

Rhodeo

STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF RHODES UNIVERSITY

Vol. 25 No. 3

GRAHAMSTOWN, THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1971

Price 5 cents

Onward to victory!

IN SEPTEMBER last year, when the present SRC came into office, RHODEO expressed doubt as to whether John Whitehead would be able to provide the leadership his position demanded.

As events over this past week have proved, we were wrong. Whitehead has shown himself not only to be a capable student leader, but has illustrated beyond all doubt that he is not afraid to enter into a position of confrontation with an outdated administration.

In the past we have criticised the SRC — often severely — for what we have considered to be neglect and failure. This we shall continue to do where necessary, for we believe that a vital and unfettered press must be watchful of administrative weaknesses and political shortcomings.

But we believe that the events of the past fortnight deserve none but the highest praise. Of course, there have been tactical errors. Of course, there have been opportunities lost. But the fact remains that Whitehead and his Council have provided a fine example to South African student leaders.

Rhodes is the only university in the country that has successfully cancelled an intervarsity poked by racialism. It is the only White university that has waged a campaign against totalitarian authoritarianism with stubborn and courageous resolve — and scented victory.

Perhaps there is one major lesson to be learnt from all these events. Students, if they are prepared to assert their rights and demand what is theirs through responsible and well-considered action, HAVE POWER.

Power is as power does. We have power because our cause is a right and just one. We have power because our determination to build a better university and a better society is stronger than their determination to maintain an antediluvian parody of learning and a rotten society.

South African students are, at long last, realising their potential and beginning to appreciate that, to a large and growing extent, much of the impetus for change in our insane society lies in their hands. Let us therefore press on until we can cry, in the words of the old Negro spiritual: "We're free at last, we're free at last. Thank God Almighty, we're free at last!"

THE EDITOR.

The battle is not yet won

BY JOHN GROGAN

The echoes of jubilation which greeted John Whitehead's announcement of the students' "victory" over the senate last Friday are slowly fading before the chill reality that this victory may in fact have been in the reverse.

Already a sizeable number of students are beginning to wonder whether their elation was justified. What exactly, they are wondering, have they gained?

The position was quite clear when the SRC took its radical "no compromise" stand when it first proposed the civil disobedience campaign two weeks ago. Twenty-two reasonable proposals for administrative reform were placed before the administration with the demand that either it complied or students would simply begin living as if the SRC's proposals had been accepted anyway.

In the original mass consensus, it was a case of all or nothing. Carried forward by an unprecedented emotional momentum, the students responded heroically to their cause.

But by Friday, there were visible waverings. Certain people, particularly girls, were beginning to have their doubts in the validity of Mr. Whitehead's assurance that their fines simply did not exist.

This undeniable fact can hardly but prompt speculations as to how long the disobedience campaign could have gone on.

EXPENSES

Faced with the threat of incurring vast expenses for their parents, and with the icy authoritarian front presented by the bureaucracy, it would have been in accord with the most basic psychological principle if students ultimately lost interest.

Everybody agreed about the danger of a let-up. The chance of reform, endless speakers reiterated would be gone forever.

And then, to everybody's relief, came the chance for compromise.

About nine hundred students were beside themselves with elation when Dr. Hyslop's announcement that a committee would be formed to consider the students' proposed reforms was read out to them by Mr. Whitehead.

The subsidiary points of the "possible" amnesty from all fines and that girls should be allowed out until 12 o'clock was met with even wilder abandon.

And then came the irony: the workings of the senate having ground their unruffled course, Dr. Hyslop announced that the situation was exactly as it was before the rumpus began. And worse still, he made the fact clear in the national Press.

Perhaps nobody considered that to cheer over the annulment of fines was a contradiction in terms — since, in Mr. Whitehead's words, they never existed anyway.

RETROSPECT

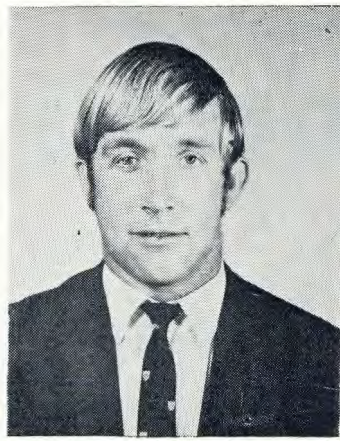
Perhaps it will be in order to suggest in more sober retrospect that the jubilation expressed on Friday night was exactly what the Senate intended — to knock the wind out of our rebellious sails.

This should not be taken as a criticism of Mr. Whitehead's acceptance of the senate's "backdown" and his calling off of a protest which would have petered out anyway.

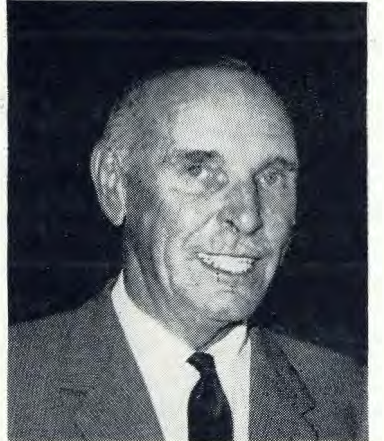
All that must be stressed at this point is that the ardour for reform must not be allowed to wear off — and that the committee's actions must be subjected to the most critical scrutiny.

The inkling of reform which has come out of last week's protest must not be taken as a categorical assurance for the future.

The wool must not be pulled over our eyes to the extent we do not recognise that some similar action may have to be resorted to in the next few weeks.



● The Victor . . .



● and the Vanquished.

CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS, CLAIMS WHITEHEAD

The President of the SRC Mr. John Whitehead, says the recent civil disobedience campaign has been a success in that problems of communication between students and administration had been solved.

In a statement issued to Rhodeo, Mr. Whitehead said: "Our campaign was a success. As students we indicated the problem and senate solved it."

"There is no question of a 'victory' or 'defeat' on either side. Communication has been re-established and Rhodes can only benefit from the situation of mutual co-operation and trust between the different strata of our university community."

Many students are, however, still worried over the question of fines accrued during the campaign — which were estimated to have reached a grand total of R20 000.

It is understood that a strong staff pressure group is calling for the enforcement of payment — as they feel the reprieves would "lead to a breakdown in university discipline."

A packed hall of students and some staff members greeted with jubilation last Friday Mr. Whitehead's announcement that senate had agreed to a committee to investigate the students' reform proposals.

As students will be represented on the committee, and because of other factors in its composition, the students felt that this was a major breakthrough in communication, and that a real chance for reform was in sight.

A large number of students feel, however, that the SRC's acceptance of the senate's finding was a "compromise which could jeopardise any further chance of student pressure."

There were signs that by Friday the resolve of many of the students was beginning to wilt in the face of parental pressure and the threat of fines.

In that sense, Mr. Whitehead's proposal to call off the protest campaign has been considered tactical and opportune.

Mr. Whitehead was carried shoulder high about the Great Hall stage after he had announced the senate communication.

New paper for campus

TODAY WE CAN REVEAL that a new student newspaper is to be published on the campus within the next few weeks. This newspaper, which will bear the name "The Grahamstown Gutter" is to be modelled along the lines of several contemporary American and European underground newspapers.

The group of students who will be producing the weekly newspaper do not wish to have their names disclosed at this stage. They told RHODEO last week that it is their eventual aim to turn "The Gutter" into a national student newspaper, "communicating and articulating the excitement of today's dissident youth."

When asked about the financing of the new publication the students concerned refused to comment, replying only that "capital was at hand."

GRAHAM HOTEL

for all your
Liquor Requirements

Pop into La Fontana
some night



RHODEO

MAY 13, 1971

Drug Bill atrocious

THE "Abuse of Dependence-Producing Substances and Rehabilitation Centres Bill" now commonly known as the "Drug Bill" is probably the most atrocious piece of legislation ever to be presented before Parliament. Atrocious not in the sense that it is a badly prepared or slipshod document (indeed it is a very thorough document), but atrocious in the sense that it has absolutely no regard for legal concepts such as the Rule of Law and certainly no understanding of the problem which it tries to combat.

Provisions such as the power of any police officer (including security police in terms of the definitions clause) to arrest drug offenders without a warrant; the power of the police to detain suspected witnesses of any contravention until he has "satisfactorily replied to all questions"; the power of the Minister of Social Welfare and Pensions to deport non-citizens who have contravened certain sections of the act; the onus on the accused to prove his innocence; the imposition of a criminal sentence on those who do not "rat" upon those whom they know to be contravening the provisions of the Act; all these and many more are inevitable extensions of the terrifying legislation that already mars our statute books. One wonders where it is all going to end.

From the first to the last page, the Bill smacks of a "kragdadigheid" that has long since reached and passed the borders of sanity. The neurotic preoccupation of the Department of Justice with the "Permissive Society" and the "Communist behind every bush" has now spread to the Department of Social Welfare and Pensions. To assert as Dr. Connie Mulder does that the drug problem is a matter over which "we might very well before long be fighting for our very existence" is emotional claptrap.

It is about time that this Government realised that laws are meant for people, not machines. This Bill will affect and possibly ruin the lives of many young people. People who are genuinely searching for a new set of values, who are trying to break away from the vicious society in which they find themselves.

Even presuming that marijuana, for example, is in itself a problem, (which is a highly debatable point) it is a socio-medical and not a socio-legal problem. Addicts need treatment, not elongated jail sentences — just as do alcoholics incidentally. The problem, certainly as far as marijuana is concerned (the Act makes no distinction between grass and the "hard" drugs) is not its use but its misuse. The problem is one of exploitation of youth by pushers who are motivated by gain (as are most capitalists).

By all means clamp down on exploitation; by all means set up centres for the treatment of "problem" cases. However, turning young people into hardened criminals and classing them in the same category as rapists, murderers and robbers will do more harm than good. Forcing people to become informers on their fellows will have similar results.

We, as students and a large part of the South African youth cannot afford to allow this legislation to be passed without at least expressing our strongest condemnation of its inevitable consequences and implications.

THE LEARNING MACHINE

BY MIMI KEET

THERE SEEMS TO BE a widespread belief that the university is an institution of higher learning. A more penetrating look soon dispels this delusion, revealing it to be no more than an educational machine, a processing and packing plant in which education is no longer an end in itself but is relegated to the means of acquiring a certain commodity of great market value — namely a degree. This degree factory functions in such a way that any natural curiosity is soon stifled by rigid curricula, an archaic lecture system and the ogre of exams. The institution of higher learning becomes a mere parody.

At the core of this repressive system is an academic hierarchy based on authoritarianism and institutionalised power. Those most resistant to fundamental changes in our educational system are the incumbent professors, those who have "made it" in the system, who have vested interests in it and oppose changes in it because they, after all, are its products. Protected for life by the security of their tenure, they can happily ignore such questions as: are the students satisfied? are curricula relevant to our changing society? are there channels available for students to express their needs and desires?

POWER

A professor cannot set or mark an exam paper on any basis other than what he considers important in a course and therefore all exams are premised on the assumption that a professor is not only the best but the only interpreter of what is relevant to a course. Which drives home the point that power lies in the hands of the examiners. The exam is taken and the trial is over — prosecution, defence and judgment are now in the hands of the examiner, his own personal predispositions, prejudices and mood notwithstanding. His verdict is conclusive and there is no court of appeal. When the results are posted on the board it is quite clear where the power lies and what exams are

the control centre of the whole system.

POTENT WEAPON

The grade is a potent weapon in the hands of teaching staff. In the classrooms the lecturer's control is paramount. He can quieten whispers with a murderous glance, crush critics with erudition and heavy irony; and then, armed with The Grade, he can impose upon subjugated students any number of tests and exams, those grotesque memory orgies which allow those at the top to impose arbitrary standards of educational achievement on people whose only crime has been to seek knowledge.

The truth is that very little educating actually takes place in our universities. Training or programming would more accurately describe the force-feeding of third-hand information which passes for teaching in many faculties, followed each fearful November by the reverse process: the extraction of that information, so that the student may well, like Rosenzanz, ask: "Take me for a sponge my lord?" to which Hamlet replies: "Ay sir, that soaks up the king's countenance, his rewards his authorities . . . it's but squeezing you and sponge, you shall be dry again."

ACCEPTANCE

The most depressing part of our authoritarian education is

that we sit back and take it. Having had good training in following orders during twelve years at school, students come to the point where they accept things by reason of the authority behind them. How about the lecturer who rants that he will not tolerate smoking in his classroom, and by God, nobody smokes!

What is urgently required is democratisation of the system — student participation of higher decision-making bodies such as Faculty Boards; the extensive use of student assessment and opinion in restructuring courses and curricula; the introduction of course and lecturer evaluation questionnaires, not, of course, intended to be conclusive, but to give staff a channel for constructive feedback.

EXAMS

Further, the basis of final assessment must be drastically broadened. The traditional time-test exam does serve a purpose but it must be supplemented by marks for projects essays, seminars, tutorial papers (psychology does, Social Anthropology does, African History does, and several others — but what about the rest?). This counters the accusation that those who criticise exams are simply too lazy to get down and swot. Rubbish! More work, more individual original study, more opportunity for the expression of individual thought can only make our degrees more meaningful. The fact is that at present, spotting, cramming and luck make it far too easy to pass — what do our degrees mean other than that one summer this person successfully endured an absurd thirty-hour marathon in the Jameson Hall?

SOLUTIONS

The problem is clear, the solutions clearer, the means student power. When students are given an effective voice, and when students recognise their community that prostituted word "education" will have some real meaning. How long will an unpopular course continue if people simply refuse to attend it? How long will a boring, third-rate ill-researched lecturer retain his post if students boycott his lectures? What of junior lecturers? Don't they have criticisms to voice, in their position of potential authority and influence?

As with so many other things, our education system is a painful reflection of the society in which it exists. It induces an acceptance of arbitrary authority, in tune with a society which needs to endorse hierarchy in all spheres because it is itself based on privilege and inequality.



"OK, men, it's only tobacco — we're just making a routine check, sir!"

U.S.A.—Oliphant (Denver Post)

THE NON-INTER VARSITY

ALMOST EXACTLY a year after last year's controversy surrounding Miss Ava Junkin's withdrawal from the Rag Queen contest, the Rhodes campus has again been plunged into confusion surrounding the cancellation of last week's Inter-varsity.

The subject of Chinese participation in the social functions at the intervarsity was first raised in a report in "The Sunday Times" of April 25. The report stated that Chinese students, though allowed to take part in the sports at the Inter-varsity which was to take place in Port Elizabeth, had been banned from attending the Ball in the evening, or any other social function, by the Council of U.P.E.

REACTION

First reaction from Rhodes was by Barry Brinton, the SRC Vice-President who commented that the SRC had been informed by the Rhodes Intervarsity Committee of the U.P.E. Council's decision. He said the SRC and the Inter-varsity Committee would urge students participating in the sports not to attend social functions unless they were all allowed to attend.

At the same time Dr. James Hyslop stated that it was up to each individual to decide whether to attend or boycott social functions associated with the Intervarsity sports. In a surprisingly cautious and non-committal statement, he is reported to have said that despite the ban, it was gratifying to learn the U.P.E. was allowing Chinese students to participate in the sporting events without any restriction.

When the Intervarsity sports were first discussed in March, he said no Chinese students were involved. It was only recently that U.P.E. had decided to field a basketball team. For many years, Chinese students had formed the backbone of the Rhodes Basketball Team.

At a Student Body Meeting at Rhodes on April 19, a packed meeting voted that the Inter-varsity be completely boycotted by all Rhodes participants and spectators — thus extending the SRC's call on the preceding Tuesday night for a boycott only of social events.

The amendment to the SRC resolution was proposed by the SRC President, John Whitehead, who had returned from a Nusas seminar in Natal specially to attend the meeting. He told the meeting that a compromise would be impossible without introducing racial overtones into the Rhodes context. "What is suggested by the U.P.E. Council is an insult to 1 900 students at this University," he said. "It would be hypocritical to accept competition without hospitality, or vice-versa. By totally rejecting this Inter-varsity we call on those 20 men of the U.P.E. Council to question their distorted un-Christian viewpoint."

One of the few students who spoke against Whitehead's amendment was Larry Pow Chong, Chairman of the Chinese Society. He said the Chinese were for a long time banned from playing sport against Whites. The Inter-varsity Committee fought for the right of the Chinese to participate and he asked whether it was right to shun the advance made by the Intervarsity Committee.

Whitehead answered that he had spoken to five Chinese Society executive members and

they all understood his point of view. Whitehead said that in the ban on Chinese he, as a student, was losing out.

The next day, the Chairman of the Rhodes Sports Union, Mr. D. Coghlan, stated the Union and the Intervarsity Committee had decided to continue with sporting events in the Intervarsity.

The Sports Union statement said it recognised the right of any student to withdraw from an intervarsity team, but felt it best to fulfill sporting fixtures and refrain from participating in the social events.

In this way Chinese students would not be prevented from taking advantage of an opportunity to compete, but opposition to the ban on them at social functions would be clearly demonstrated. Individuals could attend the social functions if they wished to, he said.

Mr. Coghlan's statement was regarded by many students as a direct affront to the student body which had, by a vote at a mass meeting, resolved against participation in the Intervarsity.

Mr. Coghlan stated that "one or two" individuals had indicated that they did not wish to be included in teams, although by this stage table-tennis, bridge and chess teams had all withdrawn.

The situation created by Coghlan has thrown some interesting reflections upon the constitution of the Sports Union. This body has its own constitution and is answerable to the University Senate and Council alone. The positions of Chairman Vice-Chairman and Treasurer of the Union can be occupied by staff members only. With the Secretary and Assistant Secretary, who are students, and the Sports Officer — another member of staff — they form the executive committee of the Sports Union.

The decision to go ahead with total boycott of the intervarsity sporting fixtures against U.P.E. was taken by this executive committee.

This presents the strange situation whereby a small committee of predominantly staff members is virtually able to determine the policy regarding student sporting affairs.

On the same day, Mr. Fanie Both, Public Relations officer, at U.P.E., announced the Council's decision was final and he foresaw no possibility of it being reviewed.

"The University of Port Elizabeth has established itself in sport and the Chinese position will not hamper the intervarsity," he said.

He said also that "this thing" (the Chinese question) had "not bothered" students at U.P.E.

At the same time, Deon Vlok, SRC President of U.P.E., announced that after a two-hour discussion "behind closed doors" with their principal, Professor E. J. Marais, they would support the ban.

"The principal disclosed certain information to us, in the light of which we decided to support the council's ruling," he said.

This statement angered many U.P.E. students who began circulating a petition calling on their SRC to oppose the council.

"This is nonsense. Why is there so much mystery and behind the door discussion. Is there some kind of secret society running this university?" asked one third-year student.

And then on Friday, May 1, an urgent meeting of all Rhodes competitors in the Intervarsity was called. All but eleven of the sportsmen concerned voted for a total boycott of the inter-varsity and withdrew officially from the events.

... We are not impressed by the statement from the Vice-Chancellor of Rhodes, Dr. J. M. Hyslop, that in spite of the ban on "Chinese" students from social functions it is gratifying to learn that the Port Elizabeth outfit is "permitting" these students to "take part in sporting events on campus without any restrictions".

This statement is also, albeit unintentionally, an insult to the "Chinese" students. What is there to be "gratified" about? And who, in heaven's name, are these Port Elizabeth people to bestow gratifying favours on these students on such irrelevant grounds as race?

Dr. Hyslop is a kindly man, and no doubt he believes this situation is best handled with circumspection and tact, and this, moreover, in the interests of the "Chinese" students themselves.

But he is wrong. And anyone is wrong who compromises, no matter how kindly his intentions, with this sort of racism.

Daily Dispatch (Editorial Comment). April 26, 1971.

Rhodeo News Staff

Two interesting points arise out of this lunch-hour meeting.

The first is that Mr. Coghlan is believed to have stated that if players decided to call off the official Intervarsity altogether, the Sports Union would not give financial support to individual teams wishing to play. Why?

The second point is contained in a statement issued by the executive committee of the Union after the meeting, stating that "these decisions were taken in the light of conditions laid down for the conduct of Intervarsity by the UPE Council, which excluded certain Rhodes students from participating."

This is in direct contradiction to a later statement from the UPE Council itself which claimed that the Intervarsity arrangements were made mutually between the two Universities. Was Mr. Coghlan unaware of this "mutual agreement"? Surely, as Chairman of the Sports Union, he could not have been.

That same weekend, the executive committee of U.P.E. Council appointed a special committee to investigate events leading up to the cancellation of Intervarsity.

A statement issued by the executive committee said U.P.E.'s Council had not formulated a

new policy in respect of the 1971 Intervarsity between Rhodes and U.P.E. but had "merely continued the mutual agreement arrived at in 1969 on the arrangement for Intervarsity between the two universities for the year."

"Rhodes accepted this agreement and all Intervarsity events came off well and in good spirit."

"In view of the present negotiations between the Government and the committee of university principals of which all university principals are aware, regarding Intervarsity sport, the Council of U.P.E. thought it wise to re-affirm the existing mutual agreement between the universities for 1971 on a high university level."

"The mutual agreement was reaffirmed by telephone on March 26 and followed up by written confirmation."

This seems to imply that not only had Dr. Hyslop known about the ban for some considerable time, before it came public knowledge, but that he had seen fit to remain silent about it, and had actually agreed to it.

Many Rhodes students feel that somewhere in the Rhodes sports locker there is a skeleton. The Rhodes authorities seem as guilty in this act of racial discrimination as the Rhodes authorities.

S.A.'s Chinese position

THE CANCELLATION of last week's intervarsity against the University of Port Elizabeth has served to highlight yet again the position of South Africa's Chinese community. RHODEO staff reporters have prepared the following report on their position:

According to the Minister of Statistics, there are estimated to be about 8 300 Chinese people in South Africa; 4 900 of them in the Transvaal, 3 260 in the Cape and 140 in Natal. Possibly more than one-third of them live in Johannesburg, the next highest concentration being in Port Elizabeth. It is reported that a number of the younger, best educated members of the community, perhaps about 300, have in recent years emigrated to Canada and other countries.

STATUS

The status of the community has been anomalous. In general, they use white transport, patronise white cinemas and restaurants, may be treated in white hospitals, and with official permission may attend white church schools. They are debarred from provincial and government trade schools. The "open" universities accept them: According to the Registrars concerned, there were 239 Chinese students at the Universities of the Witwatersrand, Rhodes, Cape Town and Natal in mid-1970.

In most parts of the country it has been customary for Chinese people to take part in sporting activities together with whites.

During the first half of 1970, however, apparently as the result of complaints made by certain whites, officials of the Department of Community Development

debarred Chinese people from joining whites in ice-skating and playing billiards and putt-putt in Port Elizabeth, and from participating in basket ball league matches there. A Chinese girl was ordered to withdraw from a school tennis tournament in Aliwal North and a Chinese student at Rhodes felt compelled to withdraw from the rag queen competition. Intervarsity weightlifting championships that were to have been held at the University of the Orange Free State were cancelled after that University refused to accept a team from the University of the Witwatersrand that included two Chinese students one of them the reigning intervarsity champion.

VISA

It was reported that a tour by a Rhodesian university rugby team was called off because an official indicated that a Chinese member of the team would not be granted a visa.

In the House of Assembly on July 22 last year, the Minister of Community Development reiterated a statement that had been made in the Senate by the then Minister of the Interior about five years previously. The Chinese, he said "are a separate population group with an identity of their own, and it is the aim of the Government to establish those facilities of their own for them to use... However, owing to the fact that they comprise such a small group and the fact that they are distributed throughout the country, it has not been possible and it is impractical to provide separate facilities for them everywhere. As a result of this it has happened that they

have used some of the facilities of other major population groups, including the white group, where this is permitted by the community. This direction seems the proper one to follow." He intended dealing with each case on an ad hoc basis and on its merits, the Minister declared.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS

He made a further statement on August 19 to the effect that blanket exemptions would be granted to Chinese people, throughout the country, allowing them to take part together with whites in sporting and social gatherings. Where Chinese and white people had been mixing amicably in the past the situation would remain unchanged. He would deal personally with any problems that arose, the Minister said, and would take no notice of "crackpot objectors and isolated trouble makers."

All in all, there is little doubt that in all the history of human and race relations, there have been few minority groups more confounded and degraded than South Africa's Chinese people.

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OUR CHANGING SOCIETY

Cecil John



MY DEAR PENNILESS MARTYRS... if I said you were a fine bunch, would you believe me? Having now delivered my hysterical punch-line, I shall proceed to give you a brief review of the events leading up to my recently-amassed fortune (certain members of the administration — pardon the rude word — having promised me a certain amount of cash if I wore a certain article of clothing over a certain length of time). You didn't really think the silly bum who writes this column would wax all sanctimonious and full of hal-lalujah if he could get in a dig at all the rebels, did you?

It's amazing how changes suddenly take place overnight; a little while ago Pete Clarke was taken for granted to be Rose Murray's boyfriend, while now Rose is thought of as Pete's girlfriend; perhaps I can cite another case of the Great Rhodes Status-Change Phenomenon now that the Grate Roads Revulsion is at an end (almost) it seems that John Whitehead will no longer merely be Cheryl Madely's boyfriend, but by being SRC President, will take his rightful place in a society where Cheryl Madely will simply be his girlfriend (just the way he behaves at home). Full credit to the little woman, though, for the tireless, tiring support she gave.

At least, I think John is SRC President. The way this year's SRC has been losing members as rapidly as it's been gaining them, in the interval between my writing this and your reading it (if you're really sure you've got nothing else to do) some kind of a fellow student may have carried out his threat of trying a new way (at least, trying a new way of fiddling the open channels is what I presume he meant... and this could be construed as a plot to take over the presidency — for what it's worth) and after all, why not? ... they've had Tocs as President before.

Naturally, there are theories as to who has been behind all the rebellion malcontent, mayhem, mishap etc (and fining); some of these hypotheses bear repeating, to show how rumour can spread alarmingly; so if you haven't done Psycho 1 or haven't heard any rumours at all this last little while, then might I suggest that you read mark learn and inwardly digest the following theories, in order to place a true perspective on the whole affair.

Believe it or not, people have said that it was all a put-up job by the administration, so that

of the Fatherland; Clive, to those who know him, is so happy with the status quo (one only has to look at his Cortina GeTjorr to realise his dedication to the cause of the Silent Majority — despite the fact that there's no Lemoensap plastic orange on his aerial — or noisy exhaust system) that, when I mentioned the idea to him, he laughed insanely and went back to sowing a star onto his cap.

To emphasise my point, take another example — that of some bright spark who claimed that he had first hand information that there was a race between the administration and John Whitewash to see who could use up more duplicating paper in a set period of time, with the winner being awarded 50 000 Rand; and that when the administration lost, they had to find a sum of money corresponding to said amount by hook or by crook or by fine; John Whitewash, so keen was he to get his prize, set his Stud Bod to the task, and managed the lot in 3 days (hence the expression, "three days, man") I wouldn't believe this theory if I were you; especially since some freaky kind of guy called Barry Brinblik told me this story, and it seems that he's got this kind of paranoia about being a Vice Pres.

But there, my little children; I suppose you ought to be told the truth so that you can get back to your Rugby, your pot, your pianos, your beer and your sex with a rested mind, sure in your own minds as to why the SRC played their parts so convincingly, and why everything stopped when it did.

The truth of the matter is that I was behind it all, because I desperately needed some material for my weekly funnies, and in order to crack a few jokes at your expense and that of my attorney. Love and kisses, all you blerrie betogers.



"Better make it 23; I often pick my nose at home."

Contributions to Forum increasing

THE editors of FORUM have pointed out that a publication such as FORUM must include both the sublime and the ridiculous in student writing, and this is indeed the case in the publication. Yet it is extremely encouraging that there has been a great increase in contributors from the most diverse sections of the student body. Staff members have also made interesting contributions.

The regular contributors helped to maintain a fairly high standard amidst a forest of metaphorical mediocrity (which may be regarded as a type of literary puberty through which everyone must pass. Many poets appear to be under some sort of obligation to traditional forms and imagery, which in many cases are adornments instead of integral parts of the poems.

However, as the editorial states "There appears to be a genuine desire among student writers to find new mediums of expression; and new mediums, though often gimmicky, are vital if one hopes to keep a language alive." Unfortunately some articles have also suffered under the South African code of censorship; which is defined by a body who lack the artistic sensitivity to distinguish between the aesthetic and the pornographic.

The most notable type of poetic licence is the arrangement of prose writing into a "poetic" verse form. Some poems abound in hackneyed metaphor and stale use of personification. Other writers copy and create elaborate forms to say nothing, and simplicity is often used to vehicle "truth," and as an attempted raid on the inarticulate prove dismal failures.


However there is much of considerable artistic merit, and the critics will refrain from personalising their superficial and supercilious comments.

P.C.

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- Photographers

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TYPING — cheapest rates in town for all student typing jobs. Contact Mrs. Iona Baselga — phone 2670.

THE CATHOLIC CLUB is having their Annual Academic Mass on Sunday. Students are asked to wear gowns. On Thursday mass will be held in the UCM Hut at 5.30, and afterwards a discussion group at Fr. Edmonstone's residence. These functions are open to all staff and students every week.

RHODES UNIVERSITY Flying Club Flies Piper Cherokees 140. Would you like a FREE Flying Lesson? Watch your hall notice board for further details. Join in the Flying fun. Join the Flying Club. Further details from Room 41, Physics Department.

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TAKE A BREAK from the humdrum: Join a NUSED tour. Information and applications from Michael Morris, SRC Offices.

AISEC congress in P.E.

THE AISEC National Congress will be opened by Dr Franz Cronje, Chairman of the Netherlands Bank, on Monday June 28 in Port Elizabeth.

The Congress which bears the theme "South Africa, 2000," will last a week and will be held at the University of Port Elizabeth.

Among the guest speakers will be Mr. Raymond Ackerman of the "Pick 'n Pay chain stores, Dr. S. Biesheuvel of S.A. Breweries and Dr. A. P. Wasenaau of Sanlam, Professor Robert Houghton, director of the Rhodes University Institute of Social and Economic Research, will also be among the guest speakers.

During the course of the congress, delegates will visit automobile and other factories in Uitenhage and Port Elizabeth.

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Printed by East London Daily Dispatch (Pty) Ltd on behalf of the Students' Representative Council who publish at the Students' Union, Rhodes University, Grahamstown

The Arab Refugees-

THE 15th May, 1948 saw the invasion of the newly born State of Israel by the armies of seven Arab countries, producing as has every modern war, a refugee problem. In this particular case the problem was a bilateral one, with almost as many Jews being displaced as Arabs. The Jewish refugees were effectively resettled in Israel, in marked contrast to the "resettlement" of the Arab refugees who were housed in refugee camps which remained 20 years later, after the Six Day War, and which were, in the words of a visiting journalist, "... pitiful excrescences on the Palestine landscape, the stench of dirt and stale urine rising from their dusty streets."

The bilateral refugee problem that arose through the creation of India and Pakistan, which was settled when both new states resettled millions of their refugees, did not, I submit have similar consequences because the Indians and Pakistanis did not display the same callousness toward their own flesh and blood as did the Arabs.

Announcements

Many Arabs fled under the encouragement of their leaders, promising a speedy return. An eye witness account, published in the London *Economist*, October 2nd, 1948, gives the following explanation for the flight. There is but little doubt that the most potent of these factors were the announcements made over the air by the Arab Higher Executive, urging all Arabs in Haifa to quit. The reason given was that upon the final withdrawal of the British the combined armies of the Arab States would invade Palestine and drive the Jews into the Sea ... The Jordan daily, "Al Urdun," April 9th 1953, gives us an impression of the Arab leadership's methods: "For the flight and fall of the other villages, it is our leaders who are responsible because of their dissemination of rumours exaggerating Jewish crime and describing them as atrocities in order to inflame the Arabs ..."

Atrocities

By spreading rumours of Jewish atrocities killings of women and children, etc, they instilled fear and terror in the

A Pawn in the Arab Political Arena

by Bruce Maisels

hearts of the Arabs in Palestine until they fled ... On the other hand the attempts, by the Israelis, to dissuade the Arabs from fleeing are underlined by the British Chief of Police in Haifa, A. J. Bridmead, who wrote on April 26, 1948: "Every effort is being made by Jews to persuade the Arab populace to stay and carry on with their normal lives."

In their diplomatic and propaganda war against Israel, the Arabs show an amazing callousness toward their brethren: Whilst condemning the conditions in the camps, now in Israeli held territory, they did nothing to alleviate the position in a practical sense. Such machinations ensure that the political leverage over Israel provided by this pawn in the Arab strategy, is not lost. In the words of Ralph Galloway, a past head of the U.N. Relief in Jordan: "The Arab States do not want to solve the refugee problem. They want to keep it as an open sore, as an affront to the United Nations and as a weapon against Israel. Arab leaders don't give a damn whether the refugees live or die."

The Arab States refuse to discuss the refugee problem, a problem which should and could only be discussed within a framework of a proper peace. The Arab problem is unique in that, whereas as all other refugee problems in modern times have been solved by partial resettlement in other regions, the Arab leaders refuse to resettle the refugees anywhere in the vast area encompassed from the Atlantic to the Persian Gulf.

When Hashemite Jordan annexed Judea and Samaria in 1948, the resources of these areas were exploited and all civic rights were withheld from the populace.

Restricted

When Gaza was under Egyptian military rule its residents were restricted to the confines of its squalid refugee camps, which existed cheek by jowl with the luxurious villas of the Egyptian officers. The concept that it is the government's duty to better the living standards and rights of its citizens was ignored in these areas previous to the June War. Today the Israeli Government supplies medical, social, communal educational and agricultural services, hitherto unknown, to the citizens of Judea, Samaria, Gaza and Sinai. Unpopular action has been necessary from

time to time, in fact approximately 200 houses have been blown up by the Israeli soldiers as reprisals for the harbouring of terrorists, but to date Israeli military rule has been both humane and beneficial to the inhabitants of the occupied territories.

Comparison

Your anonymous contributor would do well to draw the comparison with the behaviour of Iraqi troops against the Kurdish minority in that Arab country, or with the genocide

THIS ARTICLE IS
IN REPLY TO THE
FEATURE "ISRAEL —
MOTHER ... OR
MURDERER?" WHICH
APPEARED IN THE
APRIL 1 EDITION
OF RHODEO.

of the peoples of Southern Sudan perpetrated by the troops of the Arab North. If still unsatisfied, he should remind himself of the manner in which the Egyptian Army used poison gas and napalm against its Arab brethren the civilians of Yemen. King Hussein, at the time of the recent civil war in his own country, admitted that the Arabs under Israeli rule were leading a more secure and peaceful existence than in Jordan. His view may quite easily be substantiated as the occupied areas are open to all tourists. In fact the consensus of opinion of journalists and visitors is that the occupation and Military Government is just, the military, as such, being unobtrusive.

The refugees' hatred of Israel was cultivated by some very successful indoctrination: The adult inhabitants of the refugee camps, in 1967, were born into this squalid environment and in their youth fed on

a diet of anti-Israeli propaganda in their schools. A journalist visiting the Gaza Strip reported: "At Khan Yunis in the Gaza Strip, we saw an exhibition of children's paintings assembled from Arab schools. They depicted Arabs invading Israel, Arabs killing Jews, Arabs trampling Jewish corpses: blood spurting from Jewish throats was luridly painted in." Your contributor's cartoon which, incidentally, hangs in the offices of an Arab controlled anti-Israel organisation in London, would seem tame to the youthful victims of such indoctrination.

the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding can only be expected to write anti-Israeli propaganda.

Misleads

He misleads your readers in that it is necessary to study the two Bills cited in their entirety because, among other considerations, they provide for the registration of Arab property in Israel, pending a final peace. There has been no confiscation or dispossession of the Arab's lands as was, incidentally, the case with those lands vacated by the Jews who fled from Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Iraq and Yemen which were in fact confiscated.

Whenever such phrases as "Israeli Imperialism" are bandied about, it would be well to bear the statement of Mr. Jamal Hussein, made at the U.N. Security Council on April 23 1948, in mind. Mr. Hussein was, at the time, the Acting Chairman of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee: "... We have never concealed the fact that we began the fighting." Gamal Nasser, himself, proclaimed on May 26, 1967, the eve of the Six Day War, "Now the war will be total: its objective will be the annihilation of Israel."

New problem

Will the writer deny that the solution he envisages inevitably create a new refugee problem — that of three million Jews? Or does he share the opinion of Ahmed Shukheiry, the former head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, when he expressed the view just before the 1967 war, that not many of Israel's Jews would survive anyway?

He applies double standards, evidenced by his callous, fleeting reference to Soviet Jewry and he conveniently ignores the position of the Jews today — that of human beings. They came to the age-old land of their people (a Jewish community has lived in the Land of Israel since Biblical times) as survivors of the mass murder of six million of their brethren and were joined by fellow Jews, seeking a haven from Arab oppression. There is plenty of room for three million Jews and 100 million Arabs to live amicably side by side in the Middle East.

Repeatedly, Israel has urged international action to end the human tragedy and has pledged to make a substantial contribution. However, any solution will require the co-operation of the Arab States, something which they are not prepared to give.

Resolutions

In fact the total number of Arabs in Unpartitioned Palestine in 1946 was about 1 288 000 (British Government figure supplied to the U.N. Special Committee on Palestine, December 1946) and of these 500 000 lived in the Gaza Strip and 140 000 remained in Israel. In other words about 500 000 Arabs became refugees in 1948.

Your anonymous contributor cites 39 United Nations resolutions condemning Israel; I'm certain your readers discredit the import of such a statement as they must be aware of the built-in majority in the United Nations comprising the Arab and Islamic States and the Communist block with its associates. Any resolution condemning Israel is, therefore, automatically assured of a majority. I am also certain that your readers were not misled by the quoting of Mr. Michael Adams who in his capacity as the Director of the Council for

ARTS

Capab Ballet needs improvement

The language of love

THE LANGUAGE OF LOVE is a Swedish-made, sex-educational movie, that is neither sordid, sensational nor modest.

There is no attempt at creating any illusion in the movie. A panel consisting of two men and two women (gynecologists and sex educationalists) are introduced, and they discuss the basic aims of the movie, in a very relaxed sitting room atmosphere. Much of their information was based on Kinsey's research, and "Human Sexual Responses" by Masters and Johnson. The panel discussed the making of the movie, and explained the problems of creating the correct atmosphere for the sexual partners to feel as uninhibited as is possible under test conditions. Incidentally the couples were all good looking specimens, which contributed to the total pleasant effect of the movie.

Inevitably the movie had to start off in a Biology-lesson manner to explain the sexual anatomy and functioning of the human being to the less well-informed members of the audience. This was done with a commentary by the panel.

The movie then showed various problems caused in marriage due mainly to ignorance. (It is amazing that no research had been done on human sexual behaviour before Kinsey released his report on the sexual behaviour of the American male. Masters and Johnson's book "Human Sexual Responses" is the first book released on this subject based on some kind of scientific research). Problems occurring in sexual relationships were enacted in various scenarios dubbed "male vanity", "intolerance" and the like and an attempt was made by the panel to offer solutions to these problems.

The masturbation myth was successfully shattered, despite beliefs still held today that it is the cause of cancer, or deformity of the sexual organs. Masturbation was recommended, particularly in the case of females, to make them more aware of the nature of the sexual responses, and in this way to enable them to help their male partners understand how to arouse them more effectively during intercourse. The movie included a female masturbating herself through clitoral stimulation until she achieved an orgasm. The point was firmly made that masturbation was not a sin, not necessarily a form of narcissism, and in no way harmful physiologically, or psychologically.

The movie showed a couple copulating in which they both achieved an orgasm, and then showed different positions and attitudes in common use, including copulatory positions recommended during pregnancy.

The more intelligent or educated people are, the more imaginative and inventive they will be in their sexual behaviour. Much of the erotic behaviour in common practice among married couples today would have been unthinkable to the Victorian mentality which still lingers to some extent.

DEVIATIONS

Deviations from the basic patterns of sexual intercourse were discussed at some length. Cunnilingus is a case in point, and was shown in the movie. This may be a matter of personal preference, but rather as a result of the violent taboos imposed on our sex lives in Western civilization, it is something one does not talk about. Deviations of this kind are more common among the educated

members of the population.

Contraception was dealt with, and all the different methods from coitus interruptus to the pill were discussed. The movie showed a consultation with a gynecologist and close up views of loops and diaphragms being inserted in the vagina. (It would be encouraging if South Africans were more informed on this issue, rather than relying on the youth to be "moral enough" to abstain from healthy heterosexual relations).

The movie included a childbirth, which in most European countries does not appear to be too much of a traumatic experience for the average male.

My only criticism of the move is that too much emphasis was laid on female sexuality rather to the neglect of the male. This is probably because in our very male oriented societies more is known about the sexuality of the male. Even great exponents of enlightened sexuality such as D. H. Lawrence said, "The fig is a very secretive fruit ... That's how it should be, the female should always be a secret" are guilty of the sexual ignorance that pervades our Western societies.

This movie was given an X rating (no one under 18) in the West End. But I do feel that it would serve an invaluable purpose if it were shown to all school children from the age of 16. This applies particularly to South Africa, which under its church-controlled prudery and morality, has one of the highest divorce and sex crime rates in the world.

Tony Akerman.

"RHODEO" has asked me to register some of my impressions of the standards that Capab Ballet has evolved or maintained since 1969, when I first saw it. A fairly representative segment of the repertoire is involved: La Bryndere, Pineapple Poll, The Sleeping Beauty, The Prodigal Son, A Midsummernight's Dream, Coppelia and Sylvia.

The validity of Capabs productions of classical ballet has been initiated by David Poole's "modifications" generally involving modulation into the idiom of a different period. This practice is on a par with the idea of asking Iris Murdoch to rewrite unsatisfactory passages in George Eliot and in so ephemeral an art as choreography a ballet company has a proportionally more urgent obligation, as registrar of the original intentions of the choreographer, to present the organic conception, despite any aesthetic discrepancies.

RECREATIONS

Under the more perceptive direction of Dulcie Howes, this was localised to sections of ballet, but with Mr. Poole's succession, it has extended into self-indulgent recreations of whole works, (as in Sylvia).

As a choreographer Mr. Poole has evinced a small but pleasant lyric talent. (The merit of even his best work, A Midsummernight's Dream, seemed to rest in the generalized prettiness of the sets and narrative cohesiveness, rather than in the choreography per se).

Gary Burne, the company's resident choreographer, has, in contrast, a flagrant "stagey" choreographic style in which the focus is on the individuated posture rather than on the entire fluidity of enchainments.

His "Prodigal Son" was a disjunct series of convolutions, ingenious in themselves, but failing to cohere in any choreographic shape. But, for all its brassiness, this work constitutes a very necessary emerging of the "pink tutu" function into which ballet, in this province, has fallen.

LOWER QUALITY

The solo dancing of the company headed by Phyllis Spira and Eduard Greyling is never less than respectable and often something much more (especially in the full, firm manner of Elizabeth Triegaart, Chrysteen Fuller's dianarrative clarity, and the fusion of these styles in the clear-footed fragility of Phyllis Spira's dancing. The male dancers are of a lower quality, often rendering tepid solos in dances that should be generative of far greater pitch and vigour.

The level of achievement of the corps de ballet is abysmal, both in technique and symmetrical co-ordination. (The tremulous arabesques of the "shades" in La Bryndere" were merely ludicrous).

The decor and costumes (chiefly designed by Stephen de Villiers) have been unexceptional pallid and generally second-rate, and Capab Ballet would be wise to enlist the supreme scenic talent of Raimond Schoop now that he has moved to Cape Town.

PREDICTABLE

Pre-recorded music (tentatively played by the Cape Town City Orchestra) has never struck me as obtrusive of "insulting" and, in being more predictable (if mistakes were made one knew where they occurred) than the efforts of a tatty touring orchestra would be, has placed the performances on a surer basis.

Since the retirement of Dulcie Howes, the movement of the Ballet seems to have been retrograde. It is to be hoped that Mr. Poole will implement a more enlightened artistic policy than he has hitherto shown, exploit the potentiality of his company and correct its defects.

Rodney Edgecombe

Sylvia

IF CAPAB'S artistic director considers the retention of "Sylvia," rapid but innocuous partitur worthwhile, he would be well advised to revive with it the original choreography, or index a greater perception of "period" when devising a new interpretation. As it was, the movement-style only occasionally resonated with that of the music, and this disparity often had grotesque results (as in the matching of Orion's attempted seduction to a hearty jig).

The lineality of Mr. Poole's conception of parts of acts of Acts one and two called rather for the sparser textures of a Les Six score, while some areas of his choreography (the indeterminate shufflings of the villagers, the Walt Disney tweeness of the sorcerer figure, and the frayed, messily-arranged bacchanale) were unsatisfactory.

This aesthetic incoherence spilled over into Paul Price's lurid costumes (pumpkin, lime, magenta and purple in Act 3) and the comic-strip brashness and vacuity of Bill Smut's sets.

Jean Allenby's dancing has lost its vitreous rigidity and has become lyricised into something more flexible, while retaining its former precision.

Both virginal and ecstatic as Sylvia, she avoided the imposition of "personality" or mannerism on to the symbolic and hence open-ended function of her role.

Eduard Greyling, despite some tready efforts at "expressiveness" made a strong, gentle and masculine Amyntas, and partnered Miss Allenby well, offsetting her delicacy with his own virility. His solo work was deft and incisive.

Diana Cawley as Artemis executed her sequences with elegance and chastity, while William Morgan, remarkable for his fleetness and dexterity, stressed the pertness of his role as Eros. John Simon's virtuous Orion was imbued with a rugged masculinity.

The fluid movement of Sylvia's entourage and the in-coordinate ramblings of the corps de ballet (Capab should concentrate on correcting this inadequacy in its productions) completed the evening.

Finally the Capab Orchestra, more proficient than the C.T.S.O. they have supplanted, showed well in the recording, a practice I should like to see maintained as a stabilizing element in performances while Capab evolves its standards.

R.S.E.



Orion (John Simons) attempts to seduce Sylvia (Jean Allenby) in CAPAB's latest production. Photograph: E.P. Herald.