REMEMBER all the games you learnt as a child? . . .
Right back to mothers and fathers, through to cowboys and
Indians, British bulldog, cops and robbers. The list is timeless.
Were they just harmless expressions of exuberant, normal
childhood? Or did they represent the inculcation of social values, the
acceptance of set roles; the instilling of aggression and competition?
The Monash Club and Societies office is holding a camp at
Shoreham this coming weekend, May 5 and 6, where participants
will play and analyse the social significance of children's games.

It is the second such weekend at the University's Shoreham
camp. Union members are still talking about the success of the
experimental weekend last August when 60 people explored new
techniques in fine arts, film, sculpture, drama and dance.

The official title for the coming weekend is "The Miss Bun, the
baker's daughter's memorial games weekend". Miss Bun is a charac­
ter from a children's card game.

Both students and staff are encouraged to join in the weekend.
Cost will be students $2.50 and staff $6. Cars will be leaving Monash
on Friday evening. Bulk food will be provided. More details are
available from the Clubs and Societies office, first floor, Union,
ext. 3180 or 3144.

The activities officer, Vicki Molloy, said the weekend would
include a wide spectrum of games — from cards, dice and ludo to
social games. She said people could also play with musical instru­
ments, use the Union's new video-tape unit, and even build
sandcastles.

The State Government last month announced a grant of $17,000
for improvements to facilities at the Shoreham camp.

This followed a submission to the government Department of
Youth, Sport and Recreation from the joint managers of the camp —
the YMCA and the Monash Sports and Recreation Association.

The money will allow improvements to the kitchen, dining hall,
shower blocks, and tennis court.

Monash and the YMCA are currently half-way through a two­
year trial period. Next March a long-term agreement may be en­
tered into.

How successful has the camp been? On page 2, Doug Ellis, the
Monash man behind the re-opening of the camp, talks about its
successes and failures.
HOW SUCCESSFUL HAS IT BEEN?

In the 12 months to the beginning of the academic year this year, the Monash-YMCA camp at Shoreham was used by more than 3600 people from 87 organisations.

In round figures its total revenue from camp fees was $33,000. Its expenditure was $38,000.

In other words, the camp cost the Monash Union fund about $5000. The Union had budgeted for a cost of $7000.

Further, the State Government late last month agreed to a Monash-YMCA submission and has given $17,000 for general improvements.

All this pleases Doug Ellis, deputy warden of the Union, and the person who negotiated the agreement with the YMCA to re-open the camp on a two-year trial basis.

The camp is officially called the W. H. Buxton Education and Recreation Centre, for the man who originally donated the property to the YMCA. It covers 26 acres and is situated about 400 yards from a sheltered beach and 800 yards from Pt. Leo surf beach.

However, Mr. Ellis is not fully satisfied. "The response to re-opening a rundown camp has been most satisfying," he said.

"We have had schools book the camp from as far away as Echuca, Shepparton and Redcliffs. A number of other schools and organisations have re-booked the camp.

"But we would like to see even greater use of the camp by Monash people. "Some groups, the Monash Players, Clubs and Societies and Social Involvement, for example, have been regular users. But it is a pity that more academic groups have not used the camp — the only real use of this type has been a survey class from civil engineering.

Mr. Ellis hopes that the government money will allow more under-privileged children organisations to book the camp. "One of our major problems is that the camp was built for normal young people, and there is a great need for ramps, wider doors, and adequate paving for the handicapped."

Another problem has been the catering arrangements where bookings must be made well in advance. It is uneconomic as weekends to cater for groups of less than 50 people.

The camp consists of bunk type accommodation for 72 people. There is one dormitory for 24 people and six huts each taking eight people. One hundred persons can also be accommodated under canvas.

The sporting amenities include table tennis, volleyball court, basketball court, recreation hall and cricket oval. Flinders golf course is nearby.

MONASH PLAYERS have rehearsed three of their productions at Shoreham. BELOW: The cast from their most recent production, "Dracula".

Photo: The Sun
LAW REFORMER
ON STAGE

The Right Hon. Gerald Austin Gardiner, P.C., Baron Gardiner of Kimmsford, is a tall, impressive man with a fine, deep speaking voice. He will be 73 this month.

Lord Gardiner spoke in the Alexander Theatre last month to staff and students from the Faculty of Law. He described himself as a "left-wing reformer."

As Lord High Chancellor of England in Wilson's Labor Government, he was responsible for many changes to British law.

In reply to a question he told the Alexander Theatre audience that he regarded his "milestone" as the establishment of the law commission, a body of full-time legal experts who were empowered by statute in 1965 to "simplify and modernise" British law.

Lord Gardiner has championed many legal reforms - lowering of the voting age, abolition of capital punishment, relaxation of censorship, and the liberalisation of laws relating to censorship, homosexuality, abortion and divorce, to name just a few.

Lord Gardiner said he hoped it would not be long before Victoria abolished capital punishment.

"There is no evidence to suggest that capital punishment is any greater deterrent to murder than any other form of punishment," he said.

"There is no country where the murder rate has increased because capital punishment has been abolished."

Most murders are family affairs that is the people involved know each other well.

Among western Christian democracies capital punishment is dead. He hoped the time would come when no country retained capital punishment.

Questioned about the Commonwealth, Lord Gardiner said that although he was a left wing reformer he thought there was something to be said for its retention.

The Commonwealth allowed the leaders of various states to meet and this was worthwhile - "when difficulties arise it is a good thing if they can be discussed emotionally."

Turning to the monarchy he said that "on balance" it should also be kept "I don't know if they need as many royal dwellings as they have," he said. "I believe they lead an awful life. They are good at what they do."

Lord Gardiner was in Melbourne for the 100th birthday celebrations of the University of Melbourne law faculty. He delivered a memorial lecture on "The Likely Pattern of Legal Change in the Commonwealth".

At Monash, as a guest of the law faculty, he spoke in detail about the life and role of the Lord High Chancellor. He was extremely well received by the audience. His only problem was the billowing curtain, which, as this picture shows, occasionally blocked him off from a small section of the audience.

His strong facial features are more in evidence below. Both pictures are from The Sun.

INSTANT REPLAY IS POSSIBLE

Monash's clubs and societies now have the possibility of instant replay of their activities. Debaters can study their presentation, actors can check movement and voice, athletes can see their style.

The Union has donated a $160 portable video tape unit by the Monash Parents' Group. The "beauty of the equipment is that it is portable and easy to operate," says Vicki Molloy, Union activities officer. "A video tape is inexpensive and can be used a number of times."

The Audio Visual Aids Section trained a group of students and staff to operate the unit.

In turn, these people have been conducting weekly demonstrations - usually on a Wednesday afternoon - to show students how to use the equipment.

People wanting to use the equipment should book with the Clubs and Societies office, first floor, Union, ext. 3180, 3144. The video tapes can be borrowed free of charge for short-term use.

Clubs that have already used the video tape include - Monash Players, the Monash University Musical Theatre Company, and the French Club. Over Easter the Railway Club took the video tape off campus on a vintage train trip.

New councillor critical of book checking

Monash student counsellor, Robert Coventry, has returned to Australia critical of the undeveloped emphasis on education outside the book learning rather than on educating the whole individual.

Before taking up his Monash appointment recently, Mr. Coventry spent nine years at the University of Southern Illinois and visited a number of other campuses in the United States.

He trained as an educational psychologist and is currently writing up a Ph.D. on student counselling effectiveness.

Mr. Coventry believes that the American university system has a lot to offer the Australian system.

"Australia should adopt the philosophy of the American system in trying to make degree courses more applicable to the environment," he said.

"The trend in the U.S. is to give more practical experience, especially in areas like counselling, psychology and sociology."

Earning money

The practical experience may not be directly related to a degree, but would provide the student with an opportunity for earning money to play in college, as well as actual work experience.

Applied programs, which provide practical experience within courses, have been developed in a number of U.S. universities. Students are given credit for gaining this experience in the area in which they are studying.

Mr. Coventry added that many American universities had students involved in the administrative running of the university.

"This gives the student responsibility in co-ordinating and running a unit within the university," he said. It also gave them some idea of the complexity of running a modern university.

The Australian system may have to provide practical types of degrees or more "vocational" courses where people are "trained to do actual things"; otherwise one may find funding being reduced and channelled elsewhere.

There was little thought of the practical experience aspect at the under-graduate level in Australia, Mr. Coventry said.

Continual assessment

Another advantage of the American system, Mr. Coventry claims, is the three semester system. This, he said, enables continual assessment of a student's learning and takes into consideration student needs rather than faculty needs.

"It is a more student-oriented and more flexible system than ours," he added.

Mr. Coventry also suggested that H.S.C. students may benefit from taking one or two years off before entering university.

Maturity, not just academic aptitude, should be a pre-requisite to university entrance, he said.

In his role as student counsellor in the U.S., Mr. Coventry found that 80% of all student problems affecting academic performance were social ones relating to the development of social relationships.

Environmental adaptation difficulties were experienced by the majority of students who had left home to attend college.

Mr. Coventry added that many country students in Australian universities often experienced similar problems.

He compared the difficulties that many students experience in the U.S. with those experienced by the blacks in the United States.

Mr. Coventry sees American universities as very egalitarian, with a lot more sharing of ideas between faculties, and a willingness to try new things.
ANU: PhD SURVEY

Most PhD students at the Australian National University are satisfied with the general level of supervision they receive but the introduction of course-work into PhD programs does not have popular support.

The recent survey showed that 59 percent thought coursework (if it were introduced) should take up less than one tenth of the program; 41 percent wanted their thesis requirements reduced; 34 percent thought the time for a PhD should be extended and 50 percent felt coursework should be required only in the first year; a further 33 percent thought it should be spread over the first two years.

Thirty-one percent (111) of ANU PhD students have completed some coursework during their PhD program. Ninety percent of those currently enrolled in course said time required was less than five hours a week, more than half were in their first year. Nineteen percent said they had completed some coursework during their PhD program, 20 said their aim had been to improve research techniques and 57 to broaden their knowledge of the subject. If attendance had not been required only 15 percent of PhD students at ANU are satisfied with the general quality of supervision of programs. Only 15 percent indicated they were not satisfied.

Left alone

The most common reason given for unsatisfaction with supervision was that students were left alone to do what they wanted (15 percent) and that the supervision was competent but not available for consultation (9 percent).

On personal information obtained from students, the survey found that a greater number of Asian students were satisfied with supervision (63 percent) compared with the mean population (65 percent). The survey also showed that twice as many students from Asian favoured 'themselves and coursework' than the survey population. Students from Asia may have different expectations from the PhD program than students from other areas, the report concluded from these findings.

Majority satisfied

The formal conclusions presented to the Research Students Association that the majority of students are satisfied with the general level of supervision that they receive, that the introduction of coursework is an issue to be approached cautiously as a large proportion of students oppose coursework altogether.

An overall policy by members of the Research Students Association would favor a flexible attitude towards any move toward a PhD program which would offer the option of coursework.

The above report was based on an analysis of the March 23 ANU survey.

WIDER JOURNALISM COURSE IS PLANNED

RMIT is planning to offer an Australian correspondence course in Journalism. All that is needed is sufficient student demand, which will be available to journalists and others in country areas and in capital cities where there is no university instruction in the subject.

The head of the RMIT external department, Mr. H. C. Pratt, wants to hear from students who are interested in a journalism correspondence course. This year 125 people applied for the 60 places offer.

The RMIT's internal journalism course.

SECRETARIAL COURSE POPULAR

WITH MONASH GRADUATES

The job of being the boss's secretary is no longer the domain of the female stenographer and the blue Friday.

That's according to Monash graduate Edward Stanford, of Glen Waverley, who is doing a secretarial course at the Caulfield Institute of Technology.

"I am a 21-year-old Bachelor of Economics, firmly believes that being a secretary nowadays is not strictly for the girls.

"To prove a man can do the job just as well as a woman if not better he has enrolled in a post-graduate diploma course in secretarial studies at the institute."

The first and only member to enrol in a course for Men, Edward said he is not embarrassed about being a man in a woman's world.

Many offers

The institute's senior lecturer in secretarial studies, Lynne Weighe, believes Edward would receive many job offers after he finishes the 12-month course.

"The entire attitude towards the private secretary is changing," she said.

"Secretarial work is being recognized to be a profession."

"I think the private secretary is now regarded as having a foot on the first rung of the ladder."

"There is a big gap now between a secretary who is an efficient 'office helper' and an efficient private secretary."

Ms. Weighe said, "Executives now want the best private secretaries available. They have to do more than just shorthand notes and type letters."

"Employers will regard a private male secretary as a change and will probably hold the view that a man can do a better job than a woman, even when it comes to being a secretary."

Ms. Weighe will be at Monash on Thursday this week for Careers and Appointments Office interviews. Any student interested in doing the course at Caulfield next year should make an appointment on exh 3150 or at the A office at the institute. More than half of the 17 students doing the course this year are from Monash.

Mr. Parrott of the C & A office told the Reporter that the office could not satisfy the employment demand for trained graduate secretaries. Female science graduates with secretarial background would be in demand.

He said Commonwealth scholarships could be extended to cover the C & A office. That course was normally a year full-time but could be taken over two years as classes were held in the morning.

Mr. Parrott said the course included shorthand, typing, reporting, accounting, bookkeeping, management and a thesis on an aspect of business.

NEWS FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES

ANU: PhD SURVEY

Most PhD students at the Australian National University are satisfied with the general level of supervision they receive but the introduction of course-work into PhD programs does not have popular support.

These findings are the result of a survey of ANU graduate students conducted by the Research Students Association last August. Detailed results of the survey were presented at the March meeting of the students' council.

Of the 433 PhD students currently enrolled full-time at ANU, 73 percent responded to the survey. The questionnaire was in four parts. One section, on attitudes towards coursework in the PhD program, closely parallels a similar survey conducted by the RSA in 1969 and interesting comparisons have been drawn between the 1969 and 1973 survey results.

Fewer students favoured compulsory coursework in 1973 than in 1969 but a greater number of respondents in 1973 favoured the option of doing coursework.

In response to the related question, if compulsory coursework is to be required, the students were asked to indicate their willingness to take an examination aimed at (a) a tenure of scholarship for the PhD degree, and (b) the award of the PhD, the view that coursework was primarily a supplement to the award of a PhD was much less popular in 1973.

NEW SOUTH WALES:

Inspecting experiments

New South Wales Government officials will be empowered to inspect universities and laboratories suspected of conducting cruel experiments on animals.

Legislation before the State Parliament provides for authorised officers to enter and inspect premises that use live animals in experiments. If the inspectors find evidence of cruelty they will be able to take the experimenters to court.

Mr. D. N. Smith, the Secretary of the LRCA, said that the officers would have powers to seize animals.

They could take out warrants to search any premises where animals were reportedly mistreated.

NEW ZEALAND:

Accommodation available

Monash students and staff who plan to take part in summer holidays in New Zealand may take advantage of the hostel-type accommodation of the two halls of residence at the University of Auckland.

Accommodation will be available at the University from November 11, 1973 to December 23, 1973 and at the Auckland Polytechnic from December 17, 1973 to January 16, 1974.

The university is near the centre of Auckland and is ready to accommodate 150 persons.

It is expected that the daily rate for bed and board will be £3, £2 per person for staying in the University halls and $3.50 per person for the Polytechnic accommodation. A deposit of £1.50 must be paid to secure a room.

The New Zealand Government is offering scholarships to students from other parts of the Commonwealth, to the value of £300 to £450 to defray travel and living costs for up to three months of higher learning in New Zealand. Students must be residents of and travel to New Zealand from the United Kingdom.

A list of courses is available from the Italian Institute, 15, May 1973, Italian Students' Association, 15, May 1974.

Italian Students' Association, 15, May 1974.
The fundamental reason for the present crisis in the human environment is that "man takes too little notice of his actions or, more accurately, prefers to remain in ignorance of the consequences of his actions". The theme of a recent address by Dr. Larry Osborne, a Ph.D. student in the department of social and preventive medicine at the Alfred Hospital. He was speaking at a dinner organized by the Ryde Business and Professional Women's Club. Dr. Osborne said that the tendency to narrow down the definitions of problems, Dr. Osborne said, had often created situations where too many decisions had been made in absolute isolation from the common way of environment which was affected by the problems. He emphasized that "there must be consultation with people at all levels and at all stages in the making of decisions which will affect their lifestyles."

Defining objectives

The third major component in the environmental crisis, he suggested, was that "the objectives for human life have not been defined." Such fundamental questions as the optimal population for a city, the appropriate balance between work and leisure, and the purpose of health, educational and welfare services, had not been answered. Without such definitions, any decisions made, any problems solved, and any solutions adopted were likely to be insufficient and opposed to each other.

Dr. Osborne said that the definition of the problem would basically involve the participation, for the implementation of these objectives, would influence their day-to-day activities in the years to come. Using Melbourne as a model, Dr. Osborne showed how the problems confronting urban dwellers were inter-related.

The desire for "a house of your own", for instance, had resulted in the dispersion of the urban population over a vast area. This ex cessively low density had placed enormous strain on water supply and sewerage services and created the problem of inadequate hospital and other social services. It had also downgraded public transport in favor of freeways to cope with the increasing volume of vehicular traffic. The excessive rise in the cost of living had accentuated the problems on the health of the people.

High-rise buildings

Dr. Osborne emphasized the need for the definition of the objectives and the anticipation of the consequences of change in urban environmental planning. For example, high-rise buildings were constructed to solve the problem of housing a large number of people in a comparatively small area. This, in itself, was producing social problems like the number of people the building would accommodate, the age groups involved, and the ethnic background of the people to be included. Dr. Osborne suggested that unless this matter had been considered, the construction of the buildings should not be started.

The significance of these basic considerations should not be underestimated, he said. A simple matter like age of the people to be housed could be crucial.

A study in Glasgow, for example, revealed that the elderly and the young were the two groups most unsuited for high-rise accommodation. The children often were deprived of outlets for their hostilities and cornerstones in the confines of a small flat. The old people, on the other hand, found great difficulty in getting out of the flat. In addition, the design of the flat limited the opportunities for neighbors to talk and gossip with each other.

On the other hand, high-rise buildings in Chicago were thought to have given rise to the population of 20-30-year-olds. Mostly single and fun-oriented, this age group usually found the accommodation of the high-rise flat suited to their lifestyles.

High-rise flats in Melbourne have also underscored the significance of the life cycle of the occupants. Thus families with adolescent children in general found the high-rise flat a considerable improvement over their previous standards. Families with young children had great difficulty in managing simple tasks like going shopping and supervising the play period.

The high-rise flat in Melbourne had also given rise to other problems like housing together one particular group of people (e.g., single mothers), adequate provision for schools, health and welfare facilities in areas adjacent to the flat, and the provision of safe playing areas.

Dr. Osborne cautioned that unless such principles in urban environmental planning were considered "we may impose physical, social and psychological burdens on the urban environment, to which man may not be able to adapt."

The theme of Dr. Osborne's recent address -- summarised on the following page -- was the need to realize all the consequences of a social act. One problem solved might create another.

High rise building may ease the problem of housing demand. But what effect does it have on the occupants?

Does it suit elderly people and the young? Cartoonist Cobb saw the same problem.

The recently released 1972 report of the Monash safety committee shows that 340 accidents occurred on campus last year leading to 81 classified injuries. The following is a breakdown of where the accidents occurred (classified injuries in brackets):

- Arts 1 (1) - education I (1); law nil; medicine 37 (14); Roops nil; engineering 1 (2); science 56 (23); central services 43 (21); union 18 (8); library 2; halls of residence 12 (8); university offices 3 (1); maintenance 47 (9); grounds 4 (6) and audio visual aids 3 (5)

- Will Barker, Safety Officer.
GOSH! ARE WOMEN STEPPING INTO THE MEN'S SHOES?

By MIETTA O'DONNELL

At Monash a study of women in Australia as a sociological phenomenon will be offered as a third year option to students in the sociology department. Also some work into the historical role of women in Australian society is now being done by the history department.

And, for example, in South Australia both universities this year are setting up courses on women's study. At the University of Adelaide a course in the politics department will include the study of women in contemporary society and the history of feminism.

At Flinders University a group of women students have set up a course in conjunction with the philosophy department. Suggested topics include the history of women's struggle against their oppressors, the role women have played in history, the position of women today, and modern technology and its relation to women in society.

Enrolled students and women outside the universities are eligible for both courses.

Scant source material

Discussing the dearth of material on women in society, Monash historian, Associate Professor Ian Turner, said historiats in the past had shown little interest in this area. There was now very little material on which students could work.

"I do deal with the role of women in Australian society in a popular culture seminar now offered to final year honors students," he said.

"But there is no flow on to the pass course and I cannot yet introduce it as a full subject."

Professor Turner explained that this must wait on the development of research work being currently undertaken by historians.

He said that a large number of his students, particularly women post-graduate students, had shown interest and were undertaking their own research work.

"Many are using women's magazines as a means of tracing the development of women in Australia and of attitudes towards them." 

Romance and reality

A history honors student at the ANU, Miss Andrea Wright, used the Australian Women's Weekly for her thesis on Australian women, "Romance and Reality, from 1932-1950."

She came to the conclusion that Australian women have been used as an expendable work force manipulated to suit the economy, treated as an oppressed minority, and neglected in serious Australian history studies.

Miss Wright believes that magazines such as the Women's Weekly have indoctrinated women into believing that marriage is true romance, house making is fulfillment.

"The pity is," she said, "that many women have been prepared to go along with being manipulated and accepted role playing and housewife status without questioning the motives behind it."

A similar study using the Women's Weekly was made by Ms Jennifer Simmons, a postgraduate student in the Monash history department.

She found that the concept of women as presented in the magazine had changed considerably during the post-war years until the current decade.

Ms Simmons explains that the Australian woman who had long been deluded into believing in the ideal of romantic love and the career of marriage, had now been robbed of her illusions and left with no real sense of coping in modern society — "her survival kit is no good," she says, "and the problem is not just being female but being alive."
The course offered to Monash sociology students this year will be taught by Ms Jan Mercer, a teaching fellow in the department.

Ms Mercer is currently editing a book which she hopes to finish this year on Australian Society. A Woman's View - the book will be based on original research material and Ms Mercer will help correct the imbalance in post research work, much of which, she says, was written from an exclusively male viewpoint.

The book has chapters by Dr Lois Bryson, senior lecturer in sociology, to whom Ms Mercer is the author of a study of life and leadership in a community. She had moved to Camberwell by the Women's Electoral Lobby. The book will include chapters by Ms Mercer, a teaching fellow in the department, and On the greater acceptance of the women's move­ments will.

She says that during the 1880's, the professions were open for all but the women and the 1890's saw the women's move­ments in society.

To break down the accepted ideas of male and female roles in life Australia should adopt some European ideas, according to Dr. Peter Riach, reader in economics.

He said that in Sweden, work­pregnancy leave was available for husbands, thereby facilitating the second role of the child care func­tion by males.

This type of policy, along with more courses for married women in secondary schools, would help to reduce the differential job acceptance rates between males and females, Dr. Riach claimed.

In East Germany 15 days' absence leave was allowed for working men to take over the normal parental duties of caring for sick children or taking them to medical or dental appoint­ments.

Another Swedish idea was the use of large apartments. These are flat blocks for dual-career couples and are covered with such things as 24-hour, seven-day-a-week child mind­ing shops and laundries.

Turning his attention to current Australian conditions, Dr. Riach said that the housewives had been over­looked by the economy and should be paid for her efforts.

However, through maintaining homes and caring for husband and children, made a real and productive contribution to community life. But the housewife did not rate in the family's contribution to GNP nor for a woman to be a member of the workforce.

Where a couple decided that the wife should be the first to go out to work, she should receive a salary from her husband. "After all, a bachelor may hire a housekeeper and pay for her work. If he then marries his wife this is no reason why he should be paid for the salary to stop," Dr. Riach said.

In the case of the wife who ran both a house and cared for children, Dr. Riach said the State had an obligation to make some payment for children rather than for "wifedom". Well-cared for children, he suggested, were a benefit to the community. Child endowment payments should be made to reflect the value of these services.

However direct payments should not be to the housewife as this would be ignored by the economy and should reinforce the idea of specific role-be, paid for her efforts. Instead the payments should be to the household as this would not be ignored by the economy and should reinforce the idea of specific role-be.
In Review

CONCERTS

The Student Madrigal Choir, Munster University, Germany, Robert Blackwood Hall, March 26, 27.

By PAUL MALONEY

The conductor of a university student choir can follow one of two courses.

Conductor and choir can experiment together the great works of the choral repertoire, even if that leads to more or less disastrous performances affording minimum satisfaction to the listener. Or (taking advantage of the downy beauty of young, untrained voices), the problem of rapid turnover of choir members can be solved by restricting the repertoire to simple works that can be well performed within the restrictions of no inexperienced group.

Australian university choral societies usually choose the first course. Frau Herm Kramm, conductor and director of the Student Madrigal Choir, Munster University, Germany, has chosen the second.

Thin boss line

The choir gave three concerts in Blackwood Hall, on Monday, March 26, at lunchtime and in the evening, and on Tuesday morning, March 27, for school children.

The choir always sounded pleasant. However, the reading was sometimes too quick and the soprano had rather too much edge. Although that suited well enough the German folk songs that ended their programs, it was not adequate to bring out the Russian character of the excerpts from Kodably's 'Bolshaiy', nor did it fully realize the darker orchestral colors of Bruckner's Ave Maria or Brahms' 'Nachtgebets IX'.

The first half of the Monday evening concert consisted of a selection of mostly Baroque sacred works and a group of Renaissance madrigals. There were sung accurately, with pleasant tone and careful attention to phrasing, sometimes bordering on the mannered, but, to those familiar with the works, within astonishingly restricted ranges of dynamics, timbre and tempo. The simple, childlike effect of this singing brought to mind the heavenly choirs of less than life-sized angels in mid-sixteenth century Flemish paintings.

The second-half of the program consisted of a group of 12th century choral songs by Brahms and Tchaikovsky and one 19th century work by J. N. David, and a selection of folk-songs.

The most animated performances of the evening were the German folk songs at the end — the other folk-songs were scored with a vitality which for instance, reduced to drolery the religious fervor of the negro spirituals.

The most ambitious work was the predominantly choral opening section of Bach's motet for double chorus 'Stinand dem Herrn ein reines Lied'. The contrast of sections for single choir against the thronged scaled sections for combined choir was well handled. The most sensitive performance was the definitely simple setting by Brahms of 'Ein' froh in der Herbst'.

48 singers

The choir, 48 singers from all faculties of the University of Munster, was founded in 1947 by Frau Kramm. At present it consists of 27 women and 21 men, whose average age is 26. The choir has a wide reputation having toured extensively in Europe, the USA and Asia.

On this tour the choir visited Singapore, New Zealand, and Australia — in Australia singing in Melbourne, Adelaide, Canberra and Sydney.

The last 15 minutes of the Monday evening concert and an interview with Frau Kramm were broadcast 'live' from Monash to Radio Cologne.

BOOKS

The Receding Wave, by Brian Matthews, Melbourne University Press, 1972, $6.75.

By DENNIS DOUGLAS, Senior lecturer in English

Brian Matthews' "The Receding Wave" is one of those uneven and deeply-pondered books written under the influence of a flawed supervisor and registering the impress of many formative experiences of an unconventional critical sensibility.

That is putting it kindly.

A great deal of what Matthews has to say about Lawson's short stories is interesting and well-presented. A great deal that he has to say is also written and overstated, to a degree that does Lawson no service and, imposing on a slender achievement a weighty emasculation, seems simply to carry.

There is also a curious compulsion to resort to defining the role of the tales in terms of a kind of spiritual autobiography. The danger of extrapogulating beyond the last line of direction of the author's inner life is completely disregarded.

I doubt if anybody ever pointed out to Matthews the curious confusion between ascertainable fact and conjecture in matters of style, or the sources of the fantasies that replace concrete evidence when that concrete evidence is likely to be available.

What we have as a result is a bright book, a stimulating book, but an unreliable one on matters of scholarship and eschatological approach, and an even more unreliable one from the critical point of view.

It is interesting to note that the strength of a critical approach depends on the concentrations of the critic to analyse the text on its own terms, and not to bring to its assumptions that bear no relation to its formal and technical reality.

A critic who scores positively or negatively by enunciating condensed aphoristic or meaningless platitudes or observations on human nature, the universe, or positive processes, is playing a rather crass game. And Matthews seems to do so, evidentiy, to projecting into Lawson's work a weighty significance and linking on one wondrous whose emotional life comes first, the author's, or the critic's.

Gifted scholar

I have no doubt that the author of "The Receding Wave" is one of the most gifted scholars in the fields of Australian literature and Commonwealth literature, and that his work is bound to become widely respected, but not for this book.

SIR, if I doubt if he will be driven in ten or fifteen years to write a study what my MA supervisor was driven to in the late fifties, the writer who kept up my breathing and barring of all extant copies of a study of T. S. Eliot's poetry he had written at the height of the Eliot boom after the Second World War.

It is not a stupid book. But it is a book I have strong reservations about placing in the hands of my undergraduate students.

Religious Centre weddings

For the record: The annual chaplain report indicates that there has been an eight-fold increase in the number of religious ceremonies performed in the Religious Centre over the last year, with the total being 36 weddings last year, 136 this year.

May, 1973

MONASH REPORTER
Sir Eric Ashby has said that if non-vocational higher education was to scrap the practice of certifying non-vocational education, and simply to issue degrees and diplomas as filters for selecting candidates for jobs, the issue class certificates to had to be carried out.

Sir Eric, master of Clare College, Cambridge, and member of the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education, made this observation in an address to the Second International Conference on Higher Education held recently at the University of Lancaster.

The conference had as its theme "The Implications of Mass Higher Education". The latter part of his talk was published in the Bulletin of the International Association of Universities (Vol. 20, No. 4).

Sir Eric said that if non-vocational higher education was to serve its real purpose, which was to civilize people, it ought to attract people who wanted to be "civilised," and not those who only wanted to be "certified" so that they could obtain a job.

He said some employers did a great disservice to higher education by judging people on their degree or diploma as filters for selecting candidates for jobs. Although credentials were essential for getting a job, evidence suggested that they had little to do with how well an individual performed a job.

Sir Eric suggested that the only way to correct this misdirection in non-vocational higher education was to scrap the practice of certifying non-vocational education, and simply to issue degrees and diplomas as filters for selecting candidates for jobs. Although credentials were essential for getting a job, evidence suggested that they had little to do with how well an individual performed a job.

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A total of five graduation ceremonies will be held in Robert Blackwood Hall during April and May.

This month the Reporter publishes extracts from the occasional addresses delivered at the first two ceremonies...

April 6: Medicine and science.
Speaker: Professor M. J. P. Canny, professor of botany.

"Natural Selection is the Finger of God", I cried to myself in a moment of hazy enlightenment.

If you want a modern mythology to explain the whale's throat or the camel's hump or the rhinoceros's skin, buttercups and daisies or the cat's whiskers, you use natural selection.

But where is the Finger pointing now, and what are we doing about it?

A wild population living under high selection pressure shows very little variation. But when the selection pressure decreases, the variability of the population increases.

The most conspicuous examples of this are in those species that have domesticated, since to domesticate is to relieve the selection pressure: horses and roes and dogs, apples and pigeons and corn and all manner of livestock.

Man is in the same sense a domesticated animal. Per a thousand generations much of the pressure of natural selection has been lifted from him by his own efficiency. And the races of men are as many and various as the races of dogs.

Man is especially conspicuous in having evolved enormously complicated cultural changes -- the use of weapons and fire, language and tools, magic and religion, agriculture and warfare, writing and cities, science and industrialisation.

Cultural evolution is just like genetic evolution in being controlled by natural selection.

Adaptive value

Those cultural inventions survive that have adaptive value: those selectables whose habits and rituals are such as will allow the group to increase in number and grow and prosper; those whose customs are legible, a feature.

But there is this important difference: cultural evolution is immensely more rapid than genetic evolution.

The setting out of hereditary material by retezzent selection takes many generations; cultural evolution, in contrast, has that remarkable property (called Lamarckian) that genetic evolution lacks: the inheritance of characteristics acquired during the life of the individual, that these traits (as the phenotype, the matured body of the organism, not on the germ cells) only.

Once a cultural discovery has been made, for example the bow and arrow, or the arithmetical or the basket, it can be commutated very rapidly, passed on to all branches of the culture.

In this way you will find the role of that strange biological phenomenon money. Money is a kind of negative selectible pressure, a means of storing and transmitting relief from selection.

A squirrel who has a hoard of nuts has an edge on evolution; he has some extent relieved of the selection pressure imposed by the coming winter. But a squirrel who can communicate with his fellows to the extent of getting them to do what he wants in exchange for some of his nuts, has evolution by the thrush.

Selection has passed from the hamster to his own hand, and he will use it to make things more comfortable for himself. The species is no longer dependent on the instinct of hoarding.

As cultural man has grown rapidly more intelligent at getting his living with less effort, his cultural invention of means has enabled him to make and accumulate bigger boards of nuts, the sooner to put to protect more of his fellows from a wider range of dominating influences, thus perpetuating genes that natural selection would have weeded out at their first appearance.

The doctor or lawyer or engineer used to be looked up to, and accorded respect, because it was recognized that he had spent years in acquiring knowledge, that he had standards of skill and standards of integrity, and that he contributed something to the common welfare of the community, beyond what he needed to do in order to earn his remuneration.

That attitude of the man in the street has disappeared.

In the minds of many there is but little respect for success, or merit for earning respect -- the ability to acquire or to excel according to no very rigid measures. It is made as to how the succession is accomplished, whether it be by taking or doing the consumer public shoddy goods at inflated prices or by ever more dubiuos means.

Taxation, among other factors, tends to make the professional man to accumulate capital, and whatever the gross earnings, it is not as difficult for the professional to enjoy a high standard of wealth. You will, I have no doubt, be adequately rewarded for your endeavours and for the burdens of laborious preparation that you have already endured.

That, after all, is the outward and visible distinction between the professional and the more amateur.

But in most cases the financial return will not be the factor that gives you the greatest reward. That, you will discover, comes from the satisfaction of having applied to your problems the inventive and inventive and the practical and the practical, and the realisation that you have performed a craftmanlike operation.

If, at your retirement, you can look back and see that you have left the world, and particularly your own province, somewhat better than when you found it, then your lives will have been very full and rewarding in the best sense.

By analogy with genetic evolution, one would expect that this release of selection pressure on cultural evolution would result in a diversification of cultural inventors, and that, since cultural evolution is much faster than genetic, the constant individual and cultural behaviour would appear sooner than the variations of the genes. It does not need much searching to find those variations.

Since when have so many diverse groups invaded so far outside the accepted bounds of the culture, and in so many different directions?

Is there anything whose value has not been called in question? Is that not the essence of the offensive idea?

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The G R A D U A T I O N C E R E M O N I E S

A FAMILY AFFAIR IN RBH

The April graduation ceremonies in Robert Blackwood Hall held especial interest for me and for the Monash academics.

On Friday, April 6, Joel Bornstein, the son of Professor Joe Bornstein, professor of biochemistry, graduated with a B.Sc. honors degree.

Joel was doing post-graduate work with Professor Mollie Holman in the department of physiology.

On Wednesday, April 11, Barbara Manson, daughter of Profes.sor W. J. B. Manson, professor of chemical engineering, Prof. Mans­ton is Dean of Arts.

May 1973

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MONASn REPORTER
LARGE AUDIENCE HEARS STATE POLITICIANS IN RBH

ERIC (the Monash Environmental Research and Information Centre) gained the support of a large audience at its forum on 'Politicians and the Environment' (Robert Blackwood Hall, Wednesday March 24).

The politicians, accepting that something must be done, or at least said, about the environment, seemed willing enough to go on the spot.

It was something to hear the Minister for Lands, Mr. Borthwick, start off by admitting the value of the Little Desert episode, that threw out his predecessor at the last election.

Now, says Borthwick, he has transformed. Lands and Development will be "no further alienation of Crown Lands," but by "standard" (outlines all the public lands in Victoria have been seen - or other them was said and bounds, but their presence and recommended land use).

He claims only that the Environmental Protection Act was a new concept in Victoria, but anyone who had given the Act teeth to the Authority.

Over the years, the biggest problem was the segmentation of departmental effort in conservation, Mr. Borthwick, including the Conservation Ministry with a scientific direction for the first time, he said, "we are now able to make the right value judgments."

But the greatest difficulty of all was the vast majority of people were not aware or informed about the environment or the condition.

In answer to questions, Mr. Borthwick admitted the need to limit the growth of the population of Australia: "be even agreed with the new restrictions on immigration."

Mr. Peter Ross-Edwards, leader of the Country Party, claimed there was no real difference between the parties on environmental issues. "It all depends on what the taxpayer is prepared to pay," he said.

As for him and his party, the elusive question was part of the "all down, all decentralisation."

Of course the Country Party being a national party, but politics should be given to existing parks rather than, by adding them up, going up with destruction.

As the only education of the public as the greatest problem. As evidence of this he said that burning off the weekends created more pollution than industry and cars.

Nevertheless, he said, of course we will avoid: -

- More dams.
- More farming areas.
- More areas for hunting.
- More freeways.
- Greater use of timber.
- More mining and quarrying.

Then Mr. Ross-Edwards, according to Mr. Ross-Edwards, parks could not remain static, and so political parties could have a say policy on environment.

Mr. James Boettcher, debating for the ALP leader, Clive Holden reminded us that pollution was a product of economic efficiency.

While admitting the change in the Liberal outlook since the arrival of Premier Hamer, he asked us to look at past performances. In effect, he said, conservation and free enterprise don't mix, and state efforts so far had always been ad hoc.

He summarised the ALP attitude by saying that -

- The Federal ALP government would provide the funds.
- In the State, more emphasis would be placed on resource planning.
- The growth of Melbourne would be restricted.
- The Yarra Valley and Western Port Bay were high value resources for recreation.

He summed up by saying that the price of a good environment was eternal vigilance.

Mr. Frank Dowling, State Secretary of the ALP, claimed that the DLP had a policy on the environment before other parties.

The DLP doesn't believe in doom, nea according to the former who over-stated the case. Similarly, the conservative development, he said, development must cease.

Mr. Dowling wanted eminent good sense.

Mr. David Smith, who succeeds in combating politics (State convener of the Australia Party) and Monash University, gave a scientific view of the allocation and expenditure of resources.

Why not bike tracks, for example, to encourage the safe use of an alternative to cars and their fuels and efficiencies, he said.

Mr. Borthwick seemed only enough, some charged with emotion, all with interest and concern.

-Gilbert Vasey.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE DEGREE HAS 58 STARTERS

The Master of Environmental Management, Monash's post-graduate interdisciplinary degree, is underway: -

- Three quarters of the first year is the original number intended.

- Eighteen students are doing the course, full-time in two years; the rest, taking time off from their employment, will take about five years to finish.

- The lead aim of the course is two-fold: first, to provide environmental depth in the student's own professional field, for example in law, sociology, geography, etc., and secondly, to provide breadth by acquaintance with as many other disciplines as possible.

- Any bachelor's degree graduate is eligible to take the course which involves up to 15 units plus a minor thesis at the end of second year or its part-time equivalent.

This year 26 units are offering with 12 in the first semester. Seven other units are planned next year.

Some unit examples are, environmental psychology, coastal environments, waste treatment, environmental acoustics, wildlife management, radio activity, urban sociology and urban legal problems.

Some units have undergraduate pre-requisites. Some courses are taken in conjunction with senior undergraduate courses, others are completely separate units.

The students come from 20 different fields, 19 of which are pre-university, 10 are teachers. Other people are from - for example - psychology, law, geography, planning, architecture, botany, politics, economics, town planning.

Age range from early twenties to middle age, women being more than men.

Chairman-ordinator is Dr. E. H. M. Eley, senior lecturer in biology. Dr. Eley, a zoologist, later in this year, students will be able to work together on community problems.

Field work has been held on Western Port Bay, Port Phillip Bay, and two other units, one port power house and the Yarra Bren.

"It takes people with all sorts of training and experience," Dr. Eley said.

Dr. Eley also said in the course, the development of the "doormat" - drawings and plans of plans - after Council and Professional Society decisions to be made. Normally, they are just "rubber stamped" and by lack of schedule and unreasonable opposition, they are ignored.

Some one meeting may be interested in the Terrestrial Ecology and Drawing ability of the course. This report believes it worthy of singular publication.

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The electrical engineers entertained in the departmental seminar at a recent Sunday, a group of international and engineering students working in power systems.

They were Melbourne students for committees of CIOR (International Conference of Large Power Networks).

The members of this group were drawn from the new field of management in power utilities, large manufacures, and industrial organizations; from Italy, Switzerland, France, and England, and from the electrical power working group...

The Monash electrical laboratories were able to show the students an actual system simulator, and its ability to represent a wide variety of transmissions that arise, with or without noise, in the operation of large power systems.

THERE IS 3 MU YOUR campus radio station

3 MU has three speaker outlets — one downstairs in the Union near the theatre, one in the upstairs foyer, and another in the northwest courtyard. This last speaker operates at lunchtime only. Plans are also being made to bring 3 MU into the Halls of Residence in the future, via a loop-aerial system throughout the campus.

An enthusiastic group of students originally set up a campus radio specifically for last year's Open Day. The 3 MU board, now under the Union, is to set up a review after three operations of 3 MU later next month.

Technically 3 MU runs on the same lines as a commercial radio station, but, unlike commercial stations, 3 MU policy is to give all new releases air play. New records are received from distributors and charged, and costs can therefore be kept to a minimum.

Station manager, Paul Culbert, sees 3 MU as an effective medium of campus communication. "We are responsive to campus needs," he says.

He feels, however, that voluntary student help is needed to assist in the running of the station.

As at present, apart from the 35 student announcers, 10 students are engaged in the technical aspects of transmitting.

The station Member's Club has expanded their services to 3 MU, and include "Magazine ex. 3129".

Free personal or club advertiseing is available through 3 MU, and interested groups should contact the studio, which is located in the basement, north extension of the Union.

— by Dainna Smurtheave

Copy deadline for the next issue of "Monash Reporter" is April 30. Letters and contributions from staff and students are welcome. To the editor, Ian Anderson, in the Information Room, Student Services, (Phone 3807.)

HIGH POWER VISORS TO ENGINEERING