoting the idea that human abortion is somehow "right and "all right" if done in the first three months? What I did claim was that most people would be of the opinion that any human being must measure up to someone else's standards of perfection to be granted the right to live, which is what abortion on the grounds of abnormality and incest is all about. How many of those questioned really that this was in fact what they were giving their blessings to?

The Humanist Society of New Zealand has come out in favour of human abortion is totally irrational in the light of the Humanists and anti-capital punishment beliefs. But perhaps their production policy is understandable when such gems of com- mon sense appear in recent Humanist literature (New Zealand Rationalist and Humanist, May (1976)): "We are against the destruction of pro-abortion "ascalards" of the type described will "become less important initially, but in the future it will become extreme rarities in our hospitals." How is the case to the kid ? The saline method I described (a method developed in the contraception camps of Nazi Germany) is now the second-most frequently employed in the U.S.A. which has had plenty of time to "improve" its technique and come out in favour of what I personally regard as a tremendous obscenity.

Mr Dann says that "as for the first point, Mr Walker states that..." As for the first point, Mr Walker states that..." As for the first point, Mr Walker states that..."

The matter of the dance can be overruled by the placing of an earth mound in the path as most students continued to tread the way over the top, preferring muddy ditches to the attractions of the Old Main building.

If it is necessary to have a garden mound, why, can't provision be made for a simple slab path through it? If something is done to remedy this situation you can bet your portion of a Students' Association fee that more money will be needed to keep the newfangled fence 'deterrant' in student-proof condition. Sure the powers that be aren't so silly as to think they can solve planning problems in the new theatre building by forcing students to walk past it, are they?

Brian Cocker

The Silent Majority

The letters page this week featured many letters expressing opposition to the construction of a new hospital. The arguments ranged from the practical (cost, convenience) to the philosophical (the right of individuals to choose whether they want to live or die).

One person wrote: "Why do we have to accept the idea that human life begins at conception? It is an absurdity. The human being is a product of many years of evolution, and it is not fair to judge it by the standards of a newborn infant." Another person stated: "The idea that we should have the right to end someone else's life is repulsive. It is a violation of the natural right to life." These arguments reflect a deeply held belief that life is a precious gift and that it should be preserved at all costs.

However, these views are not universal. Many people believe that abortion is a matter of personal choice and that it should be legal. They argue that women have a right to make decisions about their own bodies and that society should not interfere with those decisions.

Still others believe that abortion is a moral issue and that society should play a role in determining who can have an abortion. They argue that society has a duty to protect the lives of the unborn and that abortion is a form of infanticide.

The debate over abortion is complex and multifaceted, and there are no easy answers. It is a matter that will continue to be debated for years to come.
Residents of the former North Shore are flocking back to the sites of their former homes only two months after the nation was able to demonstrate to the free world its determination to take a lead in research into nuclear power.

Delighted gardeners are discovering that their soil has been vastly improved by the addition of a thick layer of wood ash and burnt human protein. Reconstruction is gathering pace. People are building houses vastly more functional than their former homes, using sheet iron made redundant by the unfortunate accident and blankets flown in by a sympathetic United States Government.

Plans are well ahead for transforming the excavation where Devonport stood into a new deep-water port. Each day grateful citizens place fresh flowers on the memorial to the men of the USS Enterprise and the 37,284 New Zealanders who gladly gave their lives to show the world that talk of danger from nuclear reactors is merely hysterical nonsense.

The Government Computer at Wanganui yesterday denied a rumour that people returning to the former North Shore will have to wear radiation suits for the rest of their lives. It might only be about 20 years, said the Computer.