



MONASH REPORTER

A MAGAZINE FOR THE UNIVERSITY

Registered by Australia Post — publication No. VBG0435

NUMBER 8-82

OCTOBER 6, 1982

East-West on crime



The delegation to China: (l to r) Mr Richard Fox, Judge Peter Rendit, Mr Justice McGarvie, Professor Louis Waller and Mr Mark Weinberg. Photo: Tony Miller.

Two Monash lawyers are among a five-member delegation of experts on Australian criminal law and procedure which is to visit China this month.

The delegation will hold discussions with members of the judiciary, the procuratorate, the legal profession and law schools in Beijing, Wuhan and Shanghai about the judicial and legal systems which have re-emerged in China since the Cultural Revolution.

It is believed to be the first visit of its kind organised by an Australian criminal law group.

The delegation was selected by a committee of the Law Council of Australia and the Australasian Universities Law Schools Association. Heading it will be Mr Justice McGarvie of the Supreme Court of Victoria (and Chancellor of La Trobe University). Other members are Professor Louis Waller, of Monash (and currently Law Reform Commissioner of Victoria), Judge Peter Rendit of the County Court of Victoria, Mr Richard Fox, Reader in Law at Monash, and Mr Mark Weinberg, Reader in Law at Melbourne University (and a Monash graduate). The group represents a balance of judicial, law reform and academic experience.

Financial support for the trip has come from the Australia-China Council, which was established by the Australian Government in 1979, the Australian Development Assistance Bureau and Monash University.

The China visit (from October 16 to 30) follows one by Monash Dean of Law, Professor Robert Baxt, during which the Law Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences indicated that it would like the opportunity to meet Australian criminal law experts.

The delegation has been planning its visit since late last year and has prepared material on Australian criminal law and procedure which is being translated into Chinese and printed for distribution.

The material consists of an outline of the Australian system of administration of criminal justice and trial procedures, together with three case studies and transcripts illustrating different aspects of how the law operates in practice.

One of the studies is of a murder trial: A husband discovers his wife in a bedroom with a boarder and kills the man. The study illustrates the issue of provocation, and distinctions between manslaughter and murder.

The second study deals with armed robbery and the third with how our legal system might deal with a case of domestic assault.

The delegation has also been briefed on the new Chinese Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure which have operated since 1980. Implementation of these codes follows the "lawless" years of the Cultural Revolution.

The legal system the Australian delegation will be encountering is much different from the one they will be describing. China's system follows the European "inquisitorial" model operating in countries such as France, Germany and Russia rather than the British system.

In China, before a matter reaches court it is the subject of an elaborate investigation. The purpose of the trial, then, appears to be more a confirmation of guilt rather than an independent assessment of evidence. Recent figures indicate that some 95.8 per cent of court cases in China ended in a guilty verdict; 3.6 per cent ended in the same verdict but the offender was exempted from punishment because of mitigating circumstances; and in only 0.6 per cent of cases was a not guilty verdict recorded.

For less serious offences, the Chinese system appears to use mediation committees of, say, workers or residents rather than the court system. These committees have an educative rather than punitive function but if the matter gets to court the offender may be placed on probation under their supervision.

How's your health?

In a series of articles in this issue of Reporter we explore several aspects of health care. Among the subjects under discussion are:

Monash Health Service's future

The Registrar has conducted an inquiry on the Service's options in funding. His conclusions, page 8.

Pain and its relief p 2

Sports injuries

Like to avoid them? Know how to treat them? A Monash booklet tells how, p 9.

And we look at an intriguing study on the structure of the health field which provides a new perspective on —

How doctors monopolise the top spot

The medical profession dominates the field of health care in Australia — economically, politically, socially and intellectually.

That much is fairly apparent.

But now a Ph.D. thesis by a Monash fixed-term lecturer in Sociology, Dr Evan Willis, gives an interesting, new perspective on how this came to be so and the means by which "medicine" has maintained its hold on the top position in the health hierarchy.

Dr Willis's thesis, "The Division of Labour in Health Care", has won the 1982 Jean Martin Award for the best thesis on social theory and research. The Award, presented every two years by the Sociological Association of Australia and New Zealand and the publishers George Allen and Unwin, consists of a cash prize and thesis publication in the GA&U "Studies in Society" series. This is the second time the award has been made.

Dr Willis, whose research was supervised by Dr Pat O'Malley, senior lecturer in Sociology, looks specifically at the case of Victoria where, he says, the Registration Act of 1933 put the seal on the medical profession's dominance of the health hierarchy.

It is a dominance characterised in three ways:

- **Autonomy.** Medicine is not subject to direction or evaluation by other health occupations. Its territory is distinct and defended. Exclusive right has been granted to doctors to penetrate the body, physically by surgery or chemically by drugs.
- **Authority over other health occupations.**

In the case of occupations which form part of the medical division of labour, such as midwifery, the control is direct. In other occupations control operates indirectly through, say, medical representation on their registration boards, or by outright opposition to their legitimacy.



● Dr Evan Willis

● Medical hegemony.

Medicine is dominant in relations between the health sector and the wider society as doctors have become institutionalised experts on all matters relating to health.

It would seem that doctors have come to hold the top spot in the health field because they possess the knowledge on which healing is based. Scientific, technological medicine is seen as the determining force in the development of modern health care.

But Dr Willis argues that "technological determinism" does not give an adequate explanation. He maintains that the development of medical dominance cannot be fully understood without an examination of the changing nature of Australian capitalism.

He says: "The major change has been the transition from laissez-faire to monopoly capitalism.

● Cont. on Page 2

Monash authors: a book supplement ... pages 6 and 7.

How doctors dominate the field

"There have been three chief effects of this: a substantial growth in the role of the State, particularly in the health and welfare arena; a general trend towards the commodification of human activity; and the development of new forms of ideology, based on science and technology, to 'legitimate' the economic changes that took place.

"Changes within the health system in other words mirrored changes in capitalism."

The important tool in State "patronage" of the medical profession has been regulatory legislation — specifically the Medical Registration Acts of 1908 and 1933 — which has controlled the supply of practitioners and the operation (even existence) of "competitors" in the marketplace.

Dr Willis says that even as early as 1880, prior to the introduction of the new medical technology on which its authority has come to rest, orthodox medicine or allopathy was poised in a strategic if not entirely dominant position vis a vis its chief rival, homoeopathy. At this stage, however, the relationship between medicine and the State was a superficial one and probably related more to a class affinity with the elite of the occupation than demonstrable claims of effectiveness.

The 1908 Act Dr Willis describes as a "major victory for scientific medicine" which indeed marked the beginning of the end for homoeopathy by severely limiting registration of new practitioners. The demise of the main opponent was completed by 1934 when the Melbourne Homoeopathic Hospital, after a 10 year drive against it by the Victorian branch of the British Medical

Association, became Prince Henry's.

At the same time as an emerging State patronage of medicine there was a growing unity within the profession itself.

There were several "untidy ends" that the increasingly important BMA sought to bring into line in the first decades of the new century.

One was public squabbling between doctors. In 1912 it was agreed that no more dirty linen would be aired in public.

Another was the challenge some doctors were posing to the view that the medical profession should deal with the market on the basis of individual entrepreneurs. These were doctors working for the Friendly Societies which offered contributors — people on lower incomes — access to medical services (and a "decent burial").

Industrial action by the BMA against these lodge doctors — who were in effect salaried — in the 1920s yielded victory to the former.

Dr Willis argues that since 1933 the medical profession's efforts have been directed towards defending and extending its position of dominance.

It has done that, he says, by exercising three forms of control — **subordination, limitation and exclusion.** In his thesis he analyses each control mechanism by detailed examination of medicine's relationship to a so-dominated health occupation.

Midwifery, he says, is an example of a subordinated occupation. By the 1930s control over childbirth had passed from a group of mainly working class women to a group of mainly petit bourgeois men and in the process childbirth had

become "medicalised".

The medical profession has sought to dominate other "competitors" by using State patronage to have clearly defined their (limited) task domains. In this category Dr Willis examines the case of optometry which shares occupational territory with the specialist medical branch of ophthalmology. While the optometrist can provide spectacles he is unable to treat the eye disorders he has diagnosed.

Dr Willis takes chiropractic as an example of a health occupation which the medical profession has sought to dominate by exclusion. Medicine was successful in opposing attempts by chiropractors to gain political and legal "legitimacy" through registration in Victoria until 1978.

Dr Willis says that chiropractic warranted the most extreme form of opposition because it claimed to be a complete alternative system of health care, one which negated the need for doctors at all.

By the 1970s, however, chiropractic had stood the test of time and the weight of public opinion was in its favour, Dr Willis says. Long-standing medical objections to the lack of suitable training had been overcome also.

But there is a further element in State recognition of the legitimacy of chiropractic, Dr Willis argues. That is the evidence that chiropractic may in fact be better than medicine at fixing back problems incurred in industry. Thus it potentially serves the needs of capital better than doctors.

What of the future of medical dominance over health care?

The political legitimisation of chiro-

practic despite active opposition of the AMA constituted a challenge.

There have been other dents in the armour too: the AMA has declined in significance as the political voice of medicine with the growth of other associations such as the Doctors Reform Society; the Federal Government decided recently that the Director General of Health for the first time need not be medically qualified.

It is little evidence that medical dominance is in decline, says Dr Willis. But this possibility cannot be discounted in the future, he adds.

A number of factors are at work. One is the growth in state involvement in the health arena. The increasing State expenditure on health makes apparent the costs of the occupational monopoly held by medicine.

Another is the changing requirements of capital.

"Medical dominance I have argued rests upon State patronage resulting from the compatibility of medical knowledge and medical practice with the requirements of capital," Dr Willis says. "It follows then that if the political and economic conditions required to sustain medical dominance no longer coincide with the requirements of capital then medical dominance is likely to be undermined."

Already there is some evidence in the US of corporate opposition to the current organisation of medical care with its enormous cost. Corporate-sponsored reform of medicine has taken place.

"The historical lesson for medicine is apparent," Dr Willis says.

Cancer pain can be controlled

There was a common belief among cancer patients that eventually they would suffer severe and uncontrollable pain, Dr G. Brodie told the recent Post-graduates Week seminar on Pain at Prince Henry's Hospital.

But that was "a myth that must be destroyed," he said. It would be an indictment of the doctor if it happened.

It was true that more than 50 per cent of patients would suffer pain, he said. This depended upon the type of cancer. But with modern methods of management the pain was controllable.

Dr Brodie, Director of the Oncology Unit at Prince Henry's Hospital, was presenting a paper on the management of cancer pain.

Keynote speaker at the three day seminar was **Professor Cairns Aitken**, Professor of Rehabilitation Studies at Edinburgh University.

Advocating a multi-discipline approach to the management of pain, Professor Aitken described pain as "a feeling in the mind attributed to disturbance in the body". Like all symptoms, he said, it could be accompanied by an emotional response to which there might be a behavioural reaction.

In determining the most appropriate way to manage pain, he said, clinicians should assess every possible factor (psychological, social or medical) influencing the patient's symptom and his reaction to it.

"Though it is important to consider the nature of pain experienced by the patient, it is as important to consider the nature of the person presenting with the

symptom," he said.

"A person prone to anxiety when experiencing pain will suffer concurrently apprehension and additional physiological symptoms."

Professor Aitken said no single specialty within medicine had a monopoly to relieve pain. All health caring professions could bring knowledge which might not only help the patient directly, but also help educate other team members to ensure a higher overall standard.

"Some can have particular skills," he said, "but all can have the opportunity to relate to the patient in a therapeutic way. For some, the ability to establish a therapeutic relationship can be a profound skill, wonderfully practised by clinicians renowned for their bedside manner — words I prefer over the more fashionable 'psychotherapeutic transference'.

"Whatever we call it, it can by itself bring about much pain relief. This skill is not confined to the health caring professions but is a skill well-practised by heterogeneous healers from pastors to chiropractors."

Professor Aitken added: "Behaviour therapy, whether by reducing anxiety or by modifying behaviour, needs to be practised not simply as a discipline by clinical psychologists but as an approach by the whole multidisciplinary team."

Discussing methods of pain relief, Professor Aitken said advances were being made in the development of analgesic drugs with reduced side-effects. Such a drug was buprenorphine, recently marketed as Temgesic.

"More drugs will come along but, however effective, I doubt they will replace humble aspirin or be a panacea for all aches and pains," he said.

Professor Aitken said that in the past decade or so there had been introduced, through charitable means, a clinical service renowned for its effectiveness. This was the Hospice movement which cared for the dying patient with pain.

Hospices reported achieving sustained pain relief in cancer patients despite dramatic reduction in analgesic medication, he said. Many patients achieved peace of mind despite "florid pathology" in the closing stages of their lives.

Drugs did not seem to be the key to the Hospices' success, he said. Rather, it was the capability of the staff "to listen and to respond to every need of the patient and his family in a personalised way, bringing together a higher standard of sensitive care than could be provided in the usual hospital setting."

Some physiological aspects of pain were discussed by **Dr G. C. Smith** and **Dr D. Copolov**, of the Monash department of Psychological Medicine, and **Dr R. Helme**, of the Monash department of Medicine.

Dr Smith and Dr Copolov presented a paper on the enkephalins and endorphins, opiate-like substances produced in the brain and adrenal glands which appear to inhibit some types of pain.

Dr Helme, in his paper, discussed the roles of substance P, a neuropeptide which is believed to act as a neurotransmitter, conducting the pain impulse

from the periphery to the Central Nervous System.

Dr Copolov said studies had shown that there were many different types of endorphins and enkephalins, some produced in the brain and some in the adrenal glands.

Attempts to use endorphins as an analgesic had been unsuccessful when the neuropeptide was injected into a vein, he said, because it could not reach the brain. It was prevented by the "blood-brain barrier."

When it was injected into the spinal area, however, it diffused up to the brain and could provide prolonged and very powerful pain relief.

However, he said, the cost of synthesising endorphins for that purpose was "beyond current economic reality", although technology involving genetic engineering might make synthesis of beta endorphins feasible in the future.

Dr Copolov said recent research in the US suggested that the so-called placebo effect could be mediated by endorphins.

He said it was the practice in trials to test the efficacy of a drug to give some of the patients a placebo (a sugar coated pill with no therapeutic value) as a control. Despite the fact that the sugar coated pill was therapeutically inert, some 30 or 40 per cent of people responded to it.

The United States group had found that this placebo response could be blocked by the drug naloxone which blocks the endorphin receptor in the brain.



The pass rate of first year, full-time students at Monash either rose or remained the same in 1981 compared with 1980 in all faculties except one — Economics and Politics.

This information is contained in a digest of 1981 examination statistics prepared by Examinations Officer, Mr Bob Harle.

In Science and Engineering, pass rates last year were at their highest levels in at least a decade — 88% and 84% respectively. Engineering's figure is 20% up on the decade "low" recorded in 1974 and 1975.

In Arts and Medicine, pass rates remained the same as the previous year — 84% and 92%. In the last decade the Arts pass rate "peaked" at 88% in 1975. The pass rate of first year, full-time students in Medicine reached an unparalleled "high" of 99% in 1976.

In Law last year the pass rate was up three per cent on that of 1980 — 95% which compares with a decade high of 97% (1979) and low of 79% (1972).

In ECOPS, the pass rate of first year, full-time students fell three per cent in 1981 — to 80%. The decade "low" was recorded in 1976 (75%).

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

Engineering and Medicine operate on a fairly closely controlled passing-by-years system.

The Examination Statistics show that

How the class of '81 fared

the percentage of students graduating with honours has not improved in the three faculties — Arts, ECOPS and Science — in which honours work is completed as an additional year. In Engineering, Law and Medicine, which award honours as a result of student performance during the course, the percentage is up.

In Arts, ECOPS, Science and Engineering, the "honours" figure represents the percentage of those students admitted to full-time first year in 1978 who had, by 1981, graduated with honours (i.e. in the minimum time).

The Arts figure was 5% (the same as the percentage of the 1977 intake but down from a recent high of 10% of the 1975 intake); ECOPS 2% (down from the 1973 intake high of 5%); Science 18% (down 2% on the previous year), and Engineering 24% (up 3%).

The most recent figure for Law which embraces only students who enrolled for B. Juris/LLB as their first course is based on the 1977 intake and was 5% (up by 5% on the 1976 intake). In Medicine the figure is based on the 1976 intake and was 21% (up from 20% in the previous two years).

New Academy awards

The Australian Academy of Humanities has undertaken a project to promote new areas of scholarly work on Australia's cultural history as part of its contribution to the Bicentenary celebrations in 1988.

The project will concentrate less on the arts, social history and popular culture than on the various attitudes, ideas, sciences and disciplines, individuals, institutions and policies that have expressed, contributed to, or helped to shape our intellectual and cultural life.

The project is taking the form of two new ventures:

- A series of annual seminars and, associated with this, a new journal, **Australian Cultural History**, which is published by the Academy in conjunction with the History of Ideas Unit at the Australian National University.

- A set of awards for outstanding scholarly work on Australian cultural history. Details of these will be announced later this year. One award will be to encourage research by younger or less established scholars and a second

will be for substantial, book-length work.

The first issue of "Australian Cultural History", by the way, has just been published. The topic under consideration is "Culture and the State". Copies are available at \$6.50, including postage, from the Academy's office (P.O. Box 93, Canberra, ACT 2600).

The editors of the journal say that it is intended for the general reader as well as the academic. It should prove of interest to teachers and students at secondary level as well as tertiary.

Secretary's job

The History Institute, Victoria, has recently been established to co-ordinate research by historians inside and outside the four universities.

It requires the services of a half-time senior secretary to work in Carlton.

Further information: **Dr Brian Crozier, Executive Secretary, The History Institute, 1 Mahoney St, Fitzroy 3065.**

It's testing time of the year again

Monash this month enters the most sober phase of the year — the examinations period.

Examinations start on Friday, October 22 and continue for about four weeks. During that time some 90 supervisors will keep a watchful eye over 46,000 individual candidatures. On several occasions more than 3500 candidature sittings will be accommodated in a day.

Except for a small number of papers for later year medical students, all examinations are held on campus and, in 1982, some 14 separate locations will be used with seating capacities ranging from 60 to 560.

Preparation of the exam timetable began in the first week of August. Last week, individual schedules of examination dates and times were mailed to the term addresses of 10,000 students.

From master copies of the examination papers, Office Services and Printing are now printing and collating into sets nearly half a million sheets of paper which make up the 640 different examination papers placed before students. In submitting answers to the questions, candidates will write in 100,000 script books.

(Now, cover up the preceding story and here's 20 questions . . .)



● This ore dump truck in the Pilbara dwarfs Monash researchers Michael Cass (left), Tim Ealey and Graham Andrews. A tyre alone for the vehicle costs \$10,000!

Study on safe waste disposal in Pilbara

Monash's Graduate School of Environmental Science is conducting an investigation into the safe handling and disposal of wastes from the use of industrial chemicals and materials in mining operations in the Pilbara region of Western Australia.

The study is being carried out for Hamersley Iron Pty. Ltd. and involves identification of the environmental problems involved with the use of materials listed in the company's Hazardous Materials Index. Some 200 materials are listed in the Index.

It is intended that the work will yield a technical basis from which submissions can be made to the appropriate government bodies for the approval of specific waste disposal methods and sites.

The research team is being directed by **Dr Tim Ealey**, Director of the Graduate School of Environmental Science, and has as its members **Mr Graham Andrew** and **Mr Michael Cass**, both candidates in the School's Masters program.

Mr Andrew is Senior Designer, Mechanical, with the Government Aircraft Factories in Port Melbourne and Mr Cass is Environmental Affairs Adviser with Shell Australia.

Their work is being supervised by two Monash academics — **Dr H. Leher**, senior lecturer in Chemical Engineering,

and **Dr G. A. Ryan**, senior lecturer in Social and Preventive Medicine.

Dr Ealey, Mr Andrew and Mr Cass recently toured the Mt Tom Price, Paraburdoo and Dampier operations of Hamersley with members of the company's Environmental department.

Dr Ealey said that he was impressed by the company's "general good house-keeping" at its mine sites and its positive attitude towards the environment.

The study has begun with an extensive literature search on the environmental hazards, safe handling practices and preferred means of disposal of the materials listed on the Index and substances associated with their use. This includes disposal of wastes to land, water and by incineration.

A detailed review of the company's existing practices will then be undertaken.

It is proposed that the study will make recommendations on procedures for safe handling and disposal of industrial waste, the characteristics of appropriate sites for such disposal and the management and continuing environmental monitoring of such sites.

Particular consideration will be given to the requirements associated with disposal of combustible wastes either by blending with fuel oil or by other methods of incineration.



Born on June 3, 1906, Sir Robert Rutherford Blackwood was educated at Melbourne Grammar School and at the University of Melbourne, from which he graduated Bachelor of Electrical Engineering in 1928.

Throughout his professional life Sir Robert had twin associations — with universities and with private industry.

His first job after graduation was as a testing officer in the Engineering School at Melbourne University, where he continued to study, taking a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree in 1930 and a Master of Civil Engineering degree three years later. His research program was on structural arc welding.

In 1930 he was appointed to the academic staff at Melbourne as lecturer in Agricultural Engineering. In 1933 he moved over to industry as a research engineer with Dunlop Australia Ltd.,

where he became technical manager four years later.

Sir Robert returned to academic life in 1947 when he accepted the foundation chair of Mechanical Engineering at Melbourne University. In 1948 he returned to Dunlop as general manager, a position he held until his retirement in 1966. After retirement he served for a number of years (1972-79) as Chairman of the Board at Dunlop. He was also a Director of Humes Ltd.

Sir Robert's association with Monash University goes back to its very beginning. As a man with administrative experience generally and an intimate knowledge of universities, he was appointed Chairman of the University's Interim Council in 1958 becoming Monash's first Chancellor when it opened in 1961. He retired from this position in 1968. He recorded the events of those formative years in the

book "Monash University: The First Ten Years" (Hampden Hall, 1968).

Monash's major public venue — its "Great Hall", completed in 1971 — was named Robert Blackwood Hall as a tribute to Sir Robert's major role in the planning and development of the University. At the opening of the Hall on June 19, 1971, Sir Robert was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

Even while associated with the birth of Victoria's second university, Sir Robert did not forget an allegiance to its first; he served on the Council of the University of Melbourne from 1951 to 1963.

A busy man in public affairs, he served as a Trustee of the National Museum of Victoria from 1964 to 1978, and was President of its Council for seven of those years. He was also President of the Royal Society of Victoria in 1973-74.

Sir Robert was knighted in 1961.

Monash's first Chancellor, Sir Robert Blackwood, died on August 21, at age 76.

A commemoration for him was held in Robert Blackwood Hall on September 10.

A 'pilot' without parallel

Monash University could not possibly have found a more perceptive, competent or efficient person to pilot its formation than Sir Robert Blackwood.

The University's first Vice-Chancellor, Sir Louis Matheson, said this in an address delivered at the commemoration for Sir Robert held in Robert Blackwood Hall on September 10. The other principal speaker was Sir Henry Somerset, former Chancellor of the University of Tasmania and Chairman of Humes Ltd, and a close friend of Sir Robert.

Sir Louis recalled his association with Sir Robert, which dated back to 1947 when Sir Louis was appointed to the newly-created Chair of Civil Engineering at Melbourne University. Sir Robert was Dean of the faculty.

Speaking of Sir Robert's chairmanship of the Interim Council of Monash University, Sir Louis said: "In next to no time, it seemed, a site had been found, architects were appointed to

prepare a master plan, a broad academic policy had been formulated, and a program of development agreed which would take the new University's population to 12,000 students in something like a decade."

Sir Robert's ideas for the new University were, Sir Louis said, "unsentimental and pragmatic". Having made up his mind on what was required in the contemporary world he set about bringing these ideas to reality.

Sir Louis continued: "To be sure he was criticised by the Australian Universities Commission when it took up office in 1959 for proceeding so far and so fast before any academic appointments had been made.

"But as we look at Monash University today, contemplate the intellectual stature that it has achieved, and observe its standing and reputation in the world of learning, we have to acknowledge that the first Chancellor's plans were well conceived."

Sir Louis said that Sir Robert's influence continued long after the interim had given away to the permanent Council. As Chairman of the Finance and Buildings Committees, he guided the development of the University "shrewdly and wisely".

Proper course

Sir Louis said: "(Sir Robert) had an enviable capacity for deciding on the proper course of action, in any circumstances, by stripping the problem down to essentials and refusing to be distracted by what he had decided were side issues.

"Having formulated his plan he went for it with determination. If it succeeded so much the better; if not, there were still plenty of other problems.

"If he was disappointed, or angry, or even overjoyed, the emotion seldom showed. Perhaps this is why Sir William

Dargie's portrait is so bland and neutral. There is little sign there of the formidable capacity of the subject."

Sir Henry Somerset took an anecdotal approach in his address. His friendship with Sir Robert spanned some 60 years.

Sir Robert, he said, had an extraordinary range of interests which included geology, entomology, conchology, philately, archaeology and anthropology. He was also a painter and wood carver, and enjoyed billiards.

Sir Henry said: "Bob had a good life — full of interest. He was self-sufficient and often worked alone. He was interested in what other people did and was always prepared to offer advice and encouragement. He was patient and dedicated to his work, which he carried out with great care and attention. His breadth of knowledge was beyond belief.

"He is a great loss to all of us — to industry, to science and to this University."

Right: The film crew on location: (from left) Don Hauser, Graham Ivey, Mick Ryan, Peter Boyle and Terry O'Brien. Below: A glimpse of the 'microworld' the program explores — spores of the soft treefern *Dicksonia antiantica* (top) and a moss, *Dawsonia superbia* (bottom). Photos: Rick Crompton.



Botanist reveals fine detail of forest

David Attenborough gave us "Life on Earth". Now, Dr Terry O'Brien, Reader in Botany at Monash, is to give us "Life at Kallista".

Actually, the title of a half-hour videotape made by the University's Educational Technology Section with Dr O'Brien is **Wondrous Sherbrooke**.

In the program Dr O'Brien, who is currently overseas, takes his audience for a walk on a forest trail, stopping to examine aspects of the microworld along the way. The area's magnificent ferns are, of course, a feature.

The program, a product of the Teaching Im-



provement Projects (TIPs) scheme, was conceived as an introduction to the Sherbrooke area where second year Botany students do field work. But it has developed as a program with interest for other biologically oriented students at University or in secondary school and for the nature-minded lay person.

About a week's on-location shooting went into the production, with additional work in the studio and in editing.

"Wondrous Sherbrooke" will have a public screening in lecture theatre M2 (Medicine) on Wednesday, October 20 at 1 p.m.

• The TIPs scheme aims to promote in-

novation in undergraduate teaching at Monash. It is administered by the Higher Education Advisory and Research Unit and funded by the Vice-Chancellor.

TIPs is essentially a small grants project to give some incentive for teachers to start thinking about innovation — whether it be, say, in the preparation of teaching materials or assessment methods — and get projects off the ground that would otherwise be frustrated by funding pressures.

For further information about the scheme contact HEARU Director, **Dr Terry Hore**.

Geography survey maps destinations

A survey of 1981 Monash graduates who majored in geography has revealed little unemployment as at April 30 this year.

But the survey also has shown that geography graduates seem to have almost no perception of how the skills they have developed during their course might be useful to potential employers.

The survey was conducted by Monash's Careers and Appointments Service by means of a questionnaire sent to graduates at the same time as an annual Graduate Careers Council of Australia "destinations" questionnaire.

A report just published by C&A in conjunction with the Geography department, titled **Monash University Graduates in Geography 1981**, combines information from both surveys.

This is the first time that C&A has surveyed graduates who have majored in a discipline available as part of an Arts degree (although respondents also included Science and Economics graduates). Previous studies have been conducted of diplomates in Education and Law graduates.

"Surveys of this kind have proved of particular value for rebutting of allegations about the employment of the graduates and have provided a basis for career decisions," the report says.

One of the reasons geography was chosen is that it is a discipline which poses some prospect of eventual employment for which the academic training is directly relevant.

A total of 48 graduates (35 Arts, 12 Science and 1 Economics) responded to the questionnaire. Almost half the respondents were female although only 43% of those with Arts degrees were female (compared with 72% of students enrolled in final year Arts in 1981). A third of respondents were aged 23 or over.

Only one respondent was still seeking full or part-time employment at April 30. Two graduates were working part-time but seeking full-time work. Both were in employment appropriate to their qualification, however.

Nine of the respondents were in full-time employment (five in their first full-time job) and 31 were continuing with some form of further study (21 of those at Monash and nearly half of the total in education).

The report cautions that the claim that there is little unemployment among geography students could be seen as statistical "fudging" because many continue with further studies rather than seek employment.

It says: "If there were many jobs for which geography was directly relevant then these graduates had little success in locating them; only two applied for jobs for which geography was a preferred requirement, and one for a job for which it was prescribed."

The report says that it is "a pity" that more geography graduates do not move directly into employment. As an example, they would be well-equipped for jobs with the Assistant Research Officer scheme of the Australian Public Service. "Tasks such as these are unlikely to be peculiar to this employer," it observes.

Most of the respondents saw the benefits gained from their study in terms of geographical insights rather than qualifications or skills related to employment. Little dissatisfaction was expressed with either the course or Geography department.

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One perceptive graduate remarked:

"As far as careers in geography go, I would reject attempts to make the Monash course more career-oriented. I feel that a range of units should always be offered — few jobs require geography as a prerequisite but many can be approached through it. Better information and counselling are needed, but the course itself must remain a range of choices."

The report comments that geography is one subject, in fact, in which educational objectives and requirements of the job market can be reconciled.

"Within the world of work there are many decisions taken which are essentially 'geographical' in nature. For the private employer, decisions reflecting market strategies, location of production facilities, supplies of raw material and distribution of goods and services, access to labour skills, relations with the community and others with whom it deals, are all reflections of geographic considerations.

"The provision of many government services, such as education, welfare, community programs, transport, gas and electricity, recreation, are also influenced by geographic considerations.

"Some recognition of this is already apparent in the course at Monash. Perhaps it could be extended further."

The survey found that a "disturbingly" high percentage of respondents (42%) had not made application for either employment or post-graduate study by the end of last year.

It also identified a very high percentage (83%) of respondents who intend to return to study — mostly in geography or allied fields — within five years.

"The likelihood of such interest being confined to geography graduates is remote," comments the report.

How well informed are new graduates and students as yet outside "the world of work" about what lies in store?

The answer, in most cases, is "not very".

For those students keen to improve their preparation for the next phase of their careers, an Employment Orientation Program will be held from December 1 to 8 at RMIT.

The Program is being devised and sponsored by the Graduate Careers Council of Australia in conjunction with the careers services of many of the Victorian universities (including Monash) and colleges of advanced education, as well as companies which are traditional graduate employers.

Its aim will be to familiarise students as job applicants with some of the procedures and expectations of employers, large and small, government and non-government.



• Darlene Vandenberg, Year 10 student at Aquinas College, tops up the water in her model which demonstrates how hydroelectricity works.

Science talent on show

The foyer of Robert Blackwood Hall was alive on Friday, September 24 with students ranging from primary level to senior secondary, all dedicated to answering a question posed by a certain physics professor and purveyor of chocolate: Why is it so?

The occasion was exhibition day of the Science Talent Search which has been conducted for the last 30 years by the Science Teachers' Association of Victoria. It is one of the longest-running programs of its type in the world.

On display were some 300 student projects — in the form of posters, photographic and written essays, games and simulations, experiments and models — which addressed

themselves to some novel questions: What happens in an ant colony? How effective is an Esky? Which batteries are the long lasters? Can dance movements be analysed scientifically?

Inside RBH during the afternoon the Governor of Victoria, Rear Admiral Sir Brian Murray presented bursaries to winners of the talent search. He was assisted by Dr B. G. Cragg, Reader in Physiology at Monash, who was representing the Australian Academy of Science. Earlier in the day, Dr Norman Curry, Director General of Education in Victoria, opened the display.

This year some \$8600 was awarded in prize money, largely donated by industry.

Insight on a world beyond

The Program is primarily intended for students completing studies in 1982 who plan to take up employment next year, although students in their second last year should also find it of value. The organisers are keen to involve students from country institutions who may not have as easy access to employers and careers information as students at Melbourne institutions. Up to 200 students can be included in the program.

The steering committee for the Employment Orientation Program has been chaired by Mr John Norgard and includes among its members Mr Lionel Parrott and Mr John Swinton of Monash's Careers and Appointments Service.

This is the first time such a program has been offered to all Victorian tertiary students (although a similar program has been run by La Trobe's careers service for that University's students). If successful, the Graduate Careers Coun-

cil might take the Program interstate.

The Program's format includes lectures, films and visits to firms and public service departments. The Shadow Minister for Science and Technology in the Federal Parliament, Mr Barry Jones, will be among the speakers.

But the emphasis in activities during the six days will be on participation by the students themselves in small working ("syndicate") groups.

Some of the subjects that will be covered include employment trends, organisational structures, technology, decision-making and problem-solving, business communication, the job search, application writing and interview skills.

The registration fee for the Program is \$25. Enrolment forms are available from the Careers and Appointments Service on the first floor of the Union. For further information contact John Swinton, ext. 3150/1/2.



BOOKS

Support for two volumes

Two new volumes have been published with assistance from Monash University's Publications Committee.

One is the *Australian Journal of French Studies*, volume 19, number 1. Editor of the *Journal*, which contains seven essays and a book review, is Associate Professor Wallace Kirsop of the French department.

The second volume is "Metaphor in Babel's Short Stories" by Danuta Mendelson. It is published by Ardis (Ann Arbor, Michigan) which is the largest publisher of Russian literature in English and Russian outside the USSR.

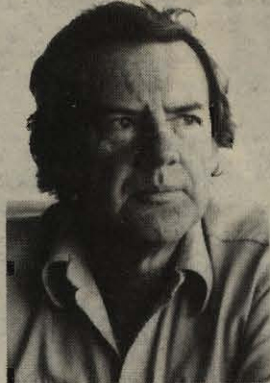
The Publications Committee's assistance often enables works of scholarship which may have limited market appeal to be published.

Multilingual Oz

A new volume by Associate Professor Michael Clyne, of the German department, has just been published.

The title is *Multilingual Australia* and the publishers River Seine (132 Elgin St, Carlton, Victoria 3053).

Monash authors: a special book supplement



● Professor Mal Logan

There have been important changes in Australia's economy and society in recent years.

These have been identifiable in employment structures, demographic patterns, resource developments and forms of government activity.

A new series of books published by Shillington House examines some of the changes and the historical and international processes which underlie them.

The series is titled "Studies in Australian Society" and its general editor is Professor Mal Logan, of the Geography department.

Three of the first five books in the series are by or contain contributions from Monash geographers.

They are:

● *Urbanisation: The Australian Experience*, by Professor Logan, Associate Professor Jim Whitelaw and Mr John McKay.

This book examines some geographic characteristics of Australia's towns and

cities in the context of the national pattern of social and economic development.

The central argument is that the urban system is largely a product of economic growth processes that have created particular patterns since the beginning of European settlement.

● *Australian Cities in Transition*, by Dr Chris Maher.

This book sets out to examine the contemporary nature of Australian cities, how they have developed over time, what factors can account for their present form and what problems confront the urban resident today.

The themes covered include population distribution and character, employment, housing, transportation and planning. Also examined are changes in the spatial structure of the city through processes of suburbanisation, inner city decline and gentrification.

● *An Unequal World: A Perspective on Development*, by Professor Logan and Dr G. J. Missen, senior lecturer in Geography at Melbourne University.

This book explores issues related to the ever-widening gap between rich and poor, both within a country and between countries.

The central theme is that the process

of development and the structures it creates can be fully understood only by an appreciation of the interdependencies among nations. The development path taken by a nation is a result of the conjuncture of conditions in the international capitalist system and circumstances with a nation.

The book looks particularly at the experience of Australia and certain countries of South-east Asia. It argues that their development paths and the patterns which have resulted from them have been greatly conditioned by relationships with Europe, North America and Japan.

Of wide interest

The other books in the series are *Urban and Regional Planning in Victoria* by Toni Logan and *Population, Society and Environment* by Ian Burnley.

The publishers say that the series will be of interest not only to the professional geographer, social worker or planner but also everyone involved in the decision-making which shapes the "quality of life" in Australian society.

For further information about the books contact Shillington House, P.O. Box 268, South Yarra, Victoria, 3141.

A fine memorial to Ian Turner

FRIENDS and admirers of Ian Turner will be grateful to Leonie Sandercock and Stephen Murray-Smith for editing this selection of his occasional writings. It is a handsomely produced paperback, well designed and printed, with illustrations by Noel Counihan, Bruce Petty, Rick Amor and Murray Walker. It makes a fine memorial volume; and Ian's easy conversational style in these essays makes it good reading.

The editors have grouped the essays they have chosen in four sections, dealing with Australian history, left-wing politics, intellectuals and their interests, and popular culture. The essays are, necessarily, a somewhat mixed bag, and every reader will discover his or her own favourites. My choice (singling out one from each section) was "The Social Setting", a sketch in bold outline of the relation of Australian literature to Australian society, "My Long March", Ian's autobiography from Nhill to Utopia, "Culture of the Intelligentsia", a nice piece of armchair sociology, and "The Play-Rhymes of Australian Children", his scholarly introduction to *Cinderella Dressed in Yella*.

To readers who have not had, and will not have, the pleasure of knowing Ian personally, the special interest of his book of essays will lie in their discovery of the man and his views on a range of subjects. As he puts it in his essay on C. P. Snow, they will want to find out of him:

"Why men are what they are, what moves them to act as they do . . . The world of externals is only important only as it mirrors, or provides a setting for, the inner drama of reason, emotion, decision, action, reflection" (p. 184).

For a large part of the quest, they will have no difficulty. Ian's personality and beliefs seem to be written large and open in these essays. "Socialist humanist", "Romantic revolutionary", "Australian nationalist" — he cheerfully accepted these labels and was prepared to spell out what they meant to him. His ideal was a society that was independent-minded not deferential, critical and irreverent of authority not conformist, egalitarian not elitist, fraternal not com-

In review

Room for Manoeuvre: Writings on History, Politics, Ideas and Play by Ian Turner (selected and edited by Leonie Sandercock and Stephen Murray-Smith). Drummond, Melbourne, 1982.

petitive, resourceful and stoical before the blows of fate but combative of the injustice of men. From his own experience, however, he knew that between the ideal and the real world, the path was beset with strange company, unlikely turnings; and he has left us his account of his pilgrimage.

As an historian, he is good at explaining the effect of changing times and circumstances on his own and others' beliefs. But not all is revealed: there are gaps in his explanations which his future biographer will need to fill. Ian was too much of an extrovert to provide the full account of that "inner drama" which he himself required in explanation. What biographer influenced by "psycho-history" could be content with the record of his early life and family in "My Long March"; what historian of ideas with the mere list of his reading and listening at the University of Melbourne about the formulation of his conception of the world at that exciting time?

We learn from "Socialist History and the Social Historian" (curiously enough, one of the least successful of the essays) that Brian Fitzpatrick and Manning Clark were Ian's two chief mentors, yet his long and sympathetic essay on "Manning Clark: History and the Voice of Prophecy" is mainly an exposition and interpretation of Manning Clark's views and gives us hardly more than a hint of his own synthesis (if any) of Clark and Marx. It is a pity that Ian was not able to write the full-scale autobiography for which "My Long March" was intended as merely a preliminary sketch.

Ian asks at the end of one of his essays: "How much room for manoeuvre still remains?" (p.215). Since 1958, when with dignity and without rancour he became free of Party ties, Ian found a good deal of

room. But one of his old commitments to which he remained warmly attached, and which features prominently in the book, was to the "Australian Legend" concerning the cultural origins of radical nationalism of which Russel Ward and he had been leading interpreters. In several of these essays Ian has defended and to some extent restated his position. Unfortunately he lived only to see, not to join in, the sharpened debate on this topic that appeared in the journal *Historical Studies* of October 1978. But he had earlier discerned the main lines of criticism the "Legend" was encountering and we see him, in the essays, considering the arguments of its critics and making some concessions to those he believed to be justified — mainly the feminists and the "New Left".

He conceded that the Australian radical nationalist tradition was populist rather than socialist in nature, that it had been racist and masculine in bias, but he still maintained that "warts and all" it had embodied values "relevant" to the Left. Furthermore, he still insisted on the linear transmission of these values through the "lower orders" of rural society in Australia to the urban workers and Left intellectuals of today.

All this is now open to intensified debate, both at the historical and the political level. Some left-wing theorists have dared to suggest that, although the interest in Australian nationalism gave a shot in the arm to the arts in the years during and immediately after the second world war, it may prove to be too dangerous and atavistic a force for the Left to be deliberately cultivating. Nationalism is strong enough to look after itself; whatever of merit there is in it will make itself felt unconsciously; too much preoccupation with it could reduce us to a nation of provincials; it is time for intellectuals to return to universal themes. One can imagine how Ian would have relished getting into the debate.

It is a tribute to Ian as writer that this volume of posthumous essays remains as stimulating and challenging as he was as a teacher.

Alan McBriar
Professor of History

MONASH REPORTER

Monash authors: a special book supplement

Four new works in education history

This has been a big year for historians of education in Monash's Education faculty.

All four staff members who teach history of education courses (offered as part of the B.Ed. and M.Ed. courses) will have published major works in their specialist areas by year's end. The authors are Professor Richard Selleck; Dr Andrew Spaul, Reader in the faculty; Ms Ailsa Thomson Zainu'ddin, senior lecturer; and Dr Martin Sullivan, senior lecturer.

First up, in April, was Professor Selleck's *Frank Tate: A Biography*, published by Melbourne University Press.

The book traces the career of Tate, assessing particularly his contribution as Victoria's Director of Education from 1902 to 1928. Professor Selleck says that during those 26 years Tate laid the foundations upon which the present system of education is built.

As a teachers' college lecturer and inspector he played an important role in introducing ideas and methods which helped to reform the State elementary school. As Director of Education he was responsible for the introduction of State high and technical schools and for the development of the administrative structure which is still recognisable today.

Reviewers have called Professor Selleck's book an accomplished contribution to Australian biography.

The second book to be published, in July, was Dr Spaul's *Australian Education in the Second World War* (University of Queensland Press) which examines the immediate and long term impact of total war on Australian schooling and educational reform and change.

The research on which the book is based was funded by the recently abolished Educational Research and

Development Committee.

The book looks at how the students of August 1945 came through the war years and is based on a comprehensive study of national and State records.

In evaluating the impact of the war on Australian education several aspects have been chosen. Among them, the day to day operation of both government and private schools, the behaviour of children inside and outside the classroom, modifications to school and university curricula, the teaching service, education reform movements and the increasing Commonwealth participation in education.

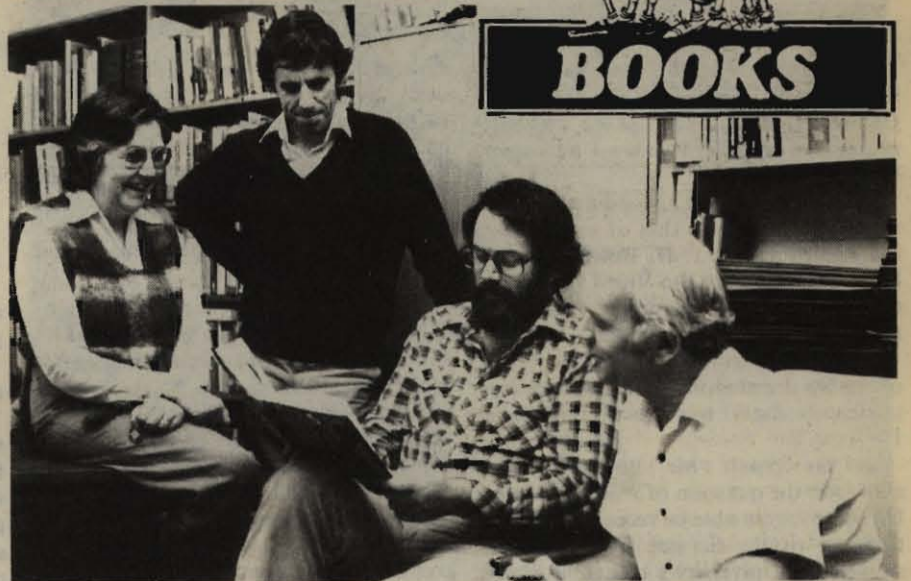
MLC history

The third book to be published is Ms Zainu'ddin's *They Dreamt of a School: A Centenary History of the Methodist Ladies College Kew* (Hyland House). This commemorative history was launched last month by actress *Monica Maughan*, daughter of *Dr A. H. Wood*, one-time principal of MLC.

Ms Zainu'ddin is a former student of the college and long-standing member of its Council.

Next month will see publication of Dr Sullivan's *Men and Women of Port Phillip* (Hale and Iremonger). It is a study in which Dr Sullivan hopes to correct the impression that only Lonsdale, La Trobe and Henty made major contributions to the development of early Victoria.

The four books reflect something of the new historiography in Australian education and give a clue to the scope of



• The four Monash 'history of education' authors: Ailsa Thomson Zainu'ddin, Professor Richard Selleck, Dr Andrew Spaul and Dr Martin Sullivan. Photo: Rick Crompton

history of education courses at Monash.

It is a field in which this University has established a firm reputation as reflected by the fact that the faculty has the largest number of graduate students in Australia working in the area. In the past 12 years more than 30 Master or Ph.D. theses in history of education have been completed.

The faculty has also attracted some of the best overseas historians of education as visitors.

A distinguished visitor this year has been Professor Susan Houston, Professor of Social History at York University, Ontario, Canada.

All four Monash authors are founding members of the Australian and New Zealand History of Education

Society. For many years Dr Sullivan was its honorary secretary. As well they are involved in other scholarly societies and history projects associated with Australia's Bicentenary or Victoria's Sesquicentenary.

The authors have come to Monash with a variety of historical training and interests.

Professor Selleck's early research was on English progressive education. Ms Zainu'ddin at one time taught British Constitutional History in the Law faculty at Melbourne University and later specialised in Indonesian history. Dr Spaul has done research in economic history and teacher unionism while Dr Sullivan has studied Queensland political and labour history.

Atlas up and away!

The *Atlas of Victoria*, edited by Monash geographer, Dr Stuart Duncan, is off and running in the sales stakes.

Launched by the Premier, John Cain, on September 27, the 256-page Atlas contains some 150 maps and 200

photographs (see Reporter 7-82).

It sells for \$38.15 in the Monash Bookshop which in the first 24 hours after the book's launch had sold as many copies.

A panoramic approach to law

PROFESSOR WEERAMANTRY has, as he states in his introduction, set out to write a book for the school leaver or first year university student. Lamenting the fact that our law students may graduate without having heard of Bentham or Kant, and knowing nothing of Roman or Hindu law, Professor Weeramantry makes sure that these topics, and many, many more are all covered in his book.

The resulting book is an impressive tribute to the breadth of its author's knowledge and interests. Something like 100 topics are touched upon, ranging through many different legal systems, the relationships between law and other fields of human knowledge, the sources of law, philosophical questions about the nature and ends of law, the social context of law, law and democracy, basic legal concepts, trial procedures, human rights, and new directions taken by the law into areas like corporate responsibility, sexual equality, the elimination of poverty, and open government.

It would be easy to criticise such a book for the brief and superficial manner in which it deals with many of these topics. For example, is it possible to say anything at all useful about two millennia of Jewish law in the space of three pages? Can the relationship of law and history be discussed in less than two pages? What would lawyers think of two page summaries of topics like Contract, or Tort?

Yet to criticise the book in this manner is to

MONASH REPORTER

In review

An Invitation to the Law by C. G. Weeramantry. Butterworths, \$35.00 (hardcover) \$25.00 (softcover) xiv + 369 pp.

misunderstand the kind of book Professor Weeramantry has sought to write. As I understand his intention, he has quite deliberately gone for breadth rather than depth, in order to provide an antidote to the highly detailed study of a small number of subjects that law students will go through during their course. Given that, it might be more appropriate to praise Professor Weeramantry for his remarkable feat of compression than to condemn him for his brevity. He deserves praise, too, for concerning himself with law in the field, as distinct from "book law". Unlike many legal academics, he recognises the importance of the way the law works in everyday life.

A different criticism, and perhaps a more apt one, would be that the choice of topics is a little odd, reflecting the author's particular interests rather than the needs of the general reader seeking an introduction to the law. Professor Weeramantry is well known for his interest in problems of world poverty, human rights, distribution of wealth, and equality among the peoples

of the world. These are laudable interests, shared by this reviewer and by many other readers. They deserve some notice in a book on the law, but they are primarily ethical, political, economic and social problems, rather than legal problems. Some readers might therefore feel that the space spent on these issues could have been better used for a deeper discussion of those issues that are solely or primarily about the law.

To this criticism, Professor Weeramantry would no doubt reply that such an approach would only confirm the excessively narrow definition of the law that he is concerned to combat.

The problem is that Professor Weeramantry has been trapped by his own high ideals: to write a book about the law as it is, he would have to put to one side his vision of the law as it should be.

I shall not attempt in this review to comment on specific points in Professor Weeramantry's treatment of his topics. One could cavil with some of the things that he says, here and there. On the other hand there is no doubt that law students who have absorbed and thought about all that this book contains will have a broad base on which to build their further education.

These students will also have, if they keep their copy of *An Invitation to the Law* handy, a valuable source-book, properly indexed, which can serve them as a work of reference for many years to come.

Peter Singer
Professor of Philosophy

OCTOBER 1982

Health service report — no change

The operation of the Monash Health Service will remain as is following Council's acceptance of a recommendation from its Finance Committee in August.

The committee's recommendation was based in turn on that of a report by the Registrar, Mr J. D. Butchart, who had been asked by the Vice-Chancellor to inquire into alternative ways of financing the Health Service.

The cost to the University of operating the present "free" Service for students and staff was about \$218,000 in 1981.

In his report Mr Butchart first addresses the question of whether, if the University were able to recover some of the cost of the Service from another source, the University's recurrent grant would be cut.

He says that at a meeting last year between the Chairman and Secretary of the Universities Council and representatives of some universities it was agreed that universities were free to charge for the provision of health services. The inference was that any sums so recovered would not be deducted from the grant recommended by the UC.

However, Mr Butchart adds, there are legal complications in universities charging fees for medical services.

One arises from section 19.(2)(d) of the Health Insurance Act 1973 which states that, unless the Health Minister otherwise directs, the Commonwealth medical benefit is not payable in respect of a professional service that has been rendered by, or on behalf of, or under arrangement with an authority established by a law of the Commonwealth or State.

A second difficulty arises from Section 28.(1) of the Victorian Medical Practitioners Act 1970 which, in effect, provides that a person who is not registered as a legally qualified practitioner is not entitled to recover any charge in a court of law for the provision of medical services or advice.

"Hence, if the University in its name did decide to charge, as it is legally entitled to do, any fees outstanding would not be recoverable by law," Mr Butchart says.

Five choices.

Having "set the scene", Mr Butchart lists five options on the future of the Health Service.

1. The University could abolish the Service leaving students and staff to take what action they saw fit to protect themselves against the financial consequences of ill health or hospitalisation in the same way as other members of the community.

He comments: "University students (and some students of other tertiary institutions) constitute a special group within the community from a medical point of view.

"They are subject to special stresses and strains and have special medical problems not experienced by other members of their age cohort differently occupied.

"Student health medicine can, therefore, be seen to be a special branch of medicine and practitioners involved need to develop special skills.

"The community would be disadvantaged by the elimination of student health services which would require students to seek medical attention from the community health services at large."

2. The University could charge

students and staff on a fee for service basis as it saw fit, recognising that neither the University nor the patients concerned could recover from the Commonwealth any proportion of the fee charged.

On this point Mr Butchart says: "Depending upon the cover which individual patients had arranged, if they had arranged any at all, the patient concerned might be worse off than if he had sought the service of a general practitioner elsewhere."

If fees were recoverable, Mr Butchart says "there is enough evidence that once the tumult and the shouting dies, a large proportion of students are covered by their parents' cover, or cover they take out themselves, or cover available under green card arrangements."

"All that is required is some flexibility to be built into the system to cater for those students who, for one reason or another, are either not covered or are unwilling to rely upon parental cover," he says.

"Nevertheless, in terms of Section 19.(2)(d) of the Act this option is not open to the University unless it secures the approval of the Minister.

3. The University, then, could ask the Minister to direct that the Commonwealth medical benefit should be payable in respect of a professional service rendered by the University Health Service and, if approved, could then charge students and staff.

Mr Butchart comments: "It does not appear to me that an application from one university for Ministerial approval is likely to be entertained by the Minister and, if an approach were to be contemplated, then I consider it is a matter which needs to be taken up by the Vice-Chancellors' Committee on behalf of all universities.

"I recommend that no action be taken in this regard, notwithstanding the Sydney experience which is something of an historical accident unlikely to be repeated."

(The University of Sydney's Health Service, established in 1956, has always charged normal consulting fees. Patients of the Service have claimed and received reimbursement under the Health Insurance Act. Sydney University's legal advice has been that the University is not an authority established by a law of a State within the meaning of Section 19.(2) of the Act. However, earlier this year the Commonwealth Director-General of Health sent a circular to all universities, including Sydney, drawing attention to this section. It would appear, then, that patients at the Sydney Health Service have been reimbursed contrary to law, at least since a 1976 amendment to the Act. The matter is under review.)

4. The University could, in lieu of the present arrangement, take steps to provide for the establishment of a general practice within the University on such terms as might be mutually acceptable to the University and to such practitioners who would charge a fee for service.

Under this arrangement, which is in practice at Griffith University in Brisbane, Commonwealth benefits would be payable to students and staff as it would be an individual practitioner, not the University, levying the fee.

5. The University could continue the Health Service as at present.

It is this last option which Mr Butchart recommends although he adds,

"this is in no way to be interpreted to mean that the Health Service should be freed from the budgetary constraints applying to the rest of the University." Staff use.

The Registrar considers one other issue on the Health Service's operation: access to it by staff.

Mr Butchart recommends that no change be made to present arrangements.

Between 15 and 20 per cent of visits to the Service are by members of staff.

Mr Butchart says: "The opportunity to see members of staff offers to Health Service staff the prospect of an involvement with a spectrum of different health problems for those above the average student age. There is another spin-off in that members of the Service are given the opportunity of reacting with members of the University staff, both academic and non-academic. This, in many instances, is helpful in dealing with student health problems."

He continues: "From the point of view of the University as an employer, and bearing in mind the limited service which is, in fact offered, there are real cost benefits to the University in making the Health Service accessible to members of staff.

"If a member of staff has a

comparatively minor trauma or needs some minimal advice or even a repeat prescription, he can obtain this from the Health Service while absenting himself from his work for a comparatively short period.

"If he were denied access to the Health Service and still wished to receive medical advice he would no doubt be absent for at least a half, or more often, a full day's sick leave."

Mr Butchart estimates that the saving to the University in staff attending the Health Service rather than taking a half day's sick leave would have accounted for nearly 80 per cent of the Health Service's cost last year. At a whole day's sick leave, the cost to the University would have been more than the cost of the Health Service.

He adds: "It should also be noted that student usage of the Health Service is necessarily cyclical, whereas staff usage is rather more regular throughout the year.

"As a result, a significant proportion of staff usage of the Health Service occurs during slack periods and the withdrawal of staff from the Health Service would not result in the economies which might superficially be expected, as the Service has to be staffed for maximum demand."



The Student Welfare Action Board has enlisted the aid of several cartoon characters in a bright new project to increase student awareness of services available to them at Monash.

Eight cartoons by Melbourne University student Tim Lindsey, mounted on a wall adjacent to the Balcony Room on the first floor of the Union, draw attention to services such as Health, Legal Aid, Careers and Appointments (including Student Employment), Student Welfare, Finance, Housing, Counselling and Child Care. Underneath each cartoon is an information service about each service.

The project was originally for SWAB Fest, which was held last month.

Pictured above are Sally Betts, Monash's new Student Welfare Officer, and Paul Streefkerk, former chairperson of SWAB and a Dip. Ed. student.

Open day at Caulfield Diabetes Centre

The Royal Southern Memorial Hospital will open its Diabetes Centre to the public during Diabetes Week in October.

The Centre, which is located at 260 Kooyong Road, Caulfield, will be open on Tuesday, October 12, from 2 pm to 5 pm, and Thursday, October 14, from 5 pm to 8 pm.

The aim of Diabetes Week (October

11-15) is to increase public awareness and acceptance of diabetes and provide information on new management techniques to the public, particularly those with diabetes or a diabetic relative.

Activities during the open days will include film screenings, displays and diabetes testing. As well, staff will be available for discussion on diabetes and its treatment.

Sport without the hurt

The 'risks' of fitness

Darwin, New Zealand and New Guinea are just a few of the far-flung places that a sports medicine manual, an initiative of Monash's Sports and Recreation Association, has been distributed to since its first edition in 1969.

The manual has just gone into its fourth edition, this time incorporated into a trainers' manual published by Smith and Nephew (Australia) Pty. Ltd., manufacturers of Elastoplast and Elastoport products, in association with Monash Sports and Rec., the Victorian Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation, and the department of Physical Education at Footscray Institute of Technology.

The 32 page publication, in text and illustrations, highlights fitness training, and the prevention and treatment of sporting injuries.

Some 80,000 copies have been distributed in 13 years.

Each of the editions has been funded from outside sources — the first by Rothmans Sports Foundation, the second in 1975 by the Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation, and the third (1980) and present editions by Elastoplast.

Deputy Warden of the Union, Mr Doug Ellis, says that the manual was first produced to meet the need for practical advice on the immediate and correct treatment of sports injuries.

Mr Ellis attributes its continuing success to the fact that it has an "eminently readable" format, it is free (except for postage), and it was the first publication of its kind in Australia.

Game, set and . . . torn muscle.

That triumphant but injury-prone leap over the net can land the player "out" of active recreation just as soon as he found himself "in" it.

Most would agree that the ordinary Australian's new-found zest for physical activity is a good thing — whether it be the humble pursuits of walking, jogging, cycling or swimming, or membership of the leisure centres which paradoxically mushroom in a time of recession.

But those "ordinary Australians" are paying a price: sports injury is becoming a more personal matter than watching someone roll around in agony on a TV replay.

Many of the problems the "non-athletes" are encountering are what are referred to as "over-use" injuries. Joggers, for example, who attempt too long distances too soon, are prone to lower limb fatigue.

Even the more experienced sportsmen — participants in contact and team sports — suffer "too much, too early" strains, sprains and sore joints when they attempt to get fit quickly at the start of the season in a sudden burst of training.

The Elastoplast Trainers' Manual emphasises the importance of easing into training programs so that the various tissues of the body (particularly the muscles and joints) become conditioned to the effects of exercise.

While recent years have seen more people than ever before sustain sport injuries, so too has there been a growth in

understanding on the subject through medical research. Sports medicine is concerned with the treatment of injuries and guiding the player safely back to participation. But it is equally concerned with the prevention of injury and the achievement of peak performance through proper preparation for sport.

At Monash, Dr Barry Oakes, senior lecturer in Anatomy, has a general interest in sports medicine and is conducting research on connective tissue.

The Trainers' Manual makes a clear link between deficiencies in the five major aspects of fitness (heart-lung endurance, speed, strength, flexibility and body composition) and both poor performance and injury.

A large number of muscle/tendon injuries occur when the player is fatigued or has "fitness imbalance", it says.

"While a general level of fitness is required for success in all physical activity, different games require varying degrees of strength, endurance, speed and flexibility. The development of a fitness program should be structured firstly to the requirements of the specific sport and then to the individual weakness of each player engaging in that sport."

The most vulnerable parts of the body are the limbs, especially the lower limbs which are constantly subjected to the stresses and strains of weight bearing and which are exposed to direct blows.

The manual outlines the importance of the prevention of injury of warm up exercises (particularly critical for the



hamstring group of muscles), warm down activity, the use of appropriate equipment (including footwear, mouthguards and the like) and strapping.

Of course not all injuries in sport are preventable. In contact sports, there inevitably will be accidents. Here, the manual says, rapid diagnosis and correct treatment is vital. Incorrect treatment, it points out, can prove fatal.

"It is the responsibility of everyone involved in a sport or club to have a basic knowledge of how to treat an injury. That includes managers, coaches, trainers, parents, teachers and the players themselves."

There is a final category of injury in sport — the most controversial.

It is injury sustained through violence on the field — assaults which occur under the guise of "playing the game".

Increasingly, sport and law are rubbing shoulders on this issue as sportsmen injured by the reckless behaviour of other players seek compensation through the courts.

This abandonment of the idea that all that happens on the field is "part of the game" is a development welcomed by more than just lawyers.

Hospital resource

The Australian Hospital Association Reference Centre, which is based in the Biomedical Library at Monash, has become recognised as the main resource centre for material in the field of hospital administration in Australia.

The Centre's annual report for 1981 shows that the call on the Centre's "on-line searching" service has decreased because of restrictions on personnel needing to use the service and the continued growth of the Australian MEDLINE network.

But the demand for the borrowing of material from the book collection has continued to grow steadily.

The Reference Centre began operations on a very limited scale in 1976, offering information and document back-up facilities to members of the Association. But it was not until 1977, when it was funded by the Kellogg Foundation, that it was able to consolidate and extend its services.

The most frequent users of the Cen-

tre's services in 1981 were from Victoria. However, monograph material was sent to hospitals in every State, usually through normal inter-library loan procedures.

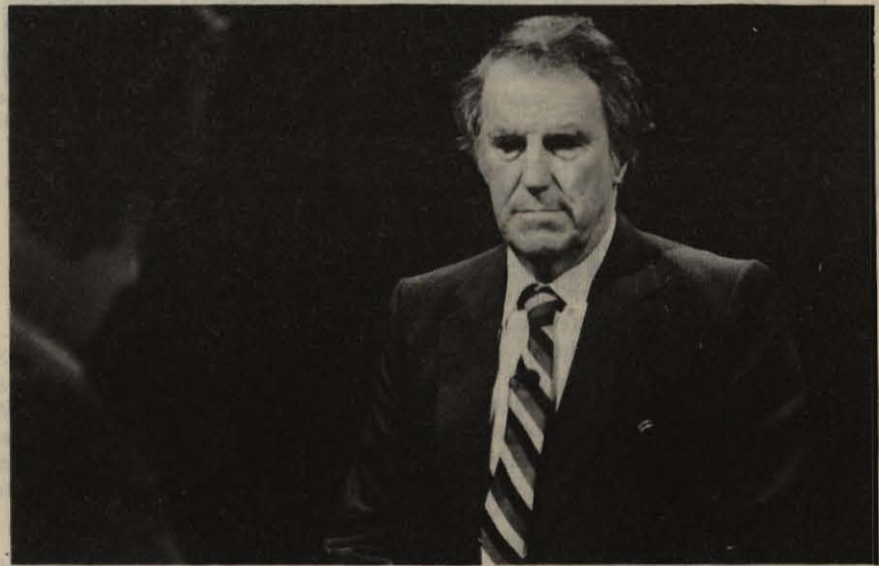
Countries of the South Pacific region continued to use the Centre's services, requesting mainly literature searches and photocopies. These were supplied without charge.

The Centre has also assisted with the checking of references for a bibliography on dengue fever compiled by the South Pacific Commission, and for a study on nutrition and respiratory diseases carried out in the region.

Despite the enormous problems with tax avoidance in Australia there is still no major research effort in this country on anti-avoidance and tax reform strategies.

"Such work, done on a shoe string in such institutions as Monash, is totally disproportionate to the problems which all major political parties now acknowledge," says Associate Professor Yuri Grbich, of the Law faculty, in his outside studies program report to Council.

Dr Grbich, a taxation law specialist, used the tax example to illustrate a point that Commonwealth research funding authorities seem to be ignoring: the "critical significance of practical social research to the health of the Australian



The conqueror of Mt Everest, Sir Edmund Hillary, gave a 'sell-out' public lecture in Robert Blackwood Hall last month.

While at Monash Sir Edmund (pictured above) recorded a program for the Tasmanian Wilderness Society.

Tax research shortfall

society".

"Too many funding bodies still uncritically think of 'real research' as research in the physical sciences," he says.

Dr Grbich conducted most of his outside studies program in the US, particularly New York University.

His main aim was to take "a long and considered look" at institutions for tax rule-making and dispute resolution in Australia.

"Such research is particularly timely because of recent fundamental changes in community attitudes to tax avoidance and in legislative strategies, and because of the institutional demands generated as a result of calls for tax reform," says Dr Grbich.

MONASH REPORTER

The next issue will be published in the first week of November, 1982.

Copy deadline is Friday, October 22. Early copy is much appreciated.

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

Pluralism 'goal'

Einar Haugen, Emeritus Professor of Scandinavian and Linguistics at Harvard University, will be guest speaker at the Centre for Migrant Studies seminar to be held on Monday, October 11 at 7.30 p.m. in Rotunda 3.

Professor Haugen's topic will be "Linguistic Pluralism as a Goal of National Policy".

Proper ventilation key to uranium mine safety

The problem of lung cancer caused by exposure to radon gas is not peculiar to uranium mining, according to Canadian chemical engineer, Professor Colin R. Phillips, who recently visited Monash.

It occurs in other types of mines as well, he said. But it can readily be overcome, both in uranium and non-uranium mines, by proper ventilation of the mine.

"With adequate ventilation and superior control of mechanical hazards," he said, "I can't see why a uranium mine should be any more dangerous than any other type of mine."

Professor Phillips, some of whose work at the University of Toronto is concerned with research into the physics, chemistry and measurement of the radioactive by-products of uranium mining, presented a paper on this aspect of the uranium fuel cycle to a seminar at Monash during his visit.

He said the first recorded cases of radon-induced lung cancer were those chronicled by Agricola in the 15th century.

Agricola spoke of the mysterious "mountain sickness" which affected silver miners in the region of Schneeberg and Joachimsthal in the Erz mountains of Central Europe.

This mysterious disease is now believed to have been lung cancer caused by inhalation of radon daughters, radioactive ions formed as part of the natural decay chain of uranium. The radon daughters were present in the pitchblende, a uranium mineral, associated with the silver.

A more recent example which he cited is the radon-induced lung cancer reported in a fluorspar mine in Newfoundland, which had very poor ventilation.

Of the 2799 men who worked in this mine between 1933 and 1974, 71 died of lung cancer, compared to 6.41 expected deaths based upon the Canadian male population.

There were no uranium deposits of any commercial significance in the Newfoundland mine, Professor Phillips said. But uranium and its daughter radium 226 are present almost everywhere in the earth's crust at about three parts per million and one picocurie per gram, respectively, and in the poorly ventilated mine, radon gas produced from the radium 226 accumulated, possibly transported in solution in flowing water. The radon gas then formed radon daughters, which the men inhaled.

"Principles of good ventilation are required for all types of mines," he said.

Smoking risk

He pointed out that there is also much greater risk of lung cancer if uranium workers smoke. It is not simply a case that lung tissue is being simultaneously assaulted by two possible carcinogens, in one case, an organic carcinogen from cigarette smoke, and in the other, alpha particles from radon daughters.

The first of the radon daughters, polonium 218 — a positively charged ion — will "grab an electron from somewhere to become neutralised" and will react with the air and trace constituents therein. It will also attach to aerosol particles such as cigarette smoke and become deposited in the lungs.

Because of this, he said, it is a requirement in uranium mines that miners

don't smoke. "But one can't say that the rule is always complied with," he said. "That's human nature."

Professor Phillips divides the risk associated with uranium mill tailings into two types, that associated with radium 226 and that associated with radon gas. He believes that the risk from radium 226 released from uranium tailings is a minor one unless water is contaminated by it.

Tailings are of more concern in Canada, which has a high water table, than in Australia, he said. An exception to this in Australia is the Alligator River region which is subjected to inundation at certain times of the year. Radium 226 transmission "can be controlled by reasonable design of tailings dams." In all mines, he points out, the radium 226 has been present for millenia in the ore body.

'Trivial' amount

"The amount of radon gas released from radium 226 in the tailings is trivial compared with the natural amount of radioactivity in the environment," he said. "And after a bit of wind dispersal it becomes insignificant, almost non-measurable." It would only be a problem if buildings were placed on the tailings, which would be poor zoning practice anyway.

The radon release rate can be reduced further, he said, by covering the tailings with a two metre layer of clay to allow the radon to decay to solid products. This is done in the United States but not in Canada. Professor Phillips does not feel it is necessary.

Professor Phillips said the 1976 Royal Commission on Health and Safety of Mine Workers in Ontario showed that for miners who worked one or more months in the uranium mines from 1955 to 1974 (when the risks were not fully understood) there were 36 more cases of lung cancer by the end of 1974 among the 15,094 uranium workers than would be expected based on the Ontario male population.

But the Royal Commission concluded that today the greatest risk in any mine environment — uranium or non-uranium — is from accidents. Deaths from accidents in uranium mines far outnumber deaths from lung cancer. In the Ontario uranium mines, there were roughly eight times as many deaths from mainly industrial origin as from lung cancer.

Professor Phillips pointed out that the Ontario uranium mines which were the subject of the Royal Commission were deep pit mines, unlike major Australian mines to date, which have been open cut. In open cut mines, wind dispersal greatly reduces the hazard. Present uranium mines in Canada are both open cut and deep pit. The projected Roxby Downs mine in South Australia will be a deep mine, as probably will be the Jabiluka mine in the Northern Territory.

Professor Phillips said maximum permissible doses have been calculated for both gamma radiation and radon daughters, and uranium workers are regularly monitored. No worker is per-

mitted, for example, to receive a radon daughter dose of more than "four Working Level months per year." For the period analysed by the Ontario Royal Commission the doses received were greatly in excess of this regulatory limit which came into force in the mid-'70s.

The risk of lung cancer for uranium workers limited to this dose per year for 30 years is between 1.8% and 5.4%.

In comparison, the fatality rate over 30 years in the construction, agriculture and quarrying industries is 1.5% to 1.8%, and in the manufacturing and the service industries, 0.15% to 0.3%.

Uranium miners, he pointed out, may only work in the mines for a few years.

Professor Phillips says Ontario receives between one-third and one-half of its electricity from nuclear power.

The Canadian CANDU heavy water reactor uses natural uranium as fuel. Because of this, the uranium doesn't have to be enriched, and so far there are no plans to reprocess spent fuel rods,

which some people fear could be a potential source of plutonium for the manufacture of bombs or terrorist weapons.

Several technologies have been developed for converting high level wastes into ceramic-type materials for permanent and safe disposal. But the Canadian proposal, Professor Phillips said, is to bury the spent fuel elements in stainless steel canisters deep in the geologically stable hard rock formation of the Canadian Shield.

"The canisters are expected to last 50 or 100 years," he said. "But the sealed repository would keep radioactivity out of the biosphere for millenia." In Toronto, he is working on some aspects of the possible migration of nuclides from such repositories.

Professor Phillips admits that there are problems with nuclear energy but points out that we are running out of conventional energy sources. And the environmental risks from continuing to burn fossil fuels are greater, he believes.

"Acid rain" (a combination of sulphur oxides from conventional thermal power plants and nitrogen oxides from thermal power plants and automobile exhausts) is destroying aquatic life in North America, he says, and there is the long-term danger of climate change induced by a build-up of carbon dioxide.

"We live in a sea of risks," he said. "We have to choose those risks that are acceptable."

Robotics: 'vehicle' for a new vitality

The viability of US manufacturing has come under severe attack from external competition during the last decade, Professor D. Tesar, Director of the Centre for Intelligent Machines and Robotics at the University of Florida, said during a recent visit to Monash.

This is especially so in regard to the US home markets, he said.

In 1978, an aggregate of 20 mechanical manufacturing trade categories chalked up a deficit of \$34,000 million, equivalent to the United States' loss in oil.

This "spectrum of technologies," he told a colloquium at Monash, represents up to 60 per cent of US trade in manufactures, yet received only six per cent of US total R & D and only 0.7 per cent of the US Federal R & D support.

R & D imbalances

He drew a parallel between this situation in the United States and the decline in manufacturing and poor R & D funding in Australia.

Professor Tesar, currently Visiting Fellow at the Chisholm Institute of Technology's Centre for Robotics, said this set of imbalances in R & D represents equivalent imbalances in R & D manpower and is "the best indicator of a lack of government policy to resist this economic threat."

He said technologies such as robotics were now being studied in the US as a way of correcting this lack of economic vitality.

"The robotic system is in many ways the technological equivalent of the human system, having components such as sensors (eyes), actuators (muscles), and a computer (brain) which allow the

system to perform mechanical functions by reacting to needs in its environment that it perceives and interprets," he said.

"Such systems are of particular economic importance to the pressing problem of remote maintenance of nuclear systems.

"Complex robotic systems are not completely controllable by a human operator: his role must be augmented by digital computation.

"This will be one of the most demanding engineering problems yet to be fully addressed by the machine science community in the US."

Professor Tesar said other applications for robotics are in offshore oil well drilling and maintenance, coping with coal mine accidents, vehicle surveillance in the ocean, on land and in space, microsurgery, the manufacture of prostheses for the handicapped, industrial automation and assembly, and removing the operator from a dangerous environment.

"Robotics could become the vehicle for technological development in the whole field of mechanical design science," he said.

"It is expected that as more electronics are integrated into basic machines and as robotic devices are more widely applied, a general blending of the whole spectrum will occur.

"Because every mechanical function of the robotic system must be electronically controlled, the robotic device will perhaps represent the ultimate marriage of these two technologies."

One issue to emerge from the US situation, he said, is that "Integration of disciplines to meet these new objectives and the need to preserve the human element through balanced augmentation for higher productivity must become an important element of a new national policy."

A realistic plan for Melbourne

Planning policies that do not take into account manufacturing as the basis of Melbourne's economy must fail, Monash Dean of Engineering, Professor Lance Endersbee said in a recent address.

Not only would such a policy fail as a transport plan, he said. It would also harm our industries and frustrate industrial growth.

"We cannot plan Melbourne on the basis of shopping in the city," he said.

Professor Endersbee was speaking at the fifth annual extractive industries dinner.

The subject of his address was "the co-ordination of transport planning and industrial development for Melbourne."

He reviewed what he described as "a sorry tale of failure of government policies" since the early 1950s, which, combined with the divisions and polarisation of our community that had occurred in the '60s and '70s, had managed to bring Melbourne's transport planning to "a confused muddle, and

then to a stop".

Discussing the effect of technological change and the international nature of manufacturing, he said the industries that are declining in inner urban areas are mainly traditional industries, often technologically outdated.

"We may call them 'sunset' industries," he said. "The newer technology industries, the 'sunrise' industries, where new growth and development is occurring, and where new jobs are being found, are concentrating, perhaps more appropriately in the outer eastern suburbs."

Manufacturing cities around the world clearly demonstrate, he said, that industrial development encourages a continuum of industries which are often mutually supportive. And technological development encourages a hierarchy of industrial support facilities from the universities and research institutes, through the professional consultants, designers, precision manufacturers, equipment and tool suppliers and others.

"It is well recognised that the high technology industries tend to cluster around the leading technological universities and research institutes," he said. "We see this already starting to occur in the Monash area, where we have many of our leading technological laboratories — BHP, Telecom, CSIRO and others."

He said the transport needs of industries in these outer urban areas include the movement of freight from one industry to another, and the connection with the major interstate and intrastate freeways and railheads.

In his view, an outer ring freeway met this need and should be an early feature of a new plan. It would interconnect industries and interstate highways and railheads.

Much of this traffic now traverses the city, because there is no other way, he pointed out. Much of our inner urban congestion is caused by traffic simply passing through.

Freeways are effective in moving

freight, Professor Endersbee said. While on energy considerations rail freight is preferred for long distance freight movement, he said, road freight is more economic for distances of 200km or so when account is taken of cost of moving the freight to the train and off again.

Yet the movement of freight, he said, had not been a factor of consideration in any recent study for Melbourne's planning. The last comprehensive survey of freight movement in the Melbourne metropolitan area was in 1964. Industrial development had changed the freight task considerably since then.

"It just seems as if nobody wants to know the origins or destinations of those large freight trucks that have to grind their way through the centre of our city," he said.

Now, he said, is the ideal time to start planning afresh — to prepare better and less extravagant plans which recognised "the proper role and costs of each of our modes of transport" and that the basis of the economy is manufacturing.

Kernot medal for Professor Hunt



Professor Ken Hunt, Professor of Mechanisms in the Monash department of Mechanical Engineering, was last month awarded the Kernot Memorial Medal for 1979 for distinguished engineering achievement.

The Medal is awarded annually by the faculty of Engineering of the University of Melbourne in memory of that university's founding professor of engineering, William Charles Kernot.

This year's presentations (there were five of them — for the years 1978-82 inclusive) marked the centenary of Professor Kernot's appointment.

The recipients were: Sir Frank Espie (1978), Professor Hunt (1979), Mr John Connell (1980), Professor Emeritus Hill Worner (1981) and Sir Bernard Callinan (1982).

Professor Hunt, who was founding Dean of Engineering at Monash, has been deeply involved in educational developments in engineering both within and outside the university system.

His major areas of research have been in three dimensional mechanisms, mechanical movement, constant velocity shaft couplings and mechanical couplings generally.

Professor Hunt received his award in absentia — he is currently visiting the USA. He joins a long list of engineers with close Monash connections who have been similarly honoured. These include: Sir John Monash (1930), Sir Robert Blackwood (1972), Dr Ian Langlands (1971), Sir Louis Matheson (1967), W. H. Conolly (1957), Sir William Hudson (1958), Sir Lindesay Clark (1964), L. P. Coombs (1968).

Chinese engineers visit Monash



Five Chinese geomechanics engineers and engineering geologists last month visited the department of Civil Engineering.

They discussed research problems of mutual interest with Associate Professor Ian Donald, Dr Alan Parkin and members of their team. Among the subjects were the investigation of rock properties for pile foundation design, strength and deformation properties of soft alluvial clays, cone penetrometer testing in sands, rockfill testing for earth and rock dam design and slope stability in jointed rock.

The group spent three weeks in Australia visiting consultants, Government departments and tertiary institutions with expertise in geomechanics investigation and data processing.

Our photo shows the group inspecting a rig designed and built in Civil Engineering for field testing of rock socketed pile load capacity. From left, Associate Professor Donald; Li Ming Qing, design manager of the China Construction and Engineering Corporation and leader of the group; Lin Zai Guan, deputy chief engineer with the Institute of Geotechnical Investigation of Shaanxi Province; Su Sheng, principal engineer with the South-western Institute of Geotechnical Investigation of China Construction; Hou Shi Tao, deputy chief engineer of the Institute of Geotechnical Investigation of Hubei Province; and Fang Hong Qi, director of the Research Institute of Geotechnical Investigation of the Chinese Academy of Building Research.

LETTER

Sir: Except that I already have enough pen pals, I would thank Brian Steer for his open letter to me.

Brian seems surprised that I did not refute his repressive sexual attitudes (I almost wrote "positions"). Brian, there was no argument to refute! You merely offered stock emotive phrases such as "immoral lives", "fornication and sex-

ual immorality" etc. Serious refutation is given only to those who are worthy of it.

As far as I'm concerned this correspondence is now closed. A number of people have expressed to me the attitude that Brian Steer is making a sufficient fool of himself with his own letters. He doesn't need my help.

Russell Blackford
Department of English.

We're in the swim!

Next Reporter:
Deadline
details, p 9

Last Monday week 7 am: **Outside** it was a chilly 7°C. **Inside** the air temperature was 27°C and the water a little cooler. The first people in Monash's new pool, then, were metaphoric 'ice-breakers' only. By the end of the first week, during which admission was free, many thousand Union members (students and staff) had sampled the pool's delights.

Among the first to take a dip were **Louise Brealey** (Medicine I), right, and (left to right, below) **Brian Pilatsios** (Medicine I), **Philip Maddox** (Arts IV), **Tasos Petousis** (Science II) and **John Manolopoulos** (Medicine I).



Wattle-maple forum

A new journal is to be launched to provide a forum for comparative work in the social sciences on Australia and Canada.

The first issue of "Australian-Canadian Studies: An Interdisciplinary Social Science Review" is scheduled to appear in January 1983.

The two editors are La Trobe academics: **Tom Puckett**, of Social Work, and **Gordon Ternowetsky**, of the department of Sociology.

It is planned that the journal will appear annually. It will deal with cross-

national studies, research which focuses on one country with discernible implications for the other, and policy review in such areas as economic development, foreign investment, and regionalism.

The first issue of the journal will cost \$5 (\$7 institutions and libraries) and can be ordered through **Subscriptions, Australian-Canadian Studies, c/- Department of Sociology, La Trobe University**.

Contributions for publication are also sought.

N. Rivers vacation?

Are your thoughts turning north for the summer vacation?

If they are, the Northern Rivers College of Advanced Education has an interesting offer on accommodation in Lismore which is within easy access of beaches (Byron Bay is 40 minutes drive), mountains and rivers and located in a pleasant rural setting.

Accommodation is of two types — villas (or town houses) and cottages.

The villas, which vary in size and can sleep from three to six people, range in price from \$15 to \$23 a day (\$95 to

\$150 per week). The cottages, which have three beds, rent for \$17 a day (\$110 a week).

The accommodation is available for the period from December 20 to February 20.

For further information contact **Mr Pat Mills** on (066) 21 2267 or write to **The Secretary, Northern Rivers College of Advanced Education, PO Box 157, Lismore, NSW 2480**.

An information sheet on the accommodation is being held in the Information Office for perusal.

October diary

The events listed below are open to the public. 'RBH' throughout stands for Robert Blackwood Hall. There is a BASS ticketing outlet on campus at the Alexander Theatre.

6: DANCE — "Sonal Mansigh", Indian dancing in Bharata Natyam and Orissi presented by Nataraj Cultural Centre. 8 p.m. **Alex. Theatre**. Admission: adults \$9.90, students \$5.90. Bookings at all BASS outlets.

ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM — "Breast feeding; the only ecological option!", by Maureen Minchin. 5 p.m. **Environmental Science Seminar Room**. Admission free. Inquiries: exts. 3837, 3840.

LECTURE — "Kids and the Curriculum", by Michael Norman, faculty of Education. Second in series on "Change in Education". 8 p.m. **Lecture Theatre R1**. Admission free. Inquiries: 277 7466.

7: ABORIGINAL STUDIES LECTURE — "The Future of Aborigines in Victoria", by Mr G. Atkinson, Aboriginal Development Commission. 1 p.m. **Lecture Theatre R6**. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3335.

10: SUNDAY AFTERNOON CONCERT — Christine Stevenson — piano, presents works by Haydn, Schubert, Chopin and Liszt. 2.30 p.m. **RBH**. Admission free.

11: MIGRANT STUDIES SEMINAR — "Linguistic Pluralism as a goal of national policy", by Einar Haugen, Harvard University. 7.30 p.m. **Lecture Theatre R3**. Admission free. Inquiries: exts. 2825, 2925.

12: MONASH UNIVERSITY PARENTS GROUP present McCalls Patterns and Sussan Silks parade. 10.30 a.m. **RBH**. Further information: Mrs Shepherd, 20 6705

LECTURE — Institution of Engineers Australia, Victoria Division, present the 1982 Chapman Oration with guest speaker Sir John Young, Chief Justice of Victoria. **RBH**.

13: ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM — "Machines for People: the systems design approach" by Alan Howie. 5 p.m. **Environmental Science Seminar Room**. Admission free. Inquiries: exts. 3837, 3840.

LECTURE — "The Caring Curriculum", by Michael Norman, faculty of Education. Last in series on "Change in Education". 8 p.m. **Lecture Theatre R1**. Admission free. Inquiries: 277 7466.

14: CONCERT — ABC Monash Series No. 6: The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra conducted by Patrick Thomas, Edith Peinemann — violin. Works by Dvorak,

Bartok, George Dreyfus and Elgar. 8 p.m. **RBH**. Admission: adults A.Res. \$10.60, B.Res. \$8.60, C.Res. \$6.60; students and pensioners A.Res. \$8.60, B.Res. \$6.60, C.Res. \$5.60.

15: CELEBRITY CONCERT — Balwyn Youth Concert Band, Graeme Lyall, Don Burrows and George Golla, The Melbourne and Maroondah Singers conducted by Jim Watsford. 8 p.m. **RBH**. Admission: adults \$12, concession \$6. Tickets available from all BASS outlets.

1844 AUSTRALIAN MUSICAL COMEDY — "My Native Girl" pres. by dept. of English. 8 p.m. **English Dept. Drama Studio**. Admission: \$2, tickets available from English Dept., Room 707, Menzies Building. Inquiries: ext. 2140.

16: WEEKEND WORKSHOP — Leather belt making. **Arts & Crafts Centre**. Inquiries: ext. 3096.

CONCERT — Advent Brass Band Annual Concert featuring soprano Margaret Nisbet. Concert to sponsor the SDA Pathfinders Camporee. 8 p.m. **RBH**. Admission: adults \$4, concession \$2.

17: CONCERT — Victorian Flute Guild presents a recital by Vernon Hill. 7.30 p.m. **RBH**. Further information and tickets: 547 2027.

22-24: MUSICAL — "No No Nanette" presented by Cheltenham Light Opera Company. 8 p.m. **Alex. Theatre**. Admission: adults \$7.50; students & pensioners \$5.50; children \$4. Performances also October 27-30, Matinee October 30 at 2 p.m. Bookings: 555 3269.

23: SATURDAY CLUB (Red Series A & B) — "Richard Bradshaw and his Shadow Puppets". Series A at 1.30 p.m., Series B at 3.30 p.m. **Alex. Theatre**. Admission: adults \$4.50, children \$3.50.

Important dates

The Registrar advises the following important dates for students in October.

8: Third teaching round ends, Dip.Ed. Applications close for entry to Bachelor of Social Work course in 1983.

9: Third term ends for Medicine VI.

15: Applications close for 1983 LL.M. by coursework and Diplomas in the faculty of Law commencing in Summer Term.

16: Third term ends.

21: Examinations commence for Medicine VI.

22: Annual examinations begin. Second half-year ends for B.Ed., B.Sp.Ed., Dip.Ed.Psych. and M.Ed.St.

23: Second half-year ends for LL.M. by coursework.

29: Third term ends for Dip.Ed.

31: Closing date for applications for Monash Graduate Scholarships and Commonwealth Postgraduate Research Awards.