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UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY

UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
LIBRARY

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Chronicle

Closing Of University Drive Proposed; Your Views Sought

There has been a big rise in the volume of traffic using University Drive and in the number of pedestrians crossing it. Last year a person was knocked over on the pedestrian crossing and at least two cars are known to have come to grief on the road between the School of Fine Arts and the Computer Centre.

The Safety Committee believes that through traffic is mainly to blame and has recommended a trial closure of the Drive by blocking it on either side of the pedestrian crossing. It sees this move as having two beneficial effects:

It would remove the straight-through speedster, and

It would deflect traffic on to the existing wider public roads around the campus.

The Traffic and Parking Committee is arranging a survey to measure the traffic flow and also wishes to hear the views of users.

There is much to be said either way. University Drive is the only through road on the campus, it is very attractive as the trees alongside it thrive and it is used increasingly by sightseers and visitors.

What do you think? Drop a note to the Editor, or if you prefer not to publish your views, to the Registrar.

Library Hours In May Vacation

During the May Vacation, the University libraries will be open for the following hours:

Engineering Library and Physical Sciences Library. Monday-Friday, 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Sunday closed.

Main Library. 3-14 May—Monday-Friday, 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Sunday closed. 15-23 May—Monday-Friday, 8.30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m.-12 noon. Sunday closed.

Open Day At Lincoln

Members of the University have been cordially invited to an Open Day to be held at Lincoln College tomorrow, Saturday 22 April, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All college departments and research institutes will mount displays showing the extent of teaching and research work. Tours over adjacent college farms will include stops at a number of points to discuss farm and research operations.

Jog Proceeds

The *Christchurch Star* has given \$4,240, the proceeds of the 1978 City to Surf jog, to the Department of Physical Education. This new source of funds will allow the department to buy more exercise physiology equipment enabling it to function more efficiently and contribute to fitness in the University and community to an extent which would have been otherwise impossible.

Graduate Employment

About half of the 7096 graduates from New Zealand universities in 1975 entered employment, about a third undertook further study and the remainder either went overseas, were still seeking employment or were not available for employment.

The figures come from the second in a series of continuing reports on graduate employment published by the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee. The report deals with the first destination of New Zealand students who graduated between 1 July 1974 and 30 June 1975. Although the figures in the report are now somewhat dated, it is probable that the general pattern of distribution of graduates has changed only marginally in the last three years. Certainly the pattern of distribution has not changed much from 1973 to 1975.

Teaching was the predominant choice for Arts graduates. More than 70 per cent of Arts graduates either entered the teaching profession or were attending teachers' colleges with the intention of becoming

teachers. Teaching was also the leading occupation of Science graduates, with 40 per cent entering or training for the profession.

Commerce, Science and Engineering graduates were the most widely represented in the manufacturing and commercial employment sectors. The report suggests that there may be an increasing number of commerce graduates entering the computer and management services field.

The report concludes with an analysis of those graduates who continued with full-time study rather than entering employment. Of those surveyed, 1204 returned to university, 492 were at secondary teachers' colleges, 162 were at primary teachers' colleges, 151 were studying overseas and 35 were engaged in other forms of study, including nine at technical institutes.

The appendix contains detailed tables of various aspects of graduate employment, including a breakdown of the first occupations of graduates by faculty. The report has been widely distributed to major employers of graduates and also to secondary schools as a source of reference for careers advisers.

Successful Hui

Visitors Appreciate University's Concern

Today you have planted a tree; keep tending it and let its fruits be scattered among the peoples of the Pacific.

We think of the University as up there while we are down here and for the University to come down to us is a very big surprise. But don't stop the venture here; we need your continuing interest.

We have learned how to smile and bring joy, but we have got much to learn from you.

You have opened the door. Our students of today will be our leaders of tomorrow.

If the University required feedback from its first official contact with the Maori and Pacific Island peoples in its district, it was provided in full measure on Saturday during and after a day-long hui in the Ngaio Marsh Theatre. Nearly 300 visitors—from babies to elders—attended and soon overcame their initial shyness as they listened to and participated in formal greetings, mingled over tea, looked briefly over the campus and heard members of the University explain its purposes, the requirements for enrolment and the sources of financial assistance available to students.

The Samoans sang devoutly, there was a spirited haka and songs from the University Maori Club, oratory and eloquence, a Tongan hymn and prayer. The day ended with a hangi, during which many questions were answered and friendships made.

The hui was organised by a working party of the Professorial Board investigating educational opportunities for Maori and Pacific Island people as a result of a report from the University of Auckland which indicated that the proportion of Maori students enrolled was only about a third that of pakeha students. The Vice-Chancellors' Committee asked each university to investigate the problem and the hui was Canterbury's first step.

Professor W. D. McIntyre, the convener of the working party, summed it up for the visitors. The University was anxious, he said, that no one was prevented from enrolling by lack of knowledge about it and the hui was designed to provide that knowledge. It was clear that the proportion of Maori and Pacific Islands students was too low. On the basis of figures from the last census, for every 100 students enrolled at Canterbury there should be three Maori, one Pacific Island and 96 European students. "We don't

know if we do have that proportion because we do not ask students their race when they enrol, but perhaps we should be asking the question so that we can gain more information," he said.

The working party, he added, did not intend to stop its work with the hui. More information would be going out, tours of departments could be organised and members of the University could perhaps speak to church and social groups.

Professor McIntyre explained what the University offers students, the Liaison Officer (Mr T. H. McLisky) advised the visitors on what was required for enrolment and Mr A. K. Shepherd (Bursaries section) discussed the financial assistance available to students.

But perhaps the closest attention was given to undergraduate and graduate students when they spoke of their experiences. Tainui Stephens, president of the Maori Club, advised Maori students that if they were lonely they should ask questions of their lecturers and join in club activities. When he said he was short of money on occasions, he was advised by a member of the audience that former members of the Maori Battalion had a fund to assist students. Mr Stephens thereupon took a note of the address.

Mrs Philma Bissell, now working towards an LL.B. after a B.A., emphasised that she came from a very modest home up north where watercress, eels and puha figured frequently on the menu. Money was not the major requirement; a capacity for hard work and for enjoyment was also necessary. And in reply to questions, she said that as a member of the legal profession she would be of value to the Maori community.

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Mr Savern Reweti echoed the advice of Canterbury's first Maori graduate, Sir

Apirana Ngata: "Hold fast to your Maoritanga, but use the tools of the pakeha." Mr Reweti said he was convinced that the way to bring about social change was not by protest and demonstration, but by gaining positions of responsibility and power in the community. This course, the "soft revolution" was the most effective for young Maoris to follow; and because a university education was a stepping stone to such positions, it followed that more Maoris should come on to the University.

The Chancellor (Mr B. F. Anderson), the Vice-Chancellor (Professor A. D. Brownlie) and Mr W. T. Royal, a member of the University Council, welcomed the guests. Mr B. A. Nepia, senior lecturer in Maori, opened proceedings with a formal welcome and then disappeared to superintend the cooking and serving of the meal, which emerged perfectly cooked. "We love to eat and to sing," said one visitor—and did so. A guitar appeared and the hui came to a close only because the room was booked for another function.

The Rev. Kenape Faletose summed it up. "May God bless the University of Canterbury. We congratulate you for the renown you have won, for the great Rutherford and for training leaders of the Pacific peoples. But above all we congratulate you for the interest, the concern and the great love you have shown us today".

This year's University church service will be held in the Christchurch College Chapel on Sunday next, 23 April at 7 p.m. The preacher will be Dr G. A. Rodley (Chemistry). Academic dress may be worn at the service if desired.

Broadhead Lecture Planned

A distinguished graduate of the University, Professor Ernst Badian, now Professor of Ancient History at Harvard, has accepted an invitation to deliver the third Broadhead Lecture later this year. The date of the lecture has yet to be confirmed, but it is likely to be early in September.

Professor Badian, who was born in Vienna, was educated at Christchurch Boys' High School and the University, from which he graduated M.A. in classics. He was a junior lecturer in classics at Victoria, where he also gained a Litt.D. and he then studied at University College, Oxford, gaining an M.A. and D.Phil. He lectured in classics and ancient history at Durham and Sheffield before being appointed professor of ancient history at Leeds in 1965 and subsequently to Harvard.

A Fellow of the British Academy, Professor Badian has been a visiting professor at numerous universities and his books and articles are widely known.

The lecture commemorates Henry Dan Broadhead, a member of the University's Classics Department for 40 years.

Sky Atlas

Canterbury Publication Has Paid Its Way

The *Canterbury Sky Atlas*, a photographic atlas of the entire southern sky showing stars 100,000 times fainter than those normally visible to the naked eye, may not be a best-seller, but it is paying its way since it was published in 1972.

A limited edition of 200 was published at \$75 a copy. It received very favourable comment and, just as important, steady sales—about one a week recently. Now only 30 copies are left.

The atlas was produced from photographic plates showing the southernmost regions of the sky survey carried out at the Mount John University Observatory, Tekapo.

The final research which led to the printing of the first edition of the atlas was made possible by a \$14,000 grant from the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration to Dr F. B. Wood, of the University of Florida, and Dr N. A. Doughty (Physics).

The Canterbury atlas is similar to the *Lick Sky Atlas*, a complete coverage of the stars of the northern hemisphere, made by the Lick Observatory, California. Similar equipment and techniques were used for the Canterbury atlas.

Antarctic Work

The Zoology Department's Antarctic Research Unit made its sixteenth expedition to McMurdo Sound in the summer.

Elsbeth Waghorn (nee Wingham) and Paul Ensor carried out an integrated study of onshore phytoplankton and zoo-plankton production and succession.

Lloyd David, working towards an M.Sc. thesis, studied the mortality and creching behaviour of Adelle penguin chicks. His study was to have been co-ordinated with studies by Dr Yarum Yom Toff (University of Tel Aviv) on the effects of interference and synchrony on the breeding success of Adelle penguins. Unfortunately, Dr Yom Toff withdrew shortly before the departure date and his position was taken by Graham Wilson, who collected ectoparasites from penguins, studied leopard seal behaviour and carried out the annual penguin census. Band recoveries and a census were also made of the McCormicks skua population.

Early in the season a trip was made to White Island to collect samples of algae and copepods from the tide crack to complement studies from the previous summer.

The Atlas extends the zone pattern of the Lick atlas to the South Pole but covers all the 142 regions accessible from Mount John. The observatory there was chosen for the project because it has an exceptionally clear, steady atmosphere free of thin "invisible" clouds that dim the stars and cause them to twinkle. During moonless nights, the only time when the photographs could be taken, the sky at Mount John was virtually free from airglows from city lights which would prevent the detection of the fainter stars.

The project began in 1966, when Dr C. D. Shane, former director of the Lick Observatory, visited Mount John to train a Canterbury observer to take the photographs for the atlas. They were taken on an astronomical camera, known as an astrograph, with a 12.5 cm diameter f/7 lens and four optical components. Accurate tracking equipment kept the astrograph pointed precisely at the same stars during the 90-minute exposures. The star images were recorded in a thin layer of emulsion on one side of a large, thick plate of glass to avoid any distortions that might occur over a long period with film.

Exposure of plate 96 in August 1966 led immediately to the independent discovery by the observer, A. J. Thomas, of Comet 1966c (Barbon).

Mobil Oil New Zealand Limited will be awarding environmental grants worth \$12,000 this year. Applications close on 14 June with the company, P.O. Box 2497, Wellington, and brochures about the grants are available at the same address.

Since the award was established in 1972, 68 grants worth nearly \$60,000 have been awarded to help New Zealanders in a wide variety of environmental research and study undertakings.

Two grants have gone to members of the University in the past.

Elections For Council

The terms of three elected members of the University Council will expire on 30 June. Nominations for the positions will close on 15 May and elections will be held on 12 June.

The positions are those of Mr C. F. S. Caldwell and Mr I. D. Leggatt (elected by the Court of Convocation) and Professor B. R. Penfold (Chemistry), elected by the Professorial Board.

The terms of Mr R. C. Brown (Governor-General's appointee), Mr R. H. Bowron (appointed by the Council) and Mr T. D. J. Holderness (appointed by the Lincoln College Council) also expire on 30 June.

Assessment in N.Z.

The Educational Research and Advisory Unit has been asked by Mr B. W. Imrie, of the Teaching and Research Centre, Victoria University to advise staff that he has been appointed corresponding member of the *Journal of Assessment in Higher Education* and would be pleased to receive contributions in the way of papers and brief reports on innovations, developments or interesting work in assessment or evaluation. The journal, established to encourage the communication of pragmatic assessment procedures in higher education, is published by the Educational Services Unit, University of Bath, and the editor is Dr Duncan Harris, also of Bath.

From the platform of one of the candidates for Women's Rights Officer in the Students' Association:

It is important to get a room somewhere around the University that can be used exclusively by women.

I am concerned at the amount of blatant sexism that exists in some faculties—action needs to be taken against this.

Hmm—or it should it be, hrr.

First Hopkins Lecture

Professor H. J. Hopkins, who retired in January after heading the Civil Engineering Department for 27 years, will give the first Hopkins lecture next month.

Its title will be "A Land of Bridges—A Story of New Zealand" and will be given in Room A1 on Wednesday 31 May at 8.15 p.m.

The lecture, jointly sponsored by the University and the New Zealand Institution of Engineers, is the first in a series of annual lectures to honour the contribution of Professor Hopkins to the engineering profession and to his development of the Civil Engineering Department to a department of international standing.

The Socialist Alternative

In his new book *The Coming Depression and How To Overcome It* (Caxton Press in association with New Zealand Monthly Review Society) Wolfgang Rosenberg (Economics) concludes with two scenarios.

In the first, in which traditional monetary and economic policies are used in an attempt to bring stability to the New Zealand economy, he foresees:

Severe import cuts, affecting raw materials for manufacturing as well as consumer goods.

Unemployment of between 60,000 and 100,000.

A shortage of liquid funds driving more and more businesses out of production.

A deterioration in social welfare standards. More industrial conflict and repressive Government measures to prevent it. A feeling of permanent stagnation.

The alternative scenario would involve a change in the basic institutional framework—which, he says, is what New Zealand should choose if it is to develop towards nationhood. The change is to a socialist style economy which would involve:

Comprehensive import controls.

Comprehensive directive planning in place of current indicative planning, including a policy of industrial licensing.

Reshaping of the current employment pattern to permit full employment without New Zealand living beyond its income.

Worker participation in the management and decision-making of enterprises, whose policies must be co-ordinated with the planned development of the country as a whole.

A non-aligned foreign policy to smooth trade relations with other socialist countries.

Socialisation, Mr Rosenberg says, does not mean universal nationalisation. "While there must be workers' control and participation in decision-making, the forms these activities take can be varied. The essential nature of dealing with New Zealand's problems of inflation, balance of payments equilibrium and stagnation resides in making the economy a common concern to all. This is presumably the feeling underlying recent political developments which advocated democratic socialism for New Zealand when the word 'socialism' for

a long time had been banned from the political vocabulary (except as a term of abuse."

Mr Rosenberg admits that the conversion of the Government to the latter policy is unlikely, but he says the general trend for the future will be to reduce imports by direct controls, to plan for greater self-reliance and to involve the people in planning for these objectives. But this trend will be pragmatic and not consciously planned as parts of necessary social engineering. Such half-hearted measures would lead to a situation described in the first scenario.

He adds: "Even if and when the country adopts a conscious policy of achieving the second scenario—democratic socialism—this will not mean the end of all difficulties... Inflation will be with us for a long time."

Mr Rosenberg first produced the essay as a submission to the Monetary and Economic Council and the New Zealand Planning Council and has now revised it for the general reader. Commenting on it, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr Rowling) says he did not agree with all of the book, but there was no doubt that orthodox economic measures had not slowed inflation. Many of the points Mr Rosenberg made were worth serious consideration and all were worth reading.

New Geography Lecturer

A graduate of the University who is an associate professor at McGill University, Montreal, has been appointed a senior lecturer in the Geography Department. He is Dr P. G. Holland, who graduated B.Sc. from Canterbury in 1961 and M.Sc. with first-class honours in 1963. He was a temporary lecturer in biogeography before going to the Australian National University, where he gained a Ph.D. with distinction.

Dr Holland was appointed an assistant professor at McGill in 1967 and an associate professor in 1972. He has also been a visiting professor at the University of Nairobi and the University of Cape Town.

Dr Holland has undertaken considerable research in Quebec, Nova Scotia, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa and has published some 20 papers and reviews. He is a member of the Ecological Society of America, the Haklyut Society, the Institute of American Geographers, the New Zealand Geographical Society and the Polynesian Society.

Capping Capers Begin Next Week

Capping capers, which will get under way on Monday, will include some traditional events—a charity collection (this year for Dr Morgan Fahey's accident medical team), Procesh (at midday on Thursday), a capping magazine, stunts and the Avon bike race.

The programme includes:

Monday, 24 April. Lunch-time concert, riverbank; dance ("opening hoolie No. 1", the programme has it) in the ballroom.

Tuesday, 25 April. Gary McCormick (poet), riverbank or Shelley Common Room if wet; hangi (creche) 4.30 p.m.; barn dance, ballroom, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, 26 April. Lunch-time concert, riverbank, and at 8 p.m., the Undergraduates' Ball, Winter Garden.

Thursday, 27 April. Charity collection, all day; noon, Procesh; 3 p.m., drinking horn (riverbank), magazine sales in the late night shopping areas and at 8 p.m. "Hoolie No. 2", in the Ballroom and Lower Common Room.

Friday, 28 April. Magazine sales and stunts, all day; 1 p.m. Avon bike race; 7.30 p.m., variety concert, Ngaio Marsh Theatre; 8 p.m., "Hoolie No. 3", Ballroom and Lower Common Room with horror films at midnight.

Saturday, 29 April. Magazine sales at New Brighton; 8 p.m., Bad Taste evening, Ballroom and Lower Common Room.

Sunday, 30 April. 11 a.m. Chunda mile.

Monday 1 May. 8 p.m. "Hoolie No. 4".

Role Of University Book Shop

The University Book Shop is under two major constraints in ordering textbooks: the need to provide adequately for courses at the University and to minimise the crippling effect of excess stock.

The manager (Mr David Ault) comments: "We attempt to tread the fine edge of supplying exactly the quantities which will be required for courses. There are numerous difficulties in making such estimates, and in this area we rely greatly on the effectiveness of our liaison with the individual lecturers in departments, to give us the most accurate information to base our decision on."

Mr Ault outlined the following procedure in making initial orders for textbooks:

1. Research publishers, prices and editions—where this is not already provided.

2. Convey all information to records and ordering systems—basically a summary by course of all bibliographic and sales information (an extension of this system is the liaison officer's records) and a system card, also containing all bibliographic and price information, for ordering.

3. Stock is then counted. At the same time redundant books are isolated and listed.

4. Ordering. Using sales figures from previous years, estimated class sizes and previous enrolments, the status of each book, and the course it is used in, its price and any variations which occur in the above in relation to previous years' use, an order quantity is arrived at. During this process records are updated to the summary sheets. Order quantities are written on the cards, and arranged in publisher groupings for ordering.

5. Over the succeeding few months, stock is again counted (to establish the extent of third term sales, and make additional orders) and the process of "following up" orders gets under way. This last activity will continue until, and even after, term has begun. It consists of writing to publishers, or distributors, and requesting information on the orders placed. These "follow ups" may be needed as many as six times before a publisher responds with information about the order, and even then the information may be that the book or books are unavailable.

Mr Ault said the usefulness of the liaison system was in providing the most reliable information possible about class sizes and the importance of a book to the course structure. Thus it was important that all

lecturers participated to some degree by making their comments on textbook orders when these were made available in summarised form to the liaison officer shortly after orders had been placed. In the absence of these comments the Book Shop was left to assume that their provision was acceptable. When more reliable roll information is available at the commencement of term, it is usually too late to bring in further stocks in time, he said.

"Our efforts are constantly directed at achieving a better co-ordination with publishers, and at seeking better alternatives to publishers or distributors who fail to provide the service we require. We deal with companies which vary enormously in their ability to respond adequately to our textbook orders, and our systems are developed to overcome the problems this causes. We are, of course, placing our orders at approximately the same time as several hundred other tertiary book shops are, which in itself, places enormous pressures on the publisher involved.

"The very real difficulties involved in dealing with many thousands of titles from several hundred suppliers are further compounded by problems quite outside the book trade. In the past ordering season, for example, we were confronted with two major delivery delays—first, the longshoremen's strike on the American East Coast effectively delayed supplies from that source by two months, and secondly, the Railways dispute in Wellington delayed mail both overseas and domestic, by periods of up to two months. In general, it will take up to a month to receive consignments from Auckland, say, and up to four months, from the UK or USA.

"Those distributors who have been set up to supply tertiary books to the New Zealand market are under the same financial constraints as ourselves, and are often unwilling to provide the kind of back-up stock which would solve some of those problems caused by roll fluctuations," Mr Ault said.

Book Prices

New Zealand, he said, is a very small market for English language book publishers. Publishing in New Zealand itself is, by the same token, on a small scale, scarcely ever venturing into the area of tertiary education. Textbook publishing is vastly different from general book publishing, and is carried out, mainly, by very large publishers who specialise in this, and the publication of other, high level technical books.

"The tremendous competitiveness of this type of publishing usually means low initial print runs, with very high overheads; successive print runs will be cheaper from the publisher's point of view and may be used either to cover earlier losses, or to produce a cheaper student edition. However unless a book is to sell tens of thousands of copies, as a major adoption at many Universities or because of additional sales to the general book buyer, a reduction in prices is unlikely," he said.

"The New Zealand bookseller has few options to accepting the prices of publishers. The major step has already been taken—the offering of a 10% discount to the student purchaser. Further reductions will ensue when publishers who have established distribution points in New Zealand or Australia once again allow the bookseller access to the source of publication. John Wiley, a major textbook supplier, will be following this course in mid-year and the drop in retail price will be something like 10%.

"In areas outside the 'hard textbook', most paperbacks, for example, can be purchased by the bookseller at more favourable discounts—by purchasing larger quantities, by using overseas wholesalers in preference to local distributors—this too has the effect of decreasing the retail price. This is an area where choice exists and the Book Shop makes full use of the contacts it has.

"The cost structure of publishing and bookselling is such that with the plethora of new titles, and the competitiveness of publishers, the desire of teachers for one particular title, and not another,—in fact the whole communications explosion (if that is not too strong), it is unlikely that any significant change will occur with book prices.

"Currency fluctuations will sometimes give temporary relief—in this year the weakening US dollar has meant that substantial price increases there have often been absorbed by a favourable rate of exchange. These changes are two-edged though, and currency movement in the other direction will cause prices to rise dramatically.

"The concept of the co-operative bookshop appeals to some, but requires such a large market to operate successfully that in New Zealand, and indeed even Australia, has often meant that, books become more and more expensive. The fact that our bookshop is staffed by some 13 people at non-peak times indicates the systems intensive place it is."

(Continued on next page)

University Club

"New Spirit Of Optimism"

Membership of the University of Canterbury Association stands at 457, including 106 new graduates who joined during the year, according to the annual report of the president of the association (Professor L. F. Phillips) presented at the annual meeting in the University Club.

Professor Phillips said that socially the year had been a good one for the University Club. There were seven theatre parties, at three of which the cast joined members for a meal at the club, and numerous other functions, including a panel discussion on "The Problems of the Child", which resulted in detailed submissions going to the Minister of Social Welfare (Mr Walker).

There was a loss on the year's activities and an increase in membership or higher subscriptions as well as greater use of the club by members was required to turn the loss into a profit, said the treasurer (Miss Iris Orchard) when presenting the annual accounts.

Professor and Mrs N. C. Phillips, Mr and Mrs C. E. Fenwick and Mr and Mrs R. P. Thompson were elected honorary life members.

Textbooks (Continued from previous page)

Referring to staff discount, Mr Ault said this had been a bone of contention for some years. These years had seen the increasing influence of large overseas book suppliers, notably Blackwells, in both library and individual book buying. The effect on the book seller had been to decrease the range of tertiary books, outside the pure textbook area, which he was able to stock, and to move his area of interest into the more general and popular lines of books.

"This has been unfortunate in University Book Shops in particular, since it has limited to some extent the choices available to tertiary book buyers, and has inevitably meant a decline in bookselling expertise in these often highly technical areas," he said. "The solution to these difficulties probably does not exist. With the price of books, like that of most commodities, increasing continually it is to be expected that the cheapest source will be sought for purchases.

"Academic staff can avail themselves of significant tax concessions for the purchase of books, for adopted textbooks they have

The election of officers resulted:
President, Professor R. A. Caldwell.
Vice-Presidents, Mr Ross Broadbent and Professor A. D. Brownlie.
Chairman, Mr I. G. B. Wilson.
Secretary, Mr E. T. Beardsley.
Treasurer, Miss Iris Orchard.

Executive, Miss Nancy Northcroft, Mrs J. Dodgson, Mr Barry Lawrence and Mr Alan Dodgson and Mr R. J. Wilson.

A former president, Mr W. R. Lascelles, commented that though the club's finances were not healthy, there was considerable cause for optimism and he hoped that new executive would retain it. The club had the best reservoir of members of any club in the new graduates each year, it had vitality and momentum and the staff and catering were excellent.

Miss Northcroft said there had been a new spirit in the club over the year, much of it due to the work of the women's sub-committee, headed by Mrs Pamela Phillips. A motion expressing appreciation of the work of the president and Mrs Phillips was carried by acclamation.

access to publishers' desk copies and in general their support of New Zealand bookshops seems to be quite meagre (based on a survey conducted by the University Book Shop in Auckland.

"The only option which suggests itself relates to indent orders placed with the Book Shop. As a trial we are prepared to offer a 10% discount off the retail price of educational books specially ordered on an indent basis by lecturers, and having a retail value over \$5.00. Our deposit system will still apply.

"Some time in the next month we will have available the *British Books in Print* in microfiche form. This will make available up-to-the minute information on books available (it is completely reissued each month, and contains some advance information). This compares with the bound volumes of *Books in Print* which are already 9 months in arrears when published. This will, we feel give book ordering, and reporting, much more reliability. Hopefully the Americans will follow and issue their books in print in the same manner," he said.

Lecturer Saw Sri Lanka Strife

Ugly reminders of man's inhumanity in racial and religious questions were experienced by Mr J. G. Jones (Philosophy and Religious Studies) when he spent a month of his leave in Sri Lanka during the worst days of Tamil-Singhalese strife last year.

"It was hard to concentrate on the beauties of ancient Buddhist sites when one knew that only a couple of miles away the disciples of the great exemplar of non-violence were busy butchering, beating or at best forcing into exile the hapless Tamilians in their midst," he said. "The rest of my time in Sri Lanka was scarred by many ugly reminders of man's astonishing inhumanity when racial and religious fanaticism become rampant. My movements were restricted by a curfew in the evening and one 24-hour curfew. In spite of this I managed to collect some valuable literature and photographs and witnessed one or two examples of humanity triumphing over hatred—like that of the Singhalese custodian of a government bungalow who was hiding his aged Tamil gardener, cruelly beaten about the head, from the mob."

In London Mr Jones stayed at the Y Hotel, a sumptuous new 1200-roomed building a few doors from the British Library and the University of London. For a little over £17 a week, he was able to secure a very compact little study-bedroom with its own shower and toilet. The price one had to pay for such a central site was, at least in his wing of the building, horrendous traffic noise at night. He eventually adjusted to this with the aid of cotton wool ear plugs and felt it was a price well worth paying. Colleagues interested in such accommodation should apply at least a year in advance to George William House, Great Russell Street, London WC1V 3NP, since only a limited number of rooms was available at these rates to long-stayers (the rate to casual visitors—normally tourists—for the same accommodation is £10 per night). These rates do not include food, but I found that by lunching in my room on Ryvita and cheese, etc., and by eating a lot of salads, I was able, even in Central London, to keep the food bill within manageable limits," he said.

Conferences

Forthcoming conferences include:

3-6 May: Conference on Critical Elements in the Exchange of Ocean Engineering Technology: Washington DC. Engg. Comm. on Oceanic Resources, 2101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20418.

5-7 May: 12th Newcastle Symposium on Advances in the Study of Sydney Basin and the New England Fold Belt: University of Newcastle, NSW. Dr Robin Offler, Convener, 12th Newcastle Symposium, Dept. of Geology, Univ. of Newcastle, NSW 2308.

6-12 May: 11th Commonwealth Mining and Metallurgical Congress: Hong Kong. Secretary, Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, 44 Portland Place, London W1N 4BR.

7-10 May: Conference on Energy Conversion through Waste Utilisation: Chicago. ASME, 345 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017.

8-11 May: 5th International Conference on Hydraulic Transport of Solids in Pipes: Hanover. BHRM, Cranfield, Bedford MK43 0AJ, England.

10-12 May: 3rd International Symposium on Use of Computers for Environmental Engineering related to Building: Banff, Canada. K. Charbonneau, National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa K1A 0R6.

10-13 May: Annual conference New Zealand Association of Language Teachers. University of Canterbury.

15-19 May: Australasian Mathematics Convention. University of Canterbury.

18-19 May: 14th Annual Conference, Operational Research Society of New Zealand. University of Canterbury.

22-26 May: 7th International Harbours Congress: Antwerp. Secretariat. Ingenieurshuis, Jan Van Rijswijckclass B-2000, Antwerp, Belgium.

Department of Obfuscation and Obscurantism. The following letter was received recently by the University from the Customer (sic) Service of a well-known New Zealand company: "Dear Sir,

"With reference to your remittance of your last payment.

"We have noted the 1 cent difference and have credited your account.

"The \$1.00 you deducted from paying we credited your account JR 7 27 October 1977 re invoice 41684 customer advice 7129.

"Would you kindly not deduct this from paying, as you deducting it and we crediting you it puts your own records out by \$1.00 credit."

30 May-1 June: Conference on Tunnelling under Difficult Conditions, Tokyo. Organising Committee, Japan Tunnelling Association, Shinko Dai-ichi Bldg., 7-14 Sintomi 2-chome, Chuoku, Tokyo 104, Japan.

6-10 July: 8th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications: Canberra.

11-14 July: 4th Australian Statistical Conference: Canberra. Dr C. C. Heyde, Conference Organiser (1978). Division of Mathematics and Statistics, CSIRO, P.O. Box 1965, Canberra City, ACT 2601.

21-25 August: 18th Conference on Physical Sciences and Engineering in Medicine & Biology: Melbourne. Mr K. H. Clarke, Hon. Secty., Australasian College of Physical Scientists in Medicine, c/o Physics Dept., Cancer Institute, 481 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, Vic. 3000.

22-25 August: Australian Conference on Electron Spectroscopy: La Trobe University. Conference Secretary, Mrs N. Allen, School of History and Philosophy of Science, Univ. of New South Wales, P.O. Box 1, Kensington, NSW 2033.

29-31 August: Agricultural Engineering Conference (note change of dates): Toowoomba. Conference Manager, Agricultural Engineering Conference, 1978, Institution of Engineers, 11 National Circuit, Barton, ACT 2600.

Accommodation

To Let

Three-bedroom furn. house, 4-6 mins walk from University, available mid-May to mid-February 1979. Large dining-room, lounge, sep. shower, garage, workshop; open fire, solid fuel space heater, panel heaters bedrooms, carpeted throughout, auto w/m fridge, freezer, TV. Productive minimal-care garden. \$50 p.w. Apply Tom Dodd, Ext 309 or 43-539.

Fully furn. 3 bedroom house with dining room and shower, central heating and open fire, TV, auto. W/m, double garage, on 25p. section situated Deepdale Street, available mid-July to July 1979. Easily maintained garden and small lawn area to be cared for. Rental \$60 p.w. Phone 585-606.

On quiet rear section off Fendalton Road, large furnished family home available 16 May to 16 August, at reasonable rental for good care of property. 4 double bedrooms, separate diningroom and shower, 2 toilets, open fire in lounge, gas and panel heaters elsewhere; auto. w/m. fridge, freezer, TV, Garage and Carport.

Available immediately, unfurnished 3 bedroom house Westburn Terrace, for 1 year or longer. Double garage. Nice garden 30p. section. Please phone 791-740.

People

Professor W. R. Philipson and Dr Melva Philipson (Botany Department) will be attending the International Rhododendron Conference to be held at the New York Botanic Garden 15-18 May. Both will be delivering papers at the conference.

Mr P. Manger (German) has been appointed a representative of the University Council on the Board of Governors of Cashmere High School.

Messrs R. I. Riddle and B. A. McGeorge have resigned as University representatives on the Boards of Governors of the Temuka and Waimate High Schools respectively.

Lady Macarthur has instituted a prize in memory of her late husband, the Hon. Mr Justice McArthur. It will be of an annual value of \$40 and will awarded to an LL.B. student who achieves the best results in a Commercial or Company Law subject.

Close to University, fully furnished 3 double bedroom home with oil-ducted central heating, separate diningroom, shower, TV if required, Thor washer. Available immediately on monthly basis or will sell. Careful tenants only with no pre-school children; can be let partly furnished so rent negotiable. Phone 517-974 (pte) or 385-059 (Dr Hewland).

Bannister Street, fully furnished 2 bedroom home with separate diningroom, open fire and heaters, TV, garage, 34p. section with lawn and garden care required. Available early August to late January 1979. Rent \$35 p.w. Please phone Ext. 8605 or 515-905 pte.

Cashmere: Two responsible mature adults aged between 26 and 32 approximately to share luxury home with 29-year-old teacher. Every convenience including swimming pool, colour TV, central heating, etc. Phone 327-261.

For Sale

Country residence, Halswell Hill (Kennedy's Bush Road) on (½ acre), suitable pony or sheep. Three bedrooms, permanent materials, double garage. View from Kaikouras to Hunters Hills. Contact Dr J. G. H. White, Plant Science Department, Lincoln College.

Notices

Applications Invited For Research Assistants

Applications are invited from members of staff wishing to obtain grants for research assistants for the period 1 July to 30 September 1978.

Applications should be made on the appropriate form, stocks of which are available in the Registry Concourse, Applications should be sent to the Registrar (Accounts Section) through the Head of the Department and should reach the Registry by 15 May 1978. Enquiries may be made to Mr J. R. Davies, Registry Accounts, Ext. 717.

It should be noted that grants made in March 1978 (reference 78/1/x) are available only to pay for services rendered up to 30 June 1978, and this should be taken into account when applying for grants for this next period.

Applications will again be called for in July 1978 for the period 1 October 1978 to 31 March 1979.

Staff are advised that for a fair assessment of their applications they should provide information about their project and, if it is a continuing project, information about results already obtained. An applicant who has more than one project for which he seeks support should include such projects on one form and place them in order of priority.

The fund is intended for Research Assistants and not to meet costs which could normally be charged to departmental funds.

Scholarships For Study In China Offered

Scholarships are offered each year for study in China under the New Zealand-China student exchange scheme. The scholarships may be taken up for one or two years. Students will study Chinese language at the Peking Languages Institute for the first year.

Those who opt for a second year will be offered specialist courses either at the Institute or at universities or other appropriate institutions. The second year electives normally available are in the fields of Chinese language, history, philosophy and literature. The scholarships are not available for research purposes.

At present eight New Zealand students are in China of whom three are full-time students at Chinese universities.

Applicants should be permanent residents of New Zealand who are adaptable and mature. The awards are likely to be of most interest to graduates and undergraduates, but are not exclusively for people with an academic background. A prime qualification would be the intention of pursuing a career in New Zealand to which study in China is relevant. It is not possible for successful applicants to be accompanied by spouses or families.

The Chinese academic year begins in late September and students will be expected to arrive in Peking by the middle of that month. Travel costs to and from China are met by the New Zealand Government and the Chinese Government will provide tuition and accommodation. In addition students will receive a monthly allowance of 120 Yuan (approximately NZ\$65). The Chinese authorities will meet routine medical expenses, but not dental and extraordinary medical expenses.

Further inquiries may be addressed to the Asian Affairs Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Private Bag, Wellington. Applications should be made to the University Grants Committee Scholarships Committee, P.O. Box 12-348, Wellington North, and will close on 10 May.

Application forms are available from Miss Jan Perry, Room 325, Registry, Ext. 700.

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Four members of the Classics Department will be contributing papers at the New Zealand Universities Classics Conference in Dunedin 7-10 May. The papers will be by Professor D. A. Kidd, Mr R. P. Bond, Mr C. E. Manning and Mr Williams.

Superannuation Capitalisation

A modified change of policy has been approved for capitalisation of the Government Superannuation Fund retiring allowance. The Regional Superintendent of Education has advised the Registrar as follows:

1. Contributors to the Government Superannuation Fund who are at least 60 years of age may apply to the Commission, under section 35 (3) (f) (1) of the Government Superannuation Fund Act 1956, to retire. In the past the Commission has only accepted these applications from persons who intend to actually retire within 3 months from the date of the notice. These accepted applications have always been approved.

2. The Commission has now decided to accept and approve applications from any contributor over 60 years of age, under this section 35 (3) (f) (1), without specification of the actual retirement date, but subject to an upper age limit of 65 years. The effect of this decision is to allow elections to capitalise on the retiring allowance to be made from when the election to retire is approved, and in some cases, at a considerably earlier period of time.

3. Contributors contemplating taking advantage of this modified policy should be aware that once a capitalisation election has been made, it is irrevocable. The procedure to be adopted under this modified policy is:

- (a) Contributor makes application to retire under section 35 (3) (f) (1) of the Government Superannuation

Fund Act 1956, without specifying date of retirement;

- (b) Application to retire is forwarded to head office and then the Commission;
- (c) The Commission will approve election to retire, and return to department;
- (d) Contributor makes election to capitalise on retiring allowance under section 91 of the Government Superannuation Act 1956 and forwards to head office;
- (e) Head office forwards election to capitalise together with a copy of the Commission's approval of the election to retire to the Superannuation Division, the Treasury, for their retention.

Applications For Leave

Members of staff are reminded that the Research and Leave Committee normally meets on the first Wednesday of each month.

It would be appreciated if applications for leave (including leave associated with Erskine awards) could be lodged in good time. While cases of urgency are dealt with speedily where possible, there have recently been instances where it is clear that earlier applications could have been made.

It should be borne in mind that following the Committee's consideration of an application it is required to be placed before one or two committees of the University Council and the Council itself.