As Finals Fever hits Melbourne, a Monash academic gives

A Legal warning to sport's 'head hunters'

Sportsmen who recklessly injure others on the field risk being charged with a criminal offence.

This warning to sport's "head hunters" comes from a senior lecturer in Law at Monash, Mr J. N. Turner.

Mr Turner says that the traditional attitude that bringing sport into the law courts isn't "the done thing" is changing.

"Players are as open to prosecution for acts committed in a sports arena as those without. If they deliberately infringe the rules of the game they are playing, and recklessly injure others, then they may find themselves facing criminal charges and their clubs facing compensation claims," he says.

Mr Turner organised Britain's first symposium on sport and the law while on study leave at the University of Birmingham recently. The meeting attracted strong representation from sporting bodies, the legal profession and the press. He has been asked to organise a similar conference in Australia in the near future.

Urgent need

He says: "I found the British sports pages were carrying an increasing number of reports on court cases and it struck me that there was an urgent need to get sportsmen and lawyers together."

"There is just as urgent a need here in Australia."

Mr Turner says that lawyers have "failed completely" to explore the law in relation to sport and there is a real need for this area to be developed.

"Sportsmen and administrators are anxious to know their rights," he says.

Cases arising from violent behaviour form only one aspect of the field needing to be explored, however.

These are some of the other aspects Mr Turner nominates:

- As sport becomes more professional, sportsmen will see themselves more as employees and entitled to the same protection of the law received by other employees. This will require an increasing knowledge by players and clubs of industrial law. There could even be a time when professional players dropping disciplinary committees might mount challenges in the courts.

- Spectators might resort to the courts if they feel their safety has been neglected by a club, including their safety from attack by an overexcited, drunk spectator.

- And women could mount challenges to open up the all male preserves of clubs, such as the hallowed MCG pavilion.

Mr Turner says it is probably only a matter of time before injuries suffered on a sporting field result in court action against a player.

Clean-up

"My opinion is that a few cases might not be a bad thing in cleaning up some of the games in which the intemational injuring of players has become commonplace," he says.

"And the clubs, too, may be considered vicariously liable for any damage their players might do. It would be in their interest to make sure their players stick to the rules."

Mr Turner says the decisions of sporting disciplinary tribunals in, say, examining a player, would count for nothing if an action was pursued in a law court.

Mr Turner says that as sport becomes more professional, sportsmen will need to know more about their rights under contract.

He foresees the possibility of players challenging, in court, decisions by selection committees to drop, or "sack", those if they believe the decisions were not taken on proper grounds.

"Matters develop in clubs and it's a fact of life that selectors sometimes make decisions on criteria other than performance in the game. If a player feels he has been dropped without justification it may be possible for him to challenge the procedures adopted by the selectors," he says.

Clubs may be meeting spectators in court, too, if it is felt they haven't done enough to ensure spectator safety.

This could be, for example, if a stand collapsed due to overcrowding or poor repair.

(In Glasgow, stands in the Ibrox stadium collapsed in 1971 causing death and injury. This prompted introduction of the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 which controls stringently such aspects as crowd size.)

Mr Turner says clubs could be held liable, too, for injuries sustained by a spectator from, say, a six hit from a pitch too near the boundary. Neighbors who sustain damage to property in similar circumstances might have reasonable grounds for complaint too.

Mr Turner says: "I would think that if such an occurrence happened once in a blue moon the attitude should be live and let live. But I feel that a lot of clubs are not taking adequate measures to protect spectators."

He says that clubs may have liability also in the case of the "yobbo" who gets drunk and attacks fellow spectators.

"It may be that clubs have a legal duty to prevent people from getting drunk on their premises and misbehaving to the detriment of others."

Equal rights

Mr Turner says that although Victoria's Equal Opportunity Act exempts sport as an area for application, there may be sports-linked areas in which women may mount bids to ensure equal rights.

Such a one might be participation in a sport, such as athletics, with which the granting of scholarships is associated.

The pavilion?

And, in the future, it could be that a woman cricket fan eager to view the men's tests on display within the gentlemanly confines of the MCG pavilion, or have a drink there with a fellow cricket lover who happens to be female, may make a legal bid to gain the access now denied.

"My feeling would be that if a cricket club takes membership applications from women then it discriminates in not letting women use all its facilities," Mr Turner says.
Debating: The days of elegant argument come to Monash

A few weeks ago Monash witnessed a relatively rare phenomenon — hundreds of people queuing up on four successive days... to listen to debates. Few can remember when, if ever, any event (apart perhaps from a riot, an iron-man contest or a Prime Ministerial visit) has aroused such interest on campus.

And it led many (well, those with memories of Oxford and Cambridge, anyway) to wonder wistfully whether the good old days of elegant, civilised, rational debate were coming back.

It was, indeed, a most unusual week.

First, the Alexander Theatre (500-plus seats) was packed to capacity — and an estimated 500 other enthusiasts turned away — when Oxford University came to debate with Monash 3 team the topic "That the quickest way to reach the stage...". The presence of three other people and an estimated 500 other enthusiasts to the throne is up-the back of others".

That lesson learned, the organisers booked Robert Blackwood Hall for the remaining three lunchtime debates — one against Cambridge and two against Columbia (USA).

And each time, the 1300-seat Hall was almost filled. "The audience slightly unnerved some of the Monash participants. One said: "Until now I've only debated with Oxford or Cambridge, and no other people and a blank wall."

But the Monash Association of Debaters was greatly encouraged.

Association treasurer Mark Walker said: "I think we benefited greatly from the visit of these international teams, and this should result in a general upfiling of the style and level of argument on campus."

"The Association, particularly, wants to grow and, to ensure that the standard of argument shown during the tour is not forgotten, videotapes were made of several debates."

"The different styles of debating became apparent as teams from different sides of the Atlantic spoke," said Mark.

"The Americans tend to take their subject quite seriously and at home debate just one topic for the year. This leads to large filing cabinets, cards, being wheeled in at the final."

"Often the experienced adjudicator is the only member of the audience to keep track of all the arguments."

"In these debates, matter — the points made for the argument — are of main account."

"The English teams showed us a style of debating in the best traditions of the art of persuasion, which results from a parliamentary format of debating."

"In Australia we debate for pleasure, but generally the adjudicator who gives marks in three areas: matter, manner and method."

"The English see this as a slightly artificial way to relate to the art of persuasion. But we have shown them that it gives us the Americans' concern for argumentative points and the English passion for persuasion."

English tutor, Ros Meyer, who chaired three of the Monash debates, says the Association that the international tour will encourage a revival of interest in debating on campus.

While she feels that much of the interest in the series probably stemmed from the "fun" nature of the encounters, Mrs Meyer believes there could be great benefits for the University community — and for public life generally — if more attention were paid to the "intellectual sport" of debating.

"And I believe it held lessons for many of our socially and politically aware students — principally, that it is possible to make pungent political points and social commentaries in the course of a properly-structured debate."

"You can often do it with greater force and precision if the discussion is leavened with style, humour, and, above all, intellectual and academic discipline."

Mrs Meyer added: "Training in the skills of debating can also do a lot to raise the standards of public discussion and examination of issues."

"All too often, it seems, public speaking is pegged at the level of housewives talking on TV about the relative merits of washing powders."
Ahrend organ for RBH described as one of world's best

The organ being built for Robert Blackwood Hall by German builder Jurgen Ahrend will be one of the best in the world, according to several music experts outside Monash.

A sketch of the four-manual organ by Ahrend himself has been received recently at Monash. It is reproduced at right.

The organ will commemorate the work of the University's Vice-Chancellor for its first 16 years, Sir Louis Matheson. A total of $321,000 was raised by public subscription in 1976 to enable the instrument to be commissioned.

The organ is being built in Ahrend's workshops in Leer, West Germany, and will be flown to Melbourne where it will be assembled in RBH by Ahrend and his team of expert technicians. It is installed early in 1980 and plans are underway for opening festivities in April of that year.

Writing in the latest edition of his publication, Victorian Organ Journal, editor 'John Maldent says: "The organ should sound magnificent in Robert Blackwood Hall which has excellent acoustics. It will prove to be a worthy and notable addition to the musical resources of this city."

"Jurgen Ahrend is among the most highly regarded organbuilders of the present age and it is certain that the Monash organ will attract world interest and fittingly commemorate the work of Sir Louis Matheson."

Professor John Hamilton, professor of Music (Organ, Harpsichord, Music History) at Oregon University in the US, speaks about the Monash organ in similarly complimentary terms. Ahrend built a four-manual organ for that University six years ago.

Says Professor Hamilton in a recent letter to Professor R. Cummings, chairman of the Organ Project Sub-Committee of the Buildings Committee: "Best assured that your Ahrend instrument Monash University will have one of the world's very greatest of organs. In its lifetime, which one can anticipate to be 200 to 300 years, one may safely forecast that it will be one of the most beautiful organs in the world."

He says Ahrend is a "craftsman/artist of the very highest calibre".

Mr Maldent says that the Monash organ will be the largest Ahrend has built to date in Australia.

He says: "The design is essentially north German but with slight leaning towards the French choral school, for example, the two Cornets, the separate Terz ranks and the two Oberwerk (flying) positions.

"The action will be mechanical throughout (on the French suspended system) with mechanical stop action also."

Jurgen Ahrend, born in 1930, began making organs in Leer in 1954 in partnership with Gerhard Brunzema. Both were apprentices under Paul Ott of Gottingen.

The Ahrend-Brunzema organs were built upon traditional lines exclusively using mechanical action, slider chests, total encasement and classical dispositions.

The partnership ended in 1972. Since then Ahrend has continued to build many outstanding new organs and carry out restoration work. His latest organ was opened in May at the Reid Concert Hall in Edinburgh University.


Friction in a frozen land?

Friction between nations, possibly involving Australia, over the exploitation of Antarctica's resources has been foreshadowed in a new book co-edited by a Monash lawyer.

The book is Australia's Resources Future, edited by Andrew Farran and Peter Hastings.

Andrew Farran is a senior lecturer in Law at Monash and works closely with the departments of Foreign Affairs and Defence. Peter Hastings is a senior research fellow with ANU's Strategic Institute of International Relations, is a collection of writings by leading economics, diplomatic and defence experts on our resources future. Its subtitle is "Threats, Myths and Realities in the 1980s."

In the concluding chapter, Farran and Hastings say that Antarctica, together with the deep sea bed regions, are frontier zones that will test critically the international community's ability to protect and contain national ambitions and realise the "joint gains" potentially available to all its members.

"If it cannot succeed in this over Antarctica the outlook for orderly resources management generally will be bleak indeed," they say.

The editors say there are three main options for Antarctica's future management.

One is that it be left to its present claimants Australia, Argentina, Britain, Chile, France, New Zealand and Norway. It is clearly out of the question as neither the USA nor the USSR recognise, or will recognise these claims," they say.

The second option is that Antarctica be proclaimed an international trust territory, responsible to a body such as the United Nations.

The editors say the third option is that the parties to the Antarctica Treaty of 1959 (this treaty was signed by the seven claimants and other nations including the US and Russia, and virtually froze claims) and any other parties who wish to join and accept the requisite responsibilities and obligations as well as enjoy the rights and benefits, should continue to manage its use and exploitation, both in their own interests and those of the international community generally.

"In view of the formidable nature of the area and its overall environmental importance, a very high level of international cooperation and competence is required. It is this option which we favor."

"In some ways we would favor the third of these approaches... as being the most conducive to its national and orderly development in the future."

The value of Antarctica's resources is difficult to assess. Mineral resources are particularly iron and steelmaking coal. Oil and gas have been reported and manganese nodules may exist in quantity on the ocean floor. Extraction and recovery problems are formidable, however.

Far more important are the food resources and, Farran and Hastings say, their large scale exploitation is a possibility in the relatively near future. Such resources include seals, whales, squid, southern blue whiting, Antarctic sidestripe and cod, and krill --- a highly nutritious shrimp-like crustacean.

"While Farran and Hastings believe that Antarctica's resources generally may become the object of envy in the developing world or the resources-short, industrialised world tends immediately to come down to our relations with Japan."

Nothing unique

"Will Japan want our resources at any price? It is hard to believe so. Australia has no unique resources, as oil is to the OPEC countries, which if withheld or increased in price would seriously affect world markets."

"It is true that Japan is deeply dependent on Australia for long-term iron ore contracts. But Japan can get iron ore from other sources. Australia faces heavy competition in the future from Brazil as a supplier of iron ore to Japan. In 1975, Japan's contract commitments to Australia were three times those to Brazil. In 1985, Australia and Brazil are likely to have equal shares of the Japanese market."

"A similar situation could arise over Australian and Indonesian coal exports to South-East Asia and other areas."

"Far from a situation where Japan is a strategic threat to Australia's resources we face one where Australia will have to strive on every political and commercial level to maintain sales of its resources."

"The same is true of uranium. If Australia is not prepared to mine and sell it, Japan and Europe have warned they will seek, and almost certainly gain, supplies elsewhere, (and fast-breeder reactors as well)."

While Farran and Hastings believe that it is in Australia's long-term interests to mine and sell its uranium subject to certain stringent conditions, they urge greater spending on solar energy research.

They say federal research funds allocated in 1977-78 for all acknowledged solar research institutes in Australia totalled $1.4 million compared with $20 million for nuclear research.

They add that the quantity and quality of Australian solar energy research is declining rapidly in comparison with that of Europe and the USA. France, West Germany and the US now spend $US91 a head annually on such research.

Farran and Hastings say: "It is not unlikely that, if the sums now spent in this country on nuclear research were devoted to solar research, Australia could have large-scale solar energy use by the year 2000, costing about one-tenth of fossil fuels."

"Moreover, solar energy research is an area in which Australia, if it retains any capacity at all for original thought and technological innovation, could be in the forefront of world activities."


MONASH REPORTER

September, 1978
Computer Training 'greatest advance'  

Human factors in aviation  

Computer controlled flight simulators with their ability to create situations close to "the real thing" and give trainees instant and accurate feedback on their actions may be the greatest single advance in aviation training techniques, according to a Monash psychologist.

Professor R. Cumming told the Human Factors in Aviation course that the flexibility of computer-controlled flight simulators opened up tremendous new possibilities for further research and development in equipment, training procedures and operational procedures.

But, Professor Cumming said, the effective development of computer-assisted instruction would require close collaboration between a range of specialists in flight training, psychologists, flight operational personnel, flight instructors, equipment designers, computer systems analysts and experimental psychologists.

He was delivering a paper titled "Simulators for Training, Assessment and Research." In discussing the use of simulators in training, Professor Cumming said that skill learning occurred in three identifiable but overlapping stages: cognition, fixation and automation.

He said: "A thorough understanding of training has to be gained in the early stages, particularly largely in giving access to the available feedback." He said: "The primary phase of skill learning is usually followed by a phase in which correct patterns of behaviour are fixed by continued practice and the probability of inappropriate response patterns reduced, hopefully to near zero.

"The final or 'autonomous' phase is characterised by gradual improvement of performance and by increasing resistance to stress and to interference by other concurrent activities."

Professor Cumming said that accurate and immediate feedback was perhaps the most important factor in human learning. A well-designed simulator could often provide better feedback than would be available on the job.

He said: "For example, a trainee pilot can study the plot of his glidepath immediately after an approach in a simulator and gain a real picture of the results of his actions. In practice the best the trainee usually gets is knowledge of where he touches down and maybe a few comments from a check captain.

"Dr Cumming said that simulators could be employed to provide accurate knowledge of results in the cognitive stage of training, and means for extensive practice in the later stages."

"This opportunity to oversee unusual and emergency sequences is particularly important if these responses are to be available in time of stress," he said.

"But a simulator is no better than the instrument used in it. An understanding of the learning process and of the skill being taught are essential for the best use of a simulator."

"A key to the development of the simulator is providing feedback to the trainee to give him a feel for what is going on internally. We know that the best people are themselves good judges of their own performance."

Minimising the hours of flight duty was not a ready-made solution to the problems of fatigue faced by the aircrew, a Melbourne psychologist told the Human Factors in Aviation conference held at Monash recently.

Mr Colin Cameron, head of the Applied Psychology department at Caulfield Institute of Technology, said that a far more significant cause of fatigue than the number of hours worked was the pattern of the work — the extent to which the pattern of work and rest imposed a load on the adaptability of the human being.

He defined fatigue as a generalised state of stress extending over a period of days, weeks or months.

Outlining research results, Mr Cameron said: "There is a certain irony in the fact that while we have trained people into the fatigue experience a little more deeply we found that the aircrew who did the most flying seemed to experience the least fatigue."

"They were operating from a base in Honolulu for a long run and were returning from the mid-Pacific to a local time zone, and they were comfortably tucked up in their own beds each night. Twice a week they carried out this routine and accumulated flying hours at a rate that would have put them over the annual limit in about nine months.

Mr Cameron said that the stress suffered by flight staff — with its familiar characteristics of fitful sleep and periods of wakefulness after arrival at a base — was caused more by the disturbance of sleep patterns, such as the time shift, than the result of the stress of the 24-hour cycle of biological efficiency."

"The aircrew who recovered best were those who handled the pressure of flying by the 24-hour cycle which was most relevant to the time zone they were in at each stage of their trip, and who had a rest after the trip was over.

"A study of the aircrew who picked up fatigue most quickly found that they had the following adaptations: they tended to avoid the stress of an early morning or early evening flight, they would accommodate a time shift if they were flying into another time zone, and they would have had a rest after the trip was over.

"But the aviation industry is always looking for something that is not merely an irritant, but genuinely affects performance and operation between airline management and more people are finding that their management is the cause of the problem rather than the effect of managerial climate on performance, the effects of ageing or efficiency and accident investigation and aviation safety."

The Reporter presents a round-up of several of the papers delivered.

Psychologist probes problem of fatigue

Australia joins world university studies body

The Australian Vice-Chancellor's Committee, on behalf of all Australian universities, has joined the Inter-University Centre of Postgraduate Studies based at Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia.

AVCC membership enables members of Australian universities to participate in the courses offered by the Centre.

The IUC 1978-79 academic program has been received recently by Monash and is on file in Central Registry.

The program includes courses and conferences on diverse topics from "Science and Philosophy" to "The Future of Religion", "Women and Work" and "The Role of the Economist in Government".

The IUC has received 40 full-time, or five-year part-time, courses from 60 universities, from all faculties, plus a minor thesis. Applications close on September 26.

Applications forms and details of the course can be obtained from the Course Co-ordinator, Dr E.H.M. Ealey (ext. 2631).

The Centre was established in 1972 to "encourage and promote cooperation among universities through teaching and research... primarily by organizing research projects and study programs in any field authorised by the Council of the Centre." 

Master's course

Applications are now open for 1979 enrolments in the Monash Master of Environmental Science course.

The course (two years full-time, or five years part-time) offers a choice of 45 units coursework, from all faculties, plus a minor thesis. Applications close on September 26.

Applications forms and details of the course can be obtained from the Course Co-ordinator, Dr E.H.M. Ealey (ext. 2631).

The course is organised by Professor R. Cumming and Dr T. Triggs of the Psychology department.

It was discussed during the five day course ranged over a wide area and included the role of the human operator in aviation systems, decision making under stress, the effect of managerial climate on performance, the effects of ageing or efficiency and accident investigation and aviation safety.

"The aviation industry is always in the vortex of technology, pushing the limits of the men and machines who are involved in it, and frequently encountering today's problems that other branches of industry will encounter tomorrow."

In outlining suggestions for the control of fatigue, Mr Cameron said that the number of hours of flight duty was not the core problem.

These were his proposals for solving the problem of fatigue:

• Day and night operation: Profitable or not, the operation requires that services be offered when passengers wish to travel which may not be when there are other flights. Working at night is a genuine stress and those who have to work in compensation for insufficient large chunks are to be made able to complete the recovery from the stress.

• Time change: There are two strategies. One is to maintain as far as possible the original home base routine without attempting to resist. The other is to achieve more or less complete adaptation at one location on the trip — possibly the farthest onwards stopover. The first strategy would probably work quite well on short trips of up to three or four days, but on long trips of two to three weeks. Perhaps it is possible to rearrange crew schedules so that trips are of shorter length, and the in-between durations are avoided.

• Predictability of duty periods: "Uncertainty in crew rostering is not merely an irritant, it genuinely devalues the worth of the rest periods."

• The para-military principle: "If all else fails, and the result of a duty period is undeniably tough, it is possible to bid for specific schedules of duty, some more demanding and rewarding than others. The system is alleged to be popular and allows the individual a greater measure of control over his working life than a conventional scheduling system."

• Individual differences. "Individual differences in tolerance for stress are very large... In American airlines it is possible to bid a specified length of time. After which there is a substantial period of rest and recuperation."

Mr Cameron urged closer cooperation between airline management and the staff associations in making fatigue a real issue.

"There is insufficient recognition by management that the airline industry staffs that it is also a difficult business in which to work..."
Old age—modern technology has given us the aids to compensate for the physical deficiencies associated with it, and conventional wisdom dictates the "pursuit of interests" to prevent the mental retreat of old age.

But how wise is conventional wisdom? Are those who have not reached the age of retirement really able to do so or is it a plan necessary?

Two experts have addressed themselves to the question of ageing in two quite separate forums at Monash recently.

They are Dr G. F. K. Naylor, of Queensland University's Psychology department, and Dr C. J. Van Tiggelen, co-ordinator of Geriatric Services in the Victorian Mental Health Authority.

Dr Naylor and Dr Tiggelen take different tasks in their approach to the topic. Dr Naylor advocates pre-retirement guidance to enable the elderly to explore fields of activity for the future. Dr Tiggelen says that inability to accept deterioration in the old might be younger persons' problem, not the elderly's.

Their remarks are addressed to different audiences, however.

Dr Naylor was delivering a scientific paper on "Mental Ability and Age—What is the Real Relationship?" to the Human Factors in Aviation course. He was talking about the tremendous changes in the aviation industry and his remarks on the 'continued participation of the aged' were directed more specifically, in part, at the newly retired.

Dr Tiggelen, on the other hand, has written a philosophic piece titled "Cultural Changes Affecting Old Age" which appears in the recently published Third Annual Report of the Fawkner Park Community Health Centre. The Centre, in Prahran, has a formal affiliation with Monash.

Not as extensive

Dr Naylor says that while the decline of intelligence with advancing age is a well known phenomenon, the population is considered generally, it is not as extensive or universal as is supposed.

"Aging is associated with a shift in effectiveness of mental process to verbal and abstract thinking from more perceptual and motor capacities."

The elderly tend to experience some physical disabilities such as poorer natural vision and reduced physical strength, but modern technology has produced aids to compensate for most of these deficiencies.

"Whereas the elderly may be somewhat slower at manipulative tasks, and may experience some difficulty in accustomed themselves to new methods and conditions foreign to their previous circumstances, they do bring with them vast quantities of skill and experience in fields where these are still applicable.

"The frequently voiced claim that scientific and artistic creativity ceases to be shown by persons of middle age or more may be countered by pointing out that the intellectual beginning and tends to remove the individual progressively from creative to executive responsibility as his age increases."

"There is no firm evidence that elderly people cannot create effectively provided they have the opportunity and incentive to do so. On the contrary, there are many instances of persons who, at a relatively advanced age, have broken new intellectual ground with distinction. Service "Crisis Courses" during World War II provided many such cases."

"What is perhaps of the greatest importance in ensuring the continued intellectual activity of the elderly is the avoidance of the wholesale effort often applied to convincing them that after they reach some arbitrarily decided age of retirement they have nothing more to contribute, and are consequently no longer needed by society."

"That for democratic political reasons we shall have to put up with a uniform retiring age for a long time to come seems inevitable; but the interests of elderly individuals, and indeed society in general, will be furthered by promoting scope for their continued participation in stimulating and moderately useful activities throughout the latter part of their life."

"This would appear to imply the need for organized assistance to help those who have no firmly established knowledge of how they want to spend the last 20 years. It now appears that pre-retirement guidance should be made available, to enable such people to explore fields of activity which may provide them with self fulfillment and the enjoyment that comes from being profitably occupied as independent units of society."

Retreat of age

Dr Tiggelen says that he has to accept deterioration in the elderly, system, with its emphasis on rapid changes, perfection and material achievement, throws elderly people off "a burden and a nuisance."

"They have different ideas, different burnouts, they are less intelligent and understanding; they do not participate in the production process; they have not enough funds, and they have too much of the past," he says.

He says the diehards of the second generation don't want to be restricted by the limitations of elderly people.

They don't want to live with them, because they see their existence as an interference limiting their options. That explanation seems to be an excellent rationalisation for the phenomenon of segregating elderly people, or writing elderly people off," Dr Tiggelen says.

"But this rationalisation based on the fear of confrontation with finiteness of life, the fear of death, the fear of being limited as an individual, things difficult to accept in a materialistic and hedonistic society?"

"If it because we think that old age is a collection of everything we don't like? We don't enjoy? Old age lacks a beautiful face, elasticity, inven
tiveness, sexuality, money-making etc."

"Old age means cultural, intellectual, imperfection, loneliness. We simply don't want to be confronted with that view of our own future," Dr Tiggelen says Dr suggests an attitude not only creates problems for the elderly but for ourselves too.

Positiveness

There is, he suggests, a positiveness about the "passive involvement" of old age.

He says: "Of course there is an increased incidence and intensity of disorders in old age. But a lot of those disorders are culturally induced. It may be explained as teleological and deterministic thinking, but the essential disorders inherent in old age are probably handicaps, indicating a gradual retreat of the person from his physical and social environment: reduction of mobility, loss of muscular strength, reduced eyesight, reduced hearing, reduced memory for recent events.

"In his 'shrinking' world of interest, capacities, energy, efficiency, and material performance are less important. Measuring by our standards and values we may accept that and try to do something about it.

"We have created gerontology and geriatrics. We stimulate people to be active, to be involved, to participate, to start new hobbies and new friendships, to prevent what we call deterioration: probably something quite natural, but something that we cannot accept."

"In fact, the elderly person is biologically equipped (even in what we see as biological and mental deterioration) with his personal mechanisms of 'participating at a distance'. We no longer personally involved in a challenging or competitive way. They are observing in a detached way, removed from active physical and mental involvement. Many elderly people enjoy that: they are terribly happy, but there is no need to give a judgment on what they see. Not any longer.

"They are not concerned, but at a dis
tance: detached and really liberated. Enjoying a new freedom, a freedom they did not experience in their struggle for survival for the individual and for the species."

Honours percentage continues to fall in most faculties

The percentage of students graduating with honours is falling in most faculties at Monash.

Statistics released recently by the Education Office show that of two faculties—Economics and Politics, and Law—the percentage of students who graduated last year with honours (and first enrolled in 1974 in the case of ECOPS, and 1973 in the case of Law) was a third of the peak honours levels of the early 70's.

In the figures below, the percentage of those students who were admitted to full-time first year study in 1974 and graduated with an honours degree in 1977 (the minimum time) is compared, first, with the percentage of the 1973 intake who graduated with honours in due course and, second, with the 1977-73 average percentage: Arts 7 (7, 11.1); ECOPS 4 (6, 7.9); Science 14 (19, 24.6); Engineering 22 (25, 29.4).

In Law the course is a year longer and the 1977 graduation figures are based on the 1973 intake. The 1972 level and the 1967-72 average percentage: 2 (2, 4.3).

In Engineering with the figures based on the 1972 intake and are compared with the 1973 percentage and the 1967-71 average. Arts 87 (87, 19.4).

The percentage of full-time students who passed their first year rose last year above 1976 levels in Arts, ECOPS and Engineering, and fell in Law, Science and Medicine.

When compared with the faculty pass percentage averaged out over the last three years, however, these figures were up in all faculties except Science, Engineering and Medicine.

In Arts the percentage of first year, full-time students who passed their first year fell to its lowest level in 10 years at 90 per cent.

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

In Engineering and Medicine, which have a fairly closely controlled pass-by-subject system, pass rates are based on those full-time students who have passed all subjects, or failed in one or two subjects but granted passes in the year as a whole.

Full-time, first year pass percentages in 1977 with, in brackets, the 1976 percentage and the 1967-68 average percentage:

Arts 87 (87, 19.4) Science 83 (75, 81.2); Law 90 (91, 84.2); Science 80 (85, 74.9); Engineering 71 (67, 74.9) and Medicine 98 (96, 97).
Students warned against deceptive promotional ploys

Students completing secondary school this year have been urged to beware of the promotional plays—the extravagant claims, the glossy literature, the press advertisement, and the enthusiastic academic touting his course—aimed at attracting them to particular tertiary institutions.

The Careers and Appointments Officer at Monash, Mr Warren Mann, writing in his office publication Careers Weekly, says that "deceptive practices" are a common element of the numbers game tertiary institutions play to secure financing.

Mr Mann says: "The name of the game is formula financing, and the pieces are variously referred to as EPTS (equivalent full-time students) or WSU (weighted student units). The EITS (equivalent full-time students) are variously referred to as "parts of the staff involved", he adds.

Though some of the worst offenders in this respect are to be found in the colleges, the importance of this game attracts players from all tertiary institutions, including universities," he says.

These are examples Mr Mann gives of the common "tricks" used to "take advantage of the quite natural concern of the students and particularly their parents feel about future job security".

Our courses are tailored to meet the needs of industry.

Mr Mann says: "Not even industry itself is able to judge what their needs will be far enough into the future to make courses be "tailed" and school-leavers taken to graduation through them. And, in general, the institutions which make such claims do not have on their staffs specialists whose experience and insight might be able to give the guidance people need. The student is normally better advised to avoid the kind of specialisation implicit in such statements, and to prepare himself to be able to adapt to whatever the needs may turn out to be in the future, and it is in this area as in others a sound basic educational background is much more likely to lead to a satisfying working life than any orientation superficial introduction to the complex of disciplines involved."

DEFENCE OF EXCELLENCE

The Australian universities are under attack. It can be argued that universities have always been under attack; but at the present time it seems that efforts are being made to reduce the quality of education, to undermine the independence, and the standing of our universities.

Thus begins a 30-point statement entitled "The Defence of Excellence in Australian Universities", prepared by the University of Adelaide.

The statement was prepared as a basis of discussion for a public seminar on The Defence of Excellence to be held in Adelaide on October 6-7.

In a press release, the University of Adelaide says that the statement summarises the university's "deep concern at the trend of recent events and the urgent need to take some action."

The university says that the seminar will address the increasing lowering of standards and other pressures which are adversely affecting the hard-won academic excellence and international standing of Australian universities.

It goes on: "Ponds for the teaching and research functions of universities have been reduced and other pressures applied, such as inquiries into rationalisation of tertiary institutions and study leave."

"The Council of the University sees this seminar as the first in a series designed to enable Australian universities to explore ways in which they might speak collectively on the issues which are vitally affecting them."

Emeritus Professor P. H. Partridge, chairman of the recent committees of inquiry into post-secondary education in Victoria and Western Australia, will be one of the principal speakers at the seminar, and the university expects contributions from a number of other distinguished academics.

The seminar will be open to the public.

Anyone interested in attending should write to the Vice-Chancellor, University of Adelaide, 5001, so that a copy of the statement "The Defence of Excellence" and a registration form can be forwarded.

MONASH REPORTER

New maths 'touting' standards

A distinguished Oxford physicist with research interests out of this world is currently a visiting professor in Monash's Mathematics department.

He is Dr D. ter Haar, Dutch-born Reader in Theoretical Physics at Oxford University. During his three months in Australia Dr ter Haar is based jointly at Monash and Melbourne University's Physics department.

Dr ter Haar's field of research is theoretical astronomy, specifically examining the behaviour of plasmas in cosmic conditions. His work touches on such aspects as the origin of stars, and their scintillation — why, for example, a star has not always the same intensity.

Monash mathematician Dr Andrew Prentice, who has developed a theory on the formation of the solar system, was a student under Dr ter Haar in Oxford in the 1960s.

Announced in the September Monash Review in 1973, Dr Prentice said that Dr ter Haar and he had restored Laplace, who developed the famous but discarded nebula hypothesis on the formation of the solar system, to his rightful place of honour.

(Laplace suggested that, in the beginning, the rotating gaseous sun was much hotter than it is now and so big that it encompassed the orbits of all the planets. As the sun cooled down it contracted and the planets, together with some unexplained process the planets were supposed to have condensed from the concentric orbiting rings.)

It was in 1948 that Dr ter Haar, then working in Copenhagen, suggested that some form of "supersonic turbulence" may have played a role in the unexplained exchanges of energy and momentum.

Dr Prentice has since worked out the theory of supersonic turbulence. Dr ter Haar, who is married with a grown-up family, is on his first visit to Australia.

He has one horse hobby, he says, and that is the "new mathematics."

"I am against it. It is lowering the standards of mathematics students," he says.

"The idea is to make mathematics look as if it is easy and not to stress the techniques, which is necessary. It teaches pupils ideas rather than techniques, supposedly to make it easier for the less gifted to learn mathematics."

"The trouble is that those students who are gifted do not have the discipline either and can not apply it."
Visitors to Open Day 1978 took a much more serious — and informed — interest in the work of the University than has been apparent in previous years, according to reports received by the Open Day Director, Rick Belshaw.

The experience of the faculty of Arts was fairly typical. Faculty Secretary Alan Finch reported that the Dean (Professor J. D. Legge) and three members of the Faculty Office had been kept “very busy” throughout the day.

Mr Finch said it was “reasonable to conclude that the numbers of prospective students and parents seeking specific advice on entry standards and on course structure had increased significantly over last year.”

It was clear, he said, that visitors had taken greater care to obtain basic information before coming to Open Day, and that the majority of questions asked were quite specific and well-informed.

He went on: “Quite a few inquiries were made on behalf of students in their third or fourth year of secondary schooling rather than in their sixth year.

“This would seem to indicate that parents are becoming more inclined to seek information to help with the planning of their children’s careers, or that Open Day is becoming more widely known as a counselling activity.”

Economics and Politics also reported a “continual flow” of prospective students, giving representatives of all departments and the faculty a busy day.

According to Faculty Secretary Ivan Gregory, their experience indicated that perhaps an appropriate time to hold a “counselling day” (as distinct from a “carnival-type” Open Day) would be after secondary students had received their copies of the VUAC Guide for Prospective Students.

Engineering, Science and Law all reported a high level of demand for advice, but in Medicine overall numbers were down and there were few inquiries about entry.

The Financial Adviser to Students, Hal Skinner, dealt with “significantly fewer” inquiries than in previous years.

He interpreted this as indicating that “lower-income people felt that tertiary education was beyond their means and not worthy of consideration in these financially stringent times.”

The Centre for Research into Aboriginal Affairs reported a 400 per cent increase in the number of visitors — despite its remote location.

CRAA Director Colin Bourke said that visitors seemed impressed with the Centre’s resources and were “extremely interested” in the slides and commentary on the effect of uranium mining on Aboriginal communities.

History had more visitors than usual and found that two of its most popular displays involved the cooperation of outside bodies — the brass-rubbings and a pictorial display mounted with the help of Waverley Historical Society.

The Centre suggests that other Arts departments might also consider “roping in” local groups, thus encouraging cooperation between the University and the community.

Verdict sought on new kids’ TV show

The faculty of Education undertook a practical exercise in consumer research as part of its Open Day activities.

It took the form of a test preview of one episode of a children’s TV serial not yet shown in Australia.

The serial — The Tomorrow People: The Medusa Strain — is a science fiction story produced by Thames Television. It is under consideration by HSV7, which cooperated with Dr Mary Nixon, of the faculty of Education, in running the Open Day experiment.

Children aged from 4 to 15 were asked to view the episode and answer one question: “Would you like to see the rest of this program on TV at home?”

There was a clear majority in favor: 85% of girls and 76% of boys voted “Yes.”

Parents were then asked: “Would you like this program to be shown on TV at children’s viewing time?”

Again the response was favorable: 71% for, 29% against.

Dr Nixon commented later: “Parents, psychologists, educators, film makers and many other groups are concerned about what children see on television.

“By giving viewers the chance to express their opinions about even one children’s television program, we feel that we have constructively contributed to the debate and increased awareness about programs that are available to children.”

A senior HSV7 executive said the station was grateful for the cooperation of Monash in evaluating the program.

The Open Day experiment was part of a “very significant piece of research” being undertaken by groups in the Education faculty and the department of anthropology and sociology in collaboration with Channel 7.

The results would be of considerable value in helping TV stations tackle the problems they faced in the “difficult area” of children’s television.

Study at Monash might be a good few years off but these youngsters get a once-round of the campus on a model steam train.
Mr I. Thomas, Dr T. Hore and Mr N. Paget with members of national staff in front of Matheson Library at Lae’s Unitech. Photo: Nebo Boromu.

British study: the cost

If you’re planning study in Britain in the 1978-79 academic year these are the fees you’ll have to meet, as announced by the department of Education.

Overseas students (those who have not been ordinarily resident in Britain for three years immediately preceding the course) will have to pay: for postgraduate study £925; for undergraduate and advanced college courses £70; and for non-advanced courses £390.

The London Conference on Overseas Students has suggested also that overseas students studying in London in 1978-79 will need the following sums to cover living expenses: single (undergraduate) £175.00; (postgraduate) £2000; married students £2500, with £500 for each child.

Enacting more complex internal union controls to meet political, economic and industrial relations struggles is an out-of-date approach which should be scrapped, according to a lecturer in Law at Monash, Mr R. McCallum.

Mr McCallum says that recent amendments to the Conciliation and Arbitration Act aimed at bringing union power “under control” — most specifically the much vaunted alteration of secret ballot provisions in 1976 — have not solved any of today’s industrial relations problems.

Both moves were “simply the pouring of old wine into new bottles,” he says.

By tightening internal union controls as a means of attempting to control union power the Federal Government adopted the same tack as other governments over the last 75 years, in particular during other periods of political and industrial relations upheavals, in 1904, 1928 to 1930, and 1949 to 1952.

But Mr McCallum says that internal union control laws as they stood at the end of 1975 protected the rights of individuals as well as any legal system could, with the exception of union accounting practices.

Ironically, changes made to union accounting procedures at the same time as introduction of the IRB — but achieved through consultation and cooperation and without a fear of publicity — are likely to have the greatest long term effect on the union movement, “by preventing financial malpractices and, perhaps more importantly, by the increased use which trade unions will have to make of accountants and other skilled experts who, in time, may increase union stability and efficiency.”

Three staff members of the Higher Education Advisory and Monitoring Unit at Monash recently organised a series of workshops on tertiary teaching at Papua New Guinea’s two universities — in Lae and Port Moresby.

The workshops, by the HEARU team — consisting of Director, Dr T. Hore, senior lecturer in charge of the Educational Technology Section, Mr I. Thomas, and senior lecturer in charge of staff development, Mr N. Paget — was sponsored by the Australian Development Assistance Bureau.

The University of Technology at Lae invited the HEARU team to Papua New Guinea to present the workshop series.

It included formal sessions on topics such as course design and evaluation, large and small group teaching techniques, selection and use of media, the evaluation of teaching and student assessment. The sessions were open to all staff members.

In addition the HEARU team spent time with nationals on staff, observing and helping their teaching.

In line with the general policy throughout Papua New Guinea, moves are being made to “nationalise” employment in the two universities. At the moment, 90 per cent of academics at Lae are nationals while at Port Moresby the figure is somewhat higher.

As is the case in other developing countries, young academics, often new graduates, can face difficulties when placed immediately in positions of responsibility without experience.

Mr Hore says that the HEARU team made valuable contacts during its visit.

He believes that a university such as Monash may be able to make a contribution to the development of one like Lae’s “Unitech” through such visits and staff secondment.

Monash has had close ties with Unitech for many years. Former Vice-Chancellor, Sir John Matheson, was Unitech’s Chancellor, and Deputy Chancellor, Mr Ian Langlands, serves as a member of its Advisory Committee.

A Lae research project, the Mathematics Learning Project, had on its planning team recently Professor Dunn and later Professor Fisher (Education), Dr M. Deskin (Mathematics) and Dr Hore from Monash.

A HEARU team also visited Lae in 1974.

Mr McCallum says the problem of accountability of the leadership to the rank-and-file has been perceived hitherto in very narrow terms, “simply on the hypothesis that more accountability will lead to broader representation and to better leadership.”

No thought had been given to the problem of under-representation on union councils of groups of workers such as non-English speaking migrants and women.

A new Act

Further, Mr McCallum suggests that thought should be given to writing a new Conciliation and Arbitration Act in which matters are set out in readable English.

He says: “The Act has had amendments piled upon amendment in layers like a counterpoint musical score. It is virtually unreadable even to the trained lawyer, unless she or he has been trained in industrial relations more empirical and some industrial relations experience.”

He says: “This may create problems; for example, suppose an industrial dispute is in existence and let us suppose that during talks before the commission the parties agree to forget about one another’s misbehaviour and, through conciliation, come to an amicable agreement.

“While these delicate talks were proceeding it would be possible for a federal or state minister or the Bureau to bring de-registration proceedings without the consent, or even against the wishes of, the relevant employer or the Arbitration Commission. Such proceedings could disrupt the delicate employer/employee negotiations before the commission.”

Mr McCallum adds: “If the government has any regard to the view that de-registration should be the primary sanction against recalcitrant unions, rather than the simple all or nothing control procedure, then I suggest that the Act should be amended so that persons wishing to bring de-registration proceedings should be required to first obtain a certificate from the Arbitration Commission which will only be issued if the relevant presidential member fails to settle the matter.”

He says: “This certificate could then be submitted to a new Industrial Relations Seminar at the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education which would be responsible for bringing amendments to the Conciliation and Arbitration Act.

He also has written an essay on this topic titled Secret Ballots and the Industrial Relations Bureau: Old Wine in New Bottles” which is to be published later this year in Australian Labour Relations Readings, edited by Dr J. Hearne and Professor G.W. Ford.
A call to make a jackass of yourself

If, in the next few weeks, you happen to notice anyone out the trees on campus hooting, bowling, cheeping or chirping, you've got grounds for believing they're cuckoo and, for that matter, that Monash has gone to the birds.

But it is more than likely that those with their heads in the branches will be doing nothing more bird-brained than seeking inspiration for their entry in the Monash First Annual (Intervarsity) Bird Calling Competition — more aptly known as Avian Antics — to be held on September 22 at 2.30 p.m. in the Alexander Theatre.

For those not ornithologically oriented, that's the very day that our mutton birds return from their round the world migratory trip to breed on the southern coast of Australia.

The competition is being organised by the Pooh Club and the Ornithology Society, with the co-operation of Clubs and Societies, to raise money for the University and College's Animal Welfare Society. Such a competition is believed to be the first of its kind in Australia and organizers are anticipating interest from the Guinness Book of Records.

CONFERENCE MAY MAP OUT BETTER MAP USE PLANS

The common use of a map is to pinpoint a location. But some of the ironies about maps in Melbourne at the moment is that they themselves are difficult to locate. For this reason, it was imperative to establish personal contact with overseas academics working in the same field, Associate Professor of German, Michael Clyne, said in his study leave report to Council.

Assoc. Prof. Clyne said he was convinced of the need for academics to visit colleagues overseas as frequently as possible if they wished to keep abreast of developments in rapidly changing fields.

During study leave between January and June this year, Associate Professor Clyne visited universities in Germany and the US.

He said that, as a result of his study leave, he could only reiterate a suggestion made in an earlier report to Council that joint academic appointments be facilitated.

"In a steady state university like ours, at a time of minimal mobility, this is the only way to use human resources to the best advantage, considering changes in the interest of staff and students and the emphasis of various disciplines. "Joint appointments are highly successful in most of the American universities visited, especially where the joint appointee has a 'home' or 'base' department," Associate Professor Clyne said.

IMS symposium

The first major symposium on the results of the International Magnetospheric Study (IMS) will be held at La Trobe University from November 26 to December 1, 1979.

The IMS symposium will be held at the symposium of the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA) as part of the General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG).

To register for the IMS symposium write to the executive director of the International Association of Geomagnetics and Aeronomy, Dr B. P. Lambert at the Australian Academy of Science, PO Box 788, Canberra.

The operation of lecture theatres on campus, will have its next meeting on Wednesday, October 4.

The Lecture Theatre Advisory Committee was recently established by the School of Higher Education and Research Unit.

Chairman is the director of HEARU, Dr Terry House. Other members are: faculty nominees, Arta, Law, D. Balding; Economic Politics, Associate Professor K. Frearson; Education, Dr F. B. McLennan; Law, Mr J. Epstein; Medicine, Dr B. W. Oakey; Science, Associate Professor J. H. Smith; Arts, Mr J. Torrance; S. W. A. Collis; senior lecturer in design and Technology, Mr A. Thomas and MAS nominee, Dr G. H. Flood.

The Academic Registrar's Department has been approached for facilities. The Reporter presents a précis of the details. More information can be obtained from the Graduate Scholarships Office, ground floor, University Offices, extension 1418.

Vacation Scholarships 1978/79: ANU

Available during December-February to third year (at least) undergraduates for supervised research, weekly allowance of $30 and travel assistance. Applications close October 28.

Australian Wool Corporation - Postgraduate Scholarships

Open to graduates wishing to pursue a research career in wool research. $4200 p.a. plus travel assistance. Applications close September 22.

Japanese Government (Monbusho) Scholarships, 1979

Tenable for up to five years for undergraduates, or two years for postgraduates. Living allowance of $97,000 peryear, plus travel, accommodation and other allowances. Applications close in Canberra September 22.

Australasian Medical Students Association - Lilly Research Fellowships 1978-1979

Available to members of affiliated AMSA societies for research in medical or paramedical fields. Tenable for up to one year. Applications close September 30.

Archibald National Travelling Scholarship

Open to graduates for two years postgraduate study overseas. $5000 p.a. Applications close September 30.

Poterhouse Conservation Scholarship

• Fellowships. For pre- or post-Ph.D. Tenable up to three years. Plus postgraduate allowance, room and meals. Applications close at Cambridge October 26.

• Studentship for Ph.D. candidature. £1625 per annum plus such fees as are levied. Applications close at Cambridge March 31, 1979.

Snr. Hulme (Overseas) Scholarship - 1979

Tenable in any field of study, for up to two years, at Brasenose College, Oxford. Available to Junior members of staff and postgraduate students. The award includes University and College fees, a stipend of £2325 p.a. plus FSSU superannuation contributions. Applications close October 26.

United States Institute of Health International Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

Offered to Australians for training in biomedical research in the USA. US $10,000 p.a. and travel expenses. Applications close October 31.

Scholarships

Report underlines need for personal contact

Results of research were, to an increasing extent, being circulated "underground" in reprints and working papers and not published until much later.

For this reason, it was imperative to establish personal contact with overseas academics working in the same field, Associate Professor of German, Michael Clyne, said in his study leave report to Council.

Assoc. Prof. Clyne said he was convinced of the need for academics to visit colleagues overseas as frequently as possible if they wished to keep abreast of developments in rapidly changing fields.

During study leave between January and June this year, Associate Professor Clyne visited universities in Germany and the US.

He said that, as a result of his study leave, he could only reiterate a suggestion made in an earlier report to Council that joint academic appointments be facilitated.

"In a steady state university like ours, at a time of minimal mobility, this is the only way to use human resources to the best advantage, considering changes in the interest of staff and students and the emphasis of various disciplines. "Joint appointments are highly successful in most of the American universities visited, especially where the joint appointee has a 'home' or 'base' department," Associate Professor Clyne said.

IMS symposium

The first major symposium on the results of the International Magnetospheric Study (IMS) will be held at La Trobe University from November 26 to December 1, 1979.

The IMS symposium will be held at the symposium of the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA) as part of the General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG).

To register for the IMS symposium write to the executive director of the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy, Dr B. P. Lambert at the Australian Academy of Science, PO Box 788, Canberra.

The operation of lecture theatres on campus, will have its next meeting on Wednesday, October 4.

The Lecture Theatre Advisory Committee was recently established by the School of Higher Education and Research Unit.

Chairman is the director of HEARU, Dr Terry House. Other members are: faculty nominees, Arta, Law, D. Balding; Economic Politics, Associate Professor K. Frearson; Education, Dr F. B. McLennan; Law, Mr J. Epstein; Medicine, Dr B. W. Oakey; Science, Associate Professor J. H. Smith; Arts, Mr J. Torrance; S. W. A. Collis; senior lecturer in design and Technology, Mr A. Thomas and MAS nominee, Dr G. H. Flood.

The Academic Registrar's Department has been approached for facilities. The Reporter presents a précis of the details. More information can be obtained from the Graduate Scholarships Office, ground floor, University Offices, extension 1418.

Vacation Scholarships 1978/79: ANU

Available during December-February to third year (at least) undergraduates for supervised research, weekly allowance of $30 and travel assistance. Applications close October 28.

Australian Wool Corporation - Postgraduate Scholarships

Open to graduates wishing to pursue a research career in wool research. $4200 p.a. plus travel assistance. Applications close September 22.

Japanese Government (Monbusho) Scholarships, 1979

Tenable for up to five years for undergraduates, or two years for postgraduates. Living allowance of $97,000 peryear, plus travel, accommodation and other allowances. Applications close in Canberra September 22.

Australasian Medical Students Association - Lilly Research Fellowships 1978-1979

Available to members of affiliated AMSA societies for research in medical or paramedical fields. Tenable for up to one year. Applications close September 30.

Poterhouse Conservation Scholarship

• Fellowships. For pre- or post-Ph.D. Tenable up to three years. Plus postgraduate allowance, room and meals. Applications close at Cambridge October 26.

• Studentship for Ph.D. candidature. £1625 per annum plus such fees as are levied. Applications close at Cambridge March 31, 1979.

Snr. Hulme (Overseas) Scholarship - 1979

Tenable in any field of study, for up to two years, at Brasenose College, Oxford. Available to Junior members of staff and postgraduate students. The award includes University and College fees, a stipend of £2325 p.a. plus FSSU superannuation contributions. Applications close October 26.

United States Institute of Health International Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

Offered to Australians for training in biomedical research in the USA. US $10,000 p.a. and travel expenses. Applications close October 31.
Organisations: new book takes Australian view

Forays by social scientists into the world of big business, or the bureaucracy, or an institution for the obvious purposes of examining how and why they work occur quite commonly these days.

Even after selecting the best of these books, one cannot help but be awed away from my reading with the feeling: "what's new here?" But when an undertaking is subtitled As Australian Perspective, quite properly take notice for that in itself is a novel event.

Until now we have unashamedly accepted these worlds—written from the eye of the American, or the Briton or European—as our world too, and so must it be with our organisations.

The authors of the present book should be congratulated for asserting the obvious, for standing up to the general editorialship of the pair who produced this book. According to them, organisations provide the stage where managers will be seen in the enactment of their duties, i.e., functional responsibilities.

Thus the drama largely unfolds as a survey of scholarship into organisational thinking—how our systems of production work; how these influence peoples' actions, relations, and tenure; how the whole thing has been assembled; and how it is managed.

In style, it is neither cookbook or pushy on the one hand, nor is it lofty or esoteric on the other. I would categorise it as being straightforward down the middle, where any serious first attempt ought to be.

Therein, the making of the book is the more that we will eventually, the more sophisticated is the original message. I would caution the reader to be somewhat cynical of such a point of view; we all have been individually, in high-powered systems. The development of our organisations has, after all, been eclectic, rather than continuous over the ages; something which has been disregarded in this volume.

Thus the book needs to be "taught" in the classroom; but given its basic soundness of content, it should not get in the way of most lecturing approaches. Of particular commendation is the technical quality of the production, especially the first-rate graphics and tables which are used extensively to complement text material.

These certainly will set a high standard for other authors (and their publishers) to emulate in future local publications.

Nevertheless, and in all their expressiveness to excel, the writers have laid bare their biggest frailty: a partisan view of Australian organisations. In order to see why we need only turn to their bibliography.


Broken Hill — "the city of sand, silver and sixpenny ale", as C. J. Dennis called it — is perhaps the Australian settlement which comes closest to the traditional picture we have of the frontier town of the American West: raw, harsh and violent. A place where men (overwhelmingly) and women (a few, and those mostly of the "wrong kind") lived out of need or desperation rather than for love.

The comparison cannot be pushed too far. Writing of the American frontier, Russell Ward suggested that, whereas the American frontier was individualist, the Australian was collectivist. The scale of productive activity (in mining as well as in the pastoral industry) society established that the vision of working men finding individual fulfilment of their aspirations in the proper ownership of a mine, and its ownership, was merely an illusion, and could never be said of the Australian frontier that "justice grows out of the barrel of a gun".

Monash historian Brian Kennedy, himself a son of Broken Hill, tells the story of this frontier town in his newly-published Silver, Sin and Sillpenny Ale: A Social History of Broken Hill 1883-1931 (Melbourne University Press, $12.60 recommended retail price).

It is in many ways a horrifying story of exploitation, cruelty and unbridled class war, but Dr Kennedy tells it with a sympathetic understanding of the passions and sufferings of those who made Broken Hill Australia's richest mining conglomerate.

The central theme of Dr Kennedy's book is the shadow cast by the mines on the lives of the men and women of Broken Hill and the creation by the mining community of organisations to lighten their darkness. Confronted by mine-owners whose rapacity makes a comparison between the Barrier and the mining communities of the American frontier (in Utah and Colorado) entirely legitimate, the mining towns were less militantly and more influenced by the ideologies of socialism than any others in Australia. In this process, the original mining population of God-fearing Methodists, drawn largely from the copper-mines of South Australia, gave way to young footloose bohemian, many of whom at the Barrier had been largely of the miners' families, man and woman, with no need to fear that the Barrier could ever be a place of drifters, and was therefore a more open and permissive place than the Barrier, an insular, restive and crime-ridden island.

To describe these conditions in a sympathetic manner is perhaps the most notable aspect of Dr Kennedy's book, and is well meant; and for that alone he deserves the sympathy of academics and practitioners alike. We will certainly prescribe it for our own students and look forward to telling them that their text is an Australian contribution in its field— with a big debt to scholarship from Allan Bower.

University of New South Wales

A warmly human story of life in a tough mining town

The Modern Drama Players will present Shaw's comedy "You Never Can Tell" at Monash this month.

The play, said to contain some of Shaw's witticest dialogue, follows close on the heels of the successful Players' production of "Arms and the Man". "You Never Can Tell" will be performed on September 19 and 21 at 8 p.m. and September 22 at 1.15 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the ground floor theatre, SG01, of the Humanities Building.

It will be directed by Alan Skinner, who directed "Arms", and will feature "Arms" cast members, James Beltholman, Bill Colloy, Christine Kego, Stuart Rintoul and Joanna Wierzbiaczek.

Other cast members include Chris Dobinson, Sue Holmes, Tricia Lice, Michael Newman and Matthew Rintoul.

You Never Can Tell is Shaw's tribute to the "cloistered" woman. It is a comedy of love and marriage, and the endlessly surprising consequences of a simple social mistake, in this case the accidental publication of "You Never Can Tell" and "You Never Were Among Us".

The production of "Arms and the Man", described as "unified, coherent and polished", played recently to capacity audiences in its brief season. It was directed by Alan Skinner, and is happily taken note of for that in itself is a novel event.

Broken Hill — "the city of sand, silver and sixpenny ale", as C. J. Dennis called it — is perhaps the Australian settlement which comes closest to the traditional picture we have of the frontier town of the American West: raw, harsh and violent. A place where men (overwhelmingly) and women (a few, and those mostly of the "wrong kind") lived out of need or desperation rather than for love.

The comparison cannot be pushed too far. Writing of the American frontier, Russell Ward suggested that, whereas the American frontier was individualist, the Australian was collectivist. The scale of productive activity (in mining as well as in the pastoral industry) society established that the vision of working men finding individual fulfilment of their aspirations in the proper ownership of a mine, and its ownership, was merely an illusion, and could never be said of the Australian frontier that "justice grows out of the barrel of a gun".

Monash historian Brian Kennedy, himself a son of Broken Hill, tells the story of this frontier town in his newly-published Silver, Sin and Sillpenny Ale: A Social History of Broken Hill 1883-1931 (Melbourne University Press, $12.60 recommended retail price).

It is in many ways a horrifying story of exploitation, cruelty and unbridled class war, but Dr Kennedy tells it with a sympathetic understanding of the passions and sufferings of those who made Broken Hill Australia's richest mining conglomerate.

The central theme of Dr Kennedy's book is the shadow cast by the mines on the lives of the men and women of Broken Hill and the creation by the mining community of organisations to lighten their darkness. Confronted by mine-owners whose rapacity makes a comparison between the Barrier and the mining communities of the American frontier (in Utah and Colorado) entirely legitimate, the mining towns were less militantly and more influenced by the ideologies of socialism than any others in Australia. In this process, the original mining population of God-fearing Methodists, drawn largely from the copper-mines of South Australia, gave way to young footloose bohemian, many of whom at the Barrier had been largely of the miners' families, man and woman, with no need to fear that the Barrier could ever be a place of drifters, and was therefore a more open and permissive place than the Barrier, an insular, restive and crime-ridden island.

To describe these conditions in a sympathetic manner is perhaps the most notable aspect of Dr Kennedy's book, and is well meant; and for that alone he deserves the sympathy of academics and practitioners alike. We will certainly prescribe it for our own students and look forward to telling them that their text is an Australian contribution in its field— with a big debt to scholarship from Allan Bower.

University of New South Wales

A warmly human story of life in a tough mining town

The Modern Drama Players will present Shaw's comedy "You Never Can Tell" at Monash this month.

The play, said to contain some of Shaw's witticest dialogue, follows close on the heels of the successful Players' production of "Arms and the Man". "You Never Can Tell" will be performed on September 19 and 21 at 8 p.m. and September 22 at 1.15 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the ground floor theatre, SG01, of the Humanities Building.

It will be directed by Alan Skinner, who directed "Arms", and will feature "Arms" cast members, James Beltholman, Bill Colloy, Christine Kego, Stuart Rintoul and Joanna Wierzbiaczek.

Other cast members include Chris Dobinson, Sue Holmes, Tricia Lice, Michael Newman and Matthew Rintoul.

You Never Can Tell is Shaw's tribute to the "cloistered" woman. It is a comedy of love and marriage, and the endlessly surprising consequences of a simple social mistake, in this case the accidental publication of "You Never Can Tell" and "You Never Were Among Us".
Those who saw Shela Gawthol (above) dance at Monash before will recognize her face but not her new Sanskrit stage name, Chintamani-Himavati, given to her by her Guru, Chandrabhanu. Himavati will perform Indian classical music. Here, at Arvind Shrivutava, will perform a 8 piece Indian night of dance and song.

Indian music and dance will be featured in a cultural program to be presented in the Alexander Theatre this month.

The program, organised annually by the Monash Indian Association, will cover a wide range of music and dance — from classical to folk and popular. It will be held on Saturday, September 9 at 7.30 p.m.

Among the highlights will be:

- The Bharat Nat yam, a classical dance, centuries-old, performed in exotic costumes and splendid jewellery.
- The lively folk dance of Bhangra presented by turban-wearing Sikhs.
- A stick dance from Gujarat, a peacock dance from Maharashtra, folk songs from North India, popular dances from the North and South and classical songs.

It will make an all-round Indian night. Indian food will be available during intermission.

Admission is $2.50 for adults, $2 Association members and students, and 50 cents children under 12.

Seats may be booked at the Alexander Theatre (ext. 3992) or on ext. 3544 (Chab- bra) or 2569 (Maheswari). Good seats will be available also at the door.

**SEPTEMBER DIARY**

---


**6: EXHIBITION — Works for Roots**, a photographic exhibition by Mark Britza. 1st Floor, Main Library. Admission free.


**SEPTEMBER 10: Western Australian Government/ Aboriginal**, by Gloria Brennan.

**SEPTEMBER 11: Aboriginal Development**, by Reg Bow. Presented by Monash Centre for Research into Aboriginal Affairs. All lectures begin at 6 p.m. Lecture Theatre BS. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3941.

**SYMPOSIUM — Filtration, Air and Oil**, presented by Fluid Power Society in association with Monash Department of Mechanical Engineering. 8.30 a.m. Engineering Lecture Theatre BS. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3941.

**SPACE FILMS presented by Monash Astronomical Society, 8 p.m. Lecture Theatre BS. Admission free.**


---

**Indian night of...**

**An adventure on strings**

**... song and dance**

It is intensely visual and uses every theatrical trick in the book... it’s rather like a 1950s musical except much faster.”

**Admission talk** is taking about his marionette production “The Grand Adventure” which will play at the Alexander Theatre until Saturday, September 9.

The show, which has a cast of over 100 superbly dressed marionettes as well as five talented marionettists to manipulate the strings, is broadly based on Captain Cook’s voyage to Australia in HMS Endeavour.

Besides Captain Cook and Sir Joseph Banks, there are the “villains of the piece” — two unlikely characters. Pump Water and Pork Pie, who bear a more than passing resemblance to Don Quixote and Sancho Panza.

Pork Pie and Pump Water stow away on the Endeavour believing the ship is going on a treasure hunt. They end up, however, on a voyage of discovery.

During their adventures, they meet a number of colorful characters including Father Koala, Edna Echidna and Dolors Kangaroo.

Edmiston, who comes from Queensland, gave his first public performance at 12. He worked with a number of puppet theatre companies before setting up his own production group, Theatresights, to stage “The Grand Adventure.”

The elaborate sound track recording for the show includes music from a 25 piece orchestra, and features many of the voices of Australian actor Ray Barrett.

There are two sessions daily, at 10.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets are, adults $3.75 and children, $2.25.

---


6: INDIAN CULTURAL NIGHT — Indian classical and folk dance and music, with Indian snack on sale during intermission. Presented by Monash Indian Association. 7:30 p.m. Alex. Theatre. Admission: adults $2.50, students $1.25, members $1.00, children $0.50.

8: CONCERT — Melbourne Symphony Orchestra conducted by Hiroshi Sigiwaki, Keoti Kimura — pianist. Works by Beethoven, Mahler, Brahms. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $6.80, $5.20, $3.60; students $5.20, $3.60, $2.00.


15: CONCERT — St. Gregorius Dutch Choir and Apprentice Church Choir, conducted by Roderic D. Monash. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $6.00, $4.50; students $2.00.

15: CONCERT — Melbourne Symphony Orchestra conducted by Hiroshi Sigiwaki, Keoti Kimura — pianist. Works by Beethoven, Mahler, Brahms. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $6.80, $5.20, $3.60; students $5.20, $3.60, $2.00.

16: LUNCHTIME CONCERT — Mr. and Mrs. M. South - Chamber Players. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission free.

17: LUNCHEON CONCERT — 25th Century Music for Double Reed Instruments, Karl Wang, Henry Stender and Jan Stockigt. Works by Handel, Mozart, Beethoven. 1:15 p.m. RBH. Admission free.


21: LECTURE — “Trajectories of a Spacecraft Special from an Orbiting Space Station”, by Dr T. P. Bergin, Monash Department of Mechanical Engineering. Presented by Monash Astronomical Society, 1 p.m. Lecture Theatre BS. Admission free.

22: CONCERT — The Melbourne Choral Society presents a German Collection, choral music by German composers of the 19th and 20th centuries. 8.15 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $6, children $3.


23: FILM — St. Gregorius Dutch Choir and Apprentice Church Choir, conducted by Roderic D. Monash. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $6.00, $4.50; students $2.00.

25: CONCERT — Melbourne Choral Society presents a German Collection, choral music by German composers of the 19th and 20th centuries. 8.15 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $6, children $3.


---

**MONASH REPORTER**

September, 1978
The 'Lear' debate

'A new window in old house on Bard's rock'

In the matter of the "Lear" controversy, let me say at once that, unlike Philip Martin (Monash Reporter 6-78), I AM an interested party.

As Director of the Alexander Theatre, I, like most of the Management Committee, had expected some adverse criticism of the "Lear" project. The experiment was the most considered part of the 1978 Alexander Theatre program. I shall set out here what we hoped to achieve in commissioning Williamson's version of "Lear".

In the time that a few months ago I should have regarded as an uncontroversial claim that Shakespeare's language is at times difficult for modem audiences. This, undoubtedly, is by no means a new view. Late in the 17th century John Dryden was already noting that "Shakespeare's language is . . . a little obsolete'.

In 1765 Dr Johnson wrote that Shakespeare became now and then tangled with an unwieldy sentiment which he cannot well express, and will not reject; he struggles with it awhile, and, if it continues stubborn, comprises it in words such as occur, and leaves it to be disentangled and resolved by those who have more leisure to bestow upon it. . . . Not that always where the language is intricate the thought is subtle.

Arnold too

A century later, Matthew Arnold declared in words very relevant to our enterprise and the controversy surrounding it, that Mr Hallam . . . has had the courage (for at the present day it needs courage to remark, how extremely and faultily difficult Shakespeare's language often is. It is so: you may find main scenes in some of the greatest tragedies, "King Lear"? for instance, where the language is so artificial, so curiously tortured, and so difficult, that every speech has to be read two or three times before its meaning can be comprehended.

And Arnold continues one understands what M. Guizot meant, when he said that Shakespeare appears in his language to have tried all styles except that of simplicity.

Dryden, Johnson and Arnold were poets, sensitive to language; and they revered Shakespeare. But they were open-minded and humane enough to know that not all their own understandings took with ease, untrained non-literary minds might grasp only with hard labour.

Now, in the last few weeks I have been delighted to learn that though our own language has moved still further from Shakespeare's, yet his which gave such difficulties in former times is no longer problematical. Or at least, so I have been assured by some of my colleagues. I'm told that good teachers, good producers and good actors find Shakespeare's language easier to understand than David Williamson's.

Well, it may be so. A hundred years of University teaching of English Literature have probably done much. We now have an academic and literary priesthood, and it has emerged that there are perhaps as many as 2000 in Melbourne who know that "confusion" in Philip Martin's mind means a radically different thing from "confusion" in Shakespeare's.

But what of those who are unaware of such important facts? What of those for whom good texts and good teachers have so far been in vain? And what of those others, well-educated and cultured, who would be likely to frankly, snobbish. More disturbing, however, is his view that Williamson's and my own production of Shakespeare's "King Lear" was savage. Compasion in the theatre may be elicited in many ways. But the most important source lies in an audience's capacity to respond to dramatic spectacle.

New window

The object of the Alexander Theatre Company was to put a new window into the old house founded on the rock of Shakespeare, not to build a new shack on the shifting sands of current English. Fitting new glass is always a ticklish business: A man that looks on glass. On, it may stagger one. Or, if he pleases, through it pass. And then the heer's spine. Probably most of the learned eyes recolled from our very window-frame. But I think that a majority of the more innocent eyes saw further.

Reg Evans is Lear

Reg Evans IS Lear. Or at least it was her view that Williamson's lines "diluted and flatfooted", and that he lacked compassion. Compasion in the theatre may be elicited in many ways. But the most important source lies in an audience's capacity to respond to dramatic spectacle.

BACKGROUND

In July, the Alexander Theatre Company staged a production of Shakespeare's "King Lear" as "translated" into contemporary English by David Williamson.

Reviewing the production in Reporter in July, Emeritus Professor Guy Marston called it 'imaginative and cohesive'.

Last month senior lecturer in English, Philip Martin, took another view, calling Williamson's lines "clumsy and flatfooted". Reaction to his comments appears on this page.

Alan Dinnet, Director, Alexander Theatre.

Letters

NUMERATE APPRECIATION

Sir: If the simple barefoot mathematician may be allowed a word on a controversy outside his field, it would be this: that surely Philip Martin (Monash Reporter 6-78) misses the distinction between an enterprise and its execution. The recent Lear did contain infelicities in its text, its production and its acting. Nevertheless, it had for this non-expert the effect of pointing to previously unappreciated greatnesses of the play—for which my thanks to David Williamson, Peter Oyston and their co-workers. Reg Evans, in particular, was superb.

Michael A.B. Deskin

Mathematics Department.

Concert goers will have a rare opportunity to hear both the medieval and 20th century versions of the famous collection of songs "Carmina Burana" at Robert Blackwood Hall on Wednesday, September 27 at 8 p.m.

The collection will be presented by Monash University Choral Society in conjunction with Ars Nova of Melbourne and the Kew Philharmonic Society.

The songs, penned by a group of wandering scholars in the 12th and 13th centuries, were found last century in a Bavarian monastery.

They tell the powers of Fortune, the pleasures of drinking and physical love and make several indirect digs at established authority and convention.

Ars Nova, well known for their performances of early music, will give excerpts from the original manuscript in the first half of the concert.

Their presentation should be visual as well as musically interesting because it will feature medieval costumes.

Modern setting

In the second half of the concert, the medieval song will be given a 20th century setting, with music by Carl Orff.

A concert organiser says: "Orff's music is exciting and compelling, with contrasts between fast, loud choruses for full choir, soft lilting sections for soprano solo and small choirs and jazzy, amusing tunes for male soloists and male chorus."

The concert will be conducted by Brevan Leivston.

Tickets can be obtained from Robert Blackwood Hall, or by sending cheques, payable to Monash University Choral Society, to the Secretary, Y. Kerford Rd., Glen Iris 3146. Tickets, which cost $4 for adults and $2 for students and pensioners, will also be available at the door.

Any inquiries about the performance should be directed to Elizabeth Nottle, telephone 25 4609.