Botanist sows the seeds of knowledge on ancient tribes

Appropriately, the material with which botanist Dr Beth Gott chiefly works is seeds.

For, from such small and seemingly insignificant beginnings, Dr Gott hopes to add to the growth of knowledge about the ancient inhabitants of Victoria — southern tribal Aborigines.

Her work is that of the archaeological detective. Many of her days are spent before the microscope in the laboratory painstakingly sorting the plant material, the most useful form of which is seeds. By so doing Dr Gott says she is supplying building bricks which the archaeologist can use in constructing a picture of the way of life of the Aboriginal — including his use of plants for food, medicine, implements and other purposes.

Dr Gott is working in the Monash Botany department on a grant from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

Different in south

Much of the material she is currently examining comes from western Victoria. The Aborigines of this area share common features in language and lifestyle. Because of climatic differences, it was a lifestyle different from that of the Aborigines of central and north Australia.

But little is known about it today. Historical material is scarce so knowledge must be built up mainly by study of materials excavated.

But Dr Gott believes there is something to be learned, too, from the "living link", the Victorian Aboriginal.

She says: "Knowledge about plant usage, for example, has been handed down but not recorded through the generations. "I believe it may be possible still to recover some of it from people's memories."

Dr Gott has accompanied Victoria Archaeological Survey teams on several field trips to familiarise herself with the areas from which the samples are taken.

She says her work in the laboratory is more straightforward if she has some idea of the types of plants she might be likely to identify. She thus draws up a "likely vegetation" picture for each area by studying historical records and noting relict native plants.

Dr Gott says that one of the richest sources of material has been a number of mounds on the flood plain of the Murray River in the north-west.

These have yielded evidence of settlements dating back 1800 years.

She says: "When the Murray flooded, the Aborigines would exploit food resources on the river plain. They would go out in canoes, roving over the flooded area, camping for several days at a time on the elevated areas dotted over it."

These mounds were built up through the centuries by camp site residue — by, for example, the small balls of clay which the Aborigines rolled up, baked and used as heat retainers in earth ovens.

Dr Gott works on material excavated from these camp fire sites.

In the field, the charcoal is separated from the soil by immersing the sample in water. The charcoal floats to the top and is skimmed off.

Back in the laboratory Dr Gott isolates the plant material and identifies it, sometimes down to the species.

As an aid she is developing a reference collection of seeds from the plants she believes she would be likely to find. For easier identification she is also forming a reference collection of charred seeds.

Plants used

Dr Gott says that the bullrush is a good example of a plant of which Aborigines throughout Australia made economic use.

She says: "The Aborigines would steam the root of the bullrush, loosen and tie it, then chew it — a good source of starch. They would then split out the fibre remains which were rolled into string."

Other food plants more common in the south of the country include bracken and the daisy yam.

In the drier areas Aborigines used stones to grind seeds to produce a form of flour.

Dr Gott's present work marries two life-long interests — botany and archaeology.

She took her first degree, a B.Sc., majoring in botany, at Melbourne University and then her Ph.D. at Imperial College, London. Her work for this was on whole plant physiology, specifically of eye.

She returned to Melbourne and continued her association with Melbourne University, working on the physiology of wheat.

In 1965 her husband's work took the family to Connecticut in the US. There she taught college biology in Bridgeport but also joined the local archaeological society which was working on early colonial diggings.

In the early '70s the family moved to Hong Kong where Dr Gott joined the archaeological society, diggling mainly on late stone age sites. She taught too at Hong Kong University.

In 1976 it was back to Connecticut where she was impressed with the advancement in the amount and quality of archaeological work being undertaken.

Her interest in applying botany to archaeology was really kindled there by the ethno-botanist Nicholas Schoumatoff with whom she worked.

Schoumatoff was studying the herbal lore of Connecticut Indians and had traced their descendants through North America as part of his study.

Back in Australia Dr Gott was impressed by the great strides Australian archaeological had taken in such a short time and initiated the work she is now doing.
The lively face of Monash during vacation

Those who vacate Monash during term breaks may think that the campus sinks into semiconsciousness during their absence.

But that’s not the case as a look at the list of activities staged by groups from Monash and outside at the University during August reveals.

As is the case with most vacations, use of University facilities was at 8 premium.

- The World Fencing Championships which attracted some 400 competitors from 30 countries and, at Mannix College, a conference on Islam and Christianity which brought together leading Muslim and Christian scholars from throughout Australia and the world.

Other major events involving outside groups included the Victorian Industrial Safety Convention and a Scout Association of Australia conference. The first, held over four days, attracted between 1500 and 2000 participants and the second, held over two days, some 700.

The language and play of children in their first five years was the subject of a three day conference held at Normandy House during August. Organised by the Centre for Continuing Education as an activity to mark the International Year of the Child, the conference, entitled “Infant Imagination”, had both professional workers and parents as its participants. A key speaker was Dr Marion Blank, professor of psychiatry at the Institute of Mental Health Sciences at the Rutgers Medical School in New Jersey. Dr Blank also delivered the 1979 Elwyn Morey Memorial Lecture on “Meeting the language needs of young children”.

The Monash Parents Kindergarten Association held a conference over two days in the Union Theatre. About 90 people attended.

On the energy front, the Chemistry department organised an afternoon seminar on brown coal research at Monash.

Diverse other groups

Other groups using University facilities included Hospital and Computer Services, the Victorian Branch of the Computer Society, the Institution of Radio and Electronic Engineers, the Secondary Mathematics Committee, the department of Agriculture, Philips and the Dandenong Safety Association's meeting on “Employment publications librarian in the Main Library”.

- A total of eight titles were decided — with all the passion of life-and-death duels — at the World Fencing Championships held in two venues at Monash from August 18 to 28.

Those were individual and team men’s and ladies’ foil, and individual and team sabre and epee (in which only males participate).

Elimination rounds were held by day on several “chests” — the fields of play — in the Sports Centre with the most fortunate or the most skilled going on to hear “en garde” (the language of fencing is electronic means. In those forms fencers wear a special metallic lame jacket attached by cord to a recording box. Hits “on target” light colored lamps on the box.

Scoring in sabre, however, is the job of the fence's movements and awards the points.

During their stay in Melbourne the international fencers were housed in the Monash Halls of Residence. The presentation dinner was held on the final night in Broadmeadows Town Hall.

Many of the competitors will be starring daggers at each other in a year’s time in Moscow — for the Olympic Games.

The FAUSA view

Overseas student fees ‘bad diplomacy’

The Federation of Australian University Staff Associations (FAUSA) has reacted strongly to the proposed introduction of fees of between $1500 and $2500 for foreign students at Australian universities announced in the Federal Budget.

Newly-elected FAUSA president, Dr Peter Darvall, says that at its 1979 annual general meeting last month, the association resolved to communicate the following objections to the government and to the press:

- That the savings resulting from this move are small (approximately $6 million) and the diplomatic loose large.
- That with the rapid development of South East Asian countries, regional co-operation is going to be of increasing importance.
- That many Australian-trained graduates achieve influential positions in government and the professions in South East Asia, particularly in Singapore and Malaysia, and are the best ambassadors Australia can have.
- That the savings resulting from this move are small (approximately $6 million) and the diplomatic loose large.
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- That the savings resulting from this move are small (approximately $6 million) and the diplomatic loose large.
As an employee you believe that your employer has breached an award handed down by the Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission and is paying you less than he should.

To recover your full wage and have a penalty imposed you take the employer to court.

Is the case civil or criminal?

Such a matter, it may be assumed, would not have been firmly established in legal history. In fact it has not and is a source of uncertainty in Australia today.

Resolution of whether proceedings to impose a penalty under section 119 of the Conciliation and Arbitration Act (the section which governs breaches of awards by employers) should be civil or criminal is of more than academic interest.

At issue are different standards of proof with an important bearing naturally enough, on the decision handed down. At stake, too, is the stigma of "a criminal conviction".

Senior tutor in Law at Monash, Ms Marilyn Pittard, draws attention to this unresolved question in a paper titled "The Conciliation and Arbitration Act — the Prevention of Strikes and the Recovery of Wages" delivered to a recent industrial law seminar organised by the Monash Law faculty. The seminar marked the 75th anniversary of the enactment of the Conciliation and Arbitration Act.

Harder to enforce

Ms Pittard points out the importance of the issue:

"In the system of Australian law, a stigma is attached to convictions for crimes and to prove a person has committed a criminal offence the law requires proof "beyond reasonable doubt" — all elements of the offence must be proved beyond reasonable doubt.

"If, on the other hand, failure to obey an award is a civil action then there seems to be no such stigma and the onus of proof has to be satisfied by the court on all matters on the balance of probabilities; that is, it is not necessary to prove that the offence has been committed. It is a lower standard of proof.

"If the proceedings are criminal it may be much harder to enforce awards."

Until recently the general view prevailed that section 119 was civil in nature and the civil burden of proof applied.

In 1962, for example, in a case involving the Telegraph Newspaper Co Pty Ltd and the Australian Journalists' Association, the Industrial Court set aside the decision of a magistrate who entered a conviction against an employer for breach of an award, but upheld the decision of the magistrate that a breach of the agreement had been committed. The court considered the proceedings were civil, noting that there was a clear distinction between a penal statute imposing a penalty and a civil enactment creating a cause of action.

Doubt on award breach cases: are they civil or criminal?

GMH had breached an award by failing to pay an employee wages due to him under the award.

The magistrate had applied the criminal onus of proof rather than the civil onus. The union appealed to the Industrial Court arguing that the magistrate had proceeded using the incorrect onus of proof, the criminal onus, when the civil onus should have been used. The Court looked at the authorities on the nature of proceedings under s.119 and decided that such proceedings should be civil.

Since 1977 a couple of decisions have been handed down in which the Court applied the civil onus.

But in March this year in the Gapes vs. the Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd case Mr Justice Nethercopp applied the criminal onus again. He cited the VBEF case, adding, however, that the result would have been the same had the civil onus been applied.

This case is currently on appeal to the Full Bench of the Federal Court.

In her paper Ms Pittard says that legal questions other than the applicability of the civil or criminal onus have arisen in relation to recovery of wages provided in section 119.

Among these are the eligibility of a person to sue for a penalty and recovery of wages, the definition of an employee, whether the Court can make an order for repayment of wages when no penalty for breach of the section is imposed, and whether actions have been brought within the time limit.

Ms Pittard says that the whole area of award enforcement and recovery of wages has taken a back seat in legislation through the years to prevent and end of strikes.

She says: "This preoccupation with strikes as opposed to enforcement of awards and recovery of wages has been reflected to a certain extent in the Conciliation and Arbitration Act of 1904."

"First, the original Act attempted to enable, for the first time, the appointment of an inspector to secure observance of awards and to give the inspector power to bring actions for breaches of awards.

"Second, until the amendments of the 1970s the penalties for breaches of award were far less severe than the penalties for failure of any a union to observe an order of the court restraining it from striking.

"Third, it was not until the 1960s that there was any serious attempt to establish a body responsible for administering the award enforcement aspects of the Act.

"The Act was altered in 1928 to enable, for the first time, the appointment of an inspector to secure observance of awards and to give the inspector power to bring actions for breaches of awards.

Book titled Improving University Teaching: A Survey of Programs in Commonwealth Countries.

Dr Hore said the conference was particularly valuable for the contacts made.

He said: "New lines of thought were developed and links were forged between participants and resource persons in the ASEAN region and elsewhere. "There was a strong interest in academic staff development and concern about the lack of emphasis on the teaching function in universities in the region."

"It is pleasing to see the interest which has been generated by the Thai Universities Lecturers' Scheme at Monash University and the many requests from conference participants for information about the scheme."

Copies of the conference's interim findings and recommendations are available from Dr Hore, ext. 3220 or 3270.

International meeting aims at better teaching

The Director of Monash's Higher Education Advisory and Research Unit, Dr Terry Hore, acted as a consultant to a recent international conference on the teaching and learning process in universities, organised by the Universiti Sains Malaysia in Penang.

Over 190 university teachers, educational technologists and administrators from 11 regional countries attended the conference which aimed to take a fresh look at teaching and learning and the use of educational technology in universities with special reference to ASEAN nations.

Dr Hore was invited to act as consultant following publication of a report written by him for the Commonwealth Secretariat in London in a
Australia is officially, a "multicultural country"... Post-Gallahery Report, "multiculturalism" as an ideology has been endorsed by the Prime Minister, and is militarily seized by educators as a basis for curriculum planning.

But a senior lecturer in Education at Monash, Dr Brian Bullivant, has suggested that "multiculturalism" and "multicultural education" might be bankrupt concepts of the "world of one Canadian theorist, a "massive con job," of dubious value for Australia. Dr Bullivant says that the popular meaning of "multiculturalism" rests on a narrow non-technical definition of "culture," it is a definition which highlights the expressive side - dancing, costumes, "spaghetti-eating, basket-weaving" and the like. Ethnicity, he says, is reduced to a matter of style.

Group survival

This emphasis distracts attention from another aspect of culture - the instrumental side. This defines culture as a form of problem-solving program to be used in maintaining the survival of a social group.

Dr Bullivant says: "By reducing culture to style, neglected or glossed over are the low socio-economic positions of many ethnics, their lack of access to social and economic resources, the prejudice and discrimination shown toward them by the dominant society and other power-conflict issues. Despite this, politicians can still claim they are being democratic by allowing ethnics to maintain their cultures."

Dr Bullivant touches this issue in the recently completed 560-page report "Pluralism, Teacher Education and Ideology" on his STEPS project (Survey of Teacher Education for Pluralist Societies) carried out last year for the Education Research and Development Committee in Canberra.

The survey was conducted in six pluralist societies - Britain, Canada, the United States and Hawaii, Fiji and Australia.

STEPS project

Dr Bullivant says: "The STEPS project was an attempt to find out what ideologies and models of society are being proposed in these countries, whether these models accurately reflect socio-cultural and demographic reality and whether the ideologies influence policy-making for education in general and teacher education in particular.

Speaking to "Reporter" about the STEPS project and allied work, Dr. Bullivant said that the key conclusion was the widespread adoption of the "pluralist model with cultural homogeneity" and the corresponding view thought about what it actually meant.

The "massive multicultural" often operates only on the level of style, possibly the level at which the politicians wish to "maintain," he said. "As popularly understood, 'multiculturalism' is a social theory which sees a pluralist society as being composed of a number of ethnic or other sub-groups which are endeavouring to preserve aspects of their cultural heritage and to maintain and enhance the survival capacity or life chances of a group."

"On this basis they claim the right to have separate schools, to maintain separate cultural heritage and have aspects of it taught in public schools through a program of multicultural education."

One side only

"The weakness with this is that the definition emphasizes one side of culture only - the expressive side. "What it chooses to ignore is the instrumental side implied by a more technical definition of culture which views it as a tool for maintaining and enhancing the survival capacity or life chances of a group."

Dr Bullivant says that if this second approach was accepted some very sensitive questions were raised.

The true "multicultural" society would be composed of a number of separate cultural sections each of which would operate for its share of the total pool of social rewards and economic resources. If everyone accepted this technical sense, Australian society could split into sections. Dr Bullivant said that the definition "multicultural education" was one side of culture only - the expressive side.

"But the "pluralist" definition of culture is not restricted to invisible social groups, he said. "It includes also the political experience but who are otherwise not different from the rest of Australians in cultural terms; and those ethnic groups which were distinguishable by others or distinguished themselves on the ground of race alone."

He said: "This is very sensitive politically." For example, the distribution of "survival curriculums" allocated to Australia at the "multicultural" society might well be organised in such a way as to ensure that children from the dominant ethnic groups received better opportunities than children from other ethnic groups. He develops these ideas in a book Race and Curriculum: an Australian Perspective.

One step at a time

Dr Bullivant said that there were some theoretical grounds for thinking that in any pluralist society the curriculum might well be organised in such a way as to ensure that children from the dominant ethnic group received better opportunities than children from other ethnic groups. He develops these ideas in a book Race and Curriculum: an Australian Perspective.

He said: "This appears callous and discriminatory but in fact may be an inevitable result of deep-seated values in society and the necessity for it to obey the "survival imperative." This results in the interests of the dominant group receiving priority in the curriculum."

He continued: "All of that said, multiculturalism is necessary but not enough. The problem is that if you are attached to the cultural side and focuses on life chances, still neglects other aspects of the pluralist society. For example, the distribution of power and access to resources is by and large based on structural question; life chances in Australia are more and more being influenced by the effects of post-industrialization and the cybernetic revolution; and the class structure of Australia and a lot of its political and economic organization is closely related to the power of multi-national corporations."

Dr Bullivant said that "multiculturalism" also appeared to be an inappropriate concept for applications in an Australian society because of the groups it ignored. Among these were ethnics who felt they were an ethnic group for no other reason than shared sentiment or political experience but who were culturally identical with Anglo-Australians; ethnics who shared group identity on the basis of locality or common religious affiliation; ethnics who were politically isolated from the rest of Australians in cultural terms; and those ethnic groups which were distinguishable by others or distinguished themselves on the ground of race alone. If it is inappropriate to refer to Australia as the "multicultural society" what term will? For some years Dr Bullivant has suggested "polythetic." He said that modern ethnicity theory not only included different criteria for distinguishing sub-groups in society but the other elements mentioned above. It also focused on such issues as access to social rewards and economic resources.
Mature age students' experience explored

The experience of mature age students who re-enter the education system after years away will be examined at a national conference to be held in Canberra from November 27 to 30.

The conference, titled "Adults into Education: the Transition," is being organised by the Australian National University's Centre for Continuing Education. The conference will aim to bring together mature age students, academics, counsellors and educational administrators. It will explore three aspects of the transitional process:

- The educational and vocational choices involved.
- Preparation — acquiring the knowledge, skills and personal resources necessary for undertaking a course of study.
- Orientation and adjustment during the first year.

It will look at such aspects as the provision of information to prospective students, availability of counselling services and preparation and bridging courses.

For further information contact the Centre for Continuing Education at ANU, P.O. Box 4, Canberra, ACT. 2600.

September, 1979
Academic work prospects 'grim' for graduates

The prospects for an academic career for recent graduates of distinction are extremely grim.

The former Vice-Chancellor of La Trobe University, Dr David Myers, says this in a paper on University Staffing in the Static Situation. The paper, the result of an inquiry conducted by Dr Myers for the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, has been published recently by the AV-VC as the first in a new series of Occasional Papers.

Dr Myers says that the two most significant factors affecting staffing in the stand-still situation Australian universities now face are:

- The change from rapid growth requiring a reduction in new appointments.
- The retained sharp reduction in turnover, due to the drop in job opportunities, requiring a further reduction in new appointments.

A position, he says, is likely to have the more drastic effect on the rate of recruiting.

Dr Myers examines the need to introduce new blood into university staffing in the context of the present staffing levels and concludes that the present overwhelming advantage of those already appointed over aspirants for appointments should be reduced.

He says: "The essential point is that, while security of tenure is to the personal and probably academic advantage of the man on the job, the greater his security the less the opportunities for the next wave of contenders."

Period to prove suitability

"What is needed is a reasonable period, perhaps three years, in which a lecturer has the opportunity to prove his suitability for a tenured appointment, not a period in which the university can prove his unsuitability.

"This is emphatically not intended as an argument in favor of the employer over the employed; it is primarily an argument in favor of the outstanding aspirant for appointment against those, already on the job, who have failed to show comparable promise."

"The present rules and regulations in most universities (or at least the way in which they are usually interpreted) fail to recognize this point. To all intents and purposes, a first appointment as a lecturer provides life tenure. If this is the case, then it is a blot on his record affecting all future employment prospects."

"However, the present state of affairs has become established by custom. It is not likely to be corrected simply by a more rigorous interpretation of the rules, and the prospects for recent graduates of distinction for an academic career are extremely grim in a stand-still situation."

"It seems imperative that, in the interests of the future of the university, its staff and of the community, the present overwhelming advantage of those already appointed over aspirants for appointments should be reduced."

Dr Myers says that a valid argument against this reasoning is the potential for probation to fail to acquire tenure. It is a point on his record affecting all future employment prospects.

A possible solution to this problem, he suggests, may be fixed term appointments.

"The advantage claimed for this is that a fixed final date is determined and no stigma is attached to the termination of an appointment."

Dr Myers points to the problem of tutorial staff, too, in a period of growth.

He says: "If tutorial staff are maintained at the present level only a small proportion of them can look forward to appointment as lecturer."

"Either this situation is permitted to remain or the number of tutorial staff must be greatly reduced."

"It is suggested that university might accept the latter alternative but provide more opportunities for young graduates by accepting an increase in postgraduate enrolments with opportunities (as at present) to gain some teaching experience."

A 'lively' exhibit among antiquities

In an open doorway directly opposite the Classical Studies Museum, two postgraduate students in the department, Rick Wittersma and Peter Landey, set themselves up as live exhibits since 1979 on Open Day.

Their display caption is reproduced at right. When Reporter called, fellow postgraduate student Lex Hopkins was standing in for Peter Landey (out on a touring exhibition).

Working Men's Centre

Monash Poem

This exhibit has been specially arranged in celebration of the Monash University's 20th anniversary, with the help of the Monash University Committee, has been published recently by the AV-VC as the first in a new series of Occasional Papers.

The model near the door, a full-size Roman centurion, designed by Philip A. Biddle, a Monash graduate, is an example of the university's involvement with the Melbourne community. It is excellent that Monash is the venue for many meetings and conferences.

The University is committed to promoting activities on campus which help to develop the aesthetic sensibilities of its students and which encourage the surrounding community to share in the enjoyment of cultural events and creative activities through their personal participation.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ray Martin, said this while opening the Monash Arts and Crafts Centre on Open Day.

The Centre, north of the Union, will be the permanent home of arts and crafts semester classes and the summer school.

Among its facilities are eight major studios, two dark rooms and other ancillary areas which, in all, can accommodate more than 120 classes a week.

Professor Martin said that the Centre had been designed to meet the extraordinary growth in demand for semester and summer school classes. Some 2000 people enrolled in courses during the long vacation alone.

He said that the Arts and Crafts Centre was a further example of the University's involvement with the Melbourne community.

"It is excellent that Monash is the venue for so many meetings and conferences and seminars."

"The sports and recreation facilities are also used extensively by many school groups from the adjacent areas."

"And now the new Arts and Crafts Centre will provide for a wide range of classes for staff and students and also for many people from our neighbouring communities."
Reports say ‘successful’

Whether the opening of the new Arts and Crafts Centre drew the crowds for Open Day or vice-versa is debatable, but there’s little doubt it was an outstandingly successful day.

Estimates of the crowd varied, but Open Day director Rick Belshaw says the evidence suggests that numbers were up on previous years.

At the time of going to press, reports from 30 widely-representative sections of the University had been received. Of these:

• SIX reported fewer visitors, but all (except one) felt it had nevertheless been a satisfactory response.
• FIVE reported that attendances were “much the same as usual” and were happy with the result.
• EIGHTEEN reported variously that they were “extremely busy”, “busier than usual”, “had much more than normal participation and interest”. Three departments were sure that the attendance was “greatly increased”.
• ONE - the Arts and Crafts Centre (having its first Open Day) — reported a “highly successful, very busy day.”

Mr Belshaw said it was clear that, for the most part, counselling services were more heavily patronised this year. Prospective students were coming better prepared with questions, and there was an increase in the number of fourth-formers attending — evidence that counselling in the schools was beginning to have some effect.

Top LEFT THIS PAGE: Visitor, Peul Henderson examines material under the microscope in Chemical Engineering.

LEFT: Research Fellow with the National Health and Medical Research Council, Surindar Singh, explains the purpose of an electron microscope to Jackie Holmes, in Physiology.

ABOVE: Down the library wall comes abseiling exponent Peter Brenton, a third year science student.

BELOW: Open Day is an opportunity for some to make new acquaintance with Monash and for others to renew old acquaintance. Emeritus Professor Archie McIntyre measures the timing of the stretch reflex in Kayle Brown’s ankle. Among those looking on are Sir Louis Matheson (farmer V-C) and Lady Matheson (right).

Photos: Rick Crompton
Aborigines need separate schools?

Aborigines should have a separate educational system from other Australians. The Director of the Centre for Research into Aboriginal Affairs at Monash, Mr Colin Bourke, says in a paper delivered to a recent Aboriginal educational workshop on "Education in the '80s: Implications for Aborigines".

Mr Bourke says that Aboriginal community schools, owned and run by Aborigines, are essential if Australia's indigenous people are to maintain and develop their cultural identity.

He adds that it is important that this happens as Aboriginal organisation and cultural values "have much to offer a world which is having great difficulty in coming to grips with its own development".

He suggests that separate schools could be established in areas with a sufficiently large Aboriginal population, where Aborigines live in an area in which they form an insignificant proportion of total population should be given financial support to enable them to participate in Aboriginal community education programs where they are offered. Otherwise, programs relevant to both Aborigines and whites should be offered in their home area.

Mr Bourke points out that a separate educational system for a particular group would not be a new phenomenon in this country. He refers to "Roman Catholic, Jewish, Anglican and other Protestant schools are an integral part of Australian educational institutions and they reflect particular ethno-religious cultural variations. Lutheran schools in South Australia and Queensland instructed in German before 1914."

"In Sydney and Melbourne there are schools which instruct in Japanese and French. Various ethnic groups also have after-school groups and Saturday schools that meet their own needs."

"The Victorian Education Department offers the Saturday School of the community schools: a MONASH REPORTER

"In urban areas there may be some special resources, man's influence on the atmosphere and climate, and the meaning and consequence of a steady state economy in Australia. The Adelaide Congress, as well as having Junior ANZAAS and the usual section programs, will have several special exhibitions of scientific equipment, books and other special exhibits are being planned, and daily lunch hour music concerts will be given in the University's Elder Hall."

"(They) would recognise the reality of being Aboriginal in the 20th century. The philosophical curriculums and practices would reflect those of the contemporary Aboriginal community. The resources of the community would be used and developed by the school and this would strengthen the feeling of common kinship among Aboriginal people."

An Aboriginal school could socialise the young by developing their sense of belonging to Aboriginal society.

"It would ensure the perpetuation of Aboriginal culture including Aboriginal norms and values. Aborigines would once again be custodians of their own culture. The school should also develop in its students a critical awareness of their community and the wider society," he says.

Mr Bourke says that most non-Aboriginal people might deplore as being divisive the establishment of a school on racial grounds. But he says: "Aboriginal people have to decide, assuming they have a choice, whether to assimilate into the general Australian society. This means eventually renouncing their own culture in favor of the dominant Anglo-Saxon culture or alternatively to preserve their own communal life as a race."

He emphasises that what Aborigines are seeking is cultural pluralism.

"They would expect to remain full citizens of Australia integrated both politically and economically into society."

Mr Bourke says that the product of the schools - a strongly healthy educated Aboriginal community - would reduce racial tensions rather than develop them.

He says that it has been argued that the stronger a minority group is in relation to its own ethnicity the easier its integration into the general community.

"It can also generate the necessary enthusiasm for the minority group to improve its situation. Greater involvement by individuals in their own ethnic community can develop greater tolerance towards others who are different."

Rapid advances in microprocessors and other forms of automation offer simultaneously an improvement in the material quality of life and a reduced demand for labour. Whether the latest industrial revolution could prove a boon or curse to society will be the subject of one of the 25 symposia which will highlight the 50th ANZAAS Congress in Adelaide next year.

Theme of the Congress, which will be held at the University of Adelaide from May 15-18, is "Science for a Sustainable Society for Us by 2000 A.D. Where Now?"

The Congress will discuss energy in a sustainable society, both the short term problem at or near the year 2000 when fossil fuels are diminishing, and the long term problem when fossil fuels fail to meet set goals and needs. Other topics listed for discussion in the provisional program include telecommunications in the society of the future, genetic engineering, human genetics and the law, changing roles of the sexes, management of resources, trace pollutants, man's influence on the atmosphere and climate, and the meaning and consequence of a steady state economy in Australia.

Dr Joan Gussow, Chairperson, Program on Nutrition, Columbia University, New York.

Professor Harold Holton, of Harvard University.

Dr Helen Hughes, of the World Bank, Washington.

Dr Robert Carplus, of Lawrence Hall of Science, University of California.

Dr Margey Shaw, Director, Medical Genetics Centre, University of Texas.

Professor Ernst Schlichting, of the Faculty of Soil Science, University of Hohenheim, West Germany, and Professor Walter Wirths, Department of Education, University of Alberta.

Exhibitions of scientific equipment, scientific books and other special exhibitions are also being planned, and daily lunch hour music concerts will be given in the University's Elder Hall.

Enquiries about the Congress should be addressed to: Jubilee ANZAAS Congress, 141 Rundle Mall, Adelaide, South Australia, 5000.
The CSIRO Division of Chemical Technology will get a new home adjacent to Monash. A recommendation for a $9.1m laboratory complex was approved by Federal Parliament recently.

The recommendation for a relocation of the Division from its present site in South Melbourne to the CSIRO estate north of the campus was made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works.

A report in a recent issue of the CSIRO staff publication CoResearc says that the committee described the need for the new complex as "urgent".

Present accommodation for the Division contained many unsafe features, was overcrowded and could not be expanded or adapted to meet the high technical standards desirable for the type of research being undertaken, the committee reported.

It said that the new complex had been designed to ensure control over temperature, cleanliness, vibration, solar penetration and to provide safe working conditions for scientific research.

Laboratories

Plans for the new complex provide for organic and general chemical laboratories, technical laboratories for large-scale research work, and prototype industrial process bays for organic chemistry, general chemistry and pulp and paper processes.

These laboratories will be housed in two three-storey wings. A two-storey building has also been planned to accommodate workshops and stores, administrative staff and support facilities — including offices for members of the Division of Mathematics and Statistics.

The complex will mark stage three of the development of CSIRO's Clayton site. The Division of Chemical Technology will join the Divisions of Chemical Physics and Mineral Engineering (formerly Chemical Engineering) which were once located at Fishermans Bend.

A Living Festival, covering topics ranging from acupuncture to yoghurt-making, will be held at Monash next week. The student-organised festival will run for five days and will offer:

- Discussions on natural medicine, nutrition and diet, energy, lifestyles and religious alternatives.
- Workshops on massage, bike repair and maintenance, bread-making, pottery, kite-making and cooking in an Aboriginal earth oven.
- Guest appearances by Dr Moss Cass and Dr Jim Cairns.

There will also be a wide range of films, videotapes, bookstalls and displays throughout the week. All activities are free.

A program of events can be obtained from the Union Desk, and further information is available from Prue Jordan, ext. 3097.

The NSW Attorney General, Mr Frank Walker, will deliver the fifth annual A.A. Calwell Memorial Lecture in Robert Blackwood Hall on Thursday, September 6 at 8 p.m.

The Calwell Lecture is organised by the Monash ALP Club. It was delivered last year by the then Premier of South Australia, Don Dunstan. The lecture is open to the public and free. For further information contact Paul Foley at Denkin Hall, ext. 2900.

A man of courage

Idrus Abdullah — usually referred to simply as 'Idrus' — was born in Padang (Sumatra) in 1921 but spent much of his early life in Jakarta.

A sensitive and emotional man, he was deeply affected by the Japanese occupation of Indonesia and the style he developed — a style often described as 'kesedehaan baru' (the new simplicity) — made a decided break with the 'classical' style that had dominated Indonesian literature up to that point.

He is thus rightly regarded as one of the pioneers of modern Indonesian literature.

Idrus was never a man to suffer fools gladly and his writings made no attempt to gloss over the shortcomings of the newly-born republic — a fact that did not increase his popularity in certain circles.

A man both courageous and principled, he had little sympathy with the Soekarno regime and, anticipating the likely outcome of his opposition to Guided Democracy, left Indonesia for Malaysia in the early 1960s.

Here too his outspokenness sometimes proved too much for the sensitivities of the newly developing Malay cultural nationalism and he eventually decided to move to Australia in 1965 to join the newly formed department of Indonesian and Malay at Monash. His presence here was of considerable value both to students and staff, not least because of his wide and intimate knowledge of every writer of note in Indonesia and Malaysia during his lifetime.

Although he had come to Monash without formal academic qualifications, he approached his university career with the determination that characterised all his endeavours and succeeded in obtaining his M.A. in 1974. He promptly commenced work on a Ph.D. thesis which was to be an edition of an epic ballad from his native Minangkabau region.

By this time, unfortunately, his health had begun to break down. He had already suffered a stroke and a heart attack, but with typical courage he continued to work on his thesis and it was in Padang on May 18 this year, during a second period of field work, that he suffered the heart attack which ended his life.

His published works — there are more than 30 of them — include novels, short stories, plays, translations and critical essays. The latest work to be published was the novel "Hikayat Puteri Penelope" (Jakarta, 1974) while another novel is now in the press.

The many obituaries published in the Indonesian press bear witness to the importance of Idrus in the literary history of Indonesia. Those of us who knew him here can only regret his passing and offer our condolences to his wife and children.

Professor C. Skinner, chairman of the department of Indonesian and Malay.
Theologian praises new clergy study

We have waited a long time for this book. In the first place it is only very recently that sociologists in Australia have begun to give serious attention to religion, religious institutions and people in religious occupations. Second, a full decade has elapsed since Norman Blaikie sent out the questionnaires which were to yield the most comprehensive picture yet of Australian clergy. All parish clergy in what were then the six major Protestant denominations — Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, Churches of Christ and Congregational — were invited to respond to the questionnaires. 943487 (985) accepted the invitation. Has it been worth waiting for? On balance, the answer must be ‘yes’.

The data was collected at a time when the dominant mood of the churches reflected a sense of crisis. That mood has since changed. Many new elements have entered the ministry since 1969; and Congregationalists are now members of that movement. The previous bare walls of Norman Blaikie’s data is out of date. But in all the centres much has remained the same and I share his conviction that his basic findings “should have relevance for some considerable time to come”. The focus of attention is on conflict and frustration in parish ministers but much valuable general data is thrown up and examined in the process of establishing the nature and extent of admitted frustration. Many general impressions of Australian clergy are confirmed in this process (e.g. that by and large they do not see themselves in the role of social reformers) but many stereotypes are exploded. The previously bare walls of Norman Blaikie’s house get the decoration. The aesthetic appeal recently.

Fascinating questions for educators are raised by his general finding that the clergy who have experienced a more highly academic training in university and theological college are more likely to be among the frustrated! The study is presented against a background of overviews and (particularly US) studies and although no comparative pictures are drawn it becomes clear to those who are familiar with US studies that Australian clergy are not just carbon copies of their trans-Pacific brethren.

In re-writing his material for publication now Blaikie has tried hard to throw light on some of the developments which have taken place since the material was gathered. It is of particular interest to note, for example, the wide range of differences he has established between those clergy who chose to minister within the continuing Presbyterian Church and those who went with their church into union (Appendix I). There is a touch of irony in his comment that Anglicans (who were not contemplating any union) were more enthusiastic about church union than either Presbyterians or Methodists and his observation that whatever impelled those latter into union it was not a broadly-based shared theological orientation. Blaikie neither promises too much nor delivers too little. Some interpretations may well be questioned but enough basic data is usually given to make any debate fruitful.

At $19.95 it is particularly irritating to find carelessness creeping into the presentation. Some incompleteness of data is incomplete (e.g. chapter 5 and Table 55); at least one contains an error (Table 10); and a footnote on p. 139 incorrectly identifies the United Faculty of Theology, Melbourne and does not appear to have caught up with the fact that body now consists of the United Church, Theological Hall, Trinity College and the Jesuit Theological College.

Graeme M. Griffin
Professor of Church and Community
United Faculty of Theology,
Melbourne

The Academic Registrar’s department has been advised of the following scholarships. The Reporter presents a precis of the details. More information can be obtained from the Graduate Scholarships Office, ground floor, University Offices, extension 3055.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Commonwealth University Interchange Scheme. Provides assistance towards travel costs only. Category “A” is for academics on recognised study leave. Category “C” is for postgraduate workers holding research forms. Forms available from the Graduate Scholarships Office. Category “A” applications close at Monash on December 3; Category “C” close February 4. Senior Fulbright (Overseas) Scholarship — 1986/87. Tenable in any field of study, for up to one year at Brasenose College, Oxford. Available to junior members of staff and postgraduate students. The award includes university and college fees, a stipend of $2560 pounds p.a. plus FSSU supersanction contributions. Applications close with the Graduate Scholarships Officer on October 31.

Theological Faculty of Theology. Provides assistance towards travel costs only. Category “A” is for academics on recognised study leave. Category “C” is for postgraduate workers holding research forms. Forms available from the Graduate Scholarships Office. Category “A” applications close at Monash on December 3; Category “C” close February 4. Senior Fulbright (Overseas) Scholarship — 1986/87. Tenable in any field of study, for up to one year at Brasenose College, Oxford. Available to junior members of staff and postgraduate students. The award includes university and college fees, a stipend of $2560 pounds p.a. plus FSSU supersanction contributions. Applications close with the Graduate Scholarships Officer on October 31.

ITT International Fellowships. For Master degree studies only, up to 21 months, in the USA. Benefits include fees, book allowance, living costs, free air travel, and travel and subsistence. Applications close in Canberra October 31.


“Who is Silvia, what is she?” — the song, to a melody by Schubert, is well known. The play from which it comes, "The Two Gentlemen of Verona", is probably less so.

Shakespeare’s romantic comedy of true and false lovers will get an airing at Monash early next month as the third major production this year by the English Department Staff Players. The play will be performed in the Ground Floor Theatre of the Menzies Building from October 3 to 5, nightly at 8 p.m. It will be directed by Dennis Davison, brother of lighting designer Ric Davison and Ross Gillett as the two gentlemen; Margaret Swan and newcomers Joya Hui, Lisa Schaab, ladies; and Mimi Colligan, Jo Kinane, David McLean, Alan Dilnot, Ruth Blackwell and Dennis Davison in other roles.

Says the director: “The dog in the play is a seasoned performer, lent by Sujatha Pannell, and is being trained not to bite Alan Dilnot who takes the comic role of Launce.

The Academic Registrar advises the following important dates for students for September 1979:

5: COMPUTER COURSE - Introductory course in computing and programming in BASIC, pres. by Monash Computer Centre. Wednesday evenings from Sept. 5 - 26, 7.30 p.m. Lecture Theatre ST4, Fair. For materials E5.60. Tickets: also available at BASS tops.

4-8: COMEDY — "Flexitime", presented by the Victorian Arts Council and Alexander Theatre. With Paul Karo, Sydney Conabere, Anne Phelan, Terry McDer- mot, Chris Connelly and Wayne Bell. 8.02 p.m. Alex. Theatre. Admission: Adults $10; students, pensioners, $6.50. Tickets also available at BASS tops.

4-SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES — "Stories from the Wonderful World of Literature", presented by Monash ALP Supporters Club. Guest speaker: The Hon. Iris. 3146. Further information, tickets: VAS- CEN, 336 8665 or write to P.O. Box 3310,

5-0CT 6: LIGHT OPERA - "Iolanthe", presented by the Melbourne Youth Orchestra. 2.30 p.m. RBH. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2117.

5-0CT 12: PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION — "Visions of a City: Melbourne", pres. by Monash Department of Visual Arts. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Exhibition Gallery, Menzies Building. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2117.


7-0CT 15: COMEDY — "Paddys Market", arranged by the Melbourne Youth Sound Band conducted by George Hynes. Admission: adults $2, students, $1.60. Tickets also available at BASS tops.


10: HIMALAYAN FILM FESTIVAL presented by Monash Indian Association. Alex. Theatre. 8 p.m. Admission: adults $4; students, pensioners, children $2.50; members $2. CONCERT — "Festival of Gospel Music" presented by Youth for Christ, with "Brothers", Solid Rock, Peter York and Joy Keeble. Concessions — Mac Hawkins. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $4; students, pensioners, children $2.50; members $2.

12: LECTURE — "New Growth in the Law — the Judicial Contribution", by Mr Justice P. J. Brennan. Pres. by Monash Faculty of Law. 7.30 p.m. Lecture Theatre ST4. For materials E5.60. Tickets also available at BASS tops.

12: LECTURE — "New Growth in the Law — the Judicial Contribution", by Mr Justice P. J. Brennan. Pres. by Monash Faculty of Law. 7.30 p.m. Lecture Theatre ST4. For materials E5.60. Tickets also available at BASS tops.

13: MIGRANT STUDIES SEMINAR — "Limits to Multiculturalism in Australia", by Professor J. Zubrzycki, Monash, and Professor J. Shakespear of the University of Melbourne. Further information, tickets: ext. 2117.

14: LUNCHTIME CONCERT — The New Sege Ercuil Quartet. 1.15 p.m. RBH. Admission free.

15: PADDYS MARKET — Arranged by Monash University Parents Group. 6 p.m. Union Building.

16: HSC LECTURES for politics students — "Limits to Multiculturalism in Australia", by Professor J. Zubrzycki, Monash, and Professor J. Shakespear of the University of Melbourne. Further information, tickets: ext. 2117.

17: INDIAN CULTURAL NIGHT presented by Monash Indian Association. Alex. Theatre. 8 p.m. Admission: adults $4; students, pensioners, children $2.50; members $2. CONCERT — "Festival of Gospel Music" presented by Youth for Christ, with "Brothers", Solid Rock, Peter York and Joy Keeble. Concessions — Mac Hawkins. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $4; students, pensioners, children $2.50; members $2.

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20: CONCERT — "Festival of Gospel Music" presented by Youth for Christ, with "Brothers", Solid Rock, Peter York and Joy Keeble. Concessions — Mac Hawkins. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $4; students, pensioners, children $2.50; members $2.

21: LUNCHTIME CONCERT — The New Sege Ercuil Quartet. 1.15 p.m. RBH. Admission free.

22: CONCERT — "Festival of Gospel Music" presented by Youth for Christ, with "Brothers", Solid Rock, Peter York and Joy Keeble. Concessions — Mac Hawkins. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $4; students, pensioners, children $2.50; members $2.

23: CONCERT — "Festival of Gospel Music" presented by Youth for Christ, with "Brothers", Solid Rock, Peter York and Joy Keeble. Concessions — Mac Hawkins. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $4; students, pensioners, children $2.50; members $2.

24: LUNCHTIME CONCERT — Brian Brown Quintet. 1.15 p.m. RBH. Admission free.

25: LUNCHTIME CONCERT — The New Sege Ercuil Quartet. 1.15 p.m. RBH. Admission free.

26: MIGRANT STUDIES SEMINAR — "Limits to Multiculturalism in Australia", by Professor J. Zubrzycki, Monash, and Professor J. Shakespear of the University of Melbourne. Further information, tickets: ext. 2117.

27: HIMALAYAN FILM FESTIVAL presented by Monash Indian Association. Alex. Theatre. 8 p.m. Admission: adults $4; students, pensioners, children $2.50; members $2. CONCERT — "Festival of Gospel Music" presented by Youth for Christ, with "Brothers", Solid Rock, Peter York and Joy Keeble. Concessions — Mac Hawkins. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $4; students, pensioners, children $2.50; members $2.

28-0CT 6: LIGHT OPERA - "Iolanthe", presented by Gilbert and Sullivan, presented by the Balhars Players. 8 p.m. Alex. Theatre. Admission: adults $4; students, pensioners, children $3; Gala sup- per opening night $7.50. Bookings: 829 9600 or write to P.O. Box 44, Glen Iris, 3146.


30: CONCERT — Melbourne Youth Symphony Band conducted by George Logue and the Melbourne Youth Music Council, and the Hotham Junior String Weekend Players. 7.45 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults $3, children $1.
Greek, Arabian and Turkish delights

Greek, Turkish and Arabian traditional music will be featured in three lunchtime concerts being organized by the Music department in third term.

The concerts, which start at 1.15 p.m., will be presented in the Music auditorium on the eighth floor of the Menzies Building.

The schedule is:

- September 27, Arabian traditional music, played by Said Hajal and his group.
- October 4, Turkish traditional music, played by Necati Baran.
- October 11, Greek traditional music, played by Con Stavrou and his group.

The musicians all live in Melbourne and, while their work is of the highest standard, their performances outside their national groups have been few.

Said Hajal and his group play music from both the folk and popular traditions of Arab music. The latter owes its existence to early classical traditions.

Con Stavrou and his group play a large repertoire of traditional songs and dances from all parts of Greece. Stavrou plays the clarinet, one of the most popular folk instruments in Greece and often played in the region in which he once lived, the Peloponnese.

One of the best-known music forms from this region is the klephtica, a song or dance relating to the deeds of the Klephtas, a band of men who, during the days of the Ottoman empire, took to the mountains to conduct a guerilla offensive against their occupiers. The songs are constructed in epic style along the same lines as those of parts of Yugoslavia.

The concerts have been supported by the Vera Moore Fund.

Indian songs, dances

Indian songs and dances will be featured in a cultural evening to be held at the Alexander Theatre on September 15 at 7.30 p.m.

The evening is being organized by the Monash Indian Association.

A highlight will be a performance of the Bhangra — a harvest dance from the Punjab. It will be performed by a group led by Dr Preet Singh (picture). A troupe of Indian dancers from Monash will perform the Bharatha Natyam — a South Indian temple dance.

Bookings can be made by contacting the Alexander Theatre on 543 2828 or by phoning 543 3039 (Bernadine) or 544 1682 (Gita).

A treat for jazz lovers

Jazz lovers will be treated to a lunchtime feast at Robert Blackwood Hall this month.

Three free concerts featuring some of Australia's top jazz musicians have been organized.

Each concert starts at 1.15 p.m.

The schedule is:

- Monday, September 10, VCA Jazz Orchestra.
- Monday, September 17, The New Serge Ermoll Jazz Quartet.
- Monday, September 24, Brian Brown Jazz Quintet.

Diverse music styles bedfellows in Brazil

African musical bows, medieval European instruments, nokey Carnival bands and classical wind ensembles as unashamed bedfellows.

They are in the music of Brazil, according to tutor in Spanish at Monash, Denis Close.

Denis has spent much time over the last few months organizing a lecture concert to reflect the "true" style of Brazilian music.

The result of his effort, Brazil: A Musical Portrait, will be presented in the Union Theatre on Wednesday, September 19, starting at 8 p.m.

On stage will be some 36 musicians playing a dazzling array of mostly percussive South American instruments with such names as the stababeque, culca, surdo, agogo and berimbau.

Denis explains the aim of the concert:

"The idea came about after I attended a number of concerts which claimed to present 'Brazilian' music to the public. Most Brazilians I know walked out. The quality of the music was sometimes excellent, sometimes rather suspect. But in each case it was not a particularly accurate representation of the music of Brazil and, more importantly, vast areas of the field were left out, too. The impression the public comes away with is misleading verging on the fraudulent."

"The music we will be presenting will not always be typical in the sense of being 'popular' or widely known even in the country of origin, but it will be authentically Brazilian. Rather than simply plunge straight into a concert, we will be starting off with a brief illustrated lecture aimed at placing the music in its proper context and enlightening the public with regard to the actual playing techniques of the instruments and the characteristics of the many different genres."

"The diversity of the music over there is quite extraordinary and we hope our concert will convey at least some of this cultural richness to the public."

Tickets at $2 are available from the Spanish department (ext. 2262) or by phoning 277 2207 (a.h.).

The concert is being presented in association with the Vera Moore Fund.

Sisters in harmony

Monash's Music department may gain a "sister" in Indonesia.

It will be that country's first department of Musicology currently being established at the University of North Sumatra in Medan.

Reader in Music, Dr Margaret Kartomi, spent part of her recent study leave in Medan and gives details of her visit in a report to Council.

Dr Kartomi acted as a consultant to the Vice-Chancellor and Dean of the Arts Faculty at the University of North Sumatra on establishing the department. She advised on setting up of courses in the theoretical, methodological and practical aspects of music and musicology as well as on the purchase of suitable sound and other equipment.

She says: "It is proposed that this new department will have the status of sister institution with the Monash Music department, with staff and student exchanges."

The Monash department is highly regarded for its work on Indonesian and indeed all Southeast Asian music.

MONASH REPORTER

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

Copy deadline is Friday, September 21.

Contributions (letters, articles, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the editor (ext. 2001) or the information office, ground floor, University Offices.

MONASH REPORTER