

# Orientation Week '74



MORE THAN 3250 students join Monash this week to bring the total undergraduate and post-graduate population to about 12,500.

When offers and enrolments are completed later this month, the final enrolment figure for this year should be about 12,800.

Over the last eight months about 200 Monash staff and students have been involved at various times in planning and presenting Orientation Week for the first year students.

(This is apart from the 200 people who are involved in the host scheme which is detailed on this page).

The Orientation Week organisers want to stress that the aim of this week is for new students to meet fellow students and to talk with staff.

To this end a number of departments — for example physics, English mathematics, chemistry and Spanish — have organised a number of informal coffee sessions rather than lectures.

If you have any questions then ask: the two central points are the Union reception desk and the Contact office, both on the ground floor of the Union.

The Contact service has also organised a mobile centre — a huge dome covered by parachute cloth which will be moved around the campus. It will provide information on the week's activities.

The campus this week will look more like a Sunbury festival than a university — a tent city occupied by various clubs and societies will be erected north of the Union, and the Monash Association of Students will have a large tent in the forum.

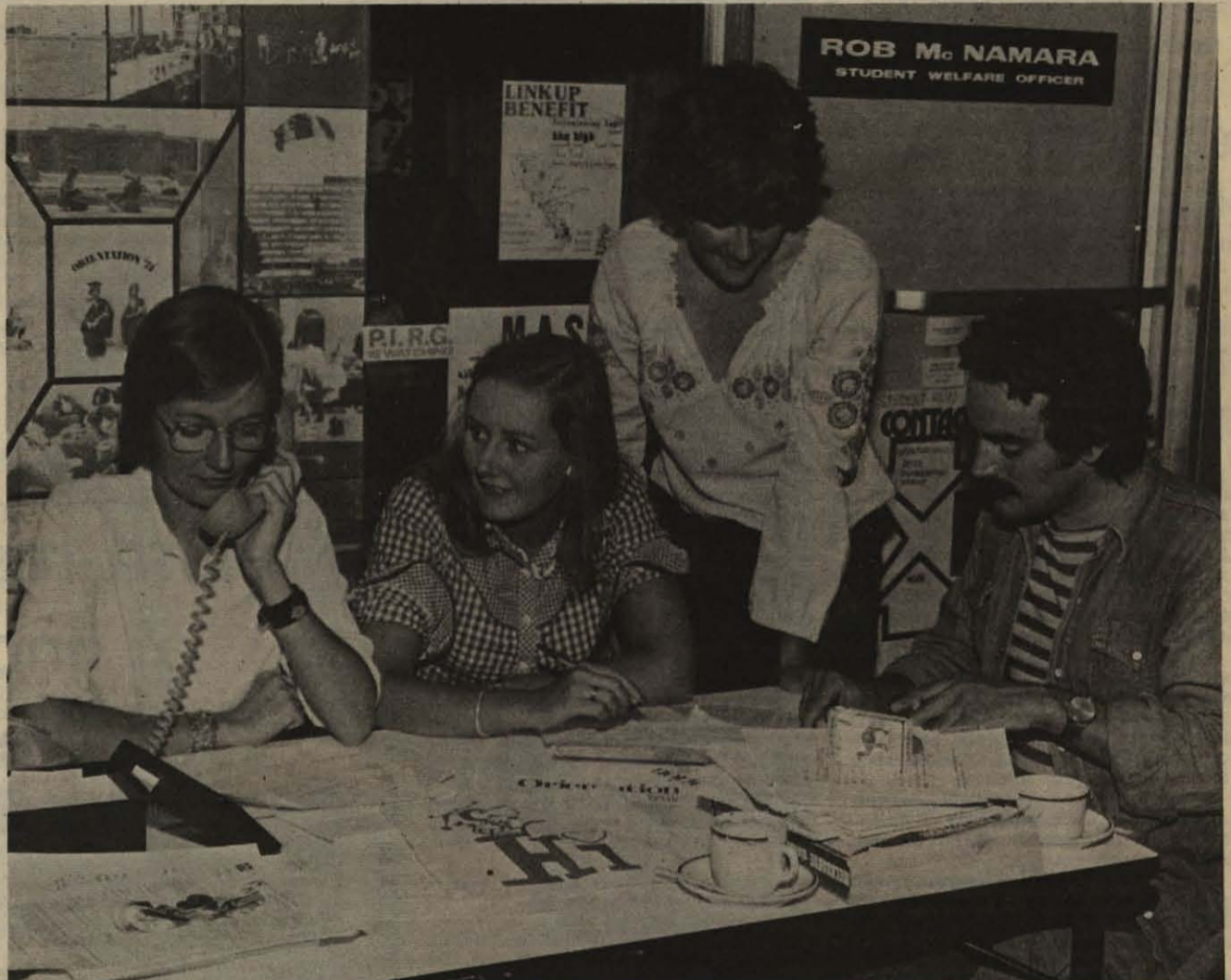


# MONASH REPORTER

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## Popular artists for Blackwood Hall

A series of well known popular entertainers from Australia and abroad will appear at lunchtime concerts in Robert Blackwood Hall this year.

The first concert will be on Thursday, March 14, at 1.15 p.m., with Kamahl.

Other artists signed to appear are Eartha Kitt, Warren (Alf Garnett) Mitchell, Johnny O'Keefe and Lovelace Watkins. The Reporter will advise on the dates when they are determined.

All staff and students may attend. The cost for each concert will be \$1.

The director of Robert Blackwood Hall, Dr Ian Hiscock, said the hall management committee wanted to hold popular concerts "to take the starch out of the hall."

"We want to show off the hall's versatility and to offer a wide variety of entertainment."

• More on Monash entertainment, pages 6 and 7.

## 2000 STUDENTS IN NEW HOST SCHEME

The Monash Contact service has developed a novel way to introduce first year students to university life.

It has organised about 150 senior students — undergraduates and post-graduates — to act as "hosts" for this year's freshers.

In theory each "host" is in charge of 20 first year students: 20 by 150 makes 3000, the approximate number of enrolments.

### Breaking down barriers

More than 2000 first year students indicated at enrolment early in February that they were prepared to join the host scheme — only Orientation Week will prove whether or not they actually participate.

Student Welfare Officer, Rob McNamara, said the scheme was aimed at breaking down the barriers which existed when new students confronted an institution the size of Monash — a place with more people than Milledura.

Rob said the students were asked to fill out forms when they enrolled, and the hosts were allocated students depending on geographical location. Each host got the students together as a group late in February, and they are to meet again during Orientation Week and decide which activities they will attend.

"The scheme is not based on dis-

ciplines, so in theory students from various faculties will get together," Rob said.

"We expect two kinds of students not to take part in the scheme — those who have come to University with a close knit group of school friends and those who are pathologically lonely."

Rob said the hosts would talk to the students about their own experiences and problems at University. They would also explain the various services which existed — for example, Clubs and Societies, the Sports and Recreation Association, and the libraries.

Rob had warm praise for the hosts, especially the 15 people who helped co-ordinate the whole scheme. They had given up a good deal of their vacation to make the project work, he said.

## Contact runs three camps for first years

More than 200 first year students are expected to take part in three camps being organised by the Student Welfare Officer and Contact.

The first camp for 32 students was held last weekend at the Monash lodge at Mt. Buller.

The second camp begins this Friday at a Ringwood church camp. It will cater for about 70 students.

The third camp will be held on April 5, 6 and 7 at the University's camp at Shoreham on the Mornington Peninsula. Up to 120 students will attend.

## Monash Reporter for staff and students

This is the Orientation Week issue of Monash Reporter, the first for 1974.

The Reporter is published monthly by the University's Information Office for the Vice-Chancellor's department.

Its aim is to provide a wide variety

of news from and for all sections of the University.

Up to 10,000 issues of the Reporter are distributed to staff, students and graduates. Its broad news content makes it a departure from most official university magazines.

Letters and contributions are welcome and should be sent to the editor, first floor, University Offices, ext. 3087.

# The AUC submission, 1976-78 . . .

## Monash heading for "a period of consolidation"

According to the Monash submission to the Australian Universities Commission the next few years will bring "consolidation" and "improvement of quality."

Gone are the days of "large scale development" and "rapid growth". Monash now regards itself as an established, rather than a developing, university.

With this theme in mind two propositions governed the University's AUC submission for the 1976-78 triennium:

1. That the next triennium should be a period of consolidation in which every effort is made to improve the quality of what is being undertaken at present.
2. That some further diversification is needed and that there must be opportunity for innovations and response to new needs despite the expected slow growth in student numbers.

The University expects to reach its planned undergraduate population of 12,000 in 1979. Over the next five years there will be little variation in the proportion of enrolments — about 50% in humanities, about 40% in sciences and about 10% in education.

Post-graduate figures will not reach the original estimate of 2500 and should be about 1700 by 1978.

A good deal of the AUC submission on building deals with expansion of medical facilities — partly because of the 25% increase in intake numbers from 160 to 200 by 1978, and partly because of the increasing number wishing to do biological sciences.

Monash sought "green light" priority approval for an expenditure of almost \$9 million in medicine. Major projects were:

- A new building of seven levels primarily for the Department of Physiology; the area vacated by physiology will be used by biochemistry.
- A new undergraduate science teaching laboratory for the Department of Biochemistry.
- Two new lecture theatres and eight tutorial rooms for all medical department on campus. The large lecture theatre, seating 400, is also planned as a cinema.
- Extensions to the Biomedical Library, anatomy and the biology building.

Other proposed building in the submission included:

- Accommodation for the Audio Visual Aids Centre, the Higher Education Research Unit, Continuing Education and the Graduate School of Librarianship.

- An extra grant for the Monash University Club, which should begin initial building this year.

- A sports, arts and crafts, and workshop building. It will provide administrative offices for the Sports and Recreation Association, a store and workshop for the Alexander Theatre, and contain a lounge and food shop.

The University has also indicated that it would like to know what the AUC policy is towards providing grants for the construction of buildings for child care.

In its minor works submission, the University requests a \$49,000 contribution towards the \$79,000 cost of constructing a child care facility near Monash.

In its submission Monash says that an appreciable number of staff and students who are parents of young children require child care facilities as close as possible to the campus.

Monash, which supports the provision of these facilities, asks for a policy statement from the AUC on the question.

Monash also informs the AUC that it plans three new centres:

- Centre for International Studies dealing especially with trade and the economies of developing countries.

- Centre for Developmental Biology and Family Planning, with initial work in pre-natal and post-natal development, including those aspects of family and social environments that affect child development. It is hoped that financial support will come from such bodies as the World Health Organisation.

- Centre for Neuroscience to co-ordinate research work being done in anatomy, biochemistry, electrical engineering, physiology and pharmacology and psychology.

In another section the submission outlines the difficulties faced by the University. These include:

- The financial problems faced by the Halls of Residence in a period of endemic inflation. The discrimination against postgraduate students in the method of calculating recurrent grants is regretted.

- The need for more library seating space and student study areas. Monash says this problem is accentuated by the relatively few students who live near the campus: most cannot return home during the day to work.

- The need for financial assistance for Continuing Education courses, especially those courses of a truly post-graduate nature.

- The need for supplementary superannuation to ensure that retiring staff will have adequate means in a climate of inflation.

### Interesting figures

The Monash submission also includes some interesting figures. The cost per student in 1973 (based on running costs of the university) was \$1872; it is estimated this will rise to \$2763 by 1978. The increase in all staff will be from 2210 in 1973 to 2856 in 1978. The academic staff in this period will rise from 1465 to 2010.

The AUC will visit Australian universities this year and make recommendations to the Federal Government for the 1976-78 triennium. In the past its recommendations have normally been fully adopted.

The AUC will be at Monash next month. Its report, the sixth, should be published in May next year.

The building that remains to be done from the 1973-75 report includes extensions to the Main Library, the Union, education, engineering and administration.

## Monash research aims at finding a noiseless tyre



Dr. Alfredson and Stephen Samuels inspect the tyre research equipment in the University's anechoic chamber. The wedge-shaped material in the background absorbs noise.

Tyre research aimed at cutting down noise levels is being carried out at Monash.

If, one day, manufacturers can produce a tyre pattern that cuts the irritating hiss and swish of tyres on road surfaces, this work in the anechoic chamber of Monash's Department of Mechanical Engineering may have played its part.

The anechoic chamber is an echo-free room that is mounted on springs to insulate it from external vibration.

So that noise levels may be recorded and analysed, a scanning microphone moves around a rotating tyre driven from outside the chamber by an electric motor. The tyre runs on its roller as a substitute for miles and miles of road.

Other experimental work involves high-speed photography of the deflection of tyre patterns as the tyres are run over a glass plate. A jury assessment of tyre noise is being carried out to discover exactly what specific noise patterns are objectionable.

The project is believed to be the first of its type in the world with the direct participation of a tyre manufacturer, in this case the Olympic Tyre and Rubber Co. Pty. Ltd. Studies in Europe and America have examined tyre-noise levels, but the Monash program is the first aimed at finding a true theoretical and practical understanding of how a tyre-tread pattern actually generates noise.

The company says it hopes the research will develop guidelines for tread pattern design that will, in future, give acceptably low noise levels.

The research is being carried out by Stephen Samuels, a Masters student, under the supervision of Dr. Robin Alfredson, senior lecturer in the department.

One theory is that air "pumping" may be the main noise culprit. The possibility here is that air is expelled from the cavities in the tread pattern when the tread comes in contact with the road, with a consequent in-flow of air into the expanding cavities as the tread leaves the contact area.

"But," says Dr Alfredson, "we must get the facts first — the noise generated by the tyre, and nothing but the tyre, running on the surface."

## Vice-Chancellor critical of University financing system

The Vice-Chancellor, Dr Matheson, has been critical of the triennial system of university financing.

In the recently published 1972 Report of Council, Dr Matheson suggests that alternate ways of financing could be investigated.

Dr Matheson said the timing of the current triennial system was all wrong.

In any one triennium the first year was simultaneously spent in finishing off the buildings remaining from the preceding triennium, launching all the enterprises authorised for the current triennium, and also in making plans for the next. These plans had to be finalised before the end of year one.

Dr Matheson said that year two was spent by the Australian Universities' Commission in making what had come to be described as "visitations" — by unkind analogy with the plagues of the Old Testament — and in formulating its advice to governments.

Year three was spent, so far as triennial planning was concerned, by governments in analysing reactions to the AUC's recommendations so that, by Budget time, a concerted view had been reached which could form the basis for legislation.

"This timing is all wrong," Dr. Matheson said. "In 1973, the first year of the new triennium, the Australian universities will be winding up the 1970-72 triennium, launching the 1973-75 developments, and making plans for 1976-78."

"It is to be hoped that Professor Karmel, whose Fifth Report is by general consent a great improvement on its predecessors, will now try to bring some changes into the time program of the triennial system."

# BAITING THE ANTS BEGINS

YESTERDAY a joint Monash University-CSIRO research team began laying baits for argentine ants in about 60 houses in 12 street blocks in Moorabbin.

The aim of the work is to control the ant population by using compounds other than dieldrin or related persistent insecticides.

Baits are being laid on either side of the street — one is a control bait, the other a treatment bait. In each case corned beef is being used as the attractant.

The key to the experiment is an artificial juvenile growth hormone.

The treatment bait carries the hormone while the control bait is just corned beef.

The theory is that this hormone will keep the larvae young and stop their development. If the workers are not replaced the ant colony will not survive as the workers obtain all the food for the larvae and the queen ant.

The Monash side of the research is being done by Dr. George Ettershank, senior lecturer in zoology.

## Against dieldrin

Dr. Ettershank said that he was opposed to the use of dieldrin — "it is like using a sledge hammer to kill a fly; it's complete overkill," he said.

He said that in the Monash-CSIRO experiments the ants were being tracked by the use of fluorescent dye markers which can be detected to one part in ten billion.

"On the treatment side we are combining the hormone with the dye marker rhodamine and on the control side we are using fluorescein.

"By using these markers we know which group the ants belong to, and whether or not they have been eating the hormone."

Over the past few weeks the research team has been determining the ant population in the area being studied. By next summer they will know whether the juvenile growth hormone has been able to keep the population down.

## Ant population

As a related piece of research Dr. Ettershank's team has been looking at the extent of the ant population in Melbourne. Last December, through the press, they appealed for ant specimens to be sent to Monash.

About 500 letters arrived, mostly from the east and south east of Melbourne, but some from as far away as Apollo Bay (hardly part of the suburban sprawl).

One gentleman brought in about 5000 ants which he said he had collected from all over his Brighton South home.

"That gentleman", Dr. Ettershank said, "hopes that our research work is successful."

## Honors for first woman graduate

Mrs. Susan Needs has become Monash's first woman graduate in civil engineering. Susan gained a 2A honor in her final examinations.

About 400 male students have completed the civil engineering degree. Last year Susan was the only woman among a class of 64.

Susan, 28, is also a trained pharmacist. Her husband is a graduate in building from the University of Melbourne.



ABOVE: Argentine ants in the Monash laboratory. The workers are carrying larvae past two queen ants. Various growth hormones were tested in the laboratory before the current field research began.



ABOVE: Dr. John French, left, of the CSIRO Division of Building Research, and Dr. George Ettershank, discuss laboratory tests on the ants.



## Remedial English adviser is appointed

A 32-year-old NSW graduate who has spent the last eight years teaching in Africa has been appointed as remedial English adviser at Monash.

He is Gordon Taylor who began his appointment in mid-February.

His position, which will involve helping students in written and spoken English, is the first of its kind at a Victorian university.

Mr. Taylor's office is at the eastern end of the Hargrave Library building on the ground floor, room G16. His extension is 3068.

He says his job will be "to help students whose difficulties with reading, note-taking, writing, or other linguistic skills, may impair their efforts to make the most of their knowledge."

"Many students do not understand the techniques of getting information and organising it into a coherent academic treatise," Mr. Taylor said.

He will also enquire into "the extent, nature and immediate causes of students' problems with English with a view to developing the most effective remedies."

## Staff help needed

Mr. Taylor says the success will depend in part on the co-operation of individual members of staff.

"Language is not simply a neutral medium of communicating ideas in the manner of a telephone or lecture theatre," he said. "Lecturers are invited to contact me on the linguistic problems of communicating with students — as well, of course, as the converse."

Mr. Taylor has no immediate plans for courses on remedial English — as is the case with the counselling service at the Australian National University. His initial effort will be on an individual level.

From 1968 to 1973, Mr. Taylor was senior lecturer in the English department at Hailee Sellassie I University at Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. Before that he was in Kenya and Rhodesia. He was attracted to Africa by its complete departure from western-type society.

## Karmel Report to be debated at Monash

A series of six public lectures on the Karmel Report and its implications will be held by the Faculty of Education over the coming weeks.

The organiser, Mr Martin Sullivan, said the series would provide for the first time a forum for an academic assessment of the report. As yet it had not been formally debated although it had aroused great interest and concern in education.

The series will start on March 27 with a talk on "Labor, the Karmel Report and the Opposition", by Dr Bob Bessant, senior lecturer in education at La Trobe university.

All lectures will be held in rotunda theatre 1 (R1) at 7.45 p.m. on Wednesday. The five other lectures are:

April 3: "The effect of the Karmel Report on Commonwealth control of education", Assoc. Prof. R. McCulloch, Monash University.

April 10: "Issues and Directions for the Schools Commission", Dr. K. McKinnon, chairman, Australian Schools Commission.

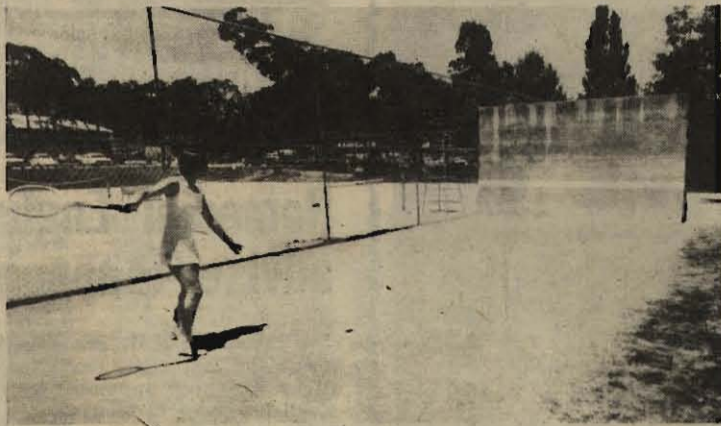
April 17: "The independent sector and the Karmel Report", Prof. E. Selby Smith, University of Tasmania.

April 24: "Interpretations and implementation of the Karmel Report", Mr. A. Jones, Director General of Education South Australia.

May 1: "Some underlying assumptions of the Karmel Report", Prof. Peter Musgrave, Monash University.

For further details contact Mr. Sullivan, Faculty of Education, ext. 2891.

# NEWS FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES



## ANU: Tennis goes to the wall

At the Australian National University members of the university tennis club "go to the wall" when they want to practise their game.

The ANU tennis club, at a cost of about \$1600, has built a wall which has a curved surface to give "true" ball response. It is being used above.

Both sides of the practice wall can be used. The claimed advantage of

curved walls is that a ball bounces off at the angle it should have been returned by an opponent if the shot were played on a tennis court.

The face is not a perfect curve — the top and bottom are curved but the wall flattens out in the middle. The wall is 10 feet high and 18 feet wide (half the width of a tennis court).

## QUEENSLAND: Flood damage

Normal operations at the University of Queensland were suspended for three days last month to allow the university to meet the flood crisis.

In a report on the Brisbane flood, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Zelman Cowen, said that flood damage would impair the university's operations. Losses and restoration costs would run into thousands of dollars.

The university had suffered substantial though not crippling damage, Professor Cowen said.

The University of Queensland is situated on high ground along the Brisbane River in St Lucia.

Three colleges — Emmanuel, International House and Women's — were seriously affected. Damage to university buildings was most extensive in physical education, agriculture and entomology and electrical engineering.

The basement in electrical engineering was under feet of water. Paper and other materials were lost in the printery. It appears the tennis courts were completely destroyed; there was also damage to the swimming pool, to squash courts, ovals, boatsheds and pontoons.

There was also damage to the sewerage pumping equipment, to caretakers' residences and to roads and paths.

Professor Cowen's report said university staff members and students suffered cruel personal losses.

In agriculture and entomology post-graduate students lost extended research work.

Staff who have suffered personal loss may apply for advances of salary to a limit of \$300, and arrangements will be made for leave in cases of special and continuing urgency.

Professor Cowen said that while normal work was suspended, staff whose own homes were safe helped save university equipment and property. Staff families and friends also helped.

The union organised teams of students to work within the university and throughout the St Lucia neighbourhood. Communication was maintained through radio-equipped army vehicles.

## ... AND A SHEEPISH TALE FROM THE CSIRO

Australian national songs are indeed in a dilemma.

Little agreement can be found on an appropriate national anthem.

And now "Click go the Shears" will have to find new lyrics — that is if work being done by scientists at CSIRO gains widespread use.

CSIRO is experimenting with shearing sheep by chemicals instead of by shears. The work is reported in a recent issue of "Coresearch", the CSIRO staff magazine.

Sheep shearing is one Australian industry which has not had great change this century — back in 1888 machine shearing started to take over from hand shearing. Since then the skill of defleecing sheep has remained the same.

However, the Division of Animal Physiology in Sydney, partly prompted by the shortage of shearers, is injecting synthetic steroid hormones into sheep with the theory that this will loosen the wool and enable it to be easily pulled from the animal.

"Coresearch" stresses that a great deal more work has to be done — for example farmers would not like it if their sheep lost their wool by rubbing against a fence. And they want to make sure the sheep feels no pain.

Just in case the scientists are successful here's a suggested new chorus for that old song:

Jab goes the needle, Jab! Jab! Jab!  
Sharp is its point, quick is its effect  
The doctor looks around and is amazed to see  
The sheep has shed its coat, except for a flea.

## FOUNTAIN OPENED IN ENGINEERING



"THE THING", the fountain that throws variable jets, was officially declared open at a recent ceremony in the engineering courtyard.

At the ceremony were, from left: Professor K. H. Hunt (Dean, engineering); Mr. John Paxton-Petty (supervisor of the fountain's construction); Dr. Matheson (Vice-Chancellor); Sir Osborne McCutcheon (trustee of the McCutcheon estate that gave the funds for construction); Prof. R. G. Barden (mechanical engineering, Monash) and Dr. Jon Hinwood (designer of the fountain).

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Service next week for chaplain

Next Wednesday, March 13, Rev. Dr. John R. Gaden, will be commissioned and licensed as a Chaplain to Monash University.

The service will be conducted by the Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne, the Most. Rev. Sir Frank Woods, and the Rev. Dr. L. P. Fitzgerald O.P., Chairman of the Churches' Committee for Tertiary Institutions.

The ceremony will be held in the Religious Centre at 12.10 p.m. All members of the University are welcome.

Dr. Gaden has taken up the post previously held by the Rev. Dr. John Whitehead.

### Education grants are available

The Australian Advisory Committee on Research and Development in Education invites applications from organisations or individuals for grants in support of educational research projects to be carried out next year.

Applications must be submitted so as to reach the Secretary, Australian Advisory Committee on Research and Development in Education, P.O. Box 826, Woden, A.C.T. 2606, no later than 11 April, 1974.

Application forms and further details are available from the Assistant Registrar, Room G14, Ground Floor, Administration Offices, and also from the above address.

### Adelaide appointment

A former secretary and president of the Monash Graduates' Association has been appointed as headmaster of Salesian College in Brooklyn Park, Adelaide. He is the Rev. Brother Michael Lynch who was the Graduates' Association secretary from 1966 to 1971 and its president in 1972-73.

Brother Lynch, 31, a bachelor of economics and a bachelor of education, was the first graduate from Monash in the university's first group of graduates in 1964. Since 1966 he has been teaching economics and social studies at Salesian College, Chadstone.

## BOOK NEWS

### New bargaining principle is urged

A greater adoption of productivity bargaining in Australia is recommended in a recent book by two senior academics in economics — Dr. Peter Riach and Associate Professor W. A. Howard.

The book, "Productivity Agreements and Australian Wage Determination", has been published by John Wiley.

The authors say that productivity bargaining differs from conventional wage determination procedures in that an exchange is negotiated.

In collective bargaining, the authors argue that a wage rise can force an employer to pass the cost onto the consumer by way of a price rise. Under the productivity bargaining system the employer will not raise prices because his efficiency would have been increased by, for example, one worker doing a wider range of tasks.

Under productivity bargaining, labor receives higher pay and/or other benefits in return for the acceptance of some change in methods and practice of work which will lead to increased efficiency of operations.

As an example, Riach and Howard made a study of Australian coastal shipping where they claim the productivity bargaining principle has worked well.

Here, there had traditionally been two distinct jobs — deck hand and engine room hand. Now ships have general purpose crews doing both jobs, thus saving the company time and money and resulting in higher wages and better conditions for the crew.

The authors claim that the productivity principle will "get around" demarcation disputes.

Riach and Howard believe the principle could make a significant contribution to progress in Australian industrial relations. In their book they describe the modifications in institutions and procedures, including the reactions from labor, management, industrial tribunals and government, which will be necessary if productivity bargaining is to evolve successfully in Australia.

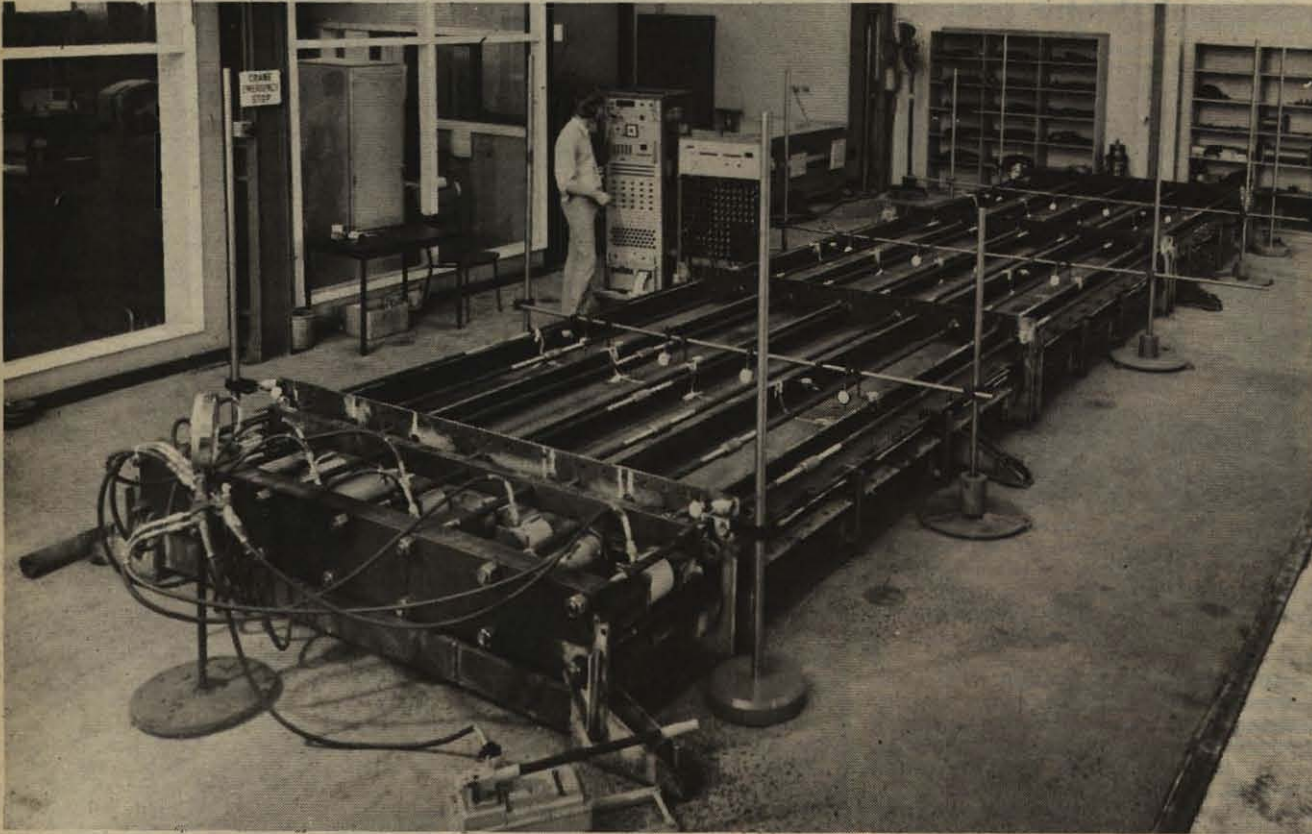
The book finishes with four case studies of productivity negotiations, three of which occurred in Australia.

# THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF LECTURING ON WESTGATE BRIDGE

Dr. Paul Grundy, senior lecturer in civil engineering, has reported on the problems he faced overseas when lecturing about the Westgate Bridge.

Dr. Grundy spent last year as a visiting lecturer at the University of Southampton. His comments are contained in a recent study leave report presented to Council.

Monash carried out detailed work on the reasons for the Westgate Bridge failure. Below, a 900 ton compression test is carried out in civil engineering on a 33 ft. long deck of the bridge.



## Nine men to discuss their philosophy of life at public symposium

Who am I? What am I? What do I believe? Nine prominent men will attempt to answer such age-old questions, as frankly as they can, in public symposium sessions at Monash this month.

The sessions are being organised by the Yoga societies at Monash, Melbourne and La Trobe universities, but the organisers have cast their net mainly outside the yoga community in choosing speakers.

Four sessions will be held, all at the Alexander Theatre — two on Saturday, March 16, and two the following day. Admission will cost \$1 for each day.

Don McKaskill, president of the Monash society, says the nine speakers, all leaders in their fields, have been asked to make an honest public assessment of the ideas, experiences and principles which have had most influence in their personal and professional lives.

"We're not asking for an academic discourse," she says. "What we're looking for is a sincere, spontaneous sharing of beliefs — a public statement on personal development."

A panel of six students, two from each of the universities, has been formed to put questions to the speakers, and has already had hours of preliminary discussion with most of them.

Saturday morning speakers will be introduced by Professor John Swan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Monash. The speakers will be Mr Halsworth Cock, dietician, biodynamic farmer and conservationist and Dr David Scott, director, Brotherhood of St. Laurence.

That afternoon the speakers will be Dr Ian Parsons, chaplain, La Trobe University, and a visiting Indian yoga authority, Dr Jayadev Yogendra, principal, Teachers' Training Academy, the Yoga Institute, Bombay.

On Sunday morning, Professor Roy Wright, former professor of physiology, Melbourne, and Mr Alan Marshall, the author, will speak.

At the closing session on Sunday evening the speakers will be Dr Samuel Billigheimer, 85-year-old Jewish philosopher and poet now living in Melbourne; Dr Phillip Law, former Antarctic explorer and now Vice-Principal, Victoria Institute of Colleges; and Shri Vijayadev, educationist and chairman, Helen Vale Foundation of Australia.

The sessions will be taped, and the organisers hope eventually to publish the transcripts.

RIGHT: One of the speakers, Alan Marshall, in contemplative mood.



Dr. Grundy said he delivered a number of lectures in various institutions, chiefly on the failure of Westgate Bridge, or more technically, on the strength of stiffened plate (reporting tests at Monash), and on statistical aspects of column strength.

"The failure of Westgate Bridge was a matter of considerable interest although it was never mentioned at official professional meetings", he said. "I encountered many misconceptions about it.

"At Surrey University my host was pressed by a public relations consultant said to be acting on behalf of a prominent firm of consulting engineers to cancel the lecture on the grounds that the matter was sub judice.

"When my host stood his ground he was advised that quoting extracts from the Royal Commission constituted the expression of an opinion upon which legal action could be taken.

"We agreed to a request of the public relations consultant that a transcript of my lecture be taken by an official court recorder.

"I also complied with my host's request not to mention the name of a prominent firm of consulting engineers", Dr. Grundy said.

"The resulting lecture, which was well attended, was given in a very constrained atmosphere, and discussion was inhibited by the presence of the stenographer and tape recorder.

"In retrospect, the lecture was put off balance by the prospect of heavy feet in the corridor and the peremptory knock at 3.00 a.m., but the balance could be corrected by reading the Report of the Royal Commission into the failure. My request for a copy of the transcript of the lecture was refused.

"Given four recent failures of box girder bridges, and the difficulty of justifying or providing adequate strengthening for many existing box girder bridges in the U.K., I have little respect for attempts to suppress information on principles, details and procedure which might prevent further failures."

## Europe observed

One of Dr. Grundy's study leave objectives was to stop teaching long enough to think about it, and to observe the practice in environmental and structural engineering in Europe.

On the environment, compared with his visit in 1961, he was happy to find atmospheric and river pollution much reduced in the U.K., and a source of hope for the crowded parts of the world.

Comparing undergraduate engineering at Southampton with Monash, he noted, as others have done:

- a three year course there to our four;
- much less basic sciences;
- very little design.

Design in U.K. engineering is held to be an art, not to be taught at the universities, but to be learnt in training in the engineering offices and works.

But, he said, "the profession is slow to re-educate itself, happy to rely on tradition, and often inept at innovation. A critical evaluation of design at an academic level, transmitted to undergraduates, is a most valuable component of our educational system".

He observed (approvingly) at Southampton and throughout the country, the same size academic establishment in engineering as ours at Monash with half the number of students.

On the other hand, he thought that the selection system for students entering the universities was long and involved. A lot of effort is needed to sort out the final lists, and further effort is spent persuading the good student to take up one of the three competing offers presented to him.

## Truganini scholarships

Applications for Truganini Scholarships close on March 29. The scholarships are open to students descended from an Aboriginal native of Australia to provide a small supplement to the living allowance received by holders of Aboriginal study grants. More details are available from the University scholarships office, ext. 2009.

# The Alexander Theatre

## Thinks. Is that a Goon?

### No. It's just "Puckoon" for June, buddy.

If you hear Goon sounds coming from the Alexander Theatre this month, don't worry — it will just be Melbourne's first out-of-town professional theatre company starting rehearsals.

The Players' Caravan, a community-oriented company which has been playing in Victoria since mid-1971, is now in residence at Monash.

Their first production, opening on June 5, will be "Puckoon", a play adapted by the company from a novel by master Goon, Spike Milligan.

"It was Spike's first novel, published around 1964," says Don Mackay, artistic director of the new project. "It's about the Irish troubles, and very Goonish. We've written our own script, which Spike has approved, and the actors are also working out some further bits of comedy as rehearsals go along."

All seven members of the company, plus two guest performers, will be taking part.

#### Variety of theatre

While the company is at Monash—initially for a year—it will present seasons of popular theatre, educational programs and children's productions. In between times, it will also maintain community touring schedules.

The university sees the venture as providing a new theatre for people living in Melbourne's southern and eastern suburbs, as well as giving Monash its own resident professional repertory company.

"We are talking to local community groups about the project, and believe there is a strong need for such a venture in this area," says Don Mackay.

Each of the popular productions will be staged for about four weeks, as long as demand continues. Performances will be given on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings for each week of the run.

In its selection of plays, says Don Mackay, the company will avoid the classical, the avant garde and the frankly commercial. There is also no plan to emphasise Australian plays.

"All these areas are being well covered already by the commercial and experimental theatre groups in the city", he says, "We will concentrate on a middle-of-the-road policy—plays which we hope will interest the average theatre-goer without being too conventional."

To follow "Puckoon", the company will stage "The Wonderful Ice Cream Suit", by the American short-story writer and novelist Ray Bradbury.



TWO of The Players' Caravan company, Terry Norris and Bryon Williams, in *The Great Australian Historical Exhibition*, which begins a tour for the Arts Council this month. Both Terry and Bryon will appear at Monash during the year.

Bradbury, best known for his science fiction, breaks new ground here with a human-interest play about six Mexican-American "losers" who pool their money to buy one good suit to share among themselves.

As its third production, the company will put on "The Daughter-In-Law", an almost forgotten D. H. Lawrence play which has never before been seen in Melbourne.

It dates from the same period as the novel "Sons And Lovers", and is set in a Nottinghamshire mining town.

While the evening popular-theatre productions are running, the company will stage day-time productions for school students from HSC to primary levels. "Under Milk Wood", the famous play for voices by the poet Dylan Thomas, will be performed for senior students. It is on the 1974 HSC lists.

Monash students with a special interest in drama will have the chance to talk theatre with company members, but the new venture is not intending to be a teaching project.

Don Mackay himself has been directing in theatre, radio and television for 20 years.

In Melbourne, he has directed a variety of productions at theatres ranging from St. Martin's to La Mama, and since 1971 has been directing for the Players' Caravan on its community tours.

## 14,000 at summer pantomime

Over the summer the Alexander Theatre Guild held its most successful pantomime — "Rumpelstiltskin". Attendances were well above the three previous pantomimes.

Total audience was 13,969, including 10,197 children. This figure was more than 2500 above the previous best. Takings this year were almost \$19,000.

"Rumpelstiltskin" was written by local playwrights, Peter Pinne and Don Battye, and based on the fairy tale by the Brothers Grimm.

The title part was played by Adelaide actor, Darrell Hilton, who is pictured at left in his role.



# THEATRE AND MUSIC

## Robert Blackwood Hall

### IMPROVEMENT IN SIGHT AND SOUND THIS YEAR



By Dr. Ian Hiscock, director, Robert Blackwood Hall

As part of a long-term project to upgrade and extend the facilities of Robert Blackwood Hall, four significant new developments have been initiated and are nearing completion.

The major one is the eastern extension of the foyer.

The work includes a manager's office, secretary's office, a paraplegic toilet, and full booking-office and cloakroom facilities, all of which were omitted in the original design of the hall.

This new office complex will also provide access to back-stage and under-stage areas other than through the main auditorium and stage doors as happened in the past. For functions in the hall, ticket holders will use the original main entrance to the foyer; those persons requiring tickets will use the doors at the eastern end.

Once this office complex is completed, the staff of Robert Blackwood Hall will no longer have to be evacuated to a University camper wagon whenever exams or graduations take place, as has happened with embarrassing regularity in the past.

The first step to replace the inadequate and poor quality sound system in the hall has been taken with the installation of a new audio mixer unit.

The console is a sophisticated, high-quality 12-channel unit which can accept signals (including stereo) from microphones, tapes, records and projectors.

Each channel has complete tone control facilities, input level controls, overload indicators, and monitoring and cue (prefade) facilities. The unit can feed signals to auditorium and foyer speakers, to tape-recorders and to hi-fi recording gear. Once the new amplifiers and speaker systems are installed, the hall will have a superb audio system and this, coupled with its outstanding acoustic characteristics, could lead to its being one of the best recording studios in Melbourne.

Because many stage shows require something better than just brilliant overhead stage lighting, an extensive system of dimmer wiring is being installed.

The control of the system is housed in a console which has 24 independent and duplicated 2kW circuits. It offers a wide choice of both pre-set and independent lighting plots. While Robert Blackwood Hall will never challenge the Alexander Theatre in a theatrical sense, it will soon be able to mount a variety of entertainment with reasonably sophisticated lighting.

The fourth modification to the hall is a rebuilding of the front stage region. Originally the hall was provided with only four microphone plugs and limited power outlets.

The new false-front of the stage will allow the installation of almost unlimited microphone and power plugs and will, again, extend the potential use of the hall.



The new audio mixer unit installed to improve the hall's sound.

# MUSIC AT MONASH

## Monash Players

### Students raise some Tasmanian ire

OVER the last few weeks the Tasmanian papers have been full of the exploits of the Monash Players and their tour of the island.

Their main dramatic play, "Fortune and Men's Eyes," which features a fair sprinkling of four letter words and a full frontal male nude scene, aroused a good deal of controversy.

The play by John Herbert deals with a young offender being introduced to the realities of prison life, including homosexuality.

The players return from Tasmania today to present some of their street theatre and children's theatre at Orientation Week.

Some of the comments in the papers included the following from Devenport councillors: "It's time someone stood up and spoke out against this degrading so-called theatre" and "I did not see the performance, but from Press reports and comments by people who attended it seems unnecessary to have what is apparently a gutter-type presentation."

After the opening of the play in Burnie, the next performance in Smithton was witnessed by two police inspectors and a police photographer. The "Burnie Advocate" theatre critic commented that the nude scene did not last long enough for the photographer to get a shot.

In fact, the Press praised the play and its attempt to portray the problems of imprisonment.

For example, the "Burnie Advocate" said: "The nude scene is an essential part of the play and the basic story was well acted and well presented with some really emotional and technically good performances."

And the "Launceston Examiner" said it was more touching than brutal. "The nude scene is brief and should not offend anyone over the age of 16," the review said.

And a letter in the "Burnie Advocate" on February 15 should give the students heart: "I feel that the Devenport Council has been given quite the wrong impression of the



A scene from "Fortune and Men's Eyes". Geoff Dann, the hardened prisoner, deals out some punishment to Roger Walters, while the newcomer, Dick Gross, watches.

Monash Students Summer Theatre. The main efforts of the dedicated group are directed to primary and secondary students, performing clean and entertaining street and beach theatre for the children on holidays and even when they return to school.

Monash will have a chance to judge for itself. "Fortune and Men's Eyes," directed by Nigel Triffitt, will be performed in the Alexander Theatre from April 2 to 6, at 8 p.m. There will be a matinee on April 3 and a forum discussion on the play on April 6.

The play features four male actors; this week at Orientation Week, the roles will be reversed when three women perform "Slag," a comment on boarding schools and female education. "Slag" will be in the Union Theatre at 1 p.m.

Next week the players are off to Adelaide for the fringe theatre section of the Adelaide Festival of Arts where they will stage six plays ranging in style from the savage comment on life to the gentle fairy tale.

## Indonesian Orchestra



STAFF and students who would like to play in an Indonesian gamelan orchestra may join in classes being run this year by the Monash Department of Music.

Those interested should see Dr. Margaret Kartomi in room 1103, Humanities Building, on Thursday, March 14, at 1 p.m.

The music department has its own 60-instrument Indonesian orchestra. It is a set of bronze gongs, kettles, xylophones, lute, flute, zithers and drums.

Dr. Kartomi said that the orchestra frequently gave concerts on and off campus. It played last night at the ABC prom concert in the Melbourne Town Hall.

• The photograph above was taken at a recent gamelan rehearsal.



### CONCERT BY FAMOUS SWISS ORCHESTRA

The Collegium Musicum Zurich, a 35-strong Swiss chamber orchestra, will give a concert in Robert Blackwood Hall at 8.15 on Saturday, March 23.

The orchestra, which will be in Australia for the Adelaide Festival of Arts, will also give concerts in Brisbane, Newcastle and Sydney.

Above is the orchestra's conductor, Dr Paul Sacher, and at left is its master-oboist, Heinz Holliger. Holliger's wife, Ursula, is a harpist with the orchestra.

The March 23 program will include the Symphony No. 78 in C Minor by Haydn and Mozart's Oboe Concerto which will feature Holliger as soloist.

The orchestra will also play a modern work, "Eucalypts" by Japanese composer, Toru Takemitsu. The work is supposed to translate into sounds the characteristics of an Australian gum-tree; it was composed by Takemitsu in 1970 after a visit to Canberra.



### MONDAY CONCERTS

Throughout the year Robert Blackwood Hall holds a series of lunchtime concerts on Monday for staff and students. The first concert is on March 18 with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.

On March 25 the artists will be the Daphne Helman Trio, an American jazz group featuring bass, drums and harp. Miss Helman, who plays the harp, is pictured at right.



# The Monash Careers and Appointments Office offers two thoughts on the problem of choosing a career . . .

## THE PARABLE OF THE CHILD WHOSE PARENTS WANTED A DOCTOR

Once upon a time, in a lowly mansion, there was born to innocent parents a man-Child. The hour of his birth was marked with the most favourable portents and omens, and the astrologer made mystic predictions of great things in the morning newspaper. The Child grew in strength and grace, nurtured with peckets, cans, jars, vitamins and endless confections until, on the fifth anniversary of his birth, there occurred the first of the Great Events.

A travelling uncle came from the far-off promised land with strange and wonderful gifts. For the Child there was a replica of a physician's visiting case, every detail faithfully reproduced in indestructible polymer. The Child seized it with glee, and his mien of ineffable sanctity when solemnly wearing the stethoscope so affected his mother that she was granted a vision: this child was her gift to suffering humanity: a physician (or possibly a surgeon) incarnate.

And so it came to pass that the Child was enrolled at the right school, and studied the right mysteries, never doubting his dedication to his mother's beatific vision. Although, occasionally, he wondered whether some other future might be fun, he was always returned to stern reality by his parents' eloquence (for his father also had accepted that the Child had been called) or, if not, by the more private vision of the succession of long, low, powerful sports cars in which the family physician called to minister to his minor ailments and injuries.

So in the fullness of time, because he was prepared by the most successful of pedagogues, with extra coaching whenever it seemed he might be lagging, the Child achieved the distinction that was for his mother the second Great Event: he became a Medical Student at a great university, and her vision was in a fair way to fulfilment. Great were the rejoicings, and father, successful in the world of commerce, expressed his emotions by presenting a small but very trendy sports car. It was a great moment.

But the picture darkens. The Child became a student. One amongst many, in a world full of fascinating discourse, coffee, billiards and girls.

He learned many things, but few of them seemed to his mother to advance his progress towards the end she never doubted to be his destiny. He learned to grow his hair, to play a guitar, and to smoke pot. He was popular; his car was a most fitting setting for a succession of yellow-haired girls; his allowance, though generous, was never enough. The year passed, but before it had done so, tragedy struck. The Child who was now a student renounced his destiny, failed his exams, left home to join a commune of anti-social young people and, in final degradation, transferred to the Arts Faculty to study philosophy and politics.

Mother was demented, and found what solace she could in physicians, psychiatrists, and even in surgeons, in a pathetic endeavour to forget what might have been. Father cut off the allowance, reclaimed the sports car and found his business interests required him to be frequently from home.

But the Child-become-student found happiness, despite real concern for his parents. His new studies enthralled him, and he succeeded so well that his university kept him to be a teacher of other wayward young.

## DO UNIVERSITIES PRODUCE TOO MANY TEACHERS?

Too many graduates may be entering teaching according to the Monash Careers and Appointments Office.

The proportion of new Monash graduates from the faculties of arts, economics and politics, and science who have taken teacher training has risen by about 60% in the last five years.

In arts, for example, 38.4% of those who finished their first degree in 1968 entered teacher training; this rose to 60.9% for those who finished their first degree in 1972.

These figures are contained in a series of tables prepared late last year by the Careers and Appointments Office and published in its newsletter, "Careers Weekly".

The office looked at the first post-graduate occupations in arts, science, engineering, and economics and politics.

Commenting on the arts figures, the office said it was concerned at the rapid rise in the proportion of arts graduates

taking teacher training and in the sharp decline in the group entering employment other than in educational institutions.

"We believe it to be essential that many more arts graduates should be taking postgraduate vocational courses other than teacher training, and that a much wider variety of such courses must be made available for them to take," the office said.

Only 2.9 per cent of 1972 arts gradu-

ates were employed privately; about half the number of the 1968 graduates.

Three clear trends emerged from the science figures.

The proportion of first-degree science graduates working in or being trained for work in education has risen sharply from about one third to more than one half; the proportion taking higher degrees has dropped steadily to about half what it was in the early years of the university; and the proportion being absorbed by private employers has dropped, especially in the last two years.

In all, these figures can be interpreted as indicating a growing recognition (or, more probably, resignation to the fact) of the generalist nature of a first degree in science, the office said. These are people who should be pressing for more well-designed post graduate vocational courses.

There was little in the engineering figures to show any significant trends.

The proportion taking higher degrees has dropped slightly; however, the office said, this may not reflect a change in interest among students. The proportion gaining employment with private companies has partly recovered from a sharp drop in 1971-72. This, the office said, seemed consistent with changing economic conditions.

The office suggested that changes in the occupations of economics and politics graduates reflected a growing social awareness. This caused them to seek

careers with a greater element of community service than that available in commerce and industry.

Just over 40 per cent of the 1972 ECOPS graduates entered teacher training compared with about 29 per cent in the years 1968, 69 and 70. Those employed privately dropped from 40.6 per cent of the 1969 graduates to 19.8 per cent of the 1972 output.

### Mr. Mann comments

Questioned by the Reporter about the significance of these trends, the Careers and Appointments Officer, Mr Warren Mann, said that teacher-training facilities were being expanded to meet the immediate shortage of teachers.

However, this trend, if permitted to continue, could lead to a substantial surplus of trained secondary teachers in the next five years, during which time a slowing down in the growth rate of secondary schools be expected.

Mr Mann suggested that there was an urgent need for a careful assessment of all the various supply-demand factors affecting secondary teaching so that Australia might be able to avoid what had happened in North America. In the United States, only about 60% of those who completed teacher training in 1972 were absorbed into the education system.

"It seems likely that the proportion of new graduates taking teacher training in Australia should be declining rather than increasing," Mr Mann said.

## Book Review

**Black Writing from New Guinea, edited by Ulli Beier, University of Queensland Press, 1973.**

**Price: cloth \$5.50, paperback \$2.50.**

**Review by Dr. Michael Deakin.**

This anthology, presenting the work of eighteen Papuan and New Guinean authors as well as that of a New Hebridean, is timely and interesting.

Fifteen of the authors are students or ex-students of the University of Papua New Guinea, and almost all have been directly influenced by Ulli Beier, the book's editor.

The emergence of this school of (mainly) young writers reflects a growing and urgent need for self-definition by Papuans and New Guineans and an increasing desire to counteract the misconceptions propagated by white authors.

Prevailing themes are the clash of cultures and values, the exploitation of blacks by whites and the attempt to reconcile or to effect a compromise between Western and local traditions.

The role of magic and sorcery, the power of totems and ancestors are still important influences on many of the authors. Many of the best pieces give expression to an ambivalence of feeling in this area. Arthur Jawodimbari's Spare that Bird and Kumalau Tawall's The Skull are perhaps the most successful examples. Wauro Degoba and Lazarus Hwekmarin explore closely related themes.

All the autobiographical sketches and short stories are interesting. They are simply and directly told and deal with straightforward situations, although some show a tendency to ramble and lack the tight logical construction needed in this type of writing.

Australian readers will be puzzled by Sgt. Bagita's methods of criminal detection and may find Russell Seaba's story Natives Under the Sun somewhat disjointed.

### Two short plays

Two short one-act plays are also included. Both are effective, although John Kasapwalova's Rooster in the Confessional is rather slight.

The poetry section is the least successful, though there are some apt images and evocative descriptions. The writing is direct and uncomplicated.

The poets, however, are all writing in a foreign language (English) and their small verbal clumsinesses and inaccuracies are too often magnified by the context.

Two poems, John Kasapwalova's The Reluctant Flame and Brother Allain Jaria's It's Me That's Certain are the most ambitious pieces in the book in the sense that they aim at treating universal and complex themes. Neither really succeeds, although the declamatory anger of the first has a power and conviction that will make it an influential work.

Beier's choice of title is unfortunate.

In the first place, it is the writers who are black — not the writing. "Black writing" suggests either a conscious "negritude", which is not consistently apparent in the book, or else a kinship with terms like "black humour" which is particularly inappropriate. (I was, however, amazed to find a related use of the adjective "black" on page 78).

Second, the European term "New Guinea" is applied to the Australian-administered half of the island of New Guinea. Locally, a distinction is preserved between Papua and New Guinea. We may deplore this fact, but fact it is. Two thirds of the writers represented are Papuan.

A brief glossary of non-English terms is provided. It is incomplete, but adequate.



## A FAMILY AFFAIR

LAST YEAR'S final graduation held special interest for the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Matheson. His daughter-in-law, Virginia, received her PhD. in arts. Below, during a celebration after the ceremony, are Virginia and Colin Matheson, their daughter, Elizabeth, and Dr. Matheson.



Photo: The Sun

## ECONOMICS IS THE VILLAIN IN HEALTH CARE, SAYS DR. GRAY

Hospitals and health are being messed up by economics and economists, Dr. Nigel Gray said at the December medical graduation ceremony.

"It's time the economists woke up to the fact that different hospitals have different functions and different abilities," Dr. Gray said.

Dr. Gray is director of the Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria and a member of the Monash University Council. He gave the occasional address at a graduation ceremony where all faculties were represented, although medicine with 119 graduands was the main discipline.

He started his analysis of Australia's current and future health scheme with two "riders".

"In offering some fairly serious criticisms, I should nevertheless point out that we should be very grateful that such a scheme exists," he said. "It has alleviated a prodigious amount of personal hardship and has, despite its major deficiencies, put us in a position where we still have a reasonable system of medical practice".

Further, Dr Gray said that his criticisms were not based on any political party affiliation — "the Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria is a strictly non-party organisation, and I am a non-party person". He continued: "It is, however, not possible to talk about the health scheme without thinking of politics, and some of these remarks will have political connotations".

Dr Gray stressed the need for doctors to "develop their own ideas and to offer constructive criticism to those well-intentioned people on both sides of the Federal House of Parliament who are trying to do something about the health scheme".

Doctors had also been over-influenced by economics, he said. "It is disappointing that the public presentation by the medical profession seems to centre primarily around the discussion of fees, about how the fees are to be paid, and around a half-honest advertising campaign".

Dr Gray claimed the private sector involving fee for service "worked pretty well" although it could be open to abuse. In this system the patient confronted his doctor directly and the much discussed doctor/patient relationship had a chance to exist.

However, it was a great pity that a significant percentage of the population did not have access to this private system because they were not insured in a benefit association. This was why national insurance was needed.

"National insurance is essential, because the people who tend to fall to insure themselves are the people who tend to need medical help most often," Dr Gray said. "They are the borderline wage earners, the less socially competent, the unlucky, the less literate; they are, in fact, the battlers in our society who, by and large, are the people who need help most and are the ones who don't get it".

Turning to the hospital system, Dr Gray said "major distortions" also existed here because of economics.

"We are putting the wrong patients into the wrong hospitals for the wrong reasons," he said.

"We have been doing this for a long time now, and although the Government's new scheme will change the system significantly it will not solve this problem. Patients will continue to go into the wrong hospitals for economic reasons instead of reasons which are related to the patient's disease and the patient's desires".

### "Serious distortion"

In analysing these remarks, Dr Gray looked at public hospitals, major private hospitals and smaller private hospitals. These sectors had been "seriously distorted" for the past decade, he said.

The criterion of admission to these hospitals was ability to pay, which depended on the patient's financial competence and his level of insurance. It had much less relation to the patient's disease.

## KOHOUTEK DISAPPOINTS MONASH ASTRONOMERS

COMET KOHOUTEK disappointed not only the amateur stargazers but the professional astronomers.

Encouraged months in advance by a blaze of promise — 'greater than Halley' — two groups at Monash prepared for it, but it fizzed into virtual non appearance.

Dr Dennis Coates, of physics, in charge of the Jeffrey telescope at Monash's small observatory in the eastern hills, didn't even see it. He was ready with spectrometers in the telescope to analyse the comet's visible spectrum, which he expected would reveal something of the comet's composition.

As Coates points out, to observe an object through its light needs clear dark skies; but to radio astronomers, the state of the sky, day or night is irrelevant.

Thus our galacto-chemists, Professor Ron Brown and Dr Peter Godfrey, looked at Kohoutek through the Parkes radio telescope in December seeking the radio signals of the hydroxyl (OH) molecule.

After seven hours accumulated record, they were obliged to say "not sufficient evidence, within the sensitivity of the instrument and the time available."

In January, CSIRO at Parkes gave Godfrey more and longer time on the instrument. This time he sought radio signals for the molecule CH; after 15 hours, no result. Since a more sensitive instrument in Sweden also reported no result, Godfrey gave up CH and tuned again for OH.

(Through the international network of radio telescopes, Brown and Godfrey learnt that two overseas groups had claimed to have picked up signals for OH.)

But after eight more hours of observation, Godfrey still had to say "not enough evidence to confirm the presence of OH."

Perhaps Halley's comet in 1986 will not be as coy as Kohoutek was in 1973-74.

In effect, many people were excluded from the private hospital system because they did not have enough money.

Equally absurd, many other people were excluded from the public hospital because they had too much money — they were excluded by a combination of the means test, and other factors. There was also the absurdity that poor people, who could not afford to go into a suitable small hospital when they needed to, actually blocked a bed in a major teaching hospital.

Small private hospitals, which coped extremely well with such things as chronic disease, terminal cancer and multiple sclerosis, were not available to many of the patients with these diseases.

Further, major public hospitals made beds available for patients with a simple hernia or a union.

Dr Gray asked: "Wouldn't it be better if the expensive and highly specialised beds in the teaching hospitals were available for the complex or serious diseases for which they were designed?"

"The Government's new scheme is not going to remove this distortion," he said. "Patients with bunions and hernias will have the right to go into a major public hospital, so far as I can see. In other words, the economists have messed us up again."

"It's time the economists woke up to the fact that different hospitals have different functions and different abilities, and that they have to come up with a system which lets a person go to the right sort of place, and the right sort of doctor, for his disease and his problem."

"It isn't impossible and it's not precluded by either of the major political ideologies of the day. The national insurance scheme could readily provide for poor people to have access to small private hospitals".

# ARGC GRANTS UP BY 33%

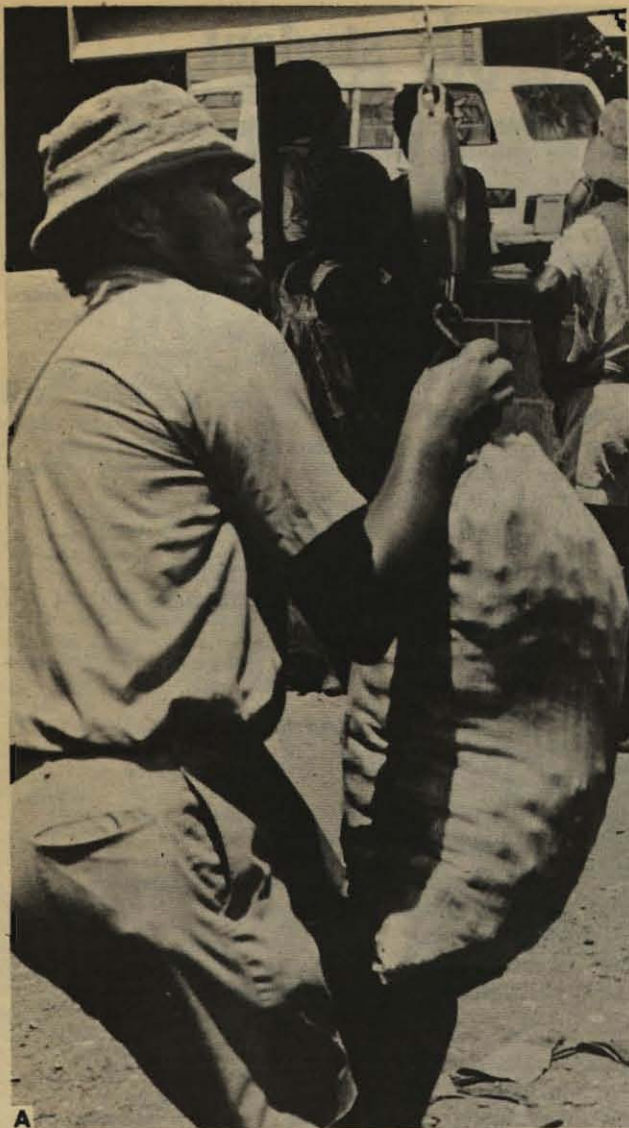
The Australian Research Grants Committee has awarded grants, totalling \$745,612, to members of Monash staff for 1974. The awards were announced by the Minister for Science, Mr Morrison.

The total compares with \$560,487 awarded to Monash in 1973 — an increase of 33 per cent. It provides for 35 new projects, costing \$235,023, with the balance covering 59 continuing projects.

The projects to be undertaken in 1974 are:

INVESTIGATOR	PROJECT TITLE	GRANT \$
<b>NUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES</b>		
<b>New Projects</b>		
Dr. Alastair Davidson	An intellectual biography of Antonio Gramsci, the Italian political theorist.	1000
Professor R. H. Day	Human movement perception: The basis of induced movement.	6837
Mr. Warren A. Ellem	A study of southern white Republican voters after the Civil War in America	2900
Dr. Margaret J. Kartomi and Mr. Hidris Kartomi	Traditional music of Sumatra	12,327
Dr. C. A. Maher	Aspects of residential change in Melbourne	600
Associate Professor J. T. Platt	A syntactic-semantic investigation of Singapore and Malaysian English with particular reference to problems in the acquisition of "standard" English by speakers of it	1335
Professor R. H. T. Smith and Mr. J. McKay	Supply areas, market channels, and distribution areas for indigenous local produce markets in Papua New Guinea (Lae, Madang and Wewak)	7180
Dr. R. T. White	Learning hierarchies and skill acquisition	1486
Dr. I. R. Witts	Effects of modern agriculture inputs on agricultural production, employment and incomes in a development block in Northern India	2034
<b>Continuing Projects</b>		
Dr. J. L. Bradshaw and Mr. N. C. Nettleton	Human information processing: Determinants and correlates of performance	7655
Associate Professor M. G. Clyne	Migrant German and migrant Dutch in Australia	2100
Dr. E. M. Eggleston, Mr. P. J. Hanks and Dr. H. J. Clasbook	Legal aid in Australia: A study of community access to and use of legal services with particular reference to State-sponsored legal aid schemes	5700
Dr. K. I. Forster	Visual processing of sentences	3875
Dr. H. G. Gelber	Australia, the United States alliance and Great Power relationships in the Pacific	5024
Dr. B. E. Kennedy	A social history of Broken Hill from 1683	285
Dr. L. Li	The place of the military in the politics of modern Japan, 1868-1945	500
Professor M. I. Logan and Professor M. G. Swift	Policy implications of population migration in West Malaysia	14,200
Dr. A. G. Serle	History of Victoria 1851-1900	200
Dr. D. M. Thomson	Studies in episodic memory	3466
<b>CHEMICAL SCIENCES</b>		
<b>New Projects</b>		
Dr. G. B. Deacon	Lanthanide and actinide organometallics	6362
Dr. R. S. Dickson	Organometallic intermediates in the transition metal assisted reactions of substituted alkynes	7806
Dr. F. W. Eastwood	Intramolecular addition of an hydroxyl group to an amide assisted by neighbouring groups: Models for enzymic hydrolysis	6682
Professor W. R. Jackson	Metal catalysed rearrangements of cyclic Hydrocarbons	12,043
Dr. M. F. O'Dwyer and Dr. J. E. Kent	Perturbations in the lowest excited singlet state of sulphur dioxide	7612
Dr. John K. Yandell	Mechanisms of the reactions of electron transfer enzymes	6148
Professor B. O. West and Dr. K. S. Murray	Synthesis, chemistry and electrochemistry of some organometallic and metallo derivatives of transition elements	10,875
Dr. I. R. Wilson and Dr. M. W. Fuller	Metal ion catalysis in thiol oxidations and other systems of biological interest	1460
<b>Continuing Projects</b>		
Professor R. D. Brown and Dr. P. Godfrey	Molecules in space	68,795
Dr. R. F. C. Brown	Pyrolysis and mass spectrometry of organic compounds	5986
Dr. F. R. Burden and Dr. F. P. Larkins	Molecular orbital studies of electronic structures of molecules	5400
Dr. G. B. Deacon	Main group element organometallics	7086
Dr. R. J. Fleming	The effects of ionizing radiation on the electrical conductivity of some common organic polymers	4750
Dr. B. M. K. C. Gatehouse	Crystal chemistry of the solid state	2040
Dr. K. S. Murray	Single crystal magnetic and spectral studies of inorganic and bioinorganic compounds	7820
Professor B. O. West	The reactions of cyclic arsines and phosphines	7360
<b>EARTH SCIENCES</b>		
<b>New Projects</b>		
Mr. A. P. Kershaw	The vegetation history of north-east Queensland	1420
<b>Continuing Projects</b>		
Dr. A. C. McLaren	Direct observation and identification of crystal defects and their role in the mechanisms of crystallisation and deformation of minerals and rocks	1280
<b>BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES</b>		
<b>New Projects</b>		
Dr. R. C. Bayly	Regulation of the enzymes of the metaphase pathway in <i>Pseudomonas</i>	5735
Dr. R. G. Camfield	Analysis of development in Eucaryotes using temperature-sensitive mutations of possible structural and regulatory genes in <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i>	1728
Dr. R. F. Irvine	Studies of acoustic input to single cells in non-specific polysensory cortical and subcortical areas	2175
Professor D. A. Lowther, Dr. M. Okayama and Dr. C. J. Handley	Regulation of matrix formation as an expression of the differentiated state of chondrocytes cultured in vitro	3375
Dr. W. R. Webster	Single unit studies of the cochlear nucleus of the awake cat	8570
Dr. W. R. Webster and Dr. L. M. Aitkin	Audio-visual integration in the central nervous system	14,850
<b>Continuing Projects</b>		
Dr. L. M. Aitkin	Central nervous mechanism in sound localisation	9204
Dr. L. Austin	The origin of axonal protein	7079
Dr. L. Austin and Dr. P. L. Jeffrey	Synaptosomal protein synthesis	5764
Professor M. J. P. Canny	Physiological and structural studies of phloem	5441
Dr. D. J. Collins	Studies of the relation between stereochemistry and biological activity of oestrogens: Synthesis of 6,7-bisnor-1, 11-ethanoestradiol.	7488
Dr. D. F. Gaff	Desiccation tolerant plants, particularly grasses	4323
Dr. W. R. Gibson	Endocrine factors which influence lipid deposition in chickens	1500
Dr. N. D. Hallam	The fine structure of plants adapted to desiccation	5627
Professor B. W. Holloway, Dr. V. Krishnapillai and Dr. V. A. Stanisich	Genetic control of enzyme regulation in <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	13,505
Dr. B. Jarrott	Molecular basis of synaptic plasticity	800
Professor D. G. Lampard and Dr. S. J. Redman	The application of electrical circuit representations in the analysis of intracellular potentials in Neurons, and of muscle mechanics	7694
Professor A. W. Linnane and Dr. P. D. Crowfoot	The effects of altered biochemical composition on the structure and function of mitochondrial membranes	6606
Professor A. W. Linnane and Associate Professor G. M. Ketterman	Effect of antibiotics on mammalian tissues and on human cells in tissue culture	8364
Dr. A. W. Linnane and Dr. P. Nagley	Informational macromolecules in nucleo-cytoplasmic interactions	7628
Professor A. W. Linnane and Dr. H. B. Lukins	Biogenesis of mitochondria	15,127
Professor D. A. Lowther and Dr. H. C. Robinson	Structural studies of connective tissues including factors involved in the maintenance of cartilage	7491
Dr. I. R. McDonald	Adrenal function in the Australian Monotremes and marsupials	7103
Professor A. K. McIntyre	Properties of somatic receptors in monotremes and sub-mammalian vertebrates.	1450
Dr. R. F. Mark	The function of regenerated synaptic connections in the nervous system	13,757
Dr. R. F. Mark and Dr. L. J. Rogers	The mechanism of vision and memory in lower vertebrates	1635
Professor R. C. Nairn and Associate Professor E. P. G. Gull	Immunological studies of biological specificity	6325
Dr. T. P. O'Brien	Cell biology of grasses with special emphasis on cereals	7809
Dr. I. C. Parsons	Oxygen effects on chick embryonic erythropoiesis	4288
Professor R. Porter	Factors involved in dynamic control of movement	11,623
Dr. B. N. Preston	Physico-chemical and mechanical studies on model connective tissue systems.	4490
Dr. M. Weiss	Biogenesis of steroids by the adrenal tissue of the Australian monotremes and marsupials	1500
Dr. R. A. Westerman	Communication between cells in the nervous system	18,824
Dr. J. Youatt	Organic chemical aspects of cell differentiation	6717
<b>PHYSICAL SCIENCES</b>		
<b>New Projects</b>		
Professor J. N. Crossley	Recursive equivalence and combinatorial functions	3674
Dr. T. R. Finlayson	Superconductivity in niobium-zirconium alloys	Nil
Professor J. B. Miller	Partially ordered topological structures	2630
Associate Professor J. H. Smith	Magnetic properties of some metamagnetic alloys and the metamagnetic compound Au <sub>2</sub> Mn	27,500
Professor K. C. Westfold and Dr. D. J. Gleeson	Synchrotron radiation from planetary atmospheres	2236
<b>Continuing Projects</b>		
Dr. G. C. Fletcher	Theoretical investigation of electronic and particularly magnetic properties of transition metals and their alloys	6803
Professor B. R. Morton	Dynamics of convective clouds	12,108
Professor R. Street, Dr. J. D. Cashion and Dr. J. A. Barclay	Studies of solids at low temperatures in high magnetic fields	28,889
Dr. K. Thompson	Measurement of the viscosity of liquid <sup>3</sup> He and of liquid <sup>3</sup> He- <sup>4</sup> He mixtures at temperatures below 0.05 Kelvin.	6303
Dr. G. J. Troup and Dr. J. R. Pilbrow	Electron spin resonance in ionic crystals, inorganic complexes, metals, low symmetry effects; nuclear magnetic resonance in simple compounds and crystals; antiferromagnetic resonance; temperature variations	46,572
Professor R. Van der Borgh	Finite amplitude convection in compressible fluids and its application to astronomical problems	16,223

Continued next page



A

Here's how some of the ARGC money is spent... Monash's department of geography is engaged in a study aimed at...

## LIGHTENING THE BURDEN IN PNG

Almost everywhere you go, the middleman plays a key role in the business of buying and selling.

Maybe he's a city merchant with offices in a Collins St. glasshouse or maybe he's just good old Joe, who can get it for you wholesale. But, one way or another, the middle-men keep the wheels of commerce turning.

You will find him in comparatively primitive economies just as you find him in advanced industrial societies. Yet, mysteriously, you don't generally find him in the indigenous trading patterns of Papua New Guinea.

The missing PNG middle-man has been occupying the attention of Professor Robert Smith and lecturer John McKay, of the Monash Department of Geography, who are researching internal trade patterns in the Lae region.

The investigation began as part of a Joint Program of Studies in the Transport Processes for the Department of Transport, Port Moresby. It is being continued this year under a grant from the Australian Research Grants Committee.

"Internal trade in this hinterland is very much an individual affair," says Professor Smith. "The middle-man is virtually non-existent.

"Some people might argue that this



B



C

is a favorable state of affairs. But the virtual absence of an organised middle-man network, of bulk trading and of feeder-markets does add considerably to trading costs.

"What happens is that each individual grower takes his sweet potato or his betel nut and goes off to sell it, each paying a separate fare on public transport.

"Further, transport costs as a proportion of market value will increase with distance, so that beyond 70 miles trade with Lae is an expensive proposition indeed."

All this, says Professor Smith, is in marked contrast to trading patterns in African countries which he and John McKay have studied.

In New Guinea, they believe, the relative isolation of one tribal area from another probably accounts for the development of this one-man trading pattern at the expense of a more logical system, involving middle-men, bulking and feeder-markets.

Whatever the reasons, it has been to New Guinea's disadvantage, they believe.

"For one thing, a more highly developed marketing system can help in the spread of a more unified cultural pattern," they say.

"It can help to increase employment opportunities.

### KEY TO PICTURES

A—Professor Smith weighs a bag of betel nut. B—A woman grower delivers an 80lb. bag of produce to the market. C—Lecturer John McKay takes on another load. D—An informal corner market in Lae.

"And, at least at this stage of PNG development, it is likely to lower costs to the consumer, in spite of the profits that the middle-men would take."

At present, towns-people prefer in the main to buy imported rice or Japanese and Formosan tinned fish in preference to locally-grown foods, says Professor Smith.

"Partly this may be the result of habit and long-standing taste preferences, but questions of cost also enter into it," he says. "Obviously this has important implications for the overall PNG economy".

Professor Smith agrees that there could be political and other opposition to any recommendation that Papua New Guinea make any deliberate moves towards a middle-man bazaar-PNG economy."

But — at the present stage of his study at least — he sees this as one possibly valuable step in PNG development.

## ARGC GRANTS *continued*

### ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

#### New Projects

Dr. W. H. Melbourne	Aerodynamic loading and response of bluff bodies in a turbulent flow	18,450
Professor O. E. Potter	Fluidised bed reactors — behaviour and design	5203
Dr. P. F. Thomson	An elastic/plastic finite-element solution to the mechanics of sheet and strip rolling (including deformation of rolls)	2000
Dr. C. J. Van Rijsbergen	Cluster-based information retrieval	16,578
<b>Continuing Projects</b>		
Dr. C. J. Bellamy, Mr. L. G. Whitehouse and Mr. B. J. Treloar	Development of an educational computing system	6787
Dr. D. V. Boger and Dr. C. Tiu	Accelerating and decelerating flows of Viscoelastic fluids in conduits of arbitrary cross sections (particularly, circular and annular ducts)	5735
Dr. K. N. Han	Dissolution behaviour of cobalt oxides	750
Professor D. G. Lampard and Dr. W. A. Brown	Computer control of respiration and anaesthesia	7134
Dr. F. Lawson	Study of kinetics and mechanism of cementation reactions	3022
Professor Karol Morsztyn	Modelling, control and optimisation of large dynamic power systems (power system simulator studies)	7900

### MARINE SCIENCES

Dr. R. S. Seymour	Respiratory physiology of sea and land snakes	4922
Dr. M. N. Clayton	Variability and taxonomy of the dictyosiphonales	7144

\*Access is granted to the electron-probe at Monash University.



D

# 1973-74 SUMMER SCHOOL



A typical scene from the motor maintenance course. —Photo: The Sun.

## "VARIETY AND DIVERSITY"

SWELTERING nights in the Union Theatre watching Italian films... scorched hands from the searing bonnets of motor cars... sherry in the Union toilets... an actress dressed as an orangoutang in the Faculty Club...

It was all part of this year's Summer School, the University's sixth school.

More than 2000 people attended the 91 courses which started last November and ended last week. The school has grown considerably in each of its six years; back in 1968 it attracted 180 people to 15 courses.

The Summer School organiser, Vicki Molloy, wants to steer clear of the idea that the school is "a monster" or "a single entity". She much prefers to talk about the variety and diversity of individual courses and events. For example:

- The children's theatre project worked out a piece of theatre and presented it at the Huntingdale Technical School play centre.
- About 100 people, half of them

women, got cheap repairs for their cars during the motor maintenance course. One enterprising chap brought along a motor boat; others varied their cars each day and the whole family probably had their cars greased during the week.

- In Nigel Triffitt's alternative theatre Union toilets were decorated with flowers, the lights dimmed, and the users greeted by women in long evening dresses, ending the visit with an invitation to a sherry. (Ms Molloy isn't too sure what happened in the men's toilets.)

- For the first time community interest groups contributed to the school, for example the Women's Electoral Lobby and the Women's Centre.

Only two courses were cancelled through lack of interest — the choral master class and the forum on football. The latter attracted seven applicants and now it may be held during the football season in the mid-year break.



ONE member of the photography class felt the poses of his fellow class members were just as interesting as that of the model.

## Rugby is recruiting

"The secret of a good scholar and teacher is regular activity in the field". Mao.

Undoubtedly the wise chairman was referring to rugby. So many staff and students must have gazed out from the Menzies Building at our excellent rugby field, and

imagined themselves in a dazzling run or the satisfying crunch of a sharp tackle.

We offer the opportunity for such accomplishments to all — potential, novice, occasional and lapsed players. Please feel free to contact Chris Maher (ext. 2925) or Don Townsend (ext. 2935) in the Geography Department.

— Don Townsend

## "Once a lonely student..."

The office of the Warden of the Union has recently been seeking opinions on the problem of student loneliness. The Reporter has received the following response from an anonymous author who is heavily indebted to A. B. Paterson.

Once a lonely student camped out at Monash  
Under the shade of a eucalypt tree  
And he sang as he watched  
And rolled himself another joint  
"Why am I so lonely at this universitee?"

Lonely at Monash  
Lonesome at Monash  
Why am I so lonely at this universitee?  
And he sang as he watched  
And rolled himself another joint  
"Why am I so lonely at universitee?"

Down came the Warden of Monash Uni Union  
Saw the lonely student and grabbed him with glee:  
"Helping lonely students,  
That is what I'm here for —  
Can't let him be lonely at this universitee!"

Up sprang a tutor, filled with camaraderie  
Dropping his half-completed Ph. D.,  
"What's the good of research?  
Let us make some coffee now,  
Can't have lonely students at this universitee!"

Out came professors, dropping books and test tubes  
Out came more students, one, two, three.  
"Come and join a glee club,  
Come to our discussion group,  
Come and find enjoyment at the universitee!"

Away fled the student and hid in the library,  
"Why can't they leave me alone?" said he,  
"Smoking my joint and  
getting all my essays done  
Keeps me far too busy to be lon-el-ee."

## Diary of events

### MARCH

March 4-23: Play — "The One Day of the Year", presented by Actors Forum. Alexander Theatre, 8.15 p.m. nightly, with matinee for schools at 1 p.m., March 12. Admission: adults \$3.50, students \$2 (door sales only).

6: Films — Monash University Astronomical Society presents films dealing with exploration of the planets, especially missions to Mars and Venus, 8 p.m., Lecture Theatre H1. Admission free. Inquiries: extn. 3533 between 1-2 p.m.

14: Kamahl — Robert Blackwood Hall, 1.15 p.m. (see page one for details).

15: Film — "2001 — A Space Odyssey", public screening by Monash Film Group. Alexander Theatre, 1.30 p.m.

15: Film — "Eine Ehe", 120 minute black and white modern German film on marriage, 8 p.m., H1. Arr. by Department of German, details, ext. 2241.

16: Choral Concert by The National Boys Choir, singing for Foster Parent Plan of Australia, 8.15 p.m., Robert Blackwood Hall. Admission: adults \$2, children under 15, 50c. Ticket secretary: 699 1200.

16-17: Symposium — A Philosophy of Life: the personal philosophies of some eminent Australians. Organised by the Yoga societies of Monash, Melbourne and La Trobe Universities, Alexander Theatre. Admission: \$1 a day. (More details, page 5).

17: Parent Orientation — for parents of first year students. Beginning 11 a.m. Inquiries: Mrs Joan Marles, 439 7391.

18: Lunch Hour Concert — The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (Cond. Leonard Dommett) presenting works by Rossini, Meale and Shostakovich, 1.15 p.m., Robert Blackwood Hall (doors open 12.30 p.m.).

19: Garden Party Luncheon — Organised by Monash Women's Society for new members of staff, their wives or husbands, 12.30 p.m., Vice-Chancellor's garden. Contact Mrs Dransfield, 878 9959, or Mrs Rae, 277 4405.

21: Seminar — "Oil Politics in Southeast Asia", by Mike Morrow, U.S. foreign correspondent. Arranged by Centre of Southeast Asian Studies, 1.10 p.m., Lecture Theatre R6. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2430.

22: Lecture — Mental Retardation. Speakers: Professor Alan Clarke and Dr Ann Clarke, Psychology Faculty, University of Hull, 8 p.m., Robert Blackwood Hall. Admission free.

23: Special Concert by The Collegium Musicum of Zurich (cond. Dr Paul Sacher). Soloists: Heinz Holliger, oboe; Ursula Holliger, harp. Works by Mozart, Takemitsu, Bartok, Haydn, 8.30 p.m. Admission: adults \$5 and \$3.50; students \$3 and \$2. Tickets at Robert Blackwood Hall, phone 544 5448.

25: Lunch Hour Concert with the Daphne Hellman Trio (harp, guitar, bass), 1.15 p.m., Robert Blackwood Hall. Admission free.

26: Photo-Flora Evening — arranged by the Society for Growing Australian Plants, 8 p.m., Lecture Theatre R1. Admission: adults 80c, children 40c. Inquiries: Mr Tom Stitt, 232 5314.

27: Lecture: "Labor, Karmel and the Schools." First in a series of public lectures organised by the Monash Faculty of Education, Dr R. Bessant, senior lecturer in education, La Trobe University, 7.45 p.m., Lecture Theatre R1. Inquiries: extn. 2891. (More details, page 3).

27: Film — "Cabaret", public screening by Monash Film Group, 1.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m., Alexander Theatre.

29: Film — "They Call Me Trinity", public screening by Monash Film Group, 7.30 p.m., Alexander Theatre.

## Union discusses saving paper

The Monash Union has been discussing ways of saving paper.

It has been prompted by the fact that the world paper shortage is beginning to affect the University. The shortage is largely due to increasing demand for paper and a crisis in timber pulp production.

(Of course, some would say that any cutting down of the endless paper war would be an advantage.)

The Monash administration has requested that suggestions for economies in paper use be submitted to the central services manager, Mr Bill Cunningham, ext. 2080.

For its part a meeting of Union officers has suggested:

- Cutting and binding scrap paper for scribbling pads.
- Economies in duplicating, photo-copying and the Daily News Sheet.
- Only one file copy for multiple letters.
- Electric hand driers in toilets instead of paper towels. (As an experiment, six electric hand driers will be installed for three months in the toilets next to the Union Theatre.)

The Reporter or Mr Cunningham would be pleased to hear about any more thoughts on economy of paper.

Copy deadline for next issue of Monash Reporter is Friday, March 22. Letters and contributions from staff and students should be forwarded to the editor, Ian Anderson, in the Information Office, first floor, University Offices (phone 3087).