



# MONASH REPORTER

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And for those not gripped by Finals Fever there's news inside on:

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As Finals Fever hits Melbourne, a Monash academic gives

# A Legal warning to sport's 'head hunters'

Sportsmen who recklessly injure others on the field risk being charged with a criminal offence.

This warning to sport's "head hunters" comes from a senior lecturer in Law at Monash, Mr J. N. Turner.

Mr Turner says that the traditional attitude that bringing sport into the law courts isn't "the done thing" is changing.

"Players are as open to prosecution for acts committed in a sports arena as those without. If they deliberately infringe the rules of the game they are playing, and recklessly injure others, then they may find themselves facing criminal charges and their clubs facing compensation claims," he says.

Mr Turner organised Britain's first symposium on sport and the law while on study leave at the University of Birmingham recently. The meeting attracted strong representation from sporting bodies, the legal profession and the press. He has been asked to organise a similar conference in Australia in the near future.



## Urgent need

He says: "I found the British sports pages were carrying an increasing number of reports on court cases and it struck me that there was an urgent need to get sportsmen and lawyers together.

"There is just as urgent a need here in Australia."

Mr Turner says that lawyers have "failed completely" to explore the law in relation to sport and there is a real need for this area to be developed.

"Sportsmen and administrators are anxious to know their rights," he says.

Cases arising from violent behaviour form only one aspect of the field needing to be explored, however.

These are some of the other aspects Mr Turner nominates:

- As sport becomes more professional, sportsmen will see themselves more as employees and entitled to the same protection of the law received by other employees. This will require an increasing knowledge by players and clubs of industrial law. There could even be a time when professional players dropped by selection committees might mount challenges in the courts.

- Spectators might resort to the courts if they feel their safety has been neglected by a club, including their safety from attack by an overexcited, drunk spectator.
- And women could mount challenges to open up the all male preserves of clubs, such as the hallowed MCG pavilion.

Mr Turner says it is probably only a matter of time before injuries suffered on a sporting field result in court action against a player.

## Clean-up

"My opinion is that a few cases might not be a bad thing in cleaning up some of the games in which the intentional injuring of players has become commonplace," he says.

"And the clubs, too, may be considered vicariously liable for any damage their players might do. It would be in their interest to make sure their players stick to the rules."

Mr Turner says the decisions of sporting disciplinary tribunals in, say, exonerating a player, would count for nothing if an action was pursued in a law court.

Mr Turner says that as sport

Page 68 - The Sun, Sep. 17, 1978

# 4 GUILTY

Lions will complain to VFL

5 reported fiery semi club fined: 2 outed

Carlton Magpies cleared Poachers fined \$3500

Players take over from sacked City coach

Improper practice

Probe Unfair

FOOTBRAWLING DOWN AT GEELONG ALLYON OUT FOR 5 WEEKS

Women need no longer be the weaker sex... if they're given a sporting chance

By PAUL CHADWICK

ROY will lodge a written complaint with the VFL today about what its players received after they invaded the... Oral

By PETER HENRY

THE Victorian Football League's Complaints Committee - which can fine clubs up to \$100,000 and suspend officials for two years - last night failed to live up to its reputation

By STEVE PERKIN

Geelong and Essendon, both fighting for a place in the five, were doing just that at Kardinia Park this afternoon - fighting

Jackie Mack Mallon index was suspended... for having allegedly hidden parcels... the team's handling at Sandown last

Above: One look at the sports pages indicates there is an urgent need for sportsmen and lawyers to get together, says Mr Turner.

Left: Neville Turner

becomes more professional, sportsmen will need to know more about their rights under contract.

He even foresees the possibility of players challenging, in court, decisions by selection committees to drop, or "sack", them if they believe the decisions were not taken on proper grounds.

"Tensions develop in clubs and it's a fact of life that selectors sometimes make decisions on criteria other than performance in the game. If a player feels he has been dropped without justification it may be possible for him to challenge the procedures adopted by the selectors," he says.

Clubs may be meeting spectators in court, too, if it is felt they haven't done enough to ensure spectator safety.

This could be, for example, if a stand collapsed due to overcrowding or poor repair.

(In Glasgow, stands in the Ibrox stadium collapsed in 1971 causing death and injury. This prompted introduction of the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 which controls stringently such aspects as crowd size.)

Mr Turner says clubs could be held liable, too, for injuries sustained by a spectator from, say, a six hit from a pitch too near the boundary. Neighbors who sustain damage to property in similar circumstances might have reasonable grounds for complaint too.

Mr Turner says: "I would think that if such an occurrence happened once in a blue moon the attitude should be live

and let live. But I feel that a lot of clubs are not taking adequate measures to protect spectators."

He says that clubs may have liability also in the case of the "yobbo" who gets drunk and attacks fellow spectators.

"It may be that clubs have a legal duty to prevent people from getting drunk on their premises and misbehaving to the detriment of others."

## Equal rights

Mr Turner says that although Victoria's Equal Opportunity Act exempts sport as an area for application, there may be sports-linked areas in which women may mount bids to ensure equal rights.

Such a one might be participation in a sport, such as athletics, with which the granting of scholarships is associated.

## The pavilion?

And, in the future, it could be that a woman cricket fan eager to view the mementos on display within the gentlemanly confines of the MCG pavilion, or have a drink there with a fellow cricket lover who happens to be male, may make a legal bid to gain the access now denied.

"My feeling would be that if a cricket club takes membership applications from women then it discriminates in not letting women use all its facilities," Mr Turner says.

# Debating: The days of elegant argument come to Monash

A few weeks ago Monash witnessed a relatively rare phenomenon — hundreds of people queuing up on four successive days . . . to listen to debates.

Few can remember when, if ever, any event (apart perhaps from a riot, an iron-man contest or a Prime Ministerial visit) has aroused such interest on campus.

And it led many (well, those with memories of Oxford and Cambridge, anyway) to wonder wistfully whether the good old days of elegant, civilised, rational debate were coming back.

It was, indeed, a most unusual week.

First, the Alexander Theatre (500-plus seats) was packed to capacity — and an estimated 500 other enthusiasts turned away — when Oxford University came to debate with Monash 3 team the topic "That the quickest way to the throne is up the back stairs".

Because of the throng, the debaters had to thread their way through the theatre basement and up the back stairs to reach the stage.

That lesson learned, the organisers booked Robert Blackwood Hall for the remaining three lunchtime debates — one against Cambridge and two against Columbia (USA).

And each time, the 1300-seat Hall was almost filled.

The experience slightly unnerved some of the Monash participants. One said: "Until now I've only debated in the presence of three other people and a blank wall."

But the Monash Association of Debaters was greatly encouraged.

Association treasurer Mark Walker said: "I think we benefited greatly from the visit of these international teams, and this should result in a



Some of the debaters; top row, (l to r) Tony Boffa (Monash 1), Andrew Mitchell (Cambridge), Mark Walker (Monash 1); front row, Daphne Romney (Cambridge), Marla Gwynne (Monash 1), and Daniel Janner (Cambridge).

general uplifting of the style and level of argument on campus.

"The Association, particularly, wants to grow and, to ensure that the standard of argument shown during the tour is not forgotten, videotapes were made of several debates.

"The different styles of debating became apparent as teams from different sides of the Atlantic spoke," said Mark.

"The Americans tend to take their subject quite seriously and at home

debate just one topic for the year. This leads to large filing cabinets, full of rebuttal cards, being wheeled in at the finals.

"Often the experienced adjudicator is the only member of the audience to keep track of all the arguments.

"In these debates, matter — the points made for the argument — are of main account.

"The English teams showed us a style of debating in the best traditions of the art of persuasion, which results

from a Parliamentary format of debating.

"In Australia we debate for pleasure, but generally in front of an adjudicator who gives marks in three areas: matter, manner and method.

"The English see this as a slightly artificial way to relate to the art of persuasion. But we have shown them that it gives us the best of both worlds: the Americans' concern for argumentative points and the English passion for persuasion."

English tutor, Ros Meyer, who chaired three of the Monash debates, shares the Association's hope that the international tour will encourage a revival of interest in debating on campus.

While she feels that much of the interest in the series probably stemmed from the "fun" nature of the encounters, Mrs Meyer believes there could be great benefits for the University community — and for public life generally — if more attention were paid to the "intellectual sport" of debating.

"To fill Robert Blackwood Hall to the gallery day after day was an astonishing achievement," she said. "It showed that, on this occasion at least, there was considerable latent interest in debating waiting to be exploited.

"And I believe it held lessons for many of our socially and politically aware students — principally, that it is possible to make pungent political points and social commentaries in the course of a properly-structured debate. In fact, you can often do it with greater force and persuasion if the discussion is leavened with style, humour and, above all, intellectual and academic discipline."

Mrs Meyer added: "Training in the skills of debating can also do a lot to raise the standards of public discussion and examination of issues.

"All too often, it seems, public speaking is pegged at the level of housewives talking on TV about the relative merits of washing powders."

## Terms of reference, guidelines set for new Monash Biosafety Committee

The terms of reference and a set of operating guidelines for the newly-established Biosafety Committee at Monash have been approved recently by Council.

The Biosafety Committee — renamed at its own request from Biohazards Committee "in order to project a more positive attitude" — was set up as a standing committee of Council on July 10.

Its job is "to concern itself with the surveillance of potentially hazardous genetic biomanipulative research in the University and, in particular, any research involving the use of recombinant DNA".

The Australian Academy of Science has recommended that such monitoring committees be set up in all institutions working in this research area.

These are the terms of reference adopted for the Monash Biosafety Committee:

- To identify research being conducted or contemplated within Monash University which constitutes a potential biohazard as a consequence of any type of experiment or manipulation which may result in the creation of novel types

of nucleic acid with the capacity to multiply or spread to involve man, animals, or plants, or which involves particularly hazardous microorganisms or potentially tumorigenic viruses.

- To assess the actual and potential risks involved in the light of the intrinsic nature of the experiments, the competence of the personnel and the security of the laboratory facilities.
- To advise research workers and their departmental chairmen of any perceived dangers and to prescribe conditions under which the research may proceed or to recommend that Council forbid such research altogether until the committee is satisfied that the work should begin or continue.
- To report annually to Council.
- To co-operate with research granting agencies and with any committees on biosafety or biohazards which may be established at a national level in supplying information and enforcing all conditions they may lay down for the execution of research conducted under their authority.

- To collect and disseminate information on biohazards.

The operating guidelines adopted for the committee are as follows:

- Chairmen of departments shall be responsible for reporting to the Biosafety Committee details of any current or proposed research falling within the terms of reference of the committee. In addition, applicants for financial support from any granting agency shall supply the committee with a copy of the application if, in the judgment of themselves or the chairman of their department, the proposed research could conceivably be construed as falling within these terms of reference.
- The Biosafety Committee will maintain a register of all such biohazardous research projects being undertaken within the University.
- The Biosafety Committee will ensure that all relevant research projects conform with the experimental guidelines recommended by the Australian Academy of Science Committee on Recombinant DNA.
- The Biosafety Committee will recognise the Australian Academy of Science Committee on Recombi-

nant DNA as the body responsible for scrutinising applications for research support considered to represent a potential biohazard. The Biosafety Committee shall be responsible for ensuring that all conditions specified by the Academy are enforced, and may impose additional conditions if it so determines.

- All communications between any member of staff and the Australian Academy of Science Committee on Recombinant DNA will be submitted through the Biosafety Committee.
- A Biosafety Officer shall be appointed in every department in which potentially hazardous biological research is planned or in progress. The committee will instruct and confer regularly with these Biosafety Officers, who will be responsible to the Chairman of their department for disseminating information and implementing the recommendations of the Committee. Council has asked the committee to review its guidelines to ensure that the procedures for reporting potentially biohazardous research projects are clearly defined and unambiguous.

# Ahrend organ for RBH described as one of world's best

The organ being built for Robert Blackwood Hall by German builder Jurgen Ahrend will be one of the best in the world, according to several music experts outside Monash.

A sketch of the four-manual organ by Ahrend himself has been received recently at Monash. It is reproduced at right.

The organ will commemorate the work of the University's Vice-Chancellor for its first 16 years, Sir Louis Matheson. A total of \$321,000 was raised by public subscription in 1976 to enable the instrument to be commissioned.

The organ is being built in Ahrend's workshops in Leer, West Germany, and will be flown to Melbourne where it will be assembled in RBH by Ahrend and his team. It is scheduled to be installed early in 1980 and plans are underway for opening festivities in April of that year.

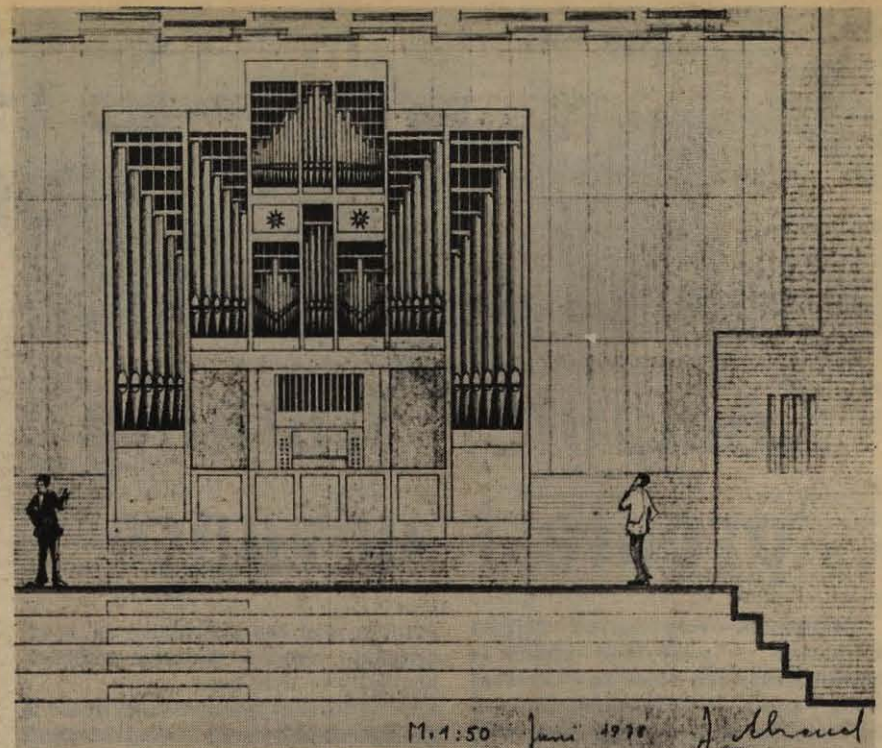
Writing in the latest edition of his publication, *Victorian Organ Journal*, editor John Maidment says: "The organ should sound magnificent in Robert Blackwood Hall which has excellent acoustic properties. It will prove to be a worthy and notable addition to the musical resources of this city."

"Jurgen Ahrend is among the most highly regarded organbuilders of the present age and it is certain that the Monash organ will attract world interest and fittingly commemorate the work of Sir Louis Matheson."

Professor John Hamilton, professor of Music (Organ, Harpsichord, Music History) at Oregon University in the US, speaks about the Monash organ in similarly complimentary terms. Ahrend built a four-manual organ for that University six years ago.

Says Professor Hamilton in a recent letter to Professor R. Cumming, chairman of the Organ Project Subcommittee of the Buildings Committee: "Rest assured that in your Ahrend instrument Monash University will have one of the world's very greatest of organs. In its lifetime, which one can anticipate to be 200 to 300 years, one may safely forecast that it will be one of the great touchstones of superb building."

He says Ahrend is a "craftsman/artist of the very highest calibre".



Mr Maidment says that the Monash organ will be the largest Ahrend has built to date.

He says: "The design is essentially north German but with slight leaning towards the French classical school, for example, the two Cornets, the separate Terz ranks and the two Oberwerk reeds."

"The action will be mechanical throughout (on the French suspended system) with mechanical stop action also."

Jurgen Ahrend, born in 1930, began making organs in Leer in 1954 in

partnership with Gerhard Brunzema. Both were apprentices under Paul Ott of Göttingen.

The Ahrend-Brunzema organs were built upon traditional lines exclusively using mechanical action, slider chests, total encasements and classical dispositions.

The partnership ended in 1972.

Since then Ahrend has continued to build many outstanding new organs and carry out restoration work. His latest organ was opened in May at the Reid Concert Hall in Edinburgh University.

## Friction in a frozen land?

Friction between nations, possibly involving Australia, over the exploitation of Antarctica's resources has been foreshadowed in a new book co-edited by a Monash lawyer.

The book is *Australia's Resources Future*, edited by Andrew Farran and Peter Hastings.

Andrew Farran is a senior lecturer in Law at Monash and was formerly with the departments of Foreign Affairs and Defence. Peter Hastings is a senior research fellow with ANU's Strategic and Defence Studies Centre. Their book, published recently by Nelson in association with the Australian Institute of International Affairs, is a collection of writings by leading economics, diplomatic and defence experts on our resources future. Its subtitle is "Threats, Myths and Realities in the 1980s."

In the concluding chapter, Farran and Hastings say that Antarctica, together with the deep sea bed regions, are frontier zones that will test critically the international community's capacity to temper and contain national ambitions and realise the "joint gains" potentially available to all its members.

"If it cannot succeed in this over Antarctica the outlook for orderly resources management generally will be bleak indeed," they say.

The editors say there are three main options for Antarctica's future management.

One is that it be left to its present claimants — Australia, Argentina, Britain, Chile, France, New Zealand and Norway.

"This is clearly out of the question as neither the USA nor the USSR

recognise, or will recognise these claims," they say.

The second option is that Antarctica be proclaimed an international trust territory responsible to a body such as the United Nations.

The editors say the third option is that the parties to the Antarctica Treaty of 1959 (this treaty was signed by the seven claimants and other nations including the US and Russia, and virtually froze claims) and any other parties who wish to join and accept the requisite responsibilities and obligations as well as enjoy the rights and benefits, should continue to manage its use and exploitation, both in their own interests and those of the international community generally.

They conclude: "In view of the formidable nature of the area and its overall environmental importance, a very high level of international managerial competence and responsibility is called for."

"For these reasons we would favor the third of these approaches... as being the most conducive to its rational and orderly development in the future."

The value of Antarctica's resources is difficult to assess. Mineral resources exist — in particular, iron and steaming coal. Oil and gas have been reported and manganese nodules may exist in quantity on the ocean floor. Extraction and recovery problems are formidable, however.

Far more important are the food

resources and, Farran and Hastings say, their large scale exploitation is a possibility in the relatively near future. Such resources include seals, whales, squid, southern blue whiting, Antarctic sidestripe and cod, and krill — a highly nutritious shrimp-like crustacean.

The editors say that while a resources "clash" in Antarctica is not unlikely, a resources "grab" against Australia is.

They say: "The question whether, in fact, Australia's resources generally may become the object of envy in the developing world or the resources-short industrialised world tends almost immediately to come down to our relations with Japan."

### Nothing unique

"Will Japan want our resources at any price? It is hard to believe so."

"Australia has no unique resources, as oil is to the OPEC countries, which if withheld or increased in price would seriously affect world markets."

"It is true that Japan is greatly dependent on Australia for long-term iron ore contracts. But Japan can get iron ore from other sources. Australia faces heavy competition in the future from Brazil as a supplier of iron ore to Japan. In 1975, Japan's contract commitments to Australia were three times those to Brazil. In 1985, Australia and Brazil are likely to have equal shares of the Japanese market."

"A similar situation could arise over Australian and Indonesian coal exports to South-East Asia and other areas."

"Far from a situation where Japan is a strategic threat to Australia's

resources we face one where Australia will have to strive on every political and commercial level to maintain sales of its resources.

"The same is true of uranium. If Australia is not prepared to mine and sell it, Japan and Europe have warned they will seek, and almost certainly gain, supplies elsewhere (and fast-breeder reactors as well)."

While Farran and Hastings believe that it is in Australia's long-term interests to mine and sell its uranium subject to certain stringent conditions, they urge greater spending on solar energy research.

They say federal research funds allocated in 1977-78 for all acknowledged solar research institutes in Australia totalled \$1.4 million compared with \$20 million for nuclear research.

They add that the quantity and quality of Australian solar energy research is declining rapidly in comparison with that of Europe and the USA. France, West Germany and the US now spend \$US1 a head annually on such research.

Farran and Hastings say: "It is not unlikely that, if the sums now spent in this country on nuclear research were devoted to solar research, Australia could have large-scale solar energy in use by the year 2000, costing about one-tenth of fossil fuels."

"Moreover, solar energy research is an area in which Australia, if it retains any capacity at all for original thought and technological innovation, could be in the forefront of world activities."

● A review of "Australia's Resources Future" will appear in a future issue of Reporter.



## Human factors in aviation

# Computer training 'greatest advance'

Computer controlled flight simulators — with their ability to create situations close to "the real thing" and give trainees instant and accurate feedback on their actions — may be the greatest single advance in aviation training techniques, according to a Monash psychologist.

Professor R. Cumming told the Human Factors in Aviation course that the flexibility of computer-controlled flight simulators opened up tremendous new possibilities for further research and development in equipment, training procedures and operational procedures.

But, Professor Cumming said, the effective development of computer-assisted instruction would require close collaboration between a range of specialists including flight operational personnel, flight instructors, equipment designers, computer systems analysts and experimental psychologists.

He was delivering a paper titled "Simulators for Training, Assessment and Research."

In discussing the use of simulators in training, Professor Cumming said that skill learning occurred in three identifiable but overlapping stages: cognition, fixation and automation.

He said: "A thorough understanding of the principles helps in the early stages, possibly largely in giving meaning to the available feedback."

"The primarily cognitive phase of skill learning is usually followed by a phase in which correct patterns of behaviour are fixated by continued

practice and the probability of inappropriate response patterns reduced, hopefully to near zero.

"The final or 'autonomous' phase is characterised by gradual improvement of performance and by increasing resistance to stress and to interference by other concurrent activities."

Professor Cumming said that accurate and immediate feedback was perhaps the most important factor in human learning. A well-designed simulator could often provide better feedback than would be available on the job.

He said: "For example, a trainee pilot can study the plot of his glidepath immediately after an approach in a simulator and gain a real picture of the results of his actions. In practice the best feedback he usually gets is knowledge of where he touches down and maybe a few comments from a check captain."

He said that simulators could be employed to provide accurate knowledge of results in the cognitive stage of training, and means for extensive practice in the later stages.

"This opportunity to overlearn unusual and emergency sequences is particularly important if these responses are to be available in time of stress," he said.

"But a simulator is no better than the instructor using it. An understanding of the learning process and of the skill being taught are essential for the instructor. He still provides the training; the simulator is an aid to him."

## Australia joins world university studies body

The Australian Vice-Chancellor's Committee, on behalf of all Australian universities, has joined the Inter-University Centre of Postgraduate Studies based at Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia.

AVCC membership enables members of Australian universities to participate in the courses offered by the Centre.

The IUC 1978-79 academic program has been received recently by Monash and is on file in Central Registry.

The program includes courses and conferences on diverse topics from "Science and Philosophy" to "The Future of Religion", "Women and Work" and "The Role of the Economist in Government".

The IUC now has almost 100 member universities from Europe, Asia, North and South America, Africa and Australia.

The Centre was established in 1972 "to encourage and promote co-operation among universities through teaching and research... primarily by organising postgraduate research projects and study programs in any field authorised by the Council of the Centre".

### Master's course

Applications are now open for 1979 enrolments in the Monash Master of Environmental Science course.

The course (two years full-time, or five years part-time) offers a choice of 60 units coursework, from all faculties, plus a minor thesis. Applications close on September 30.

Application forms and details of the course may be obtained from the Course Co-ordinator, Dr E.H.M. Ealey (ext. 2631).

Aviation personnel from throughout Australia, and representing all sectors, attended a Human Factors in Aviation course conducted at Monash recently.

The course was organised by Professor R. Cumming and Dr T. Triggs of the Psychology department.

Topics discussed during the five day course ranged over a wide area and included the role of the human operator in aviation systems, decision making under stress, the effect of managerial climate on performance, the effects of ageing on efficiency and accident investigation and aviation safety.

The Reporter presents a round-up of several of the papers delivered.

## Psychologist probes problem of fatigue

Minimising the hours of flight duty was not a ready-made solution to the problems of fatigue faced by aircrew, a Melbourne psychologist told the Human Factors in Aviation conference held at Monash recently.

Mr Colin Cameron, head of the Applied Psychology department at Caulfield Institute of Technology, said that a far more significant cause of fatigue than the number of hours worked was the pattern of hours — the extent to which the pattern of work and rest imposed a load on the adaptive systems of the body.

He defined fatigue as a generalised state of stress extending over a period of time.

Outlining research results, Mr Cameron said: "There is a certain irony in the fact that when we delved into the fatigue experience a little more deeply we found that the aircrew who did the most flying seemed to experience the least fatigue."

"They were operating from a base in Honolulu, flying up to San Francisco in the morning and back to Honolulu at night. A long day's work, but all in daylight, all without the need to adapt to a local time zone, and they were comfortably tucked up in their own beds each night. Twice a week they carried out this routine and accumulated flying hours at a rate that would have put them over the annual limit in about nine months."

Mr Cameron said that the stress suffered by flight staff — with its familiar characteristics of fitful sleep and periods of wakefulness after arrival at a destination — was caused by more than the disturbance of sleep patterns aggravated by the time shift.

It was also the result of interference with the 24-hour cycle of biological efficiency — a cycle which reached its lowest point in the early hours of the morning and its highest in the afternoon or early evening.

Mr Cameron said: "We know that a person becomes very strongly adapted to the 24-hour cycle existing in the part of the world where he usually lives and finds it very difficult to re-adapt to a different cycle."

Mr Cameron said that over a period of several days away from their home base, aircrew fell further out of step with their usual routine, their stress response became more and more vigorous, and their sleep deficit became larger.

He said that flight staff's exposure to stress over and over again for a period of years could cause them to sour more readily of their job and the lifestyle imposed on them by it. This may be the case even when the stress was so mild that it did not affect performance or have any clearly identifiable clinical symptoms.

"In this, aircrew are not alone. More and more people are finding that their jobs demand more of them than they are willing to give," he said.

"But the aviation industry is always in the vanguard of technology, always

pushing the limits of the men and machines who are involved in it, and frequently encountering today the problems that other branches of industry will encounter tomorrow."

In outlining suggestions for the control of fatigue, Mr Cameron said that the number of hours of flight duty was not the core problem.

These were his proposals for solving the problem of fatigue:

● **Day and night operation:** Profitable operation of an airline requires that services be offered when passengers wish to travel which may not be when people want to work. Working at night is a genuine stress and those who have to do it should be compensated by time off in sufficiently large chunks to be able to make a complete recovery from the stress.

● **Time change:** "There are two strategies. One is to maintain as far as possible the original home base routine without attempting to adapt. The other is to achieve more or less complete adaptation at one location on the trip — possibly the farthest outward stopover. The first strategy would probably work quite well on short trips of up to three or four days; the second on long trips of two to three weeks. Perhaps it is possible to rearrange crew schedules so that trips are either short or long, and the in-between durations are avoided."

● **Predictability of duty periods.** "Uncertainty in crew rostering is not merely an irritant, it genuinely degrades the value of the rest period. This recommendation, then, is simple to state and hard to implement — have the crew rosters prepared for something like a month in advance and make them stick."

● **Individual differences.** "Individual differences in tolerance for stress are very large... In some American airlines it is possible to bid for specific schedules of duty, some more demanding and rewarding than others. The system is alleged to be popular and allows the individual a greater measure of control over his working life than a conventional scheduling system."

● **The para-military principle.** "If all else fails, and there are some schedules of duty which are undeniably tough and unpopular but which cannot be economically re-arranged, then they can be treated in the same way as combat missions. That is, a crew can be totally committed to that operation for a specified length of time, after which there is a substantial period of rest and recuperation."

Mr Cameron urged closer co-operation between airline management and the staff associations in implementing such suggestions.

"There is insufficient recognition by management that the airline industry is a hard one to work in, and insufficient recognition by airline staffs that it is also a difficult business in which to succeed."

# Old age: is it a time for new interests or peaceful retreat?

**Old age — modern technology has given us the aids to compensate for the physical deficiencies associated with it, and conventional wisdom dictates the “pursuit of interests” to prevent the mental retreat of old age.**

But how wise is conventional wisdom? Are what those who have not reached old age perceive as ‘problems’ really problems at all? Are combat plans necessary?

Two experts have addressed themselves to the question of ageing in two quite separate forums at Monash recently.

They are Dr G. F. K. Naylor, of Queensland University's Psychology department, and Dr C. J. Van Tiggelen, co-ordinator of Geriatric Services in the Victorian Mental Health Authority.

Dr Naylor and Dr Tiggelen take different tacks in their approach to the topic. Dr Naylor advocates pre-retirement guidance to enable people to explore fields of activity for the future. Dr Tiggelen says that inability to accept deterioration in the old might be younger persons' problem, not the elderly's.

Their remarks are addressed to different audiences, however.

Dr Naylor was delivering a scientific paper on “Mental Ability and Age — What is the Real Relationship” to the Human Factors in Aviation course. He was talking to professionals in the aviation industry and his remarks on the ‘continued participation’ of the aged are directed more specifically, in part, at the newly retired.

Dr Tiggelen, on the other hand, has written a philosophic piece titled “Cultural Changes Affecting Old Age” which appears in the recently published Third Annual Report of the Fawcner Park Community Health Centre. The Centre, in Prahran, has a formal affiliation with Monash.

## Not as extensive

Dr Naylor says that while the decline of intelligence with advancing age does take place when the population is considered generally, it is not as extensive or universal as is popularly supposed.

“Ageing is associated with a shift in effectiveness of mental process to verbal and abstract thinking from more perceptual and motor capacities.

“The elderly tend to experience some physical disabilities such as poorer natural vision and reduced physical strength, but modern technology has produced aids to compensate for most of these deficiencies.

“Whereas the elderly may be somewhat slower at manipulative tasks, and may experience some difficulty in accustoming themselves to new methods and conditions foreign to their previous circumstances, they do bring with them vast quantities of skill and experience to fields where these are still applicable.

“The frequently voiced claim that scientific and aesthetic creativity cease to be shown by persons of middle age or more may be countered by pointing out that the structure of our society tends to remove the individual progressively from creative to executive responsibility as his age increases.

“There is no firm evidence that elderly people cannot create effectively provided they have the opportunity and motivation to do so. On the contrary, there are many instances of persons who, at a relatively advanced age, have broken new intellectual ground with distinction. Service “Crash Courses” during World War II provided many such cases.

“What is perhaps of the greatest importance in ensuring the continued intellectual activity of the elderly is the avoidance of the wholesale effort often applied to convincing them that after they reach some arbitrarily decided age of retirement they have nothing more to contribute, and are consequently no longer needed by society.

“That for democratic political reasons we shall have to put up with a uniform retiring age for a long time to come seems inevitable; but the interests of elderly individuals, and indeed society in general, will be furthered by promoting scope for their continued participation in stimulating and practically useful activities throughout the latter part of their life.

“This would appear to imply the need for organised assistance to help those who have no firmly established knowledge of how they want to spend their later years. It now appears that pre-retirement guidance should be made available, to enable such people to explore fields of activity which may provide them with self fulfilment and the enjoyment that comes from being profitably occupied as independent units of society.”

## Retreat of age

**Dr Tiggelen suggests that the “retreat” of old age is not something that should necessarily be turned back.**

Dr Tiggelen says that the industrial system, with its emphasis on rapid changes, perfection and material achievement, throws elderly people off as “a burden and a nuisance.”

“They have different ideas, different standards, are less intelligent and understanding; they do not participate in the production process; they have not enough future and they have too much of the past,” he says.

He says the diehards of the second generation don't want to be restricted by the limitations of elderly people.

“They don't want to live with them,

because they see their existence as an interference limiting their options. That explanation seems to be an excellent rationalisation for the phenomenon of segregating elderly people, or writing elderly people off,” Dr Tiggelen says.

“But isn't that rationalisation based on the fear of confrontation with finiteness of life, the fear of death, the fear of being limited as an individual; things difficult to accept in a materialistic and hedonistic society?”

“Why that fear?”

“Is it because we think that old age is a collection of everything we don't like, we don't enjoy? Old age lacks a beautiful face, elasticity, inventiveness, sexuality, money-making etc. Old age means handicaps, limitations, imperfection, loneliness. We simply don't want to be confronted with that view of our own future.”

Dr Tiggelen says such an attitude not only creates problems for the elderly but for ourselves too.

## Positiveness

There is, he suggests, a positiveness about the “passive involvement” of old age.

He says: “Of course there is an increased incidence and intensity of disorders in old age. But a lot of those disorders are culturally induced. It may be explained as teleological and deterministic thinking, but the essential disorders inherent in old age are probably handicaps, indicating a gradual retreat of the person from his physical and social environment: reduction of mobility, loss of muscular strength, reduced eyesight, reduced hearing, reduced memory for recent events.

“In his ‘shrinking’ world of interest, capacities enabling active involvement and material performance are less important. Measuring by our standards and values, we cannot accept that and we try to do something about it.

“We have created gerontology and geriatrics. We stimulate people to be active, to be involved, to participate, to start new hobbies and new friendships. Just to prevent what we call deterioration: probably something quite natural, but something that we cannot accept.

“In fact, the elderly person is biologically equipped (even in what we see as physical and mental deterioration) with his personal mechanisms of ‘participating at a distance’, of ‘passive involvement’.

“Elderly people are certainly interested in a lot of things that are going on: they relate, but they relate at a distance. They are no longer personally involved in a challenging or competitive way. They are observing in a detached way, removed from active physical and mental involvement. Many elderly people enjoy that: they are terribly keen observers, but there is no need to give a judgment on what they see. Not any longer.

“They are quite close, but at a distance: detached and really liberated. Enjoying a new freedom, a freedom they did not experience in their struggle for survival for the individual and for the species.”

## Honours percentage continues to fall in most faculties

**The percentage of students graduating with honours is falling in most faculties at Monash.**

Statistics released recently by the Examinations Office show that in two faculties — Economics and Politics, and Law — the percentage of students who graduated last year with honours (and first enrolled in 1974 in the case of ECOPS, and 1973 in the case of Law) was a third of the peak honours levels of the early 70's.

In the figures below, the percentage of those students who were admitted to full-time first year study in 1974 and graduated with an honours degree in 1977 (the minimum time) is compared, first, with the percentage of the 1973 intake who graduated with honours in due course and, second, with the 1967-73 average percentage: Arts 7 (7, 11.1); ECOPS 4 (5, 7.9); Science 14 (19, 24.6); Engineering 22 (25, 29.4).

In Law the course is a year longer and the 1977 graduation figures are based on the 1973 intake with, in brackets, the 1972 level and the 1967-72 average percentage: 2 (2, 4.3).

In Medicine the figures are based on the 1972 intake and are compared with the 1971 percentage and the 1967-71 average: 15 (16, 19.4).

The percentage of full-time students who passed their first year rose last year above 1976 levels in Arts, ECOPS

and Engineering, and fell in Law, Science and Medicine.

When compared with the faculty pass percentage averaged out over the previous nine years, however, the 1977 figures were up in all faculties except Science, Engineering and Medicine.

In Science the percentage of first year, full-time students who passed their first year fell to its lowest level in 10 years at 80 per cent.

(In the faculties without set courses — Arts, ECOPS, Law and Science — students are regarded as having passed the year if they have passed more than half the subjects or units taken. Students who have taken three subjects are regarded as having passed the year only if they have passed all three subjects.

In Engineering and Medicine, which have a fairly closely controlled passing-by-years system, pass rates are based on those full-time students who have passed all subjects, or failed in one or two subjects but granted passes in the year as a whole.)

Full-time, first year pass percentages in 1977 with, in brackets, the 1976 percentage first and the average percentage over the years 1968-76 second were: Arts 87 (83, 82.3); ECOPS 83 (75, 81.2); Law 90 (91, 84.2); Science 80 (85, 87.4); Engineering 71 (67, 74.9) and Medicine 95 (99, 97).

# Students warned against deceptive promotional ploys

Students completing secondary school this year have been urged to beware of the promotional ploys — the extravagant claims, the glossy literature, the press advertisement, and the enthusiastic academic touting his course — aimed at attracting them to particular tertiary institutions.

The Careers and Appointments Officer at Monash, Mr Warren Mann, writing in his office's publication *Careers Weekly*, says that "deceptive practices" are a common element of the numbers game tertiary institutions play to secure financing.

Mr Mann says: "The name of the game is formula financing, and the pieces are variously referred to as EFTS (equivalent full-time students) or WSU (weighted student units). The chips are units of government finance, institutions or departmental prestige, academic empires and eventually jobs.

"It's a fascinating game, sometimes a desperate one; and the players, academic administrators and teachers, can't afford to be sentimental about it. But, unfortunately, the pieces are in reality people."

He says that it is better that some departments, even some institutions, should be closed if the price of their remaining viable is students taking the wrong courses at the wrong institutions for the wrong reasons.

The key criterion in selecting a

course and an institution is the quality of the staff involved, he adds.

Mr Mann says he does not single out colleges in his attack.

"Though some of the worst offenders in this respect are to be found in the colleges, the importance of this game attracts players from all tertiary institutions including universities," he says.

These are examples Mr Mann gives of the common "tricks" used to "take advantage of the quite natural concern the students and particularly their parents feel about future job security".

- Our courses are tailored to meet the needs of industry.

Says Mr Mann: "Not even industry itself is able to judge what their needs will be far enough into the future to enable courses to be 'tailored' and school-leavers taken to graduation through them. And, in general, the institutions which make such claims do not have on their staffs specialists whose experience and insight might be able to give guidance in such matters. The student is normally better advised to avoid the kind of specialisation implicit in such statements, and to prepare himself to be able to adapt to whatever the needs may turn out to be."

- All of our graduates from last year have got jobs.

Mr Mann says: "The implication here is that employers are queuing up to snap up future batches. The facts on

which such statements are made are usually highly suspect; where the statements are justified, the nature of the 'jobs' is normally not mentioned, so that those graduates who in desperation have accepted unsatisfactory and temporary jobs to avoid the 'dole' are counted as successes."

- Employers prefer our graduates to those from the universities: they are more practical.

"Often totally untrue and worth checking with some of the larger employers. The 'practical' content of such courses is usually a study of applications of relatively simple principles to pad out courses which shy away from some of the more theoretical work essential to a successful professional career," he says.

Mr Mann also warns against the promotional claims with vocational implications: the "We provide a degree in astronomy. The National Observatory employs astronomers" type.

He says: "Many take advantage of concern among young people for the environment; it is tempting to think that by taking a relatively short course of study one can become involved in high level activities aimed at preserving the environment.

"But in this area as in others a sound basic educational background is much more likely to lead to a satisfying career than a 'vocationally-oriented' superficial introduction to the complex of disciplines involved."



## New maths 'lowering standards'

A distinguished Oxford physicist with research interests out of this world is currently a visiting professor in Monash's Mathematics department.

He is Dr D. ter Haar, Dutch-born Reader in Theoretical Physics at Oxford University. During his three months in Australia Dr ter Haar is based jointly at Monash and Melbourne University's Physics department.

Dr ter Haar's field of research is theoretical astronomy, specifically examining the behaviour of plasmas in cosmic conditions. His work touches on such aspects as the origin of stars, and their scintillation — why, for example, a star has not always the same intensity.

Monash mathematician, Dr Andrew Prentice, who has developed a theory on the formation of the solar system, was a student under Dr ter Haar in Oxford in the 1960s.

Announcing his theory in *Monash Review* in 1973, Dr Prentice said that Dr ter Haar and he had restored Laplace, who developed the famous but discarded nebula hypothesis on the formation of the solar system, to his rightful place of honour.

(Laplace suggested that, in the beginning, the rotating gaseous sun was much hotter than it is now and so big that it encompassed the orbits of all the planets. As the sun cooled down it contracted towards the centre along its axis of rotation and rotated faster, shedding at its equator successive rings of gas whenever the centrifugal force away from the sun overcame the gravitational force towards the sun. By some unexplained process the planets were supposed to have condensed from the concentric orbiting rings.)

It was in 1948 that Dr ter Haar, then working in Copenhagen, suggested that some form of "supersonic turbulence" may have played a role in the unexplained exchanges of energy and momentum.

Dr Prentice has since worked out the theory of supersonic turbulence.

Dr ter Haar, who is married with a grown-up family, is on his first visit to Australia.

He has one hobby horse, he says, and that is the "new mathematics".

"I am against it. It is lowering the standards of mathematics students," he says.

"The idea is to make mathematics look as if it is easy and not to stress the discipline which is necessary. It teaches pupils ideas rather than techniques, supposedly to make it easier for the less gifted to learn mathematics.

"The trouble is that those students who are gifted do not have the discipline either and can not apply it."



## Concorde of the keys

How did it go... "faster than a speeding bullet"? That description used to be applied to a certain hero who, among other achievements, could move mountains. These days it could be applied to a Monash secretary who can move mountains too — of typing work.

Pictured above, Mrs Lorry Ryan, secretary to Professor Ken Hunt in the department of Mechanical Engineering, flattened the field in a recent speed typing contest at the Footscray Institute of Technology.

With a speed of 103 words a minute (and keeping well within the allowable 2 per cent error margin), Mrs Ryan took off the \$100 first prize in the senior typewriting speed and accuracy

## DEFENCE OF EXCELLENCE

"The Australian universities are under attack. It can be argued that universities have always been under attack; but at the present time it seems that efforts are being made to reduce the quality, the independence, and the standing of our universities.

"In many quarters there seems to be little or no concern to ensure that our universities remain centres of excellence in teaching and research..."

Thus begins a 30-point statement entitled "The Defence of Excellence in Australian Universities", prepared by the University of Adelaide.

The statement was prepared as a basis of discussion for a public seminar

on The Defence of Excellence to be held in Adelaide on October 6-7.

In a press release, the University of Adelaide says that the statement summarises the university's "deep concern at the trend of recent events and the urgent need to take some action".

The university says that the seminar will discuss the increasing economic and other pressures which are adversely affecting the hard-won academic standards and international standing of Australian universities.

It goes on: "Funds for the teaching and research functions of universities have been reduced and other pressures applied, such as inquiries into rationalisation of tertiary institutions and study leave.

"The Council of the University sees this seminar as the first in a series designed to enable Australian universities to explore ways in which they might speak collectively on the issues which are vitally affecting them."

Emeritus Professor P. H. Partridge, chairman of the recent committees of inquiry into post-secondary education in Victoria and Western Australia, will be one of the principal speakers at the seminar, and the university expects contributions from a number of other distinguished academics.

The seminar will be open to the public and the media.

Anyone interested in attending should write to the Vice-Chancellor, University of Adelaide, Box 498, Adelaide 5001, so that a copy of the statement "The Defence of Excellence" and a registration form can be forwarded.

competition conducted by the Footscray Institute, the Pitman Examinations Institute and the Institute of Private Secretaries (Australia).

Mrs Ryan has worked at Monash since late 1976. She previously worked with the Northcote City Council. Away from work, she says she is occupied by "housework, horseriding and tennis".

There is still some way to go, however, before any attempt on the world titles. The Guinness Book of Records shows that 140 words a minute is the current record.

But 103 wpm, or 1.7 words a second, isn't a bad attempt.

Why so fast?

"Undoubtedly the pressure of work," Mrs Ryan says, laughing.

# How successful was Open Day?



Visitors to Open Day 1978 took a much more serious — and informed — interest in the work of the University than has been apparent in previous years, according to reports received by the Open Day Director, Rick Belshaw.

The experience of the faculty of Arts was fairly typical.

Faculty Secretary Alan Finch reported that the Dean (Professor J. D. Legge) and three members of the Faculty Office had been kept "very busy" throughout the day.

Mr Finch said it was "reasonable to conclude that the numbers of prospective students and parents seeking specific advice on entry standards and on course structure had increased significantly over last year."

It was clear, he said, that visitors had taken greater care to obtain basic information before coming to Open Day, and that the majority of questions asked were quite specific and well-informed.

He went on: "Quite a few inquiries were made on behalf of students in their third or fourth year of secondary

schooling rather than in their sixth year.

"This would seem to indicate that parents are becoming more inclined to seek information to help with the planning of senior secondary courses for their children, or that Open Day is becoming more widely-known as a counselling activity."

Economics and Politics also reported a "continual flow" of prospective students, giving representatives of all departments and the faculty a busy day.

According to Faculty Secretary Ivan Gregory, their experience indicated that perhaps an appropriate time to hold a "counselling day" (as distinct from a "carnival-type" Open Day) would be after secondary students had received their copies of the VUAC Guide for Prospective Students.

Engineering, Science and Law all reported a high level of demand for advice, but in Medicine overall numbers were down and there were few inquiries about entry.

The Financial Adviser to Students, Hal Skinner, dealt with "significantly

fewer" inquiries than in previous years.

He interpreted this as indicating that "lower-income people felt that tertiary education was beyond their means and not worthy of consideration in these financially stringent times."

The Centre for Research into Aboriginal Affairs reported a 400 per cent increase in the number of visitors — despite its remote location.

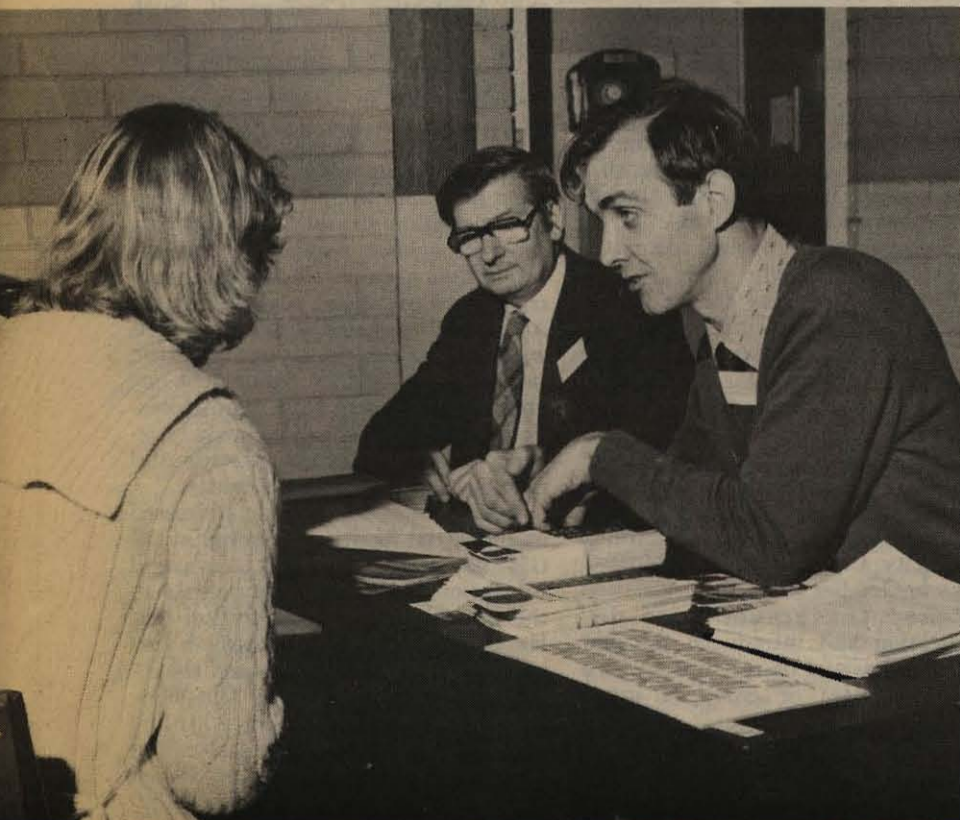
CRAA Director Colin Bourke said that visitors seemed impressed with the Centre's resources and were "extremely interested" in the slides and commentary on the effect of uranium mining on Aboriginal communities.

History had more visitors than usual and found that two of its most popular displays involved the co-operation of outside bodies — the brass-rubbings and a pictorial display mounted with the help of Waverley Historical Society.

The department suggests that other Arts departments might also consider "roping in" local groups, thus encouraging co-operation between the University and the community.



... requires a strong stomach and a head for heights. Bushwalking Club members participate in an abseiling demonstration on the Library Wall. Left: A serving of roast steer off the spit for Open Day visitors, in aid of the Krongold Centre. Right: Albert Goodman illustrates the use of the computer in Geography laboratories. Below: Counselling in Mechanical Engineering.



## Verdict sought on new kids' TV show

The faculty of Education undertook a practical exercise in consumer research as part of its Open Day activities.

It took the form of a test preview of one episode of a children's TV serial not yet shown in Australia.

The serial — *The Tomorrow People: The Medusa Strain* — is a science fiction story produced by Thames Television. It is under consideration by HSV7, which co-operated with Dr Mary Nixon, of the faculty of Education, in running the Open Day experiment.

Children, aged from 4 to 15, were asked to view the episode and answer one question: "Would you like to see the rest of this program on TV at home?"

There was a clear majority in favor: 85% of girls and 76% of boys voted "Yes".

Parents were then asked: "Would you like this program to be shown on TV at children's viewing time?"

Again the response was favorable:

71% for, 29% against.

Dr Nixon commented later: "Parents, psychologists, educators, film makers and many other groups are concerned about what children see on television.

"By giving viewers the chance to express their opinions about even one children's television program, we feel that we have constructively contributed to the debate and increased awareness about programs that are available to children."

A senior HSV7 executive said the station was grateful for the co-operation of Monash in evaluating the program.

The Open Day experiment was part of a "very significant piece of research" being undertaken by groups in the Education faculty and the department of anthropology and sociology in collaboration with Channel 7.

The results would be of considerable value in helping TV stations tackle the problems they faced in the "difficult area" of children's television.



● Study at Monash might be a good few years off but these youngsters get a once-round of the campus on a model steam train.

# PNG workshops on tertiary teaching

Three staff members of the Higher Education Advisory and Research Unit at Monash recently organised a series of workshops on tertiary teaching at Papua New Guinea's two universities — in Lae and Port Moresby.

The visit by the HEARU team — consisting of Director, Dr T. Hore, senior lecturer in charge of the Educational Technology Section, Mr I. Thomas, and senior lecturer in charge of staff development, Mr N. Paget — was sponsored by the Australian Development Assistance Bureau.

The University of Technology at Lae invited the HEARU team to Papua New Guinea to present the workshop series.

It included formal sessions on topics such as course design and evaluation, large and small group teaching techniques, selection and use of media, the evaluation of teaching and student assessment. The sessions were open to all staff members.

In addition the HEARU team spent time with nationals on staff, observing and discussing their teaching.

In line with the general policy throughout Papua New Guinea, moves are being made to "nationalise"

employment in the two universities. At the moment, 10 per cent of academics at Lae are nationals while at Port Moresby the figure is somewhat higher.

As is the case in other developing countries, young academics, often new graduates, can face difficulties when placed immediately in positions of responsibility without experience.

Dr Hore says that the HEARU team made valuable contacts during its visit.

He believes that a university such as Monash may be able to make a contribution to the development of one like Lae's "Unitech" through such visits and staff secondment.

Monash has had close ties with Unitech for many years. Former Vice-Chancellor, Sir Louis Matheson, was Unitech's Chancellor, and Deputy Chancellor, Mr Ian Langlands, serves on Unitech's Council.

A Lae research project, the Mathematics Learning Project, had on its planning committee, Professor Dunn and later Professor Tisher (Education), Dr M. Deakin (Mathematics) and Dr Hore from Monash.

A HEARU team also visited Lae in 1974.



Mr I. Thomas, Dr T. Hore and Mr N. Paget with members of national staff in front of Matheson Library at Lae's Unitech. Photo: Nebo Boromu.

## British study: the cost

If you're planning study in Britain in the 1978-79 academic year these are the fees you'll have to meet, as announced by the department of Education and Science.

Overseas students (those who have not been ordinarily resident in Britain for three years immediately preceding the course) will have to pay a year: for postgraduate study £925; for undergraduate and advanced college

courses £705; and for non-advanced courses £390.

The London Conference on Overseas Students has suggested also that overseas students studying in London in 1978-79 will need the following sums to cover living expenses: single (undergraduate) £1750, (postgraduate) £2000; married students £2900, with £500 for each child.

# Industrial relations overhaul urged

Enacting more complex internal union controls to meet political, economic and industrial relations struggles is an out-of-date approach which should be scrapped, according to a lecturer in Law at Monash, Mr R. McCallum.

Mr McCallum says that recent amendments to the Conciliation and Arbitration Act aimed at bringing union power "under control" — most specifically the much vaunted alteration of secret ballot provisions in 1976 and the establishment of the Industrial Relations Bureau in 1977 — have not solved any of today's industrial relations problems.

Both moves were "simply the pouring of old wine into new bottles," he says.

By tightening internal union controls as a means of attempting to control union power the Federal Government adopted the same tack as other governments over the last 75 years, in particular during other periods of political and industrial relations upheavals, in 1904, 1928 to 1930, and 1949 to 1952.

But Mr McCallum says that internal union control laws as they stood at the end of 1975 protected the rights of individuals as well as any legal system could, with the exception of union accounting practices.

Ironically, changes made to union accounting procedures at the same time as introduction of the IRB — but achieved through consultation and cooperation and without a glare of publicity — are likely to have the greatest long term effect on the union movement, "by preventing financial malpractices and, perhaps more importantly, by the increased use which trade unions will have to make of accountants and other skilled experts who, in time, may increase union stability and efficiency."

Mr McCallum has urged a more constructive approach towards industrial relations from the present Parliament in establishing a broadly-based inquiry into industrial relations.

He says that perusal of parliamentary debates has led him to believe that politicians, although many come to Parliament after years of industrial relations experience gained in the service of their respective interest groups, have a great deal to learn about the subject.

He says: "Such an inquiry will, through its research, not only help to educate our politicians but will give teachers, students and practitioners in industrial relations more empirical material which will aid and heighten our understanding of industrial relations."

"Failing this, perhaps our federal backbenchers could organise a series of in-house seminars where industrial relations teachers and practitioners could, through discussion, increase the general level of knowledge in this area."

### New law areas

He suggests the Government might attempt to solve industrial problems by examining new law-making areas such as the utility of worker participation and laws relating to redundancy and retraining schemes.

"The most pressing problem facing our labour force is that of productivity and ways could be explored to initiate incentives to employers and employees alike to increase productivity."

Mr McCallum says the problem of accountability of the leadership to the rank-and-file has been perceived hitherto in very narrow terms, "simply on the hypothesis that more accountability will lead to broader representation and to better leadership." No thought had been given to the problem of under-representation on union councils of groups of workers such as non-English speaking migrants and women.

### A new Act

Further, Mr McCallum suggests that thought should be given to writing a brand new Conciliation and Arbitration Act in which matters are set out in order and some of the technical provisions re-written in readable English.

He says: "The Act has had amendment piled upon amendment in layers like a counterpoint musical score. It is virtually unreadable even to the trained lawyer, unless she or he has some industrial relations experience."

"The greatest safeguard against the suppression of individual members by their leaders is doing away with ignorance."

Mr McCallum describes as "hastily drafted" amendments to the Act relating to de-registration of unions made at the same time as the Victorian Electricity Commission maintenance strike in October 1977. The legislation widened the grounds for de-registration and introduced the new concept of partial de-registration for a particular class or group of union membership.

He says the problem is that the Arbitration Commission has been given no control over who may apply for such de-registration proceedings.

He says: "This may create problems; for example, suppose an industrial dispute is in existence and let us suppose that during talks before the commission the parties agree to forget about one another's misbehaviour and, through conciliation, come to an amicable agreement."

"While these delicate talks were proceeding it would be possible for a federal or state minister or the Bureau to bring de-registration proceedings without the consent, or even against the wishes, of the relevant employer or the Arbitration Commission. Such proceedings could disrupt the delicate employer/employee negotiations before the commission."

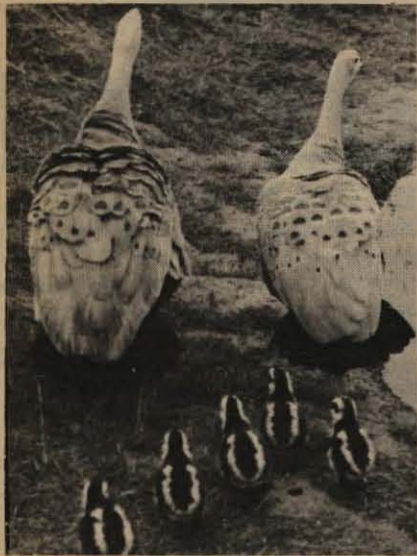
### Certificate first

Mr McCallum adds: "If the government has come around to the view that de-registration should be the primary sanction against recalcitrant unions, rather than a simple all or nothing control procedure, then I suggest that the Act should be amended so that persons wishing to bring de-registration proceedings should be required to first obtain a certificate from the Arbitration Commission which will only be issued if the relevant presidential member fails to settle the matter."

● Mr McCallum recently addressed an Industrial Relations Seminar at the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education on recent amendments to the Conciliation and Arbitration Act. He also has written an essay on this topic titled "Secret Ballots and the Industrial Relations Bureau: Old Wine in New Bottles" which is to be published later this year in *Australian Labour Relations Readings*, edited by Dr J. Hearne and Professor G. W. Ford.



## A call to make a jackass of yourself



● Any good imitations of Cape Barren geese?

If, in the next few weeks, you happen to notice anyone out under the trees on campus hooting, howling, cheeping or chirping, you've got good grounds for believing they're cuckoo and, for that matter, that Monash has gone to the birds.

But it is more than likely that those with their heads in the branches will be doing nothing more bird-brained than seeking inspiration for their entry in the Monash First Annual (Inter-University) Bird Calling Competition — more aptly known as Avian Antics — to be held on September 22 at 2.30 p.m. in the Alexander Theatre.

For those not ornithologically oriented, that's the very day that our mutton birds return from their round the world migratory trip to breed on the southern coast of Australia.

The competition is being organised by the Pooh Club and the Ornithology Society, with the co-operation of Clubs and Societies, to raise money for the Nerve Deafness Appeal.

Such a competition is believed to be the first of its kind in Australia and organisers are anticipating interest from the Guinness Book of Records.

Entry forms can be obtained from the Clubs and Societies Office on the first floor of the Union Building and at different locations around the campus.

"If the wonderful prizes and the attraction of having your name in the Monash Hall of Fame are not enough to stimulate your interest in participating, either sponsor an entrant or come along and join us in the fun and games," an organiser says.

## CONFERENCE MAY MAP OUT BETTER MAP ACCESS PLANS

The common use of a map is to pinpoint a location.

But one of the ironies about maps in Melbourne at the moment is that they themselves are difficult to locate.

A more ready availability of maps may be one result to come from Victoria's first map users conference being held in Melbourne this month.

Mrs Ann Brown, assistant librarian in the Hargrave Library, says there is a large demand at Monash for maps which are held in collections in the Geography department and Hargrave Library.

Mrs Brown says: "People often want to know where they can buy copies of the ones we have here.

"Recently the Victorian Department of Crown Lands opened a map shop at 35 Spring Street which has made buy-

ing easier. It would be preferable, though, if we could have the situation which exists in England or Europe where good maps are easily available in shops, railway stations, tourist areas and the like."

### Open to users

The map users conference — which is open to all interested in maps, including sporting groups, fishermen, pilots, sailors and professional map users — will be held on Wednesday, September 13, in the State Film Centre, Treasury Place, starting at 2 p.m.

### Joint sponsors

It is being jointly sponsored by the Australian Map Curators Circle and

the Division of Survey and Mapping of the Department of Crown Lands and Survey.

The conference will invite the major map producers to describe their products and aims to stimulate discussion with map users on their needs.

The meeting will be opened by the Minister for Conservation, Mr W.A. Borthwick and addressed by Mr A.G. Bomford, Director of National Mapping; Colonel N.R.J. Hillier, Director of Survey — Army; and Mr J. E. Mitchell, Victoria's Surveyor General.

During September, displays of maps can be seen at various locations including the Geological Survey, Department of Minerals and Energy, 107 Russell St; the Forests Commission — Victoria, cnr. Bourke and King Sts. (September 11 to 22); and the Ministry for Conservation, 240 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne.

Maps produced by the Division of Survey and Mapping, the Royal Australian Survey Corps and the Division of National Mapping will be on display at the conference.

## Report underlines need for personal contact

Results of research were, to an increasing extent, being circulated "underground" in reprints and working papers and not published until much later.

For this reason, it was imperative to establish personal contact with overseas academics working in the same field, Associate Professor of German, Michael Clyne, said in his study leave report to Council.

Associate Professor Clyne said he was convinced of the need for academics to visit colleagues overseas as frequently as possible if they wished to keep abreast of developments in rapidly changing fields.

During study leave between January and June this year, Associate Professor Clyne visited universities in Europe and the US.

He said that, as a result of his study leave, he could only reiterate a suggestion made in an earlier report to Council that joint academic appointments be facilitated.

"In a steady state university like ours, at a time of minimal mobility, this is the only way to use human resources to the best advantage, con-

sidering changes in the interest of staff and students and the emphasis of various disciplines.

"Joint appointments are highly successful in most of the American universities I visited, especially where the joint appointee has a 'home' or 'base' department," Associate Professor Clyne said.

## IMS symposium

The first major symposium on the results of the International Magnetospheric Study (IMS) will be held at La Trobe University from November 26 to December 1, 1979.

The IMS symposium will be held at the symposium of the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA) as part of the General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG).

To register for the IMS symposium write to the executive director of the organising committee for the IUGG Assembly, Dr B. P. Lambert at the Australian Academy of Science, PO Box 783, Canberra.

## Monash lecture theatre advisory c'tee formed

A new committee, which will advise on the operations of lecture theatres on campus, will have its next meeting on Wednesday, October 4.

The Lecture Theatre Advisory Committee was recently established by Professorial Board as a sub-committee of the standing committee on the Higher Education Advisory and Research Unit.

Its chairman is the director of HEARU, Dr Terry Hore. Other members are: faculty nominees, Arts, Mrs J. Balding; Economics and Politics, Associate Professor K. Frearson; Education, Dr F. B. Ausburn; Law, Mr J. Epstein; Medicine, Dr B. W. Oakes; Science, Associate Professor J. H. Smith; Theatre technicians, R and H theatres, Mr J. Torrance; S, Mr R. A. Collis; senior lecturer in charge, Educational Technology Section, Mr I. Thomas

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The Academic Registrar's department has been advised of the following scholarships. The Reporter presents a precis of the details. More information can be obtained from the Graduate Scholarships Office, ground floor, University Offices, extension 3055.

### Vacation Scholarships 1978/79: ANU

Available during December-February to third year (at least) undergraduates for supervised research. Accommodation, weekly allowance of \$30 and travel assistance. Applications close September 15. Australian Wool Corporation — Postgraduate Scholarships

Open to graduates wishing to pursue a career in wool research. \$4200 p.a. plus dependant's and travel allowance. Applications close September 22.

### Japanese Government (Monbusho) Scholarships, 1979

Tenable for up to five years for undergraduates, or two years for postgraduates. Living allowance of 97,000 yen per month, plus travel, accommodation and other allowances. Applications close in Canberra September 22.

### Australasian Medical Students Association — Lilly Research Fellowships 1978-1979

Available to members of affiliated AMSA societies for research in medical or paramedical fields during long vacations or an elected term. Minimum grant \$400. Closing date September 25.

### Archbishop Mannix Travelling Scholarship

Open to graduates for two years postgraduate study overseas. \$5000 p.a. Applications close September 30.

### Peterhouse Cambridge

● Fellowships. For pre- or post- Ph.D. Tenable up to 3 years. £2500-2850 plus allowances, room and meals. Applications close at Cambridge October 25.

● Studentships. Tenable for 3 years for Ph.D. candidature. £1625 per annum plus certain fees. Applications close at Cambridge March 31, 1979.

### Senior Hulme (Overseas) Scholarship — 1979

Tenable in any field of study, for up to three years, at Brasenose College, Oxford. Available to junior members of staff and postgraduate students. The award includes University and College fees, a stipend of £2335 p.a. plus FSSU superannuation contributions. Applications close with the Graduate Scholarships Officer on October 31.

### United States Institute of Health International Postdoctoral Research Fellowships.

Offered to Australians for training for biomedical research in the USA. \$US10,000 — \$US13,600 according to experience. Applications close October 31.

and MAS nominee, Mr G. Hosna.

The Academic Services Officer, Mrs J. Dawson, (ext. 3011) has been appointed secretary.

The terms of reference of the new committee include:

- Developing a set of technical specifications for all lecture theatres.
- Acting as a consultant in the design of new theatres.
- Acting as a receiver and disseminator of information about lecture theatres.
- Being active in up-grading and improving the flexibility of lecture theatres, and encouraging standardisation of equipment across the campus.
- Concerning itself with the major lecture theatres (E, M, R, H, L and S) and, in particular, areas of multi-faculty usage (e.g. the Rotunda Theatres) or areas with no readily available technician (e.g. H Theatres).

# Organisations: new book takes Australian view

Organisations: An Australian Perspective, by R.D. Lansbury and P. Gilmour. Published by Longman Cheshire, Melbourne, 1977. vix + 196



**BOOKS**

Forays by social scientists into the world of big business, or the bureaucracy, or an institution for the purpose of explaining how and why they work occur quite commonly these days.

Even after selecting the best of these books, I often come away from my reading with the feeling: "so what's new here"? But when an undertaking is subtitled *An Australian Perspective* I gladly take notice for that in itself is a novel event.

Until now we have unashamedly accepted these worlds—written from the eye of the American, or the Briton or European—as our world too, and so must it be with our organisations.

The authors of the present book should be congratulated for asserting the obvious—that our worlds are centred in Australia, and that they frequently come into contact with other nations, other cultures. These two writers have taken it from there, so let us see how they handle the job.

## Australian perspective

*Organisations: An Australian Perspective* is actually the first title of a projected series of Australian management studies, under the general editorship of the pair who produced this book. According to them, organisations provide the stage where managers will be seen in the enactment of their duties, i.e., functional responsibilities.

Thus the drama largely unfolds as a survey of scholarship into organisational thinking—how our systems of production work; how these influence peoples' actions, relations, and tenure; how the whole thing has been assembled; and how it is managed.

In style, it is neither cookbook or pushy on the one hand, nor is it lofty or

esoteric on the other. I would categorise it as being straight down the middle, where any serious first attempt ought to be.

Naturally, this makes for a rather staid or homely view of our organisations as they are being portrayed. Yet the book is neither dull nor dry reading as might then be expected. Instead the Australian literature is finely woven into the text, not to show that our organisations are different after all or that we manage them uniquely, but simply to elaborate points and give an Australian flavour to world-wide practices.

If anything, the authors have erred on the side of tacitly assuming that we here have gone from strength to strength in our knowledge accumulation on organisation behaviour.

Thus their message is: the more that we research, eventually the more sophisticated is the operation.

I would caution the reader to be somewhat cynical of such a point of view lest we all become totally manipulated by such high-powered systems. The development of our organisations has, after all, been cyclic rather than continuous over the ages; something which has been disregarded in this volume.

Therefore, the book needs to be "taught" in the classroom; but given its basic soundness of content, it should not get in the way of most lecturing approaches. Of particular commendation is the technical quality of the production, especially the first-rate graphics and tables which are used extensively to complement text material. These certainly will set a high standard for other authors (and their publishers) to emulate in future local productions.

Nevertheless, and in all their eagerness to excel, the writers have laid bare their biggest frailty: a partisan view of Australian organisations. In order to see why we need only to turn to their bibliography.

I counted about 300 citations there, of which about 100 are Australian (an Australian writer and/or work done in Australia). This in itself is not a bad ratio, but is it enough to earn the subtitle? Be that as it may, if we look closely at those 100 Australian references, almost half are by Lansbury or Gilmour or their Master's degree students. Thus the Australian perspective I so cheerily had announced earlier on turns out to be a chauvinist one at that.

However, this bias should not discredit the book overall, especially since all of us have been doing just that all along by prejudicing our own thinking into thinking like Americans or Britons

or Europeans. Perhaps a genuine Australian perspective could only be from the eye of the beholder until such time as other similar works help us to achieve a broader objectivity from our own responses.

The present work does have integrity and is well meant; and for that alone the pair will surely win plaudits from academics and practitioners alike.

I will certainly prescribe it for my own students and look forward to telling them that their text is an Australian contribution in its field—with a big debt to scholars at Monash.

Allan Bordow  
Department of Behavioural  
Science  
University of New South Wales

## A warmly human story of life in a tough mining town

*Broken Hill — "the city of sand, silver, sin and sixpenny ale"*, as C. J. Dennis called it — is perhaps the Australian settlement which comes closest to the traditional picture we have of the frontier town of the American West: raw, harsh and violent, a place where men (overwhelmingly) and women (a few, and those mostly of the "wrong kind") lived out of need or desperation rather than for love.

The comparison cannot be pushed too far. Writing of the Australian and American frontiers, Russel Ward suggested that, whereas the American frontier was individualist, the Australian was collectivist. The scale of productive activity (in mining as well as in the pastoral industry) soon established that the vision of working men finding individual fulfilment of their aspirations in petty proprietorship was a mirage. The social structure of Australian primary industry quickly hardened into class division and conflict, regulated by a law which favoured masters rather than men. Partly for this reason, it could never be said of the Australian frontier that "justice grows out of the barrel of a gun".

Monash historian Brian Kennedy, himself a son of Broken Hill, tells the story of this frontier town in his newly-published *Silver, Sin and Sixpenny Ale: A Social History of Broken Hill 1883-1921* (Melbourne University Press, \$12.60 recommended retail price).

It is in many ways a horrifying story of exploitation, cruelty and unbridled class war, but Dr Kennedy tells it with a sympathetic understanding of the passions and sufferings of those who made Broken Hill Australia's richest mining conglomerate.

The central theme of Dr Kennedy's book is the shadow cast by the mines over the lives of the men and women of Broken Hill and the creation by the

mining community of organisations to lighten their darkness. Confronted by mine-owners whose rapacity makes a comparison between the Barrier and the mining communities of the American frontier (in Utah and Colorado) entirely legitimate, the miners of Broken Hill established unions which were more militant and more influenced by the ideologies of syndicalism and revolutionary socialism than any others in Australia. In this process, the original mining population of God-fearing Methodists, drawn largely from the copper-mines of South Australia, gave way to young footloose bachelors for whom a stretch at the Barrier was often a stop-over between the canefields of North Queensland and construction work on the Trans-Australian Railways.

At the same time, the Broken Hill community was trying, with little or no help from mining management and the remote government in Sydney, to build a town in which people could survive. Uncertain water supplies, the lack of sanitation, the high incidence of pneumonocosis and other pulmonary diseases, inadequate hospital facilities, made this one of Australia's most dangerous living places, until collective action forced reform.

Dr Kennedy's story is illuminated by a wealth of fascinating detail — the deep-seated chauvinism of the militant miners, the mine-owners' self-justification in terms of social Darwinism, the ability of the owners to call on the forces of the state in times of trouble, the two-man war launched by Turkish camel-drivers on a holiday picnic train, and much more. His book is a warmly human account of courage and determination in the face of disheartening natural and economic odds, as well as an important insight into a key area of Australian industrial history.

Ian Turner  
Associate Professor of History

## Drama Players present some Shavian wit

The Modern Drama Players will present Shaw's comedy "You Never Can Tell" at Monash this month.

The play, said to contain some of Shaw's wittiest dialogue, follows close on the heels of a successful Players' production of "Arms and the Man".

"You Never Can Tell" will be performed on September 19 and 21 at 8 p.m. and September 22 at 1.15 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the ground floor theatre, SG01, of the Humanities Building.

It will be directed by Alan Skinner, who directed "Arms", and will feature "Arms" cast members, James Berkelmans, Bill Collopy, Christine Keogh, Stuart Rintoul and Joanna Wierzbicki.

Other cast members include Chris Dobinson, Sue Holmes, Tricia Lisle, Michael Newman and Matthew Ricketson.

The production of "Arms and the Man", described as "unified, coherent and polished", played recently to capacity audiences in its brief season.

At the conclusion of each performance the audience was invited backstage for wine and cheese and a chance to talk with the cast about the interpretation of their roles.

A Modern Drama Players spokesman says: "This was found to be beneficial both to the audience and cast and we will adopt this policy for any forthcoming productions."

Tickets for "You Never Can Tell" cost \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for students. Matinees are 75c for all. Tickets are available from room 707 in the English department. Bookings have been advised though a few seats will be kept for door sales each performance.

# Indian night of . . .



Former postgraduate student at Monash, Arvind Shrivastava, will perform a piece from Indian classical music. Here, at rehearsal, he is accompanied by his wife, Sunila, on harmonium, and Dr Rajdyaksha, on Tabla (drums). Photos: K. Dabke.

## . . . song and dance

Indian music and dance will be featured in a cultural program to be presented in the Alexander Theatre this month.

The program, organised annually by the Monash Indian Association, will cover a wide range of music and dance — from classical to folk and popular.

It will be held on Saturday, September 9 at 7.30 p.m.

Among the highlights will be:

- The Bharat Natyam, a classical dance, centuries-old, performed in exotic costumes and splendid jewellery.
- The lively folk dance of Bhangra presented by turban-wearing Sikhs.
- A stick dance from Gujarat, a peacock dance from Maharashtra, folk songs from North India, popular dances from the North and South and classical songs.

To make it an all-round Indian night, Indian food will be available during intermission.

Admission is \$2.50 for adults, \$2 Association members and students, and 50 cents children under 12.

Seats may be booked at the Alexander Theatre (ext. 3992) or on exts. 3544 (Ramachandran), 3443 (Chab-bra) and 2609 (Maheswari).

Good seats will be available also at the door.



Those who saw Sheila Gawthorne (above) dance at Monash before will recognise her face but not her new Sanskrit stage name, Chintamani-Himavati, given to her by her Guru, Chandrabhanu. Himavati will present a classical Indian dance with Tamara Blacher, a postgraduate student at Monash.



## An adventure on strings

"It is intensely visual and uses every theatrical trick in the book . . . it's rather like a 1950s musical except much faster."

Phillip Edmiston is talking about his marionette production "The Grand Adventure" which will play at the Alexander Theatre until Saturday, September 9.

The show, which has a cast of over 100 superbly dressed marionettes as well as five talented marionettists to manipulate the strings, is broadly based on Captain Cook's voyage to Australia in HMS Endeavour.

Besides Captain Cook and Sir Joseph Banks, there are the 'villains of the piece' — two unlikely characters, Pump Water and Pork Pie, who bear a more than passing resemblance to Don Quixote and Sancho Panza.

Pork Pie and Pump Water stow away on the Endeavour believing the

ship is going on a treasure hunt. They end up, however, on a voyage of discovery.

During their adventures, they meet a number of colorful characters including Father Koala, Edna Echidna and Dolores Kangaroo.

Edmiston, who comes from Queensland, gave his first public performance at 12. He worked with a number of puppet theatre companies before setting up his own production group, Theatrestings, to stage "The Grand Adventure."

The elaborate sound track recording for the show includes music from a 25 piece orchestra, and features the many voices of Australian actor Ray Barrett.

There are two sessions daily, at 10.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets are, adults \$3.75 and children, \$2.25.

## SEPTEMBER DIARY

- 5-9: **SCHOOL HOLIDAY ATTRACTION** — "The Grand Adventure", a musical marionette play. Daily at 10.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Alex. Theatre Admission: adults \$3.75, children \$2.
- 5-9: **EXHIBITION** — "Works for Books", a photographic exhibition by Mark Strizic. 1st floor, Main Library. Admission free.
- 5: **BLACK STUDIES LECTURES** — "Land Rights", by Ribnga Green. **SEPTEMBER 12:** "Aborigines and Films", by Gary Foley. **SEPTEMBER 19:** "Western Australian Government/Aborigines", by Gloria Brennan. **SEPTEMBER 26:** "Aboriginal Development", by Reg Blow. Presented by Monash Centre for Research into Aboriginal Affairs. All lectures begin at 1 p.m. **Lecture Theatre R6.** Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3346.
- SYMPOSIUM** — "Filtration, Air and Oil", presented by Fluid Power Society in association with Monash Department of Mechanical Engineering. 6.30 p.m. **Engineering Lecture Theatre E3.** Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3511.
- SPACE FILMS** presented by Monash Astronautical Society. 8 p.m. **Lecture Theatre H1.** Admission free.
- 5-30: **EXHIBITION** — "Cycles and Directions". Roger Kemp 1935 — 1975. 10 a.m. — 5 p.m. each weekday. **Exhibition Gallery, Menzies Building.** Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2112.

- 6: **ENVIRONMENTAL FORUMS** — "Victorian State Opposition Policy for the Environment", by Ian Cathie, MLA, Shadow Minister for Conservation. **SEPTEMBER 13:** "The Victorian Emergency Gas Turbine II", by Doug Hill, Senior Projects Officer, Australian Conservation Foundation. **SEPTEMBER 27:** "The New Extended Families - Grappling with the Impact of Urban Isolation of Parents and Children", by Winsome McCaughey, Co-ordinator, Community Child Care Resources Advisory Service, Fitzroy. Presented by Monash Department of Environmental Science. All forums begin at 5 p.m. **Room 137, First Year Physics Building.** Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3841, 2631.
- 7: **LECTURE** — "The Formation of the Solar System", by Dr Andrew Prentice, Monash Department of Mathematics. Pres. by Monash Astronautical Society. 1 p.m. **Lecture Theatre S3.** Admission free.
- 9: **INDIAN CULTURAL NIGHT** — Indian classical and folk dance and music, with Indian snacks on sale during intermission. Presented by Monash Indian Association. 7.30 p.m. **Alex. Theatre.** Admission: adults \$2.50; students and members \$2; children 50c.
- 11: **READING** — "Antigone", by Sophocles, followed by speakers and discussion. Pres. by "Understudy" in conjunction with the Monash Department of English. 7.30 p.m. **Religious Centre.** Admission: \$1 (mail bookings to English Department). Inquiries: ext. 2140, 2137. Performance repeated September 18.
- 11: **LUNCHTIME CONCERT** — chamber music by students of the Victorian College of the Arts. 1.15 p.m. **RBH.** Admission free.
- 14: **CONCERT** — ABC Gold Series No. 5. The

- Melbourne Symphony Orchestra conducted by Hiroyuki Iwaki, Kaori Kimura — pianist. Works by Ravel, Messiaen and Rachmaninov. 8 p.m. **RBH.** Admission: adults \$6.80, \$5.20, \$3.60; students \$5.20, \$3.60, \$2.80.
- 14-16: **OPERA** — "Patience", by Gilbert and Sullivan. Presented by Babirra Players. 8 p.m. **Alex. Theatre.** Admission: adults \$4; children, students and pensioners \$3. Bookings: 232 4987, 509 2470. Performances also September 21-23.
- 16: **SATURDAY CLUB (Red Series)** — "Come — Let's Dance", presented by Melbourne State Dance. 2.30 p.m. **Alex. Theatre.** Admission: adults \$3.50, children \$2.25. Performance repeated September 23.
- 16 and 23: **COURSE** in Pre-University French for metropolitan students. Pres. by Monash Department of French. Closing date for applications, September 12. Further information: ext. 2212.
- 16: **CONCERT** — St. Gregorius Dutch Male Choir with Liedertafel Arion, Templer Choir, Australian Children's Choir, City of Dandenong Brass Band and guest artist Tony Fenelon. 7.45 p.m. **RBH.** Admission: adults \$3.50; pensioners \$1.50; children \$1.
- 18: **LUNCHTIME CONCERT** — Music for Trombone and Cello, by James Fulkerson — trombone, Sarah Hopkins — cello. Works by Hopkins, Berio, Ferrari and Fulkerson. 1.15 p.m. **RBH.** Admission free.
- 18: **MIGRANT STUDIES SEMINAR** — "Assumptions of the Galbally Report", by Mrs L. Rodopolous, Dr J. Mackay, Dr M. Clyne. 7.30 p.m. **Room 173, Education Building.** Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2872.
- 19: **CONCERT** — Musica Viva Australia present Martin Best Consort. Traditional music from the British Isles, and a musical scenario from the era of Noel Coward. 8.15 p.m. **RBH.** Ad-

- mission: adults A.Res. \$5, B.Res. \$4; students B.Res. \$2.
- 20: **FILM** — "Birth with R. D. Laing" followed by panel discussion. Pres. by Childbirth Education Association. 8 p.m. **Lecture Theatre R1.** Admission: \$3. Inquiries: 509 9985.
- 21: **PADDY'S MARKET** — Arranged by Monash University Parents Group. 9 a.m. Union Building. Offers of goods (especially books and white elephants) 560 2046, 277 4760, 878 0640.
- LECTURE** — "Trajectories of a Spacecraft ejected from an Orbiting Space Station", by Dr T. F. Berreen, Monash Department of Mechanical Engineering. Pres. by Monash Astronautical Society. 1 p.m. **Lecture Theatre S1.** Admission free.
- 23: **CONCERT** — The Melbourne Chorale Chamber Singers present A German Collection, choral music by German composers of the 19th and 20th centuries. 8.15 p.m. **RBH.** Admission: adults \$5, \$4; students \$3.
- 25: **LUNCHTIME CONCERT** — 18th Century Music for Double Reed Instruments, Karel Lang, Joyce Stender and Jan Stockigt. Works by Handel, Mozart, Beethoven. 1.15 p.m. **RBH.** Admission free.
- 27: **CONCERT** — The Monash University Choral Society presents the original medieval version of Carmina Burana performed by Arts Nova, followed by Carl Orff's epic twentieth century setting of Carmina Burana with large orchestra and chorus. 8 p.m. **RBH.** Admission: adults \$4; children, students and pensioners \$2.
- 30: **SATURDAY CLUB (Blue Series)** — "From the Dreamtime", presented by Melbourne Aboriginal Community, includes dance, music and stories. 2.30 p.m. **Alex. Theatre.** Admission: adults \$3.50, children \$2.25.

# The 'Lear' debate

## 'A new window in old house on Bard's rock'

In the matter of the "Lear" controversy, let me say at once that, unlike Philip Martin (Monash Reporter 6-78), I AM an interested party.

As Director of the Alexander Theatre I, like most of the Management Committee, had expected some adverse criticism of the "Lear" project. That would be part of the normal give-and-take of theatrical business.

But Philip's comments go beyond normal give-and-take. They attack the "Lear" experiment in itself. Since the experiment was the most considered part of the 1978 Alexander Theatre program, I shall set out here what we hoped to achieve in commissioning Williamson's version of "Lear".

I begin with what a few months ago I should have regarded as an uncontroversial claim, that Shakespeare's language is, at times, difficult for modern audiences. This, admittedly, is by no means a new view. Late in the 17th century John Dryden was already noting that "Shakespeare's language is... a little obsolete".

In 1765 Dr Johnson wrote that Shakespeare becomes now and then entangled with an unwieldy sentiment which he cannot well express, and will not reject; he struggles with it awhile, and, if it continues stubborn, comprises it in words such as occur, and leaves it to be disentangled and evolved by those who have more leisure to bestow upon it... Not that always where the language is intricate the thought is subtle.

### Arnold too

A century later, Matthew Arnold declared in words very relevant to our enterprise and the controversy surrounding it, that

Mr Hallam... has had the courage (for at the present day it needs courage) to remark, how extremely and faultily difficult Shakespeare's language often is. It is so: you may find main scenes in some of the greatest tragedies, "King Lear" for instance, where the language is so artificial, so curiously tortured, and so difficult, that every speech has to be read two or three times before its meaning can be comprehended.

And Arnold continues

one understands what M. Guizot meant, when he said that Shakespeare appears in his language to have tried all styles except that of simplicity.

Dryden, Johnson and Arnold were poets, sensitive to language; and they revered Shakespeare. But they were open-minded and humane enough to know that what their own understandings took with ease, untrained non-literary minds might grasp only with hard labour.

Now, in the last few weeks I have been delighted to learn that though our own language has moved still further from Shakespeare's, yet his which gave such difficulties in former times is no

longer problematical. Or at least, so I have been assured by some of my colleagues. I'm told that good teachers, good producers and good actors find Shakespeare's language easier to understand than David Williamson's.

Well, it may be so.

A hundred years of University teaching of English literature have probably done much. We now have an academic and literary priesthood, and it has ensured that there are perhaps as many as 2000 in Melbourne who know that "confusion" in Philip Martin's mind means a radically different thing from "confusion" in Shakespeare's.

But what of those who are unaware of such important facts? What of those for whom good texts and good teachers have so far been in vain? And what of those others, well-educated and cultured, who would be likely to



frankly, snobbish. More disturbing, however, is his view that Williamson lacks compassion. Compassion in the theatre may be elicited in many ways. But the most important source lies in an audience's capacity to respond to dramatic spectacle.

### New window

The object of the Alexander Theatre Company was to put a new window into the old house founded on the rock of Shakespeare, not to build a new shack on the shifting sands of current English. Fitting new glass is always a ticklish business:

A man that looks on glass,  
On it may stay his eye;  
Or, if he pleaseth, through it pass,  
And then the heav'n espy.

Probably most of the learned eyes recoiled from our very window-frame. But I think that a majority of the more innocent eyes saw further.

Alan Dilnot,  
Director, Alexander Theatre.

## BACKGROUND

In July, the Alexander Theatre Company staged a production of Shakespeare's "King Lear," as "translated" into contemporary English by David Williamson.

Reviewing the production in Reporter in July, Emeritus Professor Guy Manton called it "imaginative and cohesive".

Last month senior lecturer in English, Philip Martin, took another view, calling Williamson's lines "diluted and flatfooted".

Reaction to his comments appears on this page.

● Reg Evans as Lear



## LETTERS

### Numerate appreciation

Sir: If the simple barefoot mathematician may be allowed a word on a controversy outside his field, it would be this: that surely Philip Martin (Reporter 6-78) misses the distinction between an enterprise and its execution. The recent *Lear* did contain infelicities in its text, its production and its acting. Nevertheless, it had for this non-expert the effect of pointing to previously unappreciated greatnesses of the play—for which my thanks to David Williamson, Peter Oyston and their co-workers. Reg Evans, in particular, was superb.

Michael A.B. Deakin  
Mathematics Department.



## Old, new 'Carmina Burana'

Concert goers will have a rare opportunity to hear both the medieval and 20th century versions of the famous collection of songs "Carmina Burana" at Robert Blackwood Hall on Wednesday, September 27 at 8 p.m.

The collection will be presented by Monash University Choral Society in conjunction with Ars Nova of Melbourne and the Kew Philharmonic Society.

The songs, penned by a group of wandering scholars in the 12th and 13th centuries, were found last century in a Bavarian monastery.

They tell about the powers of Fortune, the pleasures of drinking and physical love and make several indirect digs at established authority and convention.

Ars Nova, well known for their performances of early music, will give excerpts from the original manuscript in the first half of the concert.

Their presentation should be visually as well as musically interesting because it will feature medieval costumes.

### Modern setting

In the second half of the concert, the medieval songs will be given a 20th century setting, with music by Carl Orff.

A concert organiser says: "Orff's music is exciting and compelling, with contrasts between fast, loud choruses for full choir, soft lilting sections for soprano solo and small choirs and jaunty, amusing tunes for male solos and male choir."

The concert will be conducted by Bevan Leviston.

Tickets can be obtained from Robert Blackwood Hall, or by sending cheques, payable to Monash University Choral Society, to the Secretary, 1 Kerferd Rd., Glen Iris 3146.

Tickets, which cost \$4 for adults and \$2 for students and pensioners, will also be available at the door.

Any inquiries about the performance should be directed to Elizabeth Nottle, telephone 25 4809.

## MONASH REPORTER

The next issue of Monash Reporter will be published in the first week of October, 1978.

Copy deadline is Friday, September 22.

Contributions (letters, articles, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the editor, (ext. 2003) c/- the information office, ground floor, University Offices.