Deferred entry to first-year is proposed

A proposal to liberalise regulations governing deferred first-year entry to Monash is being considered by the Professorial Board.

The proposal would mean that students guaranteed a place would have a "free" year after secondary school before they came to Monash.

Students who chose to have a deferred year could take a job or gain other experience outside an academic environment.

The proposal has been put up to the Professorial Board by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor J. M. Swan.

Approval in principle has been given by the Professorial Board and Prof. Swan has been asked to set out his proposal as it would affect each Faculty.

Introduction of the scheme would mean a fundamental change in the regulations governing entry.

At the moment a limited number of Higher Schools Certificate students do get a deferrment but they must have a "relatively high" HSC score.

In 1971 those granted deferrments totalled 71 students or about 2.6% of the 1971 undergraduate intake.

In his submission to the Board, Prof. Swan said he believed a break from study for students coming to university would make them "more certain as to their aims, needs and ultimate vocation."

He said: "Many students are uncertain as to their motivation and interest when they enter the university and would welcome a twelve-month break after their final year at school to try various paid and unpaid jobs in the community, to travel, to gain experience of non academic aspects of education for living, to allow time for personality development and for clarification of choice of subjects for study.

"Such adjustments to adult life are not easy to achieve under the continuing pressure of academic studies, and are possibly the reason for many forms of student discontent, leading in some cases to the discontinuance of academically capable students."

"Students who abandon their studies in mid-stream are of special concern since they not only jeopardise their own further studies by loss of scholarship or studentship but for the year when they are perhaps present for only a few weeks or months they effectively prevent another student from embarking on university studies."

"If given full encouragement to try something other than university life without penalty, some students who defer might well decide not to come to the university after all. Such a decision would incur no stigma or failure."

"The remainder, hopefully the majority, would start their university courses much more certain as to their aims, needs and ultimate vocation," Prof. Swan said.

A quick "raid" by Nader

RALPH NADER, the much-publicised US advocate of consumer protection is scheduled to give a public lecture at Monash next month.

It will be from 2.45 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, July 6 in Robert Blackwood Hall.

Mr. Nader is being brought to Australia by a committee of academics, businessmen and politicians; the Australian Union of Students is organising a tour of six Australian campuses.

Mr. Nader is founder of the Centre for the Study of Responsive Law in Washington. His group is known as "Nader's Raiders."

To quote AUS publicity: "His legendary battle initially against General Motors and then against many other corporation giants has placed him in a position of unprecedented power as an advocate working in the interests of consumers in a mass industrial society."

It is planned that Mr. Nader will also speak at Sydney, Macquarie, Melbourne, Adelaide and Flinders universities.

Tickets will cost $1 for students and $1.50 for staff and will probably be sold through MAS.

"Help" service planned by Union

A service to help students with problems will be started by the Union on the first day of the second semester.

It will be located in Doug's Folly, the old house in Blackburn Rd., opposite Donkin Hall.

The service, at present named the "Drop-in Centre," will be open from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. each weekday and "hopefully" at weekends.

It is being organised by the deputy Wardens of the Union, Doug Ellin.

Doug so far has 24 student volunteers who will man the centre and he would like to have about 15 more volunteers.

A box will be available each night for anybody who needs a roof over their head.

The student volunteers will be given a training course during the next few weeks to help prepare them for the service. This course will involve Student Counselling, the Health Service and the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine.

Doug says that, put simply, the aim of the service is to provide "a sympathetic ear and a helping hand."

"We will be seeing people who are reluctant to go to the official services. Our centre will be completely informal.

"It will be experimental to begin with, and if it proves a success more ambitious projects could be planned."

The Monash centre is believed to be the fourth centre of this kind established at a university—the others are at Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth.

The Union Board has made a grant to furnish the centre.
Survey in Geography Department finds . . . . .

2500 TOO MANY INFANT DEATHS IN MELBOURNE

Infant mortality in Victoria is — by international standards — among the lowest recorded but in the Melbourne metropolitan area from 1961 to 1967 there would appear to have been about 2500 "excess deaths" of children under the age of one.

These are two of the conclusions of Dr. M. G. A. Wilson, associate professor of geography at Monash whose paper, "A Note on Infant Death in Melbourne," will soon be published in The Australian Geographer.

Dr. Wilson says he became interested in this research during his lectures on population where one of the topics was the distribution of infant mortality in Western

Since the latest statistics available were for the year 1967, when the work began, he chose the year 1961 to begin his investigation.

And understand death is not detailed in these, he says, he can form only general conclusions about why so many children in metropolitan Melbourne fail to reach the ripe old age of one.

From a survey of 47 municipalities, he has prepared tables of percentages of deaths per thousand of infants under the age of one month and one year.

Two conclusions

And from these, he says, two firm conclusions are possible:

On average, from every thousand live births recorded, two to three times as many will die before the age of one in an inner, industrialized, more densely settled and less affluent suburb. Such suburbs also have a bigger migrant population and are in other respects "socially disadvantaged."

The second conclusion is a corollary — the existence of this differential should stimulate much more research at a much more detailed level than his study.

"Australians claim their hospital system is accessible to most people and it has something in the way of a national health scheme," Dr. Wilson says.

Aboriginal health:

"From another time, another country"

JUDGING by the comments made by a variety of speakers at a recent Monash seminar, the state of aboriginal health is pretty wretched. Much needs to be done, said the speakers . . . and quickly.

The opening speaker set the tone when he said the health of aborigines was so bad "it seemed to belong to another time and another country."

Their health was worse than other Australians, and hospital records were as bad as figures from throughout Australia.

The Federal Minister for Environment, Aboriginals and the Arts, Mr. Howson, said the seminar was organized by the Monash Centre for Research into Aboriginal Affairs and figures from the Halls of Residence.

After three days of papers and discussions the seminar concluded that a national advisory board should be set up to advise Federal and State Governments on aboriginal health problems. It should include aboriginal, Government and non-government members.

There should also be a separate, paid aboriginal committee, the seminar said.

Other recommendations included:

Aboriginals must help in the planning and execution of health plans.

All people involved with aboriginal health should be educated in aboriginal life, culture and language.

Family planning should be included in the health service.

Aboriginals should control and supply alcohol to their communities.

Every effort must be made to foster a sense of solidarity and dignity so the aboriginal identity can be preserved and expressed, the seminar decided.

Papers presented raised a number of recurring themes, infant mortality, alcohol, discrimination, administrative inefficiency, for example.

Professor Colin Tatz, professor of politics at the University of New England, claimed that aborigines faced a "crying need of racism from many".

He said that some doctors discriminated against aborigines because many could not pay fees or did not belong to medical benefit funds.

June, 1972
TRADE UNIONS ARE DISILLUSIONED WITH ARBITRATION SYSTEM

— Monash historian claims

The arbitration system in Australia has been "killed" and trade unions will move further towards collective bargaining, Associate Professor I. A. H. Turner said in a recent lecture at Latrobe University.

Professor Turner said trade union disillusionment with the arbitration system had contributed to "the weakening of the arbitration courts abolished quarterly cost of living adjustments."

This allowed wages to lag behind prices for up to 12 months or two years.

Since then the disillusionment had been added to by the adoption of the concept of a "total war" concept, i.e., a basic wage plus margin for skill.

"These were the two factors which killed arbitration; killed any illusions of total justice for skill."

Increasing debate

He forecasts increasing debate in society generally about the control of business enterprises whether they be government enterprises, private enterprises or trade union sponsored enterprises.

This is a question related to the whole argument about whether democracy or technocracy prevails in our society, Prof. Turner says.

His fourth question confronting the trade union movement is social and political in content, for example, the maximum use of trade unions in a free-wheeling, non-party organisations-business as unions as they are called such as the trade unions in the United States! Or should the unions align with one or other of the major political parties in the community? In other words, continue in Australia the alignment with the ALP.

Prof. Turner believes the trends in Australia will move towards consolidating party-oriented unions and he suggests this is happening increasingly within the white collar unions which are discussing affiliation with the Labor Party.

Class or interest?

Earlier in his lecture Prof. Turner discussed whether trade unions in Australia were interest groups or class organisations. To be interest groups they would place themselves in one or other of the major political parties - the ALP, the Liberal Party or the United Australia Party. The ALP and the Liberal Party have their own utilitarian self-interest on the other hand, the United Australia Party is the United Australia Party.

"And there was a suggestion that at least the blue collar workers in the community regarded themselves as representing a distinct and opposed interest to the interests of their employer. In this sense trade unions were class organisations."

Another point he raised was whether or not strikes by unions were in the community or common interest. To determine this the long term aims of the trade union movement had to be considered.

"The long-term objectives of the trade union movement concern themselves with the redistribution of wealth, either by altering economic policies which require a redistribution of wealth and a growth of consumption, or by income policies which require a more egalitarian distribution of income between the various groups of income receivers, in other words, providing more money for the lower paid groups at the expense of the higher paid groups in the community," he said.

Moral dilemma

"For example, consider the moral dilemma or crisis of the nuclear physicist, such as Robert Oppenheimer, on whether nuclear weapons should or should not have been constructed in 1944-45. Should the consequences of the misuse of this technology have prevailed, or should they have accepted the directives of their government?"

"And if one can satisfactorily resolve that question, then one can similarly resolve the question of whether building workers should be entitled to withhold their labour by cutting down trees for a car park for the Opera House."

The role of minorities in this regard was essentially a negative role, he said.

"All that minorities, like trade unions, can do, under these circumstances, involving themselves by direct action methods in social and political questions of this kind, is to tax and prevent the operation of particular policies of Government. As far as I am concerned that may be morally justifiable.

"But positive solutions, the presentation of constructive policies to those they are postponing, delaying or preventing, involve a change of government and therefore involve positive political action on the part of the trade union movement."

"Since the fourth and final question concerned the political make-up and the organisation of trade unions. Should trade unions be free-wheeling, non-party organisations-business as unions as they are called such as the trade unions in the United States! Or should the unions align with one or other of the major political parties in the community? In other words, continue in Australia the alignment with the ALP."

"And here, I believe, the trends in Australia will move towards consolidating party-oriented unions and he suggests this is happening increasingly within the white collar unions which are discussing affiliation with the Labor Party."

Value judgments

"In other words, when we are concerned with long-term trade union objectives, we are not concerned with ascertaining that trade union objectives in itself reflect the common interests of the entire community, we are concerned rather with making value judgments about the ways in which the community ought to change and ought to be developed.

"My own value judgment in this respect is on the side of the trade unions and on the side of the Labour movement," Prof. Turner said.

He also outlined three changes which he said had occurred in the character of the Australian trade union movement.

First there had been a rapid increase of white collar and service workers (in transport, recreational and the armed forces). Secondly the workforce had become better educated. And thirdly there had emerged at the bottom structures of the Australian workforce which had a representation that was triply underprivileged.

They were underprivileged in terms of income, because the gap between their income and the incomes of higher paid sections of the workforce was increasing rather than diminishing, underprivileged in terms of security, because the security of employment of unskilled workers was much less than the security of the employment of skilled or professionally-trained workers, and underprivileged in the sense that there was a concentration in this segment of the workforce of migrant workers who were economically underprivileged.

HELPING THE BLIND

The Monash Library is planning to provide a textbook-lending service for blind students. Recordings will be by voluntary readers and will be supervised by Audio Visual Aids.

Playback facilities and loan tapes will be provided through the appropriate campus library. Co-ordination of the scheme is being done by Mrs. Patricia Neil. In the reader services department of the Main Library.

The Union and faculty secretaries have been asked to inform Mrs. Neil of the names of any blind students. She will then contact them to see if they can be helped by the service.

"If we look at the long-term objectives of the trade union movement in terms of redistribution of wealth or reconstruction of society, then here we are involved in a question of value judgments."

"Do we or do we not approve these kinds of long-term objectives?"

"We are involved in value judgments about whether economic growth is a good thing, and if so, what rate should it proceed; we are involved in value judgments about whether elites, highly trained, highly skilled people should be more highly rewarded than lesser skilled people; we are involved in value judgments about the rights of property.

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A CIVIL REPLY

To Mr. Terrell

A seminar was organised last month for fourth year civil engineers to discuss Max Teichmann’s proposition that “Engineers ... are committed to never ending technological advance for its own sake ... etc.” (Monash Reporter, 10/5/72).

The discussion touched on many topics connected with the alienation between “Humanists and Scientists, but concentrated on the social responsibility of engineers.

In reaction to the inference that they are largely responsible for theills of society and to sketch a view of their role in a world which must decelerate, one of the engineers writes ... 

Sir,- I would like to make a few comments on Marianne Wood’s investigations of “Oldies on an E-type jag.” (Reporter No. 13, June 1972)

It completely mystifies me how a question to mature students on why didn’t you come to University direct from school didn’t bring this response—“Because it was simply not on the economic agenda.”

Just considering the working class student, now 50 years of age. Born in the 1920s, during the depression, a mother in her 20s, and reared in a non-kindergarten age, put into a State School where the desks were nearly in rows, the gals were mostly from non-white and every kid had his position.

The library in these schools usually consisted of one shelf of foreign language and a pity, in a pile at the bottom of a cupboard among the dusties and lost property.

At the 1930 depression engulphed this generation, with 3 out of every four people out of work, if you had enough to eat and shoes on your feet; you usually had cut-off clothes that didn’t fit, O. Dad who was out of work and on the dole, a mother who vainly tried to keep food on the table for her kids, an eviction if you couldn’t find the money to keep up the interest, bad temps, the cold, the misery, a bleak depression and that was not lost on the kids.

This 1930 depression was not over until World War II. It is well to remember that a large proportion of the 6th Division had never worked in the land fit for heroes to live in. So the young men and women went off in droves—and many died, either on some foreign shore or at the bottom of the dark sea; leaving their widows and kids to struggle for a miserable pittance.

Foreign wars

You might seem the readiness to go to War, is the present today substantially reject participation in foreign wars.

Well, in W.W.II, the issues were not so clear. Fascism raced across Europe, engulfing what people and destroyed millions of innocent victims. Even if those who went from Australia were, in the main, unaware of the reasons, they did, believe, contribute to the defeat of fascism. It is easy to be wise after the event.

How could a university career be on the agenda for this generation? Who could pay for it? So few working class kids went even to high school, when fees for school, sport, drugs, eating, living, paid and fares and clothes were an impossibility.

When you entered the labor market in the 30s, 40s, there was no choosing your career: you answered jobs until your feet dropped off, choosing your University Course in your bare hands and took the first job that paid at least 15/- per week.

Then you had 40 hours to get knowing that many stood outside waiting to take your job if you talked back.

At 20 you joined the labor market for the sentence for the duration, and were released at 25, married and raised your own family—and the struggle started all over again. You were offered a Rehabilitation Course only if you didn’t want to trade the “carny” who interrupted a course of education. Many ex-soldiers didn’t fit into these categories, especially young women.

All the wrong questions

Sir,- A hard nudge to Marianne Wood and her inquiry into age groups of Monash students (Reporter No. 13, May 10). Why doesn’t she hope to achieve with her inquiry by labelling students into “oldies” and “no oldies”?

Why pesters students with all the航线 that could be pestering? Priying into family relations makes it even worse.

If she has any doubts or dissatisfaction about her own studies why not have a good look at herself and her motives for studying. In my regard age has nothing to do with it. Best if one is intelligent enough to appreciate cultural achievements.

This way that won’t lift the image of Monash, while “Oldies on an E-type jag” (awfully expressed) just might be there at Monash to give the much needed better impression of the average Monash student.

Finally, can’t we start to draw border lines where there aren’t any.

Culture embraces all people at all times. Why not so at university? No wonder the wider public doesn’t value much the universities as cultural centres—fancy asking anyone why she is at university or at one stage of her life or other? Shouldn’t it be self-evident?

I think your Marianne Wood needs somebody to question her on all the above ones. Dr. J. R. Price, chairman of CRHO, at a recent Monash graduation ceremony.

I should like to ask students at the university last year, between two and five girls would seek my assistance in obtaining an abortion each week... this is a fantastic indictment of the lack of sex education on campus.”

Robert Gausen, former welfare officer at Sydney University.

It’s better to say gooknight at the dawn, then leave them guessing.”

Dr. J. R. Price, chairman of CRHO, at a recent Monash graduation ceremony.

Some universities graduate think they are God Almighty and expect me to wait on them.”

Professor P. Karmel, chairman of the Australian Universities Commission.

Choral group being formed

The University is forming a choral group to perform music of the Renaissance and Tudor period in the Monash Religious Centre.

The group is to be called the Monash Chapel Singers and will be conducted by Gerald Almond, a third-year music student. A group of 25 people interested in joining the group should contact Mr. Almond through the Chaplain’s Office, ext. 3160, or at Monash College, 543 Swallow. room 165.

Australian has had World War II relatively full employment but even during this period university students were only a small portion of the Australian people—the vast mass of workers’ kids can’t yet come to university nor even complete secondary school.

Class bias in education is not a new question. I feel what we ought to be striving for is a free, open university, where everyone can attend lectures and texts, and collect their units in whatever faculty they desire over as long a period as they like.

This may contribute to the development of the whole person, we hear so much about but never see implemented in education.

Margot Broadbent, Arts Student, 50 years of age.
Discussions with Birds

Discussions with birds are a weakness with Kurt.

When asked why, he said:

— Talking to birds has not much in common with talking to people.
— The effort of talking to people is justified in terms of the things you want to tell them. The effort of talking to birds has to justify itself.
— Talking to people is a functional activity. Talking to birds is a disinterested exploration of the resources of human sound.

— There are possibilities . . .
— Clicks, for example.
— And songs.

In talking to birds, since communication is out of the question, one is obliged to be creative.

— Discussions with birds are a form of literature, whereas discussions with people must fall under the categories of rhetoric, or perhaps philosophy.
— Discussions with birds require discipline, since one must forget oneself entirely, patience, since one must forego immediate courage, since one must submit to a terrifying condition of absolute freedom, and willingness to surrender one’s will to the infinitely unpredictable spirit of free play.
— Discussions with birds require a capacity for simple faith.

And he returned to his occupation.

They met at a party one evening — where better than at a party?

One, Jiri Novak, recently come from Czechoslovakia, is an artist, a draughtsman, hiding his talent in mere gainful employment in a suburban paintery.

The other is Dennis Douglas, senior Lecturer in Monash’s department of English; his interests are wide enough to cover Australian literature, particularly the literature of historical stories.

The artist wants to tell short stories in simple graphical terms, that is, in drawings.

MIGRANT PROBLEMS

A public lecture on the problems of migrants will be given by the Chairman of the Monash Department of Sociology, Professor H. A. H. Dudgeon, at 8 p.m. Friday, June 30, in Robert Blackwood Hall.

The lecture is being organised by the Monash Graduates Association.

Prof. Dudley’s talk is entitled, “Reflections of a migrant medical man.”

He came to Australia in 1963 from the University of Aberdeen and he will leave Melbourne this year to take up a post at professor of surgery at London University.

Prof. Dudley will deal with the effect of migrant problems and stresses on health.

He has been extremely active in his years at the University. He was a member of two Australian medical teams to Vietnam and recently he has been overseas to study the cause of male sterilisation.

One other point cannot be missed—in “Who’s Who” his recreations are listed as surgical history and annoying people.

NEWS FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES

New labour studies institute at Flinders

Flinders University has established an Institute of Labour Studies with the main purpose of encouraging publication in the areas of industrial relations, labour economics, and labour history.

New Vice-Chancellor

Professor Roger W. Russell has been appointed as Vice-Chancellor of Flinders University. He succeeds Professor Peter Karmel who is now chairman of the Australian Universities Commission.

Professor Russell was the senior of three Vice-Chancellors at the University of California, Irvine. He holds the degrees of Master of Arts in Clark University, Doctor of Philosophy of the University of Virginia and Doctor of Science of the University of London.

Professor Russell’s special areas of interest are in the sociology of education and he is the current president of the International Union of Psychological Science.

Caulfield appointment

A part-time teaching fellow in business administration was appointed for Mr. Arthur Crook, has been appointed as principal lecturer in psychology at the Caulfield Institute of Technology. His work at the institute will involve the development of degree and Diploma courses in General Studies (psychology and sociology).

PHYSICAL HARDSHIPS

The following suggestions for improvement of facilities and teaching have been made by 1st Monash Year students via a suggestion box in the Physics teaching laboratories.

1. Coffee facilities for students.
2. Lackkeys to perform all experiments under student instructions, for example—
   (i) using electrical apparatus,
   (ii) using heavy weights,
   (iii) using glass,
   (iv) more than two separate concepts, which could drive the student insane,
   (v) involving demonstrators with contagious diseases.
3. No demonstrators with character deficiencies.
4. Veteran’s privileges for student who survives first semester.
5. Suggest blind be better oriented to facilitate viewing.
6. Orchestra to provide soothing music while experiments are in progress (no recordings).
7. Massage parlour.
8. Qualified doctor to sterilise demonstrators before use.
9. Suggest ladder be better oriented to facilitate viewing.
10. Unification of physics students to demand less work for many marks.
11. More demonstrators to reduce stress.
12. Rest room with full bedding plus study facilities.

A study of 120 Melbourne University students revealed that more than half were unhappy about their marks, and a quarter of first-year undergraduates wished to vary their course.

A study of 120 Melbourne University students revealed that more than half were unhappy about their marks, and a quarter of first-year undergraduates wished to vary their course.

The counselling unit believes that some of these hidden casualties could be prevented by deviating from the normal selection procedures, but by improving both in quality and quantity the contact between staff and students in the first-year classes, and by increasing the flexibility of first-year courses so that supervisory choices and academic study skills could be put right without jeopardising the students’ chances of survival.
WAS SAID AT THE

IS MAN LOST IN A WORLD OF INSTITUTIONS?

Looking at the world in which most of us find ourselves, we find it strikingly and increasingly a world dominated by massive organisations — corporations, government agencies, churches, unions, universities and the like.

They are characterised by being large, bureaucratic and often insensitive to us as individuals. We are treated as objects rather than as people.

It is not difficult to detect in the groundswell of discontent plaguing most eco-social strata, and in the activities of all political persuasions, a rebellion against this basically insomne attitude.

That was how Irwin Gross, Professor of Marketing in Monash’s Faculty of Economics and Politics, expressed his subject — The Humanisation of Institutions”, at the conferring of degrees on Wednesday, May 3.

His theme in effect was the massive inertia of large established institutions which, by virtue of building and maintaining an adaptive structure — that would render an institution responsive to people and to change — this was the challenge to the new generation.

Most institutions get frozen in the shapes in which they were created, he said.

In many cases, these institutions served their original functions well. But as time goes on, and as the pace of life accelerates, the needs originally served change but the institutions of often don’t.

Bureaucracies tend to become permanent; the principal goal of the organisation becomes self-perpetuation.

Adaptive structures

Sometimes enlightened leadership realises the nature of the situation, and so modernises it. But all too often the modernised institution also becomes “business as usual”, just as frozen as its new form.

In the long view, perhaps the key social and economic question of our time is not a choice among capitalism, socialism, or communism; but of adapting or changing from frozen institutional structures to adaptive structures, structures whose adaptability does not depend only on the foresight and leadership of those within the institution, but ones which have adaptive properties engineered into their very structure,” Prof. Gross told the graduates.

Speaking as a Professor in Marketing, Gross allowed himself to say that two institutions with good inbuilt adaptive mechanisms were a properly functioning democracy and a properly functioning market economy. These functions are consciously thwarted, these institutions tend to adapt to changing conditions.

“The politician who attempts to suppress information or stifle debate is anti-democratic as the most rabid Nazi and the businessman who enters into cosy relationships with his competition, or forces his way to favour from the government is as anti-business as the most ardent Marxist,” Gross said.

“But, given the institutional structure of the society, what can we do as individuals, to make the institutions we inhabit less conscious of our need for responsive to our needs—just able to be thwarted by noisy politicians or those who value personal power or profit over the broader and longer term needs of the society?”

Prof. Gross wound up his argument by referring in some detail to the efforts and success of two Americans who, far from sitting at windmills, have brought a substantial measure of change to a number of the organisations of American institutions: Ralph Nadre versus the corporations and reluctant government departments, and John Gardner’s reform of the political structure through his people’s lobby ‘Common Cause’.

He claimed that these men had brought to America the most important institutional change since the rise of the labor unions in the early years of this century.

Sparking interest

Such movements have not yet hit Australia.

However, in early July, Ralph Nader will be coming here for a week, and Prof. Gross was on the committee which is bringing him.

“Our hope is that his coming can act as the spark to establish a public interest group, with wide public support, and independent of the political party structure,” he said.

The success of such a movement depends, however, on the involvement of individuals. The willingness to commit oneself. “Citizenship, in this sense, is a commitment to act within the organisation that surrounds us, to humanise them, to make them more responsive to those they are supposed to serve.”

INVITATION TO SCOTTISH CONGRESS

Monash has been invited to send a delegation of not more than four members to the eleventh Commonwealth Universities Congress to be held in Edinburgh from 11th to 15th August, 1973.

The delegation normally includes the Vice-Chancellor, a member of Council and two members of the academic staff, one of whom may be a non-professorial member.

Dr. P. Laff, Durrall, representative of the teaching staff on Council, who is likely to be in Europe at the time of the Congress has offered his name to the Vice-Chancellor for consideration for inclusion in the delegation.

The Vice-Chancellor would be pleased to receive the names of any other non-professorial members of the teaching staff who will be in the United Kingdom in August, 1973 and who wish to be considered as first reserve to Dr. Durrall.

Nominations should reach the Vice-Chancellor’s Personal Assistant as soon as possible.

The prof. who was disturbed by women

At the graduation ceremony on April 12, Miss Alice Hoy—a former Monash council member who was being awarded an honorary Doctorate of Law—told the 304 graduating law and engineering students about her days as a law undergraduate.

Women’s Lib hadn’t been heard of in those campus days and there was one professor who even refused to acknowledge the existence of women in his classes... Miss Hoy explained...

“As far as I remember, in that distant time, the only full-time member of our staff was the professor, who was helped by various part-time subject lecturers, all of whom were engaged in their own full-time professional duties.

As a young man with an incredible chip on his shoulder, I developed an intense dislike for universities,” artist, Leonard French, told the graduates, guests and academics at the May 12 ceremony.

“One example which comes to mind was the sight of all those empty buildings, often burst black by fire, is to destroy the heart of your world, the very workshop, the springboard from which everything is possible.

“It has always seemed to me that the best I would have been better turned outwards against the pockets of ignorance and stupidity which are controlling our daily existence.

“Having said that, I must admit to once having the most tremendous desire to blow a large circular hole through a certain grey stone well,” he said.

In the picture above Mr. French is standing in front of that certain grey wall containing his 24 ft. diameter stained glass window.

There was no contact between students and staff outside the lecture room.

“Our professor, a man of exceptional scholarship and clarity of exposition, was a punctilious English gentleman who had one odd trait—a curious blindness to the presence of any women in his classes.

“He began all his lectures with the words ‘Gentlemen, in our last lecture...’ Certainly the women students were few in number, from two to five in any one year.

“I remember one occasion when, on a Saturday morning at 9 a.m., the only students present were a small handful of women, seated, as custom demanded, in the front row below the lecturer’s desk.

“Punctually the professor entered and opened his lecture in the usual way ‘Gentlemen, in our last lecture...’

“Of course he showed no bias against women in his assessment of their work: apparently it was only the sight of them in his classes that he found disturbing.”

Monash Reporter
The Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor J. M. Swan, made a plea for change and progress based on “positive feedback” when he addressed new graduates at the University of New South Wales last month.

Positive feedback, he said, was the essential characteristic of what was known as orthogenesis - the sort of evolutionary change that enhanced the prospect of further change in the same direction.

The man above is more used to wearing a number 5 football garb than academic trappings. He is St. Kilda Football Club captain, Ross Smith, who graduated with a bachelor of arts degree on May 25.

Furnished with him is his wife, Veronica, who graduated in arts at Monash in 1969.

Smith, 29, who studied for his arts degree part-time from 1967, is now doing a bachelor of education in the Monash education faculty.

He is currently a lecturer in physical education at the Monash Teachers' College and has a diploma in physical education. He has played 210 games with St. Kilda. (Photo: The Sun).

PROF. SWAN MAKES A PLEA FOR "POSITIVE FEEDBACK"

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Positive feedback, he said, was the essential characteristic of what was known as orthogenesis - the sort of evolutionary change that enhanced the prospect of further change in the same direction.

It was quite contrary to the concept of revolution, which demanded that present social structures had to be smashed to clear the way for “the glorious day of enlightenment.”

Professor Swan was giving the occasional address at the conferring of degrees on graduates of the Faculty of Science.

He likened the present radical protest movement to the Mafia, which had been described as a “face apart.”

Like the Mafia, the chief protagonists of radicalism—whether they were real or only romantic revolutionaries—were determined never to come to terms with the general body of society. They treated all authority with contempt; they were organised, disciplined and at least quasi-professional.

But, unlike the Mafia, they were not yet self-perpetuating as a class and, with their preferred abhorrence of hierarchic systems, unlikely to become so.

Indeed, the recent news from Japan of wholesale killings within the extremist urban guerilla group, the United Red Army, suggests that the future of this particular protest group is doubtful in the extreme,” Professor Swan said. “Other university protest groups seem to have equally uncertain futures.”

Social change

However, he said, there were many dramatic examples of orthogonal social change in our history—for example, parliamentary Arts in the 19th century that recognised the rights of children, enabling them to become persons in their own right and not chattels of their parents.

“Even more dramatic examples of positive feedback leading to rapid social changes are to be found in the concern for the broad public interest where these conflict with narrow economic or political interests, (as exemplified in the activities of American crusaders like Ralph Nader and John Gardner), and in legislation dealing with the protection of the environment,” he said.

Professor Swan warned, however, that while large scale industry may now have learnt that environmental protection is an essential part of the balance sheet, future destruction of our natural heritage was more likely to be due to small backyard industries and private landholders.

“The problem is no longer blame industry but must recognise that our own actions are adding to environmental damage, then we must be prepared to accept the consequences or pay the price,” he said.

“Ranting against the frightful noise of motorised lawn mowers, the air pollution of private motor cars, the water pollution of power boating and the visual pollution of rubbish dumps.”

Dr. Radford, director of the Australian Council for Educational Research, said: “Those of you who teach, those of you who will in any way have dealings with young and developing minds, ought, I think, to be particularly aware of the kind of influence you may be exerting because of your own skill with words, your own regard for them, your own sense of movement in a world predominantly of verbal discourse.

“You will be dealing with many with lesser skills, and of lower powers to use them, with less experience of words and therefore often a slower rate of comprehension and of original presentation of ideas.

“You will, if you are not careful, run great risks—of unconscious intolerance which may negate any possible influence,” Dr. Radford told the graduates.

The wide array of the Halls of Residence, Dr. J. A. McDonald, took a special interest in the graduation ceremony on April 21—his son, Kenneth, graduated with an honors degree in science. Ken was awarded a class 1 honor in information science.

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THEATRE AT MONASH

Monash Players try Tennessee Williams play

A steamy tropical garden, a neerotic woman, a crazy asylum and a mysterious character named Sebastian all combine with a frightened and startling climax in Tennessee Williams’ “Suddenly Last Summer.”

This June 15 and 16, under the auspices of the Monash Players and under the capable direction of Michael Fleming, there will be performances of this gripping piece of drama. All Tennessee Williams’ plays are emotional bombs and “Suddenly Last Summer” is no exception.

That such a play is being put on as part of the Lunchtime Theatre Series is indicative of the goals at which student theatre at Monash is aiming and of the paths into which it is treading. But all such paths will be impinged upon, and we are invigorating so that productions will produce themselves to become an eye-catching success. But the highlight of her Australian tour. The performance was in fine style.

The Monash University Montec Theatre Company staged it as claimed to be the first Australian performance of “Follow That Girl!” a musical by the writers of “Salad Days.” Actually “Follow That Accident” may have been a more appropriate name as, besides several mishaps backstage, the leading lady, Jennifer Arrndt, was hurt in a car accident after the opening night. Below Jennifer gives some instructions to her understudy, Kate Strasser, who took over the role just as short played the male lead.

Photos: The Sun

CALL FOR PAPERS

The first Australian conference on heat and mass transfer will be held at Monash in May next year. The organizers are currently calling for papers.

The conference chairman is Prof. O. E. Potter, professor of chemical engineering at Monash, and the secretary is Dr. R. J. Potter, CSIRO, Division of chemical engineering, P.O. Box 312, Clayton. The conference aims at stimulating discussion on interdisciplinary topics.

Chairmen have been appointed for each field and the names are available from Prof. Potter or Dr. Batterham.

Abstracts of invited papers should be submitted to the chairmen by July 1, and draft papers are due by December 1.

June, 1972

Batterham, CSIRO, Division of chemical engineering, P.O. Box 312, Clayton.

Scholarships

The Academic Registrar’s department has been settled by the following scholars:

- Williams “Suddenly Last Summer”
- and Gerry’s “The Lower Depths” (staged early in the second semester) are student stores into the more or less traditional theatre. The object is to re-enliven plays with a deeper understanding gained from an unbiased approach.

The new “Suddenly Last Summer” is in the Union Theatre on Tuesday, June 15, and Friday, June 16, at 8:10 p.m. and to see how successful student theatre is.

- George Cody, Science I.

STORK COMES ‘HOME’

STORK, Tim Burstall’s locally made colour film, will have a week’s season at the Alexander Theatre, beginning at 8 p.m. on June 19. Look very closely and you might recognise a lecture theatre, the Leonard French window, the fish pond near the Main Library and some members of Monash Players. Stork, according to the plot, is at one stage a Mary student and some filming was done on campus.

Books for sale

- Trinity College, from June 1 to August 1.
- Turtle’s Library, Dean of Humanities, Hebrew
- Forster, A, Training for the future, 1914.
- Prospectus: The first Australian conference on heat and mass transfer will be held at Monash in May next year.
- Trinity College, from June 1 to August 1.
- Turtle’s Library, Dean of Humanities, Hebrew
- Forster, A, Training for the future, 1914.

Who’s where?

- Each month the Reporters lists academic visitors arriving during that particular month. The following is a list of visitors arriving during June. It is not an exhaustive list as it depends on the information that comes from other universities.

- Trinity College: Professor B. J. E. W. Whittaker, a scholar in the Department of Classics of downstairs, from June 3 to August 2.
- Arts — Germany: Professor Reinhart, Professor of Classics at Heidelberg, from July 1 to August 5.
- English: Professor Arthur Brown, Professor of English, University of Leeds, from July 1 to August 5.
- Philosophy: Professor C. A. Hooker, Professor of Philosophy, University of Sydney, from July 1 to August 5.
- Science — Australia: Professor H. F. Proctor, Australian School of Nuclear Technology, from July 1 to August 5.
- Australia — Japan: Professor B. C. Nyberg, Director of the Centre for Japanese Studies, University of Toronto, from June to August.

MONASH REPORTER