Giving fire to the 1812

Musical instruments come in all shapes and sizes but none quite so oddly imaginative as the "cannon" for Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture designed and fired here by ABC orchestra leader Graham Wrench.

Consisting of a 12-gauge double barrel shotgun and two 44-gallon drums welded together — along with a steady hand, steady nerve, eagle eye on the conductor (here, Jesse Berendson, occasionally muffled ears as the instrument gives a convincing cannon-like sound and for the audience, a puff of smoke.

It is a more practical proposition than a real cannon which is virtually unobtainable as the ABC sought out recently when it was preparing to perform the 1812 at the Garden Party the music was too loud.

The photos were taken by Rick Crompton during a Melbourne Symphony Orchestra recording session in Robert Blackwood Hall last month.

Tackling problems of life and death

Several of Australia's most distinguished judicial, medical and scholarly figures will address themselves to matters of life and death at a conference to be held at Monash on November 12.

The conference, organised by the University's Centre for Human Bioethics, is on "Medical Science and the Preservation of Life: Ethical and Legal Dilemmas".

Among the participants will be Justice Elizabeth Evatt, Chief Judge of the Family Court; Mr Justice Michael Kirby, Chairman of the Law Reform Commission; Professor D. B. Allbrook, of the department of Anatomy and Human Biology at the University of Western Australia; Dr Erica Bates, of the School of Health Administration at the University of New South Wales; Dr S. L. Vaughan, Haematology Registrar at the Royal Children's Hospital; and Dr R. Young, of the Philosophy department at La Trobe.

From Monash, participants will include philosophers Professor Peter Singer and Emeritus Professor Hector Monro; Professor John Swan, Dean of Science; Professor Graeme Schofield, Dean of Medicine; Professor C. G. Weeramantry, of Law; Dr Margaret Brumby, of Education; and Ms Helena Kuhse, of the Centre for Human Bioethics.

A conference brochure outlines some of the questions to be addressed: "Recent advances in the bio-medical sciences have created an array of problems which are difficult to solve within existing frameworks of medical ethics and the law.

"One such cluster of problems relates to the prolongation of life. If doctors have a duty to preserve life, must they employ all modern means of support, or is it sometimes permissible to let the patient die?" "Does it make a difference whether or not the patient is competent to make decisions for himself, or whether he is an incompetent, such as a severely defective newborn child or an ir-reversibly comatosed patient?"

"What are the implications for the law of medicine's increasing ability to prolong life? And what are the ethical and philosophical underpinnings of the various positions people hold?"

The conference will be held at Man-nix College. The registration fee, which covers lunch and dinner, is $30. For further information contact Helga Kuhse on ext. 3266.

Monash remembered

Fifty years ago this Thursday General Sir John Monash, after whom the University was named, died. The remarkable career of an engineer-scholar — soldier was at its end. Historian Geoffrey Wraith has been writing the first full biography of Monash and, in a Reporter exclusive, from the work we publish this month an account of the "most impressive and largely attended funeral Australia had known" PP 67.

Also inside:

Cambodia: a recent visit 3
Haida — the ramifications 4

Monash Reporter

A MAGAZINE FOR THE UNIVERSITY

Registered by Australia Post — publication No. VBG0535

NUMBER 8-81

OCTOBER 6, 1981
AVCC underlines Govt. inconsistency

The Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, in its critique of the CTEC Report found one pleasing feature - the Commission's highlighting of the Government's in-consistency in its approach to education funding.

"It is proclaimed Government policy to increase educational opportunities," the AVCC said, "yet, as pointed out by the CTEC, there is a declining participation of the young in higher education."

"The demand for higher education is still rising in the United Kingdom and the USA, and participation in higher education in Australia is not high by the standards of many OECD countries. Moreover, the increasing pace of technological change will require more rather than less higher education."

The AVCC statement goes on: Government decisions in recent years, and particularly during 1981, have served to discourage many young people from seeking higher education. Among such Government decisions are:

- A steady decline in the real value of allowances under the Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme (TEAS).
- A fall in the real value of the Commonwealth Postgraduate awards by 46 per cent since 1974, coupled with the taxation of the awards.
- The AVCC views the decline in participation in higher education with the gravest concern and urges the Government to examine it urgently. The AVCC has pressed, and will continue to press, the Government and assist it in any way it can, to reverse the trend of declining participation rates in higher education...
- Volume 2 confirms the worst fears of many Vice-Chancellors that the capacity of universities to maintain acceptable academic standards and to fulfil adequately their teaching and research functions are likely to be seriously impaired.

Australian universities are excellent by world standards, and their teaching and research have received a high degree of international recognition. They have made a significant contribution to Australia and its prosperity. But the financial cuts now being imposed on the universities, which are spelt out in the CTEC Report, place in jeopardy the ability of the Australian universities to continue that same high level and quality of contribution.

ARGC grants: New projects

Investigations into a number of newly-perceived legal, moral and ethical problems get a boost in the 1982 ARGC allocations announced late last month.

In an almost unprecedented burst of generosity, the ARGC has agreed to fund three projects in the faculty of Law - generally overlooked in the past. Among the new projects that will get off the ground with ARGC help in 1982 are:

- Life or death choices for defective newborns - Professor Peter Singer (Philosophy) - $12,717.
- Consent to medical treatment of minors and of the intellectually handicapped - Professor C. G. Weeramantry (Law) - $9,894.
- National security and civil liberties in Australia - Mr. P. J. Hanks and Mr H. P. Lee (Law) - $12,200. In all, Monash will receive $1,591,707 in ARGC grants for 1982. They will fund a total of 108 projects. Following is a list of the new projects to be funded next year:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT TITLE</th>
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<td>HUMANITIES AND ECONOMICS</td>
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<td>Dr D. McEwing</td>
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<td>Dr A. Atkinson</td>
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<td>Dr A. Backhouse</td>
<td>11,424</td>
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<td>Assoc. Prof. H. Boltro</td>
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<td>Mr P. Hanks</td>
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<td>Mr H. Lee</td>
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<td>Prof. N. A. J. Hastings</td>
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<td>Assoc. Prof. W. Howard</td>
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<td>Prof. M. Porter</td>
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<td>Mr C. Trengove</td>
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<td>Prof. P. Singer</td>
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<td>Ms L. H. Topliss</td>
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<td>PHYSICAL SCIENCES</td>
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<td>Dr J. Cashion</td>
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<td>Dr P. Clark</td>
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<td>Assoc. Prof. J. Smith</td>
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<td>Dr R. Hicks</td>
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<td>Prof. B. Morton</td>
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<td>Dr R. Hoxter</td>
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<td>ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES</td>
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<td>Dr G. Dixon</td>
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<td>Dr M. Georgeff</td>
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<td>Dr R. Melchers</td>
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This year, the ARGC has agreed to fund 108 projects, a new record. The ARGC is now confident of an early sellout.
Cambodia: recuperating' after an horrific past

The Cambodian capital, Phnom Penh, is dirty — the worthless banknotes of the long toppled Lon Nol regime still flutter along the streets — but life in the city has returned to relative "normality" under the Vietnamese-backed Hun Sen government in Phnom Penh.

Dr Chandler visited Phnom Penh after a trip to Thailand where, at Chiangmai, he organised a conference on Cambodia for the Ford Foundation-funded Social Sciences Research Council. The conference brought together a group of scholars, journalists, and diplomats, all specialists in Cambodian affairs. It seemed to be the first time in the years 1975 to 1981.

Dr Chandler says that it is unproductive for the United States, China, and the ASEAN nations to continue opposing the present Phnom Penh government and "wicked" that they should cynically arm and feed the "puppet" country.

Dr Chandler says that much of the aid equipment — trucks and the like — will probably remain but that central war with Vietnam. Debate continues as to whether this action was forced on the regime by circumstances, whether it was an extension of its style displayed from the beginning, or whether in some sense "wild men" had got out of hand and Pol Pot was their puppet, rather than their puppeteers.

Recherche Scientifique in Paris; Laura Summers, of the Politics department, University of Leicester; William Shawcross, journalist of the Sunday Times, London; Anthony Barnett, of the Southeast Asia Program, Cornell University; Major-General Chan-na Samudvanajis, former Thai ambassador to the Khmer Republic (1970-73); and Timothy Carney of the US Embassy in Bangkok. US scholars Stephen Heder and Dr Gareth Porter were unable to attend the conference but have promised papers for the published proceedings.

One of the questions the group asked was whether the overthrow of Lon Nol and the coming to power of Pol Pot represented a revolution organised on Marxist lines with the subsequent establishment of a State, or whether, in fact, it led to the rule of a bandit group.

Some participants argued that by

Monash mathematician Dr Andrew Prentice has returned from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Pasadena, California, confident that his controversial theory on the origin of Saturn's moons will be confirmed by the results of the Voyager 2 flyby which will be released on October 13.

The experimental results of Voyager 2 will be presented at the annual meeting in Pittsburgh of the Division for Planetary Science of the American Astronomical Society.

A paper by Dr Prentice, which will be read at the meeting, predicts that Voyager 2 "may find Tethys (one of Saturn's inner moons) to be 20 to 25 per cent more massive than currently believed."

In actual fact, Voyager has found that the average density of Saturn's moons is 1.2 per cent more massive than previously thought, Dr Prentice says.

This new value, he says, coincides with the predictions of his theory which is a variation of the theory of Laplace, who suggested 180 years ago that in the beginning the rotating gas-glass of Saturn's inner moons was condensed from the concentric orbiting rings.

This theory can be overcome, Prentice claims, by introducing the concept of supersonic turbulence — a concept which physicists have been reluctant to accept.

If Dr Prentice is correct, the density of Saturn's moons should increase in a uniform way with the closer the moon is to the planet.

The results of the Voyager flyby suggest that this happens, he says. The uncompressed densities of the Saturnian satellites increase steadily towards the planet.

"The implications of Voyager's findings are far reaching," he says. Dr Prentice has written to the editor of the journal Nature inviting him to reconsider publishing his paper, which was rejected earlier.

Dr Prentice spent six weeks with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory's radio science team at Pasadena interpreting data sent back by the Voyager spacecraft as it swept past Saturn.
IN JANUARY of this year Professor Rokuro Hidaka and his wife were refused entry to Australia. Professor Hidaka, one of the most distinguished Japanese sociologists of the post-war period, had been invited for 10 months by the department of Sociology at La Trobe University and the Japanese department at Monash. The visit was approved and financed by the Japan Foundation, a semi-official body established by the Japanese Government.

According to Professor Hidaka, the only indication of reasons for the ban was a reference by an official of the Australian Embassy in Tokyo to an incident which took place in 1974 in Paris. Among many others, Mrs Hidaka was suspected by the French police of a possible connection with Japanese terrorists, but was totally cleared.

After three separate letters requesting an explanation and protests from all over Japan and Australia, the Federal Immigration Department produced on July 28 a letter in which it claimed to possess evidence of a “direct association” of both Professor and Mrs Hidaka with the Japanese Red Army.

Professor Hidaka has emphatically denied any justification for the restriction on his entry. The Immigration Department reveals the full extent of the information it claims to hold “it is clearly impossible to answer these very serious and utterly false accusations you have levelled against both of us.”

The Immigration Department has refused to provide any single piece of evidence to support its accusations. The Department cannot explain why the visit has been denied even for a “voluntary interview” with the Japanese police, why he and his wife were issued, in January 1981, with a Japanese passport, and why he was approved as a visiting professor by the Japan Foundation.

The Department cannot explain how the alleged terrorist activities escaped the attention of more than 100 of his friends with whom he was in daily contact, and who protested to the Australian Government against the ridiculous decision. These people — among them a former ambassador to Canberra, academics, writers and administrators of all political creeds — represent the cream of the Japanese intellectual elite and many of them command an unusual degree of public confidence.

The Australian government should not be surprised that in view of the complete implausibility of its accusations the only explanation left is that it was Professor Hidaka’s social and political views which were the real reason for the ban. Professor Hidaka is by no means a “left radical”. But his uncompromising stance for the democratisation of post-war Japan and, in particular, his position in the Vietnam issue have not made him popular with some strongly conservative elements within his country. Files kept on him would necessarily portray him as a “leftist”, depending on the zeal of the agent, as a “radical”.

The incident is by no means closed, and in particular in Japan the indignation of the academics and the public is rapidly growing.

One point to be given careful consideration is the anachronism of the situation when the basic human rights remain restricted, in the world society of the last quarter of the century, to the territory of one single national state. Professor Hidaka is left defenceless against accusation generated by secret files and has no access to a judicial review of the “evidence” which the Immigration Department claims to possess, but is legally entitled not to disclose.

Secondly, the incident has put into motion a whole chain of acts of academic censorship. Not only has Professor Hidaka been banned and Australian scholars deprived of his point of view. In the context described above, the ban will necessarily be interpreted as an appeal to organisations which propose personnel exchange and which finance it, for a “careful” screening of future candidates. Will the ban also be interpreted as an invitation to a “careful” consideration of teaching and research topics? Where does the chain reaction end?

No simple verbal assurance by any representative of the Government can remedy the situation. The Government should either prove that its decision has been based on undeniable public security grounds, or, alternatively, Professor and Mrs Hidaka should be permitted to enter Australia.

Hidaka and academic freedoms

By

Professor

Jiri

Neustupny,

Dept. of

Japanese

Seeking some safe answers

As Monash’s new Safety Officer, Alan Wilson sees himself to some extent filling the role of Devil’s Advocate.

With such a diverse range of activities being conducted in the University’s laboratories and workshops, no personal protection and hope to be an “instant expert” on the safety angle in every situation, Mr Wilson says.

Mr Wilson hopes, however, to encourage the people on the job to look at their workplaces and perhaps through eyes more keenly aware of safety and to think about the answers to a range of “What if . . .?” possibilities,” he says.

Responsibility

The notion of motivating the individual to take responsibility for his own safety is one Mr Wilson returns to.

“It is not realistic to say that ‘safety is the safety officer’s responsibility’ and leave it at that. One safety officer can’t be everywhere at once. A safety consciousness is one we all must possess.”

The ideal to be achieved, Mr Wilson says, is “a safe place of work”.

But a realistic definition of “safe”, he adds, often incorporates a component of “risk”. “We run risks from the moment we rise of a morning.” The real issue at stake then is finding the generally acceptable level of risk that a person working safely with that framework.

It involves a two-pronged effort — physical improvement of the work environment by recognising hazards and taking steps to eliminate or control them, the provision of items of personal protection and education and training of employees.

Mr Wilson says that the emphasis must be on the former. All the good messages of the posters and pamphlets can go down the drain in one day if the employee arrives at work with a chip on his shoulder and is less careful than usual.

He says: “It’s been said before — in bringing about the desirable state of affairs the safety officer must be the good doer rather than the do gooder.”

Alan Wilson started his working life as a fitter and turner in the early 60’s. In his first job he saw a fellow worker injured at a grinding wheel. The man was left with a permanent disability from what was a preventable accident. The incident shaped Mr Wilson’s attitudes on safety.

Working later at the Volkswagen plant in Clayton Mr Wilson joined the company’s fire protection squad. In 1971 he was made VW’s safety officer. He has studied fire protection and safety in Melbourne and in Germany.

At Monash he is located in the Health Service in the Union and can be contacted on ext. 3175.

In the photo above right, Safety Officer Alan Wilson demonstrates use of rescue breathing apparatus to Chemistry honors student Christine Davis. There are 12 such pieces of equipment located at strategic points on campus for use in emergencies such as cases of fire, toxic substance spills and the like.

October, 1981

MONASH REPORTER
A Monash educationist has cast doubts on projections by the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) of teacher supply and demand in the 1980s.

Dr. Gerald Burke, senior lecturer in Education at Monash University, contends that the TEC’s report for the 1982-84 Triennium has been too conservative in its estimates of teacher supply, which might result in an excess of teachers in the mid-1970s. Burke argues that the TEC’s projections reflect a more rapid growth in the secondary sector than in the primary sector, which could lead to an over-supply of teachers in the mid-1980s.

The TEC’s report suggests that there will be an increase in the number of teacher trainees of about 22,000 in 1984 compared to about 17,000 in 1983. However, Burke believes that the TEC’s estimates of teacher demand are too conservative, which could result in an over-supply of teachers in the mid-1980s.

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Academic heads legal aid body

A senior lecturer in Law at Monash has been appointed chairman of the new Legal Aid Commission of Victoria.

Mr Ball says that the Commission will streamline the provision of legal aid in this State. As from the beginning of September, it has taken over the functions of three legal aid bodies — the Victorian branch of the Australian Legal Aid Office, the Public Solicitor's Office and the Legal Aid Commission.

The ALAO was established by the Whittam Government and provided legal aid for poor persons (pensioners, ex-servicemen, students and the like), and for others involved in "Commonwealth matters" (for example, in cases before the Family Court).

The Public Solicitor's Office operated within the State Law department and provided aid chiefly for the administration of criminal laws.

The Legal Aid Commission was the body which took the case itself and assisted those involved in less serious criminal matters and civil actions.

The new Commission will have wide powers to give legal advice on rights and obligations to inquirers and providing legal assistance where appropriate. Where legal assistance is given, some cases will be handled by Commission lawyers; in other cases, a staff of 150 (about 60 are lawyers) and others will be dealt with by lawyers in private practice with the usual Commission meeting costs. The private lawyer is paid 80 per cent of the usual fee.

Mr Ball says the Commission will adopt a flexible approach to determine who will be eligible for legal aid and, with the most recent receiving it free but some clients being required to contribute to costs.

Mr Ball's aim is to assess a client's case, advise him of a "reasonable" contribution he should make, and then let the individual to the individual to make up his own mind whether the matter is worth pursing.

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Contributions on computing

The organisers of the 1982 computer education conference are A/Prof. A. B. Markman, editor and publisher; Dr Sydney Sewell, in supreme in whatever he undertook, and, above all, a gentleman of the highest order. His political chief, John Cain, was eloquent: "The Argus which discussed the frequency of cards in the post office on the Day of Atonement followed, and the community's Struggles with the price of success' He ordered copies of Straight and Crooked Thinking by Thouless, and Angels of Straight and Crooked Thinking by Thouless, and Angels of

Prejudice in print seminar

Writers, publishers, academics, librarians and leading identities in migrant and Aboriginal affairs will participate in a conference to be held at Monash on the topic: "Prejudice in Print: The Treatment of Ethnic Minorities in Published Works".

The conference, organised by the Centre for Migrant Studies, will be held at the College House from November 20 to 22.

Among those taking part from overseas and overseas will be Professor Maria Lewitt, winner of the Manning Drexler Award in 1978; publishing figures, Robert Anderson of Thomas Nelson Australia, Nick Hudson of the Herald and Weekly Times; Joseph Vondra, author, editor and publisher, Lorna Lippmann, Director of Community Relations in Victoria; Errol West, Vice-Chairman of the Victorian Aboriginal Education Consultative Group; Margaret Bunkle, children's librarian; and Margaret Atkine, librarian.

Enrollments for the conference close on October 20, and further information is available from Mr. J. Wheeler in the Castle of Education on ext. 2860.
ash was farewelled

funerary poems (which are best not revived). And, fallen thi s day in Israel? " Years later, most ap­
courageous man, who never I think shirked an
remarked that it was "written by a brave and
having just received his warning letter, his sister Lou
pro priately o f all , Rabbi Danglow quoted Carlyle on
and Jerilderie of Jewish-Prussian parentage. The
the 11th . A move to have him buried at the Shrine
largely· attended Australia had known.

THE FUNERAL was the most impressive and
largest and austral and Australia had known. If the King
died, he could not have been shown more
spect more than that given to the boy from Richmond and
Jerilderie of J ewish-Prussian parentage. The
Commonwealth arranged a state funeral on Sunday
the 11th. A move to have him buried at the Shrine
was thwarted, for he said, "the Shrine should be no
man's tomb". The body lay in state, with 8 military
and official, representatives of the Governor-General,
Governor and Federal and State governments. Right,
round the corner into Collins Street, the opposite
Swanston Street opposite the Town Hall, scene of so
many services, receptions, university council meetings
and conferences with the civic fathers. Past
Flinders Street Station, he had travelled many
thousand miles — home to Richmond, Hawthorn and Heyington; to Gippsland for walking
and military escort joined. A huge crowd was waiting ,
returning soldiers, sailors, airmen and nurses
muffled drums, the tinkling of medals distinct in the
hush, returned men and soldiers awkwardly tried to
master the slow march, between the pressing
crowds.

Never, perhaps, had Melbourne seen so many
flags, half-masted but still in the breeze. Down
beautiful old Collins Street in leafy spring, past the
Naval and Military (the old German) Club, left into
Swanston Street opposite the Town Hall, scene of so
many balls, receptions, university council meetings
and conferences with the civic fathers. Past
Flinders Street Station, he had travelled many
thousand miles — home to Richmond, Hawthorn and Heyington; to Gippsland for walking
and military escort joined. A huge crowd was waiting ,
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crowds.

NURSERS' MEMORIALS were raised at
Yallourn, Scotch College and elsewhere; eventually, in
1900 an equestrian statue near Government
House gates was unveiled. Before and after his death
the name was used for innumerable streets, many
buildings, churches, schools and townships. And in
1958 the second Victorian

IN THE FOLLOWING week, of all the eulogies at
Monash's commemorations, two stand out.
Addressing Melbourne Legacy, Brudenell White
said:

Ambition, of course, he possessed but the
ambition which seeks power, authority or riches is
scarcely worth the name. The only ambition for
which I have any regard is that which is
an impelling will to make a job of any task
undertaken. That is the ambition which your
posterity, founded on a marked quality of excellence,
assayed had perforce, by reason of the character of
the man, to be performed in a completely effective
manner...

... the three great contributors to success will be
found to be integrity, even-mindedness or
wisdom, and unifying industry. (To these qualities)
he himself would have ascribed most of his
achievement. Apart from his right mindedness
which was natural, he possessed a calmness of
judgement and a tolerance which made reference
for his advice a pleasure.

With each promotion: Sir John developed a
greater and greater capacity for handling his fel­
owhened associates. This is unusual and it is
passing strange how the power grew with him. He
realised its value too, after his long association
with it he understood that the great power behind
the A.I.F. was the fellowship within it.

At Temple Beth Israel, Henry Isaac Cohen, who
over the previous decade had grown close to
Monash, surpassed himself in his oration. Was there
any parallel, he asked, to the way in which a great
military leader won a warmer and warmer place in
the hearts of his countrymen, culminating in a
tribute likely to move his audience to tears. His
father was patient and gentle, full of worldly wisdom, simple
in his tastes, temperate in his habits; a true father in
Israel. He was dead just as he would have
wished — in harness; in the plenitude of his great
mental powers; in the height of his fame; beloved of
his kith and kin, with the affectionate regard of
his race and people; with an unsullied name
honoured throughout the whole civilised world...

In first, war in first, peace, first in the hearts of his
Countrymen.

NUMEROUS MEMORIALS were raised at
Yallourn, Scotch College and elsewhere; eventually, in
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A rare insight into a society unaffected by the outside world

Hunter and Habitat in the Central Kalahari Desert, George B. Silberbauer, Cambridge University Press. recommended price $20.00.

This book provides a rare opportunity to develop a thorough understanding of a small-scale simple society living in one of the most inhospitable, unproductive environments on the earth's surface. One might question why members of modern Western society, occupying the most comfortable environments and having the ability to manipulate the productive potential of marginal lands, should bother to concern themselves with a tiny Bushman society living in a remote part of southern Africa. But Dr Silberbauer's work contains a number of lessons for us, despite the great disparities between Bushman society and our own.

To become more aware of and sensitive to a different human group enhances our own identity, so the results of Silberbauer's intensive cross-cultural experience and study are inherently valuable, whether or not intuitively to do so, the book shatters some widely held misconceptions about so-called 'primitive' societies.

Authority

Few could write on the Bushman with such authority as Silberbauer. He spent more than 10 years in the '50s and '60s living in their land in central Botswana and has by far for this book spanned eight years of full and part-time work. Silberbauer mastered the Bushmen's difficult 'click' language of his informants, many of whom never before had been a European, and compiled the first detailed and accurate maps of their land; indeed, the author's recommendation established the 52,000 km2 of desert (an area nearly as large as Tasmania) which is the home of the Bushmen as the Kalahari Game Reserve.

In the book's 330 pages, Silberbauer carefully and thoroughly describes the Bushmen's land, their system of religious belief, their social organisation, their use of the habitat, and finally their socioeconomic or the relationships between the ecosystem and the society. In describing and analysing such relationships, the book furthers the tradition within social anthropology which concentrates upon the interface between a people and their habitat to discern the organising themes of the society.

It is solid, anthropological literature, but the book's value is by no means limited to the specialist. A few short passages of technical material may be difficult for the general reader, and some of the syntax is more scientific than light reading, but those are a small price to pay for such generous service of food for thought.

In the Central Kalahari Game Reserve, an environment on the threshold of human habitation and a society based on the exploitation of natural resources, there are no parallels in the case of simplistic notions of a "savage" or some mysterious union with nature. The Bushman's world view is remarkably similar "that of many modern Australians. To both groups the universe is seen to be ordered and its beings set in a system being which rarely intercedes in their day to day functioning. Perceived aberrations in the order or rationality of the universe are more likely to be ascribed to an imperfect understanding of either "science" or "God's ways" (depending upon one's orientation) than to actual faults in the basic system. Both the Australian and the Bushman tend to believe that to survive in the Kalahari would probably tax the intellect of most humans.

Neither does the primitiveness of the Bushman society equate with simplistic philosophy or theology, with superstition, with fatalism or with romantic notions of a "noble savage" or some mysterious union with nature. The Bushman's world view is remarkably similar "that of many modern Australians. To both groups the universe is seen to be ordered and its beings set in a system being which rarely intercedes in their day to day functioning. Perceived aberrations in the order or rationality of the universe are more likely to be ascribed to an imperfect understanding of either "science" or "God's ways" (depending upon one's orientation) than to actual faults in the basic system. Both the Australian and the Bushman tend to believe that to survive in the Kalahari would probably tax the intellect of most humans.

One of Austria's leading writers, Michael Scharang, last month visited Monash's German department.

Dr Scharang is a novelist, author of short stories and critic and has written a great number of radio plays and several film scripts. He visited the University in association with the exhibition to mark the centenary of the Austrian writer Robert Musil, considered one of the most important figures in modern European literature. Dr Scharang wrote his doctoral thesis on the plays of Musil at Vienna University in the early 1960s. The exhibition and visit were sponsored by the Austrian Government.

Professor Leslie Bodi, of the German department, hopes that Dr Scharang's visit will be the first of many by Austrian writers. He would like to see Monash develop as a strong centre for Austrian studies in Australia.

Professor Bodi says that in the last 15 or so years Austria has "made the running" in literature in the German language. That is, he argues, because the German public likes a sense of socio-cultural identity in what it reads. In the years after World War II Austria has found that identity whereas the divided Germany has not. Austria, as a neutral country, is also in the interesting position of having strong ties with both the West and East and its culture reflects these diverse links. Dr Scharang is interested in the identity of a literature written in a language which is also spoken in countries with a much larger population and a more highly developed literary market. His own works are set in Austria but have been published mainly in Germany. There are parallels in the case of Australian literature via-a-via the UK and US.

Dr Scharang, 40, was born in Kapfenberg, a small town in the industrial district of Steiermark in Austria. For the last 15 or so years he has lived in Vienna. In his early writings he explored some of the social and personal problems of life in provincial Austria. In his most recent work, however, he has turned his attention to the values of the educated, newly successful professional class in the city. The rise in importance of this social group has occurred in Australia too and has been the subject of works by our own authors. Dr Scharang had an opportunity to meet with a group of young Austrian writers — people like Judith Rodrigues, Roger Pulvers and Peter Mathers — while in Melbourne.

Several of Dr Scharang's works have been translated into English. His latest novel, "The Man of the World," published in 1979, is being translated by Clyde Joyce, nephew of James.
How Marx viewed the national movements

Ian Cummins has written a very interesting, and in some respects, a quintessentially Marxist book. The main thrust of the book is the argument that Marx and Engels viewed national movements with a characteristic mixture of ambivalence. Their attitude towards national movements contributed towards the downfall of the revolutionary tradition in Marx and Engels' thought.

Somewhere often seems the spectre of the past. For the radical twin's vision of the world, the struggle between the West and the West has left us with a real sense. The term 'nationalism' is a powerful tool in the hands of Marx and Engels. It is used to challenge the status quo and to point the way towards a utopian society.


A 19th Century Albion press in the basement of the Main Library has been used by a small group of printing enthusiasts to produce a limited edition of a sonnet. The press they have used was given to the Albion by the University of Melbourne's School of Librarianship and is now housed at the School. The press was designed and built by Hector Monro, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy.

The Sonneteer's History of Philosophy — in which Professor Monro whimsically assesses the contributions of philosophers from Thales to Wittgenstein in 26 poem. The one now on campus was probably used in earlier days in Australia for production of a country newspaper.

Dr McMullin says that, over and above a curiosity value, the pressing was one of the skills of operating the printing press has an educational purpose.

Professor Monro wrote the first of the sonnets several years ago "as a joke". He pinned them to the noticeboard of the Philosophy department but the number of times they were taken down and photocopied convinced him that he should continue the series and others that they should be published. A total of 200 copies has been printed, and the printer is a limited edition or sonnet. The press was made in London in 1857 by the inventors: Monro, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy. Albion, Hopkinson and Cope, the press has been previously housed at the Science Museum in the city. It was one of two Albions at the Museum — the other is reputed to have been used by John Pascoe Fawkner

At Monash it was restored to working order with the help of Col French, who then worked in the Library, and his contacts in the printing trade, and others on campus. A stock of one typeface, Bembo, has been built up. This has been described as a "gracious" type and, for the moment, supplies are still available commercially in Melbourne.

The Albion press is the younger, plainer (but still hard-working) trans-Atlantic cousin of the US-invented Columbian style, of which it is anermannical show "in retirement" in the entrance to the Main Library. Where a bold advance the Columbian a less showy royal arms and Prince of Wales' feathers provide ornamentation on the Albion cover.

Dr McMullin says that, over and above a curiosity value, the keeping is one of the skills of operating the printing press has an educational purpose.

Professor Monro says that a first hand knowledge of the techniques of early printing can provide valuable insights for the scholar-conducting bibliographical and textual studies. For example, it gives students an understanding of how mistakes were likely to arise leading to differences in the text, and enables them to publish a prepared reading.

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Dr Tim Ealey, Director of the Monash Graduate School of Environmental Science, took advantage of a recent international conference in Malaysia to climb Sabah’s highest mountain, Mt Kinabalu.

He prepared for the arduous climb by running up and down the steps of his 17-storey Kuala Lumpur hotel. The 4000 metre high granitic massif, South East Asia’s greatest challenge to climbers, is part of the Crocker Range in Sabah’s Kinabalu National Park.

Dr Ealey climbed Mt Kinabalu after attending a regional conference on the transfer of environmental education in ASEAN universities as the representative of the Australian Universities International Development Program. The conference was jointly organised by UNESCO and the Regional Institute of Higher Education and Development and was held last August at the Universiti Pertanian Malaysia at Serdang.

At the conclusion of the conference he flew to Sabah to supervise a research project by two Monash graduate students, Laurentius Kitingan and Ian Hamer, who were carrying out agricultural and sociological studies for Master of Environmental Science degrees.

Mr Kitingan, an agricultural economist, comes from Sabah. While working on the project, Dr Ealey was invited by Mr Kitingan’s brother Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan and Ian Hamer, who were carrying out agricultural and sociological studies for Master of Environmental Science degrees. Mr Kitingan, an agricultural economist, comes from Sabah.

While working on the project, Dr Ealey was invited by Mr Kitingan’s brother Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan to assist him in environmental education. This is particularly true for the less able (average) students. On the other hand, 48 percent of those with A or B grades in General Maths at HSC were likely to pass Mathematical Methods, only 38 percent of those with a C passed, compared with 86 percent of those with a C in HSC Pure Maths.

Very few students with a General Maths background reached distinction level. Similar findings are reported from LaTrobe University, the University of Melbourne and Desakin University, but “Vinculum” points out in its editorial comment that, for several reasons, the data from these various university studies are not comparable.

Consequences

“The consequences of passing or failing a particular first level mathematics subject depend on the university and the faculty involved,” the editorial says, “but generally a failure leads to decreased choice of subjects, and consequently to a narrow range of careers.”

“It should be stressed, however, that there are many employment openings for anyone with any mathematics at year 12 or above,” it adds.

“Students should be encouraged to do any year 12 mathematics in preference to none, and schools should be encouraged to provide as many alternatives at that level as possible.”

Monash academic climbs Sabah mountain

Sub-Dean stresses need for mathematics

Students intending to study Science (particularly in the physical or mathematical sciences) should be encouraged to take two maths subjects at HSC level, according to Mr Neil Cameron, Sub-Dean of the faculty of Science.

Even at grade D level, Pure Maths and Applied Maths together form a better foundation than General Maths for mathematical studies at university, he says. Mr Cameron prepared for the conference on the transfer of environmental education in ASEAN universities by reading “Vinculum,” published by the Mathematical Association of Victoria.

“Those achieving A or B grades in General Mathematics are likely to cope, others not,” he writes. “If only one subject is taken it may be that the present Pure Mathematics, with the probability option, is more desirable than General Mathematics.”

Mr Cameron pointed out that at Monash nearly all students enrolling in Science study Mathematical Methods 101, which has approximately 60 percent calculus, 30 percent statistics and 10 percent computer programming.

He presented statistics averaged over the years 1979 and 1980 which showed that, while students who obtained a B or A in General Maths at HSC were likely to pass Mathematical Methods, only 38 percent of those with a C passed, compared with 86 percent of those with a C in HSC Pure Maths.

Only 33 percent of those who had received a D or less in HSC General Maths were able to pass, compared with 60 percent of those who had received a D in HSC Pure Maths.

General maths

Students who had studied General Maths at HSC level were at even greater disadvantage when they attempted maths at a deeper level.

Mr Cameron’s statistics show that only 66 percent of students with a C in HSC General Maths passed Math M101, for example, compared with 84 percent of students with a C in HSC Pure Maths.

No students with a D in HSC General Maths were successful in this subject. On the other hand, 48 percent of students with a D in HSC Pure Maths passed.

Very few students with a General Maths background reached distinction level. Similar findings are reported from LaTrobe University, the University of Melbourne and Desakin University, but “Vinculum” points out in its editorial comment that, for several reasons, the data from these various university studies are not comparable.

Accommodation

For those crossing the Tasman this summer, accommodation will be available over the long vacation in furnished student flats at the University of Waikato in Hamilton in the central North Island. These self-contained modern flats are fully equipped for occupation on motel principle, and available for two, three or four people for periods of three nights or longer.

Bookings must be made in advance and full details of charges and availability can be obtained from The Registrar, University of Waikato, Private Bag, Hamilton, NZ.
Canny tunes in Monash musical

From the "Procesional" for the visit of Her Majesty The Queen to "Bachelor Days" may seem something serious to light compositions with ease. But consider Margaret Scott can switch from serious to light compositions with ease.

She has recently written a dozen songs for 20-year-old Hans Davidson's comedy 'Weekend Affair', and will play the piano for the production in the English Drama Studio on October 7, 8 and 9 at 8 p.m.

Tim Scott and Philippa Adjemian share the romantic melodies, Peter Groves sings nostalgically of his vanished bachelor days, and Mimi Colligan, as a Portsea socialist, has most of the satirical pieces. First-year student Karen Brown plays the role of a French sociology graduate who arrives in Melbourne to do some unusual field research among the academic community - mainly at weekends.

Catty tunes, witty lyrics, and an original plot are the ingredients of the musical, which will be written by students for students and staff just before the tensions of examinations.

Tickets at $2, which includes refreshments, may be obtained from the English office, floor 7, Menzies Building.

Important dates

The Registrar advises the following important dates for students in October:
17: Third term ends.
22: Examination commence for Medicine
23: Annual examinations begin.
30: Term ends for Dip.Ed.
31: Closing date for applications for Commonwealth Postgraduate Research Scholarships.

Scholarships

The 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 3555.

ITT International Fellowships

For Master degree studies only, up to 21 months in USA. Benefits include fees, living and other allowances. Applications close in Canberra, October 31.

Australian Community Research Fellowships

For training in scientific research methods, including those of the social and behavioural sciences, which can be applied to clinical and community medicine. Tenable for two years overseas and one year in Australia. Benefits include fees, living allowance, ranging from $14,686 to $18,579 depending upon qualifications, travel expenses and other allowances.

C.J. Martin Research Fellowships

For Ph.D. graduates in medical or dental research. Tenable overseas for three years. Salary in lecturer—senior lecturer rank, with travel and other allowances. Applications close at Monash, October 25.

Frank Knox Fellowships 1982-83

Open to recent graduates who are British or Australian citizens. Tenable at Harvard University, renewable for two years, and available in most fields of study. The award includes tuition fees and a stipend of $15,000 p.a. Applications close with the Graduate Scholarships Officer on October 16.

Australian Medical Students' Association—Lilly Research Fellowships 1981-1982

Available to members of affiliated AMSA societies for research during medical or paramedical fields during long vacation or an elected term. Value: minimum grant $400. Closing date: October 18.

Monash Reporter

Photographic exhibition

A photographic exhibition of work by architectural firms needed for the project has shaped the changing face of architecture in Melbourne during the last decade will open at Monash on Monday, October 12.

The exhibition, titled "Seven in the Seventies", will aim to document the contribution of Kevin Borland, Cocks and Carmichael, Peter Cron, Edmond and Corrigan, Gunn Hayball, Darcy Jackson and Max May. It will be held in the Visual Arts exhibition gallery in the Humanities building until November 18.

The gallery has a policy of presenting one architectural exhibition a year. This one is seen as complementing the Visual Arts department's Modern Architecture course which this year included a series of lectures on post-modern architecture by Dr Conrad Hamann (see August Reporter).

Says gallery curator, Ms Jennifer Duncan: "Each of the architects has demonstrated through his work an interest in creating and propagating what could be called an indigenous architecture, an architecture consciously structured to the specific needs and demands of local living, an architecture in an Australian idiom."

The architects work in diverse styles and cannot be categorised neatly into any school of architectural thought. There is a link, however, to all but one of the firms. That is in RMTP where the architects have been either teachers or students in the Architecture faculty.

Clayton festival

Organisers of the Clayton Community Festival are anxious to hear from anyone or group on campus who would like to take part in this year's festival which will be held in Clayton Square, between the rail line and Centre Road, on October 17 and 18.

Festival organisers want buskers, clowns, entertainers, sports demonstrations — anything that will involve and entertain people. Last year 150,000 people attended the festival. This year attendance is expected to reach 200,000.

Festival highlights include gymnastic displays, sports activities, ethnic food, dancing, historical, art and craft displays, a talent show, competitions of all sorts to suit all ages and continuous entertainment by well-known artists and groups.

An attraction will be a spectacular "Mardi Gras" on the Saturday night (Oct. 17) which will feature surprise guest artists, fireworks, dancing, contests, music and prizes.

If you would like to take part, contact the Clayton Community Festival Organisers, Mr J. P. Ulbrick, Committee Rooms, 352 Clayton Road, Clayton, phone: 544 1373.

The exhibition will be opened by Mr Evan Walker, Shadow Minister for Conservation and Planning in the Victoria Parliament, himself an architect.
OCTOBER DIARY

The events listed below are open to the public. RHB is a-

Robert Blackwood Hall. There is a BASS public. 'RBH throughout stands for

ander Theatre .


10: MUSICAL - "Ruddigore" presented by Babirra Players. 8 p.m. Admission: adults $3.50; students and pensioners $3; children $2.50. Bookings: 555 3269. Performances also October 28-31, November 3-7. Admission on final night all $5.50.

11: SATURDAY CLUB (Blue Series, 8-13 year-olds) "Balloon". Alex. Theatre. 2.30 p.m. Admission: adults $4; children $3.


14: SUNDAY AFTERNOON CONCERT - "The Eighty Five Percussion Ensemble, dir. by Gordon Webb, courting the Melbourne Symphony College of the Arts. 2.30 p.m. RBH. Admission free.


16: SEMINAR - "Production and Materials Planning for Seasonal Demand", pres. by department of Economics and Operations Research. 9 a.m. Fee: $0. Inquiries, reservations: Mrs. D. Jones, ext. 2641.


24: SATURDAY CLUB (Blue Series, 8-13 year-olds) "Balloon". Alex. Theatre. 2.30 p.m. Admission: adults $4; children $3.


30: SATURDAY CLUB (Red Series, 5-8 year-olds) "High Rise Donkey". 2.30 p.m. Alex. Theatre. Admission: adults $4; children $3.

Drama review

A Lesson Subtle and Intensley Moving

Lessons are notoriously boring, and people are more so when masquerading as plays.

Fortunately, Athol Fugard's play, A Lesson from Aloe, which was recently presented at the Alexander Theatre, is far removed from the land of didactic drama one might have expected from a piece set in South Africa in 1963.

Although the play obviously deals with the effect of apartheid, and resistance to it, Fugard concentrates his attention on the personal lives of three people who crack under the strain. It is a subtle, intensely moving, play which the talented actors make utterly convincing.

The three people react in very different ways to the police persecution they suffer. The wife becomes neurotic, pathetic, spiteful, clear-sighted, resigned ... Her many moods, and changes of outlook, were portrayed with heart-rending sensitivity by Olive Bodill, who must surely be one of the most gifted actresses now in Australia.

Phillip Hinton's creation of the ebullient 'Coloured' man, so crushed that he has to flee to England, was a magnificent contrast - funny and sad by turns. It was a great performance.

In a sense Anthony Wheeler had the most difficult role. The other two parts offered the opportunity for startling dramatic expression. The husband, on the other hand, had responded to the atmosphere of fear and defeat by taking refuge in his little book of famous quotations and rearing aloes. At first, Anthony Wheeler's slow, deliberate speech seemed artificial, until one realised that it was the character's way of escaping the hysteria of the wife and the anger of the world.

Finally, the husband seemed more a tragic figure than the other two, because his apparent stoic serenity was only a desperate device to help him survive. At one point he recognises this, and speaks bitterly of having done nothing but talk about operations. But the same line is no indication that future opposition to the state will take the form of violent action.

The aloes, which can adapt themselves in order to survive, thus become another symbol. When they then produce a species resembling a spruce-leafed, with a crimson blossom. "The aloes brandish their blood-red spears" (as I once wrote in a poem about South Africa) and it looks as though Fugard has a dark foreboding of future violence.

The Alexander Theatre is to be congratulated on presenting such a great play with such modest means and players. But surely it deserves a subsidy which would allow it to lower its prices?

... Dennis Davison

Department of English

... well, requesting ... well, asking if you could possibly consider if you're not doing anything more important like straightening your paperclips, please ... oh yeah, could we have a retraction.

You're in What Might Be Approaching Sincerey.

Rod Taylor

Acting self-appointed president

David Smith

Acting self-appointed secretary

The question remains: What happened for those 15 minutes?

... well print a retraction - well maybe we're just the teeniest bit sorry.

... we have not read the article...

REPORT OF DEPARTMENTAL MEETING HELD ON JUNE 1981.

Present: The Chairman (Professor A. P. Reid)

Apologies: Mr. B. Mr. C. Dr. D. Mrs. E, Ms. F. Mrs. G. (Secretary) was in attendance.

There is nothing to report.

There being no internal business and no matters referred from Faculty Board, there was no agenda.

There was also no quorum.

At 15 minutes the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

As to the secretary's illiteracy, there is no agenda.

One of the more curious admissions is that the AFI's business today is far removed from the land of didactic drama one might have expected from a piece set in South Africa in 1963.

Although the play obviously deals with the effect of apartheid, and resistance to it, Fugard concentrates his attention on the personal lives of three people who crack under the strain. It is a subtle, intensely moving, play which the talented actors make utterly convincing.

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Department of English

Odds and Ends

FOLLOWING THE Odds and Ends paragraph last issue about some Thomases on campus were beginning to question whether it was National Proctoring Day, as promised in Daily News and then postponed until further notice, was a non-starter, the following communication from the Apothecary Proctorsinators Club arrived, addressed - in a half-hearted sort of way - to the editor:

Dear Sir/Madam/Or any intermediate of the above;

We have been and will continue to intend to, perhaps, be, to a certain extent, partially outward, or part thereof, at the slanderous lies, or at least the Pacmans (sorry) thereof which you referred, to whit, or at least half a whit, the alleged National Proctoring Day, for lack of a better...

We have not read the article which this but this matter referred to us at least mentioned in passing by several people who may or may not know someone who had intentions of reading the article of which we are thinking of referring to if ever we look at it...

Further to this serious, or at least semi-serious, discussions have left us wondering whether or not we should be...

AFTER THE conventional, lazy, and sometimes indigible tomes which constitute the minutes of meetings of all the various departments, committees, sub-committees, boards, and the like, it was rather refreshing to come across the following bite-size departmental report. Only the names have been changed to protect the innocent (guilty?)

... well print a retraction - well maybe we're just the teeniest bit sorry.

Borrowers who, in filling out a Credit Union payroll deduction authority, feel that they are signing their life away, might be a little bit closer to despair if their eagle eyes pick up a slip - quite Freudian - on the Chairman.

In the event of termination of employment, the borrower authorises the payment of any money owing a sum equal to "the total of my indebtedness to the Credit Union".

...