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CRACCEUM

ISSUE NUMBER 20

AUGUST 8 1974



yours truly.....
what a Mickey Mouse outfit.

EDITORIAL.

No. 1

The visit of Mr Faulkner the Minister of Defence to South-East Asia has, unfortunately confirmed the government's continuing commitment to the antiquated pacts of the past.

It is maintaining despite its much heralded calls for an independent foreign policy, a continuing commitment to SEATO and the 5 power defence arrangement, with Malaysia. In contrast Mr Whitlam has described such regional arrangements as either 'moribund, objectionable or transitory'. His actions have borne out his statements as Australia is withdrawing from the 5 power arrangement.

It was originally the policy of the Labour government to withdraw from SEATO. However on election in 1972 the Prime Minister re-defined the government's policy as being to continue the social and economic aspects of the pact while phasing out the military ones.

There is little to gain from their continuance of those pacts. The rationale is usually made around the continuance of links with the rather dubious nations involved.

One cannot help but see them as millstones converting the calls for an independent foreign policy into tomb stones.

The continuance of membership contrasts strangely with the Prime Minister's statement that 'we are not moving into anyone's orbit' and even more strangely with the call for a 'firm moral base'.

It is fine for the government to recognise that continuance in the 5 power defence arrangement is a psychological boost for a corrupt regime. The Malaysia government gains respectability from this pact to help maintain its overtly oppressive and racist policies. We should not give the cloak of protection to cover the nakedness of such retrogression. Likewise is SEATO a fanfare for dead warriors and a testament to the McCarthy era. These pacts are as useful as a Spanish galleon in the nuclear age; they encourage cynicism or perhaps just laughter. It is time to send them to the mortician for a decent burial or else our foreign policy will continue to be the province of the necrophiliac.

Brent Lewis.

LETTERS...

The Right Hon. N. Kirk,
Prime Minister,
Parliament Buildings,
Private Bag,
WELLINGTON.

Dear Mr Kirk,

I am writing to you as a concerned individual who is very involved in the Gay Liberation movement. It is my intention to forward copies of this letter to every major newspaper and all university papers in New Zealand.

This letter is in response to recent statements you have made concerning liberalisation of homosexual legislation, particularly comments ascribed to you in a report published in The Dominion (July 9, 1974).

According to this report, you have inferred that the Gay Liberation movement exhibits anti-social rather than socially-concerned attitudes. I demand that you substantiate your inference or, if this is not possible, publicly apologise to members of the movement.

Perhaps you consider that the recent picketing of parliament was an anti-social act. Surely the right to protest is well-established? Along with other persons concerned with social issues, gay people in New Zealand are incensed by Government inaction. To impede the individual's right to register his/her lack of confidence is more akin to communism than socialism or democracy.

In fact a great many gay people are deeply concerned with social reform that extends far beyond the confines of homosexual law liberalisation and related areas. I believe that your own ill-informed statements are inimical to socially concerned attitudes.

You are reported as having stated that you would not vote for legislation that treated homosexuality as 'normal behaviour'. As Prime Minister, Mr Kirk, you have an obligation to express yourself more precisely. If you are under the misapprehension that homosexuality constitutes a mental disease, then you ought to be made aware of the official attitudes of a number of informed groups. Official opinions of the American Association of Psychiatrists, the British Medical Association, the Australian Psychological Society, and the Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists are that homosexuality is not a psychiatric disease. In its remit, the Australian Psychological Society further elaborated that:

1. The Australian Psychological Society condemns discrimination against homosexuality.
2. That the A.P.S. condemns community attitudes which discriminate against homosexual behaviour between consenting adults.
3. That the A.P.S. affirms that it supports moves to counter discrimination against homosexuals.

A similar remit was passed in 1973 by the Federal Council of the A.N.Z.C.P.

As far as religious attitudes are concerned, you are no doubt aware that the majority of the New Zealand churches favour liberalisation of homosexual legislation.

Obviously the words "normal behaviour" were ill-chosen. In any case your statements can be shown to have no rational basis.

Once again I shall remind you, that whilst you may regard a bill seeking homosexual law liberalisation to be damaging to party unity, you have certainly lost the votes of 10% of the voting public (i.e. those who are predominately homosexual in orientation) along with those of many other socially-concerned individuals. We will not support a government which refuses to treat us as people.

Yours sincerely,
Rae Dellaca (Ms)
President,
Gay Liberation (V.U.W.)

Dear Sir,

It seems unfortunate that the views of misguided religious cranks be aired in such a way as to suggest they are those of the Christian faith as a whole. The letter entitled 'Crossing over into Camp Ground', unsigned, in Craccum was just such a one.

People like this seem to write new bibles in their spare time and then make liberal interpretations to suit their irrational prejudices. Whereas the central theme and message of Christianity has always been one of love, the unthinking hate in articles such as this one directed against the Gay Liberation Movement, reflect the type of through apparent in the worst of the churches past mistakes.

We accept expert opinion on literacy works only as far as they seem correct. Yet here we have the views of one presumably unqualified in biblical interpretation airing views manifestly contrary to the work whose views he claims to expound. Not only this, but that work has great importance for all Christians whose beliefs he purports to represent by his personal moral prejudices.

How then can he be expected to accept as true as he asks us to, such an unqualified view prefaced by the words: 'I implore you to read...' and ending with: 'Through faith in Jesus Christ may this letter be justified.' The tenor is more that of the Sunday newspapers than a reasoned and well informed faith.

I know that there are many with me in the Catholic faith who support the reasonable demands of gays for equal treatment in all things.

I will not however, twist some passage of scripture to further my views (as has all too often been done lately), but just add that for my part, my faith strengthens my feeling of brotherhood to all gays as other people.

Yours sincerely James Waugh

Dear Sir,

Stuart Grey's letter on unions is a blatant contradiction in terms. Surely, if others have the right to express their opinions in such an unlawful way as the unions did, then others have an equal right to throw a little water on the situation in order to quench the unions' thirst for illegal and wrongful action.

Has it ever occurred to the gentlemen in question that the students who dowsed the ego-tripping unionists had thought out the situation and come to a different conclusion from the sarcastic drip who wrote the letter in question?

Let the Law rain for ever.
David Nathan.

EDITORIAL.

No. 2

I suppose seeing the President has exercised his prerogative in calling Craccum this year a disaster one should reply in kind his Presidential year the same thing.

However I don't particularly believe that invective has ever helped any case and suffice it to say that Craccum this year I feel has fluctuated in quality. Some issues, I feel, have been, of good quality (like the present one) and others have been rather lamentable. I could quote Emerson to the effect that consistency is hobgoblin of little minds but that doesn't really answer the question.

Unfortunately Craccum has suffered from a lack of helpers but it would be utterly wrong for me to overlook those who have contributed to its manufacture particularly Mike Rann who has always been available. Craccum has taught me tolerance too, as a member of the Labour party for some of its helpers have been young nats. Others have been mentioned week by week and one couldn't forget them nor will I.

One may mention that this has meant the over taxing of a few people and with costs cut to a minimum (the typist has been underpaid badly.) and policy statements taking constitutional priority, the result has often been a mass of paper with little worth reading.

The prognosis is obvious - an adequate budget and less work load on those individuals who have over-contributed in terms of energy and time.

There has of course been a clash of personalities between myself and the president and more than once

I felt like resorting to print to campaign against him. However, newspapers are meant to be more than the petty clash of egos and realizing most people probably weren't interested anyway I refrained.

I may have been wrong. Perhaps in the wasteland of the university the clash could be a dynamic to ignite the campus and people would polarize into different sides.

But for what? All that can be said is that I feel student politics suffers from a surfeit of politicians and a paucity of ideas. It is easy to be cynical about the pathetic introversion that not only has lost its direction but doesn't really care.

Rather than chronicle the vagaries of this eternal amnesiac there seemed wider paths to seek.

If Craccum has failed in this then that is where the real indictment lies, for ultimately a newspaper succeeds or fails in its power to engineer debates and its ability to disseminate ideas and in its power to create an understanding of the nature of its times.

The experience has been worth it - We will continue even if certain vested interests will have it otherwise.

Brent Lewis

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN.

with Bent Lewis

CONFERENCES are like a seance - if you believe hard enough you'll see something. They exist as a precarious form of involvement for the participants. This year for a few shimmering moments, the National Party was once more entrenched in power.

Four days later the reverie had ended - once more they were faced with the sobering realities of opposition. But in the meantime they were intoxicated by the belief that all that was needed was a magic wand to restore them to the citadel.

Labour Party Conferences are

chaotic for with five-hundred remits deluging delegates they often create an illusion of participation. National Party Conferences restrict themselves to a smaller spectrum and as regional conferences syphon out many ideas they give the impression of being stage managed. If Labour Party Conferences suffer from a surfeit of ideas the National Party Conferences suffer from a paucity.

This in itself allows the conference to proceed rather like an orderly procession. As everyone has made up their minds in advance because the remits are few in number there is little lobbying, unlike the Labour Party conference where there is a constant buzz of a hundred salesmen trying to sell their particular idea to those delegates who appear ambivalent.

In the end because of the tumult and clash of ideas the Labour Party conference created participation.

Impression does not add up to reality and a cauldron of ideas can often be transparent miraging out of view until the seance is re-inacted a year later. The Phantasmagoria must go on.

Illusory involvement is often what democracy in a Western Society is about. This does not make it gratuitous for in the feeling of involvement the myth itself is generated.

Conferences exist to absorb grievances. The system itself is in danger if these are to be externalised and so they become a placation to the rank and file while the real policies themselves occur despite them.

If anyone needs any validation of this one only needs to see what happened by the Nationals conference pleas for a return to voluntary unionism. The preferential clause itself, which was really only a euphemism for continued compulsory unionism, was all that came of that. Philosophical objections to systems that work are disregarded by politicians and pragmatists, leaving the true believers outsiders.

As a prologue to the National Party conference we must remember that the wheel of torture had spun again and out went Jack Marshall, a Harold MacMillan figure-debanoir, detached and just a little out of touch.

From the mire came Muldoon - Horatio Alger of the masses, a polarizer par excellence, a man of infinite invective and small restraint. But was he the man to lead the party?

This was to be the question that faced a rather uneasy conference on Friday. Muldoon had become leader not by their choosing but because the National caucus felt that diplomacy may be alright at the EEC but if National was ever to regain power it needed the power to scarry the would. That tactic had led to fortune in 1960 and perhaps it was the needed precedent to power.

Power after all was what was most exciting for power was the dominion and

treasure trove of dreams. Could however the dream resolve the doubt or would it destroy it.

The conference began with the national Anthem. Not God defend New Zealand but God Save the Queen. There is y...olic



attachment to things of the past in National - by them the organic nature of society is established.

This itself had contrasted with Labour's - it had disregarded symbols back in 1928, it even ceased to prove that they were sincere by singing the Red Flag once a year.

Labour it seemed was firmly located in the present and National in the past but no-one claimed to own the future.

Then came the ritualised utterance from the Mayor. Not with our Robbie though seizing on this chance to preach his particular thesis of how politics was a disgusting thing at the local body level, how often good ideas are antagonised by politics

and you won't be suprised to know that Sir Dove-Meyer struck a responsive chord. Up jumped George Chapman, National's president who looks rather like Josef Goebbels, joked rather nervously that Sir Dove-Meyer was obviously addressing the wrong party. The National Party he states emphatically has no intention to lean on any candidates at local body level. Tumultuous applause greets the statement.

Chapman then announces that the mayor

is now retiring. With Robbie hobbling on his walking stick off the stage the remark seems to have some relevance.

The president's report is properly apocalyptic. Chapman paints a picture of unremitting controls and social despair.

What a mess, he confides, these Socialists have made for National to clean up next year.

There is hope, he says, however, for a strong leader emerges in a time of crisis. Rob Muldoon, a right man at the right time!

Brian Talboys is mentioned too; 'I know you welcome his appointment', says Chapman guiding the conference to the right response.

that women are having an increasing impact as voters.

There is also a startling change he says in women - you have gained new roles and not losing old. Like all good nationalists he knows a winning argument. 'It is our party's task that as the champion of the individual to pursue policies which treat women as individuals.'

Watts' striking for a new direction is treated by mistrust by many backwardsmen. Like Mike Hirshfeld, his Labour party counterpart, he seems a little too slick, his ideas are a bit too trendy and even vaguely heretical. He is tolerated but not loved.

There's a lot of twaddle says Colleen Dew of Lyttleton, talked about women's liberation but when a board of directors has a position vacant they say let's find the right man.

'I'm not, she says, to hails of laughter, 'just a frustrated spinster grinding her axe cause I'm just making my case for women to be treated the same as men.'

A dominion councillor, Mrs Watson calls the remit vague while saying that it's still true that the hand that rocks the cradle still rules the world. We must, she says, look adversely at anything that moves against us.

One young national causes a flutter when she denounces employers as sexist but the remit proceeds, decorum and finesse as the speeches seem well rehearsed (mirror, mirror on the wall who has got the best speech of all) and the dalliance with a new idea of feminism is handled with all the refinery of a victorian garden party.

A remit calling for more finance for first home purchase was used by the mover Mr Holt (Rotorua) to defend the need for private homes. State housing, he says, is impossible to administer: the challenge is obtaining freehold.

This debate generates a social relevance surfacing ones speakers declamation that would finance being so short it was getting so that caravans were becoming a good idea.

Speakers saw the issue as being vital to the maintainance of the family unit and one stress that the 1975 issues would crystallise down to 6 and one of them would be housing.

The catch-word that emerged was the new disposed - this could easily be a slogan in 1975 for it engineers emotions based on the socialist life.

One delegate felt that financing should be broadened to include many older people who have never owned a home and solo parents who are unable to. There is however a limit to radicalism and he had strayed beyond the colour point.

The remit was adopted unanimously and the conference dreamed on....to censorship.

The remit presented was remarkably like Jonathan Hunt's private members bill, which offended one delegate who asked why Labour should support a piece of Labour legislation.

The mover Dr Priestly (Auckland central) saw his bill as the only good thing in 18 months of Labour maintaining that it was perfectly consistent with the National philosophy. Who set up the Indecent Publications Tribunal the question asks?

Some delegates weren't too sure about this new-fangled idea and Mr Mathews (Wigam) maintained that we owe it to the perverts to oppose it.

One delegate reminded the conference that distribution companies were more harmful than state censorship.

Conference recognised that censorship was arbitrary and

choose to leave the ranks of the wowzers. Remit 4 was really a lyrical salutation

to the farming industry. What with remits on abortion, homosexuality, censorship, perhaps a rural rump could be feeding in the political hinterland.

As Mr Hamilton from Pahiatua maintained 'I don't care whether it is obvious... we want to hear more of it, it is good stuff for philosophy.'

Sir Roy Jack was obviously trying to reassure his electorate that he would be the best man to represent them. He proceeded to rhapsodize on the agrarian dream. Great joy did Sir Roy employ in the exultation of the Nats dream.

So the agricultural ranks went back to pastoral dreams. The party cared after all. All was right with the world.

The debate on private hospitals reinforced the old ideas. The remit debated suggested that private hospitals had declined at the expense of the public health system.

One speaker suggested that under National, health became a political football. What was needed was to reassert the parties philosophy of private enterprise which does things so much better than state monopolies.

All speakers, bar one, emphasise this theme and the remit was carried overwhelmingly.

The desirability of motorways was the next theme. It called for a reduction of spending on motorways and for a better public transport system to be instituted.

This remit was interesting because of an apparent difference in attitudes between the MP for Franklin, Bill Birch and Wellington Central, Ken Comb. Whereas Birch thought that cities that have ignored Public transport systems have done so at their own cost.

This is a genuine article containing the profound thoughts of the editor, not to be missed!

The remit was endorsed though paradoxically another remit committee was later to endorse the Wolver Smith report

which emphasised the need for increased roading - but after all that is what conferences are about.

To abort or not to abort? that was the next question.

There was great difference between conference delegates over the question of abortion. One delegate maintained that changes in the abortion law in Britain had caused a rise in illegitimacy with kickbacks amounting to hundreds of dollars. He told the party to get on with realism.

Stephen Pearson, young Nationals, maintained that the question of the sanctity of life was a red herring. 'People who argue that the sanctity of life can quite easily join an army and kill other people'.

He said that Sweden, which was the best social welfare state in the world legislated in favour of abortion and the only reason that our society had not was because the government was too gutless.

The mover of the Motion, Murray McCully said that the remit sought to say that the situation is not good enough. He maintained that the social and legal situation was inconsistent and that the only solution to this problem was a referendum.

Needless to say Mr McCully's points were not considered adequate by the conference and the remit lost by 5 votes, although Percy Allen supported the measure.

The party spokesman on industry and Commerce, Lance Adam-Schiedner's speech reminded one of a Ronny Barker parody of a Labour party politician.

He promised community medicine more hospital assistance, an allowable income scheme, and regular reviews of government aid to voluntary agencies. 'It's time, he ended to raise the flag of capitalism. New Zealand needs National and will get in November 1975.'

'I know, he said, 'and many people are beginning to know that Rob Muldoon is

very interested in people.' The speech was full of interesting little revelations like that.

Debate on compulsory unionism was low-keyed. Perhaps because the night before Muldoon had pre-empted the conference role by stating what his policy was to be.

One delegate suggested that a referendum would solve the problem and the basic theme seemed to be that compulsory unionism was incompatible with the National Party plank of freedom of the individual.

There were a few red necks who felt that it was important to take a stand against the coms and more than one delegate stressed the self-congratulatory theme that such a remit would never emerge at a Labour Party Conference.

The wharfies friend, la Varis naturally stressed the theme of law and order and ended up by saying 'that we are determined to be against the escalation of crime.' Whatever this had to do with voluntary unionism, nobody was quite sure.

The opposition expert on the UN Alan McCredy maintained that compulsory unionism was opposed to the UN declaration of human rights. Mr McCredy had obviously discussed the matter on his recent visit to Rhodesia and so he would obviously know.

A new Northern Maori delegate Mr Wilcox stressed what he called the rights of the responsible unions. 'Don't ride roughshod over the lawful majority,' he pleaded.

Muldoon's speech to conference reminded me of Kirk's on abortion two years ago.

He had decided what he wanted, and no conference, if he could help it was going to contradict him.

Barry Brill in summation said that for far too long the National Party had the image of being anti-union. He emphasised that the strongest union in the country, the PSA, was voluntary. The freedom to

join the association of ones choosing was a fundamental principle, he stressed and conference endorsed him well.

In 1972 both Labour and National competed in stridency for hard line law and order policy. In the intervening months of Labour government the split between views of Dr Finlay and Mr Connelly was becoming more apparent. This was obviously an issue that National could exploit and what better way than by having a remit endorsed solidly by their party conference where National stood.

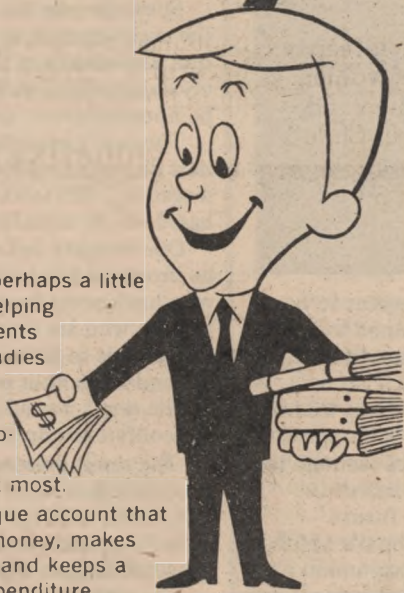
The remit so presented emphasised the re-habilitative functions of such a system while not excluding punitive actions. Was aimed at placating everybody and thus was more a mirage than a policy.

Every party has its ogre and occasionally the ogre may not even be a person but an idea. One of the most feared and deeply suspect ogres was a place called Rolleston. Few had been there but all knew what they felt of it. Hearing the words spoken at the conference was one could imagine as a monster from darkest hell. Naturally there was a remit on it which quite predictably said that the delegates didn't really like it, and the conjuror of the scheme Hugh Watt was described as 'either a genius or a madman'.

Bill Birch maintained that it may result in social disaster. Few delegates were that equivocal. - words like forced integration, artificial creation and dumping ground, and heap of worker ants flowed as conference spelt out its utter contempt for such a scheme. There weren't even any heretics that time and the chorus of Cassandras prophesying eternal doom, yet revelling in the thought made one think that if declamation equalled power then they would be there forever.

This thrilling epic continued next week!

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BRUTAL TORTURE OF WOMEN IN CHILE!

It's not that the Herald and Star lie to you about what's happening in Chile - they just don't publicize the information that has become available. Perhaps that is understandable. The facts are pretty horrifying.

Mirta Vidal, National staff member for USLA (United States Committee for Justice to Latin American Political Prisoners), speaking at a press conference held in New York said, "It has now become known that among the worst victims of the juntas repression are a group of women being held at two detention camps in Chile - El Buen Pastor jail in Santiago and the Tejas Verdes concentration camp".

At the conference Ms Vidal made public a document recently received from Chile. The document received, included the names of thirty six women being held in El Buen Pastor, followed by a description of what they and others have experienced. Since September 11, about ninety-five women have been held as political prisoners. Most of them have never been charged, questioned, or assigned judges (military), not to speak to lawyers. Three have already been sentenced. One of these (Viola Munoz, a brilliant sociologist and specialist in pre-school education) had no political affiliation, nor were any specific charges brought against her. She got twenty years.

Once sentenced the women are transferred to cells with the ordinary prisoners. They practically cease to exist officially, no longer appearing on the lists of political prisoners.

Three or four women were brought in from Tejas Verdes, renowned as one of the most refined torture camps. The document continued. The prisoners there are so badly treated that these sadists have to have a "recuperation camp" to which prisoners are taken if they are to be handed over to a more permanent (public) jail, or if they have plans to bring them back to be freshly tortured.

The women brought from Tejas Verdes had horrible vaginal infections, and at least three of them were pregnant. Since they had been raped

innumerable times, they naturally did not know who had impregnated them. In desperation some asked for abortion, but when they requested a doctor, an ear specialist was sent. They were told they should be proud of what they carried in their bellies.

The women were described by the document as being mainly intellectuals or writers (Lucy Lorsche, Ines Figueroa), teachers (Viola Munoz, Monica Hermosilla), Actresses (Elsa Rudolphi and others) and women labour leaders (Amanda Altamirano and others).

The document also related the treatment experienced by the women before arriving at El Buen Pastor. Several had had live mice introduced into their vaginas. One woman reported having been thrown at young conscripts at Tejas Verdes to be raped whether the soldiers were willing or not. In another torture camp, the women had been blindfolded and tortured "en masse" so they did not know what was happening - who was being raped or tortured - and whose turn it was next.

Women reaching El Buen Pastor from these places had had their hair pulled out by handfuls, their nipples blown off or burnt and their genitals destroyed by electricity.

The document pointed out that there are more than 200 such torture and detention camps all over

Chile. Tejas Verdes is one of the worst according to the testimony of hundreds of prisoners and sympathetic soldiers, nurses, and neighbours. This camp has also been reported to enjoy the presence of Uruguyan, Brazilian and Argentine "instructors" in torture.

The authors of the documents concluded, "We hereby make a most urgent appeal and desperate appeal to all the human rights organisations, to lawyers and doctors organisations all over the world, to womens organisations, to defend the integrity dignity, and liberty of these women. There are thousands of women and men subjected to barbarity in Chile".



In view of such revelations of the junta's barbarity it should come as no surprise to learn that the International Red Cross has been barred from inspecting Chile's Jails. In a Santiago dispatch to the Washington Post, Joseph Novitski credited the International Red Cross's detailed reports as being the root of the junta's decision to discontinue Red Cross visits to detention sites. Novitski said that Red Cross reports - which are made available only to the Governments concerned - probably contained references and accounts of torture, "an issue on which the junta is particularly sensitive".

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Harold's girlfriend.



What!

You may remember reading in the news of the emergency in Brisbane concerning the accidental release from freight of a large number of toads.

Craccum interviewed Mr Bjeke-Peterson, premier of the state of the situation.

Craccum: I believe you feel that this is the greatest threat internally since you declared a state of emergency when the Springboks toured Australia in 1971?

BP: Yes, that would be true. We are aware of the desperate nature of the situation. We are asking all right-thinking citizens to fight this menace within our midst. Our institutions are threatened, our whole way of life is and we must stop it before it overtakes us.

Craccum: Well of course the SPCA disagrees with what you're doing.

BP: They're just a bunch of commies after all they say all animals are equal, that's right out of Marx.

Craccum: Actually it was George Orwell.

BP: That's right. Ah Well. One of their founders and a Chinese to boot.

Craccum: Some people have suggested that your anti-toad sentiments derive from the fact that you had nightmares as a child reading the Wind in the Willows.

BP: That's just a lot of crap. But I'll tell you something the movement started with Toad of Toad Hill.

Craccum: Yes, but that's fiction.

BP: You tell the toad's that.

Craccum: Do you think that the toads are united against our society?

TOADS ON THE MARCH



BP: Listen, don't put words into my mouth. I'd say they're led by the nose.

Craccum: But that seems to be contradictory.

BP: Don't give me contradictions. I'm only interested in facts.

Craccum: I was wondering whether you think that the frogs are united with the toads in this effort?

BP: No. We've always had good relations with the French.

Craccum: Premier, I'm interested in the methods that you fight the toads with.

BP: Well I'm glad you asked me that. First we've got toad hatters out asking the toads to surrender and promising them lifelong freedom in an Australian zoo.

Craccum: And then?

BP: Well if they fail to listen to our reasonable pleas then we'll tear gas the bastards. We know it works, we used it against people in '21 so if it works against people why not against toads.

Craccum: Well why should the toads listen to your plea?

BP: Listen I'm an extremist on this question. People have quoted me as saying the only good toad was a dead toad which

I deny.

Craccum; But you come pretty close to it.

BP: Basically I said something like better dead than toad but I was talking about us not them you see.

Craccum: Well anyway Premier have you any final thoughts for the people?

BP: Yes, its a question of the survival of our free society. It's a movement that started with fluoridation and I'll tell you something, it won't stop with toads. But while I'm here they'll have to fight.



EXOTIC IMPORTS

Balinese paintings

Tibetan block prints

Kashmeri hand embroidered
scarves and shawls

Moroccan antique beads

Indonesian seaweed bangles

Celebes Is. blankets

Indian kurtahs, flutes, rugs
bells, jewellery, etc.

Japanese lantern shades

mills lane, off swanson st.

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NATIONAL STYLE

National Party Conferences tend to be far more predictable than those of its contemporaries. It is not because the delegates all cling to a similar sector in the political spectrum but rather due to the enormous size of NZ's largest political organisation, all of the remits and ideas aired have been previously debated at the Regional level. The 1974 Conference was very much dominated by the glaring Television Lights, the large Video Cameras and the rows that flanked the delegates and seated upon by members of the media. Critics termed it a public relations exercise but remits on the order paper were trying to put across ideas and concepts that the party has either before never heard, or had previously rejected.

Social Credit Leader, Bruce Beetham called it 'a sex on the brain' conference, forgetting that his own Party in May at its conference chose to forget it was a fiscal philosophy based organisation and spent most of its time trying to prove it was the equivalent of Britain's Liberal Party. There was criticism to from talk back maestro Gordon Dryden about the lack of discussion on Economic matters. The Party is now on the opposition benches partly because of its obsession with monetary matters. One thing this conference did show was a willingness to accept ideas of a far broader nature. One can judge the merits of national's basic economic principles prior to 1972 with the inflation rampant times of the present administration. With the economic situation changing so rapidly any specific economic measures advocated now will be redundant when the time of application arises. Such criticism too overlooks the statement of the key note speakers especially Bob Muldoon and Lance Adams-Schneider and the forum discussion on the Saturday night.

In particular there was a loud call for policies relative to allowing more mortgage money at realistic rates for purchasers wishing to obtain houses and farms, particularly those of the first time. The difficulties a person meets when he wishes to build a first home on his own section are met with a suggestion that substantial low interest loans should be available to promote individual ownership of homes rather than reliance on state rental housing.

The stupidity of present policies which will not permit SAC loans for the purpose of upgrading existing structurally sound houses was criticised and as a means of helping helping to meliorate urban sprawl, government assistance was urged so that city dwellers could have a home close to their place of work by means of urban renewal.

The fact that mortgage repayments are highest where a young couple also has the greatest financial drain in other areas led to a suggestion that such interest payments should be tax deductible where the mortgage is on a private residence.

There were several opportunities for delegates to consider how the National Party's philosophy of free individual enterprise was to tie in with practices in the Industrial Relations sphere. The principle of voluntary unionism was overwhelmingly endorsed although it was recognised that this would not necessarily mean less strife in those industries which seem plagued with trouble: a move that was seen as a more positive step to industrial harmony was in a comprehensive remit aiming at profit sharing and industrial co-partnership which advocated job improvement programmes to improve job satisfaction; work Councils, an Industrial Ombudsman and participation by employees by means of employee shares. The Conference in endorsing such moves recognised that they would benefit both sides and that voluntary unionism by itself was not sufficient.

As befits the party that allocated more

funds than ever before on education — a major preoccupation of the debates was in this field. Advocates of pre-school and primary education persuaded delegates that training programmes for these teachers need to be upgraded. There was also support for moves from University to Tertiary Technical Institutes and the provision for acaded finance for the latter. But moves to allow more flexible school leaving ages were rejected.

A number of important issues initially raised by outside pressure groups were also given an airing at the conference. The first remit called for an acknowledgement of the changing role of women in society. It specified proposals such as maternity leave, motherhood allowance and vocational retraining.

The surprise of the Conference was a call for zero population growth and in particular a realisation that policies on Family Planning and Immigration should have this as a major principle. While the Conference opted for "Planned Population" instead it did pass remits dealing with sterilisation on Social Security, contraceptive advice by Doctors for all regardless of age and prescribed contraceptives free on Social Security.

Moral issues were raised by the Youth

Sections in two highly debated Remits. The first called for an investigation of our Society's goals and the relationship of the Law on abortion and also asked for a referendum on the issue. The remit after a 50 minute debate was lost by a mere 5 votes.

The second concerned legalising homosexual behaviour between consenting males in private and was carried by a substantial majority thus endorsing the Private Members Bill of Venn Young, M.P. for Egmont.

The Youth Section of the Party - the Young Nationals besides having six circulated policy papers on topics ranging from Drugs to a paper on the Agricultural Workers Bill also dealt with a number of remits. In particular was a call for effective Race Relations policies in accordance with the United Nations charter and a resolution asking for changes in Divorce Legislation.

In its thinking on Remits the Conference showed clearly its position. In regard to the leadership changes - it is obvious that some members of the party need more time before endorsing the Muldoon style.

The crux for the National Party will be at election year conference in twelve months. That will determine if expediency forces progressive thinking into the background.



DRUGS, LAW & SOCIETY.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

"In writing this particular introduction, I want to advance a suggestion on how to handle the drug problem. I want to do so in all seriousness. Firstly to be perfectly honest I want to disclaim any personal knowledge. I have never taken drugs. I don't even smoke or drink. I don't know any drug addicts; it is just that I don't understand the drug problem. What is wrong with taking drugs and being addicted to them?.... My suggestion is that we consider the possibility of legalising and of supervising the production of cheap and uniform supply....."

So stated Dr Isaac Asimov in *Psychology Today* 1972. The straight logic of the Asimov philosophy strikes an important question that we must ask ourselves. Is there in fact a drug problem or more realistically do we as a society artificially create it entrenching it in our laws - and if so to what degree this paper is designed to examine these factors in particular relation to the NZ drug situation, the NZ legislation and enforcement in the NZ society.

As the scope of such a topic is enormous we confine ourselves in particular to the non legal using of those drugs and substances contained in the schedules of the *Narcotics Act 1965* and the *Drugs (Prevention of Misuse Bill) 1974*. When it is relevant by comparison we examine the issue of alcohol and of 'prescribed' medicines.

BRIEF BACKGROUND

Widespread knowledge of drug usage in this country by the authorities and the general public has been comparatively recent. For years up to 1960 the drug patterns show only a negligible amount of usage concerned with opium and heroin. In the 1960's however the pattern shows an upward swing in general usage. The main reasons cited for this include a greater realisation of our "Rat Race" society and the availability of substances to temporarily get away from it. The advent of the counter-culture overseas and its adaption here and the break through in scientific formulations are also considerations here. Between 1969 and 1971, the amount of cases tried showed a 300% increase. Much of this is due not so much to a large increase but upon determination and realisation that there was a 'problem' the level and efforts of detection was considerably raised.

As a society, we have had a very much gut reaction since our awareness of the amount of usage. The *Narcotics Act 1965* is the paramount statute here. Under the Act which is the present law, the ct makes

On the Sunday of the National Party Conference was the Youth Meeting. By far the most controversial paper presented was that on Drugs, Law and Society by Rob Greenfield, Peter Goodfellow and Murray McCully.

no distinction for different drugs with different potentials for harm. It does however provide for distinctions in quantities and actions. The maximum penalty for indictable offences is 14 years and for minor offences (e.g. possession of one marijuana joint), 3 months or \$400. In regard to the former, while penalties seldom reach the maximum prescribed the great range available to the Judiciary has resulted in an inconsistent result being taken.

Provision for a rehabilitative type approach *Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Act* enables committal to mental institutions.

Unlike overseas, NZ has been slow to set up official committees of inquiry. The first, the Board of Health Committee into Drug Dependency and Abuse in NZ (*Blake - Palmer No. 1*) in 1971, produced a report which was rightly criticised for its conservative approach and its mis-

reporting. At the end of last year the Committee presented its second report. Much of its findings will be discussed later in this paper. The Second Report unlike its predecessor was more thoroughly researched and in particular studied closely the reports from overseas, in particular the *Wooten Report* from Britain, the *Schafer Report* from USA and the *La Dain Report* from Canada. Because of the greater deliberations of these three reports, we regard them as being more authoritative.

As a result of the *Blake - Palmer (No 2.) Report* new legislation - the *Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Bill* has been submitted into the house. This Bill, which is at present the subject of submissions to a select committee introduces for the first time the concept of Potential for Harm. Unfortunately however it tends to be a rehash of present laws and although there is a categorisation of drugs there is little change in the attitude towards penalties.

OUR APPROACH

As a committee of three, we approached this issue in both a practical and theoretical way. As three future lawyers, we have our own concepts of how the Law should operate in regard to society. We have familiarised ourselves in depth with all the major reports of commissions from both this country and overseas. We have studied a large range of medical, psychological, legal and social material on the issue and finally we have spoken to Drug users, addicts, doctors, criminologists and psychologists with interests in this field.

Basically there are three major concepts that we put forward. Firstly, we looked at the issue of where the law lies in relation to drugs with the potential for harm within society of that drug. Secondly, we looked at other ways than criminal that could be more appropriate e.g. forms of rehabilitation and thirdly, the attitudes of the authorities - the law makers and the law enforcers.

CANNABIS

What is it? Scientific name *Cannabis sativa* (Hemp plant). It is adioecious plant,

active ingredients contained mainly in the female plant - in a yellow resin covering the flowers and the top leaves of a plant.

Marijuana (pot, grass etc) is a mixture of flowers and leaves dried for smoking.

Hashish is the resin obtained from the flowering tops.

Chemically: - cannabis' distinctive effects are due largely because of delta 9 tetrahydro - cannibal (T.H.C.)

Marijuana - it's Effects:

Marijuana is definitely distinguishable from the other hallucinogenic drugs such as L.S.D., DMT, mescaline and so on. It does produce some of the same effects BUT is far less potent than these other drugs. It does not alter consciousness nearly so great a degree as the other drugs. It leads to increasing tolerance to drug usage.

Moreover marijuana smokers can gauge the effects accurately and thus control the intake of the drug to the amount required to produce the desired degree of euphoria.

It is often stated that marijuana use inevitably leads to 'hard drugs'. We will later in this report look at the extent of this type of usage but state here that such a view is almost an irrelevant non-argument. To quote the *Blake - Palmer 1973 report* "The belief that cannabis users inevitably progress to hard drugs has been so thoroughly explored that one is apt to ignore the association between cannabis and other

photos - murray cammick



drugs". That marijuana is addictive is now a less frequent argument. All the Commissions looking at the issue found no grounds to justify this. The best analogy is probably with 'craving' effects in tobacco usage.

That marijuana may incite people to aggression as for instance alcohol. To quote a Manhattan study "no cases of murder or sexual crime due to marijuana were established".

Occasionally convicted criminals claim they committed crimes such as murder while under the influence of marijuana. In all cases that have been followed up their claim has been proved groundless.

There is much debate over other medical and physical effects of marijuana. We must be honest - marijuana does have some medical effects. In the last three years these have been determined more definitely than before. There is still an area of doubt. However we must put it all in perspective. Any effects of marijuana are strikingly less dangerous than alcohol and tobacco. We must accept also that we daily consume substances that have a minor potential for harm.

There is indeed a large amount of evidence that states that moderate use of marijuana does not produce physical or mental deterioration. There is no available evidence that marijuana contributes to the development of organic disease. As to the question of 'why add another evil?' we submit that this must be looked at in the context of extent of usage.

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A black and white photograph of two men in suits. The man on the left is smiling and looking towards the man on the right. He is holding a book or folder under his left arm. The man on the right is looking back at him. Both are wearing dark suits, white shirts, and patterned ties. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting an indoor setting with some lights visible.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Paper circulated to the National Party Conference by the Young Nationals' New Zealand Chairman, Murry McCully.

TOWARDS AN ENVIRONMENTAL PORTFOLIO

The social and physical surroundings in which each individual lives can be said to be his environment. Hon. Duncan McIntyre says that our environment is: "Everything around me that is not me". In recent years we have felt the impact of an upsurge of concern at the environmental consequences of our domestic and industrial activities and, in turn, a concern at the impact that these changes will have on human life styles in the future.

Environmental issues have assumed an increased significance in our political life during the 1970's and I believe that during the 1980's they will assume a significance and complexity that we are quite unable to contemplate at this time. Because it is our role as a political Party first, to appreciate, and second, to respond to, the political concerns of the New Zealand community, it is vital that our policy both reflects and anticipates the environmental consciousness of the voting public.

The recent prominence of environmental issues has been occasioned by a growing public awareness of man's capacity to effect irreversible changes to his social and physical surroundings. In the long term this change has a chain reaction in that it creates an imbalance of those elements which constitute our environment, which is, in turn, creative of further change. It is because people fear these unknown consequences that these have become political issues.

Our goals, as a political Party, are social goals, in that they are goals for people. It is fundamental to this

notion that we should be concerned about the physical and social setting in which we expect people to live. Our approach to environmental questions must be cautious, constructive and co-ordinated - cautious in that we do not take decisions without first ascertaining the environmental consequences of them; constructive in that we use our research as a basis for intelligent planning; and co-ordinated in that we approach each environmental question as part of a total picture.

This paper merely purports to present, in concept, the functions which I believe to be the proper province of an Environmental Ministry, consistent with the three requirements articulated above: research, planning and co-ordinated action. Not only, in my view, is such an approach socially necessary for the reasons mentioned above, but it is also highly politically merchantable.

In my view an Environmental Ministry must include provision for the following functions:

- Population Planning
- Land use planning
- Resource Use planning
- Initiation and policing of anti-pollution
- Environmental Impact Reports
- Public Education
- Research.

The question of population size and dispersment is fundamental to all other considerations since it is this that determines the demands that will be placed on all other resources. Surely then, it is logical that we should determine population targets as a basis to the establishment of targets in other fields. It is not my object, as stated before, to paint pictures of gloom. We must all be aware of the necessity for us to research this field thoroughly, to establish desirable future growth rates, and suggest incentives to ensure that we attain those growth rates. I see the main roles of the Ministry in

this regard, as being ones of research and public education. The proposition I seek to establish here is that this is properly an environmental question which should be dealt with in conjunction with other environmental questions. This question is dealt with in detail in a separate paper at this Conference.

It is my belief that the present Town and Country Planning procedures must be revised and placed in a new Environmental Ministry. Second to the question of population planning, land use planning must be the next fundamental question to be dealt with.

I propose that we should establish a two tier system of Town and Country Planning which would distinguish between issues which are truly local planning issues, and those which are truly national planning issues. The national planning body would be responsible for the establishment of Green Belt areas around our cities, the setting aside of National Parks and Reserves, and matters of this type. These are matters of national concern which should be dealt with at a National level. These functions are largely provided for at present, but not in a sufficiently realistic, comprehensive and co-ordinated way.

While there does currently exist a Ministry of Energy and Resource I contend that there is a necessity for more attention to be paid to the environmental aspects of this question. We must separate the developmental aspects from the environmental aspects of the Energy and Resources portfolio. I do not propose to develop this theme, but I include this as fitting into the total environmental picture.

The standards which currently exist in the field of anti-pollution legislation are not remotely acceptable. We are faced with a situation in which raw sewage is being discharged into our rivers and similar

environmental indecencies are taking place. There is a need, not only for greater attention to the enactment of legislation, but also continuous research and review of our progress in this field. Such legislation serves little purpose if we do not have effective means of enforcement. In this direction particularly there is a need for much greater attention.

The situation which currently exist, whereby developers proposing development, are responsible themselves for the compiling of the environmental impact report, is totally unacceptable. The Impact Report has become nothing more than an environmental justification of a proposed development. I propose, firstly that we should enlarge the scope of such reports to include major private works, and secondly that there should be a team of Government specialists to make the report, under the auspices of an Environmental ministry.

One of our first concerns must be to see that people are made aware of environmental issues. This should lead to a greater public co-operation, and thus less need for arbitrary control. This must be an important part of the whole programme, and an Environmental Ministry should place emphasis on it.

Many of the things already mentioned in this paper are not capable of achievement without the availability of research facilities. It is fundamental that all the areas mentioned above should have the backing of expert research facilities.

I believe that an Environmental Ministry with the capacity to perform the functions mentioned above would provide for the cautious, constructive and co-ordinated approach that we require.

Murray S. McCully

into the future

The 1972 National Government fell from power because it ran out of steam. It seemed to be reacting to political issues as they arose and not following policies directed by a coherent political philosophy. Its resolution and fortitude had given way to the inertia of governmental arrogance and/or timidity. And even more damning in the NZ political context they lacked the political literacy to read the public mind and respond with novel and attractive policies. Thus even the politics of pragmatism was robbed of its efficacy.

The simple fact of 1972 was that the ideas and people of the National Party were projecting were not such that they could be identified with by a sufficient section of the NZ voting public. In short the National Party had ceased to be a "Broad Spectrum Party". Clearly it was "Time for a change" within the National Party, and change there has been, both in terms of policy and personalities.

The last National Government seemed to many in the community, particularly the young, to be pre-occupied with financial matters. They seemed to lack a grasp of the fundamental fact that the primary goals of a political Party are social goals, and that financial goals are mere pre-requisites to the social considerations. Too often too many conveyed the impression that they saw people existing for the economic system, and not the economic system for the people. The pre-occupation with fiscal matters was sadly at the expense of the development of a broader interpretation of the welfare state.

The change within the Party, discernable

to those deeply involved in Party affairs, but not to the voting public, has been quite astounding. The most satisfying development has been the emphasis on the social implications of policy, an apparent realisation of the fact that the ultimate considerations must be social ones. The basic philosophy of the Party remains as it was, but now it is more often expressed in social terms, as individual freedom, rather than in economic terms, as private enterprise. It is the belief that the provision of incentive and opportunity within the framework of an effective welfare state is conducive to both social justice and social progress. This philosophy now mani-

fest itself in policy in a much more sophisticated and innovative way than in the pre-1972 approach.

Much will depend upon the approach taken by Caucus, particularly its new leadership. There are those who suggest that the Muldoon approach is inconsistent with the need for a broad spectrum Party. In electoral terms Robert Muldoon is an enigma, likely to confound any with a propensity to prognostication. He is a man who polarises people, who is portrayed by his opposition as bereft of social conscience: but he is also a man of great ability, a man who has appeal reaching further than the conventional National supporter.

It cannot be denied that the Muldoon appeal extends to the more conservative sector of the community. The concern that has been expressed has been in respect of the appeal to the more moderate, liberal members of the community. Thus, the choice of Brian Talboys as Deputy Leader could not have been more fortunate. Talboys is one of the most impressive figures in NZ politics. Not a man to seek publicity, he has not had the benefit of the same public exposure as Muldoon. He is a man of deep intellect, and is without rival as a Parliamentary debater. Already it has been made apparent that he



will complement the narrower, more pungent Muldoon style, with a broader, more moderate approach. His comments at the recent National Party Conference in which he advanced a more positive and liberal approach to racial issues, and proposed his Commission of the Future as a constructive approach to environmental questions, served to exemplify the influence which he is likely to have as the new Deputy. With his compellingly eloquent oratorical style, he will be a key figure in the 1975 election campaign.

The key to a successful electoral future must remain in ensuring that the National Party is projected as a Broad Spectrum Party. The only acceptable way of ensuring that it is projected as such, is to see that it truly does represent the broader interests of this country.

- MALAYSIAN ELECTIONS -

1974 MALAYSIAN ELECTIONS:

A CEREMONY OF FORMALITY?

Tun Abdul Razak announced the Malaysian Federal and State elections at the time when his Government is at its best shape: He has just returned from Peking about two months ago; the Islamic Conference was held in Kuala Lumpur recently; Malaysia has a trade surplus of \$1,473.1 million last year (\$1,157 million more than 1972); four opposition parties joined his Alliance to form the National Front Government.

The ugly racial riot which exploded on May 13, 1969 (two days after the 1969 elections) prompted the Government to amend the Sedition Act when parliamentary democracy was reinstated in February 1971. The amended Act tabooed the discussion of issues concerning race, language and the special privileges of the Malays. This means, for the first time, Malaysian politicians will be forbidden to exploit there 'sensitive' issues in their campaigns. In the past, the election campaigns were centred around these issues. Police have already warned that they will take stern actions against those who endeavour to stir the 'hornet's nest'. However, one may expect some, if not many, politicians to mount a "whispering" campaign exploiting on these forbidden issues to reap a rich electoral harvest. How efficiently the police will be able to check on such a happening will be a matter of great interest to all observers.

The National Front consists of ten parties - 6 in West Malaysia, 3 in Sarawak

and one in Sabah. The Malaysian House of Representatives comprises of 149 seats (144 in 1969) - West Malaysia 109, Sabah 16, Sarawak 24. In West Malaysia, the National Front will be opposed by Parti Rakyat (People's Party), Pekemas (Justice Party), Democratic Action Party and perhaps also the Labour Party, which boycotted the 1969 elections. There may emerge one or two other insignificant parties merely confined to some states. Independent candidates are likely to appear in some Malay constituencies.

The National Front will fight the elections on two fronts. The UMNO-PMIP (United Malays National Organisation-Pan-Malay Islamic Party) team will concentrate on the predominantly Malay constituencies (around 70). Their main opponent will be Parti Rakyat which polled only 1% of the total votes cast in the 1969 Federal and State elections. It won only 3 state seats and lost badly in the 3 Federal seats it contested. Most unfortunately, its dedicated socialist leader, Kassim Ahmad, failed to win either his State or Federal seat. Pekemas and some independent candidates may participate in some constituencies; but it should not be a surprise that several UMNO-PMIP (formerly opposition) have quite strong grassroots organization. The oppositions are not expected to pose any serious threat to their candidates; if at all they cause any surprise, it will not be more than 2 or 3 seats as the odds are greatly against them.

On the predominantly non-Malay (Chinese Indians etc) constituencies, the MCA-PPP-Gerakan (Malayan Chinese Assoc.

- People's Progressive Party) trios of the National Front will take on the DAP, Pekemas and the Labour for the 36-39 seats. The Front has a strange team: MCA is more the "rightists", Gerakan the "moderates", and PPP the extreme "left" which won 4 parliamentary and 12 state seats by playing on language and racial issues. The PPP will now be standing for the issues it deadly opposed in the previous elections. Since those issues are so vital, it may face an electoral fiasco! The MCA has been weakened by the split of 1973, of which the young 'T'urks led by Senator Lim Keng Yaik joined the Gerakan. The Gerakan has suffered a serious split in 1972, of which most of its prominent leaders left the party to form the Pekemas. However, the large influx of MCA young 'T'urks into the Gerakan has broadened its electoral appeal, which otherwise is confined to the State of Penang.

The Oppositions have their setbacks too. DAP had an internal crisis a year ago, of which 3 of its MPs, including Secretary-General Goh Hock Guan, left the party. The latter has joined the Gerakan recently. One major weakness of the DAP is that it fails to draw Malay intellectuals into the party and thus it blunted its appeal to the non-Malay constituencies. Pekemas, which was formed after the Gerakan split of 1972, will be contesting in the predominantly non-Malay constituencies too. So is the Labour Party. If these opposition parties fail to come to any electoral understanding or pact, it is likely that they will destroy each other. On the other hand, if they can reach an understanding, they will

pose a strong challenge to the National Front candidates in most of these predominantly non-Malay constituencies.

In Sabah, Chief Minister Mustafa is most likely to collect all the 16 parliamentary seats for Razak. Any significant opposition party is yet to emerge in that state; thus some independent candidates may appear in some constituencies. If popular candidates appear, they may win one or two seats.

In Sarawak, the former strong "left" party, SUPP, is now on the side of Jacob Alliance. Their main opponent is the SNAP led by Ningkan, if the "leftists" who left the SUPP do not nominate any candidate. It is most likely that the latter will support the SNAP candidates. Ningkan, who is a native of Sarawak, has a strong electoral appeal. So the 24 parliamentary seats will be keenly contested.

Finally when all the chips are down, I predict the National Front will come home with at least 100 seats (of the total of 149) or two-third majority. However, the failure of the National Front to win the majority of the non-Malay constituencies in West Malaysia will be seen as a psychological as well as a political setback to Razak as the non-Malays represent about 48% of the total West Malaysian population. Likewise, the electoral success of SNAP implies that the Federal Government's authority over Sarawak is questioned. Seen in this light, the main focus in the 1974 Malaysian elections will be in the aforementioned two areas.

Ho Kin Chai

HUMAN RIGHTS.

VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN MALAYSIA

The Chairman,
U.N. Committee of Human Rights,
U.N. New York, U.S.A.

Sir,
On the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Human Rights, we, the relatives of political detainees in Malaya, take this opportunity, to send this letter of appeal to draw your kind attention to the deplorable plight of our dear ones who are languishing in various detention camps throughout the country.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights stipulates that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights; everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person; no one shall be subject to arbitrary arrest, detention and exile; no one shall be subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment; everyone is entitled in full equality to a Fair and Public hearing, everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedom set forth in the Declaration.

But in our country, no one is entitled to all the rights and freedom set forth in the declaration; we do not have the right to lead a normal life in liberty and there is no security of person, our kinsmen are subjected to torture, cruel inhuman degrading treatment and punishment; our relatives are arrested and detained without going through any court procedure.

Hundreds of our kinsmen are detained for participating in political activities under the Internal Security Act which vests the Minister of Home Affairs with vast sweeping power to put a person behind bars without limit of detention. A person can be locked into infinity so long as the government considers it to be necessary. No legal procedure can prevent our relatives from being ill-treated and detained. The very existence and exercise of this Act has quashed all the government's claims of "democracy" and "justice". The Act has constituted a most serious infringement of human rights and become a grave challenge to human dignity.

The fate of our dear ones is nothing but a concentrated reflection of the fate of the people of Malaya. What is at stake here is not only the freedom of a single individual, but fundamental matters of principles are also involved, and the very existence of human beings are in the balance.

Sir, to study the Declaration and then to compare them with what our kinsmen and countrymen suffer will bring you a pathetic agonising and indignant picture; political suppression in this country has almost left not a single letter, a single spirit of the Declaration into a scrap of waste paper, and yet, this very government did pledge to honour the Declaration. Let us be brief and specify. So far as political detainees are concerned, article 1,2,3,5,6,7,9,10,11(1), 13(1), 15(1,2), 18,19,20(1,2,3),22,23(4), 26(1,2,3) of the declaration are systematically violated and greatly torn apiece.

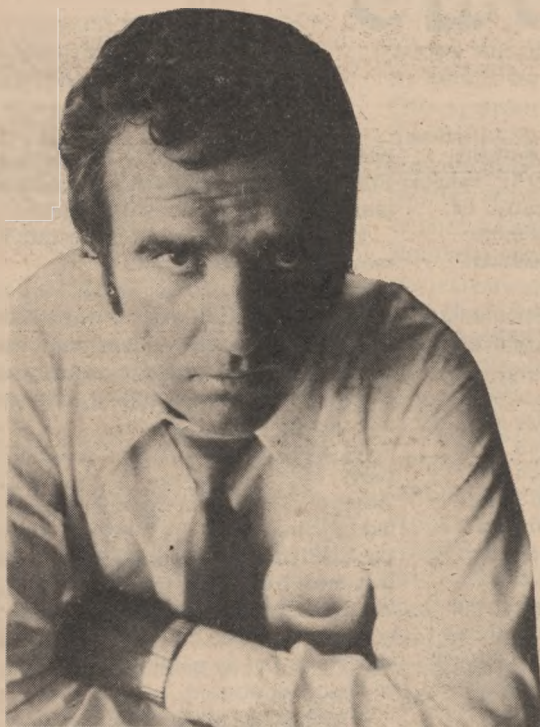
We heretoreby solemnly make the following charge against the government of this country:

1. This is government has infringed the very first sentence of the UN Charter which "Reaffirms faith in fundamental rights in the dignity of worth of the human person to promote social programmes and better standards of life in longer freedom".
 2. This is government has shown disregard and contempt for human rights and has committed barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear, and want which have been claimed as the highest aspirations of the common people.
 3. This is government as a member state of the U.N., does not honour its pledge to achieve the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms which are enshrined in the Declaration. On the contrary, this government has systematically negated and stamped out these rights and freedoms.
 4. This is government has infringed and trampled underfoot nearly all the articles in the Declaration.
- Sir, we have tried to bring before you our case as clear and brief as possible. Our dear ones have done no wrong against the country, On the contrary, it is the government which has done them wrong. Our beloved ones only "crime" is that they love freedom, justice and human dignity

too dearly. From this government, we do not entreat forgiveness for our dear ones, nor would we beg for their clemency, for we fully appreciate the services and sacrifices from our beloved ones for the country and the people. In a country where true democracy and true justice do it requires exceptional courage and steadfastness to withstand the onslaught of the whole burden of the oppressing state machinery. It is particularly so when the government shows not the slightest respect for normal human life and human dignity. Sir, we hope we have brought our case to you in good time. We call upon you, the UN Secretary-General, the World Body, and the peoples who love freedom and justice, who cherish democracy and defend human dignity, to help bring about the immediate and unconditional release of all the political detainees in this country. Your material and moral support is important to us in fighting against tyranny and injustice. Sir, we consider it your unshakeable duty as well as your moral obligation to exert influence and take necessary steps to ensure that the Declaration will be fully respected and honoured in our country. It would be an irony and tragedy if this historic Declaration continues to be trampled underfoot. Until respected and honoured this solemn Declaration of Human Right might be rendered not only as a scrap of waste paper, but also a document of human hypocrisy.

Yours faithfully,
Relatives of Political Prisoners in Malaya.

HALLORAN.



The Nats conference in Auckland produced several surprises many of which were unpleasant for the party and its new publicity image makers.

The spontaneous reaction to Marshall and his admission of getting the push irked delegates in a big way.

The farmers liking the gentleman and turning sour on Muldoon and Chapman by daring to answer back over the selection procedure.

Muldoon admitting that the party was getting embarrassed by the public comment of members wishing to remove the dead-wood that is occupying some blue ribbon seats. For instance Julian Watts is apparently not prepared to give away Karori should Marshall go. Watts is chairman of a branch of about 1,400 in that electorate and Templeton wants it.

The suicidal stance of some Young Nats in daring to have a go at Muldoon for racist statements and general right wingism.

Muldoon quoted God on Nationwide in a piece that must have been written for them.

Members of the Farm Workers Association in their other capacity at Nat members touting the party line.

The final blunder when Talboys speech went the other way to Muldoon's and confused the poor bastards even further.

A TRADE UNION POINT OF VIEW

by Gene Leckey - Executive Member
Auckland Waterside Workers Union
(Political Science graduate)

Looking back at the so-called industrial unrest, I am amazed at the cool calm and elaborate journalism regarding the pilot's dispute. It seems that if you are a GUILD or officer and gentlemen the poison pen is not used against you for standing up for your rights.

It is a coincidence that for the very same reason in 1951 the watersiders decided not to work overtime, and they were LOCKED out but the old 8'oclock again opened the ciosset and gave the old corpse a shake in its Historical section, still calling it a STRIKE.

So I am appealing to CRACCUM to TRY and put the other side of the story across because you are not owned by the sympathetic do gooder forces.

We work under a Tribunal on the water-front, and the Shipping Tribunal is what the shipping industry works under. Another Tory creation but nevertheless it included loop holes which frustrated both parties, but just for the record:

1. The hydrofoil was established under the guise of giving service to the residents of Waiheke. WHAT SERVICE?
2. The crew, since 1964 has been a skipper, engineer and seaman.
2. The hydrofoil is not a slow boat. It travels at a speed at which if it hits a log

or other debris, and the skipper is knocked out - the seaman is there to take over - that's what seaman do - steer ships over seaways - plus have life boat; and often safety tickets - So the priority is not the ship BUT THE PEOPLE on board.

4. It is amazing how the owner of a licence to operate a service can put his boat up on the land and not have his licence taken away. What would happen to a bus company. Who stopped them buses.

5. The shipping tribunal twice told the owner of the hydrofoil to get it back in and use the same crew as laid down. Who should have gone to jail - a man who is democratically elected to speak for his men - (WHO makes the decisions) or the hydrofoil owner.

Lastly, the waffle about stop work meetings, I would like to know where a few of the following unions can hold a meeting to accomodate its members.

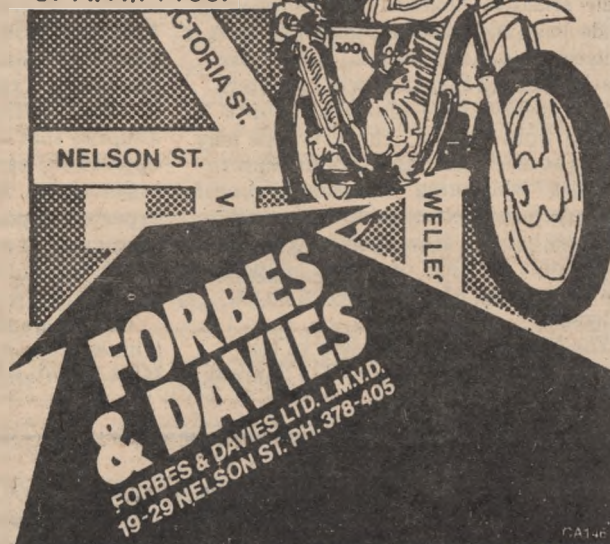
Clerical workers, approx. 9,000

Engineers union, approx. 1,500

There are several others I can quote but it would not alter some peoples minds. All unions are run by a set of gazetted rules which are registered by the Labour department - every member can challenge any decision as laid down by the rules and YES the press will find a squeeler who says I didn't decide this or that BUT remember all minutes of meetings are recorded, so is the quorum so please in the future enlightened ones, TRY and look at the other point of view.

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ART.

"Arts of Oceania", a five-day symposium is shortly to be held at the University of Toronto, Canada. Dr Sid Mead, formerly of the Anthropology Department here, has organized the symposium which will comprise papers on various studies to date, and workshops to discuss the directions of future research projects. Professor Roger Green of the Anthropology Dept. at Auckland University will read a paper on the analysis of Lapita pottery discoveries in the Pacific.

Three delegates from Papua New Guinea who recently passed through Auckland en route to the symposium, addressed the newly revived Social Anthropology Society on their work in Papua New Guinea. In the same week in which the press reports that a Benin sculpture piece sold at Sotheby's for a cool record-breaking \$296,000, it was heartening indeed to learn of the National Cultural Property Act recently passed in Papua New Guinea by which valuable indigenous artefacts and art objects can be declared national property and thus protected from export and exploitation by dealers in such trades.

Dirk Smidt, Director of the Papua New Guinea Public Museum and Art Gallery, now in advanced planning stages, described his work of policing this act and his hopes that, when appropriate storage and display conditions are established, negotiations could be made with institutions in Western countries for the return of certain extremely valuable items to their country of origin. One could wish them greater godspeed than various Greek governments have enjoyed in negotiations over the return to Greece of the Elgin marbles.

Geoffrey Musuwadoga, who also spoke, is an Assistant-Lecturer in painting with the Centre for Creative Arts Centre in Port Moresby. Training is offered the Centre's students in painting, sculpture, graphics, textile design and metal work. Mr Musu-

wadoga, who is from the Trobriand Islands, explained how western art materials and techniques are made available to the artists, who are nevertheless encouraged to use their own resources of style and subject-matter. Slides of various artists' works, and of the National Theatre Company production of a Sepik River legend, were shown - all of them indicating an impressive vitality which the Centre exudes despite its unfinished buildings and a library of three books!

Pensa Misiel Roleas, From New Ireland, a third-year Anthropology student at the University of Papua New Guinea, discussed the recent student strike at that institution which originated over complaints about the quality of cafeteria food and insufficient living allowance but broadened into an analysis of the role of the University and education in the emerging Papua New Guinea nation. He emphasised that the university students, and the museum, are attempting to relate to the people in a significant way by going out into the streets and villages to open up direct lines of communication.

The Social Anthropology Society was reformed this year by students here with the intention of providing an opportunity for Anthropology students to meet some of the people in this field who pass through Auckland during the year, and to establish an informal meeting place for students and staff where matters of special interest to Social Anthropology can be discussed.

Details of further meetings are posted on the noticeboards at the Anthropology Dept. at both 13 Symonds Street, and 18 Grafton Road. Beginning on Monday August 12th, there will be a series of three evenings on the subject of Anthropology At Large.



WITCHEN WITH WITCH-CASSOWARY

by

AKIS (OF TSEMBAGA)
Simbaia Valley, Papua New Guinea

Akis came as a quite untrained artist to the Creative Arts Centre at Port Moresby. After a short time his works were exhibited and interestingly this month there are twelve of his works for sale at a gallery in Parnell.



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RECORDS

"Holiday" — America

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(Album supplied by WEA)

Wyn Drabble

"Okie" — J.J. Cale

If you want originality, you want J.J. Cale — a voice like his is so different you must at least be interested in it. Personally I just love those huffy matter-of-fact vocal deliveries — so cool and unpretentious yet so powerful. Of course you can't expect it to differ too much from what he's done before 'cos J.J. Cale is J.J. Cale and you're not going to change that. What makes this album so good then, is that voice and the tremendous floating guitar lines that glide around it (they're the guitars of Grady Martin and Reggie Young). And if the guitar fade-out solo on 'Precious Memories' doesn't make your heart quiver, you ain't got no feeling. Good easy head music.

(Album supplied by PYE)

Wyn Drabble

ELECTION RESULTS

* — elected

PRESIDENT

Cora Baillie	282
Michael Kidd	611
Michael Treen	273
Clare Ward *	1222 *
No confidence	101
Invalid	25

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ON COUNCIL

Russell Bartlett *	1296
Kaye Turner	790
No confidence	349
Invalid	58

TWO STUDENT UNION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Beverlay Austin	798
Richard Rowe *	1337
Kaye Turner *	1162
No confidence	468
Invalid	97

TREASURER

Peter Goodfellow *	1415
No confidence	762
Invalid	177

TWO STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES ON SENATE

Cora Baillie *	461
Michael Kidd *	488
Bob Lack	393

John Marsden	138
No confidence	137
Invalid	34

SOCIETIES REPRESENTATIVE

J.H. Chew *	316
David Tauber	156
Michael Walker	314
No confidence	301
Invalid	67

STUDENT LIAISON OFFICER

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No confidence	382
Invalid	105

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No confidence	119
Invalid	51

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David Poynton *	276
Lindsay Reid	246
No confidence	329
Invalid	93

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Invalid	73

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Invalid	94

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Invalid	142

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Invalid	101

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No confidence	403
Invalid	133

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No confidence	451
Invalid	129

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No confidence	396
Invalid	134



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NEW ZEALAND STUDENTS' ARTS COUNCIL,



Philip Dadson
Scratch Orchestra

- NATIONAL TOUR OF 'THRU SOUND' -

In March this year the NZBC hosted a Sonic Circus at Victoria University. It was a highly successful showcase for New Zealand composers' work. Brainchild of New Zealand composer, Jack Body, it was a spectacular six hours of continuous musical events occurring simultaneously on eight different venues, in close proximity, yet all separate and isolated acoustically. Sonic Circus concentrated on environment.

New Zealand Students' Arts Council has selected aspects of the Sonic Circus which are more related to the student population — although it has relevance to all — to make up the first national tour in New Zealand by New Zealand composers and musicians performing live experimental music. It's to be called "Thru Sound". The music is experimental in that the musicians are using unusual sound sources; the instruments are non-conventional, some having been constructed by the musicians themselves. More than this, the music is exploratory — the musicians are exploring their medium, their venue, their audience and themselves, through what they are doing.

Thru Sound will feature two groups who are exponents of this medium in "Scratch Orchestra" from Auckland and "C.A.P." from Christchurch. A room of Dreams will travel with them. The Scratch Orchestra is a four man nucleus of a larger group, which was formed in New Zealand in 1970. The New Zealand Scratch Orchestra took its major ideas from the London Scratch Orchestra which was established in 1969.

Scratch Orchestra create music from a wide source of unconventional instruments — drums, gongs, wood, stones. Their music can be performed by untrained musicians (in the classical sense) as their musical scores are often related to and contain, verbal instructions. This idea was demonstrated at the 1972 Universities Arts Festival, where the orchestra performed a piece by Cornelius Cardew, the original source of the Scratch Orchestra, called the "Great Learning".

On this tour the group will reproduce the works performed at the Sonic Circus. There are three pieces from a series called "Variable Occasional Music" and the work "ESP Riff". These pieces are based on the idea that the maximum freedom should be left in the music — that the heart of creativity lies in a dimension between the players where surprising conjunctions can occur. The conjunctions of rhythms and the sound sources remain new every time a piece is played.

Scratch Orchestra's music could be said to evolve during the performance the rhythms grow and regress, forming dense patterns, changing, moving slowly through a process of transformation. The rhythm implies a pulse rather than creates one. The music is about people, for people, it's all very informal. "It seems to me that rhythm more than any other music element has the power to move and involve people at the marrow. Audiences generally are itching to be sparked off by music nowadays and so little music satisfies the willingness of an audience to give". — Philip Dadson, Scratch Orchestra.

"C.A.P." is led by John Cousins, a lecturer in the music Department at Canterbury University. They practice a musical experience which borders on theatre. Sounds are transmitted through a tape-loop system and played back after a variable time gap. The sounds are interpreted through movement of the group using various materials at the same time. C.A.P. are concerned with the dimensions of sound within a space, all of their works are continued as part of a total process.

"We are playing this game not for your own pleasure, but for our own. However, perhaps what you see and hear will arouse your curiosity enough so that your presence is maintained. It is possible that our activities will puzzle, amuse, bore, or even fascinate you, that you will remain — at least for a while. . . We are not concerned with producing theatre (although it may occur). We are concerned with exercising our imaginations in particular ways with the primary objective of enjoying ourselves, and through that enjoyment rediscovering what it feels like to be at play. The rules of the game are known only to us, having been codified over quite a long period of trial and error. You may find however, that observing us implementing our rules can be fun. Unlike in the case of established or well-known forms, there is no common symbolism unifying our work and you. All that you can do is either go away or observe with flexible imagination — using our activities as raw material for your own fantasy.

Try not to work out what our activities are about, or what they mean. Rather, try to transcend all of the literal images present in what we are doing, allowing them to ferment and abstract in your imagination. The best way to do this is to take things at face value accepting them for their own sake, and leaving things at that. Do not probe objectively for the 'hidden message'. There is none. If you come to enjoy yourself/us, then the rest will take care of itself". — C.A.P.

The "Room of Dreams" will be set up to accentuate the activities of the two groups, C.A.P. and the Scratch Orchestra. The room will involve aspects of audio and visual art. A continuous programme of New Zealand compositions in electronic music has been compiled at the Electronic Music Studio at Victoria University by Professor Douglas Lilburn and Ross Harris. The works illustrate how individual the use of a technical medium can be. The composers perhaps share an interest in natural sound sources rather than those generated by studio equipment. Many of the works make open or disguised use of the human voice, and many of the seeming electronic sounds are natural sounds processed by electronic means. Many of the purely electronic sounds are consciously shaped with some reference to natural sounds. It's as though composers here were seeking to bring this new medium into relationship with their human context.

The room will be open 10.00 a.m. — 4.00 p.m. daily for people to wander, rest, think and create in their own time.

ITINERARY — AUCKLAND REGION

"DREAM ROOM" — Wed. August 7; Thurs. August 8; Fri. August 9.

10.00 a.m. — 4.00 p.m. — Auckland University, Room 143, Student Union Building

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— Auckland University
— 1 1.00 p.m. — 2.00 p.m.
— 8 8.00 p.m.

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