On Thursday, March 22, the long-awaited Williams Committee report on education, training and employment was tabled in Federal Parliament. The document—three volumes, 1822 pages and about a quarter of a million words—will be the subject of intensive scrutiny, and argument, for months to come.

Early reactions varied widely—from barely-concealed disappointment that the report didn’t produce instant solutions to the nation’s employment problems... to expressions of concern at the suggestion that a reintroduction of fees might be investigated... to muted praise for a thorough-going study of the myriad aspects of education and employment that the Committee was (unrealistically) invited to embrace...

...to expressions of relief that if changes are to be made, at least they’ll be gradual and evolutionary.

On-campus reactions, so far, have been generally favorable. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ray Martin, said that in the most part, universities would welcome the Williams recommendations—but, necessarily, there would be some reservations.

The President of the Monash Staff Association, Dr Peter Darvall, said that, in many respects, the report was “encouraging to the academic community”. It reaffirmed the national and international importance of Australian universities, and appeared to agree with much of what academic staff associations had been saying about key issues.

Here, Monash Reporter summarises some of the major recommendations the Committee makes in its chapter dealing specifically with the universities.

Avoiding the pitfalls

Human rights in Japan — a Monash professor reports. P. 3
It recommended therefore that the AVCC should appoint a working party to draw up programs for staff in the theory and practice of teaching, curriculum development and examining. It should then consider how satisfactory the programs might become a normal condition of tenure appointment.

Collaboration with other institutions

The Committee said that experience at Deakin, Wollongong, Newcastle, New England and James Cook universities had suggested that there were opportunities for more co-operation between institutions.

It therefore recommended "... greater co-operation between the universities and other educational and research institutions in the fields of teaching, curriculum development and examining..."

The Committee suggested specifically that the Universities Council should reconsider current assumptions about the range of activities undertaken by a university and the size on which the present financing formulas were based.

In this regard, it recommended that Murdoch University's activities might be considered for inclusion in the University of Western Australia, since there were doubts about the ability of Murdoch to reach the required optimum size.

Support for research

The Williams Committee came out strongly in support of increased funds for research in universities.

It said: "Of vital importance to the wellbeing of the nation is a proper recognition of the role that research and development can play and of the need for adequate funds to be devoted to it.

"In recent years, real resources available for research have been reduced and in the projections of experimentals it has been assumed that special research grants to universities be raised from 0.7 per cent in 1978 to 2.1 per cent in 1981 as proposed by the UC."

"At the same time it is important to increase support for the ARGC and the NH&MRC; to restore the annual number of new Commonwealth Postgraduate Awards, which fall from 725 for research and 150 for coursework in 1975 and in 1976 to 555 and 125 respectively in 1979; and to review their distribution."

The Committee added that, while specialisation was normally the essence of scholarship and research, some projects required an interdisciplinary centre as a base.

Such centres, it said, would call for tenured staff from universities, which should release them for a determined period by appointing temporary staff to provide necessary teaching.

It went on: "Inexpensive, but of considerable support by universities of postgraduate research by outstanding students, has been the keenly felt contribution which such opportunities can make to the future scientific and administrative career of the country and to the quality of living standards.

April, 1979

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

Professor B.R. Williams (Chairman), Vice-Chancellor and Principal, The University of Sydney.
Mr B.W. Yeates, immediate past Director-General, Department of Further Education, South Australia.
Mr D.P. Duckham, National Secretary, Electoral Trades Union of Australia, Senior Vice-President of the ACTU, a past president of the Tertiary Education Commission and member of the National Tertiary Education Council.
Dr A.M. Fraser, Director of the Queensland Institute of Technology, a member of the National Tertiary Education Council and of the Commonwealth Advanced Education Commissioner Panelle Griffin's, Australian Council and Arbitration Commission, and a former member of the Council of Adelaide University, Sydney.
Mr W. Holland, Regional Director of Education, N.S.W. Department of Education.
Mr D.G. Leake, Chairman, National Tertiary Education Commission, and member of the Science and Industry Relations Committee.
Mr J. Mathews, a past chairman of the Defence (Industrial) Committee.
Sir Peter Lloyd, former Chairman, Sydcury Pty Pucational Ltd, and a member of the Council of the University of Tasmania.
Dr T. Ormerod, Chairman, W.A. Post-Secondary Education Commission.
Mr D.B. Zedler, Chairman and Managing Director, ICI Australia Ltd, and a member of the Defence (Industrial) Committee.

The Committee addressed itself to the problem of maintaining flexibility in universities in the "steady state".

It said: "In the period ahead when little growth in universities is likely, more flexible staff structures will be required if serious imbalances in student-staff ratios are to be avoided.

"New courses may be introduced with little staff when numbers are growing significantly and the need for innovation does not decrease when staff are stable and show signs of concentration in outmoded fields of study.

"Further, to sustain innovation and freshness, several avenues should be kept in mind, such as the reservation of positions for visiting staff from overseas, staff exchanges between universities, the public service, CSIRO and industry, and visiting fellowships at the Australian National University.

"The Committee recommends that:

1. That the quality of scholarship and research during a period when the opportunities to recruit to the staff able to achieve international standards."

2. The responsibilities of governing bodies of universities.

Flexibility

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The key issues as the Staff Association nominates them

By Peter Davall, SAMU President

4. That there be more exacting criteria for the granting of tenure, an increase in the proportion of annual appointments, and preparation of schemes for redundancy.

5. That the study leave position should be reviewed at the end of the current triennium in the light of the maintenance of the international reputation of the universities, the quality of their scholarship, research and teaching, and the responsibilities of the academic bodies.

6. That consideration be given to formal reviews of departmental performance.

7. The appointment of an expert working party to formulate programs for staff in the theory and practice of teaching, curriculum development and examining, and then laterally to foster whether satisfactory participation in such programs should become a normal condition of tenure appointment.

The first two recommendations on research listed above will be generally welcomed. In discussing staffing flexibility, the options of fractional appointments and voluntary demotion have been omitted. Staff associations have constantly objected to the widespread use of fixed term appointments (or "throw-away" academics) encouraged in the fourth recommendation, believing them to lead to an erosion of academic freedom and a proliferation of academic master-slave relationships, and to make research and slow research. Rigorous, but procedurally fair reviews of "probationary" appointments leading to tenure are supported by SAMU, as a necessary corollary to its opposition to contract appointments and to governmentally sponsored teaching schemes, if properly formulated.

Many academics have already made suggestions in these fields (e.g. the Dip. Ed. (Tertiary) at Monash), and this should not be resisted in the interests of academic freedom.
The notion of "rights" as opposed to the notion of "duty" had been weak in traditional Japanese thinking, Professor C. G. Weeramantry, Monash professor of Law, says in his report, "Human Rights in Japan."

Professor Weeramantry says that upon themselves as "debtors to the Japanese who had traditionally looked for rights."

He says that human rights, with the current emphasis on rights, "constituted a notion that needed the occasion to be transplanted into this alien soil".

He continues: "The occasion was the traumatic aftermath of the war, the revolution against what militarism had stood for. The time has now been provided with more than a generation's worth of acclimatisation. The transplant in taking root represents one of the greatest legal revolutions in history."

Professor Weeramantry says the starting point of the revolution, the Japanese Constitution of 1947, though considered largely by the Cabinet and the Diet, did not emanate from the will of the people or any conquest by the US. However, unlike other imposed constitutions it has taken deep root and played an important role in fashioning the character of modern Japan.

Human rights provisions are spelt out in detail in the Constitution. Chapter Three of the document spells out not only traditional human rights but such as equality under the law, freedom from bondage and servitude, freedom of thought and conscience, freedom of association and assembly and speech, freedom of movement, academic freedom and due process rights, but also spells out many rights on the economic and cultural front. Among these are the minimum standards of wholesome and cultured living, the promotion and extension of social welfare and security and public health, free education, worker rights, children's rights and trade union rights.

Commissioners

The Japanese Constitution aside, Professor Weeramantry says that an Act of 1949 — An Act to Provide for the Appointments of Liberties Commissioners — represents "one of the most significant pieces of legislation in the world-wide history of the human rights movement". He considers that the new human rights methodologies worked out by the UN and well worthy of study and application by other legal systems of the world.

The Act created a network of civil liberties commissioners throughout the country, in each district of a city, town or village, "to promote and make widely known the ideal of civil liberties in order to protect the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution". There are more than 19,000 commissioners today.

Japanese: leader in human rights since the War

Japan's praiseworthy concern for human rights at home is in marked contrast to her lack of concern for human rights internationally, says Professor C. G. Weeramantry.

While in the national field the Japanese achievement is remarkable by any standards, in the international field it tends to fall short of expectation.

In Part XI (dealing with international orientation) of his report — a section which is highly sympathetic of many Japanese achievements in the human rights field — Professor Weeramantry argues that Japan's demonstrated concern for human rights and her position as an outstanding industrial nation combine to place her in the responsibility to take a more active interest in international human rights concerns.

He says: "The heightened human rights awareness of the Japanese people has an outstanding source in their struggle for human dignity. Its beneficent effects have the potential to stream out beyond her national frontiers for the universal betterment of the human condition. The dams that hold them in need to be breached."

But there are no signs of this happening, says Professor Weeramantry: "It is remarkable that the same degree of concern (for internal rights) is not shown by the public or the legal fraternity in regard to human rights violations."

"The situation is the same in the academic sphere, says Professor Weeramantry. "The average Japanese university student shows no interest in foreign human rights questions as we see in other countries."
From Study Leave reports to Council ... World view: university problems easier to identify than solve

The problems facing universities worldwide were much more easily identified than solved.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor R.L. Martin, said in a report to Coun-
cil that this view had emerged from discussions held during the 12th Congress of Commonwealth Universities held in Vancouver, Canada, last year. Professor Martin presented the full report of his three-month lecture overseas last year to the March Coun-
cil meeting. He presented a preliminary report to last September's
meeting.

He said that the theme of the Van-
couver Congress was "Reconciling National, International and Local Roles of the Universities with the Es-
cential Character of a University". Group discussions were held on five topics:

- World food problem and the universities.
- Higher education in countries with federal systems of government.
- Reconciling equality and excellence.
- The public view of the universities.
- Universities and other institutions of tertiary education.

Professor Martin said that as Sir John Crawford, who gave one of two plenary addresses at the opening session, pointed out, the first topic had been included "as a recognition of un-
versities looking outward with an in-
creasing social consciousness".

Professor Martin said that Sir John had emphasised the need for univer-
sities in the developed world to provide
leadership in solving problems by im-
proving and expanding the existing teaching and research relations with the Third World.

Professor Martin said: "The remaining four topics reflect some of the problems which are of concern to un-
iversities and all were particularly rele-
vant to the Australian scene.

"Matters discussed both formally and informally ranged widely with
most being hardy perennial.

"Examples were the tension between pursuit of excellence and ease of access to universities; pressure for manpower planning and accountability by government; problems arising from national and regional funding; the choice between relevance and com-
petence; the balance between pure and applied research; the problem of stu-
dent mobility between institutions; the balance between principles and practice.

"It emerged from discussions on these and many other issues that it is much easier to identify problems than to formulize solutions."

Professor Martin continued his impressions of the Congress. Dr Sir Frederick Dainton (former chairman of the University Grants Committee, Amster-
dam, where he was invited to give a seminal .

"Debate about the proposed innova-
tion has been based on a criticism that the proposals are an exercise in pedagogical paternalism — an attempt to impose a safe intellectual conform-
ity on students with the needs of an individual being sacrificed to the needs of society.

"Supporters claim the Harvard reform as a brave and belated return to aca-
demic standards and self-discipline. The experiment will be watched with great interest."

Academic advocates universal Ph.D. assessment procedures

Australian universities should es-
tablish a uniform Ph.D. degree level examination system, Dr Colin Gibbs, in his study leave report to Council, said. Dr Gibbs said he had, on two occa-
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In "both instances, the ad-
ministrative side of the examina-
tion was reasonably well handled, the
examiners felt that they knew what was expected of them and both were paid
respectfully."

"Although neither referee com-
plained about the fee and although
most, but not all, see such assess-
ments as a service to the scientific com-
munity, it can be remarked that the level of monetary compensa-
tion is poor indeed for the time in-
volved."

Dr Gibbs, who spent his study leave in the UK, also visited the physiology department of the Free University in Amsterdam, where he was invited to give a seminar.

Good teaching, research facilities

He said: "The department con-
centrates on cardiovascular physiology and has a total staff number similar to that at Monash. I have never seen such
good facilities both for staff (research equipment) and students (teaching equipment) even in the best of American universities."

"I was assured by my hosts that
facilities, equally as good, existed in another major Dutch physiology department."

"It is a worrying feature in both
Australia and England that many im-
portant aspects for physiology can no longer be studied in university depart-
ments because of the high cost of set-
ting up these research areas. Not only are the initial capital equipment costs high but they are intensive users of technological help and maintenance money."

"This state of affairs is not the best
way to get advances in pure physiology and it is interesting that where this fact has been appreciated, as in the Netherlands and some other parts of Europe, the pace of fundamental research is noticeably higher than in England."

"I have no hesitation in suggesting that in the area of cardiovascular physiology the Netherlands is currently-
ly making, and will make, contribu-
tions far out of proportion to its
population."

"It was interesting to note that, at
Monash, there was close liaison be-
 tween the Engineering and Medical faculties of the doctoral and post doctoral research fellows having degrees obtained in both faculties," Dr Gibbs said.
Departments refreshed by some new faces

University departments were "refreshed" by new appointments, and a way must be found around "steady state" staffing, Monash University Council was told at its March meeting.

Associate Professor R.S. Dickson, of the department of Chemistry, in his study leave report to Council, said one problem which academics found "particularly daunting" was the steady-state staffing situation which seemed to have been reached in most university departments.

Associate Professor Dickson said: "The need to interact on academic matters year after year with precisely the same group of people, without the refreshment that inevitably flows from new appointments and without any prospect of offering any financial incentive for overseas colleagues to take their study leave (or whatever they choose to call it) in Australia, must ultimately cause some decay in our academic standards.

Agreement on advantages

"Much has been said already about this problem. In our 'staff club discussions' there was general agreement that considerable advantages could result from temporary but frequent exchange of teaching personnel between the Melbourne-based universities, and perhaps between the universities and some other tertiary institutions.

"It would certainly seem feasible for academic staff at Monash, Melbourne and La Trobe (and possibly Deakin also, although the extra distances would demand some final complications) to change universities for a term or longer, thereby providing a fresh face, some new courses, and some different opinions of existing courses—all at little or no cost to the universities.

"This will certainly be of some benefit to me during the next few years at Monash.

"Moreover, my colleagues at La Trobe have indicated that my comments on their way of doing things were often of benefit to them."

During his study leave, Associate Professor Dickson virtually completed the first draft of approximately 700 typed pages of a book on the organometallic chemistry of thorium and iridium.

Thais at Monash to learn skills under Government scheme

Twelve Thai academics—nine of them women—are currently at Monash as part of the Thai University Lecturers Scheme.

The academics, all from Chiang Mai University, will be aiming to increase their effectiveness as tertiary teachers. The visitors, who will be at Monash for six months, are Miss Boobpa Anunsachatgul (education), Miss Angsana Dusitagorn (education), Miss Unciale Kongfoo (microbiology), Mr Prasert Prachuabpibal (chemistry), Mr Chu-cheep Praputpitaya (physiology), Miss Hattaya Prinyarux (genetics), Miss Somchai Ratanayun (botany), Miss Suchada Vidhayasa (education) and Mr Som-sak Wanichacheewa (zoology).

All speak fluent English. They will be living on campus in the former Marist College building.

The program at Monash is in two parts. The lecturers will spend two days a week with the Higher Education Advisory and Research Unit undertaking special studies in course planning, teaching techniques, applications of educational technology, assessment methods and the planning of teaching resources such as student laboratories. On the other three days they will join a host department covering their own interest areas to observe and participate in its day to day operation.

The Thai University Lecturers Scheme is funded by the Commonwealth Government through the Australian Development Assistance Bureau.

This is the second year in which it has operated. A pilot scheme was launched in 1977 with eight Thai academicians. The participants and those concerned with the scheme at Monash were generally satisfied with its outcome (or whatever they choose to call it) in Australia, must ultimately cause some decay in our academic standards.

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Maths lectures begin

A series of nine lectures on "mathematically interesting" topics especially designed for fifth and sixth form students continues at Monash this month.

The lectures are being organised by the Mathematics department.

The first was given by the chairman of the department, Professor G. Preston, on Friday, March 31. His topic was "Mathematical paradoxes."

Professor Preston says that the aim of the series will be to discuss mathematical topics that will not duplicate work in the school syllabus, but rather are intended to arouse interest generally in mathematics.

Other lectures (all start at 7.30 p.m. in R1) in the series will be:

April 6, "The design of statistical experiments. Is pasteurised milk good for you?" Professor P. D. Finch.


May 4, "Why mathematics is difficult. Some interesting, hard and unsolvable problems," Dr J. C. Stilwell.

June 8, "Mathematics of winds and currents," Dr C. B. Finlayson.


July 6, "Choosing the site of a school to minimise the distance to three villages," Dr E. Strzelecki.


August 3, "Laputa or Toln — how real is the imaginary?" Dr M. A. B. Deakin.

For further information contact Dr G. A. Watterson on ext. 2500.
Education Centre parades its aid facilities

The newly established Education Development Centre at Monash held an open day last month for teachers from schools in Melbourne's southern suburbs. In the photo above, Mr Lindsay Martin, (far left) an executive officer with the Centre, demonstrates the use of a large screen projector for lecturing, from left: Graham Denina, Denise Brown, Allan Moore and Rea Thompson and browsing, Julia Williamson and Lesann Eve Johnson.

An Education Development Centre has been established at Monash with the aim of making the Education faculty's resources - both its physical facilities and staff - accessible to teachers.

The Centre held an open day late last month as a first step in making its existence known to its main group of potential users - teachers and others interested in curriculum and school development activities from state and registered schools in the south-east suburbs.

One of the chief resources the Centre will be able to offer is access to the expertise of academic staff in the Education faculty. Staff have indicated their interest in sharing expertise on topics such as the production of instructional materials, literacy and perceptual skills development, and sensitivity and awareness programs for teachers.

Use of rooms and facilities

As well, teachers will be given access to lecture, seminar and other rooms in the Faculty when they are not being otherwise used, and will be able to use (but not borrow) facilities, such as audio-visual production equipment, in the Education Services Centre. The Education Development Centre intends building up a supply of materials and equipment which members will be able to borrow.

The idea for such a centre was first suggested by senior lecturer in Education at Monash, Mr Lawrence Ingerson, who became familiar with teachers' in-service education needs through work as an evaluator for VISC and other in-service programs.

Under Mr Ingerson's guidance a steering committee of interested teachers from state and registered schools in the Knox and Frankston schools regions was set up to explore the possibility of establishing a teachers' centre at Monash. An interim committee was formed to draw up a constitution and negotiate access to the Faculty's resources.

Having done this successfully, the committee held a meeting late last year at which the Education Development Centre was officially launched and a management committee elected.

Chairman of the committee is Mr Rex Thompson, Principal of Croydon High School, who has praised the "excellent co-operation" the committee received from the Dean of Education and other faculty members.

"We are confident that teachers will see the existing potentials of the Centre and will take up the challenge implicit in the concept," he says.

An executive officer, Mr Lindsay Martin, has been appointed to organise the Centre's activities. Mr Martin has been seconded from the Education Department and will be at Monash three days a week.

He sees his first major task as getting into the schools and making teachers aware of the Centre. Mr Martin can be contacted on ext. 2822.

Mannix to stage Islam - Christianity conference

A conference on Islam and Christianity - believed to be the first of its kind in Australia - will be held at Mannix College on August 28-31.

The main speakers include Father Georges Anawati O.P., director of the Institute Dominicain d'Etudes Orientales, Cairo, Professor A. H. Johns, dean of the faculty of Asian Studies and head of the department of Indonesian languages and literatures at ANU, and Dr M. A. El-Erian, professor of international education and head of the department of cultural studies at Goulburn CAE.

Also invited to address the conference is Dr Hassan Bajouda, faculty of Sharia, King Abdul Aziz University, Mecca, whose acceptance was not confirmed at the time of going to press.

Conference topics include Muhammad and the origins of Islam, Islamic art and culture, Muslim views of Australian society and culture, great common themes in Islam and Christianity and the Bible and the Koran.

Further information about the conference may be obtained from the Master of Mannix College, Dr L. P. Fitzgerald, Wellington Rd., Clayton.

The joint Organising Committee and the Editor of the 1979 Orientation Handbook for Monash University wish to apologise to Jon Gorr and his family for any embarrassment they might have suffered as a consequence of an inaccurate and unfounded reference to Mr Gorr in respect of the Marijuana Action Group. Mr Gorr has been seconded to the Marijuana Action Group.

A P O L O G Y

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Signed:
Alen S. Henry:
Chairman Joint Orientation Committee
Students aid fauna management at Healesville

A series of reports prepared by second-year zoology students at Monash will be used to help develop a management program for the Coranderrk Bushland Reserve at Healesville.

About 40 second-year students attended a camp at the reserve in March organised by Zoology department staff, as part of the teaching program. The reserve, which covers 300 acres, is attached to the Sir Colin Mackenzie Fauna Park, more widely known as Healesville Sanctuary.

The students took part in a variety of projects aimed at giving them exposure to a wide range of zoological study and research activities.

The projects and activities covered the limnology of Badger Creek, which flows through the reserve, a study of Leadbeater's possum, which involved nightly spotlighting forays, bird feeding strategies in the reserve and bird behaviour in the sanctuary, manual trapping, insect collecting and ecology, and measuring blood protein levels in insects as a means of studying population variation.

LEFT: Bird trapping and banding in the Corandellk Bushland Reserve was one of the many projects undertaken by students. In this photograph, David Baker-Gaff shows second-year student Pierre Bajou how to take the tail measurement of a yellow-tailed honeyeater.

BOTTOM LEFT: Students at the camp used the Sir Colin Mackenzie Fauna Park as a resource centre for observing animals. Here senior lecturer, Dr John Nelson (left) talks about hognose snakes with Denton Long (left back), Kate Lumsden, Robert Magareth and the director of the Fauna Park, Mr G. George.

RIGHT: One of the visitors to the camp was Professor Tim Barras (left). He met a young woman, Tami, and technical assistant Margaret Thomerson and senior technical officer Vince Balcomb. Dr Barras, a Fulbright scholar on leave from Ohio State University, is at Monash to carry out a study of the Australian greyling, a fish which was common in streams at the turn of the century. Once known as the "Yarra herring", the greyling is now found in only a handful of Victorian and New South Wales coastal streams.

The students, who spent five days camped at the reserve, rotated in groups through the various activities. Each group now has the task of presenting a report on one of the activities.

The director of the sanctuary, Mr G. George, said the reserve, which has camping facilities, including a kitchen, meeting room and toilets, was being maintained in its natural state for research purposes, and access to the reserve was restricted to recognised research groups.

Mr George said that the Monash group had drawn up lists of flora, fauna and insect species found in the reserve, and this information, plus that provided in the various reports, was valuable in assessing the area.

He said: "All the information will be of benefit in drawing up a management program for the reserve which is aimed basically at maintaining its diversity of species."

Mr George said he was pleased to see research groups using the reserve and the fauna park for study purposes.

Symposium looks at 'total' education

While Western societies are spending more on education than at any other time in history, mankind is no better equipped to solve its problems at a personal or social level.

This is the belief of the Helen Vale Foundation which this month is organising a symposium at Monash on 'The Need for Total Education'. The symposium will be held in the Alexander Theatre on April 7 and 8.

Some key figures in education have been lined up to participate in the symposium.

Speakers include Mr S. Desnavi, president of the Islamic Research Association in Bombay; Professor Manning Clark and Dr Frederick Emery, both of the ANU; Dr Anne Silcock, senior lecturer in education at Queensland University; and Mr Stan Dawson, assistant regional director of education in the Knox region.

The symposium will be opened, it is hoped, by the Education Minister, Mr Lindsay Thompson, and the director-general of education, Dr L. Shears will be participating also. Shri Vishayadev Yogendra will chair proceedings.

The symposium program states: "Education has in many ways become mechanical and purely job oriented. While it may assist the individual to earn a living it does little to prepare him in the art of living."

"The institutionalised educational process seems to promote rationality but not insight, knowledge but not wisdom, facts but not understanding."

"The products of this system have little opportunity to understand themselves, to develop their character or reflect on the deeper values of life. Their lack of character development leaves them emotionally unstable and immature and thus prone to psychosomatic illnesses or 'diseases of lifestyle' which are prevalent in our stressed society."

The program says that the aim of the symposium is to discuss aspects of education in terms of the needs of society now and in the future.

It will discuss the direction of contemporary education; the means of developing a total approach to education; community education, such as parent education and health education; and the education of teachers in the light of the requirements of 'total education'.

Monash Reporter

April, 1979
Service to man must be graduates' ideal

Service to man must be an ideal to which all graduates subscribed, a distinguished medical academic told Monash engineering and medical graduates at the first graduation ceremony of the year last Friday.

Professor Emeritus Sir Lance Townsend, who received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, said: "Universities produce an elite who become the leaders in the community. "In doing this we must never forget that we must serve our fellow countrymen after graduation for our education has been provided by them and we can never repay to them the debt which we owe." "If we are to do this we must have an ambition to achieve the impossible." Sir Lance continued: "Today is a day when you should take stock. What have you gained from this University? Certainly a sense of achievement; this is but the beginning of another chapter in your life. You have acquired a respect for learning and a desire to search for more — you may eventually become a teacher and take part in the continuing education of youth." "You should have acquired a sense of justice as evidenced by your teachers and examiners in their assessment of your potential and achievement, each of you has much much enthusiasm among any of the parties involved." "You should also have acquired intellectual discipline with intense personal freedom and the ideal of service to man. Service to man must be the great desire of all of us. We must strive to give service and our ideal must be to achieve the impossible." Sir Lance told the graduates that Monash University should continue to play a role in their lives. He said: "We Australians have not developed the close ties with our mother universities such as exist in universities in North America. I hope that this state of affairs will not continue indefinitely for an active alumni organisation is of great benefit to both the University and the graduates." Sir Lance Townsend has had an impressive career in obstetrics and gynaecology and as Dean of the faculty of Medicine at Melbourne University. He was Deputy Vice-Chancellor there until early this year. He is perhaps most widely known as co-author of the Syme Townsend Report which mapped the future organisation of health services in Victoria.

He has served on a variety of bodies, including as vice-president of the board of management of the Austin Hospital and as president, vice-chairman and honorary secretary of the Australian Council of the Royal College of Gynaecologists.

Local experiments in industrial democracy

Considerable experimentation in industrial democracy is now taking place in both private and public sector organisations in Australia due to factors which have inhibited its development.

This is the claim of two academics — Dr Lansbury and Mr Prideaux — in a new book, Improving the Quality of Work Life, published by Longman Cheshire.

Dr Lansbury is a senior lecturer in the department of Administrative Studies at Monash and Mr Prideaux is head of Administrative Studies at RMIT.

The authors say that, unlike some European countries which have enacted changes in company law to facilitate participation in corporate level decision making, Australians have shown little interest in workers' director schemes or co-determination.

The most innovative and far-reaching examples of industrial democracy in Australia have been at the shop-floor level. In some cases this has involved the restructuring of work to provide the individual worker with greater opportunity to develop skills and competence.

In other cases it has included the development of semi-autonomous or fully-autonomous work groups which control the organisation of work.

"These changes have been most successful where employees, management and unions have co-operated with each other. "Nevertheless, some unions are critical of these developments on the grounds that they represent merely a new and more sophisticated form of manipulation by management. Certainly, in most cases, the establishment of autonomous work groups has not challenged managerial prerogatives. "Genuine self-management seems to occur mainly in small firms where a high level of autonomy among employees already exists." Lansbury and Prideaux warn that any new institutions which are established to facilitate greater industrial democracy should fit in with the existing industrial culture.
Science being stifled by emotional critics: visitor

The progress of science was being stifled by restrictions — review boards, safeguards committees and the like — forced on it by those with emotional, anti-science beliefs.

Professor of sociology and social anthropology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Professor Joseph Ben-David, said this at Monash recently. Professor Ben-David, in Australia as an invited speaker to the Australian Academy of Science Silver Jubilee meeting in Canberra, conducted an Education faculty colloquium on “Science and Society Today.”

Speaking before the colloquium, he suggested that there was a degree of hypocrisy on the part of people who supported restrictions on the scientist’s autonomy to choose his subject for study, inquire objectively into that subject and publish his findings, yet who fervently defended “freedom of speech.”

He said: “Some people are content to allow a committee to stop a scientist’s work, or hold it up for half a year or so, as they take it as a matter of course that there should be freedom of speech and action — that others should be free to publish what they like, even though it may be nonsense or incite violence.

“Let me make it clear. I am not arguing a case for irresponsibility. I believe there are many valuable social goals. The pursuit of truth in a scientific way is one of them and it should have a fair go among the others.”

Professor Ben-David criticised those scientists who were eager to fight scientific issues in the political arena.

Genetic engineering

“Take the case of genetic engineering. Scientists would be doing more to enlighten society if they debated the issue on scientific grounds then presented a considered view to the public rather than getting into the political arena and fighting on political prejudices,” he said.

Professor Ben-David, whose research area is the attitudes and policies adopted towards science, said that an emotional, anti-science view had taken root world wide in the last 10 or so years.

“Rather than being seen as disinterested inquirers into truth, scientists are being painted as dangerous people who, having committed all sorts of mischief, have to be controlled.”

“They are being accused of supporting imperialism, racism, sexism and all the rest.

“Such criticism of science is not new. At the end of the 18th century the Romantics voiced similar criticism; there was a lot of it at the end of the 19th century too.”

“There was a tremendous rise in the popularity of anti-science criticism in the 1920s and early ’30s by both the Communists and the Nazis. In fact, many of the Nazi writings could be sold to new Left magazines today if their origin were not disclosed.”

He said anti-science attitudes often stemmed from the fear of freedom (“I am reminded of Galileo before the Inquisition”) and the opposition of some people to objective and rational thought.

Professor Ben-David, as well as working in Israel, is a research associate and visiting professor of sociology at the University of Chicago. He has had the opportunity to observe the higher education scene in many countries.

He said that serious problems were resulting from the halting or slowing down of the growth of universities.

These problems were particularly acute in relation to research, he added.

With fewer students making their way to postgraduate study and fewer academic opportunities for young graduates, there was a worryingly lack of new blood to stimulate research.

“It will have a bad effect on the advancement of science worldwide,” he predicted.

Professor Ben-David expressed concern that academic standards were being lowered.

He said: “Many countries have a higher fraction of young people in universities than ever before. This is good in that it indicates an extension of opportunity.

“But it also means there are a large number of people in universities who are not very serious about intellectual work or study; the degree structure has adapted itself to accommodate these people.”

He said that standards in the study of social sciences had been adversely affected by the student rebellions of the late ’60s and early ’70s and their aftermath.

“Many ideologically-based debates continue within disciplines which are not consistent with good teaching and research,” he said.

Down-to-earth and up-in-the-air

There were two sides to the Orientation Program ’79, as the photos above show.

On a down-to-earth note, there was the academic introduction with some 2750 new first year students getting their first taste of university life. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ray Martin, welcomed the students in the forum on the first morning of orientation and told them: “Above all, society will look to you always to seek the truth and make it known.”

On the up-in-the-air side, clubs and societies organised activities to show new students just how diverse a life at Monash can be. Photographed above, PhD student in chemistry, John Murley, demonstrated the art of hang gliding during an afternoon day organised by sports and recreation clubs.

‘Leo’s ideas will live on’

Despite a critical state of health, the late mathematician, Leo Gleeson, had maintained a remarkable output of ideas over the last few years.

A close colleague, Professor Kevin Westfold, said this in an address at Dr Gleeson’s funeral service, held in the Religious Centre on February 21.

At the time of his death Dr Gleeson was Reader in applied mathematics at Monash. Aged 48, he died from the residual effects of hepatitis contracted in 1987.

Professor Westfold said: “Leo’s enthusiastic drive and penetrating ideas have their own continuing impetus in the contributions his associates will continue to make.”

Dr Gleeson came to Monash in 1961 — the first year the University enrolled students — as the Mathematics department’s first research student.

He had just completed his B.Sc. at Melbourne University.

Professor Westfold said: “In his first year as a research student at Monash, Leo took an active and enthusiastic part in teaching mathematics to our first small cohorts of students. He was not only interested in students per se but consciously saw this activity as an opportunity to ground himself more surely in the mathematical and physical sciences to which he was later to function so effectively.”

Dr Gleeson undertook postdoctoral work in the US but returned to Monash in 1968 to work with Professor Westfold as a research fellow. He contributed to work on quantum radiation, cosmic-ray physics and the theory of geophysical prospecting by electromagnetic methods.

In his later years Dr Gleeson suffered chronic ill health necessitating long periods in hospital and major surgery.

April, 1979
The critics on our Shakespeare-fest...

**Play 1: 'Measure for Measure'**

**Production ‘sound and thoughtful’**

It is refreshing to find there is not a whiff of an allegorical personalage in the Alexander Theatre this week. This Measure for Measure contains no sauced purity nor mysterious holiness — just a decently flustered Duke who keeps hold of the situation only by some desperate and devious improvisation. The finest moments of a sound and thoughtful production are on that happy level, as in the past, awkward but not unutterable, by the precipitate departure of Angelo and Angelo on finding them selves only by some desperate and devious improvisation. Duke who holds of the situation thoughtful production are on that the Alexander Theatre this week.

The play, ‘Measure for Measure,’ The venue: Alexander Theatre, nightly at 8 p.m. until April 11.

Prices: $8, students $3.50. Alexander Theatre supports $5.50.

The reviewer is a senior lecturer in English.

But here the production left the interest a bit thin. John Wood’s Angelo is most convincingly of the social world of the Vienna of 1889 which is chosen for the play. But we never feel the flesh rise and the accompanying humiliation as Angelo wrestles with temptation. And Amanda Muggleton’s Isabella seemed curiously unscarred by what was happening to her. We didn’t really feel her being driven by a mixture of anger and censure. And the Vienna in which the production is set is the Vienna of the young Freud.

Roger Oakley’s Lucio is a key to the success — and its limits — of the production. Brilliantly conceived as an urbanely impudent lecher, he moves through Viennese cafe society, serious daily paper in hand, clearly able to hold his own in his intellectual life. But this is a Lucio so consistent in his mocking detachment that we never see him drop his guard. Yet surely a Lucio who does, who is betrayed into sincerity when he speaks to Isabella or about Claudio is the more interesting character. After all only a man capable of moral indignation would have got himself into the fix with the Duke that he does at the end of the play.

The economy and efficient doubling of this production reveal an assured professionalism. Bruce Kerr’s Rabelais is admirable and Frank Gallagher’s Duke always engaging.

If the desperate remedies of the second half are at times frantic and nearly farcical perhaps that is as fair a comment as any on attempts to imper- fective divine providence, and demonstrates the irresponsibility of conducting scientific experiments on the living and unliving.

**Future use for past records**

The State Library of Victoria has a message for people who have old diaries and letters and for those societies and organisations who have old records and files no longer in use. The message: tell the State Library about the material before you throw it out. It could be important to historians now, and in the future.

A Library spokesman said old diaries and letters were examples of the kind of correspondence which documented the history of Victoria, and these papers were an important extension of the information found in official records, newspapers and books.

Equally important were the old records of societies and organisations which had shaped the history of the state.

This type of material was collected by the Library so that information was preserved and available to future historians and writers.

Anyone wishing to deposit materials with the Library or wanting further information about the manuscripts collection may contact John Thompson, Manuscripts Librarian, on 663 4811 ext. 277 or Patay Hardy, acting field officer, on 663 4811, ext. 341.

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**Indoor heated swimming pool proposed for Monash campus**

An indoor, heated swimming pool for Monash?

That’s the proposal made by Deputy Warden of the Union, Mr Doug Ellis, endorsed by the Sports and Recreation Association’s executive committee, and currently before the Union’s planning and review and finance committee for consideration.

The proposal contains a 14-page document detailing recommendations on the type of pool, design features and financing, is endorsed among the general Union membership, too, for consideration.

The chief recommendation is that a heated indoor pool complex, providing for general recreation, and competitive swimming and teaching of swimming (in that order of priority) should be built north of the Recreation Hall.

The cost of establishing the complex — estimated to be about $800,000 — would be funded primarily from the sale of 24 acres of the Bodley Street property owned by the Union, it has been recommended.

A further recommendation is that the pool be open to the general public at specific times under certain conditions to boost revenue and ensure that its operating costs — estimated to be $65,000 a year — not be a heavy drain on the Union’s funds.

“School and coaching groups clearly provide one source of paying outside users but others should be investigated,” the proposal says.

**Pool users**

Mr Ellis identifies four types of pool users: the “serious” swimmers who wish to swim lengths or widths of the pool; those who are under instruction; those who are “playing” and socialising; and those who wish to use deep water for diving, lifesaving, underwater exercises, water polo and the like.

**Meeting demands**

He believes it is possible to design a pool to meet most demands.

The proposal he puts forward is for a pool in two sections — a six or eight lane section suitable for training and club level competitive swimming, 25 metres long (rather than the “ideal” 50 metres, for “cost considerations”) by 15 to 21 metres wide with a depth from 1.8 to 2.15 metres; and a free form, general use section safe for non-swimmers and beginners.

Mr Ellis says that a pool which also caters for top level competition and water polo should only be considered if funding external to the Union can be obtained for both the capital and recurrent costs.

Mr Ellis suggests that special features such as spa jets and a sauna bath be included. And he suggests a joint effort with the Mechanical Engineering department at Monash to investigate the feasibility of incorporating wave-making equipment in the project.

The heating of the complex will be done by solar panels integrated into the roof structure, he proposes.

Mr Ellis emphasises that if the Union should decide to go ahead with the venture then sufficient money should be made available to ensure that the complex is properly finished and attractive.

“If this is not guaranteed then the project should not be undertaken as the income generated will not be sufficient to avoid a large annual subsidy from Union fees,” he concludes.

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April, 1979

**MONASH REPORTER**
A standard to put professionals to shame

A number of years ago Miss Ngio Moir of the University Computing Service was asked about the kind of thing she had seen producers do to Twelfth Night, had this to say: "There had been star Malvolio and star Viola. There had been remorseless emphasis on a single character or sometimes on a single scene. The words had been trapped in the net of a fantastic style, lost in a welter of comic songs-go, coarsened by cleverness or stifled by being forced out of their native air. I had seen Andrew wither into a pale-faced, Malvolio as a red-nosed comic, and Feste, God save the mark, as bitter as colquoids or the Foil in Lear. I had seen productions with choreographic trimmings and with constant business that, however, missed the production on ice skaters!"

No concern

I do not think that Tim Scott's recent production of the play with student, publication, funding of patents would have given her any cause for concern. He had quite clearly and quite properly heeded her injunction to 'examine the play as a whole', and avoided falling into what she calls "the stylistic error of focusing upon a single fashionable aspect of a subtle and delicate work, and forcing it up to a position of prime importance that destroys the balance of the production".

Balance therefore clearly was, and although individual players, especially of the major roles, deserve the highest praise for their performances, the whole production had clearly thought of, and worked out as, a team effort, each part contributing in its own way to the total success. No gimmicks, no tricks, no eccentricities of speech, acting, or characterization, but a smooth, beautifully polished production which would put many professional productions to shame!

The vagaries of Melbourne's weather for the first night indeed interfered, the players showed their affinity with their Elizabethan counterparts by adapting themselves to their new setting and surroundings with the minimum of fuss or confusion. Subsequent performances were in the open air - at the time of writing there are still two evenings to go, but since Melbourne's weather has now decided to have itself there seems every likelihood that outdoor performances will continue!

The setting, in grass, shrubs and trees, was ideal for Tim's purposes, and he made the very best of it. He was able to get away with the minimum of trappings, and I thought his lighting was excellent. Exits and entrances — always an open question in the open air — have plenty of opportunity to get lost backstage — went admirably smoothly.

It would be impossible to single out individual performances for personal praise since, as I suggested earlier, the whole thing was clearly devised as a team effort. The speaking was good throughout, and even people unfamiliar with the text of the play should have had little difficulty in following it.

Right touch

James Ross as Osnario and Joanna Wierzbicki as Olivia brought out very well the right touch of romantic, love-sick adolescent that these characters symbolise. A beautiful performance by the very attractive Helen Pastoria as Viola was well balanced by that of Stuart Rintoul as her twin brother Sebastian, and Tim is to be congratulated on finding a pair who were so unaccountably alike! Ian Hamilton's half-broked, half-wasted Sir Andrew Aguecheek was the perfect foil to Noel Sheppard's well-padded, more robust Sir Toby Belch. Nurtia Vela's Maria was the perfect blend of sauciness in the presence of the men and humility in the presence of her mistress. Bill Collapy's Feste was superb, whether he was speaking or singing — the ease and speed with which he delivered some very difficult lines without missing a single nuance either in voice or in expression, the swift and smooth changes from levity and jest to a thoughtful melancholy, and the assurance of his singing all added up to brilliance.

Writing about the serious difficulties of presenting Malvolio (and they are serious), Mr R. Ridley once wrote: "He can be presented as a figure proper to comedy, but it is a razor-edge business, and any producer who can produce a justly balanced Twelfth Night, in which Malvolio produces the right kind of amusement and evokes the just amount of sympathy, and does not produce the wrong kind of the one or usurp too much of the other, has little to learn about one side at least of his business." I will say only that for me at least Tim Scott as the producer and Matthew Ricketson as Malvolio fulfilled these requirements admirably.

The other characters and the musicians did all that was required of them, and contributed fully to what was for many of us a totally delightful experience.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating! Although I felt sorry for the many people to whom my secretary, Barbara Calton, had to say no after night that there were no tickets left, here was the basic indication that the play was a success — people came to see it, and an increasing number of other people wanted to see it! No producer could ask for more than that, and Tim, the entire cast, and all who were involved in any way in the production, are to be congratulated warmly.

Arthur Brown

A general guide for Monash researchers applying for grants — whether from ARC, NH & MRC or other government or private sources — has been recently prepared.

The document, prepared by the Assistant Registrar, Mr Bruce Shields, outlines briefly the formal administrative procedures for applying for and accepting a research grant. It also draws potential applicants' attention to several specific items that they should bear in mind in relation to budget, publication of findings, patent rights, ethics, scholarships and the like.

The document reminds potential applicants that all grants for research are officially granted to the University which then makes the funds available to the chief investigator in accordance with its established financial and other policies and procedures. Potential applicants should therefore take into account the conditions agreed upon between the University and the donor.

It states: "While most grants for research are very welcome, and staff are encouraged to use their initiative in seeking them, it is stressed that some might be concerned with topics (gern warfare, to take an extreme example), or involve requirements (exorbitant electricity or space needs, say) or seek to impose conditions (that all patent rights are to be the property of the donor, for example) which would affect the University adversely."

"For these sorts of reasons the University reserves the right to accept or reject any grant where it considers that the conditions offered and an individual member of staff is not authorised to apply formally for, or to accept, a grant on behalf of the University."

On publication, the guide says: "Publication of research results obtained in general be the prerogative of the research worker(s) through the usual channels. It is contrary to the research function of the University to accept grants for research where control of eventual publication of the results in a learned journal or other appropriate place is solely in the hands of some outside authority."

"Where a grant demands that nothing be published without its approval, this condition should only be accepted where the University insists upon the qualification that such consent cannot be unreasonably withheld."

On patent rights: "The broad view is that the University reserves the right on patents arising from research by staff or students in order to ensure that they are developed in the public interest."

"The University's view on this should be brought to the attention of potential grantors in all appropriate cases so that there can be no misapprehension on this point, even should the grantor indicate lack of interest in possible patents."

"Government or semi-government donors are a special case since their policies in this matter are broadly in line with our own. Where such grantors require it, we can agree that they are entitled to an interest in any patentable discoveries, the degree of interest being open to negotiation."

On ethics in experimentation: "Where a project will require experimentation upon living animals or humans, an additional copy of the application must be provided for reference to the relevant University committees charged with overseeing such matters."

The Indonesian kerongcong ensemble, Pusaka Nu裳ara, will present a "Kerongcong Ball" at the Monash University Club on Saturday, April 28 at 7.30 p.m.

Tickets for the ball, which will feature live kerongcong music, disco music and Indonesian pop, are available for $7.50 single or $14 a double. Tickets may be purchased at the club bar, and dress for the event is evening wear.

Pusaka Nu裳ara was formed in 1976 with the aim of bringing together both Western and non-Western music, and every body who participated is keen to get back into the schools.

The final product had slanging matches between Strindberg and the actors, a feverish display of Greek dance steps, wailing through the director, and a muted bemused stage manager looking on with incredulity.

School audiences loved it, performances were held in schools all over Melbourne — at Altona, Vermont, Essendon, Mentone, Brighton, Carey Grammar and Freshill, PLC and Strathmore, Dandenong, Waverley, Heidelberg, Collingwood.

The four went into the Union Theatre at Monash late last month. However, its soul goes marching on.

"It was an eye-opener, a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said one of the cast.

April 19: Solo recital. April 26: Romantic vocal music by Berto Wolf, Strauss and Berg.

May 3: Clarinet and Saxophone recital by Peter Clinch. May 16: Flute recital.

Library invitation

Monash students and staff are eligible to join the Oakleigh and Clayton public libraries, even if they are not residents of these municipalities.

Oakleigh City Librarian, Mr Jon Martinadale, outlined the facilities offered by the libraries in a recent letter to Miss Caroline Plesie, the University's representative on the Clayton Arts Council.

Mr Martinadale said that, as well as recreational reading, the libraries offered a comprehensive range of non-fiction material. As well, there were posters, cassette, framed prints and foreign language books and magazines.

The libraries are at 145 Drummond St, Oakleigh, and Cocke St, Clayton. Hours of opening are 10 a.m. — 8 p.m. weekdays, and 9.30 — 12 noon Saturdays. Intending members should produce their ID cards and proof of address.

We discussed the show, at the end, with every audience. They were really involved in it, and we felt we were getting through to them.

They were very critical. But they were also responsive and accepting. They were not at all out of kilter or straight "Miss Julie". They could see what we were trying to do and what we were deliberately leaving out.

The audiences were thrilled by the pace and the tension. They picked up the content of the interpolations as well as their slangy aggressive style. They talked ideas all the time. They understood the problems of the play — whether Julie is inherently a weak character or a strong one, how you get class distinctions across in a society which denies that they exist.

APRIL DIARY

3-4: RED CROSS MOBILE BLOOD BANK will be visiting Monash University, Friday 3-4 p.m., Arts Assembly Rooms SG02 & SG04. Appointments can be made at the Union Bookshop.

3-6: EXHIBITION — "Jon Malvig selected works 1946-1966", by Mr. Malvig, Department of Visual Arts. Monday to Wednesday, 9.30 a.m. — 5 p.m. Exhibition Gallery, Clayton Campus, Monash Building. Admission: free.


14: ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM — "Jesus and the Art of R~c~ntenance", a re-run of an ABC radio program with discussion led by the sponsor (Torry Lane). Free. By Monash Department of Environmental Science.


16: ORGAN RECITAL by Gillian Weir. 1.15 p.m. Religious Centre, Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2202.

LECTURE — "The Design of National Experiments: is pasteurized milk good for you?", by Prof. P.D. Findlay, of interest to very few students. Free. By Monash Department of Mathematics. 7 p.m. Lecture Theatre RI. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2200.

20: CONCERT — "A Living Sound" Specialist, American gospel quartet. 9 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $8; students, pensioners, groups of 20 or more $4 each; family $10 (parents and school age children). Inquiries: ext. 2117.

22: CONCERT — Sydney String Quartet with Hien Anh Dang, presented by Monash Viva Australia. Works by Arthage, Wolf, Brahms. 8.15 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $8; students, adults A. Res. B. Res. $5; students B. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2202. Understryd’s next production has not been decided. Under consideration are a mobile schools workshop of a Brecht play and World War I with slides, and a traveling seminar on Sophocles. Monash says it is too early to make a decision and get back to the schools, however.


30: ORGAN RECITAL by Douglas Lawrence and Paul Plunkett (trumpet). 8 p.m. Arts Assembly Rooms SG02 & SG04. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2117.


MIGRANT STUDY SEMINAR — "Immigration and the Australian English language acquisition" by Mr. D.C. Mowforth. 7.30 p.m. Lecture Theatre R3. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2200. LUNCHEON CONCERT — Victor's String Quintet. Jenny Payne — flute, Joyce Jaffe — violin, Marla Swift — viola, Leslie Lambert — clarinet, Peter Marks — horn, Ian Marshall — cello. 1.15 p.m. RBH. Admission free.


MONASH REPORTER

The next issue of Monash Reporter will be published in the first week of May, 1979.

Copy deadline is Thursday, April 26.

Contributions (letters, articles, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the Editor, c/o the information office, ground floor, University Offices.

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