



MONASH REPORTER

A MAGAZINE FOR THE UNIVERSITY

Registered for posting as a publication, Category B.

NUMBER 2-80

APRIL 1, 1980

First recitals on new organ

Melbourne will have its first opportunity to see — and, what is more important, hear — the Louis Matheson Pipe Organ in Robert Blackwood Hall in a series of recitals and a gala concert planned for its inauguration week later this month.

The Governor-General, Sir Zelman Cowen, will inaugurate the organ on Tuesday, April 22 before an invited audience including guests of honour, Sir Louis and Lady Matheson, and donors to the organ appeal. The appeal raised \$325,000 in 1976 to fund the organ which commemorates the work of Sir Louis, as Monash's first Vice-Chancellor, in building the University.

The first public recital will be on the following evening — Wednesday, April 23 at 8 p.m. The organist will be senior lecturer in music at the Victorian College of the Arts, John O'Donnell, who is an internationally recognised performer.

The program will include works by Bruhns, de Grigny, Buxtehude, Scheidemann and Bach.

A celebration gala concert will be held on Saturday, April 26 at 8 p.m. O'Donnell will again be the organist and will be joined by the Brass Choir of

the Victorian College of the Arts, under the direction of Gordon Webb, and the Melbourne Chorale Chamber Choir, under the direction of Val Pyers.

The program will include works by Bliss, Messiaen, Rautavaara, Alain, Britten, Tull, Scheidemann, J. S. Bach and Gabrieli.

Tickets for the Wednesday recital cost \$5 (adults) and \$3.50 (students, pensioners and Alexander Theatre Supporters). For the gala, tickets cost \$7 (adults) and \$5 (children, students, pensioners and Alex. Theatre supporters).

There is also a special rate for bookings for both performances — \$10 (adults) and \$7 (students, pensioners and Alex. Theatre Supporters).

Tickets are available from the Hall or from any BASS outlet.

A third event — an organ workshop — is being planned for Thursday, April 24 at 8 p.m.

The workshop will cover technical and musical aspects of the organ and will include a recital by O'Donnell. It is being organised by RBH and the Victorian Society of Organists. Tickets cost \$2.50 and \$1.50 (Society

The Matheson years

Monash University was the first of the many new universities to be built in Australia in the 1960s and '70s.

In character, however, it developed as "the last of the old universities rather than the first of the new", in the opinion of the University's Vice-Chancellor for its first 16 years. Sir Louis Matheson. Sir Louis has just written his memoirs, *Still Learning*, in which he traces Monash's early history. The book, published by Macmillan, was launched on campus yesterday.

Monash, Sir Louis says, "had to claw its way into an unsympathetic world."

Among the topics about which Sir Louis writes is student unrest — the feature which, to many people's minds, put Monash on the map, for better or worse.

Emeritus Professor Hector Monro reviews "Still Learning" for Reporter on page 3. He concludes that being a Vice-Chancellor is one of the harder ways to earn a knighthood ...



Organist John O'Donnell at the console of the Louis Matheson Pipe Organ. Photo: Rick Crompton.

members) and will be available at the door.

The builder of the organ, Herr Jurgen Ahrend, and his wife Ruth will be flying from West Germany to Melbourne for the inauguration. (Herr Ahrend will be present at the organ workshop.)

The organ is the largest built to date

by Ahrend who is considered one of the world's foremost builders and restorers.

The Matheson organ was built in Leer, in the north-west of the Federal Republic of Germany, and shipped to Melbourne late last year. It was re-assembled and installed in RBH by Ahrend and a small team in January and February.

Rare distinction for Monash biochemist

Monash professor of Biochemistry, Professor A. W. Linnane, has been accorded a rare honour.

He has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Monash already has one FRS — Professor Charles Priestley, a part-time member of the Mathematics staff but he received the honour before he joined the Monash staff.

Professor Linnane is the first scientist to actually receive the honour while on the Monash staff.

As a Fellow of the Royal Society, he now joins a small select band of Australian scientists, which includes Nobel Prize winners Sir Macfarlane Burnet and Sir John Eccles.

The Royal Society, which was founded in the reign of Charles II, is Britain's most prestigious scientific organisation, with membership restricted to scientists of eminence in their fields.

There are about 500 members from Britain and the British Commonwealth, and about 70 foreign members.

Professor Linnane, who has Ph.D



● Professor A. W. Linnane, FRS.

and D.Sc degrees, came to Monash as a reader in January, 1962.

He has been a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science since 1972.

He was a former President of the Australian Biochemical Society, former President of the Asian and Oceanic Biochemistry Society and

President of the International Union of Biochemistry Congress (1982).

He is chairman of the Australian Academy of Science's National Committee for Biochemistry and is Editor-in-Chief of the new journal *Biochemistry International*, published on behalf of the International Union of Biochemists.

He has published about 200 major papers.

Professor Linnane's election to the Royal Society was for his work in the field of molecular genetics, particularly for the contribution of his team to unravelling the function of the cell's second genetic system.

One of the outstanding achievements of 20th century biology has been the elucidation of the chemical basis of heredity. The transmission of

hereditary characteristics from parents to offspring depends upon molecules, called DNA, found in the nucleus of the cell, which contain coded information built into their molecular structure.

This coded information is used by the cell to synthesise proteins and enzymes and determines whether you are born a man or a mouse, a man or a woman, have blue eyes or black, have a light or dark skin.

Although practically all of the cell's DNA is located in the nucleus, a small amount is associated with tiny organelles in the cytoplasm of the cell called mitochondria, which are often referred to as the cell's powerhouse because of their role in energy metabolism.

● Continued page 2.

Who could ask for anything more?

This month Reporter tackles a big question, perhaps the biggest: "Has life a meaning?" Actually philosopher Peter Singer has dealt with the question in a new book "Practical Ethics." A report on the issues raised by the book appears on pages 6 and 7. On page 8, we report historian Hugh Stretton's recent comments at Monash on the effects of positivism.

Wilderness tracts identified

A report published by the Monash Geography department has identified 12 areas in Victoria which could be classified as wilderness.

Wilderness areas are large natural regions essentially unaltered by man.

Of the 12, three are in semi-arid localities, seven in mountain regions and two on the coast. The nominated areas are shown on the map opposite.

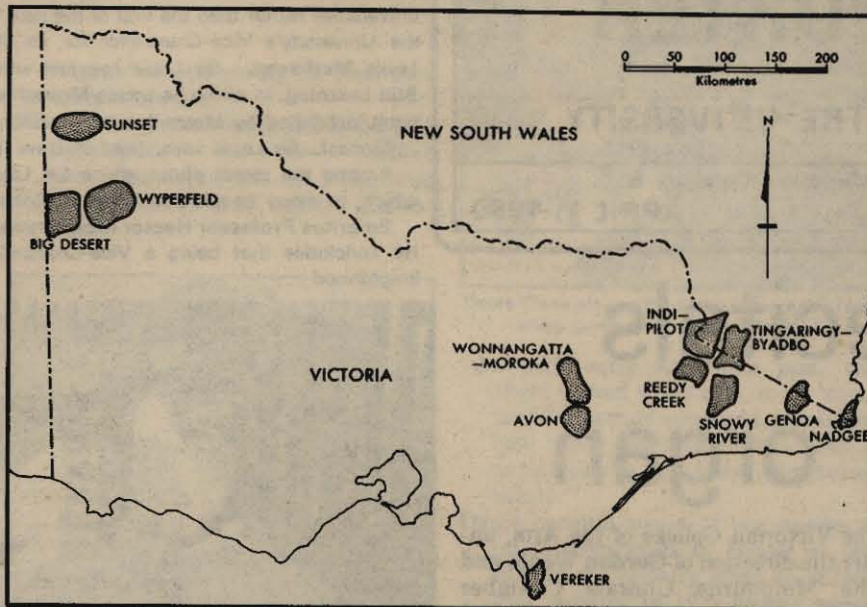
The report, *Wilderness in Victoria: An Inventory*, has been compiled by five people: Mike Feller, formerly of Melbourne University, now with the faculty of Forestry at the University of British Columbia; Doug Hooley, a Monash geography honours graduate, now with the Ministry for Conservation; Theo Dreher and Iain East (both postgraduate students in biochemistry at Melbourne University); and Robert Jung, a CSIRO chemist.

Copies of the report are available from the Monash bookshop and the co-operative bookshop in the Union.

The authors give the warning: "Urgent action is required now if Victoria's wilderness resource is not to be further depleted."

"Adequate protection and sympathetic management of the areas delineated in this report are needed so that the wilderness qualities of these tracts can be retained, and improved on, for the future."

They say that the inventory represents the first detailed systematic survey of wilderness tracts in Victoria and



complements one carried out by Helman, Jones, Pigram and Smith in 1976 of east New South Wales and south-east Queensland.

They acknowledge, however, that some attempts have been made to identify wilderness tracts in particular Victorian regions — like the State's alpine area — and that the Land Conservation Council has made some progress in identifying, qualitatively, areas with wilderness recreational value. The Council has recommended two wilderness areas — one in the Big Desert and the other in the Alps.

The main part of the new report includes a description of the methodology and criteria used to identify and delineate the areas and the inventory itself. There are also sections on the value of wilderness and the history of its preservation, and aspects of its management.

The authors say that they adopted the definition of wilderness used by Helman's group — "A large area of land perceived to be natural, where genetic diversity and natural cycles remain unaltered."

How large is large?

In deciding this, the authors say they took into consideration two criteria related to the value of wilderness:

- The recreation criterion, which demands that the area be large enough to enable users to feel satisfied that they have established contact with the wilderness.

- The ecological or conservation criterion, which demands that the area be of a size to maintain the natural systems on which both the recreational and scientific uses of wilderness depend.

The authors did not automatically disqualify areas from being included in the inventory on the ground of man's disturbance.

"Some would argue that any area which has any sign of disturbance caused by man should not qualify as wilderness," they say.

"While this may be ideal — and not unrealistic for some areas such as parts of south-west Tasmania — it is unfortunately not practical for wilderness in Victorian context."

They have adhered, however, to strict guidelines in assessing such disturbances as vehicular access, logging activities, livestock grazing, the presence of powerlines and huts, privately owned land and disturbed areas seen from the wilderness.

Many of these disturbances were excluded from what they term the "core" of the wilderness tract but accepted, in certain cases, in the "buffer" zone.

NEW TENNIS, SQUASH COURTS — AND A POOL

Construction of new tennis and squash courts and the long-awaited Monash swimming pool in the planning stage — as Deputy Warden of the Union, Mr Doug Ellis, puts it: "This year promises to be an exciting one in the development of the Sports and Recreation Association."

At the present time the area north of the Recreation Hall is being cleared and levelled to enable the laying of eight new tennis courts. The courts will have a synthetic all-weather surface as well as lights for evening use. The courts are scheduled to be completed in time for second term.

Three glass-backed squash courts, adjacent to existing courts 8, 9 and 10, should be completed by the end of the year, as too should new change rooms to replace the two unserviced huts on the ovals and the rugby/athletics field.

Preliminary design plans for the big project — the swimming pool — are currently on display in the foyers of the Union and the Sports and Recreation Centre. It will be built between the new tennis courts and the Sports Centre.

Mr Ellis says: "I point out that all these developments are being financed from the Union Development Fund and borrowings against this Fund. The money thus obtained is not being drawn away from other University purposes."

Mr Ellis reports a "minor boom" in the use of facilities and the activities of the Sports and Recreation Association since expansion of the Centre.

He says that participation in the co-recreational games program was a real growth area in 1979 with some 70 teams taking part in various weekly, lunch time games. The program emphasises enjoyment through participation and does not seek to cater only for those with high levels of skill.

He says that beginners courses in a number of areas proved popular last year as well. These courses have been extended this year to embrace such activities as judo, archery, basketball, volleyball, tennis and squash.

● From page 1

This cytoplasmic genetic system, which is found in all higher organisms from yeast to man, is the cell's second genetic system.

Its existence had been known since the beginning of the century, Professor Linnane says. But nobody had "the faintest idea of what it meant or what it was".

Professor Linnane and his team began a concentrated attack on the problem in 1965, and in the space of five or seven years, published more than 100 pioneering papers showing how this second genetic system could be exploited and studied.

Using a range of sophisticated biochemical techniques, they were able to study protein synthesis,

Important dates

The Academic Registrar advises the following important dates for students for April, 1980.

- 4: Good Friday holiday.
- 7: Easter Monday holiday.
- 8: Easter Tuesday holiday.
- 11: Confirmation of Enrolment forms will be posted to all currently enrolled students. The forms will list the subjects and units for which a student is enrolled. The forms should be checked, amended where necessary, signed and lodged at the Student Records Office by April 21.
- Graduation ceremony — Science.
- Last date for discontinuation of all studies by not-for-degree, diploma, bachelor degree and Master preliminary candidates, and by Master candidates defined as coursework candidates, to be eligible for 75 per cent refund of the 1980 Union fees paid (not applicable to students taking summer term subjects only).

- 12: First Term ends for Medicine VI (Prince Henry's students).
- 14: First teaching round begins, Dip.Ed.
- 17: Students who have not received a Confirmation of Enrolment form through the post should call at the Student Records office to complete and lodge a replacement form.
- 19: First term ends for Medicine VI (Alfred students).
- 21: Last day for all currently enrolled students to lodge their Confirmation of Enrolment forms at the Student Records office before late fees are imposed. Students who lodge their forms at Student Records after April 21, will incur a late fee calculated at the rate of \$5 for up to one week late; \$10 for between one and two weeks late; \$15 for more than two weeks late.
- Second term begins for Medicine VI (Prince Henry's).
- 23: Graduation ceremony — Law and Science.
- 25: Anzac Day holiday.

Leader in molecular genetics research

membrane structure and analyse DNA. By developing mutants, they were able to determine how antibiotics inhibit mitochondrial activity, and by crossing mutants, were able to determine the function of mitochondrial DNA.

Much of their work has significance in understanding the process of evolution. They showed that mitochondria, in many ways, are like bacteria.

"The idea grew up that in primordial times mitochondria were actually invading bacteria which became symbiotic with the cell," Professor Linnane says. "That idea is still widely held."

Professor Linnane and his team are now beginning a large-scale project which could produce enormous benefits for mankind. They are at-

tempting to clone interferon.

Interferon, a protein found in the cell, protects the body against viral infections and is believed also to fight certain types of cancer.

It can be obtained from the blood, but in amounts so small that it is not clinically useful as a weapon in the fight against disease. To complicate matters, interferon is species specific. Only human interferon will protect humans.

Cloning could overcome the problem of obtaining enough interferon for clinical use.

In their attempt to clone interferon, Professor Linnane's team will use ideas "unique to ourselves" which have come out of their work on the molecular study of DNA and the cloning of DNA fragments.

Monash: Its health owes much to tolerant, fair first V-C

SO FAR AS I KNOW, the last Australian Vice-Chancellor to write a book about his experiences in that position was A. P. Rowe, of Adelaide, who recorded what he acknowledged to be a confession of failure, due, he claimed, to the complacency, the timidity and the treachery of the academics he had to work with. They, in their turn, nicknamed him 'the abominable Roweman'. Whoever was in the right, that episode at least demonstrates that being a Vice-Chancellor is one of the more onerous ways of earning a knighthood.

Sir Louis Matheson's book could hardly be more different from Rowe's. The contrast comes out in their titles. Rowe's cocks a defiant snook at his former colleagues: "If the Gown Fits"; Matheson's "Still Learning", while it is of course a translation of the Monash motto, suggests scholarly humility and a readiness to consider other people's opinions.

True, he records that, when he told the Vice-Chancellor of Manchester that he would, to begin with, be presiding over a university without any students, he got the reply (which he 'thought slightly curious'): "You should count yourself fortunate that your university will not have any professors". "But", Matheson adds, "as time went by and the Monash staff became more numerous and more insistent on being consulted before any decision was taken, I saw the point. Certainly by contrast the first few weeks and months seemed idyllic in retrospect." And he heads one of his chapters with some lines from Medley's *Grace before Board*, in which the former Melbourne Vice-Chancellor asks for a blessing on Professorial Board meetings, ending:

And very specially today
We ask that A. B. stays away.
In this, O Lord, make no mistake
For my, the wretched Chairman's sake.

What is not recorded is that Matheson read Medley's verses to an early Professorial Board meeting, to the great delight of all the members. Jock Marshall, that extraordinary mixture of scholar, swashbuckler and over-late adolescent, whom Matheson may well have regarded as his own particular A. B., was especially pleased, and asked where he could buy a copy. That incident is typical of the atmosphere which prevailed: there were arguments, which sometimes became slightly heated, but there was also good humour and mutual respect.

One reason for this was that the professors were in a position to sympathise with the Vice-Chancellor. Like him, they had come to Monash in order to realise their private visions of the ideal university made up of ideal departments. Like him, they had, as a first step, appointed subordinates with a reputation for being dedicated to their subjects and full of ideas. Like him, they were finding that people with those qualifications have their own visions. On the whole, however, the visions coincided well enough.

Another reason was that they were all aware that Monash (in Matheson's words) "had to claw its way into an unsympathetic world". There was a good deal of generous co-operation from established institutions, but there were also those who thought of the new university as a dumping ground for Melbourne's rejects. Matheson records that "it was

Still Learning. Louis Matheson. Melbourne, Macmillan. 1980.

Reviewed by Hector Monro

● Emeritus Professor D. H. Monro was one of the first professors appointed to Monash. His field is philosophy.

reported to me that one elder statesman of the medical profession had told some of our students at Alfred Hospital that they were wasting their time — the Medical Board would never register them". To the exhilaration of being partners in an imaginative enterprise was added something of the fellowship of a beleaguered garrison.

The main reason for the relative harmony, however, was Matheson's own tolerance and fair-mindedness. From the beginning he wanted full-time deans; the Arts and Science faculties resisted this until, as the university grew larger, they came to see that he was right. In recording this Matheson recognises their reason for concern. That was an argument he won; he is equally tolerant about those he lost. He had wanted the Engineering Faculty, in which of course he had a special interest, to be non-departmental. This was defeated by opposition within the faculty.

He comments: "Whether this would have been practicable or sensible I am now inclined to doubt."

Last of the old

More generally, he was slightly disappointed that Monash, as a new university, was not more innovative: it became "the last of the old universities rather than the first of the new." But, he says, "as the university grew in strength and academic reputation, I took comfort in the thought that the familiar arrangements had history on their side. They had evolved quite slowly over many years and, doubtless, many promising experiments had vanished without trace."

Tolerance and fair-mindedness were shortly to face a much more severe test. Universities were about to enter a period when, as Matheson puts it, Vice-Chancellors needed to read Clausewitz rather than Clark Kerr.

In a few years we find him reflecting: "My colleagues and I were putting everything we knew into building a first-class university, while some of our students were putting everything they knew into destroying what we were trying to do."

He had tried hard enough. At the first stirrings he set up a Commission on University Affairs, including professors, lecturers and students, which held public hearings at which chairmen and others were cross-examined on the working of their departments. He continued throughout to discuss their grievances with students and to try to remedy them; he addressed student meetings; on one occasion he took part in a television debate with a student leader, Albert Langer. When a student told him that the whole university believed that the penalties imposed on some of the rioters were unjust, he held a referendum to establish that this was untrue.

The trouble was that he was not dealing with ordinary student grievances, but with "an organised



● Sir Louis and Lady Matheson "at home" in the Vice-Chancellor's house, 1975.

group that was determined to provoke disturbance, using their university as a handy and rather vulnerable launching-pad from which an assault on society as a whole could be propelled". As the Labor Club's broadsheet put it: "As students who are Revolutionary Socialists, our most important task is to show other students why Socialism is necessary and why it can only be gained by Revolution. That is what the Labor Club endeavoured to do this year".

The result of tolerance and fair-mindedness was abuse from the Right as well as the Left. "The DLP continually clamoured for a tougher line to be taken, by me perhaps, but if not by my successor. They would have liked a gallows at one end of the Forum, I used to think, and a machine gun post at the other." A distinguished economist, Colin Clark, told the press: "What is needed is a dismissal not so much of students as of Vice-Chancellors."

In retrospect Matheson has some doubts about his own behaviour: he wonders if he allowed himself to become too personally involved. I do not think that his colleagues will share those doubts. In circumstances which could hardly have been more inimical to it, he managed to maintain the proper spirit of a university.

These events are of course the most dramatic recorded here, but they are far from being the most important. As Matheson says: "The student assault was a sort of *obligato*, shrill and unreal, to the normal life of the university; the real themes and their development continued at a lower pitch, substantial, reliable and, in the end, triumphant." Academic work went on undisturbed; the university grew and developed. That development, from little more than a muddy hole in the ground to a flourishing institution with a healthy academic reputation, owes a great deal to its first Vice-Chancellor.

Sir Louis might have been better served by his publishers. There are signs of hasty editing. For example: anyone looking up 'Alexander Theatre' in the index will not find the most important passage about it, the account of its genesis (p. 47); one does not expect, in a book about universities, the common newspaper error of 'professional' for 'professional' (p. 57).

And \$25 is a high price for a book of 180 pages, especially when it is printed in Hong Kong. But don't let that stop you from buying it.

Emeritus Professor D. H. Monro.

Rubella immunisation campaign on campus

The Monash Health Service has advised female students and members of staff of child-bearing age to ensure that they are immunised against rubella.

Sister Joan Lynn, rubella education officer with the Deafness Foundation (Victoria), will give a lecture on the disease, also known as German measles, on Tuesday, May 6 at 1 p.m. in Rotunda theatre R4.

The Foundation is conducting a campaign to control the disastrous effects of rubella in a pregnant woman on the foetus. Among these are severe deafness, blindness, heart defects, brain damage and other crippling disabilities.

Potential mothers can gain immunity, however, by having a single injection of rubella vaccine at least two months before pregnancy.

The vaccine has been available for the last 10 years to adolescent schoolgirls through the Victorian Health Commission. However, most women of child-bearing age have not had the opportunity to receive this protection.

Some women believe that they have immunity because they have had rubella. Many illnesses can be mistaken for rubella, however, and only a

positive blood test will prove immunity. A vaccine is thus advised in all cases.

For further information contact the Health Service in the Union.

Mrs Gisela Bieg, secretary to the Secretary to Council, would like to thank the person who returned her wallet and bankbook to the CBA Bank on Friday, March 7.

THE NEXT TEN YEARS

Bleak outlook . . . but not without hope

Nuclear proliferation, dwindling world energy supplies and the threat of an economic depression might indicate a grim scenario for the '80s — but there's still hope for the future, according to Monash economist, Dr Alan Fels.

Dr Fels, senior lecturer in Economics, told the seminar that Australia should suffer less than other countries in the years ahead, though international political tensions seemed likely to continue for several years.

Rising tensions overseas would be likely to make Australia a more attractive investment for overseas capital, said Dr Fels, who also discounted the theory that the world was headed for another big economic depression.

There were strong reasons to believe the 1930s experience would not be repeated in the '80s — knowledge of the causes of past depressions had greatly improved and important institutional changes in the banking and financial world made a repetition of the earlier financial collapse unlikely.

In economic terms Australia might do better than the rest of the world in the decade to come, Dr Fels said. There was evidence to suggest that some key factors retarding world economic growth would stimulate it here, notably the world energy crisis and the probability of major new mining projects.

Rising world oil prices would lead to increased prices for Australian energy exports, like coal. The value of the rise would exceed the higher price paid for imported oil. Many projects which had previously appeared uneconomic would be viable in the future.

While it was unlikely that Australia could ever return to the golden years of the '50s and '60s — the product of unique economic circumstances — it seemed likely this country had a better chance than most of returning to its past growth paths.

The impact of a mining boom and Asian industrialisation were the two big challenges now facing the Australian economy, Dr Fels said.

The Asian manufacturers' export trade was not a temporary phenomenon but one to which the whole world must adjust.

Australia's electronics industry had already felt the impact and engineering, metal working and other industries could expect similar competition.

Computer threat?

Computer technology has already outstripped the capability of humans to program and use it effectively, according to Mr Peter Bowden, a senior lecturer in Administration at Monash.

It was unlikely the '80's would see any important advances in this area, he told the seminar.

It was unlikely that every chief executive would have a desk top computer terminal by 1990 though senior executives of the future could feel threatened by a new generation of middle managers educated to use computers routinely in their work.

Opportunities

The opportunities in future would come to managers who saw and used the increasing sophistication of computer organisation; the threat would appear to managers unwilling or unable to fully use the trained people around them.

Increases in the cost of computer software, relative to the cost of hardware, could bring its own new problems in the years ahead, with an increasing use of pre-designed package systems; it was rare that these could

Selected papers from a seminar held at Monash last month on likely economic and social developments in the 1980s and their impact on business and government.

The seminar was organised jointly by Monash and the Australian Institute of Management. It drew a wide audience of managers and senior executives in the private and public sectors.

ever satisfy a particular company's needs.

One of the most striking changes in the business world of the '80s would be the increasing number of women in managerial positions, Mr Bowden said. They would tend to be in staff and not line positions; but their presence would be very noticeable.

Policy analysis

The manager of tomorrow would be more thoroughly trained and able to rigorously review the analytical approaches of his colleagues and subordinates. He would be more concerned with company strategies than the day to day running of the organisation.

Public sector managers would equally face the same needs for exacting policy analysis and for managing staff who were better educated and seeking higher levels of satisfaction from their working environment.

The success with which administrators in both public and private sectors coped with their future challenges would have an impact not only on their own careers and organisations but the social and economic well being of this country.

Jobs — a key problem

High unemployment figures would be a continuing influence on Australian life in the '80s, Monash's Dr Russell Lansbury told the seminar.

Dr Lansbury, a senior lecturer in Administrative Studies, also warned of the prospect of reduced economic growth rates, allied with rapid social and technological change.

He said it was likely Australia's arbitration system would continue to be the principal scapegoat for all dissatisfied parties in industrial relations during the coming decade.

At the national level, there would be an urgent need for governments, employers and unions to reach a new consensus about common goals and principles, especially if Australia was faced with a breakdown in the wage indexation system which had been a framework for wage standards in the last half of the '70s.

Unemployment

Despite the promise of a new leisure-orientated society created by the application of new technology in the 1980s, the issue of unemployment was likely to remain a key problem for industrial relations in the coming decade, Dr Lansbury said.

Although an increasing number of young people would continue to choose — or be forced to accept — an alternative lifestyle outside the traditional employment relationship, the work ethic was likely to remain the cultural basis of Australian society.

For most Australians, economic survival, social status and self esteem would continue to be highly dependent on the kind of job they held.

Unless there was a dramatic decline in unemployment, especially among school leavers, the government would be forced to consider radical new measures to create more jobs, Dr Lansbury said.

Ideas likely to emerge as realistic options in the 1980s included work sharing, permanent part-time work, a shorter working year and a shorter working life time. All of them would have important implications for both unions and employers.

Already in some US states, legislation made it compulsory for up to 10 per cent of all positions to be permanent part-time work. Around 20 per cent of all union contracts in the US now called for a reduction of hours or a sharing of work before lay-offs were permitted.

Although there had been little debate on work-sharing in Australia to date, the recent Crawford Inquiry into Structural Adjustment had called for investigation of the adequacy of current means of total sharing income, between people in and out of work.

The issue of industrial democracy was unlikely to be as widely debated in the next decade as it was in the last, Dr Lansbury said. The persistence of high unemployment levels would focus employees' attention on job security rather than job quality and associated rights.

Linguistic expert visits

Monash

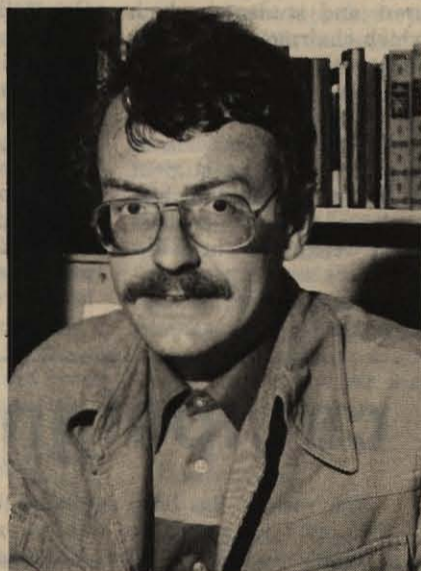
A distinguished German professor of Slavic studies, Professor Helmut Jacknow, lectured at Monash recently during a flying visit to Australia.

Professor Jacknow, of the Ruhr-Universitat, Bochum, West Germany, is a specialist in Slavic linguistics.

Lectures

He delivered two lectures in the Russian department: one on the subject and tasks of synchronic analysis of word formation and the other on the characteristic features of the history of Soviet linguistics.

Professor Jacknow also visited Melbourne and Queensland univer-



● Professor Helmut Jacknow

sities on his way back to Germany from Fiji and Tonga. He has another interest in Polynesian culture.

He says that there is a strong interest in Slavic studies in West Germany with some 400 students in his own department.

"Most of them want to become teachers in the Russian language," he says, but points to a "saturation of the market".

Professor Jacknow says that West German universities face the same funding restrictions that Australian universities appear to face.

Less finance

He says: "We were well funded in the '60s and early '70s but there is much less finance now which has influenced the whole situation — staffing, research, the purchase of books and the like."

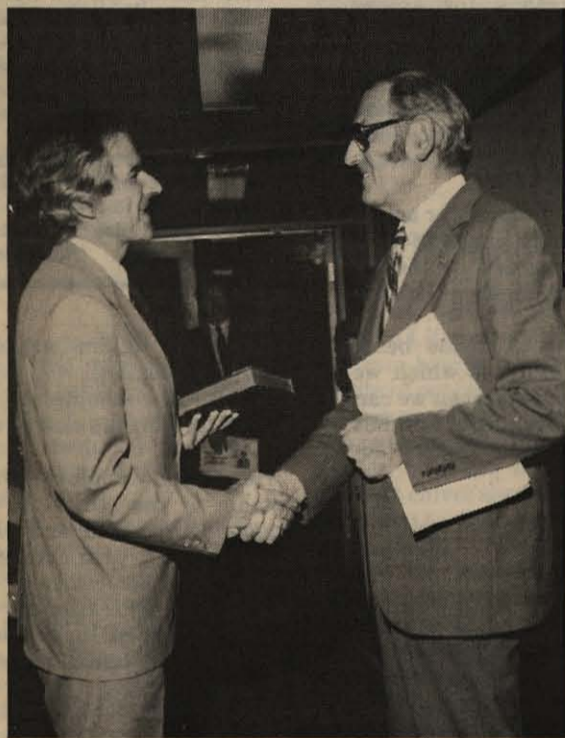
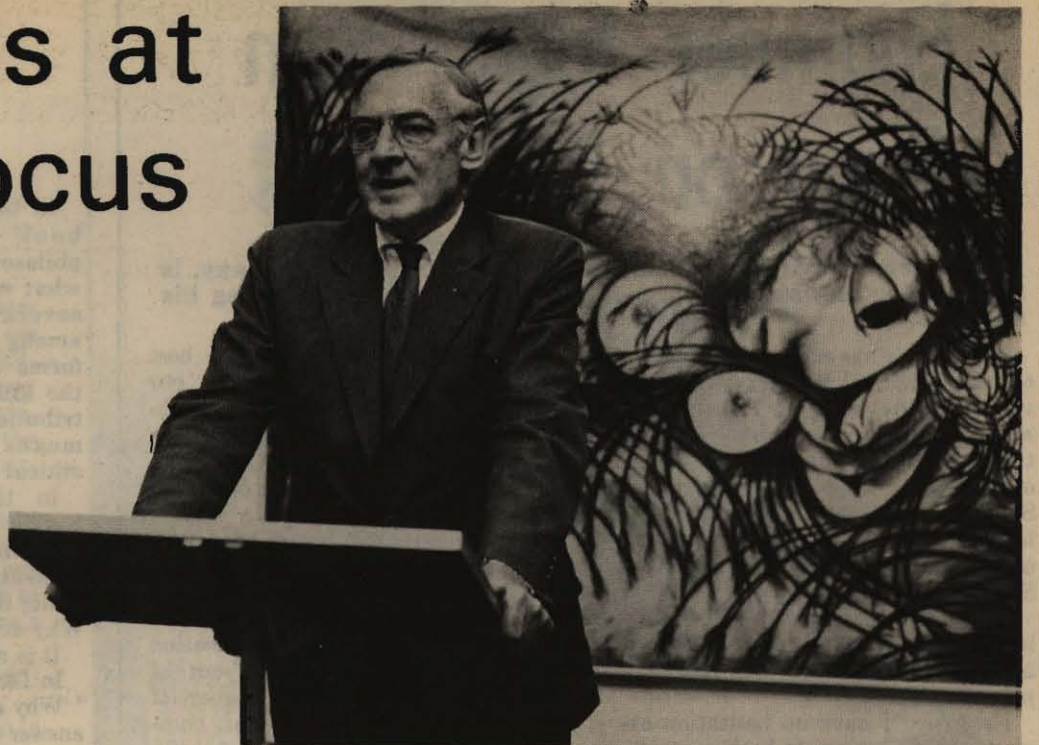
He points, however, to some areas where West German universities would appear to be better off than Australian — like an \$11,000 a year allowance to build the library in his department.

Recent events at Monash in focus

Art Exhibition (right): At Monash, Melbourne University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir David Derham, opened the Melbourne University collection end of the Monash-Melbourne art exchange. He is pictured in front of the Arthur Boyd work, *Nude in a Cornfield*. The exhibition remains open in the Visual Arts gallery, in the Menzies building, until Thursday (April 3).

Millionth Volume (below left): The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ray Martin (left), receives the Monash Library's volume 1,000,000 from Mr Ken Horn, President of the Friends of the Library, State Librarian and former Monash Acquisitions Officer. The book — *Mammotrectus Super Bibliam* — was a gift from the Friends. The University Bookshop, Blackwells of Oxford and the Monash Ex-Committee (former members of the Monash Parents' Committee) also gave books.

Orientation (below centre and right): Bagpipers heralded the start of the Orientation program for new students at Monash early last month. The Vice-Chancellor and other University identities welcomed students on the first day. This introduction was followed by meetings with academic staff and a lively three days of events planned by clubs and societies. Photos: Herve Alleaume.



A small corner where we keep to God's time

There's a small corner of the Monash campus that will be forever Joh Bjelke-Petersenland.

This was the reassuring message that the Chancellor, Sir Richard Eggleston, had for the University when he officially "opened" the Moppert Sundial last week.

The 'small corner' is the courtyard north of the Union, where future generations of Monash students will be able to set their watches in the confident expectation that they will be accurate according to Eastern Standard Time for any month of the year . . . Except, of course, for Summer Time.

And then, Sir Richard suggests: "... if you can't remember whether to add or subtract, at least you will know the time according to Joh Bjelke-Petersen."

In the Chancellor's view, there could be no questioning of the sundial's accuracy.

In fact, he said, the instrument "... answers to the full the reproach of Ben Jonson:

"I am a sundial, and I make a botch Of what is done far better by a watch'."

The sundial, described in detail in last month's Reporter, is the brainchild of Dr Carl Moppert, senior lecturer in Mathematics, who sees its successful completion and inauguration as something of a triumph of one class of Australians over another — the one class being the innovators, the ones who (by various means) get things done; the other being those whose purpose in life seems to be to frustrate the efforts of the innovators.

Full significance

In his opening address, the Chancellor drew upon his encyclopaedic knowledge of the law to impress upon his audience the full significance of the Moppert Sundial's contribution to timekeeping.

He said: "This is a very appropriate year for the establishment of the sundial, since it is just a hundred years since Greenwich Mean Time was legally specified as the standard time throughout England, Scotland and Wales.

"Prior to 1880, every town had its local time, and indeed, in 1858, a defendant arrived at the Dorchester Assizes at 10 o'clock in the morning, Dorchester local time, only to find that the court clock had been set at Greenwich time, and judgment had already been given in favour of his opponent.

"Despite his protests, the judge would not rehear the case, and he appealed, whereupon the appellate court set aside the judgment, saying that unless the contrary was specified, time fixed for the sittings must be taken to be local time.

"The plaintiff argued that the time to be observed at any place was either that fixed by the authorities or by the general course of the inhabitants at that place. They said that 'Greenwich time is observed at most places in England through which railways pass, and in some the clocks have two sets of hands, the one showing Greenwich time, the other the time of the place'."

Sir Richard went on: "Such an argument was not calculated to win over the court. The Chief Baron remarked that time could not be altered by a railway company. In fact, however, the

railways must have had a powerful influence in promoting the use of Greenwich Mean Time throughout England. In the United States, where States lying North or South of each other may have different times, the railroad clocks are set to 'railway time.' Similar problems arise as between Victoria and New South Wales on the one hand, and Queensland on the other."

In Victoria, at least, the problem was partially solved — legally — by a ruling of the Supreme Court which in 1895 set standard time as the mean time of longitude 150° E.

MAGS meets

The Monash Association of Graduate Students will hold its annual general meeting on Wednesday, April 9 at 4.30 p.m. in the conference room on the first floor of the Union building.

All postgraduates have been invited to attend. Refreshments will be provided afterwards.

Engineer takes even hand on East, West

A reader in Civil Engineering at Monash, Dr George Rozvany, is taking an even-handed approach internationally to explaining his research.

Dr Rozvany has accepted invitations to be a principal lecturer at two advanced study sessions covering the area of computerised design and optimisation theory: one session is being organised by the NATO Advanced Study Institute at the University of Iowa in the USA; the other is being organised by the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw.

Dr Rozvany emphasises that he will be talking to both organisations about basic research and not its military applications.

He says: "I have no hesitation explaining my theories to both organisations because my research contains no classified information and is, or will be, available in unclassified literature."

He says that, earlier this year, he received an invitation to participate in the NATO session on optimisation to be held in May; in fact, he will give an opening lecture and two others at the two week event. Proceedings will be published later for member states.

"Most intriguingly," Dr Rozvany says, "at about the same time I received an invitation to be one of the lecturers in a 'study session' in Warsaw in November, which has practically an identical program to the NATO meeting."

"Although it is organised by the Polish Academy of Sciences this event seems to be an exact counterpart of the NATO session."

Dr Rozvany is a pioneer in the development of structural optimisation theory, along with one of the world's most distinguished applied mathematicians, Professor Prager of Brown University in the US. Three years ago Pergamon Press in Oxford published Dr Rozvany's book, *The Optimum Design of Flexural Systems*.

Optimisation aims at finding the best solution to a problem after consideration of the range of alternatives.

One of the applications Dr Rozvany has explored is to structural layout design, particularly the design of long span surface structures.

He explains: "In seeking the best solution, the computer handles our highly complex mathematical equations in a symbolic form, and not in a numerical way."

"In this research, the computer operates the same way as a human mathematician, but very much faster. In fact, it would simply not be practical for the human brain to solve many of these problems."

Dr Rozvany says that optimisation theory and the optimal layout of systems could have a number of military applications — in communication networks and supply logistics, for example.

He will not address himself to these at either the NATO or Warsaw meetings, however.

Cold War

Dr Rozvany says that renewed signs of a Cold War between East and West, while thoroughly undesirable from a general point of view, could have a spin-off for basic research.

"In the '50s and '60s, at the height of the Cold War, a lot of money was spent on research much of which had applications other than the military."

"I view money spent on basic research as money being drawn away from direct military expenditure toward work which may be of benefit in many other areas."

Dr Rozvany's work has already received wide international attention.

Following his participation in a NASA symposium on future trends in computerised design in Washington DC about a year ago he was invited to give a four month lecture course on optimal design at Essen University in West Germany.

He has recently written a "state of the art" article for the journal of the American Society of Civil Engineers and is a member of that body's committee on optimisation.

The Bard takes a back seat for a 'Changeling'

The 17th century tragedy, *The Changeling*, by Middleton and Rowley, will be climbing out from under the long shadow cast by the Bard for an airing at Monash this month.

"The Changeling", which focuses on the corruption of personality and morals, will be staged by the English department and the Monash Shakespeare Society from April 16 to 24 in the ground floor theatre of the Menzies building, nightly (except Sunday) at 8 p.m.

The play is regarded as one of the finest tragedies written in the 17th century other than by Shakespeare. Because Shakespeare universally represents the period on the stage today there are few opportunities to see plays such as "The Changeling".

The production is being directed by Tim Scott, an M.A. student in the English department, who has both co-produced and acted in many plays on campus, including *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *As You Like It* and *The Tempest*.

Fourth year student Helen Pastorini will play the central role of Beatrice-Joanna. Helen is an experienced television performer and singer and has played Viola in *Twelfth Night* at Monash. Playing opposite her will be David McLean as De Flores with James Ross as Alsemero completing the triangle.

Other members of the cast include Margaret Swan, Ian Hamilton, Bill Collopy and Noel Sheppard.

Tickets cost \$3 (students half price) and may be obtained from the English department office in the Menzies building, ext. 2140.

A meaning

In the first 200 pages of his new book "Practical Ethics", philosopher Peter Singer discusses what we ought morally to do about several contemporary issues — among them, the taking of life in the forms of abortion and euthanasia, the killing of animals and the distribution of wealth — and what means are justified to achieve ethical goals.

In the final chapter, Professor Singer, of Monash's Philosophy department, turns to a more fundamental question, a question about ethics itself rather than within ethics: Why act morally at all?

It is not a question easily answered. In fact, Professor Singer concludes: "Why act morally" cannot be given an answer that will provide everyone with overwhelming reasons for acting morally. Ethically indefensible behaviour is not always irrational.

"We will probably always need the sanctions of the law and social pressure to provide additional reasons against serious violations of ethical standards."

But the pursuit of reasons for acting morally leads Professor Singer to what he says is often regarded as the ultimate philosophical question: Has life a meaning?

If we accept that a divine being created us with a purpose which we know and accept, he says, then we can claim to know the meaning of life; but Professor Singer does not himself accept this belief.

Atheists

Atheists, he adds, can find meaning in life even though they must give up the idea that life has some preordained meaning and accept that life as a whole has no meaning.

However, the evolution of life, which has "just happened", has nevertheless resulted in the existence of beings who prefer some states of affairs to others. It is thus possible for particular lives to be meaningful.

Professor Singer says: "If we are looking for a purpose broader than our own interests, something which will allow us to see our lives as possessing significance beyond the narrow confines of our own conscious states, one obvious solution is to take up the ethical point of view."

"The ethical point of view requires us to go beyond a personal point of view to the standpoint of an impartial spectator."

"Looking at things ethically is a way of transcending our inward-looking concerns and identifying ourselves with the most objective point of view possible."

He says that adopting the ethical point of view offers a meaning and purpose in life "that one does not grow out of".

Talking about the book, Professor Singer says that "Practical Ethics", which is published by Cambridge University Press, attempts to fill a gap in philosophical literature by applying the discipline to a connected treatment of practical issues facing society.

Professor Singer, who is perhaps most widely known for his book "Animal Liberation", completed the

Professor Peter Singer returned to Monash this year after, most recently, a year in the United States where he was a Guest Scholar at the Institute for Society, Ethics and the Life Sciences, at Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, and then a Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, attached to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC.

The Hastings Centre, as the New York institution is popularly known, is probably the world's leading centre for bio-ethics, the field which is concerned with ethical problems in medicine and the biological sciences generally. As mentioned in "Reporter" last issue, a proposal has been made to establish a Centre for Bio-ethics Research at Monash.

At the Woodrow Wilson Center, which is best known for its work in international relations and political science, Professor Singer had the opportunity for interdisciplinary contact with some 40 Fellows from all over the world and in a variety of fields.

Professor Singer's project there was an assessment of the implications of sociobiology for ethics.

The key sociobiological text is Edward Wilson's book "Sociobiology: The

work while on an outside studies program in Oxford.

In the first chapter of "Practical Ethics" he puts his view of what ethics is.

He says that conduct comes into the domain of the ethical if people are prepared to defend and justify what they do. If not, their actions are in the realm of the non-ethical.

For an act to be ethically defensible, however, it must be compatible with more broadly based principles than self-interest.

Defend conduct

He says: "If I am to defend my conduct on ethical grounds, I cannot point only to the benefits it brings me. I must address myself to a larger audience."

Professor Singer continues: "In making ethical judgments we go beyond our own likes and dislikes. From an ethical point of view the fact that it is I who benefit from, say, a more equal distribution of income and you, say, who lose by it, is irrelevant."

Universal view

"Ethics requires us to go beyond 'I' and 'you' to the universal law, the universalisable judgment, the standpoint of the impartial spectator or ideal observer or whatever we choose to call it."

Professor Singer says he is inclined to hold a utilitarian position and to some extent his book may be taken as an attempt to indicate how a consistent utilitarianism would deal with a number of controversial problems.

(The form of utilitarianism accepted by Professor Singer requires the person acting ethically to take into account the interests of all those affected by his decision.)

g for life

New Synthesis", published in 1975. In it, Wilson defines sociobiology as "the systematic study of the biological basis of all social behaviour".

Professor Singer says that sociobiology bears on ethics indirectly through what it says about the development of altruism. Sociobiologists suggest ways in which altruism might have evolved, consistent with Darwinian theory (which, on the face of it, would suggest the elimination of altruists in the struggle for survival).

Wilson suggests that "the time has come for ethics to be removed temporarily from the hands of the philosophers and biologicised."

Professor Singer does not agree and has drafted a book which refutes the claim. He says, however, that while Wilson is confused, his study holds some interest for philosophers and there are useful parts of it.

While away from Monash on study leave and then on leave without pay, Professor Singer also wrote a book on Marx as part of Oxford University Press's new series "Past Masters". The volume is a text for the layman. Professor Singer says, "I emphasise Marx's role as philosopher, stressing the unity of his views."

grounds, however, that killing a self-conscious being is more serious than killing a merely conscious being.

The arguments are:

- The classical utilitarian claim that since self-conscious beings are capable of fearing their own death, killing them has worse effects on others.

- The preference utilitarian calculation which counts the thwarting of the victim's desire to go on living as an important reason against killing.

- The theory of rights according to which to have a right one must have the ability to desire that to which one has a right, so that to have a right to life one must be able to desire one's own continued existence.

- Respect for the autonomous decisions of rational agents.

Professor Singer says this philosophical framework transforms the abortion debate, for example.

"We can now look at the foetus for what it is — the actual characteristics it possesses — and can value the lives of beings with similar characteristics who are not members of our species."

Misnamed

"It now becomes apparent that the Right to Life movement is misnamed. Far from having concern for all life, or a scale of concern impartially based on the nature of the life in question, those who protest against abortion but dine regularly on the bodies of chickens, pigs and calves show only a biased concern for the lives of members of our own species.

"For, on any fair comparison of morally relevant characteristics, like rationality, self-consciousness, awareness, autonomy, pleasure and pain, and so on, the calf, the pig and the much derided chicken come out well ahead of the foetus at any stage of pregnancy — while if we make a comparison with the foetus of less than three months, a fish or even a prawn would show more signs of consciousness."

Claim to life

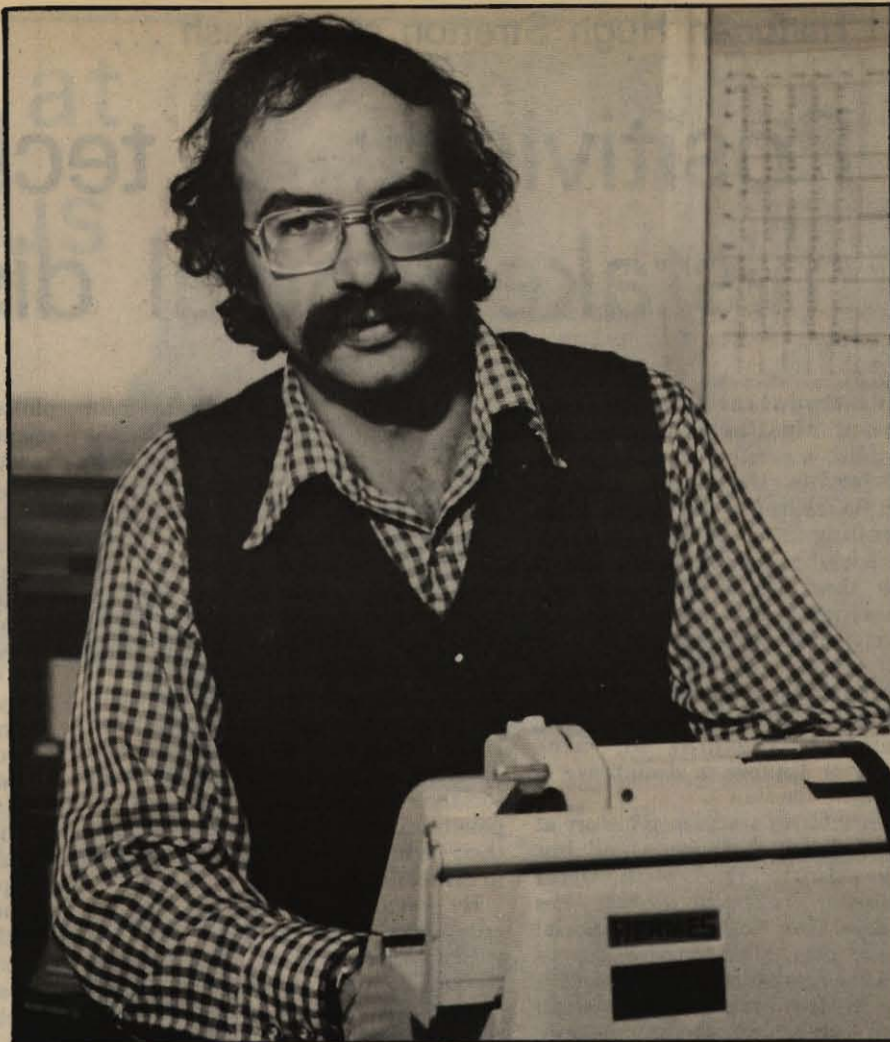
"My suggestion, then, is that we accord the life of a foetus no greater value than the life of a non-human animal at a similar level of rationality, self-consciousness, awareness, capacity to feel, etc. Since no foetus is a person, no foetus has the same claim to life as a person.

"Moreover it is very unlikely that foetuses of less than 18 weeks are capable of feeling anything at all, since their nervous system appears to be insufficiently developed to function.

"If this is so, an abortion up to this point terminates an existence that is of no intrinsic value at all.

"In between 18 weeks and birth, when the foetus may be conscious, though not self-conscious, abortion does end a life of some intrinsic value and so should not be taken lightly.

"But a woman's serious interests would normally override the rudimentary interests of the foetus. Indeed, even an abortion late in pregnancy for the most trivial reasons is hard to condemn in a society that slaughters far



Professor of Philosophy at Monash, Peter Singer, at work in his office. Professor Singer has had two books published recently and a third is on the way.

'My suggestion, then, is that we accord the life of a foetus no greater value than the life of a non-human animal at a similar level of rationality, self-consciousness, awareness, capacity to feel, etc. Since no foetus is a person, no foetus has the same claim to life as a person.'

more developed forms of life for the taste of their flesh."

Professor Singer also considers, and rejects, the argument that the potential of a foetus entitles it to protection. He goes a step further in his argument — the grounds on which he justifies abortion could also be used to justify the killing of a newborn baby which, like the foetus, is not a rational and self-conscious being.

He challenges the widely accepted views about the sanctity of infant life and suggests that, in thinking about the matter, we should put aside feelings based on the small, helpless, cute appearance of human infants.

He stresses, however, that it is the intrinsic wrongness of killing the late foetus and the intrinsic wrongness of killing a newborn infant which are not markedly different.

"In cases of abortion, however, we assume that the people most affected — the parents-to-be, or at least the mother-to-be want to have the abortion.

"Thus infanticide can only be equated with abortion when those closest to the child do not want it to live.

"As an infant can be adopted by others in a way that a pre-viable foetus cannot be, such cases will be rare. Killing an infant whose parents do not want it dead is, of course, an utterly different matter."

In the chapter on euthanasia, Professor Singer says that infanticide can be ethically defended in the case of seriously defective newborn infants.

He concludes: "Killing a defective infant is not morally equivalent to killing a person. Very often it is not wrong at all."

Professor Singer rejects the argument that euthanasia would be the first step on a slippery slope to genocide.

"There is little historical evidence to suggest that a permissive attitude towards the killing of one category of human beings leads to a breakdown of restrictions against killing other humans," he says.

"Ancient Greeks regularly killed or exposed infants but appear to have been at least as scrupulous about taking the lives of their fellow citizens as medieval Christians or modern Americans.

Eskimo custom

"In traditional Eskimo societies it was the custom for a man to kill his elderly parents but the murder of a normal healthy adult was almost unheard of.

"If these societies could separate human beings into different categories without transferring their attitudes from one group to another, we with our more sophisticated legal systems and greater medical knowledge should be able to do the same.

"All of this is not to deny that departing from the traditional sanctity of life ethic carries with it some risk of unwanted consequences.

"Against this risk we must balance the tangible harm to which the traditional ethic gives rise — harm to those whose misery is needlessly prolonged."

Practical Ethics. Peter Singer. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1979. Rec. retail \$8.50. Soon available in Australia.

Positivism: 'a technical mistake, social disaster'

A distinguished Australian historian, Mr Hugh Stretton, has launched an all-out attack on positivism in the social sciences which flourished in the '50s and '60s — labelling it "a technical mistake and a social and political disaster".

The basic positivist idea is that social science could and should aim at a purely objective knowledge of the world — our knowledge of society should be a passive, descriptive sort of knowledge which does not in itself recommend anything or value anything or approve or disapprove of anything.

Mr Stretton is a reader in history at the University of Adelaide and last month delivered the sixth Oscar Mendelsohn Lecture at Monash. His topic was "How to Corrupt the Social Sciences".

In the lecture Mr Stretton traced the effects of positivist teaching — which stressed that science should deal only in the objective "is," never in the subjective "ought," and that social valuing, choosing, policy-making, and all the diverse opinions about right and wrong should be excluded from science — to some of society's current problems.

Selfishness

For, he said, although the positivist ideology had been largely discarded, members of the generation "saturated" with it were now reaching the top of their career ladders and beginning to exert an influence on the world.

It was not fanciful to see the effects of those decades of "brainwashing" in the hard-faced, uncaring class selfishness and professional selfishness to be found now in the affluent ranks of the professions, the public services and the universities.

Mr Stretton said: "I suspect that a lot of the democratic world may now have — on average and with many national and individual exceptions — an elite of intellectuals and technocrats rather more reactionary and in some fields less technically competent than their fathers were a generation ago.

"And this may help to explain some current troubles — troubles like welfare backlash and tax revolts; our general incompetence with problems of inflation and unemployment and the levels of professional complacency or despair about those problems; and the widespread political shift to the Right which has been happening in a number of the more conservative democracies."

Mr Stretton said that, although the positivist "faith" had been largely discarded in universities in the 1970s, the social damage continued.

This was because the ideology was enshrined in curricula, textbooks and teaching methods still being used and because it endured in some key areas.

"You can still find some academics teaching the beliefs in almost all dis-

ciplines. They still prevail in most Marxist schools of thought. At the other end of the spectrum they seem to prevail as majority views in a lot of Australian schools of economics and psychology."

Before the positivist revolution, Mr Stretton said, a university education in the social sciences was a general education and had strong links with classical and humanist studies.

In a subject such as sociology, students divided their time between techniques of social observation and analysis and ideological debates about social conflicts and social purposes and possibilities — debates which shaped their technical questions and research in critical ways.

He said: "That general kind of education plus a good deal of traditional classics and history produced most of the people who created the modern welfare society: the people who extended educational and medical and hospital services to all classes, the people who invented old age pensions, child endowment and supporting parent's pensions, pensions or insurance for the sick and the unemployed, public housing programs and most of the rest of the welfare apparatus.

"They also contributed a lot to general economic efficiency. It was the passionate reformers, not disinterested technocrats, who developed most of the public census and statistical services, and the employment exchanges, and the public funding and support for the fundamental scientific research on which nearly every phase of the industrial revolution has been built.

Reformist values

"The people who conceived and developed those services were committed reformers who saw no conflict at all between their reformist values and their technical skills."

Then came the positivist revolution with the insistent, authoritative message that moral thought was always "second-rate, less important and irrational".

Mr Stretton said: "Positivism came in various forms, at various dates, with varying force to the different disciplines of social science. In most disciplines, and especially in economics, it came with a great increase of professionalism and specialisation.

"If you studied one of those disciplines at all, the professors wanted you to do it all the time and in great specialist detail, to the exclusion of any more general education.

"That had multiple effects. It probably increased your self-confidence — the professionalisation was usually accompanied by some self-congratulation in the specialist schools and some sneering at older-fashioned schools which only did half as much economics (or sociology or whatever) and still let you waste the rest of your time on history or literature or

philosophy or Latin or other pre-scientific rubbish.

"While your discipline was thus monopolising more of your time and specialising your skills it was also going positivist — so there was no room left either inside or outside it for serious discussion of general social principles or social purposes.

"A final effect of the professionalisation was often to cut you off from any likely sources of criticism or self-criticism."

Motivated by positivism, social scientists tried to find very general laws which could unlock the unknowns of human social behaviour — the simple motive forces from which the great complexities of behaviour could be deduced.

Other, less abstract, theorists tried to make their work reliable and repeatable by dealing only in identities which could be universally recognised and measured and in relationships which could be mathematically modelled. They preferred particular categories of knowledge because of their certainty or formal qualities rather than because of their actual or potential social use.

General theories

"Sociologists lost interest in actual societies and their actual problems. They went looking for formal general theories of social coherence or change. They stopped studying actual communities, institutions, families or problems of poverty or unemployment or suburban loneliness or class or racial conflict," he said.

"Then when the formal general theories they were looking for didn't appear the sociologists turned to wondering why. They wrote less and less about society and more and more about the problems of theory and method within their discipline."

In economics, the positivist practitioners rejected the approach which identified important economic effects and explained, predicted and managed them by reference to whatever causes offered the best means — whether they be economic, political, technological, social or psychological.

Mr Stretton said: "The orthodox economists preferred to deal as far as possible in economic variables only and in theories designed to model relations between economic variables only.

"They like to relate economic effects to economic causes rather than to other social or political causes. This is partly from social conservatism. But it is partly also for the scientific reason that relations with other, non-economic factors can rarely be modelled at all elegantly or mathematically."

Mr Stretton continued: "It happens that the relations between strictly economic variables don't suffice to explain much about the distribution of wealth or income. So a science limited in that particular way is blind to many questions of justice or equality and also



● Historian Hugh Stretton

some problems of economic growth. Also, a knowledge of the strictly economic variables doesn't include much of what you need to know to control the rate of inflation or the level of employment so the science is not entirely useful for purely capitalist purposes."

Mr Stretton said that the same economists liked to deduce the most possible about the economic system from the simplest premises.

"So it suits them to assume that economic activity is powered by a particular sort of material acquisitiveness: if everybody in the system is trying to optimise his resources on identical principles that should make it easier for mathematicians to design elegant models of the system," he said.

The economists had built a science the theoretical methods of which recommended a particular sort of selfishly-motivated exchange economy as the ideally efficient sort. They defined any different sort of behaviour as a "constraint," a "distortion" or an "imperfection".

Mr Stretton explained the basic flaw of the positivist faith: "The social life that social scientists study is very complicated and it probably includes some elements like gaming chances that are intrinsically unpredictable however perfect your knowledge.

"Whatever the nature of the complexity, in practice, investigators have to put up with knowing less than everything about it. They have to select and simplify. They have to choose what questions to ask and what general types of answers to accept and act on.

"Those working choices have to be guided partly by the objective facts of the society and partly by the investigator's purposes in wanting to investigate the society. The investigator's purposes are social purposes of one sort or another, often controversial and always value-based.

"That much, most positivists admit. But the investigator's social purposes do not only choose the questions. They frequently have to guide the work throughout."

Mr Stretton said that most social knowledge had to be understood as a woven fabric; with facts and values as warp and woof.

"If you could ever actually get social scientists to do without the values and deal only in the facts, that would not produce a better science.

"It could not produce any science at all. Instead of science you would have a useless, incoherent heap of unrelated bits of 'objective' information.

"It follows that attempts at positivist science can't succeed. The thing is not even logically or ideally possible."

Our girls 'crazy' about Hollywood

Australian girls were "crazy about Hollywood", a visiting US soldier wrote home during the second World War. Another one was puzzled by an Australian horse trainer though — he accused Americans of poisoning Phar Lap (the GI had never heard of the horse).

These are some of the intriguing details of US-Australian social history, revealed through outside studies research by Monash associate professor in History, Dr Daniel Potts, and his wife Annette.

The couple have co-authored several books and many articles on American-Australian relations, and they visited two-thirds of the United States last year in pursuit of more research material.

They returned home with a rich collection of unpublished diaries and letters by US soldiers based in Australia from 1942 to '45.

"They represent the reaction of ordinary young Americans to Australia at that time," explained Annette Potts. "They tell us about American life, too. It's not surprising the American soldier had never heard of Phar Lap; horse-racing is still banned in a number of American states."

One young GI recorded his Australian wartime experiences in 10 school exercise books, a page a day. Another one kept a thousand page notebook for his girl at home, Exhilde.

"Then he went home and married a

very nice girl called Mary," said Mrs Potts.

An earlier story in *Monash Reporter* helped the Potts track down some of their research subjects. A student read the report and told her mother about the project.

It turned out her family had entertained a number of young GIs during the War and had kept up the friendship ever since.

The Potts made contact with the Americans and their families and went out to dinner with them. The meeting produced one of the bigger diaries, and more useful material for the Potts' next book.



● Associate Professor Daniel Potts

Participants sought for Host Family Scheme

Arriving at a large university can be a lonely experience — particularly if you're from overseas, interstate or the country and have no social contacts in Melbourne.

Each year the Monash University Parents' Group sponsors a scheme to help overcome the problem.

The Host Family Scheme introduces Monash students living away from home to families genuinely interested in the welfare of students.

Families are currently being sought to participate in the scheme.

Host families are not expected to provide accommodation. What they do provide is a little hospitality — in the form of an occasional meal, an outing or just a conversation.

Application forms for those wishing to participate — either families or students — are available from the Union desk.

For further information contact Mrs Sue Angliss on 20 5245, Mrs Joy Guerin on 82 1956 or Mrs Meredith McComas (after 4.30 p.m.) on 82 4884.

Highlight in visit to 'Peking Man' site

A working visit to the famous 'Peking Man' archaeological site was a highlight of outside studies in China by Dr Pat Rich of Monash's Earth Sciences department.

Dr Rich was also the first western vertebrate palaeontologist to visit the Nanxiong area, where she studied other important archaeological relics, concentrating on mammal fossil remains.

Dr Rich said one of the most exciting and unexpected results of her study tour was the beginning of the development of a specialist Chinese English dictionary for vertebrate palaeontologists.

The dictionary began with her persistent attempts at translating terms.

A chance meeting with two Cambridge Chinese scholars at Shanghai airport led to them inviting Dr Rich to join their project to develop a series of technical dictionaries.

The Cambridge researchers, Professor R. P. Sloss and Dr J. L. Dawson, have already designed a functional computer system which can cope with 80,000 Chinese characters and allows rote translation of articles in several technical fields.

Dr Rich will provide a specialist palaeontological vocabulary for the computer and in return, receive a print-out and low cost, rapid translation of articles in her field.



● Dr Pat Rich

Another chance meeting, with US Geological Survey scientist Dr J. Evernden in Beijing, led to an invitation for Dr Rich to join another international project, a radiometric (potassium argon) dating scheme for Cainozoic terrestrial deposits bearing vertebrate fossils.

"When a person steps outside an everyday pattern of work, often marvellous things happen," she said.

"My three week trip to the People's Republic of China was such a step and it has resulted in a stimulating, highly productive exchange of ideas and information as well as the initiation of several joint projects between Australian, Chinese, American and British scientists."

A golden age

The richness and diversity of 19th century theatre is only imperfectly understood in Australia, according to Monash English lecturer, Ian Laurenson, who spent part of his study leave last year seeking theatrical relics in the Victorian goldfields.

He found his exploration well rewarded by the discovery of archival material and theatrical ephemera and in valuable discussions with librarians, curators and local historical society members.

During two visits to Ballarat, he was able to assemble material for interpretation of the highly successful season of Charles and Ellen Keane at the Theatre Royal, Ballarat; it will appear in *Theatre Notebook*, 1980.

Appeal for art museum

The New England Regional Art Museum Association has launched a public appeal for funds to build an art museum in Armidale.

The proposed museum will have as its nucleus the Howard Hinton collection, given during Hinton's lifetime to the Armidale Teachers' College.

The collection features works by members of the Lindsay family, Streeton, Conder, Roberts and Gruner.

It was Hinton's wish that the works be hung in the College for the benefit of students. The College's main building is not well-suited for this purpose, however. It is not air-conditioned,

Women in the arts: two series

A hallmark of art in the 1970s was the emergence of women artists.

At the end of the decade, the issue of feminism and the arts is less dramatic. It is, a group of art practitioners and students feels, an ideal time to assess how art has been affected and where women artists will go from here.

To launch that assessment a series of lunchtime seminars titled *Women and Art: Into the '80s* will be held at Monash this year. The seminars will be led by women artists and are open to all.

The first seminar was held last week and was conducted by a former Monash artist-in-residence Lesley Dumbrell and sociologist Christie Kelly.

The next will be held on April 23 when Bonita Ely will lead discussion. Bonita Ely is a multi-media artist and co-ordinator of the Women's Art Register-Extension Project. On April 30, fellow multi-media artist Isabel Davies will speak.

Other seminar dates are: June 11, Jill Orr, performance artist; July 9, Jenny Mather, photographer and researcher; July 23, Sue Ford, film maker and member of the feminist film group, Reel Women; September 17, Chris Berkman, social realist painter; and October 8, Erica McGilchrist who will have an exhibition of paintings and drawings.

The seminars, which are being run with the co-operation of the Visual Arts Student Association, all start at 1.10 p.m. in the studio of the Visual Arts department on the seventh floor of the Menzies building.

For further information contact Visual Arts tutor, Pat Simmons on ext. 2115 or Denise McGrath on 51 6394.

● To complement the "Women and Art" series, the departments of English and Visual Arts are joining forces to conduct a series of lunchtime seminars under the title "Women and Writing: Into the '80s"

The seminars will be held in the exhibition gallery of the Visual Arts department on the seventh floor of the Menzies building. All start at 1.10 p.m.

The first seminar in the series will be introduced by Associate Professor Elaine Barry on April 9.

The four seminars will be led by Melbourne writers who will read and comment on their work and then hold an open discussion. The dates are: April 9, Finola Moorhead; May 7, Helen Garner; June 4, Judith Rodriguez; July 2, Jennifer Strauss.

public access is limited and professional curatorial services are not provided.

When the teachers' college was incorporated as a college of advanced education the Armidale City Council became the collection's trustee.

Added to it in the proposed museum will be the Chandler Coventry collection and the Armidale city collection.

A local contact for those wishing to aid this effort for the proper presentation of significant Australian collections is Dr Mary Nixon, senior lecturer in Education. Dr Nixon can be contacted on ext. 2853.

Changing role for Aboriginal body

Aboriginal people throughout Victoria are likely to benefit from a recent conference at Monash, held under the auspices of the Aboriginal Research Centre.

The conference was organised by the Aboriginal Advancement League and decided on a program of co-operative action to achieve its aims.

About 30 Aboriginal men and women from all over the State attended and decided to seek support from white Australians in a campaign to promote Aboriginal culture in the schools and wider community.

A white observer at the meeting, researcher Ms Bette Moore described it as an impressive and moving event.

The Aborigines had a keen sense of their need for independence and autonomy but at the same time an awareness of the help available to them from non-Aborigines, she said.

A changing role for the Aboriginal Advancement League was an important conference decision, Ms Moore said. In future, it would put less emphasis on its original welfare role, as a 'band-aid' organisation reacting to crises.

It would continue its hostels and welfare work, but eliminate those areas dealt with by other organisations. Greater emphasis would be placed on preventive programs, in consultation with other community groups, and Aboriginal people would be encouraged to become helpers rather than the helped.

White Australians would once more be encouraged to join the Aboriginal Advancement League, though it would continue to be directed by an all-

Aboriginal board and the new branches would be encouraged to help with information distribution as well as fund raising for such projects as the development of the AAL's head office building as a tourist centre and meeting place for Aborigines.

The League would also continue its political lobbying work, especially in the areas of land rights and a Treaty of Commitment and Compensation for the Aboriginal people.

Amnesty

The concept of human rights and their observance around the world will be the topic of a series of lunchtime sessions being organised to mark Amnesty International Week at Monash.

On Monday, April 21, Rev. Dick Wootton, vice-president of the Victorian branch of Amnesty, will look at human rights in South America, particularly Uruguay, Argentina and Brazil.

The speaker on April 22 will be Mr Peter Ross-Edwards, patron of the Victorian branch and State leader of the National Party.

On April 23, Mr R. D. Nicholson, president of the Law Council of Australia, will examine human rights from the legal point of view.

On April 24, Labor Senator Gareth Evans will examine the position in Southeast Asia, particularly Indonesia.

All sessions will be held in Rotunda theatre R4 starting at 1 p.m. and are open to all.



Monash library staff can pride themselves on being able to assist.

And that assistance extends beyond book-related matters. It could even save a life. Ten members of the staff, representing all the major library branches, were selected for first aid training recently (many others joined in voluntarily).

The St. John Ambulance course was conducted by Divisional Superintendent, Mandy Gibbs. It is planned that a similar number of staff will do the course next year.

Monash's Safety Officer, Mr W. Barker, says that the University's safety committee supports the idea of members of departments being trained in first aid.

Mr Barker's office is able to supply equipment for such training.

He says: "The person trained in first aid is an important person in an emergency — whether at home, on holiday or at work."

● Photo (above): St John Ambulance instructor, Mandy Gibbs gives Marion Harland, of the Cataloguing department, a few tips on first aid.

Grim story of ruthless conquest

By Jan Mayman

The benevolent fiction behind Batman's famous treaty with the Aborigines is exposed in a grim new book by Monash graduate, Dr Michael Christie: "Aboriginals in Colonial Victoria, 1835-86."

Most Victorians imagine white settlement in the Garden State as a happy affair — simple black people cheerfully handing over their hunting grounds to white settlers in exchange for a bundle of beads and trinkets.

The truth was very different — a bloody story of ruthless white conquest, resisted by desperate Aboriginal warriors in a hopeless defence of their homelands.

Batman's treaty was itself the beginning of a systematic white attack on Aborigines' rights, as Christie's book shows. The settlers involved knew the black signatories had no right to sign such a document.

"There is no such thing as chieftainship (among the Aborigines)," one wrote. He added: "This is a secret we must keep to ourselves or it may affect the deed of conveyance . . ."

Batman himself used to hunt Aborigines for the government bounty in Van Dieman's Land and killed 15 in one encounter, the book reveals.

Christie firmly rebuts the traditional historical view of the Aboriginal race "disappearing before the forces of civilisation as the morning mist before the rising sun," as one Victorian era commentator blandly recorded.

He reveals something very like a conspiracy of silence about the violent racial clashes which accompanied white settlement throughout Australia.

He says: "It is essential to investigate the nature of frontier conflict and the degree of success Aborigines had in defending their land, firstly in the interests of accurate history, but also because Aborigines are still affected today by the omissions and distortions that are to be found in so many accounts of the frontier period . . . The myth that Aborigines failed to defend their land needs to be exploded, not in order to award Aborigines the dubious distinction of being as capable of Englishmen of killing others in battle, but rather to show that Aborigines cared for and valued their land and did not cede it easily or willingly . . . The whites eventually took the land but they had to take it by force . . ."

False story

According to Christie, the false story of Aboriginal capitulation has been perpetuated to assuage uneasy consciences and also because it was legally and economically crucial to define Australia as a colony which had been peacefully annexed rather than conquered. Thus there would be no need for treaties or some form of compensation.

He recounts many of the causes of racial violence on the frontiers of black and white Australia — the

clash between pastoralism and the Aboriginal way of life, the racist attitudes of squatters and their men, white mistreatment of black women and, on the Aboriginal side, the need to kill the stock displacing native game and to resist threatening intruders.

By the middle of the last century, Christie found, small Aboriginal bands and even neighboring tribes were joining together in their common struggle against the white man, some with striking success. By 1848, however, Aborigines were dying in "incredible numbers" along the Murray, amidst rumours of poisoning by white colonists.

There were about 15,000 Aborigines living in Victoria in 1834, according to anthropological and contemporary evidence, Christie points out. By the mid-1880s just 844 survived, only half of them full-blood. The "assimilation" policies which meant the destruction of a race were the result of laws restricting full-blood Aborigines and even half castes to outback stations, where the mortality rate exceeded their birth rate.

Dr Christie hopes to develop his theme in a book or TV play aimed at mass audiences in Australia.

"The sad thing is that the story is being repeated today," he told *Monash Reporter*.

"We have a mockery of land rights law which gives land to the Aborigines — until white society discovers minerals on it. Even the arguments are the same. The national interest demands that Aborigines lose their land."

Aboriginals in Colonial Victoria
1835-86. M.F. Christie. Sydney University Press, Sydney, 1979. \$15.00.

Brain and Behaviour, Psychobiology of Everyday Life, Frank Campbell and George Singer. Pergamon Press, Sydney, 1979.
 ● Frank Campbell, assistant Information Officer at Monash, is the editor of *Monash Review*; George Singer is professor of Psychology, La Trobe University.
 The reviewer, Dr G. R. Gates, is a lecturer in Psychology at Melbourne University. He holds an M.Sc. and Ph.D. from Monash.



BOOKS

Brain and behaviour — a down-to-earth approach

Brain and Behaviour, Psychobiology of Everyday Life, written by Frank Campbell and George Singer and illustrated by Philip Schofield is another of the dozen or so popular-appeal, brain-behaviour books which have been published in the last few years.

But, unlike most of these other popular books, this volume is not the personalised interpretation of brain function by a single author. Rather, **Brain and Behaviour** is a technically well written compendium of diverse facts on brain-behaviour relationships presented in an almost lecture-like, matter-of-fact fashion.

The book lacks the integration and depth of view which comes from a single and sometimes narrow, personalised view of how our brain works. It is very much a technical manual better suited for psychology students than for the general lay person, the audience for which the book was intended.

This is not to say that the content of the book is not interesting. The reader is led through a series of diverse topics from the effects of iron deficiency on human learning to the causes of premature ejaculation in males. And it is this diversity of facts which makes the book interesting.

There are a number of the features of the book which may be trying to the reader's patience and which definitely detract from its presentation. I'll mention only two here.

First of all, some diagrams in the book bear no relationship to the text nor is any reason or explanation given for their inclusion. For example, in the first chapter there is a diagram of a simple reflex arc but no mention is made of its relevance to "methods of studying brain-behaviour relationships." The reader is left with the impression that the diagram has been put into the book as an afterthought. Some of the diagrams definitely require additional explanatory labels.

Second, according to the authors in the Preface, **Brain and Behaviour** attempts to present psychobiological research findings in a "simple language for the layman" and, on the whole, they keep their promise. However, the text lapses into psychological 'jargonese' from time to time and this heavy use of psychobiological terminology detracts from getting the story home to the reader.

The carefully prepared glossary of terms at the back of the book takes care of the more troublesome words

such as "retro-active-inhibition" and "suprachiasmatic nuclei", but the layman might find it a nuisance to have to keep flipping to the back of the book to find out what all the jargon means. Many of the technical terms could have been dealt with more adequately in the text itself.

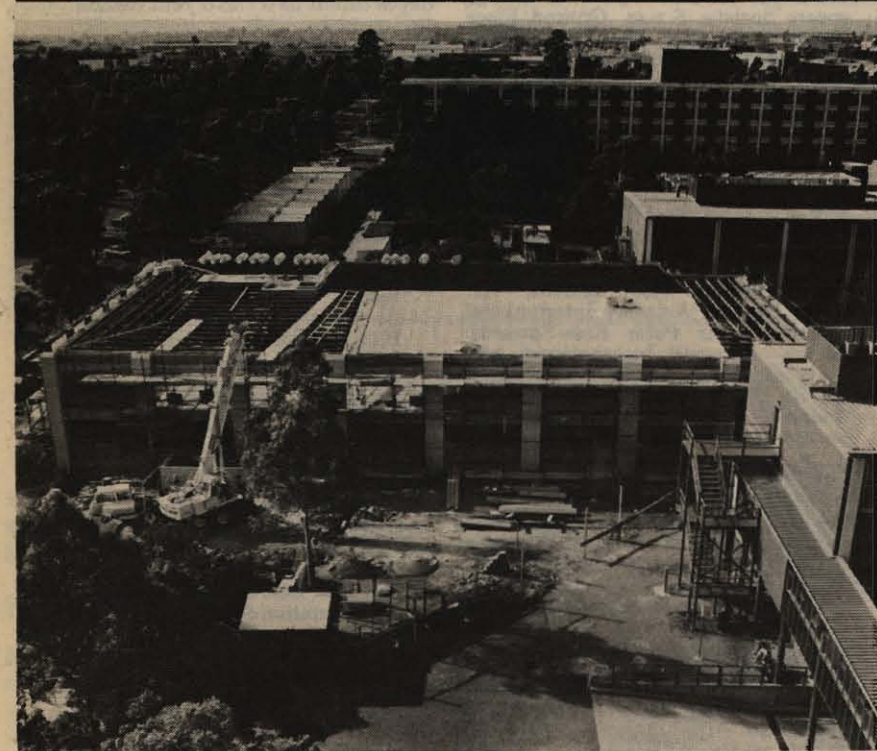
One attractive feature of the book is that it brings together a good deal of the rather complicated and voluminous material on feeding and drinking and the hypothalamus and makes sense of it in a human context. The chapters on feeding and drinking and related topics (e.g. "Sugar control and diabetes" and "Obesity") provide interesting information for those of us with a weight problem and I believe this is one of the better accounts of how our brain and our body may control food intake. In describing the relevant experimental literature, the book points up clearly the value of animal experimentation and shows that the often misunderstood and sometimes esoteric experiments in which scientists engage are not without value for the real world. However, **Brain and Behaviour** is almost too devoted to the "not much larger than a peanut hypothalamus" and the rest of the

brain receives scant attention by comparison.

The book has a rather parochial flavour. Australian brain research, particularly that going on at La Trobe University, is dealt with in detail and it is good to see local work being given a public airing. On the other hand the La Trobe label is overused in the written text. I counted at least 32 direct references to the work being done "at La Trobe" or done by "the La Trobe team"; the repetition becomes annoying, especially toward the end of the text.

Which brings me to my comment at the beginning of this review. **Brain and Behaviour** presents as a series of well-written technical lecture notes. For an intending La Trobe student the cost of the paperback (recommended retail \$12) would seem to be very little to pay for a good set of lecture notes. But for the layman this sum is definitely too much to pay unless, of course, you've got a weight problem and then the book and the advice it has to offer on weight control and reduction may be cheaper than joining a weight watching group.

G. Richard Gates.



The new Microbiology building is on the way up in the area west of the Science block, as this photo by Rick Crompton shows. It is only last June that members of the department, currently housed in the Monash Medical School at the Alfred Hospital, turned the first sod on the site. Occupation of the new building will mark the end of a 10 year wait by the department to move to the campus proper.

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.

Reserve Bank Research Fellowships

For younger research workers in the fields of economics and management, plant sciences or animal sciences. Tenable in Australia for one year. Stipend in lecturer range. Applications close in Sydney, April 15.

New overseas students in the UK or their sponsors will be expected to meet the full cost of their tuition for courses beginning in September 1980.

The following annual fees for new entrants for the academic year 1980-81 have been recommended by the Government for British universities: arts courses — a minimum of £2000 pa; science courses — a minimum of £3000pa; medicine, dentistry and elementary science courses — a minimum of £5000 for the clinical year.

No specific recommendations have been made about fees for postgraduate students but the Department of Education and Science has arranged with the University Grants Committee a scheme for granting bursaries to postgraduate research students of outstanding merit from overseas.

To date, universities have not yet announced actual fees. The Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals aims to standardise but it may be that there will be a variety of fee levels, differing from subject to subject and from university to university.

● A closing date has been set for applications for new awards offered by the British Government to "overseas" students doing research in the UK.

Applications close in the UK on April 25.

An award under the Fees Support Scheme pays the difference between the level of fees for "home" students and the new level of fees set by the British Government for "overseas" students.

It is anticipated that 400 to 500 awards will be made.

For further information contact the Graduate Scholarships Office in the University Offices.

MONASH VISITORS

The following academics are expected to visit Monash:

Anatomy: Dr Kwok Hunt Sit, Singapore, to late November.
Biochemistry: Dr U. Laurent, Uppsala, to June.
Botany: Dr B. Gott, Aust. Inst. Abor. Stud., to December.
Chemical Engineering: Dr Ei-Ichi Narita, Tohoku, to August.

Chemistry: Assoc. Professor N. Kane-McGuire, Furman, to September.

Professor P. Gray, Leeds, April.

Professor R. Peacock, Leicester, to May.

Earth Sciences: Professor F. S. Szalay, City University of NY, April-December.

Genetics: Dr K. Tagawa, Kagawa, to August.

Dr N. S. Willetts, Edinburgh, April.

Law: Assoc. Professor J. E. Herschfield, Manitoba, to April 30.

Professor W. H. Pedrick, Arizona State, to May 7.

Professor Dr W. Frhr. Von Marschall, Bonn, to May.

Professor C. Perelam, Free University, Brussels, May-August.

Linguistics: Professor C. A. Ferguson, Stanford, to July 31.

Mechanical Engineering: Professor J. K. Davidson, Arizona State, to August.

Professor P. Holmes, Liverpool, to May 23.

Medicine (Alfred Hospital): Dr Juzo Matsuda, Teikyo, April

Microbiology: Dr M. L. Thong, Malaya, to November '81.

Mr Wang Shu-Qun, Inst. Epidemiology and Bacteriology, Peking, to November, '81.

Paediatrics: Professor M. L. Williams, State University of NY, to June 30.

Professor V. Chernick, Manitoba (dates to be determined).

Professor A. M. Rudolph, California at San Francisco for 3 mths. (dates to be determined).

Pharmacology: Dr J. E. Olley, Bradford UK, to August.

Psychology: Professor A. Kennedy, Dundee, to July.

Zoology: Dr E. W. Davidson, Arizona State, to July.

Professor F. S. Szalay, City University of NY, to December.

Centre for Early Human Development: Professor A. C. Bryan, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, to August 31.

Associate Professor H. Bryan, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, to August 31.

Rebirth of the 'choro'

Tutor in Spanish at Monash, Denis Close, describes Brazilian composer Ernesto Nazareth as "a tropical Chopin."

And, Denis adds, Nazareth "bears more than a slight resemblance" to the American composer Scott Joplin.

The compositions of Nazareth and fellow composer Pixinguinha will be performed at Monash on Tuesday, April 29 in a recital of "choros". The recital will be held at 7.30 p.m. in the Music department auditorium in the Menzies building. It is being sponsored by the Spanish department.

Denis, who organised the successful program "Brazil: A Musical Portrait" last year, says that the "choro" developed in Brazil around the 1870s.

He says: "Small bands of skilful but illiterate musicians 'bored silly' with churning out imported polkas and mazurkas at weddings and other functions began indulging in daring

improvisations purely for their own entertainment.

"Before long a new style of playing had developed — the choro — which was characterised by beautiful, flowing lines and crafty innovations.



• Ernesto Nazareth



Denis Close playing the cavaquinho, a tiny four-string guitar used in choro groups.

"As with early American jazz, the choro waned when new, more 'commercial' trends appeared, but in the last three years there has been a renaissance of this charming music."

Denis became aware of the wealth of music composed in Brazil at the turn of the century when he visited that country in 1977 during which the centenary of the choro was commemorated.

Denis has planned a second musical activity for Monash this year — a full scale Latin American concert in the Alexander Theatre on July 29.



THEATRE

Turgenev comedy

There are two more performances — tonight (Tuesday, April 1) and tomorrow night — of the romantic comedy "A Month in the Country" being presented by the English Staff Players.

"A Month in the Country" is by Ivan Turgenev but the version being used is a new English adaptation by senior lecturer in English, Dennis Davison. Dr Davison has also directed the production.

It plays in the Ground Floor Theatre of the Menzies building nightly at 8.15 p.m.

The cast includes Jenepher Duncan (curator of Monash's art collection), Richard Pannell, Marina Milankovic, Russell Blackford (all of the English department) and Fred Naylor (Student Records).

Tickets cost \$2 (\$1 for students) and may be purchased from room 707 in the Menzies building.

Dr Davison's translation has recently been published by the English department as a third year drama text.

APRIL DIARY

1: ARTS AND CRAFTS COURSES —

Inquire now about the winter program of Arts and Crafts courses (over 60 courses in 40 subjects), commencing early May. For details and brochure, call in or ring the Arts and Crafts Centre, exts. 3096, 3180.

LECTURE — "Superannuation for Accountants and Lawyers in Professional Practice", by Mr W. G. Cook. First in a series of lectures on "Recent Developments in Taxation 1980", presented by The Taxation Institute of Australia and Monash Faculty of Law. Other lectures in series: **APRIL 15:** "Winding Up of Trusts — Tax and Other Duty Problems", by Mr M. Leibler. **APRIL 22:** "Tax Audits and Default Assessments", by Mr E. J. Cusack. **APRIL 29:** "Taxation of Unearned Income of Dependents", by Mr N. Young. **MAY 6:** "Anti-Tax Avoidance Legislation", by Dr Y. Grbich. All lectures to be held at 6 p.m. **Leo Cussen Institute, 408 La Trobe Street, Melbourne.** Fee: \$90. Inquiries: ext. 3377.

1-2: PLAY — Turgenev's "A Month in the Country", presented by Monash Department of English. 8.15 p.m. **Ground Floor Theatre, Menzies Building.** Admission: \$2, students \$1. Inquiries: ext. 2140.

2: ENVIRONMENTAL FORUMS — "Whither Democracy in the Work Place?", talk and discussion led by Dr R. Lansbury, Monash Department of Administrative Studies. **APRIL 9:** "Human Factors in the Work Force", talk and discussion led by Ken May, Mechanical Engineering, Swinburne. **APRIL 16:** "The Place of Non-Humans in Environmental Decisions", talk and discussion led by Professor Peter Singer, Monash Department of Philosophy. **APRIL 23:** "Newspapers and Environmental Awareness", talk and discussion led by Tim Colebatch, The Age. **APRIL 30:** "Coping with the New National Parks", talk and discussion led by Mr Don Saunders, Director, National Parks, Ministry for Conservation. Presented by Monash Department of Environmental Science. All forums at 5 p.m. **Room 137, First Year Physics Building.** Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3841.

9-10: CONFERENCE — "Sports and the Law", co-sponsored by Monash Faculty of Law, Monash Sports and Recreation Association and the Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation. For further information, contact Mrs L. Cooke or Mrs D. Grogan on ext. 3377.

10: CONCERT — "Red Gum" Band, presented by Monash University Friends of the Earth. 12 noon. **RBH.** Admission: adults and non-students \$4.50; students, pensioners and unemployed \$3.

ABORIGINAL STUDIES LECTURE

— "Christian Religion's Reflection in Aboriginal Ideology", by Mr Pat Dodson. **APRIL 17:** "Aboriginality and Christianity", by Mr Gary Foley. **APRIL 24:** "Kinship and Religion — Pivots of Traditional Aboriginal Structure", by Mrs Isabel White. Presented by Monash Aboriginal Research Centre. All lectures at 1 p.m. **Lecture Theatre R6.** Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3335.

11: LECTURE — "The Sane Alternative. Signposts to a Self-Fulfilling Future", by James Robertson. Presented by Monash Department of Environmental Science. 12 noon-1 p.m. **Room 137, First Year Physics Building.** Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3841, 2620.

MATHEMATICS LECTURE — "Stonehenge and Ancient Egypt: The Mathematics of Radio-Carbon Dating", by Dr R. Clark. **APRIL 18:** "Exploring the World with Newtonian Mechanics", by Professor B. Morton. Of interest to Year 11 and 12 students. Presented by Monash Department of Mathematics. Both lectures at 7 p.m. **Lecture Theatre R1.** Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2250.

11-12: OPERETTA — "Princess Ida", by Gilbert and Sullivan. Presented by the Babirra Players. Performances also April 17, 18 and 19. **Alex. Theatre.** Admission: \$4.50, \$3.50, \$3. Bookings: 24 7827, 232 5196, 95 1958.

12: SATURDAY CLUB (Blue Series) — "The Aboriginal/Islanders Dance Theatre". Presentation of traditional and modern dance from the Aboriginal Dance Ensemble. 2.30 p.m. **Alex. Theatre.**

14-18: PUPPETRY — Rod Puppet Workshop, presented by Dale Woodward. Daily at 10.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. **RBH.** Admission: adults \$1, children 60 cents.

14: LUNCHTIME CONCERT — Clarinet recital. Murray Khouri — clarinet, Murray Sharp — piano. 1.15 p.m. **RBH.** Admission free.

MIGRANT STUDIES SEMINAR — "Ethnicity and Women's Labour Force Participation in Victoria, Australia and Ontario, Canada", by Dr Ann B. Denis, Universite d'Ottawa. **APRIL 28:** "Have the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches in Australia Acted as Assimilation Agents?", by Dr Frank Lewins, Australian National University and Archbishop Robert Dann, Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne. Both seminars at 7.30 p.m. **Lecture Theatre R3.** Admission free. Inquiries: exts. 2925, 2825.

16: TWILIGHT SEMINAR — "Trade Marks and Service Marks", presented by Monash Faculty of Law. 4.15 p.m. **Lecture Theatre H3.** Fee: \$55 (includes dinner, papers). For further information, contact Mrs L. Cooke or Mrs D. Grogan on ext. 3377.

16-24: PLAY — Middleton and Rowley's "The Changeling", presented by Monash Department of English and Shakespeare Society. 8 p.m. **Ground Floor Theatre, Menzies Building.** Admission: adults \$3, students \$1.50. Bookings: ext. 2140 (No performance Sunday, April 20).

19: SATURDAY CLUB (Red Series A) — "Mad Dog Gang", film on fun in rural New Zealand. Recommended by the Australian Council for Children's Film and Television. 2.30 p.m. **Alex. Theatre.**

21-24: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WEEK — Lunchtime speakers: Rev. Dick Wootton, Vice-President, Victorian Branch, Amnesty International (Monday); Mr Peter Ross-Edwards, patron, Amnesty International and State leader, National Party (Tuesday); Mr R. D. Nicholson, president, Law Council of Australia (Wednesday); Senator Gareth Evans (Thursday). Daily at 1 p.m. **Lecture Theatre R4.** Admission free.

23: SEMINAR — "Women and Art: Into the '80s", by Bonita Ely, multi-media artist and co-ordinator of the Women's Art Register Extension Project. **APRIL 30:** Speaker: Isabel Davies, multi-media artist. Both seminars at 1.10 p.m. **Visual Arts Department Studio, Menzies Building.** Admission free. Inquiries: 690 4087, 51 6394.

ORGAN RECITAL — By John O'Donnell. First public recital on the Louis Matheson Pipe Organ. Works by Bruhns, de Grigny, Buxtehude, Scheidemann and J. S. Bach. 8 p.m. **RBH.** Admission: adults \$5; students, pensioners and Alexander Theatre supporters \$3.50. Tickets available at all BASS agencies.

24: ORGAN WORKSHOP — Arranged by Robert Blackwood Hall and the Victorian Society of Organists. The workshop will cover technical and musical aspects of the organ and will include a recital by John O'Donnell. The organ builder, Herr Jurgen Ahrend, will be present. 8 p.m. **RBH.** Admission \$2.50 (members of the Victorian Society of Organists \$1.50). Tickets available at the door.

25-30: MUSICAL — "Oklahoma!", by Rodgers & Hammerstein. Presented by Cheltenham Light Opera Company. No performances April 28 and 29. **Alex Theatre.** Admission: \$4.50, \$3.50, \$2.50. Bookings: 95 3269 (Performances also May 1-10).

26: SATURDAY CLUB (Red Series A and B) — "Modern Mime Theatre", presented by Michael Freeland and Bob Eustace. 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. **Alex. Theatre.** For further information about the Saturday Club, contact the Alexander Theatre on 543 2828.

26: GALA CONCERT — For Organ, Wind and Voices, featuring John O'Donnell, the Brass Choir of the Victorian College of the Arts, and the Melbourne Chorale Chamber Choir. Works by Bliss, Messiaen, Rautavaara, Alain, Britten, Tull, Scheidemann, J. S. Bach and Gabrieli. 8 p.m. **RBH.** Admission: adults \$7; students, pensioners and Alexander Theatre supporters \$5. Tickets available at all BASS agencies.

28: LUNCHTIME CONCERT — Organ recital by John O'Donnell. Works by Bach, Buxtehude, Couperin. 1.15 p.m. **RBH.** Admission free.

30: MONASH PARENTS GROUP — Display and sale of imported Scottish knitwear, followed by a luncheon. 10.30 a.m. Donation \$3.50. **RBH.** For further information, contact Mrs S. Erich 787 3369.

CONCERT — ABC Gold Series No. 1. Visiting French Chamber Orchestra, La Grande Ecurie et la Chambre du Roy, conducted by Jean-Claude Malgoire. Works by Praetorius, Rameau, Vivaldi, Corelli. 8 p.m. **RBH.** Admission: adults A. Res. \$8.90, B. Res. \$6.90, C. Res. \$5.60; students and pensioners A. Res. \$6.90, B. Res. \$5.60, C. Res. \$4.70.

MONASH REPORTER

The next issue of Monash Reporter will be published in the first week of May, 1980

Copy deadline is Thursday, April 24.

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