

lot's monash wife university

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Professor Hall
Mr. G. Fairbairn
Dr. I. Turner
Mr. O. Harries
Dr. J. F. Cairns
Mr. Paul Hasluck
Prof. Macmahon Ball
Mr. Denis Warner



the teach-in on **VIETNAM**

On Thursday, July 29, a "teach-in", or a National Forum on Vietnam, was held at Monash University. The forum began at 3.15 p.m. and ended after midnight. It was organised by a combined committee of representatives from the Monash University Political Science Association, the Monash Liberal Club, the Monash Labor Club, the Monash D.L.P. club, and the Monash S.R.C. The forum was sponsored by twenty-one professors from both Monash and Melbourne Universities. An estimated audience of 2,000 attended the forum.

It was a very big and an unpredictable success. It was a success that few could have imagined had they been in the same functions room a few months ago when Bobbie and Laurie made a travesty of any concept of the university community. The success of the Teach In was more than a stimulating presentation of a variety of opinions on a current issue. It was something of a demonstration of what a modern university can be in the Australian community. The sustained informed diverse discussion which was conveyed to the community at large was a much more graphic opening of the university than the idea of 'Open Day' or that of 'University of the Air' which has as much to do with the university as does a classics comic with *Great Expectations* or a 'Millergram' has to do with physics at the university.

Brian Abbey, one of the student chairmen reminded the floor that the meeting was a forum and apart from a few fairly familiar jeers when Mr. Hasluck was speaking, it was just this. And from three in the afternoon till after eleven at night the concentration and the tension was remarkable. The audience was clearly worthy of the speakers and made the doubts that none would come which some held seem rather strange and unreal. Because they came and they stayed and there were still people arguing at 2 a.m.

The student image captured by the television cameras, an image which has been seen in every state of Australia by this, must have done a great deal to cancel the familiar notion of the flour bomb throwing rabbit held by too many people. Clearly the Teach In is the most obvious and appropriate liaison between the university and the community.

Monash has found a voice and a language that can bridge the gap between the library and the suburbs where the people who pay for the university live. The humanities became a little more real and the university became a little more significant on Thursday. The implications of this demonstration must not be forgotten.

lot's wife

The Vietnam Forum has come, impressed and been tucked away. Daily newspapers carried reports that were riddled with personal slants, and some chose to smell a political rat. What has been achieved? Two thousand students had the chance to hear the cases of half a dozen authorities. Obviously in a sense every commentator is self-styled, and this explains the strange fact that a group of men of presumably above-average intelligence presented such a varied tale, each one convincing in some ways, each man convinced in his own story. What do these men contain that drives them to different conclusions? The environmental, hereditary aspects of their personalities might be worth investigating — but not here.

One conclusion can be drawn. While there may be crystallised convictions that cast the rough mould of these men's ideas, the variegated details are so variegated that the "facts" must be grossly contradictory.

How much however, does it matter that one man says 1000's of North Vietnamese fight in the South, and another says the figure is 100? What does it matter when there is a distinct possibility, or probability, that by the time one faction gains control of the two areas, those areas will be raped of their economical potential? The people will be incarcerated in their impotence, surrounded by frustration of all material or intellectual progression.

Indeed, not only do so many make the mistake of assuming that a regard above all for our immediate sanctity will ensure our ultimate safety, there are almost none in Australia who are willing to take the step of assessing the possibilities that face all of mankind, irrespective of the outcome of a war such as that in Vietnam.

The "twentieth-century" is a dangerous term. The dimension of time has suddenly changed its shape. In ten years we may have a cure for cancer. In 20 years we may have a truly cosmopolitan world. It may be a world under capitalism, it may be a world under communism, it may be a world struggling with itself for political ascendancy, and of course, there may be no world.

In some ways the last possibility is preferable to others that could be suggested. The absence of man is not a situation that can be evaluated comparatively at all — without human minds for the situation to effect, the situation can hardly be significant in a human context — nevertheless as humans alive today, we obviously must strive to avoid our personal destruction. The scale of destruction has now broken the bounds of our material existence, but that is not my point.

It has been estimated that by 2,000 a.d. there will be no longer a place for the human mind in the search for scientific, perhaps even artistic achievement. The age of leisure, the computerised society. What has this to do with Vietnam? A more striking question is, what has Vietnam to do with the next 50 years? Comparatively.

While the controllers of nations think in terms of numbers of captured weapons, the balance of the world power blocs, and while a few humanitarians and churches talk of mass starvation, the question of seeing our future in perspective is left to the artist and the novelist in particular. And even then specific studies such as George Orwell's "1984", or David Karp's "One" impress one as being possibilities only if current political and psycho-analytical trends were to develop in isolation to their most nasty destination.

While the socio-political novelist may be read and discussed, the modern writer generally is treated as somewhat of a black soul — a mysterious pessimism is noted, and either nodded at, or deplored. The analytical intellectuals have not seen, in great enough numbers, the implications of so much pessimism — the question of man's goal is ignored while the game of politics continues to be played, just as it has been since there were no plastics, no machine guns, no A-bombs.

"By 1984, I would expect that the road system, the rail rail systems, and the air systems will be computer controlled and integrated, and that hospitals, health services, libraries, universities, and even theological seminaries will be using computers..." (Sir Leon Bagrit, "A Nation of Computer Keepers" in "The world in 1984 — Volume 2". Penguin books 1965. Page 130.)

"Leisure is a vacuum, a desperate state of vacancy — a vacancy of mind and body. It has been commandeered by the sociologists and the psychologists: it is a problem." (Sir Herbert Read, "Atrophied Muscles and Empty Art", page 89 of the same book).

Perhaps a teach-in on 1984 would be acceptable. But who would take notice? It seems the pace is too fast to take time off to look for the goal.

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Sub-Editors: John Sinclair

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ISSUED AT MONASH UNIVERSITY
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Monash University P.O. Box 91, Clayton, Victoria



LETTERS

An editor is placed in a difficult position when deciding his right of reply to letters. However, it seems fair at this stage for us to point out a basic fact of newspaper life—while editors must exercise some form of selection of articles, their responsibility is to present a representative view. Many people have criticised us for failing to do this (relative to the conscription issue, the Sir R. G. Menzies issue, etc. etc.) — the plain facts are that in each of these cases we not only printed a representative view, we printed every article received. If the result seems in any way biased, this surely reflects the opinion of those students interested enough to comment at all.

It is perhaps flattering, however, to realise that so many people assume that we WRITE the paper.

MARTYRED DARLINGS

Dear Sirs,

In reference to your "conscription" issue of Lot's Wife (Vol. 5, No. 7) I could write pages, but it scarcely warrants them.

Let this suffice — a greater pile of pseudo-intellectual crap I have yet to see in print. You poor martyred darlings of democracy — my anus aches for you all.

Your description of the picture on the cover as being "rather fanatical" makes it clear that you have never read any accounts of various invasions such as those of Hungary and Poland by the Germans.

However unfashionable it may be, I am a nationalist (of the "sentimental", not the militant kind), who believes that this country of ours has tremendous potential. But I am also aware of its present faults.

As a taxpayer and not a student, I look to the universities for the men to realise this potential. To rectify its present problems, Australia needs men with the foresight and wisdom of Solomon; So digitus extractum.

Yours,

J. D. V. Fuller-Jackson

CONSCRIPT FIGURES

Dear Sirs,

Permit me to correct some misunderstanding that may have arisen from Mr. Frazer's article on Student Conscripts.

The Australian on June 29 gives the following figures for the nation:

40,989 men registered
21,777 balloted in
133 lodged conscientious objections
7,358 students and apprentices deferred

Thus 14,286 men were available for immediate call-up pending medical examination.

The Australian goes on — only 5,635 men by that time had been examined and 3,061 had been found fit for all service duties.

But insidiously the examinations proceed. Assuming similar standards of fitness, about 7,700 men will be liable for immediate call-up (And announcements that new recruits are still arriving at training centres are found in small columns tucked away in hidden corners of the daily press).

Considering the fact that a second registration is under way, and forgetting the 27% temporarily unfit — these figures seem strange in the light of the statement that only 4,200 men would be conscripted for the whole of 1965.

RON BRUNTON
(Arts I)

Dear Sir,

Whether most of the students who attended the Monash Forum on Vietnam did so only because it is very "IN" at the moment to have anything to do with "Teach Ins", or whether, in fact, they were genuinely interested in the topic of the Vietnam debate, does not detract from the fact that the whole affair was a profound success for the University. It was gratifying to see that the image which Monash portrayed to the general public was a good one. The pressmen to whom I spoke were enthusiastic in their praise for the way in which the whole thing was conducted. If they were expecting an amateur-type showing — they didn't get it.

TEACH-IN

If they were expecting a "Yahoo-ish" exhibition by students, they did not get this either. Perhaps it was just as well that the University displayed a portrait of responsibility, for the outside coverage given to this event was sufficiently large to attract the condemnation or the praise of the general public. The fact that it reflected a responsible image is a "feather in our cap" for, as you will no doubt realise, people outside the University are always only too willing to criticise University students en masse for "irresponsible behaviour" if they smash a piano, pack themselves into telephone boxes and mini cars, have a rag, or march on the U.S. Embassy.

In consequence of what I have said, I would like to congratulate the organizers of the Forum for doing such a fine job, and at the same time suggest that this type of activity become a feature of the University's effort to build an image of respectability, responsibility and maturity.

MICHAEL WALSH
(Economics & Politics)

LABOR PLOT

Dear Sirs,

It is with regret that I note the transformation of Lot's Wife from an intelligent appraisal of student affairs to another organ of the Labor Club. Despite its rejuvenation by the present editors I fear the criticism from those who personally dislike them has won the day. Thus I look forward, gloomily, to reading the same sort of trash in Lot's Wife as "Truth" churns out every week. However, may I make a last despairing plea that the editors forget Mings, Arthur and all their clan and return to student affairs?

Yours, etc.

TONY LEWIS
(Law I)

(Are you for real? Ed)

S.R.C. SURVEY

DEAR SIRs, — I wish to reply through your column to the SRC questionnaire issued to students last week. It was part of a survey into the question of whether students in the Faculty of Arts should be required to study a foreign language. I would like to refer to Page 3 of this survey, which presented a ludicrously one-sided summary of arguments for the compulsory study of a language.

Certainly no one doubts the right of anyone to hold an investigation of this kind, but one does doubt the 'intention' of those who prepared this particular questionnaire. They include, as "a list of the major arguments for" the retention of a compulsory language: it is a traditional academic requirement, which has a certain amount of prestige value and is needed to keep Monash University on a par with others; it is a rigorous discipline, not provided by secondary schools, which isn't compulsory anyway and which trains us in grammar and understanding other cultures.

This is not an objective summary of the reasons why foreign languages are a compulsory study in certain cases. It is entirely negative. Without discussing at length the function of a university, we can agree that research is somehow vital to its existence. Foreign languages are a necessary research tool and the Arts graduate in particular is most likely to need one of the major foreign languages if he is to proceed to a higher degree at some later stage. There is no necessity for fluency at such a point, but the ability to use a dictionary properly and to have some idea of the techniques of translation are invaluable. Students at Sydney University who are majoring in Archaeology, for example, must "major" in both French and German, simply because this field is dependent on these languages for the bulk of recent research. The same applies, perhaps to lesser degree, however, to all branches of knowledge. That the world is becoming increasingly more international is no empty phrase. Contacts with Europe are necessary in this respect and it is frequently proposed now that, "one foreign language should be compulsory for matriculation in all faculties of Australian universities". (See "Research in Australia and Contacts with Europe", MUP Occasional Papers No. 5)

Why else is study of a foreign language expected of science students?

— R. F. HOLT.

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The Forum

While it is impossible to cover every point raised by every speaker at the forum, this series of reports is an attempt to pose the main ideas of each contributor. A full tape-recording of the forum is in the possession

of the Monash University S.R.C.

Speakers are reported in order of their appearance.

The reports were written by Phillip Frazer and Peter Moylan.

Professor Hall

As a fitting opening, Professor Hall's history of Vietnam summary was a particularly successful affair. Professor Hall is Professor Emeritus of the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University.

In setting the historical background, The Professor began at the situation of one united "Vietnam" in the third century B.C., and traced its bloody and oppressed story up to the present day. It is history of invasion by China followed by a process of Sinitization, absorption of their culture and rejection of their domination. In fact it was not until the time of the Nguyen of Hanoi in the civil war of 1773 that there was a unity of "today's" Vietnam.

In 1802 there was a crowning of the king of all Vietnam, and following this a cultural and political elite was set up: in 1848-1883, with one ruler throughout, Vietnam built up to such a state of inherent superiority that the Vietnamese challenged Napoleon III and so began French attacks on the country.

These attacks and French expansion in Vietnam continued till 1870-71 when the French held off to fight the Franco-Prussian war. Eventually the Vietnamese leaders were overthrown and so began the depression of Vietnamese culture by the French, leading the Nationalist fronts into Communist ideology in the face of French aggression.

The advent of the Second world war led to a new dominance — Japanese occupation. And it was Ho Chi Minh who formed the Nationalist movement designed to remove the Japanese, and ironically in this he was assisted by the United States forces. After the war the French returned to continue where they left off — but Ho Chi Minh in 1946 emerged once again leading a Communist minority in the guerilla war par excellence. The Communist victory in the North led to the announcement of the North Vietnamese Communist Party, for what had been called the Nationalist Movement. His government was recognised by the U.S.S.R. and China. The French, with U.S. assistance attempted to frighten Ho to the conference table, and America's John Foster Dulles advocated the dropping of an atomic bomb to achieve this.

This led to the Geneva conference and the subsequent official division.

Election were to be held throughout the country in 1956.

The South Vietnamese government (with U.S. support) refused to hold these elections on the grounds that they (the particular government) had had nothing directly to do with the Conference. The Hanoi government commenced a plan to assist in the Viet Cong movement in the South in December, 1960, and the U.S. commenced military intervention in 1962.

The situation today is that the South contains a population that, despite attempts of the South and the U.S., is 50 per cent sympathetic with the Viet Cong, according to Professor Hall.

On the other hand, despite the program of centralization, economic reform and Red River Delta "resettling", the North has suffered tremendous hardship in the face of severe drought (in 1963 soldiers, police and students were sent into the fields to attempt to alleviate acute food lack caused by the drought). Also, the cessation of rice imports from the South has rendered the situation in the North tremendously serious.

Professor's Hall's history was both informative and abjective. It was appreciated by the audience who fired a number of questions, mainly seeking the professor's opinion as to the feelings of the Vietnamese people (with the exception of the Southern peasants who probably do not care) do wish for independence above all, and unification.

Geoffrey Fairbairn

Second speaker of the afternoon was Mr. Geoffrey Fairbairn (lecturer in Asian history at the Australian National University), presenting a rather esoteric picture in corduroy trousers, sports coat, and scarlet sweat shirt. Somehow the red shirt seemed particularly incongruous

when Mr. Fairbairn began his discussion.

Mr. Fairbairn contended that the Viet Minh was a product of Chinese activity in the 1940's.

The principle aim of Mr. Fairbairn's argument was to analyse the nature of guerilla warfare, with particular reference to the situation in South Vietnam. He believes the communist system involves a "boy-scout psychology", ranging from techniques of friendly persuasion, to cutting throats. He applied this idea to the North Vietnamese, and traced the history of the North Vietnamese communist regime, in order to demonstrate that to call it a North Vietnamese party was euphemistic, and to claim the South's National Liberation

Front as a spontaneous local organization was even more so.

He pointed out that the North has during its history claimed to be a Nationalist liberation movement, a title which it dropped when its power was established, and that in 1958, the party closed down Hanoi University to prevent the holding of discussions similar to our teaching. Mr. Fairbairn suggested that the North's Communist party which became a North Vietnamese party in 1949 (having previously been the Communist Party of Indochina) controls the N.L.F. in the south. He quoted announcements made from Hanoi proclaiming the territory of Vietnam as a central whole, and that to make this



Mr. Geoffrey Fairbairn

Policy Progress

Since the last issue of "Lot's Wife", we have seen several "break-throughs", or more correctly perhaps, "break-downs" in the policies of both major political parties which if followed through in an intelligent manner, could have lasting significance on the Australian scene.

First it was announced that the next Governor General was to be an Australian, a policy long overdue in the Liberal Party.

This is indeed a break-through by the Menzies government, and although they are to be commended, we are sure that Lord Casey was not the first choice. The point also arises about Casey's age. Is he too old for this job? We hope he can last at least a decade in the position, so as to make his influence felt.

The second "break-through" by the government concerned the lifting of a ban on four books by the Minister for Customs, Senator Anderson. We hope the Senator will not stop here, and will continue to review the books on the banned list.

In response to this, the guardian of Victorian morals, Attorney-General Rylah, im-

mediately sent a protest telegram.

Recently the Victorian Liberal Party State Council voted to support the principle of uniform censorship throughout Australia. Also recently, the secretary of the Police Association, Inspector W. D. Crowley, called for an end to "unpalatable duties by policemen associated with the suppression or prosecution of certain literary works". He also suggested the formation of a Commonwealth censorship board as "an obvious and simple solution to the problem".

Commendable? Yes. About time? Certainly. Apparently it is now obvious to all save Rylah, that there is madness in our censorship method. It is ridiculous that books which have debatable merit, literary or otherwise, are excluded, whilst others whose merits are certainly no-existent line, newsgroups' windows and wallets.

If there is any question whether a book has merit, then it should be admitted; a man can then judge for himself.

There is no reason (rather, no valid reason) why States should have different standards. The only result of one State banning a book that is available in other States is an increase in sales for that

book. (Sales of "The Group" increased hugely when Victoria banned it). Increases in sales are not confined to States where the books are available. Bookshops will mail willingly, even to Victoria, any book they have in stock.

Censorship should only be implemented if it can be effective. And State-censorship is ineffective because it achieves the opposite of the desired effect. Commonwealth control is much more efficient and therefore should be preferred. If you ban a book, make sure it is banned, or the whole thing is pointless.

It seems now, that the A.L.P. are finally going to take a long look at themselves and their policies, to try and rectify their mistakes and improve their electoral image. At the Federal Conference the Federal Party has taken a strong line on unity tickets, and they have demanded more stringent screening of migrants to try and exclude members of militant fascist organisations.

But the most significant break-through and an action which must surely be considered one of the riskiest political moves of the century was the dropping of the White Australia Policy from the party platform. This platform had been in the party since 1908, and its removal is

the most progressive and radical step ever attempted by the party. We hope this will lead to further liberalisation within both parties on this matter.

As a result of the change the White Australia wording will be replaced with:

"Convinced that increased population is vital to the future development of Australia, the A.L.P. will support and uphold a vigorous and expanding immigration program administered with sympathy, understanding and tolerance".

The new rule states that the basis of the revised policy will be:

- (1) Australia's national and economic security.
- (2) The welfare and integration of all its citizens.
- (3) The preservation of our democratic system and balanced development of our nation.
- (4) The avoidance of difficult social and economic problems which may flow from an influx of peoples having different standards of living, traditions and cultures.

We hope this is the start of a new era for the A.L.P. and that in the near future they will provide an effective opposition or perhaps even a stable government.

The Forum

effective, "we" (the North) must intensify the education and support of the people of the South in order to topple the Southern Government.

He then pointed out that it was in the newspapers of the NORTH that the formation of the NLF had been announced in 1961, to liberate the South from the United States imperialists, when the number of Americans in Vietnam was 670.

The question then asked is how does the North run the NLF?

Mr. Fairbairn asserted that the Communist Party of Indo-China had been directing an invasion of the South, and that more recently General Giap has said that victory in the South would be "symbolic of our success throughout".

The Communist method ranges from infiltration on a village level, to propaganda on an international level; the war then becomes a war between two systems of fighting.

And should the Communist guerrilla triumph, Mr. Fairbairn envisages two developments. Firstly the Chinese Communists will take over control of the Communist camp from the U.S.S.R. and as a result, the United States and the Western Alliance will panic and be severely tempted to break the peace in what would seem to be "a last ditch stand".

Mr. Fairbairn was subjected to a relatively large number of questions.

When asked, "Do you have any evidence that a single Chinese or Russian group is in Vietnam", Mr. Fairbairn replied simply, "No".

In reply to questions on the subject of the South's refusal to hold elections in 1956 (as recommended by the Geneva Conference), Mr. Fairbairn asserted that to hold elections in Vietnam would be impossible, and in view of this he could not understand the motives of the recommendation at all. Mr. Fairbairn also has an extensive history of guerrilla warfare within his grasp, and justified the sending of 125,000 troops from the U.S. to Vietnam (when the Chinese and Russia have not sent any, as far as we know) on the grounds that the ratio of effective counter for guerrilla war is about 12 to one.

Dr. Ian Turner

Dr. Ian Turner (senior lecturer in history, Monash University) could agree with only one thing Mr. Fairbairn had said — that to win a guerrilla war one needed a ratio of 12 to one. And relative to this he quoted Mr. McNamara who has said there are 160,000 guerrillas in the South, and this leads to the conclusion that victory will require at least 1,600,000 Europeans fighting in Vietnam.

Dr. Turner pointed out that the Viet Cong must have a huge backing within the south, or long ago the communists would have been forced to disappear. It is somewhat naive, to say the least, according to Dr. Turner to believe that Asian people could not support communists without being forced to

it. He cited the fact that the Indonesian Communist Party embraces some 3,000,000 members, and that in recent provincial elections in Kerala, India, the communist party was elected (democratically).

Dr. Turner also pointed out that the Chairman of officials in the South has conceded that 50 per cent. of his people are in support of the Viet Cong.

He quoted the Chief of Staff of the U.S. army who has said that enough arms had been brought from the north to satisfy 20,000 guerrillas, for one month. When this is taken in relation to McNamara's figure of 160,000 men, one can see that the North is at most, supporting 2 per cent of the men and arms in the south. The U.S. has said that captured Viet Cong complain of lack of support from the North.

Dr. Turner believes that the war is a rebellion against western intervention, it is a civil war and we are fighting with the losing side.

The question then is, "Why is there a civil war?"

Dr. Turner believes the war began in protest against the denial of the 1956 free-elections, and the fact that the U.S. was holding up the Southern government at the time. It was a result of WESTERN intervention.

The U.S. is attempting to draw a Right-Left line across the Asian continent a task which is neither possible nor our responsibility.

Dr. Turner claims that Australia has remained silent on the subject of her policy in Vietnam because she has no policy. He called Australia the "pall-bearers of the Pax Americana". And the term was enthusiastically accepted by the audience.

Dr. Turner added that he believes the war in Vietnam today is a war of the Vietnamese against the West — it is seen as a struggle between whites and coloreds. There is no government to be found who will satisfy the U.S. with a policy that will also satisfy the Vietnamese. The Americans can only achieve "victory" by direct military occupation.

Dr. Turner then asked what is the justification for this.

He claimed it was military nonsense to commit 100's of 1,000's of men to fight a war that is impossible to "win". He added that IF China threatens us, the sensible retaliation is one involving sea and air power — a style of battle in which we can assert our rights with superior power.

Dr. Turner sees three choices for the west in Vietnam —

First we can attempt to contain the communists above the 17th parallel. This would involve U.S. and Australian military domination, this would result, in the long term perspective, in the same never-ending war, which in turn would increase Asian-European conflict. The situation would be impossible, and humanely immoral.

Secondly, China might invade and succeed, should this situation ensue, it will come as a consequence of the presence of 100's of 1,000's of U.S. troops in South East

Asia. Perhaps after many years the U.S. may pull out and leave a torn and hateful land to the Chinese.

Thirdly, a truce could be negotiated. And the continual claims of the west that they have offered the North "unconditional discussions" are quite irrelevant. The North can hardly be expected to agree to negotiations over a war that they are not fighting. The U.S. figures point to the fact that the N.L.F. is a Southern organization, and any negotiations must surely be held between the fighting factions. That is the N.L.F. — not the North, not the Chinese, the N.L.F.

As well as negotiations, there must be a new proposition of free elections, under United Nations supervision.

And it is important to realise that a democracy presupposes economic and educational stability, and thus, any Vietnamese government elected will have to be totalitarian in some form or other. If Ho Chi Minh were to win such an election, the decision would have to be respected. Ho has given assurance that a government elected under such an election would remain unaligned with either of the "big-blocks". The Vietnamese are reluctant to call on Chinese assistance, in view of their history of Chinese domination, and if the North were to call for such intervention, it would come as a result of U.S. escalation of the war at present.

Dr. Turner then turned to evaluate Australia's position on the war — a continuance of our present policy can only lead to increased Asian distrust of Australia, and the possibility of global war. Australia would be living in a militarily hostile environment. The victory of the North Vietnamese which we are fighting so desperately would not, in Dr. Turner's opinion symbolise a Chinese victory — communist governments are tending more and more towards nationalism (this applies particularly to Vietnam). He feels that the desirable atmosphere for the future of Australia is one in which its neighbours are seeking national assertion on a peaceful scale, not fighting Australia for the attainment of such assertion.

The questions Dr. Turner was faced with were both numerous and comprehensive. His replies were confident and generally convincing.

The general thread of his questioners was that lack of intervention would lead to communist takeover of Asia, one country after another. Dr. Turner denied the validity of the dominoes theory, claiming that each successful national government that emerges within a country requires the popular support of the people both at the time of establishment, and after.

When asked to explain the fact that one million people have left the North for the South since the division, Dr. Turner pointed out that there were large numbers of Catholics in Vietnam, and the Catholic authorities have assisted the migration of Catholics from the communist North.

Owen Harries

— Senior Tutor in Department of Adult Education, Sydney University.

Mr. Harries attempted to refute what he saw as the main arguments against the present policy on Vietnam.

He firstly considered the arguments which supposed that America had acted hastily in getting involved in the war. He argued that the Americans had not acted in haste but had waited five and a half years after the first large scale guerrilla attack before undertaking any large-scale direct intervention. He cited the fact that in 1960 less than 200 American military personnel were in Vietnam.

Turning to arguments which supposed America's unwillingness to negotiate he quoted cases where offers of negotiation had been turned down by Hanoi and Peking—these included an appeal by

American White Paper he argued that from 1959 to the end of 1964 (before the American bombing), 20,000 Viet Cong soldiers, officers and technicians entered South Vietnam under orders from Hanoi and that a further 17,000 infiltrators were sent south over the period. He argued that the White Paper also contained statements by the North Vietnamese leaders showing that they controlled the war and that the International Control Commission found that North Vietnam had sent men and arms for hostile activities.

The next argument considered was that this was an Asian affair and should be left to Asians. He suggested that at best this was based on a superficial geographic division of people and at worst on racism.

Turning to the argument that Communism is an idea and ideas cannot be destroyed by force Mr. Harries argued that this misinterpre-



Professor Hall (at left) and Dr. Turner (at right in white sweater)

17 non-aligned countries for negotiations without conditions; the convening of a conference on Cambodia which have been used to discuss the Vietnam situation; President Johnson's offer of negotiations; the Commonwealth Prime Ministers plan. He quoted these as sufficient examples to demonstrate that the failure to negotiate did not lie with the United States. He argued that the only terms for negotiation acceptable to the communists would pre-determine the result of the negotiations as they would involve the United States leaving Vietnam and the recognition of the Viet Cong as representatives of South Vietnam.

The second line of argument considered was that this is a civil war and thus it is unjustifiable for the Americans to intervene. He disagreed that a civil war should be in a special moral category, suggesting that if the African people in South Africa were being killed in large numbers intervention would probably be widely favoured. He then argued that this was not a civil war as there are two States (widely recognised by other governments) in Vietnam, comparing the situation to a divided Germany.

He then argued that the North had created the conditions for the war and had provided sizeable amounts of arms. Basing his facts on the

ted Communism which he saw more as totalitarian power systems than as a disembodied philosophy and which had always needed force, whether direct or otherwise to come into power.

He then pointed out that elections are free not merely when they are supervised but when parties can compete freely for some time before the actual election.

Mr. Harries then went on to examine arguments against the government case which he considered to be more respectable than the previous ones. To the point that it is hypocritical for us to defend an undemocratic government in the name of liberty, he distinguished between approving of a regime and making an alliance with it (e.g. an alliance was made with the Soviet Union in the Second World War) and between different types of authoritarian systems. He considered Communist regimes to be mere permanent expansionist, to crush opposition more effectively, to exercise greater control than the alternative system. He also suggested that conditions for a reasonably democratic government do not exist in Vietnam.

The next point considered was that the people in the South wanted peace rather than to defend a democracy which they have not known. He argued that the aim of Communist guerrilla warfare

The Forum

was to exhaust the people until they wanted peace at any cost and that if the Americans withdrew immediately wholesale purges could be expected like those in North Vietnam and China where thousands had perished.

He also thought that if the government in the South fell, another struggle would probably then begin in Thailand and the probability of the fall of the rest of South-East Asia would be increased as Asian states would doubt United States determination and because the Chinese line within the Communist block would be strengthened at the expense of the Russians.

He concluded by saying that this point is important to Australia and it is absurd to argue that every interest except our own should be given full weight in considering this question.

Discussion

At approximately 6.30, Mr. Anthony Clunies-Ross of the Economics Department at Monash, and Mr. Donald Miller of the Political Science Department at Melbourne University came to the platform to put forward comments and analyses on the papers of Professor Ball, Mr. Geoffrey Fairbairn, Dr. Turner, Mr. Owen Harries. Both brought forward what they saw as some of the main points made by these speakers, but here we shall only report some of the more significant of their comments.

Mr. Clunies-Ross pointed out that guerilla tactics may or may not be used and succeed in Thailand. He argued that the Domino theory tended to ignore the fact that the guerillas are almost entirely locally supported in contrast to the forces of World War 2. The effect of a Viet Cong victory in Vietnam might mean that Thailand would adopt a position similar to that of Burma.

Mr. Miller argued that we were engaged in the defence of a "de facto" nation state from aggression. He argued that Vietnamese society had never been bound together in administrative cohesiveness and that Viet Cong tactics were to first create an authority vacuum by directing terror against the headmen, the postmasters and school teachers and like figures. They then used propaganda much of which was true, as well as force to further their aims.

He disagreed with the inference that Saigon is a puppet of America, arguing that America has been powerless to affect the Saigon government. He quoted as an example the time Diem ignored a threat by President Kennedy to decrease aid unless he dropped some repressive aspects of his rule and eventually obtained double the aid.

He finally argued that although it is a possibility that Vietnam could form a natural bastion to Peking aggression, the possibility is not strong enough for us to base a decision on it. The Chinese are still

the most militant of the Communist powers and even if the elite in Hanoi was pro-Moscow instead of being divided between Peking and

Moscow as it is at the moment, this is no guarantee that the power and arguments of Moscow would outweigh those of China.



Mr. Paul Hasluck (right) and Dr. J. F. Cairns (left)

DR. J. F. CAIRNS

Perhaps there was an element of "the moment all had been waiting for", when A.L.P. member Dr. J. F. Cairns took the platform. Certainly he was faced with an audience of mixed attitude. Dr. Cairns submitted that Australia with millions of Asians as her nearest neighbors, could hardly be justified in launching attack on these people, when she cares not enough to allow them to live on her soil.

In view of this Australia must have the strongest motives before making any military move.

Quoting the International Control Commission's Report, Dr. Cairns said that in 1962-63 not one Chinese weapon was captured from the Viet Cong, in 1963 16 were captured, and in 1964, 91. In the period from 1962-1964 there was a total of 15,000 weapons captured. The South Vietnamese coastal patrol force searches a total of 12,000 ships per month for concealed weapons, the U.S. State Department's White Paper makes a "dramatic" point of the discovery of a 100-ton ship loaded with small arms manufactured in Communist countries. Dr. Cairns quoted the comment of the New York Times editorial of February 28: "A ship of that size is not much above the Oriental junk class. The standard Liberty or Victory ship of World War II had a capacity of 7,150 to 7,600 tons".

The first Communist weapons were not discovered till May 12, 1962.

The White Paper attempts to conclude that the majority of the Viet Cong guerillas are infiltrators from the North. It asserts that between 1959-1964 a total of 19,550 confirmed infiltrators and 17,550 suspects engaged in the war. The Paper quotes these figures as indicative of

the "hard-core" of the Viet Cong being Northern insurgents. It supports its claim by quoting only 22 names and case histories, and of these only five were in fact from the North.

But, said Cairns, let us accept this doubtful figure of 37,000 Northern infiltrators, they are meant to have been the hard-core formed from the 100,000 men who retreated from the South at the time of the division of Vietnam. Yet if we accept the estimate of a 50% casualty rate, and if we consider the fact that these men now would be AT LEAST 29 years old, it is ludicrous to call this a "hard-core" of a guerilla force.

Of the White Paper, Dr. Cairns then quoted Prof. Hans Morgenthau, adviser to U.S. foreign policy who said that the paper was "grotesque" in its discrepancy with the facts.

What then are the facts, Dr. Cairns asked?

He claimed that the French lost the war with Vietnam because they failed to see that what they were fighting was the result of a grossly inadequate economic, social and political system. Dr. Cairns describes the war as a Nationalist revolutionary war. In a country that has realised its backwardness for a hundred years, that has had a Nationalist movement fighting this backwardness and suppression for 76 years.

Ho Chi Minh's Nationalist Party removed the Japanese with U.S. assistance and recognition. But when the party had achieved this liberation, in 1946 the French commanders ordered the port in a large Northern city to be cleared within some few hours. A total of nearly 6,000 men, women and children were killed when the French opened fire on the city

after the time elapsed. The Nationalists were driven into the mountains, and a fresh struggle began. It was during this battle that America's John Foster Dulles advocated the use of the atomic bomb on the Northern rebels. This was the situation leading up to the defeat of the French, and the French lost because of their ignorance of the situation as it stood.

And at this time the South was under the rule of President Diem. And in his term of office Diem waved his chance to establish a functional form of democracy as an example to the rest of the newly emerging Asian States. He was busy erecting a dictatorship in effect. He undertook a program of suppression of all voiced opposition, he denied the overall Vietnamese election, and denied local elections in the South. When 18 leading intellectuals in Saigon handed a manifesto to Diem, proposing a comprehensive reform program for the South, Diem was incensed by the references to corruption, and soon almost all the 18 were jailed. For many years the South engaged in "Communist-hunts" setting up political concentration camps. Any attempts the U.S. has made to form a stable "democratic" government in the South have flopped. And U.S. suggestions for reform have been treated with scorn.

What of Australia's position? Dr. Cairns asked, "Are 850 Australians enough?" He pointed out that our position is taken assistance to the U.S. and total ignorance of the drastic need for economic, social and political reform.

MR. PAUL HASLUCK

Mr. Paul Hasluck, Commonwealth Minister for External Affairs, was the most eagerly awaited speaker. Charged with the unenviable task of presenting the government's position in Vietnam, Mr. Hasluck faced an audience of perhaps balanced commitment (or noncommitment), that was nevertheless ready to be critical of the superficial or unfounded. The pressure on Mr. Hasluck was increased by the knowledge that there was a fairly wide television audience also awaiting a comprehensive statement of Government policy.

Mr. Hasluck began by agreeing with Dr. Cairns on one point, his congratulations to the organisers.

Mr. Hasluck proposed that Australia's foreign policy must be based upon a primary concern for the welfare of our own nation. He said that foreign policy, like charity, begins at home.

He then considered the optimum methods for the advancement of our well-being. He attempted a summary of the world power situation, pointing first to the new face of the world power rivalry that the nuclear stalemate has introduced. Secondly he mentioned the clash of ideology that is vital in the East-West cold-war, and as a third consideration he discussed the rise of Chinese power. He said that the Chinese People's Republic as a new member of the World-influence-rivalry

And he added that those who yell about the dominoes theory (that take-over of one nation by a particular force leads to encouragement to that force, and subsequent take-over bids elsewhere) are apparently dismissing the fact that a government must have popular support, and more especially, a Nationalist movement must have such support. Dr. Cairns concluded by asserting that the war must be fought on a reform in conditions basis, not a military one.

Only a limited number of questions could be allowed as Mr. Hasluck had the floor next, and the meeting was running behind time at that stage. Television coverage needed a close time schedule.

When asked about the report of the I.C.C., which the questioner claimed Dr. Cairns had unjustly ignored in favor of the U.S. White Paper, Dr. Cairns pointed out the sections in the Report that stated that there "was evidence" that arms and men had entered the South from the North. Dr. Cairns said the paper also expressed the opinion that military aid from the U.S. was a violation of the Geneva agreement, and that the report had considered the South Vietnam-U.S. coalition undesirable.

Finally, when asked to comment on the Chinese attempts to win over unaligned African nations, Dr. Cairns said that constructive aid on a sensible basis will most impress these nations, and the Chinese had done as much damage as good in Africa, through their inability to satisfy this condition. He hoped that we might learn from their mistake.

was still at that stage of sophistication that inspires a desire for assertion in a military sense. Finally, he considered the Chinese A-bomb and its implications.

Mr. Hasluck stated that he believed the principle aspect of world diplomacy was fast becoming one of coming to terms with China. He felt this issue was symbolic of the "enormous human crisis of today". He expressed his belief in the function of history as a guide.

But leaving aside the extent and nature of Chinese influence, Mr. Hasluck said we cannot deny the importance of China in the present conflict.

A further consideration he cited was the current reorganisation of nations large and small. The small nations of the world are undergoing a breakdown. He pointed out that the smaller nations have limited resources, and that their primary need to allow their progress, is peace. He added that during such periods of pacificity the world power groups were attempting to win support.

He said Australia must choose relative to her position in the power situation, when deciding her role in determining the independence of the small threatened nations.

He assured the audience that the government had made their decision on Vietnam in the light of political history. We have opposed the

The Forum

PROFESSOR MACMAHON BALL

Soviet politicality, Communism as an ideology, and in the present situation he saw three choices.

We could support the U.S., we could support the Communists or we could remain neutral. He said that neutrality was impractical as a policy for Australia, and that we had long ago chosen to support the U.S. (mentioning Berlin, Malaya and Korea).

He added that we were committed to the resistance of Communist aggression by the SEATO pact. He concluded that the support of the

there were regular units of the North Vietnamese army moving into the South.

As far as men were concerned, Mr. Hasluck claimed that in 1959-63 most infiltrators were ex-southerners, but that now the northerners outnumbered the others.

When asked for the source of these figures Mr. Hasluck said the source was secret Australian intelligence. He added the same source had indicated that 47,000 weapons had come from the North in the last four years. He said that each year Viet Cong

Professor W. Macmahon Ball — Department of Political Science.

Melbourne University Professor Macmahon Ball is widely experienced in international affairs and has been a leading Australian diplomat.

Professor Macmahon Ball started by pointing out that although he thought that Australian and American policy in Vietnam was profoundly wrong, this did not mean that he did not favor friendship with the United States or that he did not understand the terrible dilemma of the Americans.

He pointed out that the real issue in the war is the fact that Hanoi encouraged by China wants to control the South, whereas the United States does not want them to do so. However, he pointed out that Mr. Hasluck had failed to convey the immense seriousness of the engagement and the immense consequences which are likely to follow the government's policy.

Mr. Hasluck had also shown insensitivity to the way the people of Asia may feel. He argued that the government policy could result in a war of attrition which could last for many years, bringing death and desolation. We do not know what the people really want and the fact that we do not or cannot find out (by election or plebiscite) does not entitle us to say that we know what is good for them.

Professor Macmahon Ball then moved to consider in some detail the likely cost of the military campaign.

Since he thought that we could not separate the political features of the war from the military, he pointed out that from 1957 it was clear that Diem's government was not able to rule as its authority was being steadily eroded by the Viet Cong's deliberate policy of cutting the throats of the village leaders, and that Diem was mostly out of touch with the villages. From 1957 we could not talk about a strong and united government with a strong and determined purpose as Diem had been followed by a number of governments. Such considerations were important, he argued, and showed the effect of the battle at Dien Bien Phu to help show this importance as the French were defeated here not because of military losses but because this battle sparked political disintegration.

Turning to the present situation he quoted American figures which showed there to be about 165,000 Viet Cong forces, about 300,000 Southern regulars and irregulars, about 75,000 Americans soon to be increased to 125,000. Even with the increased American forces, and assuming that the South Vietnamese forces' morale was 100%, this left a ratio of 4 or 5 to 1 of forces fighting for the South to the Viet Cong forces. This he contrasted with the generally accepted figure of a necessary ratio of 10 to 1, and quoted the British in Malaya who had a ratio of 50 to 1, as well as being aided by political control and geographic considerations. Given

these facts he suggested that the United States would have to send another 500,000 forces and not 50,000 if it wanted success.

Professor Macmahon Ball then contrasted the methods of long-range bombing which the Americans had to adopt with the methods of the Viet Cong which although absolutely ruthless and brutal, could be more discriminatory. Professor Macmahon Ball said it was his conviction that whenever the West with their enormous wealth, technical and industrial achievements used their superior weapons against East Asians, the deepest resentment is felt in the whole of East Asia.

In reply to a question on this point, he stated that he realized that there were a number of people of varying attitudes living in Asia, but anything could unite them, it is the feeling that they are being treated contemptuously.

He argued that while Mr. Hasluck had sometimes talked about ideology, he had spoken mainly in terms of the power necessary to contain China, and that Mr. Hasluck came close to saying to the people of Asia that we are sorry that China is expanding to challenge us, but that we cannot give you too much consideration.

Prof. Macmahon Ball said that it is possible that the people of South Vietnam would say that if we must fight China, could we please do so somewhere else? We are either in a position of saying that we are not concerned about the people of South Vietnam, or else that we know what is best for them — an impossible attitude, as people should be allowed to choose their own government.

He then pointed out that if we are going to argue in terms of national interest, we must remember that we do not know how many Americans will be in Asia in 50 years time, but we do know that there will be a lot of Asians. However, this does not mean that we should always follow the lead of any Asian leader. Instead, we should always follow our own line as far as we can, but should take into account what the people of Asia feel and want, rather than retreat back to the 19th century or to 10 to 20 years ago.

Prof. Macmahon Ball concluded on the main theme of the talk which was that in the future there is only one possibility for Australia, and this is to achieve good working friendly relations with the people of Asia.

Mr. Hasluck was next subjected to numerous questions, simultaneous with questions asked of Professor Macmahon Ball. The third question asked was unfortunately based on a personal antipathy rather than a motive of enquiry into the Vietnam problem. An unpleasant situation was prevented by the excellent alertness and objectivity of the chairman.

One questioner asked Mr. Hasluck why the secret sources could not be revealed, or why their figures were not

publically available in a form such as the U.S. White Paper on Vietnam. He also pointed out that to withhold such evidence meant that the populace must accept the word of the government, to which he added that he personally had had to decide that he could not believe the word of the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies.

In reply Mr. Hasluck claimed Dr. Cairn's figures came from documents prior to 1963. He said that there has since been a change in the source of arms and men involved.

Professor Macmahon Ball was then asked if he did not feel that the Asian countries are more afraid of the Chinese than they are of the Western white interveners. He replied that the people involved may well be afraid of the Chinese but he felt that unity of Asia was most likely to stem from fear of Western domination.

Following this up, Dr. Kropfelmacher asked the professor to explain why Lee Kuan Yu and the Professor of Indian Studies at Melbourne University (both Asiatics) advocated increased U.S. intervention. Dr. Kropfelmacher added that he hoped the Professor did not object to answering his question. The latter reference was justifiably ignored from the platform, the tone of the forum having been so far free of any unpleasant incident. In reply, the Professor cited a number of Asian newspapers that expressed a general feeling of concern in this respect. The questioner was restrained by the chair in his attempt to interject and continue the point from the hall.

A further questioner referred the following to Mr. Hasluck —

"Sir, I suggest that the Vietnam problem is not a political, sociological, religious ideological and symbolic question — it is a place where 530 people died while you spoke. Not through war but because of lack of food to live on. What has the government done about this?"

Mr. Hasluck said that Australia has been contributing \$3 million per annum in aid programs. He quoted the case of the donation of a herd of cattle — he said that the Viet Cong had slit the throats of these animals. An interjector proposed, "They were hungry". The final question to Mr. Hasluck was a plea for a further explanation of our commitment in SEATO, to which Mr. Hasluck replied that we had been asked for military aid, and had given it, it was the result of careful government consideration, in the years past, and more recently.

Mr. Denis Warner

Mr. Denis Warner — journalist, author of "The Last Confucian", widely experienced in Asian affairs.

After sketching in some background to the present situation, Mr. Warner pointed out that at the Geneva Conference the North raised no objections when the South Vietnamese delegation walked out as they thought the



Mr. Paul Hasluck and chairman Brian Abbey

U.S. was consistent with our past policy, and was in the best interests of our nation.

Mr. Hasluck then referred to the United Nations Charter, which states that the U.N. is dedicated to the assurance of sovereign independence among nations, to the resistance of aggression, to the respect for treaties, and to the denial of the use or threat of force. He mentioned that Indonesia had violated these principles, and that we had taken action in this case in the same way. Mr. Hasluck pointed out that the current South Vietnam government had requested Australia's military aid under SEATO.

At this stage Mr. Hasluck turned to a discussion of the Vietnam situation specifically.

He said the current situation is a result of planned aggression by the Communist government of the North. The purpose of this program was for the North to effect unification of Vietnam under their government.

He quoted the figures of the shift of population that followed the 1954 agreement on the division of the land. He said that 1,000,000 went from North to South, while 100,000 went North. The agreement was meant to be followed by general free elections in 1956 under the International Control Commission. However, when the time came the North did nothing to implement this election, while the South did not see any obligation to hold an election when they had not themselves been in power at the time of the agreement.

Mr. Hasluck claimed that in 1959 the North began infiltration of the South, and that Hanoi had announced the formation of the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) in the South. He claimed also that the North has since increased its subversion program because the South is unable to effect the aims of the N.L.F.

He asserted that in the period 1959-64 40,000 trained military personnel went to the South from Hanoi. In 1964 the figure was 10,000, and that so far in 1965 the same rate of migration has prevailed. He added that

weapons become more sophisticated, and now the captured weapons included light arms from China and North Vietnam.

His conclusion was that the war is being run from the North and from China. And that the situation could lead to 14 million people falling under Communist rule.

Although Mr. Hasluck did not support the dominoes theory, he believed that a loss in South Vietnam would lead to the fall of Laos, and the formation of a situation in Thailand similar to that in South Vietnam today. He added that China's influence would spread, and the balance of power (nuclear and balance) would be further upset.

He said that although we are supporting the U.S. on whom our security depends, we are immediately interested in the furthering of the benefit of the people of South Vietnam.

He returned to his point that coming to terms with China was a problem symbolised in the Vietnam struggle.

He said that we were fighting with the U.S. rather than supporting China, because the U.S. is charging its obligation as upholders of the peace.

He added that when conditions have been established in Vietnam where the people may choose their destiny, we will withdraw. He believed that North Vietnam and China see no necessity for discussion, and thus the only thing left to do is to prove to them that they cannot sit back and win. We are resisting their aggression as such, and to show to the world that aggression cannot succeed unchallenged. He said that we must reach a state where the Geneva conditions may be consummated. We are upholding the terms of our treaties and are assuring ourselves of U.S. support should we need it in the future. He concluded that we are primarily seeking conditions that will allow conference, and aid military measures were part of an attempt to stop a government being formed as a result of coercion.

CONCLUDING THE FORUM

government in the South would collapse. But the South did not collapse, and from 1954 there were two governments, both claiming to be sovereign with both receiving very considerable economic and military assistance.

Asking whether free elections had ever been held in a Communist state, he argued that the Prime Minister in the North never expected to hold elections, and that in 1956 the North raised no serious objections when elections were not held, possibly because this was a year of massive dislocation for land reform, and a year which saw a bloody revolt in Ho's home province.

Over the period 1954-9, South Vietnam was not such an example of the free world as the South and the Americans wanted, but he later mentioned that communications had been restored by 1959, that rice production had considerably increased by 1960, and that a few light industries were established.

Mr. Warner reported that in 1962 he had spent 2 months in Vietnam trying to establish whether the North was doing more than kicking the war off. He went to a north-west province and interviewed every one he could — mainly school teachers, government officials and planters — and reached the conclusion that there was considerable evidence of overt aggression. He estimated that 300 men infiltrated the South each month up to August 1962, when the rate increased to 800 per month. He saw Chinese explosive weapons and was convinced that North Vietnam and China were moving supplies to the South.

He then turned to the question of communist domination of South-East Asia. He argued that if aggression succeeds in Vietnam it will happen elsewhere, and in fact Peking has already declared liberation fronts for Thailand and Malaya. He could see no likely Titoist regime establishing itself. Given this position, he asked what military help could Australia expect from the United States if it merely gave them verbal support.

He concluded by saying that the guerilla stage of warfare was difficult, that the going was not to be easy but that the necessary course was to continue fighting until negotiations could be achieved.

Some of Mr. Warner's answers to questions are worth reporting.

—He favoured considerably increased aid to Asia, and especially the idea of young Australians working in the grass roots of society where they could have a great influence.

—He stated that where people knew about the White Australia policy they saw it as unjust and described his fear of telling some Vietnamese friends that they could not come here when they finished fighting.

—He agreed with Dr. Knopfmacher that the best way to promote Titoist type regimes is to stand firm just as Tito defected from Russia because the West had stood firm.

—He thought that although the bombing of the North had raised morale in the South

for a period, it was generally unsuccessful as it neither brought the North to the Conference Table nor interrupted the flow of supplies to the South. He suggested that part of the reason for the bombing was the United States Chief of Staff's unwillingness to commit ground forces.

—He had even gone into Viet Cong areas to try and find out the view of the people, but it was difficult to do so and the answers were not necessarily correct, as he had used interpreters. He cited a Yale anthropologist who, after living in a group of villages in the South for a long period concluded that the people disliked what they knew of both the government and the Viet Cong.

—In reply to a question by Mr. Prapha Smutkoi about the inefficiency of the government of Thailand, and the fact that Thailand was being used as an American ammunition dump, Mr. Warner replied that there had been some progress in Thailand over the past 10 to 12 years, and that the Gross National Product had increased at about 7 per cent per head. However, he seemed dissatisfied with this answer.

Finale

Another original contribution to discussion came at 12.15 when Dr. Herb Fein of Monash's Politics Department pointed to the effect the war could have on Sino-Soviet relations by driving Russia back towards the policy of a Peking which is interested in the annihilation of the West. Dr. Fein also pointed out that when he recently visited a right-wing Japanese university he found that the students were against American policy.

There is no doubt that the forum was the greatest achievement in student in-

tiated action yet to come from this University. The capacity student audience seemed to feel very strongly the benefit of the forum, and to appreciate greatly the excellent organization of the committee. This feeling has been echoed by all who have commented with the exception of a few chronic malcontents.

After Professor Hall had finished speaking, Do Hung, a third year Economics and Politics student from South Vietnam came to the platform. He said that although he was not completely sure of the feeling existing among

the people of his country, he believed that they wanted peace, some form of election almost immediately, unity and independence.

With regard to the Forum, a letter to Bill Standish, Hon. Sec. of the Combined Committee from Mr. Hasluck ended with the following paragraph.

"May I add that I was personally completely happy about the arrangements made by the organising committee and was satisfied that the forum served a good purpose."



Do Hung



Bill Standish
Hon. Sec. of the
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POEM

I went down to the bookstore one morning
To read the latest literature I craved;
A voice said, "Reading is illegal,
For reading ... makes you depraved."

CHORUS—

But fear not, people, for your morals
A brighter day dawns for you and me;
Sergeant M—ll—r and the Vice Squad—
Victoria, Christ and God,
Will lead us all to greater purity.

Well I said, "I guess we're still allowed the Bible?"
Said a voice, "Oh, no — it causes masturbation;
It's hypnotically erotic, it's dreadfully obscene—
That dirty book it mentions fornication!"

CHORUS—

So I asked about our education textbooks,
And the voice said, "Some mention sex we've heard;
So to play it safe we've got to ban the bloody lot,
For 'sex' is such a nasty filthy word."

CHORUS—

So I said to him, "All reading then is frowned on?"
He replied, "I think there's nothing we've forgotten—
Mr. Shakespeare turns us pale, and Patrick White's in goal,
And perverted End Blyton mentions 'bottom'."

CHORUS—

Well I went back home and told my wife that evening
Concerning all this Heaven-sent instruction;
And we tore up Dr. Spock and his pornographic cock,
And freed us from this cess-pit of corruption.

CHORUS—

So now we're like a happy virgin twosome,
Untouched by the obscene we may have read;
If we're not allowed to read and sex is so taboo,
What are we poised to do when we're in bed?

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VOLUNTEER GRADUATES

There are still opportunities for Australian graduates to work in Indonesia. The graduates who have taken these opportunities in the last two years have done an impressive job of keeping lines open with our nearest and most militant Asian neighbor.

When I was in Djakarta this May I talked to the three Australian graduates who are there under the Volunteer Graduate Scheme for Indonesia. I was greatly impressed by their high morale, by their feeling that they are doing a worthwhile job, all political clouds notwithstanding, and by the way they are obviously enjoying themselves.

I had most contact with George Hicks and Bernard Lionnet, both Melbourne University graduates, both economists and both working in Indonesia's Central Bureau of Statistics. Each of them has been in Indonesia for about 18 months and each in his own way has made himself thoroughly at home in the chaotic, exciting, frustrating, depressing and yet finally relaxing way of living that is peculiarly Djakarta's.

It was fairly difficult at first for each of the two. They had their accommodation problems and for a long time each of them felt he was not getting enough work to do.

But their social contacts were enjoyable from the start. In their friendships with Indonesians of many social groups they were the envy of many in the foreign community of Djakarta. And over the last year each of them has had plenty of work to do at the office, some of it highly responsible work.

Walter Muller, the third and newest member of the group that is now in Djakarta, is still in the difficult initial stage in some respects. A civil engineer from Sydney, he finds himself doing more English teaching than engineering. But his contacts with the Indonesian community are more than good; he has recently acquired an Indonesian wife!

I was, of course, interested to see what these three thought of the Volunteer Graduate Scheme's future. The scheme has been going for 13 years now. But the trend of Australian-Indonesian relations in the last year or two has hardly been one to inspire great hope as regards the future. Is the scheme likely to come to an early end, with either a bang or a whimper?

Hicks, Lionnet and Muller thought not. Indonesian reactions to the clashes between Australians and Indonesians in Borneo were surprisingly mild, they said, and this was indeed

confirmed by many other people I talked to in Djakarta. It could well be that Australia will find itself a target for some sort of Indonesian confrontation in the future, the general feeling was. But this was certainly not the situation at the moment. Meanwhile, the three Volunteer Graduates agreed, individual Australians could live and work in Indonesia and get both appreciation and warm friendship from their Indonesian colleagues. As in the past,

Herbert Feith

these were responses which came readily to the young Australian who arrived in Indonesia to work on a basis of salary equality and set out to live in an Indonesian home or hostel, rather than in the luxury and social exclusiveness which remains characteristic of most of the Western community in the country.

They went on to tell me of the expressions of gratitude they had had from Indonesians for the work of other Australian volunteers: Stewart Lipscomb from Brisbane who

returned home late last year after two years in Djakarta as an electrical engineer, John James, an agricultural scientist from Perth who left earlier this year after about the same length of time in a small town in South Sumatra, and Mary Johnston, a social worker from Melbourne, who has spent the last two and a half years in Solo, Central Java, and is still there.

"Whether the scheme keeps going, or not will depend in the first instance on whether there are enough Australian graduates who are interested in coming here", they concluded.

The Australian graduate who is thinking of going to an Asian or African country to work should certainly keep Indonesia in mind.

Indonesia may not be the place for the graduate who wants above all else to use his professional skill for a maximum contribution to economic development.

Indonesia today is not particularly short of skilled people. Its real problem is that its resources of skill are not properly employed, thanks largely to political division and administrative chaos.

Nor is there any denying that the Indonesian government's program of political indoctrination has added to the barriers which Australian gradu-

ates must surmount if they are to establish relations of fraternal cordiality and real mutual understanding with their Indonesian fellow-workers.

But it is the experience of all the recent participants in the Volunteer Graduate Scheme that one can still easily find fellow-workers with whom it is possible to share a broad range of values and attitudes — not least the many who have recently returned from periods of training overseas.

The range of occupational categories in which an Australian could gain acceptance in Indonesia under the Volunteer Graduate Scheme is not quite as broad as it was some years ago. But it remains remarkably broad nevertheless, including certainly engineers, economists, librarians, doctors, architects, agricultural scientists and several categories of teachers.

It may well be that Indonesia's doors will be closed to Australians before too much longer, but that is not the situation now.

So long as it is not, the Volunteer Graduate provides an opportunity for Australian graduates to live with one of the central conflicts of our time, and to work for at least a modicum of understanding between two worlds which seem to be growing ever further estranged from each other.

ONE FOR THE ROAD



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NOTTING HILL HOTEL

The food and liquid refreshments are excellent, and the attractions are many as the girl pictured left — the beer garden will tell you.

Sunday Mirror

6d. July 4, 1965 No. 118

HITLER — MY HERO

"PEOPLE ask me who my heroes are. I have only one—Hitler."

This remarkable statement was made in an interview by the man who has now become Prime Minister of South Vietnam, Air Vice Marshal Nguyen Cao Ky.

He is his country's 10th Premier in twenty months, a military dictator whose precarious regime owes its survival to the presence of 70,000 American troops and the support of nations such as Britain who are embroiled in the ceaseless fight against the Communists.

A country at war against ruthless enemies needs a strong man as its leader.

But is strength the only thing which counts?

Ky discussed his dangerous philosophy with Brian Maynehan, who reports today on Page 9.



South Vietnam's latest Premier, Nguyen Cao Ky—Picture by Michael Joseph.



Nurse's ordeal in the Congo

—Cathy Page



STORM GROWS OVER DUKE

—Jack Page



Maggie Smith beats Bueno

—Sue Page 34

Our ally in Vietnam

The perambulations of International politics are rivalled in their complexity if by anything, by the press. The report carried as front page headlines in the London Daily Mirror has received little, if any, coverage in Australian dailies.

While the London Daily Mirror may not exactly represent the sublime in newspaper reliability, such a claim as is implicit in this particular report (backed by what is claimed to be first hand interview material)

surely demands the most thorough investigation. If Premier Ky lasts long enough to effect significant governmental change, we as allies must stop and think, just where are we heading? What ARE we fighting for?

Without any consideration of what we may be fighting against, this latter question stands as one of immense significance.

It would seem that, at the moment, we are faced in Vietnam with what could be a choice between a Com-

munist North and a Nazi-inspired South.

It is incredible then that no local newspaper has voiced any violent comment on the validity or otherwise of the "Mirror's" assertions.

The point is that they are not merely assertions, there is considerable force in the article, and to assume that the quotation, "People ask me who my heroes are — I have only one — Hitler" is a total fabrication would be incredibly foolish, to say the least.



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"We must continue to offer the communists a reasonable and attractive alternative to militant victory . . . (We should) seek a negotiated settlement involving major concessions on both sides."

J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT
Chairman, Foreign Relations
Committee of the United
States.

The following proposal represents an attempt to outline a set of conditions which would, perhaps, provide a mutually acceptable basis for a negotiated settlement in South Vietnam.

1. Cessation by the United States of the bombing of North Vietnam.

(a) Such a decision would indicate the seriousness of the American attempt to seek a negotiated settlement.

(b) The bombing of North Vietnam has been largely ineffective in checking the influence of the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) in the South.

(c) The bombing has tended to embarrass the Soviet Union, alienate Asian opinion and generally serve the interests of China.

(i) By attacking a Socialist (Communist) state, the United States has placed the Soviet Union in an extremely embarrassing position in her struggle with China for influence in the International Communist movement. At the same time, the bombing has seriously undermined the growing detente between the United States and the Soviet Union. One may wonder, with some apprehension, what the likely effect would be of an American attack on the Soviet missile installations around Hanoi. (Defence Secretary McNamara has already pointed to this possibility in his statement that "We have ways and means of taking care of them".) Certainly any hope of progress on critical issues such as nuclear proliferation, disarmament and a German settlement would be seriously impaired by such an action. Already a number of tentative agreements reached by the two powers prior to the bombing have been allowed to lapse.

(ii) The bombing of an Asian country by a European power has not been popular in many Asian countries including India, Pakistan, Japan, Burma and Cambodia. Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri, for example, commented on President Johnson's peace proposal in the following terms:

"If that bombing continues there is hardly any point in making that offer. Bombing by the United States must come to an end if a dialogue is to be made possible." (Quoted in *The Far Eastern Economic Review*, May 6, 1965.)

(d) A call for the cessation of the bombing has been made, at different times, by all three members of the International Control Commission — India, Poland and Canada.

2. The opening of direct negotiations between the N.L.F. and the Saigon government.

This would require recognition of the N.L.F. as being primarily a South Vietnamese political organization. Such recognition would represent little more than an acceptance of existing political conditions in the South. At present, the N.L.F. provides an effective, and for some villagers an attractive, alternative to the Saigon government. This influence if unlikely to be eliminated in these areas short of a major conflict, and even then there is no guarantee of a successful outcome. Certainly it would be difficult to be enthusiastic about an outcome in which China occupied the North and the United States the South, a solution which would virtually eliminate Vietnamese nationalism as a stabilizing force in South-east Asia.

The establishment of direct contact with the N.L.F. would add a degree of flexibility to U.S. policy which has hitherto been absent. A policy which attempts to exploit nationalist and local aspirations is preferable to one which has the effect of encouraging the growth of Peking's influence in Hanoi, and of Hanoi's influence in the South.



3. Maintenance of U.S. forces in South Vietnam pending successful completion of negotiations.

This minimum concession must be conceded by the N.L.F. if it is at all serious about negotiation. A temporary build-up of U.S. forces may be necessary in order to convince the N.L.F. that a complete military victory over the Saigon government is not possible. However, if a settlement is reached, the withdrawal of U.S. and North Vietnamese forces from South Vietnam would be necessary.

acceptability of the situation

1. N.L.F.

The growing U.S. commitment may convince the N.L.F. that a complete military victory is no longer possible. In addition to the military costs involved, the N.L.F. must be uneasy about the growing possibility of their becoming a pawn in a wider conflict. Under these circumstances they may be willing to give careful consideration to any reasonable political settlement.

2. North Vietnam

The cessation of the bombing, the establishment of political and economic relations with the South and the withdrawal of U.S. military power could conceivably make such a settlement acceptable to Hanoi. In addition, North Vietnamese leaders must be concerned about the possibility of growing Chinese influence in the North and even of direct Chinese intervention if the war should continue to grow.

3. Soviet Union

The Soviet Union would be a clear beneficiary of any negotiated settlement both in the context of the International Communist movement, and the Soviet-American detente. If the N.L.F. were to agree to negotiate then the Soviet Union would almost certainly be willing to play an important role in any settlement. Under such conditions she could no longer be accused, by China, of selling out the interests of the N.L.F. in the name of peaceful co-existence.

4. China

China has little reason, at present, to favour a negotiated settlement. The American policy of escalation in Vietnam has tended to serve her interests. However, the Chinese leaders would be unlikely to oppose any N.L.F. initiative in the direction of negotiation. The subsequent withdrawal of U.S. forces could be interpreted as a victory for China. Similarly, the Chinese might believe that a neutralized South Vietnam may serve to stimulate the growth of neutralism in other areas of South-east Asia.

5. Saigon

The deteriorating military position, including a rapidly growing casualty rate, and the sharp decline in economic activity in the South, may make a continuation of the struggle increasingly unattractive to the South Vietnamese government. Survival for Saigon, however, depends on U.S. military support. Yet, with the very growth of this support, like the N.L.F., whether it too was to become a pawn in a wider conflict. If the U.S. should favour negotiation, however, the South Vietnamese government could do little else but accept such a decision.

6. United States

The United States faces a difficult choice. President Johnson cannot contemplate an extensive land war in Asia with equanimity. Similarly, he must be fully aware of the need to avoid, if possible, a shattering of the Soviet-American detente. However, an acceptance of the neutralization of South Vietnam, with N.L.F. participation, will result in a serious loss of prestige for the U.S. In the words of Lyndon Johnson, "Our national honor is at stake in South-east Asia". (*The Age*, 16/7/1965). "More than anything else," writes Walter Lippman, "we are

constructive proposals for vietnam

Dr. Ian Ward, Senior lecturer
Faculty of Economics and
Politics

fighting to avoid admitting a failure — to put it bluntly, we are fighting to save face. (*The Age*, 30/7/1965). However, this very problem has been aggravated by the President's uncompromising attitude toward negotiation with the N.L.F.: "I have no doubt that if the Viet Cong dolts wish to negotiate they will have no trouble in finding a government to negotiate for them. What would you think about the state of Mississippi negotiating for the United States?" (Lyndon Johnson, *The Australian*, 19/6/1965). While sympathising with Johnson's concern over the effects of a negotiated settlement on American prestige, it is difficult not to agree with Senator Fulbright "that a complete victory in Vietnam, though theoretically attainable, can only be at a cost far exceeding our interest and our honor". (*The Australian*, 18/6/1965).

The American administration also argues that the containment of China will be undermined by a negotiated settlement in Vietnam. This need not be the case. While a U.S. military withdrawal from Vietnam may stimulate the growth of neutralism, there is no particular reason why such a withdrawal should, of itself, encourage the expansion of Communism in other areas of Asia. Rather, the existence of a group of neutral states on China's periphery is more likely to serve as a check to direct Chinese intervention in South-east Asia than the present policy of seeking an anti-Chinese military solution in the area.

Finally, unless the United States is willing to make an offer of this type, she cannot really claim to have offered unconditional discussions and, as a consequence, the President is unlikely to win wide support for his Vietnam policy. In the event that the N.L.F. refuses to negotiate, favouring instead a win at all costs policy, the United States would be able to pursue the war in Vietnam with much strengthened support from Asian and other world leaders.

reviews



In the light of the recent release of four previously banned books in Australia, Mr. Bear examines the character of the censor, and the censored book.

A rather oddly mixed bag of four previously banned novels has been released, and for that one should be grateful. But the interminable controversy over censorship in Australia still goes on, and this one small gesture has done nothing to clear up the extraordinary confusion which continues to cloud a number of the central issues.

The trouble is that the debate has been conducted by both sides in polemical rather than intellectual terms, with the result that almost all of the statements one comes across have an air of false confidence about them. Thus, at the present time, it seems more than ever important that someone should re-examine some of the basic propositions of censorship and anti-censorship, in the hope of finding which among the currently held beliefs deserve serious consideration, and which ought to be put aside as absurd or out-dated.

The present article is an attempt in this direction. It is tentative in spirit if not in tone, while I do not intend to draw any conclusions from its fairly random observations. But on the evidence around us it does seem to me that people concerned over this question generally need to do some radical re-thinking perhaps along these lines.

The grounds for concern are both literary and sociological. Historically, the case for censorship rests on a single judgement delivered by a learned English lawyer in the Nineteenth Century, who ruled that certain works designed primarily for entertainment had the power "to corrupt and deprave". Now if that were so, we could have no grounds for argument at all; obviously, any government is morally bound to protect the populace from suffering such a terrible fate, just as it is bound to protect the innocent from being raped, robbed, or murdered.

But by arguing in these terms one immediately runs into trouble. A court of law may be an efficient means for determining whether or not someone has been robbed, and how can the processes be adapted to determining whether that person has been "corrupted"? And even if they could, the problem of causation would remain; if A is proved to have been robbed, it would then be possible to establish pretty definitely that he had been robbed by B. But what if A is assumed to be corrupt? How does the court, or the censor, or anyone else, go about proving that he was "corrupted" by B? Or by C? Or by any other object or person that could be isolated precisely enough for the kind of direct action implied by laws of censorship?

Clearly nothing of the kind is possible without expert knowledge of a kind not yet available. Yet just at this point both censors and anti-censors beg the question. In the first place, "literary merit" is almost certainly a red herring, and the court room is anyway a clumsy vehicle for establishing its existence, although one can see that it is a justifiable ploy for people who feel that they have the right to read good books. But the question of censorship ultimately has

nothing to do with books themselves; it has to do with people, and the effect a book might have on them. And it is a simple fact that no writer or literary critic, living or dead, could give expert testimony on this. He can certainly argue that a book has "literary merit" — assuming, for the moment, that such a thing lends itself to definition — but he can have no knowledge whatever of its possible effects on readers, which is an entirely different matter. So the idea that panels of literary "experts" can solve the problem seems to be largely irrelevant. They might well handle it more sensibly, or more liberally, than ignorant policemen, but it will be obvious that both terms beg the real question.

So logically, both censor and anti-censor would have to turn to people who know about people, rather than to people who know about books. And here, of course, we find the strongest of all the anti-censorship arguments. As is well known, the psychologists and sociologists interested in the question have never been able to establish that people are in fact influenced by the things they read, nor does it appear likely that any such evidence will emerge in the near future. The problem is not that they cannot find people who more or less fit the definition of "corrupt and depraved" (juvenile delinquents are a case in point) but that they cannot establish any connection between behaviour and reading matter.

It must be said, however, that the failure to find empirical evidence of such a connection, given the relatively unskillful techniques so far available, does not mean that it may not actually exist. Still, on a matter so controversial, the general tone of the debate would be more intellectually acceptable if the censors showed at least some

awareness of this aspect of the case against them, and if the anti-censors were prepared to admit that their "scientific" evidence rested on a strong hypothesis rather than on a set of facts.

Another source of rather startling confusion arises from the irresponsible use of the general term "pornography", given that most of the arguments are limited to the subject of erotic literature. For it is pornography which is supposed by nearly everyone to have this power to corrupt, and even middle-of-the-road anti-censors, like the local Freedom to Read group, implicitly share this assumption in their refusal to advocate the release of so called "hard core" pornography. But at least they make a sensible distinction, which the censors have chosen to ignore. For in suppressing *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, *Lolita*, *The Spy Who Loved Me* and *Playboy*, together with commercially produced dirty pictures and films, they are implying that these things may be equated, at least in terms of their effects, and that all are equally "dangerous".

Now in practice this seems to me to be nonsense of the first order, as has often been pointed out, although I think the intellectual confusion underlying it may go even deeper than is usually recognised.

There are two separate issues involved here, one of which may be more or less defensible, while the other is simply absurd. The confusion may be seen at work in the arguments produced at the "trial" of *Lady Chatterley*. Mr. Griffith-Jones never managed to work out quite what it was in the book he was objecting to. He shifted easily between two different positions: the first, that Lawrence placed "undue emphasis" on matters sexual, and the second, that the book "advocated" adultery. →

can
literature
corrupt,
deprave
or
uplift?

Andrew Bear

English Department

I find the latter claim manifestly absurd, although not on the grounds argued by the defence. The point is not that Mr. Griffith-Jones had misread, and that Lady Chatterley's Lover doesn't "advocate" adultery at all, but that even if it did, this could not conceivably offer grounds for suppression. The trouble is that this approach implies the most naively literal minded idea of the "meaning" of a work of literature. It implies that the experience of reading involves no more than the extraction of "messages" or "morals" from the book, and, furthermore, that once "moral", they will immediately set about applying it in real life. That is, Lawrence emerges as a man writing some kind of evil propaganda, which may not be literature at all, and propaganda must be suppressed because the public is so gullible that it cannot help being taken in.

If this were so, the utopia of the advertising man really would be with us, but fortunately we need not worry that human behaviour will ever become so simple. Yet even more clearly than in the case of Lawrence, it must have been a confused version of this argument which led to the banning of *Lolita*. Whatever else may be said about this novel, it obviously cannot be objected to because it places "undue emphasis" on sexual detail, or even on sexual perversion, as Nabokov himself has said. *Lolita*, in fact, unlike *Lady Chatterley*, is quite remarkably unerotic, with Nabokov's irony directed continually against Humbert Humbert, making him anything but an attractive character; and anyway he is suitably "punished" for his sins by being made to die in jail. Indeed, on the moral propaganda argument, for what little it is worth, the "message" of this novel would seem to be that foolish men who seduce nasty little girls eventually go off their heads, which might well seem pretty innocuous.

The former proposition, however, is more complicated. Are the censors justified in wanting to suppress works which place undue emphasis on sex?

Personally I don't think they are although I am aware that this will put me right out on the left wing of the anti-censors. For as far as I can see, the moderates who support the "literary merit" criterion are simply confusing the issue. A book or a picture is either erotically stimulating, and if that makes them "dangerous" or "corrupting" (i.e. pornographic), then I can't see how their literary value changes the argument.

Where we go from here I don't know. The case for censorship has a kind of logic about it, but breaks down when one examines the premise that erotic stimulation has a harmful effect, while at its worst the main point becomes hopelessly confused with literal minded moralism. On the other hand, the moderate case for anti-censorship, viewed from a logical rather than a practical point of view, contains its own equally damaging confusions, centring round the notion of literary merit. Neither, in fact, really manages to answer the arguments of the other, although the confident tone of the various polemicists tends to obscure the fog in which they are moving.

Logically, then, it seems to me that the only solution is to abandon censorship altogether, although at the moment this appears about as likely as the Second Coming.

—ANDREW BEAR

"Australia's Defence"

Dr. T. B. Millar's study

Reviewed by M. C. Frazer

Based on the assumptions that the average Australian citizen can quite readily comprehend the problems of Defence and the proper steps to meet them, and that he can be given all the information he needs to discuss the subject intelligently without giving away useful information to potential enemies, "Australia's Defence" is a fascinating and often disquietening book. It is the only book available that presents to the general reader anything like a thorough survey of Australia's defence (and lack of it), and its author, Dr. T. B. Millar, of the Australian National University, has produced a thorough and non-partisan study.

Although hampered by the excessive secrecy practised by all Government Departments concerned with matters relating to defence, Dr. Millar has been able to produce a very clear and readable account of the structure, organisation and philosophy of

which this organisation was explained and discussed.

Defence is a subject of great concern to us all, and is of such importance that, one would think, extensive public discussion and thought should precede any major development in it. But the continual classification of much military information, and the Government habit of hiding behind "professional advisers" (who are then muzzled by the Official Secrets and Crimes Acts) means that any public debate takes place in a near vacuum. So with little public discussion and even less informed discussion, the Government and the services have been able to muddle along, concealing inefficiency and mediocrity, safe in the knowledge that any shortcomings in the state of the forces will not cause them any embarrassment. Sharp criticism is also levelled at the Government for the excessive intrusion of politics into what should be purely technical and economic matters. Here Dr. Millar cites the case

contributions to the Second world War and the Korean War finish an interesting chapter that well illustrates the most annoying feature of the book—because the subject is broad and complicated, and because the book is rather short, important questions are very often considered only briefly.

This shows up even more in the next chapter, which offers a very interesting summary of the most important geographical (both local and world), economic and political considerations of strategy. Such things as strengths of key local industries, transport problems, supplies of raw materials, our relations with our various allies and our importance to them, and the United Nations are considered. This is followed by a most interesting analysis of possible threats to our security. The possibilities discussed are Indonesia, China, Japan and a major East-West conflict.

The Japanese constitution does not allow that country

(but poorly serviced) forces and the probable lack of political stability when Sukarno dies, seem more dangerous—she would be even more so under a China-oriented Communist regime. Like most writers now, Dr. Millar considers an all-out East-West war as unlikely in the immediate future; of course in the event of one we would almost inevitably be involved.

Dr. Millar then plunges into the maze of defence agreements and treaties which Australia has signed, and although the discussion is at times difficult to follow, it is in general a very valuable guide to such agreements as ANZAM, ANZUS, SEATO, and the North-West Cape Naval Radio Station. The maze gets more complex as we enter the field of the Services in Australia. The three services are examined in order; their Administrative arrangements, training programmes, current strengths and proposed strengths are dealt with, and here some sorry figures appear. The general state of preparedness of our forces is, apparently, even lower than I had thought, and is very sick indeed. For instance, with the recent despatch of 1000 troops to South Viet Nam, almost half of Australia's field force is occupied overseas. Further, as the Canberra bomber is so extremely vulnerable (and as the F111 which is to replace it will not arrive until 1969 or 1970) Australia is without an effective air striking force for the next five or six years.

This review of the current strength of our forces is quite startling. For it shows so many gaps, so many shortages and so little ordered thinking and planning on the part of those supposedly charged with supervising our defence that one wonders how such ineptitude is possible. The chapter finishes with sections on Security and Intelligence, Civil Defence ("There is only one sign of



our defence forces. He has overcome (at least partly) the secrecy of the various departments by carefully reading such vital documents as the Commonwealth Gazette, Hansard, the newspapers and the telephone directory. And it is here that he makes a very strong criticism of Government policy. For, he asks, what possible point can there be in concealing from the Australian public defence details which are known to every foreign embassy in Canberra? But this happens—Dr. Millar quotes the case of the organisation of the Australian "Pentropic" Division, introduced in 1959 and abandoned in 1964. The structure of this Division was detailed in a restricted document, publication of which was (and Dr. Millar believes still is) a punishable offence.

Yet for four shillings any member of the Australian public could buy an American military magazine in

to possess military forces, but (partly under U.S. pressure) "Self-Defence" forces of surprising strength do exist. Japan's industrial prowess is well known, and she is becoming dependent upon Australia for supplies of vital raw materials. She is the world's largest ship-builder, and is developing atomic power for peaceful uses. Although at present she has no desire to attack Australia (or anyone else) Dr. Millar is more interested in the military/economic (rather than political) possibility; but even the latter, he concludes, may not be insignificant in, say, 20 years, particularly if there were a China-Japan detente.

China is next, and Dr. Millar concludes that at present China has neither the capacity nor the desire to attack Australia, and is not likely to be a serious threat for some time, unless much of South-East Asia falls under her sway. Indonesia, with her current aggressiveness, large

a serious consideration of Civil Defence: air raid warning sirens have been installed at Darwin", and on the Economic effects of current and increasing defence spending. Lastly, possible attacks on northern parts of Australia, and the defence of Papua and New Guinea are considered. The latter question is dealt with in detail for it is of obvious importance, in view of the common border with Indonesian West Irian. Dr. Millar here concludes (not surprisingly) that more defences are needed in these territories. His last chapter is devoted to some conclusions and proposals. The former may best be summarised by saying that the forces and Governments have sadly lacked original thinking and long-term systematic planning, and that Governments have displayed very little interest at all in defence. The proposals that Dr. Millar makes are varied, and in general seem sound. Many of them

"Defence" (cont.)

concern administrative, organizational or educational matters, and some concern further equipment for the services; notable among the latter are at least one aircraft carrier, submarines (including one or more nuclear-powered), heavy-lift helicopters, better field artillery or missiles, new transport aircraft, and, if neither the U.K. nor the U.S.A. is prepared to guarantee our safety in the face of a nuclear threat, nuclear weapons. Some of these recommendations could be strongly contested, but few would disagree with the necessity for more thought and planning in our forces. The book closes with a number of Appendices of varying degrees of interest.

In general it is a most fascinating book, throwing long needed light on a vital topic. As stated earlier, it suffers—several at times—from having to be brief. Perhaps some of these times reflect Dr. Millar's difficulties in prying the necessary information out of the Government systems, but they are none the less annoying. But this, and the several other small criticisms one could make, are minor points. For Dr. Millar has succeeded in providing a truly excellent guide to our present and planned defence forces. It is generally a very clear analysis of the situation, and although one may not agree with all of his conclusions or premises, one cannot but welcome the book as a major contribution to the extensive public discussion of defence that we should have, but don't. If this book is able to start such discussion then it will be of enormous benefit to us.

Whether such discussion results or not, Dr. Millar is to be congratulated on his book, which almost certainly will become the standard work on the subject. I can do no more than to recommend it without qualification as a book that all should read—particularly those males who turn 20 this year or in the next few!

Review copy of "AUSTRALIA'S DEFENCE" by Dr. T. B. Millar, Fellow in International Relations at the Australian National University, published in May 1965 by Melbourne University Press, supplied by the publisher. Available as a paper-back for 20/- (\$2) or in cloth, 35/- (\$3.50).

jerry-roll is....what?

About 100 members of the Monash Traditional Music Society listened to a recital of blues and work songs by John Duffy and Don Robinson on Thursday last week.

Both Duffy and Robinson exhibited an absorption of the blues of two traditions—the tradition of negro blues and that of contemporary "white" blues.

The latter is now being established by young white American blues singers, notably John Koerner, Dave Ray, Dave van Ronk and Geoff Muloney. The effect of this tradition was most evident in Robinson's performance, whilst Duffy is more in the context of negro blues, but is closer to, say, Lightning Hopkins than to Brownie McGhee.

The most outstanding thing about Duffy and Robinson is the completeness with which they have absorbed these traditions, as well as that of the negro work— and prison—songs.

These were perhaps the best-performed items in the entire concert and this is praise indeed, for the quality and presentation of all the material was of as high a standard as could be expected of blues singers who are white.

Why do we hear blues and work songs performed by Melbourne singers with such artistry and complete understanding of the blues tradition?

JOHN G. SINCLAIR

the dream of reason

The Dream of Reason has produced strange monsters. Comic, gruesome, or didactic, the monsters are walked proudly forth by their creators, the science fiction writers. In some sections of the science fiction world the important thing is to own a newer and further out monster than anyone else; in other sections the same bored and boring monsters plod their way from magazine to magazine. Mr. Broderick's monsters are more interesting.

As with any other kind of writing, the plots of science fiction stories do not have to be new to be compelling or successful. An able writer can make the most frayed of plot ideas seem newly made; in a sense they are, when they

have been worked over by a creative imagination. Imitable pursuit of a new gimmick for its own sake has spoiled too many science fiction stories. Too often we suspect that a writer has taken a popular scientific textbook, grabbed the first striking fact or idea he finds, and posed his marionette characters accordingly. If no one else has read the textbook, so much the better.

A large proportion of science fiction writing is for commercial magazines, and here the danger of presenting human beings in terms of cliché or glib assumption is especially strong. After all, our point of contact with the stories is in the Characters who think as humans, whether human or alien; to

bind them to the requirements of stereotype or preaching just isn't good enough.

So much the more credit to this collection, where we feel that Mr. Broderick is aware of his situations. He has really tried to realise what it would be like to be a man alone as an asteroid, a rootless wanderer through the galaxies. In treating these subjects freshly, he has an eye for the natural as well as the human. His portrayal of sense impressions is vivid, if at times undisciplined.

The writing does not always sustain what is to be said. Some passages are overloaded, and some strangely flat.

"And he turned at less pleasant pastimes. As a vir-

tual suzerain in the neo-feudal system of the vast business house, he tasted the dubious delights of sadism and masochism, orgy and perversion".

Several stories show a talent for burlesque which suggests that their author can be most effective when he is being serious, but not sounding so. "Little Tin God", a satire on good intentions, is particularly effective, despite some heavy facetiousness.

Mr. Broderick is a writer of definite promise. One of the best pieces in the book "Darkness Changeling", combines his feeling for the grotesque with a more assured use of language. May there be more to come.

LAURENCE DAVIES

*A Man Returned, Damien Broderick, Horwitz 1965, 4/6.

Monash author Damien Broderick's first book — "A Man Returned" — reviewed by Lawrence Davies — English Department.

Clearly at present, in Mr. Arian Rawlins, Melbourne has an arbiter of taste. His maxims are not confined to the jazz idiom which he so effectively espouses. He ranges much further. He has something to say about the cinema, about music in its widest sense, from Judy Collins to Olivier Messiaen, about the theatre, in fact about everything. And he is not averse every now and then to summarising the whole of European experience over the past couple of thousand years. He tells us about "the ridiculous systems which impede European music", and of the futility of this "little nasty Christian span (17 still-born centuries anti-man)". He has taken in Dante and Michelangelo and Shakespeare and Bach. He can see them for their worth. We in Melbourne have the benefit of a universal insight which orates its wisdom regularly in such mysterious trivia as "Toni is a wow", Clive O'Connell is "sooooo the hippest".

Honestly, just how anyone who was present at the I.S.C.M. concert on July 16 can come away prepared to see the two works on the program most worthy of serious consideration as the Michell and the McKimm is beyond belief. That some person can, at the same time, literally and wantonly throw down the Stockhausen and the Messiaen and pass over the Webern in a slick comment can lead to only one possible conclusion: he wasn't there. But he was — because I saw him. He was actually there. He actually heard the Messiaen and it sounded to him like "birdseed spilling out of a rotten packet". The Stockhausen employs "tomtoms to overlay rhythmic patterns in a way which a jazz musician would find clumsy and tentative". The Webern songs (?) "sent themselves up, as they are supposed to", the Maxwell Davies sounded like "Palestrina with a hangover". And yet of the two local works, we hear, in the case of the Michell, of "a work encompassing improvisation in a most original way and moreover, a work held together by an almost palpable unity of conception and execution"; and of the McKimm group that it once had enormous "creative potentiality" which has been stifled by lack of an audience for a couple of years of the unperformed composers. O'Connell, that he "has something to say, a vital attitude to communicate, a point to insist. And, above all, wit".

Now I am not trying to denigrate Michell, or O'Connell, or even at this stage, McKimm. But I do suggest that Mr. Rawlins' high-handed rejection of the European stuff, and his incredibly uncritical adulation of the local is not only completely thwarting any desire on the part of the reader to believe him, but is also doing the composers he is trying to praise a grave disservice. I somehow suspect a local composer would rather feel a sympathy which has been disciplined by much qualification than have himself thrown up as one of the most significant composers living. Because that is what Mr. Rawlins has done. Once you have got Messiaen and Stockhausen out of the way you have drastically limited the field.

Nor am I trying to argue that because a work is European it must be better. But I am saying that European music has got the facts on its side; that we can reasonably expect the core of European art at any time to be of some significance. It is more likely that Antonioni and Fellini are more significant than Mangamele; that Yeats is more significant than Hood; Picasso than French; Corbusier than Boyd. Because it is more likely we should be on our guard against the inversion of this, which, carried to extreme lengths, seems to me a sure indication of the "sham" at work. A dismissal of Yeats, or Picasso, or Antonioni, inevitably implies a pretty strongly arched, comparative discussion. Now it is no exaggeration to say that Webern, Messiaen, and Stockhausen occupy very central positions in 20th century music. They are not marginal issues;

of its relation to Schoenberg, with whom Webern at the time was studying. Does Mr. Rawlins hear any of the Gurrelieder, Verklarte Nacht, Pelleas and Melisande in it? Has Mr. Rawlins ever heard any of these works? These are not pointless academic questions. To feel the historicity of a work is very largely to know that work.

And what about this "well-measured sham" of Messiaen? Messiaen, whether you like him or not, is not sham. As a teacher he has had tremendous influence. In rhythm and dynamics he has performed an exhaustive personal enquiry. This is obvious from his music, from the "Vingt Regards". It is even more obvious in the "Vision de l'Aman", "Oiseaux Exotiques", "Turangalila". Yet unlike most teachers, his music is utterly original. There is a sort of cultivated naivety about Messiaen

just isolated composers. They have to a large extent moulded the music of our time. Outside Schoenberg and Stravinsky I doubt if there are two more important figures than Webern and Messiaen, not necessarily individually as composers, but as men who have significantly moved the path of music forward, because that is the only way it can go. In 1910, just where to go was clearly a problem. You have only got to hear the "Gurrelieder" and then the "Suite Op. 29" of Schoenberg, the "Firebird", and then the "Octet" of Stravinsky to be aware of this. Messiaen ultimately may not survive as a great composer. That he has carried on such an intensive inquiry, a quality so obvious in the "Vingt Regards", that he has been at the centre of European music for 20 years makes him a person to be at least dealt with. You could hardly say Mr. Rawlins has even tried to do this.

As for the "ridiculous systems which impede European Music" we can only conclude that Mr. Rawlins has put aside with a swift blow the "St. Matthew's Passion", "The Music-Flute", the Opus III Sonata. Would it be too pertinent to ask whether Mr. Rawlins has ever heard these works also?

Mr. Rawlins has done everyone a disservice. He has certainly done music a disservice. He acknowledges Melbourne to be a "backwater". Surely, surely anyone who is in the position of assessing a concert of contemporary music is going to be instructed by the need to endeavor to avert this "backwater" situation, to somehow stimulate an inquiry, if not an immediate interest. Mr. Rawlins was talking to several hundred, possibly thousand, people who were not at that concert. He had a chance to do something. Fair enough to dislike Stockhausen and Messiaen. But to wantonly throw them out without any explanation on their place in the music of our time, of their music in a wide sense, is to savagely abuse an entrusted privilege, the ability to attract fellow human beings to something which is not just marginal entertainment, but fundamental endeavour. The innocent chap who doesn't know a great deal of music, let alone 20th century music, departs from Mr. Rawlins' article in the belief that Stockhausen is a clumsy and tentative experimenter and Messiaen is a mystical rabbi. Webern is evidently a rather witty fellow who wrote songs that send themselves up.

Mr. Rawlins has decided for us. He has summarised the experience of the past. He has adjudicated the music of the present. Australia has the greatest composers. To hell with Messiaen and Stockhausen.

He came to us as the spokesman for the "avant-garde" against the 19th century concert player. But he has subtly and unconsciously armed him- self out of court. He was all the time the guilty party. He WAS that chap who in 1913 started the chair-throwing at the first performance of "Le Sacre".

GERALD J. FITZGERALD (Classics)

Rawlins CASTIGATED

they are clearly crucial. They are figures who have to be stepped over; they can't be sideswiped by hysterical juvenilia such as "clumsy and tentative", "a drab piece of well-measured sham" that sounded like "a drab VR shunt". In a report of a concert of six works four of them European, we ought reasonably expect more than a quarter of the length of the article to be devoted to the latter works. Yet Mr. Rawlins barely gave us a quarter.

Anton Webern is a figure of enormous importance, as a composer, as an influence on the music of our time. The work performed at the concert was on "a corolla chorus", not songs, as Mr. Rawlins informed us. It would seem to me that it might have been reasonable to expect some discussion of the work as a basis of his later music, of its dependence on music that preceded it,

which precludes academic reproduction. His pupils Boulez and Stockhausen really don't sound anything like Messiaen. In the end he may not be a great composer. He is certainly a reasonable one. At present he is certainly a most important one. He is a figure to be stepped over. Mr. Rawlins slips underneath him.

Is the attempt by Stockhausen to incorporate the element of "eternity" into systematic discipline a worthless procedure? Does it fail in others of his works, in "Zyklus", in "Refrain", in the "Klavierstücke". It is something which Stockhausen has been occupied for some time. It is not just a dilettantish fad. It is the reasoned endeavour of a musician in intelligence of some stature. "Zeit-messe" ought to be evidence of this.

And where do Australian composers stand in relation to these men? Webern, Messiaen, Stockhausen are not

Hiroshima— 20 years— 365 days of each year

It seems appropriate to make some comment about the film "Hiroshima Mon Amour" shown recently at the Union, particularly as it is now six years old and as August 6th was the twentieth "anniversary" of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. Many first and second year students were not born at the time this most-fateful of fateful events occurred. It thus tends to seem all very remote and past history to many people today. However in the film, Alain Resnais asks a question applicable both to those living at the time, and to those of us who were not. Do we have to have another Hiroshima to remind us of the first?

Superficially the film could be taken as a study of forgetfulness, memory and the influence of past upon present. A young French actress in Hiroshima making a peace film meets a Japanese architect the night before she is due to leave for Paris. Their passionate encounter opens the film and in this new love she remembers her first love

for a German soldier in Nev-ers, when she was eighteen. Resnais genius lies in the manner he uses to present this woman's recreation of the past through her present situation.

For her the past and present merge as she is forced to give up this new overwhelming love.

But it is not Resnais brilliant and original technique I wish to discuss, I see the film as an allegory. The juxtaposition of the woman's first love (which she has forgotten) with the hate that was Hiroshima (which we have forgotten) allows the use of two most basic of forces, love and hate, and balancing one with the other Resnais achieves a unity characteristic of all great works of art. His message is simple. What happened at Hiroshima was horrible enough but what perhaps is more insidious is that we could forget such horror (as the woman says—"Is it possible to have forgotten so much love?").

She needed a new love to trigger off her memoirs of that first love. Do we need

another bomb to trigger off our memories?

But the film also suggests that it is impossible for outsiders to comprehend just what misery and human suffering occurred after those fateful seconds it took for the bomb to explode.

"You know nothing of Hiroshima" the man says to her at the beginning — and she describes her three visits to the museum and visits to the hospitals. Yet still he repeats, "You know nothing of Hiroshima".

Very gradually as her love for him deepens (her ability to recount her first love to him is indicative of this) she gains a new awareness, and when they have to part, he comes to represent the real Hiroshima — not the city or the event of the history books or museums, the one that exists in the mind she knows. Resnais hopes that we too may gain fresh insight through empathetic communion with the woman.

Resnais is probably quite right in believing that we are not able to fully conceive the

horror of Auschwitz or Hiroshima. We have to invoke a mental block on such things as protection for our sanity and to retain our self-respect. However this is all the more reason why we should make the attempt to remember them at least as objective fact. How else is the younger generation to have a notion (whether facts and figures, or feelings) of war and its consequences. The popular press indoctrinate them with the child's notion of war as an exciting game — at worst a terrible responsibility that must be taken bravely, with no time to ask questions. What is exciting about death? And in World War II approximately 55 million died.

I think this is a great film not only because of its highly imaginative poetic style, but because Resnais through the film, says something of mammoth social significance.

August 6th is not the day we should think of Hiroshima. Hiroshima signifies something about 365 times as important as a "one day of the year".

Garry Joslin.

QUADRANT

reviewed by

Paul Marriott

"QUADRANT" JULY-AUGUST 1965 5/-

I am not a great reader of Australian literary/cultural magazines except the annual "Melbourne Critical Review", for with the exception of this magazine and perhaps "Meanjin" the standards are abysmal. One feels quite melancholy. The latest issue of "Quadrant" is no exception—bringing it out seems to be more in the nature of a habit than of any intrinsic quality it might have.

The three poems in this issue, with the possible exception of Mary Finnin's "Half Caste Drover" (but what a cliché) are perhaps good enough to grace the pages of an undergraduate magazine, but not those of with international pretensions. Martin Haley's "Shakespeare" (a good, but year-old, bandwagon).

Not for you the cult of that Virgin Queen Who was no virgin. You could have flattered her More fulsomely than Raleigh, but you were Of Southwell's race and Campions death had seen. Unlike proud Kit you spied not . . .

and so it trots its weary way through two stanzas, spilling platitudes and pseudo-wit.

And the poet might have a different idea of Shakespeare's attitude to Elizabeth if he read "Henry VIII".

Ruth A. Fink's "Background of a Politician", an anthropological study of Lepani Watson, who is now undersecretary for Economic Affairs in Papua-New Guinea, is one of the most ill-written pieces of patronising idiocy I have ever read.

"As a small boy, Lenani Watson regarded Europeans as a powerful and rather frightening race. Especially frightening were the government officials who came with armed escorts and had the power to take people away to prison".

This sickening school mistressesness is everywhere.

Gwen Kelly's short story "Water Lilies" as self consciously Australian as so often, but quite good, even though one cringes at such unappealingness as —

"... her skin ridged like red soil after plowing".

The essay "Dichotomy in Hindu Life" is clear and informative, reflecting perhaps the interest in things Indian in Australian Universities. For those whose knowledge of India, like my own, is restricted to knowing that she got her independence in 1947, it is well worth reading.

The last essay in the book is a collection of speech extracts on the Knopfmacher affair, that piece of revolting academic morality that seems to have been saved under the carpet. Edward St. John quotes that other terrible conservative, Dr. Johnson, as saying of Fox (actually it was Burke, but by page 69 one is quite prepared even for mistakes of fact) that no one could share shelter from the rain with him for five minutes without realising how was a great man. The imagination boggles at a comparison of Burke and Dr. K.

No, "Quadrant" is no "counter", and one wonders if not some of the small and their deathbeds only be magazines have not told of a habit of life.

PAUL MARRIOTT

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To be held in H.4. Thursday 12th, at 1.15 p.m.

Remember the time and place. They are important!

All students are requested to attend to consider the following:

- (i) Annual report on S.R.C. activities.
- (ii) The financial statement.
- (iii) Adoption of the S.R.C. Statute and a vital matter — redraft of the Constitution.

John Margetts,
Public Relations Chairman

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letters (cont.)

APATHY

Dear Sir,
One was amazed and horrified to discover the complete apathy with which the students of Monash University regarded the S.R.C.-sponsored Education Demonstration held last Wednesday, July 21, 1965. Of the 4,000-odd students attending this university only 150 actually supported this demonstration. Certainly the majority of students signed the Education Protest petition but the act of writing a signature requires little effort.

What is more amazing was the lack of support shown by the majority of studenthip holders, especially the third and fourth year students — students who in the near future will be teaching in the very schools in which the conditions are so appalling. Apparently these students have little concern for their future teaching vocations!

Monash's apathy on Wednesday last is a typical example of the dominant attitude of the majority of our university students, i.e. self-interest. So long as they are at the university, so long as they receive their degrees, so long as they have the qualifications to get the best "job" offered, the rest of the world can "go hang".

Is it that the term "student demonstration" has nasty connotations which prevent students from participating in such mass actions, is it simply — that it is below one's dignity to parade around the street with a placard, or is it the case that students believe demonstrations as such to be of no value to a cause?

The Demonstration Protest was of great value in that it brought, through the distribution of a special newspaper, press, radio and television coverage of the demonstration, the present education crisis to the public's notice.

One's dignity is usually lost through acting in a belittling manner — there could be no belittlement or nasty connotation about the student demonstration held last Wednesday, for the excellent organization and discipline of it was the product of intelligent, responsible students.

I wish to congratulate the organizers and participants on their successful Educational Protest Demonstration.

—JOHN McMAHON, Arts 3

ELECTIONS

Dear Sirs,
I write to express, through your columns, my thanks and deeply felt gratitude to those 31 souls who supported and voted for me at the recent S.R.C. elections (26-27 July). May I also express my congratulations on the display of intense student interest

shown by the 112 Ecopsians who bothered to vote for all candidates. Such a number expressed as a percentage of total faculty enrolment (over 800) surely says something for degree of involvement felt in student affairs by undergraduates — pathetic indifference.

Perhaps it is far too much to expect students to interest themselves and cast a vote once a year, if it is, then those of you who are vocal enough in criticizing the work of the S.R.C. and who do not avail yourselves of the opportunity of effecting its composition, can just bloody well keep silent, for your comments will, by me, be treated with the ignore they deserve.

I will, for my part, the gallant 31 who voted for me, the rest of you can go to hell, for, as far as I am concerned you don't exist, but have long since sunk into utter oblivion.

Yours,

I. BORASTON
Representing 31 Ecops
students, S.R.C.

FINES

DEAR SIR, —

The following is from page 18 of the University Calendar. Statute 4.1

3. (i) A member of the teaching staff of the rank of teaching fellow or above, not being a professor or head of department, may fine a student a sum not exceeding £5 and may exclude a student from attending his classes for a period not exceeding one week.

For professors it is £10 and two weeks.

There does not seem to be any direction as to where the money has to go after the power-crazed teaching fellow has fleeced the poor bloody fresher.

RORY BARNES

"EROS"

DEAR SIRS, — I was extremely impressed by the articles in the July 28th edition of Lot's Wife, particularly that on EROS. There are few magazines today which draw their material from around the globe — and this naturally has a limiting effect on the views expressed.

I hope you will continue to draw your material from such a wide basis. Thanking you for the stimulating and interesting articles.

—B. MACLEAN.

Dear Sirs,

The last edition of Lot's Wife was undoubtedly the best edition of a student newspaper produced in Australia.

The editorships of Messrs. Steedman and Frazer has obviously been a brilliant combination. The article on EROS was badly needed to show up injustices over censorship laws. Keep up the good work.

PETER WALKER

PERFORMANCE

Mr. Steedman,

I had the unfortunate experience of witnessing your "performance" on the Ray Taylor Show of Friday, July 23. As a young University, it is in our best interest to strive for a healthy public image; an image perhaps of young people using their minds critically and constructively, and with something intelligent to say. As editor of a quality University newspaper, I am sure that you must have something intelligent to say and I wonder why, instead of making an unsuccessful and awkward attempt to steal the limelight as a comic, you did not make a more intelligent and thoughtful comment on the topic under discussion — "the extent to which today's young people are interested and active in politics and political organizations". It seemed to me that you were being used by Taylor as the comic relief; the buffoon, to relieve the serious discussion now and again. After comment from the representatives

from the A.C.T.U. and the Young Liberals, it was supposedly your job to present the University point of view, by perhaps giving a short discourse on the extent of student enthusiasm and/or apathy, and perhaps an outline of the activities of the political and other societies at Monash. Instead we were treated to inane mumbblings and giggles along with such enlightening comments as "barbers are socially insignificant anyway" and other such gems. Only in the last fading moments of the interview did we hear one slightly relevant comment on conscription. I feel that students involved in TV or press interviews should remember that they are representing the University and not furthering their own careers as intellectuals or clowns.

ROSS MATTHEWS
(Education)

In answer to this I think it should be made clear from the start, I was NOT on the show to represent the University viewpoint. My appearance had nothing to do with me being at the University at all. This, I consider, destroys the whole argument of Mr. Matthews.

The facts are . . . Pat Tension contacted me and asked me to appear on the show and speak against a member of the Trade

Union Youth Group and the Young Liberals. I did not know the full details of this topic until just before the show. I was HIRED to do exactly what I did. Certain signals were given to me, such as the time to open the box on the desk. I would have liked to have had a serious discussion on the topic, but the limited time was further shortened as both speakers continued overtime to plug their party lines.

Not all people have such high standards as Mr. Matthews, and many considered I was entertaining. I repeat — I was not representing the University. I was making money to pay my rent.

It is unfortunate that there are several people such as Mr. Matthews around who seem to dog my every move, waiting to attack on the slightest pretext. One can only guess at their motives, but they become a bit boring and childish after a while.

It is pleasing to see, though, that even an intellectual giant such as Mr. Matthews, recognises a quality newspaper, although judging by his taste maybe I shouldn't feel pleased.

Below, as a matter of clarification, I print a letter received two days after my "performance".

Dear Pete — "Would you please accept our thanks for your contribution to 'The Ray Taylor Show' last Friday. Without this, the program could not have been the success we believe it was. A cheque to cover your expenses in joining us will reach you in a few days".

Pat.

Finally, I don't see how it can possibly be the business of Mr. Matthews, or anyone else, for that matter, what to do in my spare time, or any other time.

PETE STEEDMAN.

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Menzies kickback

Dear Sirs,

We were extremely disappointed to find such a mediocre collection of drivel served up as an attempt to analyse Sir Robert Menzies and his achievements. The common characteristic of the articles was their wanton disregard of fact and lack of real perception. Large extracts were taken verbatim from the book, "The Ruler" without any trace of acknowledgement. We had been led to believe that we were to get a reasoned and dispassionate analysis. Instead, we received several hatfuls of impious prattle.

To cite particular instances which call for criticism, let us begin at the Editorial. The Editors claim that those who have written (or copied) articles have substantiated and justified their views and that supporters of Menzies were unable to do this. This is arant nonsense, as we will show. We also object to being categorised by our neo-gods, the Editors, as "complacent and optimistic". We now proceed to the article by Mr. Head (with considerable help from "The Ruler"). Mr. Head is apparently not a well-travelled individual, since he does not appear to know that Australia has the third-highest standard of living in the world. To blame the good policies of Menzies on to "creative Labor planning" is sheer effrontery. We are left to presume that all the bad policies of Menzies were worked out by Unity Tickets and a Nuclear-free South Pacific — policies suicidal to the communal welfare of Australia, which, Mr. Head pathetically asserts, has not improved under Menzies? To suggest that Menzies has a "meagre regard for personal liberties" demonstrates the author's ignorance. The Crimes Act Amendments of 1960 do not extend the evidentiary propositions of the Common Law by one iota. The Labor Government of 1926 brought in an Act with identical provisions. The provisions were formally enacted in England in 1871; and Mr. A. A. Calwell said in Federal Parliament in 1960 — "No decent Australian does not believe that there should be stringent laws against offences constituting disloyalty". Does the Author not consider himself as a "decent Australian"? To suggest that Menzies was the driving force behind the Common Law, an English Act of 1871, a 1926 Labor Government, and the leader of the Federal Opposition is somewhat of an overstatement. Mr. Head proceeds to make wild generalisations, with a total lack of regard for the necessity of establishing proof.

Mr. Wilson would have us believe that Menzies has wrecked the economy of Australia. The fact that 75% of secondary industry is Australian-owned and that most overseas companies do have Australian share and debenture holdings is conveniently

overlooked by the author. As well, he exaggerates by multiplying the true amount of foreign investment by 10. The only unemployed in Australia are those who are completely unemployable. Vacancies outnumber job-seekers by 14 to 1. Even the few illiterates and alcoholics on the dole are not poverty-stricken and, Mr. Wilson, if we had no overseas capital then at least a quarter of our workforce would be unemployed. Perhaps this would suit you better than the present situation?

From our reading of Mr. Walker's article it would appear that we are fast starving to death in our slum environment. In the seven days since we read the article we haven't seen anyone starving yet. The plain fact is that only those who are too proud to seek assistance from charity suffer the slightest malnutrition in this country. No one starves, and very, very few live in anything remotely resembling slums. Mr. Walker does not even bother to define "culture", and what he means by the term is anyone's guess. He adduces no evidence whatsoever to establish his assertions. Perhaps Mr. Walker wants us to live in a single square mile of teeming skyscraper flats and leading such egotistic ivory-tower lives as he apparently strives for? If it is so bad here, Mr. Walker, why not return to England and let us poor colonials alone.

The unprecedented gall of Mr. Standish in submitting his readers to such soporific nonsense exceeds that of the other authors by the proverbial mile. The father of one of the writers was a senior advisory member of the Australian delegation in Korea and was decorated by the United Nations. This gentleman was justifiably incensed by Mr. Standish's suggestion that the Korean War was a myth. The facts were that China attempted to overrun the whole of Korea by a policy of externally-directed subversion and open revolt. As a person well-travelled in Asia and with friends in many Asian lands, this gentleman is aware of the ways in which China is attempting to expand. Apparently Mr. Standish does not realise that the true facts are that China was in tribute to Tibet and that Tibet was recognised by China as an independent State until 1950. To believe for one moment the extravagant, unlawful and unfounded territorial claims recently invented by China shows an abysmal ignorance of history, geography and international law. The armed incursions of China into India, Tibet, Korea and Formosa speak much louder than the words of Mr. Standish. Appeasement with China has been and will be proven as ineffective and naive as it was with Bismarck and Hitler. Why should Australia follow the mistakes of Britain? "Peace-loving China" has set 1970 as the date for

the conquest of Australia, and Mao Tse Tung has said "Power comes from the barrel of a gun". You could hardly expect us to believe your ridiculous assertions, Mr. Standish?

The remainder of the last issue of Lot's Wife is hardly worthy of comment. To subject university students to the standards of cheap paperbacks demonstrates the degree of subtlety of which the Editors are capable and the depth of their intellectual abilities. We look forward to an improvement in the standards of objectivity and in the type of content, and trust that this protest will be published in full. When will the authors cease to pound their passions to pieces and tear their tears to tatters?

G. L. Rice and J. C. Palmer,
Law II.

after the fall

Sir,

Congratulations on improving Lot's Wife to such an extent that it is unrecognizable from that of your predecessors. Your critical analysis of current affairs and personages is undoubtedly an excellent idea, especially in a paper with the supposed formative influence on awakening minds.

However, there are, without doubt, some who feel, as I do, that there is another side of the story, other than that which you present.

In the series of articles on conscription, apart from those of the extreme left wing. Perhaps these are the correct views, but it is an insult to the thinking person not to present the views of all major interested parties, and from these drawing a rational unbiased conclusion, or credit the reader with a modicum of intelligence, and leave them to draw their own conclusion.

It is interesting to compare the last issue of Lot's Wife to the first issue edited by Messrs. Steedman and Frazer. The first issue was obviously out to prove that new brooms, do in fact, sweep clean, in the latest issue, however, the brooms have become, in some way, soiled.

The attack on Tharam Dillon must have been a purely partisan view, possibly held only by its writer, as if it were general through the S.R.C. Mr. Dillon could hardly still be enjoying his position of President, nor has Mr. Dillon's autocratic ways removed the last vestiges of democracy from the S.R.C.?

Whatever the relevance of "Eros Denied" may have been, it escaped me. Possibly the editors are obeying the biblical injunction "Love Thy Neighbour", though how this is applicable to a person indicted on a charge of pornography is debatable.

The caricature of R.G.M. was, in part, an excellent article, but how the conclusion that a man who in 1965 does not practice what he wrote in 1917 is inconsistent, and therefore a virtual moron, is a mystery. It does not take into account that the thinking men (the graduate and student?), are those open to all sides of an argument and therefore is more likely to change their views.

To be a constructive critic, one must not criticise unless a better alternative is offering, otherwise we tend to become defeatist, and at present this is the stormy course Lot's Wife is steering.

P. L. THOMPSON
(Eng. I)

mumus speaks



The President S.R.C.,
and
Chairman Clubs and Societies
Council,
C/- Union Office,
CLAYTON July 30, 1966

Dear Sirs,
Unfortunately 1964 went by without the S.R.C. or the Clubs and Societies Council demonstrating any apparent interest in the fate of Monash Medical Students engaged in clinical studies at the Alfred Hospital Medical School and associated Teaching Hospitals. To date, this year has not been noteworthy for an altered approach; therefore, as a clinical student and President of the M.U.M.U.S., I am writing to protest on behalf of a section of the student body which is paying full-time Union Fees with no observable benefits, other than the inadequate Union Grant we have "extruded" from an unwilling Union for the partial equipping of Hospital Student Quarters.

Numerous matters have been brought to my attention in which we as off-Campus students have been neglected. The latest matter concerns yesterday's "National Forum on Vietnam", the organizers of which included the S.R.C., who are to be congratulated and encouraged to arrange further meetings of this nature. I was able to attend part of the Forum more through chance than design, only discovering the Forum to be in full swing when I arrived on the Campus for a prior engagement.

It may well be argued that the delivery of Lot's Wife and Union News Sheets which I arranged for students and staff at our main Teaching Hospitals would help overcome the impression of neglect and separation. But with News Sheets arriving as they do in the late afternoon of the day of publication—at the earliest, they are for the most part of no immediate value, except possibly for the News Weekly—when, and if it carries an accurate coverage of forthcoming events. Lot's Wife invariably reaches us well after release on the Campus — sometimes a week later, and thus is unable to keep us informed of current activities, serving more as an historical reflection of past activities on the Campus.

We off-Campus hold you and your respective personnel responsible for seeing to it that publicity (e.g., the numerous posters advertising the Forum on Campus notice-boards) be extended to bring such matters to the notice of all Monash students. We are, as I have pointed out, paying full-time Union Fees but remain unconvinced of the logic behind the demand that it is sufficient for £21 per head to be collected from us, and then have our existence cease to be noticed. Some-

how more than adequate personnel and interest were found and directed towards a publicity splash enlightening students in the Parkville-Carlton area of the Vietnam Forum.

I request that:

(i) At the next meeting of your respective committees these matters which I have raised are tabled for discussion and appropriate action instigated to ensure that in future all Monash University students are fully informed of all matters which concern them, be they S.R.C. elections, Forums, Educational campaigns, Union Nights, and, etc.

(ii) In future you and your respective committees make a concerted effort to involve all off-Campus students in Monash activities.

(iii) You acknowledge receipt of this letter and give some account of the permanent procedure to be adopted by you in overcoming this lethargic and apathetic approach, a state of body and mind you have so readily in the past ascribed as the sole hereditary right of the rest of the undergraduate population.

I have deliberately limited the account of our complaints, but it will not take much cerebration to realize that these are but few of the difficulties experienced by those of us who study some distance from the Campus.

Recent criticism in the student press has not improved the image of the "roof-organizations" in this University. To guard against the possibility of our protest being allowed to gather dust in some pigeon-hole in the Union Building, a copy of this letter is being forwarded to the Editors of Lot's Wife.

Awaiting your reply in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,
VIVIAN MARTIN

The issue of Academic Freedom

don gunnar

The topical interest in academic freedom arises out of recent events in Sydney. Although, to my knowledge, the University of Sydney has, at the time of speaking, made no statement, it is widely reported that a lecturer in the Department of Psychology at the University of Melbourne, who applied for the position of Senior Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy, has not succeeded in his application. It is reported that the duties of the position include the giving of lectures in Political Philosophy. But although the University of Sydney has made no statement, and, so far as I know, has not yet completed its deliberations, personal statements have been made to the press, letters have been written and published in the press, and petitions have been signed and published in the press. If we are indeed in the possession of facts, we are indebted to the press for them, though there have also been rumours, the reliability of which it is difficult to assess.

But this gives me pause. There is something wrong that I should be in possession of these facts, for I am not a member of a committee whose responsibility it is to select the best man for a position from a number of applications. It is not for me to say who should be appointed to a position in another University. Confidential material whether in whole or in part should not be available to those outside the deliberative bodies concerned.

I pause for a further reason. It is an absolutely fundamental academic freedom that appointing committees and boards should be permitted to come to their decisions without a press campaign to influence them, without the threat of litigation, and without round-robins from other academics and undergraduates, instructing them in the decision they are to make. So I am here to protest that academic freedom is threatened by such pressures as this very protest meeting.

The responsibility of an appointing committee or board is to make a decision which will best serve the needs of their University. Their responsibility is not to please other people. Their responsibility is not to please any particular group of people by their decision. Their responsibility is not to please any candidate. The responsibility which

they must discharge, is to see to it that their University will be well served by the decision they make.

The confidential nature of the proceedings of appointments committees and boards is by no means a privilege; it is a provision which is essential for the proper functioning of the deliberative machinery designed for making a wise appointment. Let me give you an example. It is not uncommon for referees to be asked to arrange a list of candidates' names in an order of distinction. This may help a committee or board, especially if one name consistently heads the lists. Clearly it would be invidious to make such lists public. Who would ask for them and who would provide them, if they were to be made public?

When there happens to be only one candidate for a position and when the University does not find the candidate suitable for the particular position they hoped to fill, it could be needlessly damaging to the candidate, if they were to make public the fact that the sole candidate was not appointed and the reasons which influenced them in their decision. For the candidate may be eminently worthy, and very suitable for another position which another University will offer, and his candidature for this next position should not be prejudged in any way by the determinations of the earlier committee.

Furthermore, for the sake of academic freedom, as well as for the sake of excellence in Universities, it is essential that those who are appointed to positions within Universities should have security of tenure. It would frustrate the ends proper to Universities if, say, with every change of government, there followed a change of occupants of University positions. It might well put those whose pursuit was truth at a disadvantage with those whose pursuit was place, or power, or a platform for some cause extrinsic to the pursuits proper to Universities. The more the formal arrangements became advantageous to time-servers or machine men or to men whose over-riding loyalties were to other external movements, which they happened to be caught up in, the more the character of Universities would be destroyed. But if any particular University is to keep the principle of security of tenure bright in the eyes of all men of goodwill, then it must do what it can to see that those whom it affords security of tenure are men who want to, and who will pursue the ends and purposes proper to Universities. A University must be careful to appoint men whose activities will not jeopardise, obstruct or frustrate the proper ends of Universities, but men who will on the contrary promote them. An appointing body, in fact, entrusts

the pursuit of ends proper to Universities to those whom it appoints.

It follows that, at the time of making an appointment, some properly constituted body within the University has the responsibility of considering the MAN to whom they may, or may not, entrust some of its proper pursuits. For, of course, the University is not appointing a set of paper qualifications to a position. The University is appointing a man. Whether a man will serve a University well depend not only on his current learning, not only on his originality, his ability to break new ground, but also on qualities of character. Character requirements cannot easily be formulated in a simple rule, and so it becomes largely a matter of judgment, and judgments may vary from one honest man of goodwill to another. That is one reason why there are committees and boards and sometimes protracted deliberations. It does not follow that, because there are dissenting judgments, there must be some dishonourable motive influencing someone's decision. There are quite honourable and defensible differences of judgment.

It would be a mistake, therefore, to think that the virtues and vices of a man are necessarily irrelevant to the discharge of his duties, and that a Professional Board, say, has no business to consider a man, when a committee or sub-committee of that Board has been given the task of examining the paper qualifications of the candidates. So far from being an unwarranted interference, it is a responsibility of a most important kind. In some parts of the world an appointment is not made without an interview with the MAN.

Consider a hypothetical case. A man has good qualifications, but his health is bad. He can work only intermittently, so, although he may be able to do useful work writing, a Board might judge it doubtful whether he could discharge heavy, regular, teaching duties, and accordingly appoint another man to the position.

Another hypothetical case. A man's paper qualifications are good, but unfortunately he finds it necessary to make a fast intake of alcohol before he addresses any class. There is nothing against his paper qualifications, degrees, publications, etc., but this particular fault may unfit him for the discharge of some of his duties. This fact should be treated confidentially but it would not be wrong of a University to decline to appoint him. It is the University's business to see that the proper work of the University is likely to be carried out well and not frustrated. It would clearly not serve the proper ends of a University, to appoint a man who

Sixth S.R.C.

On Wednesday evening last, the first meeting of the sixth S.R.C. took place in an atmosphere of healthy optimism and enthusiasm.

Mr. David Griffiths, who has for some time now been a prominent figure in student activities was elected President of the sixth S.R.C. His rival candidate, Mr. George Pappas, was elected vice-president.

Mr. Griffiths has been the driving force behind numerous surveys (including the famed 'Library Report', an epic in its time) and has been active in organising the S.R.C. Education Committee of which he was chairman.

Mr. Pappas was founder and president of the Law Students' Society, and has worked for a considerable time on the latest S.R.C. constitution.

The post of S.R.C. general secretary was filled by Mrs. John Conway, and as a new member Mr. Conway deserves special congratulations, and an extra wish of good luck — the secretaryship is not an enviable responsibility.

The new Resident Executive is: President, David Griffiths; vice-president, George Pappas; general secretary, David S. or; N.U.A.U.S. secretary, Gayle Courtney.

The General Executive is: Activities Chairman, Paul

Harrison; clubs and societies chairman, John Pittendrich; publications chairman, David Thomson; public questions chairman, Ken Anderson; public relations officer, Keith Staples; public relations chairman, John Margetts; liaison officer, John Larson; educational affairs chairman, Lucille Morgan.

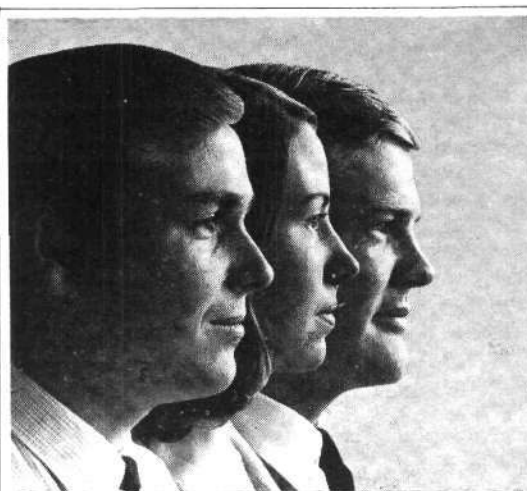
Mr. Peter Byrne is assistant treasurer, and Andrew Theophanous is chairman of the editorial board of "Tumbriel" — the S.R.C. secondary students' newspaper.

With a fresh start the sixth S.R.C. has the opportunity of achieving much—Mr. Griffiths has promised more action, closer contact with students, and a generally revitalised approach.

In the task of succeeding to maintain the confidence of its own members, and of the student body, we wish the new S.R.C. the best of luck.

A genuine interest in student affairs is difficult to keep as a primary concern, and it is encouraging that Mr. Griffiths' record shows such convincing evidence in this regard.

Finally the fifth S.R.C., and especially president Mr. Tharum Dillon deserve congratulations for its achievements of the past 12 months. —P.G.F.



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was insufficiently concerned for truth or justice, or insufficiently concerned for the well-being of men and women. I am not making a point about objectivity. In my opinion some people rely too heavily on the words "objective" and "objectivity", which are used to refer to many different things and frequently call for further explanation. I seem to have read of a certain skill which Dr. Goebbels had of describing the current state of Germany and offering a solution, first from the standpoint of a Social Democrat, then from the standpoint of a member of the Catholic Church, then from the standpoint of a Communist, then from the standpoint of a member of the National Socialist party. I seem to have read that he showed such brilliance in these performances, that they were sometimes requested of him as a party trick. Now someone might say, with fair plausibility, that this gift showed rare objectivity, but in spite of his doctrine and in spite of his experience of the world, and in spite of his rare gift of objectivity, an appointing committee might judge that for other reasons, the pursuits proper to a University would not be well served by entrusting to Dr. Goebbels the discharge of some of its functions. So I say people should not rely too heavily on the words "objective" and "objectivity".

I have tried to indicate why I think a Professional Board for some other properly constituted deliberative body within the University ought to consider a man as well as the pieces of paper. Now I shall add the thought that it is not only a small selection committee who will have to work with each new man appointed; it is not only the members of one particular department or faculty among whom he will work and associate. He will be the colleague of all academics in the University.

It should be possible for appointments to be made by deliberative bodies, without reasons being demanded for the decisions they make. (Does everyone feel entitled to know the reasons which led to the appointment of a particular man as Judge? Do we all feel we must demand to know the reasons a business house has for a particular appointment it makes? Is the army thought to be answerable to everyone for the decisions it makes concerning the suitability of a man for a post?) In particular, a deliberative body should not be hustled or put under pressure to come to one decision rather than another, by press campaigns or mass meetings of undergraduates, any more than it should be directed by governments, religious or commercial interests, or political parties, or education departments.

An appointment to a position in a University is not a popular election and electioneering devices are out of place. By giving your vote or your name to a demand that a properly constituted deliberative body should come to this or that decision you would be attempting to exert an improper influence upon it. You would be pre-judging an issue. And what you would be doing, you would be doing in an injudicious manner. For you do not have before you all the relevant matters to deliberate upon. You would not be employing any systematic procedures of question

those who institute totalitarian regimes, and those who would institute totalitarian regimes if they could attack constitutional safeguards and legal procedures, and it is always because they have purposes or causes or a loyalty to a movement which they deem to be deeper or higher than the proper ends of the institutions whose legal safeguards they destroy. To some people, especially to those who are bored with their lives, a totalitarian movement provides an excitement, which, say, respect for the independence of the judiciary lacks, or the University's

the Nordic Race. They ceased to be in any state of mind to respect the proper pursuits of Universities and their procedural and constitutional safeguards. For these people it became more important to appoint to Universities men who were caught up in the same movement. For these people, it became more important to catch up the Universities themselves into the same movement, thus subverting Universities to ends not their own.

Similarly, a self-righteous member of a Communist Party, with a strong sense of mission and an over-riding loyalty to the movement he is caught up in, might be impatient of the restraints imposed upon him by the pursuit of the proper ends of Universities and the safeguards protecting their pursuit, and, however worthy he may judge those ends to be, he cannot think of them to be of such value that they should not be subordinated to the cause which claims him and which he imagines is a higher cause. Therefore, he, too, is prepared to see Universities subverted to ends not their own.

Alas! Anti-Communists, especially anti-Communists, who are ex-Communists, are also apt to be self-righteous, and all too liable to believe that the movement they have been caught up in has an importance which overrides all matters. They are liable to think that the pursuits proper to Universities and the safeguards protecting those pursuits are of minor account when compared with their mission to combat communism. With a strong sense of the righteousness of their cause, even with religious fervour they too may proceed to subvert Universities to ends not their own.

I want you to consider certain aspects of the present issue before us. First, we would not be speaking about the application of a particular man to a particular position in the University of Sydney, had not at least some one person felt it more important to make a public issue of the matter, than to respect the confidential and constitutional procedures of the deliberative body of which he (or they) were members. In some measure this violates the body from within.

The response was immediate. Statements were reported in the press. Letters appeared in the correspondence columns. Petitions had names attached to them and were published. And this activity occurred in several states. And you are now asked to add your voices to the clamour. All this violates the integrity of a deliberative body by applying pressure from outside it.

I doubt if any of this would have been done without a sense of the righteousness of some cause. For it

is the sense of a cause, the being caught up in a movement, which is so efficacious in blinding people to such a fact as that the issue before them is the merits of a particular case. The particular case of a man apply for a position, and the particular decision of a deliberative body upon his application.

Ever those academics who, scattered throughout the Commonwealth, gave their names to the impertinent directive instructing the Professorial Board of the University of Sydney just what it was to decide have been known to express their doubt. Their extraordinary position appears to be this, "In spite of our doubts about appointing this particular man, we nevertheless instruct you to appoint him, and we will regard it as a breach of academic freedom if you do not." This extraordinary interference with the deliberations of an academic body is presumably supposed to be accepted as the normal give and take of University life. A fair reply might go as follows, "It is precisely because of the doubts which you acknowledge, that we must not make the decision you demand."

What do people have doubts about? What might they have doubts about? People might feel doubtful about appointing a man to a position if they find him to be overmuch given to calling other people "moral degenerates". They might feel even more doubtful if he goes into print likening other people to "rats", or if he refers to other people as "human rubbish". If you think another man wicked, evil or bad, this may have to be accepted, for men are sometimes evil, wicked or bad. And if you think a man is a bad man you at least still think of him as a man. The phrase "moral degenerates" suggests that much that constitutes manhood has collapsed and perhaps human status is questioned. But words such as "rats" and "human rubbish" suggest that the writer has ceased to regard certain people as human beings at all, and even bad human beings to be argued with or shown the error of their ways, for vermin and rubbish are disposed of by the methods of hygiene.

A responsible man on an appointments committee might then feel doubtful. He might say, "If this man were to become a teacher and examiner of undergraduates, in this University, how would it fare with them if he should decide that they are like rats? How will they fare if he comes to think that some of his undergraduates and examinees are 'human rubbish'?" To be able to justify the wisdom of appointing such a man he would have to overcome these doubts. But he might find these doubts too hard to overcome.



Nobody wanted to hear my views on Vietnam. But I made sure to let them know the whole meeting was a conspiracy against me.

and answer to diminish the areas of doubt. No! You would be doing it in the spirit of a campaign. In the name of academic freedom you would be attacking a fundamental academic freedom. For one of the most important bastions of academic freedom, and freedom generally, is respect for the integrity of properly constituted deliberative organs. Some legal forms and procedures are safeguards against improper pressure and intimidation, exerted by those whose interest in the decision springs from something other than respect for the proper ends of Universities, amongst which, we all here agree, are to be included the discovery and promotion of truth, justice and the well-being of human kind.

It has often been pointed out that

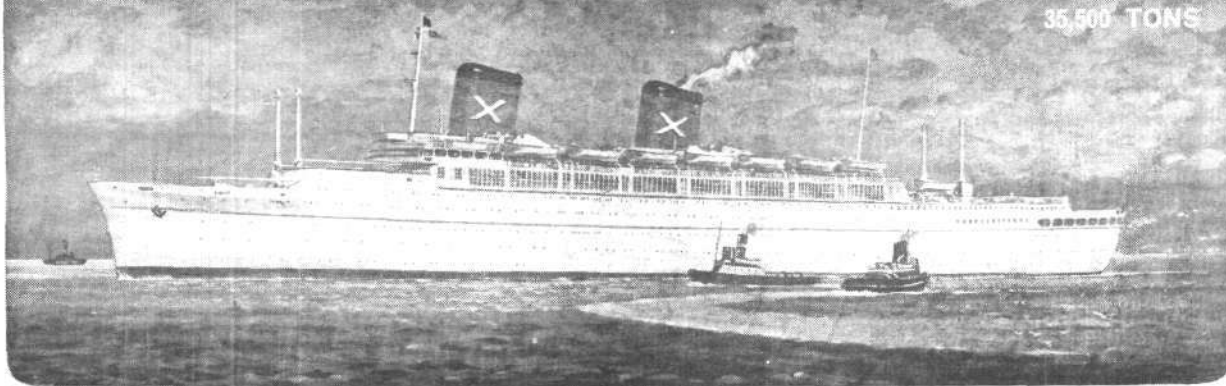
proper pursuit of truth lacks. It would appear to be difficult for most people to become hysterical about the independence of the judiciary or the fact that Universities are, in the ordinary course of things, adding to knowledge.

In the recent past, people have allowed themselves to be caught up in movements whose over-riding concerns were hostile to many human freedoms, including academic freedom, including the freedom of deliberative bodies to make appointments without pressure from intrusive movements.

Thus many German people, uncritically, even hysterically, were caught up in the National Socialist movement to establish The Thousand Year Reich, and the World Supremacy of

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bushwalking

The joys of Bushwalking — join us and you too can spend your week-ends like this! The club runs many walking and climbing trips for both beginners and veterans; instruction in rock climbing (as illustrated) freely given. Come and join our happy family!



This year has seen the start of a new era for the Monash Ski Club. This organisation, under the capable and enthusiastic leadership of Daryl Evans, has grown from a club catering exclusively for the experienced skier to one which can now offer a wide range of benefits to the novice. The club's main aim this year has been to try to reduce the prohibitive prices of ski equipment to give more students the opportunity of trying this sport. The club now offers beginners the chance to hire good quality skis and other equipment at a very low cost while also enabling students the chance of gaining large concessions by buying equipment through the club. Next year we hope to extend this service further and stock a greater variety of equipment which will again be available at a low charge.

However, the main benefit which the Ski Club will be able to offer to members next year will be the club's very own lodge. This project, started by last year's committee and carried on by another energetic and responsible committee, has finally crystallised, and with the aid of an \$8,000 grant from the University, a lodge is being built at Mt. Buller. Under the guidance of Mr. Rozvany and with the help of Mr. Doug Ellis, the final plans for a 32-bunk lodge have been completed, and it is hoped to have it built in time for the next season. Final details of membership have yet to be drawn up, but it seems probable that members of the Ski Club will have first choice of bookings and non-members will be allowed, if there are vacancies. Members who graduate will be able to pay a nominal sum and obtain life-membership. It is applicable here to mention that work parties will be required in the Summer Vac. for the construction of the lodge. All those who participate will have, as some recompense, priority booking of bunks as well as free accommodation in the next season equivalent to the time spent on one of these parties.

The most current event of interest, however, is the Inter-Varsity Championship being held at Thredbo in New South Wales. To say the least, the M.S.C. was very confident of carrying off the championship, but a definite win has been robbed by un-

foreseen events. Two members of our team who were in the Australian Training Squad, David Bretherton and Sue White, have both suffered broken legs and will not race again this season. Two other members, Roger Evans and Jenny Biggs, have both been selected to race for Australia in the Inter-Dominion Championships in New Zealand during August, and will miss some of the Inter-Varsity events. On behalf of the club, I would like to congratulate these two members for being the first two Monash University students to represent Australia in any field of sport, and we wish them the best of luck. Fortunately, the team possesses great depth, and the club is still confident of taking first place.

You can see that there is a lot indeed ahead for the Ski Club. However, its progress is going to depend largely on YOU, the student. The Ski Club needs your active participation to give the committee support for its present project and future ambitions. So therefore, keep your eye on the notice boards and news sheets, and see what the most progressive sporting club at Monash is doing, and if you can help in any way, PLEASE DO.

rugby

The performance of the Club over the last four weeks has been very disappointing. The 3rd grade side, which appeared to have the minor premiership won, are now second on the ladder as the result of a drawn match with Geelong and a disgraceful loss to R.A.A.F. The 4th grade side finished the season badly with two consecutive losses, and were well out of the four.

The result of our annual match against Melbourne University was a convincing win to Melbourne, although we were by no means disgraced. John Counsell's selection in the University team to play the University of California was well deserved, and a fitting reward to his great games throughout the year.

It can only be hoped that these losses will bring back some spirit into the Club, and that the 3rd grade side can at least win the major premiership.

monastic sport

Sportsman

of the Week

David Ong is from Malaysia and a 2nd year Economics student. Before coming to Australia he held the State Badminton Junior Championship in Kuala Lumpur, and was in the Malayan Combined Schools Badminton Championship. Since his arrival in Australia he has been winning badminton tournaments and at present he is the holder of the following titles:—

Singles: Victorian Championship, 1963 and 1965.

Doubles: Victorian Championship, 1960 to 1965.

Singles: National Silver Bowl Competition 1965.

At present he is the President, Captain and Coach of the Monash University Badminton Club. He played in the 1963, 1964, and 1965 Inter-varsity competitions and was undefeated. A few weeks back David and his nephew, Andrew Ong, represented the Geelong Badminton club against the touring New Zealand team. In 1963 he received a Full Blue Award.

His other hobbies are golf, squash and bowling.



MONASH RESERVES

Completely over-ran Old Brighton with strong attacking play. The side teamed well and more than doubled Brighton's score.

Notable performances were - John Shannon coming back into form, and Chris Reilly kicking seven goals.

MONASH BLUES v. ST. BERNARD O.B.

Beauty treatments were all the rage out at the Essendon mud pack on Saturday, and all players except "the pimperl" Sharp, took advantage, and gave themselves a good coverage. The game was of great importance to the Blues if final four hopes were to be realised.

Scores were undoubtedly going to be low, but Paul White took a guess at the scoring end and Monash kicked that way. Most of the play was at a very low altitude (approx. three inches) but Monash managed to get the ball into flight several times and had a good lead at quarter time.

In the second quarter Monash increased their chances of a win mainly through the strong play of Peter Wells and George Shand in the full back line. Soccer tactics were increasing in popularity. Alet Barr would have been proud of the way Monash adapted itself.

Half-time — Blues 10 points up.

The third quarter was very even with Monash having a lot of play, but not capitalising with many goals. Rattasry was blazing away from all angles, without bringing up a major. St. Bernard's scored against the wind, and Monash were still 10 points up.

The last quarter was one where spectators drink too much, smoke too much, and the weaker ones suffer heart attacks. The scores were level for a greater part of the term.

In the closing stages, Monash were too strong, and Pete Rattasry snatched the winning goal against the wind.

Goals: Graham 2, Farley 2, Rattasry, Wetherton, Longney.

Best players: Farley, Shand, Wells, P. White, Sharp.

Final scores: Monash 7.11 (53); St. Bernards 7.7 (49).

baseball

On Sunday, August 1, the club held its annual field day barbecue, which was very well supported by parents, friends and players, at the Ferny Creek Reserve.

Proceedings kicked off at about 10.30 a.m. when the first field day game was played. The prize went to the person who could flip a bottle top off a C and U bottle using a metal toothpick. This prize was nearly won by Bob Dixon who was then made to drink the dozen bottles he practised on. This game was followed by lunch and then further field games, in which Steve Engel, our noted skipper, Victorian representative, coach, best catcher, won two out of three events. A special mention must be given to Bob Reid who threw a baseball 110 yds in the long throw competition. The games were followed by the judging of Miss Baseball "Bird" and Miss Baseball sister, the judging being done by Mr. Doug Ellis and his wife.

The day ended on an exciting note when Steve Engel heroically rescued John Brazier, who got lost chasing lyre birds through Sherbrook Forest, from under a dark bush. Steve apparently found the bush very dark and a further rescue party had to be sent out later.

On the serious side, Monash scored a triple win last Saturday, against Ivanhoe one of the top sides. This win has put the seconds back in the four while giving the firsts confidence for their inter-varsity trip next week. It appears that our hard training is paying off.

If the performance can be kept up, it appears that the firsts will finish fourth or fifth, while the seconds will play off in the finals. The thirds while not winning as many games as the other sides are doing extremely well when it is considered that about half the side has not played competitive baseball before.



Sportswoman

of the week

Tammy Silver, 19, Arts I, has had an outstanding career in the sphere of Table Tennis.

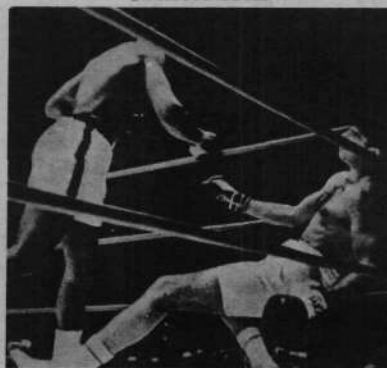
Last year she was a member of the Hakoah Women's A Grade premier team, and was ranked number 4 junior in Victoria. This year Tammy was the most outstanding player at I.V. in Adelaide, being undefeated in singles matches and taking off the Women's title — she was also runner-up in the Women's doubles. Tammy was consequently selected number 1 in the Australian Universities Team and defeated one of the State players in the match against a South Australian State side.



At Monash Tammy has just taken off the triple in our own table tennis championships namely — women's singles, doubles and mixed doubles: other interests at Monash, "David". In the Victorian Table Tennis Championships just completed Tammy was seeded number 8 in the women's open singles and reached the quarter finals of this event.

Perhaps the highlight of her table tennis career is yet to come when in the vacation she will be representing Australia in the Macabiah Games (Jewish Olympics) in Israel — all at Monash congratulate Tammy on her selection and wish her the best of luck.

INTER-VARSITY BOXING CARNIVAL



Come one — come all — Union Hall

August 17th - 18th - 19th at 7.30 p.m.

See some of the best amateur boxers in Australia competing in all weights

woman's hockey

Despite its outstanding record over the last three seasons, the Monash Women's Hockey Club has not been very successful this year. Although it could be said that even COMPETING in A Grade takes a pretty good team.

Monash has a team in A Grade because over the years its success has been most pronounced. In 1963, our second year of association hockey, our only team took the C Grade premiership; 1964 saw us field three teams in B, D and E Grades — B grade were premiers, D runners-up on percentage, and E had to forfeit after reaching the finals.

The high standard of play in A Grade, however, has proved difficult for our team this year, but the team members are confident that they will be a force to be reckoned with next season.

C, D and E Grade teams were also entered for Monash this year but lack of players forced the E team to be dropped. C Grade has had a poor year with only two wins, and D Grade, who were on top of the ladder in the early part of the season, have slumped disappointingly out of the four.

Nevertheless, the year has been one of progress. Two of our players neared State selection, and except for in D Grade, our general standard of play has improved over the season. Next year the teams will be more stable, with a year's experience in their grades, and everyone is determined that next year Monash will give the "four" of each grade a good shake.

monash cross-country

The first Annual Monash 10,000 meters Cross-Country Championship, held over a wet and partly muddy course at Sandown Park on July 21, resulted in invited athletes taking off most of the honors.

The winner, Colin Eaton from R.M.I.T., led all the way and won comfortably in excellent time. The Monash winner, Barry McIntyre (Arts) also beat the other Monash athletes home by a comfortable margin, but only finished in 6th place. The inter-faculty contest was won by the Arts Faculty.

The field of 27 starters, including 6 competing by invitation, was most encouraging, as Melbourne University,

with three times the student numbers, rarely have more than 10 starters in their Cross-Country. This is a good sign for the future of athletics at Monash.

Results. Overall placings — C. Eaton (R.M.I.T.), 34 m. 13.7 s.; J. Blewett (Coburg Teacher's College), 35 m. 3 s.; J. Connell (Melbourne Teacher's College), 35 m. 30 s. 3.

Monash placings — B. McIntyre (Arts), 6th overall, 37 m. 13 s.; J. Stafford (Ecops), 7th overall, 37 m. 45 s.; S. Fitzgerald (Ecops), 8th overall, 38 m. 28 s. 3.

Inter-faculty results — Arts, 39 pts.; 1: Ecops, 48 pts.; 2: Engineering, 65 pts., 3.

Monash University Russian Club

This Russian Club has attempted to be as active as possible this year and has had among its activities sherry parties, evenings, lectures, music sessions, and cultural outings. Our most popular activity has been of some of the best known Russian films of this century. During third term we will have four more 35 mm. screenings in the Union Theatre which will all start at 7.

9th September: "Quiet Flows the Don" (Part 2)

16th September: "Don Quixote"

23rd September: Dostoevsky's "Idiot"

30th September: Tolstoy's "White Nights"

MISS MONASH — MISS W.U.S.

This year was the most successful to date for W.U.S. We raised a total of £1,100, almost half this (£500), was raised by Judy Tyler's backing group, the Monash Jewish Students Society. This is a commendable effort, and I am sure that all of the students join the committee in thanking Judy and her society for their efforts.

In winning the title of Miss W.U.S., Judy receives these prizes generously donated by the following firms:

A Dinner in the Mayfair Room of the Southern Cross Hotel.

Theatre Tickets to "Les Ballets Africains" from J. C. Williamson Theatres Ltd.

Dinner Set valued at £35/15/- from Forum, 40 Lower Plaza, Southern Cross Hotel.

Stockings from Prestige Ltd.

A presentation box of chocolates from James Chocolates Pty. Ltd.

Jane Cocks was chosen as Miss Monash after an afternoon's judging held at Deakin Hall. The panel of judges

that had the task of deciding, consisted of Mr. John Waterhouse, Assistant to the Vice Chancellor (who incidentally, has helped as a judge for the last three years), Mrs. Elaine McFarling (Fashion writer for the Herald), and Mr. Ken Sparkes, our 3UZ "After Dark" D.J. The combination of these judges provided the best panel that has sought to choose a Miss Monash to date.

Jane has won for herself these prizes, also generously donated by the following firms:

A trip to either Sydney, Adelaide, Canberra or a Tasmanian Port and return, with the compliments of Ansett-ANA.

Cross (to accompany Dinner at the Southern Miss W.U.S.)

A Portrait Photograph from Southern Cross Photographic Studios valued at 15 guineas.

A Hickory Wardrobe from Dowd Associates

A Cuddly Teddy Bear donated by Harold Blair.

The remaining contestants have not been forgotten, and this year, owing to the generosity of the following firms, all of the girls will receive prizes from the following donors:

Lingerie Boutique Pty. Ltd. —Southern Cross Plaza Ronson Gas Lighter — Southern Cross Plaza.

Hair Care from Southern Cross Hairdressing Salon Camille Fashions of Southern Cross Plaza

Ponds Cold Cream and Cutex Cosmetics from Cheshborough-Ponds

Toronto Fashion Shoes from Opat Bros.

Complimentary Dinners from "Capers" and "Rob's Carousel".

TYPIST

requires work at home Reasonable rates

For further information please phone 97 2386



Left to Right: B. McIntyre, C. Eaton, J. Connell



APOLOGY

In the Political spectrum of the last edition of "Lot's Wife" we printed the name Prof. J. Legge Melb. Uni. This should have read Mr. J. Legge Melb. Uni. We apologise for any misunderstanding that may have stemmed from the misprint.

Australians

"Generally speaking, the mass of Australians are uninformed, unenlightened and undiscriminating. Only a small proportion of people anywhere have any intellectual standards, but in Australia the proportion is smaller than anywhere else. "Neither the youth of Australia nor the supposed smallness of the population is any longer an excuse. We have had the advantage of seeing what older countries have done and of learning from them, but we haven't learned much. Many countries in Europe with smaller populations than ours are more advanced in matters of intellect.

"The trouble is that ours is a materialistic society. Beer, the races, and matters of show count for a great deal, and things of the mind take a back seat.

"The wealthy people of Australia are of very little value to this country on the intellectual side. Many wealthy Americans have made rich contributions to their country's intellectual advancement, but the wealthy Australians who have imitated them here are pitifully few."

—Mr. F. G. Coles at the recent auction of his library of Australian books.

"THE AGE 31/7/65

THRESHOLD

THRESHOLD was initially conceived of as a magazine of psychology for students and staff at Melbourne University.

Now THRESHOLD aims to provide a medium for all writers in the field of psychology, psychiatry, sociology and anthropology throughout Australia. The new printed THRESHOLD will be distributed in all Australian universities, and Melbourne and suburban bookshops.

Besides being a medium for student thought in the behavioural sciences, THRESHOLD hopes to provide graduates and professional workers with a place for more speculative and controversial articles than can appear in the specialist journals of psychology and sociology, and more scientific articles than can appear in the political periodicals.

Through articles concerned with the applications of psychology and sociology to education, law, industry, mental health, social planning and politics, THRESHOLD also hopes to be of interest to people working in other fields besides the behavioural sciences.

The best way to obtain THRESHOLD is through direct subscription to:

The Editors,
Flat 18,
46 Manningham Street,
Parkville, Victoria.

The subscription rate is 12/- p.a. for four issues. Cheques or money orders should be made out to "Threshold"

farrago

We notice that the only worth-while material Farrago can find in Lot's Wife is the letter from Patrick Tennison after he was misquoted.

Seems a pity that a once excellent paper has to resort to this form of snipe, but we suppose success always breeds some forms of jealousy among rivals.

CIBA SYMPOSIUM

Subject: "THE THYMUS - EXPERIMENTAL AND CLINICAL STUDIES"

OPEN LECTURES

PUBLIC LECTURE THEATRE - MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY

Wednesday, 25th August at 4.45 p.m.

Dr. J. F. Loutit and Dr. C. E. Ford - England
"Traffic of lymphoid cells in the body"
(Chairman: Professor S. D. Rubbo - Melbourne).

Thursday, 26th August at 4.45 p.m.

Professor G. Klein - Stockholm
"Lymphocytes and antibodies in relation to malignant diseases"
(Chairman: Professor M. F. A. Woodruff - Scotland).

Friday, 27th August at 4.45 p.m.

Professor W. Dameshek - U.S.A.
"The significance of autoimmune disease"
(Chairman: Dr. Ian Wood - Melbourne).

PUBLIC CEREMONY

WILSON HALL - MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY

TUESDAY, 24th AUGUST at 8.15 P.M.

to commemorate

THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDED OF THE INSTITUTE

and to

FAREWELL THE RETIRING DIRECTOR OF THE WALTER & ELIZA HALL INSTITUTE
SIR MACFARLANE BURNET, O.M.

GUEST SPEAKER: THE RT. HON. LORD CASEY, P.C., C.H.

UNIVERSITY STAFF, STUDENTS, MEMBERS OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION AND INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ALL FUNCTIONS

fun with tax

Fun at the Taxation Department.

The department treats all returns as completely confidential; this protection is extended even to those who make their living from criminal activities.

"Burglars, S.P. bookies and prostitutes are expected to make their returns, declare their occupation and pay their tax on income earned the same as any other person", an accountant said.

"But the burglar can't claim his tools of trade as a legitimate deduction. The department doesn't go that far."

WE NEED WOMEN!

At the present moment the third stage of Farrer Hall is being completed and will be ready to accommodate students at the beginning of third term. This is the second residential hall within the University and at the moment they seem to be experiencing a sex problem. There seems to be a waiting list of eligible males seeking accommodation but there are quite a number of vacancies left for women students. How about it girls? Now is your chance to shack up with a group of vital and active males. Be assured of passing by being in the University. For further details students should contact Mr. M. G. A. Wilson - either at Deakin Hall, or his office within the University.

apartheid backfires

Chief Kaiser Matanzima, Chief Minister of the Transkei, Dr. Verwoerd's number one show piece has gone into revolt.

Transkei, over the past two years, has been the pride of Government propagandists who have been able to show overseas visitors the Transkei as an example of how well the apartheid policy works.

Matanzima was the "tame" native that Norman Banks thought so highly of. Now he has openly attacked apartheid.

He demanded freehold property rights outside the reserves and told his African audience:

"Listen to your leaders until the whites have restored to you a bigger part of the country than that occupied by the whites".

Matanzima has already established that whites in Transkei cannot get freehold rights which he is now urging his followers to claim in white areas.

women

Seems women can be a bit rough, too.

At a recent meeting in the Town Hall, organised by the Central Women's Committee of the A.L.P., 30 hecklers had to be escorted from the meeting. The meeting was organised to protest against the sending of conscripted youths to Vietnam.

R.S.L

The Returned Servicemen's League last night accused the Government of failing to explain properly the situation in Vietnam, and Australia's responsibility there.

The RSL national president, Mr. A. Lee, said: "The RSL believes the Government should take far more active steps to make sure the situation in Vietnam, and Australia's responsibilities, are more widely explained."

"Up to the present time, it has been largely left to other organisations, such as universities, to arrange forums at which this vital conflict can be debated."

("The Australian", 4/8/65.)

TYPING

Accuracy and good presentation guaranteed - confidential

RING 58 5451 a.m. or p.m.

Any students interested in a Libertarian Club should contact Boyd Oxlade or Clem Barnett or leave their name and address at "Lot's Wife" office.

Marantz mistaken

A couple of weeks ago the Philosophical Society published the first edition of their magazine "The Philosopher". Unfortunately the last article in this magazine of exceptionally high standard was completely untrue. The article concerned was by H. Marantz on "The Right of Freedom of Speech" and was inspired because the Monash University S.R.C. had refused to allow Eric Butler to speak at the University. This basic premise is entirely false. I would suggest to Mr. Marantz that before he attempts to write any more articles he check his facts.

Four times he accused the S.R.C. of banning Butler and based his whole article and attack on this "fact". Eric Butler was invited to speak at Monash by the Liberal Club who subsequently withdrew this invitation. Because Butler was a controversial figure at the time and students wanted to know more about him, the S.R.C. invited him to speak.

Why Mr. Marantz didn't check on his facts with the S.R.C. before he wrote the article only he knows, but if he thought he was being controversial or exposing a wrong within the University, he completely failed, and made himself look rather silly. In fact, Mr. Marantz discussed this article with one of the Editors of Lot's Wife nearly two months ago, and was given the complete facts on the subject. Did he forget, or would it have spoiled his good story?

the whole truth

The "Truth" has had its usual well informed dig at students in the last couple of editions.

Students protesting against the lack of education facilities and teachers in this state - a very serious problem, were treated in the following way:

"Childish university students marched in the city through the pouring rain and newscasters described them as being very wet. Lots think that way of them even when it's not raining."

No doubt "Truth" sales will fall if the education standards rise.

In a later edition they referred to the Melbourne University plan to follow Mr. Rylah around as a form of protest against censorship, as "silly" and those few voting against it as "sensible". "Larrikan activity" would be severely dealt with by the police.

Presumably if censorship laws are reformed people will become discriminating in their tastes and once again may effect the sales of the sensationalist press.

Footballers' Ball

The second-last night of term (Thurs., Aug. 12) is the occasion of the Monash Footballers' Ball. This is unquestionably THE social event of the year. At £3/3/- a pop and with literally thousands of gallons of grog (supplied by the guests) this turn is certainly too good to miss. Two knock-out bands - "Sluggers" Moore's and the Spinning Wheels - will be in attendance. The few remaining tickets can be obtained from Carol at the S.R.C. office.

"TEACH-INS"

The "Teach-Ins" have received the expected responses in the right-wing press of Australia. Two recent quotes from the "News Review" (the paper that sees Former Totalitarian Victims, False Prophets, Leftists, Long Hairs and Peace Marchers as the forces destroying Australian Freedom) represent these prevailing thoughts adequately.

The comms have woken up to the fact that they are a dirty word - deservedly so. So they are now trying to make themselves respectable. Almost as respectable as the under-cover comms who infect the lunatic (intellectual) fringe of politics. Australian leftists, dumbly following an already discredited lead from overseas, next month will add their shrill voices to the clamour for a reassessment of the government attitude in the Vietnam imbroglio.