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Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore consider safe upkeeping of the Straits

“The Straits of Malacca Issue”

TAY CHENG CHYE

OF the 114 straits of the world, one of the most important is the Straits of Malacca. It is probably the world's oldest and busiest shipping lane. The funnel-shaped Straits forms the shortest and safest link between the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Some 40,000 ships — both commercial and military — ply this strategic international waterway yearly. But in recent years, the free use of this vital sea-lane threatens to explode into a grave issue.

From October to November 1971, extensive talks were conducted between representatives from Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore concerning the navigational security and control of the Straits of Malacca. A joint declaration was issued after the talks. In it, Malaysia and Indonesia declared that the Malacca and Singapore Straits are not international Straits. (Singapore only noted the stand taken by the two countries). The three countries, however, agreed to be jointly responsible for the safe upkeeping of the Straits.

The crux of the issue lies in the definition of the territorial sea boundary. Both Malaysia and Indonesia are claiming a 12 mile sea limit. The Straits of Malacca is however less than 24 miles at the narrowest point. Therefore the waterway can no longer be regarded as an international sealane and both countries will have the authority to control shipping through it. The Soviet Union, however rejected the claim, insisting on a 3 mile sea limit. This would consequently result in free passage through the Straits and internationalise it. The Russian view was strongly supported by Japan in a joint Soviet-Japanese statement issued in Tokyo in March this year. This was subsequently denounced by Peking as an attempt to contain China.

12 MILE SEA LIMIT

It is evident that long term political considerations is the root of the situation. Control of the vital waterway is related to a Malaysian plan for eventual neutralisation of South-east Asia. However in a recent communique issued after Tun Razak's visit to the Soviet Union, no mention was made regarding the Five-power plan for the neutralisation of South-east Asia.

Malaysia and Indonesia are no doubt very concerned about the passage of supertankers through the Malacca Straits. These 200,000 ton tankers pass regularly through the sealane. Some parts of the Straits are shallow and can easily cause damage to the

giant oil tankers. The consequent oil spills would be disastrous to marine life in the area. Eradicating the spilled oil would also be a costly and prodigious task. Moreover the wreckage can constrict the travel through the Straits. Hence the problem of navigational security is important to the littoral states.

Another advantage as a result of a 12 mile sea margin is the increase in area for undersea exploration. The South-east Asian region is rich in oil and other minerals and the coastal states can reap considerable financial benefits. It was also suggested that tolls and freight charges should be imposed on ships passing through the waterway. A ban can also be enforced on warships and other military vessels. At present, Indonesia is insisting that the American and Soviet Navies notify Djakarta before their warships enter the Straits.

3 MILE SEA LIMIT

It is ironic that the Soviet Union, previously supporting the 12 mile sea boundary, should change to one of a 3 mile limit. This can be attributed to the fact that the growth of the Soviet naval power during the last few years has been phenomenal. The American supremacy of the seas is strongly challenged by the Russians. The Russians have realised that nuclear missile and naval strategies are complementary. Global domination is impossible without control of the seas. Soviet policy seeks to replace western influence from not only the Straits of Malacca but also the Panama Canal and the Straits of Gibraltar. The weaknesses of the Soviet maritime force are amply illustrated by the 1962 Cuban missile crisis and also the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. In both cases, the far superior American naval power prevented any significant action to be taken by the Russians. Now, the Russians can pose a threat especially since the British have almost completely withdrawn from portions East of Suez and left a vacuum in the Indian Ocean. Mobility between the Pacific and Indian Oceans is necessary if war breaks out between China and the Soviet Union. Hence by blocking the Straits, the manoeuvrability of the Soviet navy would be diminished.

The motive behind Tokyo's declaration is predominantly economic. Japan believes that the Straits of Malacca is the economic "life-line." Some 90% of Japan's oil imports pass through this waterway from the Middle East. Consequently the security of the Straits and free passage through it must be maintained even (as it is implied) at the expense of an armed confrontation.

In July 1971, Japan officially proposed that the Straits of Malacca be internationalised so that she can conduct undersea exploration and maritime surveys. This was rejected by Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore as it could result in acquisition of control of the Straits by Japan.

A POSSIBLE SOLUTION

Any international dispute can only be solved by international agreement. If the problem of the Straits cannot be resolved, big-power intervention can cause tragic consequences.

It is obvious that countries with long coastlines and negligible maritime forces would insist on at least a 12 mile territorial sea margin. They would obviously stand to benefit both economically and politically. On the other hand, countries with more powerful navies would like to see a 3 mile limit only. This would leave them more opportunities for undersea exploration and exploitation of the resources. It also gives them a wider area for navigation and control. The question of the territorial sea limit and the Straits of Malacca will be discussed during a Conference scheduled to be held next year in Geneva. It is probable that the talks would end in a deadlock.

It should be noted that the Straits of Malacca issue can become less significant if Thailand's plan for a Kra Isthmus Canal is realised. This shipping canal, estimated to cost about S\$1,000 million, would cut nearly 1,600 km. and three to four days of voyage from the Indian Ocean to the Far East. The ruling National Executive Council of Thailand has approved a governmental study of the proposed canal. Negotiations for financial and technical assistance are presently being carried out.

Editorial Essay

Reflections on Youth and Men

CHAN

MORE than half of the population of today consists of young people — primarily those below and around twenty-five years of age. Consequently, the rest of the world expect them to present, maintain and if necessary fight for their own philosophy of life. Education has made these people more concious and concerned about human conflicts, suffrage and in fact anything which they deem contradictory to their views. And, what is their philosophy and views?

In a recent survey of university/college students by Daniel Yankelovich some such "views" were revealed.

To live physically close to nature, in the open, off the land.

To reject hypocrisy, "White lies", and other social artifices.

To live in groups (tribes, communes) rather than in such "artificial" social units as the nuclear family.

To de-emphasise aspects of nature illuminated by science; instead, to celebrate all the unknown, the mystical, and the mysterious elements of nature.

To stress co-operation rather than competition.

To devalue detachment, objectivity, and non-involvement as methods for seeking truth; to arrive at truth, instead, by direct experience, participation, and involvement.

To look and feel natural, hence rejecting make-up, bras, suits, ties, artificially groomed hairstyles.

To preserve the environment at the expense of economic growth and technology.

To embrace self-knowledge, introspection, discovery of one's natural self.

The "views" above must obviously be left open to debate and should in no way be presumed to represent all of youth though in general, they are more or less a consensus.

In a society where education is highly developed and stressed, its young generation will grow to mental maturity early in life. Their thought becomes expansive. With such a process taking place, a characteristic rejection of all established rules results. Because, as

a man grows in life and depth of understanding, making his own decisions, facing life's adversities — so does his soul. And his hallmark is openness, tranquility and profundity.

Rejection of established social values can be found anywhere. A generation ago a university graduate was considered an intellectual and his judgement on matters was presumed sound and wise but today, his position is no longer so lofty. We may attribute this to the fact that society is progressive and standards rise with the passing of years but I feel that something else too contributes to this retrogradation. It is that people no longer accept paper qualifications as a gate pass to the hallowed halls of institutions. This and other similar occurrences reflect on the peoples' rejection of an established practice — they are no longer discrete in demanding proof of a person's capability.

As society as a whole forges ahead, uncertain if they would seek changes in a new era, its youngers have, in leaps and bounds, showed what it could do — though, maybe, they have often vacillated between extremes of good and bad.

After all has been said and done, what, after all is in the mind of youth? The answer is similar to that of a man; for every man must have at some instance in his life, felt like J. Conrad (quote):

".....and I remember my youth and the feeling that will never come back anymore — the feeling that I could last forever, outlast the sea, the earth, and all man; the deceitful feeling that lures us onto joys, to perils, to love, to vain effort — to death; the triumphant conviction of strength, the heat of life in the handful of dust, the glow in the heart that with every passing year grows dim." (unquote).

Perhaps our elders have forgotten their youth after many years of mundane living and what Thoreau calls "lives of quiet desperation." It is perhaps the greatest malady of mankind that so many men have assumed lives of sobriety and affected dignity when so much could be gained from flexible living. Few are those who develop the art of serendipity; the gift of finding unsought treasures, for, as the adage goes, pleasure is spread through the earth in stray gifts to be claimed by whoever shall find.

For us, there are aspirations and causes to live and fight by, for we believe that there is always a brave new world, but only for very special people. The lucky ones. The ones who carry the making of that world within themselves.

For us it is to search high and low. To follow every by-way, every path we know. For a dream that will need all the love you can give every day of your life for as long as you live.

But how far can we go? There are just as many instances of failure as there are of successes. The failures sometimes carried violence and brutality as in crimes committed by drug addicts, teenage gangs, etc. So it would seem that the elders of the world have a duty to perform. That of harmonising the impulsiveness of youth with intellect and moderation. But it should not be a teacher and student relation but rather as man to man. The mind of man holds answers to unlimited problems. Perhaps, the mind of man should no longer be the haunt of philosophers and metaphysicians. All things that are today were once dreams of men. And then from dreams to reality. And so begins the journey of boyhood to masterhood and so too the story of the world. On the journey one will often find new pathways to old beauties for essentially all men, irregardless of colour, creed and build aspire for the same ideals, clothed perhaps, in a confusing myriad of colours. I think of a Tennyson poem whenever I think of the saga of man's surge towards destiny (quote):

"The lights begin to twinkle from the rocks;

The long day wanes: the slow moon
climbs: the deep

Moans round with many voices, come my
friends

'Tis not too late to find a newer world.

Push off and sitting well in order smite

The sounding furrows; for my purpose
holds,

To sail beyond the sunset, and the baths

Of all the Western stars, until I die."

(unquote)

Asian Students' Association

3rd Asian Students' Conference (Bombay)

THE Third Asian Students' Conference convened by Asian Students' Association (ASA) and hosted by the National Council of University Students of India (NCUSI), was held at Y.M.C.A. International House, Bombay from 29th September to 2nd October, 1972, to review the past activities of the Association and to plan for the future.

The following organisations were represented:—

Australian Union of Students (AUS) — Full Member

Hongkong Federation of Students (HKFS) — Full Member

National Council of University Students of India (NCUSI) — Full Member

National Union of Israel Students (NUIS) — Full Member

Persatuan Kebangsaan Pelajar2 Malaysia (PKPM) — Full Member (for part of the conference)

Singapore National Delegation (SND) — Full Member

Japan International Students' Union (JISU) — Associate Member

International Student Association of Japan (ISA of Japan) — Corresponding Organisation

National Free Students Union of Nepal (NFSUN) — Corresponding Organisation.

Subsequent to the admission of NUIS as a Full Member, PKPM delegation informed the conference that the delegation was mandated to withdraw from the conference if the objection of NUIS membership would fail. Noting the existing fraternal relations between Malaysian students and students of other Asian countries, that PKPM has been a leading Union in Asia and that the admission of NUIS is only a step taken in the direction of Asian Students Unity, the conference unanimously decided to direct the new General Secretary to take whatever steps necessary and possible to ensure the participation of PKPM and Arab students unions in the ASA.

The admission was on the condition that it will not prejudice the admission of Asian Arab Unions and the conference took a stand on the Middle East. Con-

ference demanded the immediate withdrawal of Israel from all illegally occupied Arab territories during the six days war, and condemned all foreign interference in the region.

In reviewing the past activities of ASA in the Inter-Conference period, conference was aware of the refusal of registration of the ASA Secretariat by the Malaysian Government and the complications arising from the work of the former General Secretary, Mr. Bhag Singh. Conference believed that the difficulties encountered in the course of Asian Student Unity are not insurmountable and that Asian Students had a particular role to play in the promotion of an Asian identity in the spirit of regional cooperation, self-determination and self-reliance. In the process of planning for the future, conference was very conscious of the practical limitations, especially on the financial aspects and decided to adopt a realistic and pragmatic approach and adopted a modest programme of activities.

MEMBERSHIP

The Constitution of ASA remained unchanged except on minor details and continues to provide for full membership, associate membership and corresponding organisation status.

The National Union of Israel Students (NUIS) was admitted at Full Member for the reason that NUIS could satisfy the requirements of the Constitution.

The International Students Association of Japan (ISA of Jaapn) applied for Associate Membership. The application was rejected on the ground that Associate Membership as provided by the Constitution requires that the Union may develop into a national union, and ISA of Japan has no desire to do so. Corresponding Organisation status was subsequently granted to ISA of Japan.

The application from the National Free Students Union of Nepal (NFSUN) for full membership was rejected on the grounds that the application did not fulfill the constitutional requirements. NFSUN was accorded Corresponding Organisation Status.

Conference unanimously decided that the initial role of ASA should be to promote the development of viable national unions, noting the fact that the many countries has no national stu-

dents unions. Conference therefore decided that recruitment of members and provision of technical assistance to unions with a potential of developing into national unions be the top priority in the coming year. This development has to be achieved prior to embarking on ambitious projects.

Conference reiterated the decision at the 2nd Asian Students Conference in Hong Kong that a delegation be sent to China to ascertain the views of the Chinese student unions towards regional cooperation.

Conference future decided that NCUSI be mandated to act on behalf of ASA to send a delegation to ascertain views of students of countries in the sub-continent on their participation in ASA.

POLITICAL ORIENTATION

In keeping with an increased political consciousness among Asian students, conference showed a greater political involvement. Conference, believing that Asian Students has a peculiar role of play in the promotion of unity of Asians, condemned all foreign interference of the Big Powers in the right of self-determination and self-reliance of the Peoples of Asia. Conference assert that youth, as distant from national leaders of governments, can play a special role by overriding all barriers, be they political, racial or religious, in the pursuit of a New World Order of One People. It is hoped that ASA can provide a contact point for students of all political ideologies and social systems.

In this light, Conference

— recommended that the concerned parties in Indochina be left alone to seek a lasting solution in a spirit of goodwill in the pursuance and furtherances of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

— hailed the liberation of Bangla Desh and urged leaders of governments of Pakistan, India and Bangla Desh to reach a peaceful settlement in the interest of the Peoples of the sub-continent.

— called upon both sides in the Middle East Conflict to encourage and initiate intercourse which will lead to peaceful settlement and withdrawal of Israeli troops from Arab territories.

— denounced the dastardly attack on the Israeli team by the Palestine guerillas in the Munich Olympics, and at the same time condemned the subsequent Israeli retaliation on the civilians in Lebanon.

— condemned the Soviet Government for the ransom imposed on Jewish professionals in the Soviet Russian wishing to leave the country.

— urged the Ugandan Government to look upon the problem of the Ugandan Asians as a human problem, and further strongly urged the people of the United Kingdom, especially the students, to help the incoming Asians.

— endorsed AUS position to call upon the Australian government to accede to the wishes of the Australian people to make a genuine contribution to the development of and cooperation among Asian nations; condemned the 'White Australian Policy' of the Australian government; and strongly supported the demands of the Australian aboriginal people on land rights and social security.

— supported HKFS efforts in the resettlement project and called upon the Hong Kong Government to take effective steps without delay to meet the legitimate demands of the People of Hongkong for better housing; reiterated ASA support to HKFS demand that the Hongkong Government to enact legislation such that Chinese and English as official languages of Hongkong, equal in status, and with the use of Chinese defined in specific areas.

— as requested by HKFS took note of HKFS position over the Chinese claim to the Tiao Yu Tai Islands and opposition to the revival of Japanese militarism.

— supported NCUSI demand that the Government of India make adequate provisions for free and compulsory education by 1975, and to take effective steps to modernise and restructure the entire education system in line with the needs and aspirations of the people, and

— expressed its deep concern in the recent democratic student movement in Nepal, and supported the Nepalese students in the fight against injustice and suppression of democratic rights.

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3rd Asian Student's Conference (Bombay)

FINANCES

In view of the fact that financial support from foreign sources may be uncertain, conference decided that no rigid budget should be adopted and the following guidelines were adopted:—

1. a voluntary General Secretary be appointed.
2. top priority and major expenses shall be the maintenance of the Secretariat.
3. expenses concerning the recruitment of new member unions and publications of ASA News Features shall be given second priority.
4. half-yearly audited financial statements shall be prepared by the General Secretary and circulated to ASA members.

An Annual subscription rate of US\$100 membership fee was decided upon.

PROJECTS

Conference was very much aware of the importance of deciding on projects in the light of the financial situation. In addition to the recruitment of members, conference considered communications between various unions vis-a-vis ASA be of top priority. In this light, the publication of regular 'Asian Student News' aimed at informing students on the activities of ASA and students unions was decided. Correspondent from member unions will contribute to the ASA news.

Bearing in mind the limited resources available, Conference decided on a modest programme. The principle to be followed is that the Secretariat shall assume a co-ordinating role, specific projects which works for the interest of Asian students and people as a whole will be undertaken by national unions if favourable circumstances should prevail and the Secretariat can channel funds to the national union concerned. In this light, conference decided that programme on 'Higher Education in Asia' and a seminar on 'Student Involvement in community development in Asia' and programmes on Environment Control be launched.

FOURTH ASIAN STUDENTS' CONFERENCE

The Conference decided that the 4th Asian Students' Conference be held in July/August 1974. The venue will be decided by postal ballot and Hongkong indicated its willingness to host the conference if no other venue is offered.

NEW OFFICERS

The new Chairman of ASA whose term of office runs until the completion of the 4th Asian Students' Conference is Singapore National Delegation (SND).

The General Secretary is James Chui of Hongkong Federation of Students (HKFS). The Secretariat shall be sited in Hongkong.

**LOOK OUT FOR THE
NEXT ISSUE OF
SINGAPORE
TECHNOCRAT**

Student Revolt

CHNG BEE KEK

THE following article is inspired by Professor I.S. Kon's article entitled 'Student Revolt' and the "Generation Conflict" Theory! In his article, Prof. Kon, a socialist sociologist challenges the validity of some of the more notable theories put forth by prominent American sociologists to explain the American Campus unrest phenomena.

While his article is devoted to dispute the "Generation Conflict" theory of the American sociologists, this article is an endeavour to recount some of the theories on the phenomena, including that of Prof. I.S. Kon's. Much of the materials and data used in this article are borrowed from Prof. Kon's article.

And before I venture on to write the article, it must be noted that I've had no academic training whatsoever, on, or related to the discipline of sociology. I'm therefore unqualified to comment, accept or refute any of the theories in this article. I will only attempt at presenting, in as interesting a manner as possible, the theories on what some people call "the student revolt". So to speak, this is not an original work but a compilation.

"GENERATION CONFLICT"

Since 1968, we have witnessed the proliferation of a multitude of theories, the intention of which is to provide explanation for the American Campus unrest in vast amount of sociological books and publications, both of a scientific research and popular nature. Some of the authors of these publications focus the attention of readers on the contradiction within the university system explaining it to be the cause of the unrest; others emphasize the peculiarities of the students as a social grouping; still others point to the special characteristics of the status of youth; while some consider ideological problems to be the crux of the matter.

All these arguments, however, have roots in the concept of two generations in conflict with each other: the young generation (students) and the adults. This is referred to as the "generation conflict".

The "Generation Conflict" theory is based on the change in various mechanisms of socialization and, first and foremost, the weakening of the role of the family.

This process which began in the 18th Century has become

particularly intensive in our times. The fact that one's personality today is formed under the influence of the means of socialization, which are relatively independent of one another (the family, school, surroundings and mass media) and not moulded in the family system, in itself gives young people a fairly high degree of autonomy from their elders which was unheard of in older time. The prolongation of the period of youth the much earlier physical and longer social maturation (due to longer periods of education and training) — complicates this process even more.

Furthermore, much influence is exerted upon the young people by the rapid pace of social life. Changing political situations and changes in cultural and everyday living standards create differences between generations — in their taste, knowledge and habits — which are far more noticeable and psychologically significant. The generation which grew up in the Sixties cannot be the same as the generation brought up at the peak of the Cold War, and the latter cannot be the same as the youth of the war years and so on.

"Marginality" of youth's status

The theory of the "marginality" of the status of youth (youth stands on the borderline separating the child from the adult) observes that the mutual relationships between youth and the older generation are complicated with difficulties connected with the social "self-determination" of the personality. Because of the autonomy from the family enjoyed by the young people today in terms of the choice of profession, style of life and so on — certain psychological problems are at the same time created (because the choice is a matter of great responsibility). A "role moratorium", during which a young person "tries on" adult roles to see if they fit him, without identifying with the difficulties of psycho-sexual development gives rise to a certain diffusiveness and indefiniteness of personal ego.

This creates an inner tension, a conflicting state within the youth's world which is often projected beyond.

"Oedipus Rebellion"

"Oedipus rebellion according to sociologist Louis Feuer, is a particular manifestation of the Oedipus Complex: the revolt of the son against his father's authority projected upon the society of grown-ups as a whole. The rebellion is seen to be universal and is present in all past, present and future human societies.

Many psychologists regards this rebellion as youthful

negativism; an unconscious protest against authoritarian upbringing (based on "don'ts" and the suppression of a child's personality) which is transferred to society as a whole and its institutions.

Global "Youth Protest"

Hans Sebald, a young American sociologist reports the existence of a culture based upon specific characteristics of youth behaviour and style of life: like the groping after of "best" music groups and new concept of values and norms, and so forth. Sebald constitutes this phenomenon of youth behaviour as a variation of certain aspects of the dominant culture which he classifies as a sub-culture.

He enumerates the following formal indices characterizing this youth sub-centre:—

- 1) The existence of relatively unique (or accepted as such) values and norms;
- 2) a specific language or jargon shared by them;
- 3) the presence of specific channels of communication among members of a group, closed to "strangers";
- 4) special styles and manners (external appearance, clothes, gestures, behaviour) often developed in a peculiar type of ritual;
- 5) the feeling of solidarity and "group spirit": the habit of regarding oneself as "we" is distinction to "I and they";
- 6) a specific system of social positions with a measure of prestige characteristic of each;
- 7) the influence and power of leaders in relation to the collective as a whole;
- 8) satisfaction, within the framework of the sub-culture, of the specific demands which are not provided by the surrounding society.

As evident from the above, the youth sub-culture is heterogeneous in character; moreover, it does not embrace all aspects of life. Consequently, the attempt of the older generation to authoritatively regulate the tastes, fashions and manner of behaviour of young people arouses strong resistance and conflict, as a rule. The conflict inevitably manifests in the form of young people fighting to preserve their sub-culture against the pressures their elders bring upon them.

This conflict, Sebald believes, is universal, thus resulting in a global "Youth Protest", the manner or forms of this "Youth Protest" necessarily differ from country to country because of the variations of cultural background.

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The Registration of Technician Engineers and Technicians

THE question of registration of technician engineers and technicians is a question that has to be realised sooner or later in a rapidly industrialising country like Singapore. It is indeed very disappointing that the administration of our institution has not taken any step to promote recognition of our graduates by professional engineering bodies, locally or overseas or are they relying on the S.P.G.G. which seems to be in non-existence. What has our engineering body, the Institution of Engineers, Singapore or IES reacted to the above.

ENCOURAGE

Mr. Chan Chee Wah, Vice President of the IES has in a message to the Annual Journal of Singapore Polytechnic Engineering Society mentioned that "the Institution of Engineers, Singapore, conscious of her role in leading the engineering profession, took steps to sponsor and encourage the formation of the Singapore Association of Technicians."

It is an encouraging sign indeed or is it irony on the part of the IES. Being the sole

'A Potential Technician'

professional engineering body of Singapore, they refused to accept the recommendation to open up another Register for Technician Engineers and Technicians but instead hold the view that the only way to "accomodate" the Technician Engineers is to hive them off into another (professional?) organisation. We are not disputing the rights of our professional engineering body to do this, but simply to say that we disagree with such a move on their part. The reason is not far to seek.

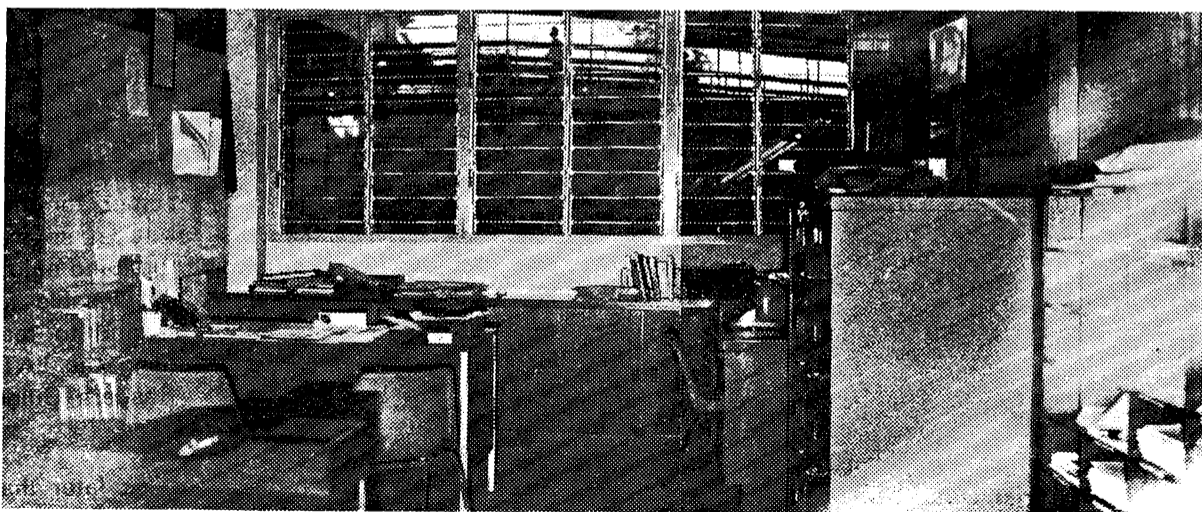
INTERACTION

Dr. G.S. Brossen TD, Director North East London Polytechnic and also Chairman of Council of the Institution of Production Engineering during his address at the Conference on "The Registration of Technician Engineers on the Engineers Registration Board Part 2 Register" remarks that "unless there is an opportunity for engineers of all grades to mix together, the interaction will be reduced and another barrier to communication will have been erected. It may be satisfying to a body to be elite and have only graduates within it, but this elitist concept is not viable in years to come." Therefore, I strongly hold this personal

view — which I hope that many will share — that this recognition of our technician engineers by our engineering body in Singapore is longoverdue. The rearguard action fought by our engineering body to delay the association of technicians is a poor reflection of their institutional integrity.

It is about time that our "professional" counterpart appreciate the need for interaction of our knowledge to further improve our technological level for whether they like it or not, we are going to work on the same boat with a common objective in time to come. It is time that they expand their outlook of the engineering profession and not close themselves in the ivory tower of their status.

Before I conclude, I would like to inform you, fellow undergrads, that a pro-tem committee for the formation of the Institution of Technician Engineers and Technicians in Singapore has been set up and the constitution has been drafted and on the way for approval. It is time that we settle down to think, as potential technician engineers, as to whether we are moving in the correct direction. I sincerely hope that you, my fellow undergrads, will make a wise move to voice your opinion to our Students' Union or our Administration, for your destiny is at stake.



Non-other than K.K.C's Office

COMPARE AND CONTRACT

Quote:

"The Secretariat is a place where Union's activities spark off."

Mr. Khoo Kay Chai's office is 3 times or maybe more, the size of the Secretariat, and I am sure he feels quite pretty crammed up. But the Development Unit, headed by Mr.

Mok Tuck Yee, head of Civil Department expects a secretariat of 8 feet by 20 feet to be more than sufficient for a student population of 1½ thousand."

President, 11th Council SPSU at SPSU Annual Dinner.

CREED OF PEACE

I am guilty of war when I proudly exercise my intelligence to the disadvantage of my fellow man.

I am guilty of war when I distort others' opinions which differ from my own.

I am guilty of war when I show disregard for the rights and properties of others.

I am guilty of war when I covet what another has honestly acquired.

I am guilty of war when I seek to maintain my superiority of position by depriving others of their opportunity of advancement.

I am guilty of war if I imagine my kin and myself to be a privileged people.

I am guilty of war if I believe a heritage entitles me to monopolize resources of nature.

I am guilty of war when I believe other people must think and live as I do.

I am guilty of war when I make success in life solely dependent upon power, fame, and riches.

I am guilty of war when I think the minds of people should be regulated by force, rather than by reason.

I am guilty of war when I believe the God I conceive is the one others must accept.

I am guilty of war when I think that a land of a man's birth must necessarily be the place of his livelihood.

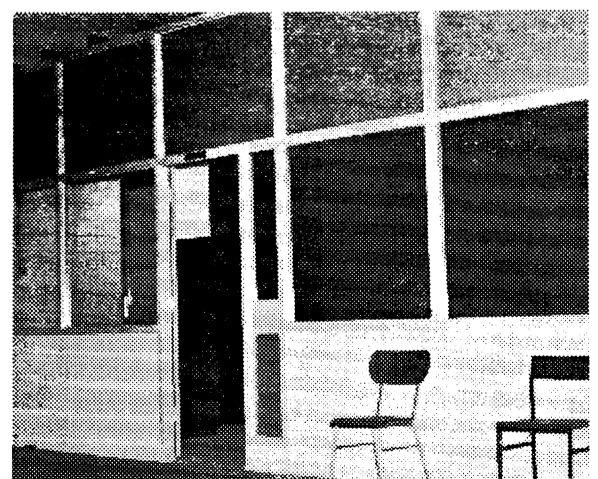
— Anon.

The Authros

THE CREED OF PEACE is indicative of the individual's responsibility in preventing war and creating a lasting peace.

The Rosicrucians, are the authors of this creed.

EDITOR: The above was found to be thought-provoking and has been reprinted for others to mull over. Perhaps, and we gladly invite, what you think of it.



This is our Secretariat!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR • • LETTERS TO THE EDITOR • •

Dear Editor,

It is encouraging to note that the Editorial Board of the Singapore Technocrat has explicitly spelled out its 3 "Golden" Editorial Policy which on paper deserves commendation and best wishes. How far it can carry out the objectives set forth is indeed another question.

EDITOR: The reason why the aims of the Editorial Board were in numbered form is quite obvious; they are more concise than an essay. It is rather disconcerting and misleading to have them labelled as "3 Golden Rules" for they do not constitute rules but rather objectives. As George Bernard Shaw puts it, "the golden rule is that there is no golden rule."

However, permit me to put forward the following comments on the production of the issue Vol. 2 No. 1 on

(a) Report of the "SPSU" Conference 1972"

It is erroneous and misconception on the part of the Singapore Technocrat to believe that there is no difference between a "COMMUNIQUE" and a "REPORT". The published so called "report" of the Conference is in reality a **communiqué** issued at the end of the 4 days meeting between Society officials and the Union Councillors. The report of the "SPSU Conference 1972" has already been compiled and distributed to the delegates in full of the 5 papers presented by Mr. Robert Edis, Mr. Ager, Mr. Wong Seong Khuen, Mr. Chang Soong Juan and Mr. Henry Foo and the workshop sessions report.

(b) "SPSU Conference 1972 — Success or Failure"

Perhaps, before I proceed to comment on the contents of the article by B.K. Chng I would like to convey the deepest sympathies on behalf of the organising Committee to Mr. Chng for his inavailability to be a full-participant of the Conference **except for a Workshop Session on "Students' Leadership"**. The idiosyncrasy of Mr. Chng in reaching that conclusion deserves somehow special mention.

He alleged that he came away after sitting through a workshop session (on Students' Leadership) with the feeling that the participants lack the necessary experience and knowhow to tackle the various problems that the Union is facing. Well, I would like to add that despite being a veteran in the students' politics as claimed he was unable to contribute positively to the success of the Conference. Further, he was too incoherent then.

Strange enough, Mr. Chng is still dragging way back in believing in the orthodox importance of fighting students' apathy. A man on the move with the contemporary world would never place such emphasis on such a trifle matter. If only Union Leaders were to realise the functions of a Students' Union in the proper prospective in line with the physiological, psychological and sociological environment then the general students body would reciprocate sufficiently as the feed-back machinery.

Further to what Mr. Chng's allegation that no special programmes were recommended to eradicate the question of students' apathy, may I respectfully request the concerned to study the contents of the communiqué **MORE** carefully as many of the recommendations have an inherent solutions to the problems. Hopefully, the erudite Mr. Chng would be able to "visualise" it otherwise.....sorry-lah!

What is missing from the alleged "proper

and interesting orientation" is that of the recommended dealing with the problem at grass-root level. The word "Orientation" is often associated with the word "Ragging or Humiliation" and it is always a misconception that the Students' Union has collaborated with the Seniors to bring uneasiness to the new students. The new blood must be orientated to broaden their outlook and incite a mental revolution which will prepare each individual to a more responsible and Constructive role in nation building in the years to come.

It is indeed regretful to note of Mr. Chng's belief that the sociological conditions in the college could be compared to that of at national level.

Usually, the students take 3 years to complete their studies in Polytechnic before venturing out to work. The only practical and logical way of dealing with this question of apathy is to begin at grass-root level and that is during the orientation period where a correct perspective of the role of the Students' Union and its members must be injected in the new blood.

It would be appreciated that in future Mr. B.K. Chng would come forward with constructive down-to-earth criticisms rather than slanderous and injudicious remark.

(c) "Speakers' Corner"

I note with interests the initiative taken by Mr. Chng Bee Kek in heralding the Speakers' Corner at ARC where it would be conducted in the tradition of Hdye Park where a healthy and lively exchange of views and opinions is achieved.

Personally, I feel that an ulterior motive, masterminded by someone, is behind this move and base my suspicious on the following points:—

1. Members of the PEC and PMC Community **HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED** of the existence of the Speakers' Corner until its publication in the last issue of the Singapore Technocrat. Incidentally, these 2 campuses constitute a majority of the Senior students in the Polytechnic while ARC has a large population of new students doing their first year.
2. The Singapore Parliamentary Election 1972 predominate the Sessions.
3. No exchange of views and opinions was traceable but merely an indoctrination session.

A more successful Speakers' Corner could be conducted it can assume the role of a feed-back machinery for the Students' Union and Societies besides the intended objectives.

JOSEPH FONG

Dear Sir,

I refer to your article on 7th October, 1972, Vol. 2 No. 1 under the headline "Council Suspends Bowling Club" and would like to make some clarification.

The investigation into the affair of the Bowling Club is still pending. The Commission of Inquiry has so far never issued any official statement. As such, the prematured allegation of "some officials" having "corrupt practices and mishandling of funds" is unfair to those innocence.

FOO MENG LIM,
Chairman,
Commission of Inquiry

EDITOR: There was never any "prematured allegation" in our report as alleged in Mr. Foo's letter. We agree that no official statement in black and white was issued by the Commission of inquiry. The Technocrat report on the same was drawn from very reliable sources. No malice was intended and the Editorial Board wishes to apologise if any embarrassment was caused through the printing of the phrase "some officials having corrupt practices and mishandling of funds."

Dear Editor,

After reading the letter by your reader John Foo in the October issue of the Singapore Technocrat, I have something to say about the Polytechnic libraries too.

As a regular user of both the libraries at PEC and ARC, I would like to compare the attitudes of the library staffs in these two campuses.

Regarding the librarian (I suppose she is a library assistant) mentioned by your reader, I think he must have over exaggerated over the matter; for I have not meet any of such a library assistant before (nor any of my friends has) since my first visit to the PEC library about 1½ years ago.

I totally agree about the noise pollution created by the library staffs. The conversations among them (especially that of the chief librarian) and the telephone bells are distracting and shocking enough. I hope they will be more considerate.

At the ARC library, two of the library assistants have shown very unfriendly attitude towards the students. They simply suspend the student's library ticket without following the rules set. It is very unreasonable and unsympathetic plus unfair to suspend a ticket for a week just to be late by one day in returning the book. And even worse still is the late return of red-spot book, if you are unlucky enough to return the book by half an hour late your ticket will be suspended for a period she wishes. I believe that none of the student will like his or her ticket to be suspended, of course their late returns are due to some unforeseen circumstances such as traffic congestion (since ARC is so far away from the city), eagerness in finishing the book before returning it etc.

I hope that the two library assistants (I do not have to mention their names for they will know) will change their attitudes so that everybody will have an undisturbed and enjoyable stay in the library. It is advisable for them to check their authorities and to read over the rules set down regarding the LATE RETURN in the ARC Library — Readers' Guide, in which it states that:

A student who returns a book later than the date stamped on the date due label, will have his reader's ticket suspended. The reader's ticket will be suspended for the same number of days for which the student is late in returning the book.

Lastly I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the library staffs for the service they put forward.

MIL MIL

"GENUINE SINGAPORE SOCIETY IS WORTH PRESERVING" SAYS VETRI

Vetri... A Has Been?



R. Vetrivelu

A month or so ago, R. Vetrivelu, Secretary General of the United National Front set out to present what he called, the "Opposition Case" to the United Nations. He had raised enough money to take him through several countries and finally to the United Nations and back. The people who had contributed the money trusted that he would make the best of it and accomplish his mission.

He left, and no sooner had he left, his party lost contact with him. Thereafter followed a "desperate" attempt by his party colleagues to get in touch with him. The press flashed headlines like "Where is Vetrivelu?"

Today, Vetrivelu is back. He had travelled through six Malaysian towns and spent \$250 during which he also visited his mother at Telok Anson. He also told of the Malaysian who had entertained him lavishly. It was no surprise that he should return but.....

A CHANGED MAN

Yesterday's Vetri had aspired to form the next government during the heat of the general election. He had described the PAP Government as "an arrogant and dictatorial regime, a fascist and police state". After losing the election, he had appealed for funds so that he may make a trip to the United Nations to present the "Opposition Case" against the recent general election in Singapore. Yesterday's Vetri was above everything an aggressive and uncompromising person.

One month's time, \$250 and 250 miles later.....Vetrivelu is a changed man.

Today's Vetri describes Singaporeans as the luckiest people having a government which is efficient and better governed than most of our neighbouring countries. He is now convinced that his trip to the United Nations would "tarnish Singapore's image in foreign countries" and that the "genuine Singapore society is worth preserving". He is a complete break from his previous self — gentle, compromising and as it seems, wiser.

"OPPOSITION CASE"

His recent enlightenment had convinced him against going to the United Nations because that might "tarnish Singapore's image, as the genuine Singapore society is worth preserving". However, he sent the "Opposition Case" memorandum his party wrote, to the United Nations while at the same time decided against making the trip to the United Nations to present the "Opposition Case".

This is confusing. Surely, if he saw in his trip to the United Nations to present the "Opposition Case" a threat to Singapore's image in foreign countries, then he should not have sent the "Opposition Case" memorandum to the United Nations, for it amounted to the same thing unless it's he who would "tarnish Singapore's image in foreign countries" and not the "Opposition Case". Whatever might be the case, what he's trying to save is obviously lost already.

SICK MAN

What angered many people most, including his party officials I believe, must

be his 'sick-man' attitude on his return. Tired, let's assume, and suffering from bronchitis, he made it straight to the warmth and comfort of his HDB flat in Rumah Tinggi without first fulfilling his obligation to meet his party colleagues. Nobody knew of his return saved the alertness and omnipresence of the pressmen. He was interviewed and he spurted out his conversion-story to the chagrin and embarrassment of his party colleagues who read of it in the morning papers the next day. What he should have done was to have met his party colleagues, talk it over with them, then compose himself before the final revelation to the press. That could have saved so much of the uneasiness between he and his party colleagues.

However, he might as well argue that in the four letters which he said he had sent from Malaysia where only one was received, he had explained his position clear enough. He might also argue that his party colleagues were also informed of his return from Malaysia.

Granted that this may be so, I see no reason why he should not call up any of his party colleagues for a meeting whereby he could explain in person the reasons for changing his plan to go to the United Nations, immediately upon his return, instead of allowing the press to interview him first. He should sufficiently understand that it is his party colleagues who is staking their personal reputation in raising funds for his United Nations trip and that it is also going to be these same people who'll be prepared to stand by him if he runs into any trouble eventually. These people have an indisputable right to his conversion-story first-hand, instead of having to read it from the papers, their faces burning red. That is indeed a very careless and irresponsible act not worthy of his position.

GENUINE OPPOSITION

Now, he's again talking about what he wants to do for the good of Singapore. He told the pressmen that he's ready to reorganise his party and create a genuine opposition by uniting all opposition parties.

Good God, he thinks that he's capable of doing that. I'm rather doubtful. If 250 miles out of Singapore can change his mind so totally about something he felt most strongly about all these years, another 250 miles further may work more wonders on his mind. This incident has revealed how little he actually knows about politics, government and the

political situation of our neighbouring countries. It pains many people to note that he had spent the most useful years of his life oblivious of the political realities of Singapore, Malaysia and the other countries, so much so that today, this small enlightenment which is considered common knowledge to an average Singaporean, could have made him denounce whatever he had cried aloud about not so long ago, but what seems to be only yesterday. Perhaps, to him then, America is a political heaven, United Kingdom's government is the best in the world, and India's people worship and sing praises to their government.

And not to mention other obstacles to the task he sets for himself, the Worker's Party, I'm sure, will never have him around as during the recent general election, the Worker's Party had refused to consider him as a genuine opposition politician. This break between him and the Worker's Party is I believe, beyond repair. The other opposition parties may also denounce him now that he's a changed person. Perhaps, some of his party colleagues may be forgiving, but there are already indications that a large number of them do not share his views anymore and some had publicly announced no confidence in him. Unless he overcomes this crisis, the task of his creating a genuine opposition through the unison of all opposition parties will be a long and difficult road.

"KACHANG-PUTEH" MAN

Those were the days when he was an instant hit with the kids in Tanjong Pagar when he contested against our Prime Minister. Though he lost the election miserably, losing his deposit also, he was nevertheless much loved by the people then as he enthralled the kids with his charming gesticulation and speech-mannerisms which added so much joy and gaiety to the occasion. If the votes were to be taken among the kids then, I'm inclined to believe that he may have won that election if only the kids voted for they truly loved this man they call 'kachang-puteh' man.

Today, much of this charismatic quality is lost and people are getting fed-up with his nonsensical talk. The general election's result is a clear indication. Though his party had fielded the most number of opposition candidates, these candidates were not as well received as other opposition candidates from the various opposition parties resulting in many of them

losing their election deposits. How is he going to get over such a demoralising defeat is a question which many would like to ask.

And at the next general election, if the results are no better, it would be better for him to quit the scene than to delude himself anymore as it would then show conclusively the people's outright rejection of what he stands for, and more importantly, of what he is worth.

A GOOD TRY

Nevertheless its bad enough to delude himself now too. Singaporeans have proven to be wiser than he expected. They have judged him well. After 14 years of hard work put in by the PAP for Singapore, he foolishly announced his party's intention of forming the next government, and that goes without saying with him as the Prime Minister. On what basis had he sought to changed the PAP government, which had worked untiringly for the good of Singapore, in place of him and his UNF? Nothing can best describe this than "political gamblers who hope, through a stroke of luck and fluke, to become the next government". He should have known better that the PAP did not rise to power overnight and Mr. Lee Kuan Yew started off humbly as an assembly man.

But he's not at all unintelligent. After this month-long time whereby he reconciled himself with the truth of his' and his party's paralytic defeat and letting off enough hot steam by crying about the "Opposition Case", he finally realised that it's completely futile for him to carry on the way he does. Realising this and through a stroke of his genius, he returned with his conversion-story, very apologetic and touching. Now that he knows that he cannot be the Prime Minister, he's praying hard that at least in five years from now, he could be a Member of Parliament.

QUIT VETRI

It's about time Vetri quits, for the electorate has proven and will continuously prove to be smarter than he is, however relentless and hard he may try to win the people's faith. I suggest that he stays home and manage the family budget so that he will have no complaints about PUB bills anymore. Then cast his votes wisely once in every five years to ensure that Singapore has a fine government. That way, nobody's hurt.

Good try, Vetri!

SEMINAR ON EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY

RECENTLY, a two-day seminar on education technology was organised by the 5 Institutions of Higher Learning at the Conference Hall.

This article serves to evaluate the ideas brought out during the seminar in particular reference to the Singapore Polytechnic.

President Sheares in his opening speech commented that education at tertiary level should not be merely concerned with transmission of knowledge and skills, but should also inculcate orderliness in thought and a desire for perfection in work.

However, he cautioned that while tertiary Institutions should plan and make education relevant to national needs, they should avoid the development of "stereotyped personalities" interested only in material advancement.

He said, "Without developing the potential of the individual, it is unlikely that we shall produce innovative minds capable of independent thought."

FUTURE SOCIETY

President Sheares added that as the Institutions of Higher Learning were in the forefront of all aspects of development and change in Singapore, they were expected to mould the nation's character and lay the foundation of future Society.

Speaking on the same day, Professor Tommy Koh, Dean of the Law Faculty of the University of Singapore said, "Too many lectures are overloaded with factual information delivered in a dull and uninteresting manner."

"Instead of inspiring the audience and infecting them with the lecturer's enthusiasm for his subject the lecturers often achieves the opposite effect of defeating any inherent curiosity among students to learn more about the subject.

Prof. Koh noted that few individuals who joined the university staff did so because they loved teaching. Moreover, the university made no attempt to evaluate this ability so that person who joined the staff found "very little incentive" to keep up-to-date and improve on his teaching.

More Hardworking and less eager

Another speaker, Dr. Ruth Wong, Education's Ministry Director of Research, noted that the programmes at tertiary Institution made students more hardworking and less eager on the long run.

"We tend to silence their questions"

Dr. Wong, who is also the Principal of the T.T.C., continued, "I should like to see in the education of such students, full of verve of life when they enter the University or Polytechnic, an exposure to an initial course comprising some psychology, sociology, political science, history of ideas and culture interwoven around selected local and contemporary issues and problems, before they proceed to the full academic course of their choice."

"Communication with them on these matters, argument and rebuttal is a spirit of integrity and constructive purpose will pay good dividends in the long run."

Review

In 1968 ever since the degree courses were transferred to the University of Singapore, the Singapore Polytechnic has decided to provide an education relevant to national needs and that is a mass-production of technologists at technicians level even at the expense of churning out "stereotyped personalities" who in some cases are no better than mechanical digits on robots and therefore in no position to mould the nation's character and lay the foundation of future Society as mentioned in the context of the speech by Dr. Sheares.

Liberal Studies which had provided the framework of an educated technologists before were discontinued after 1968. In their place, an all-out attempt was made by the Polytechnic Educationalists to provide a broad-based form of technical education. It is not uncommon to find lecturers offering nothing more than "dry lecture notes". Perhaps, it is pertinent for these involved in the task of teaching and instruction to be innovative, to be receptive to new ideas and, at the same time, to be critically selective in their adoption of these new ideas.

The G.C.E. forms the minimum criterion for admission to the Polytechnic and the new students find difficulty in adapting themselves from school to college environment. The potential of the individual must be realised and developed to the degree that innovation mind's capable of independent thought are matured. To quote Dr. Ruth Wong: "The sort of annual programme already initialled at pre-university level on issues and problems shows how much of a wealth of responsible thought there is in the heart and mind of the young people who needs to be drawn to surface and discussed."

Every effort must be spared towards motivating the students at tertiary level to develop an independent and matured outlook especially in Polytechnic where everything is so mechanized towards a higher level of Technology.

In conclusion, I would like to quote a context of the discussion on the "missing" Liberal Studies in the curriculum between the Principal, Mr. Robert Edis and a group of visiting University Students:

"Usually, a student takes 2-3 years of study to obtain his diploma or certificate. By then, within that period he should have a broad-based Knowledge on engineering aspect. As such, due to the pressure of time this question of providing liberal studies must come secondarily. Furthermore, I believe that at secondary school level it has been successfully catered for."

Education as defined in the dictionary is a system of receiving moral, mental and intellectual training. And how may I ask can the Singapore Polytechnic claim to be one of the 5 Institution of Higher Learning when they are failing in the fundamental role of an Educational Institution.

United Nations Launches Population Campaign.

An appeal was recently made by UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, to UN member governments to begin now on "the broadest and most comprehensive possible plans" to participate in the United Nations "World Population Year" — 1974 — and the World Population Conference that will be held then.

Mr. Waldheim said that the solutions to the major problems confronting the world be impossible without some reference to population trends.

"Each nation, each community, each family must assess in detail how these trends affect their hopes for higher living standards, a better education and greater health and happiness," he asserted.

1974 was declared World Population Year by Mr. Waldheim. The activities of the year will have five major objectives:

- to improve knowledge of population trends, and how they affect other aspects of national and personal life.
- to sharpen awareness of population problems.
- to improve education on population, family life, and reproductive functions.
- to promote the consideration of demographic problems when planning for economic and social development.
- to expand international co-operation in all aspects of population problems.

It is hoped that through the exchange of views and opinions during the World Population Conference, agreement on an international plan of action can be reached.



I.T.C. Seminar and Exhibition

The proposed seminar cum exhibition, scheduled to be held during the end of second term will be postponed to 14th and 15th of March 1973. This was discussed at a meeting held recently between representatives of the Administration, headed by Mr. Ager and student representatives, consisting of our President, Welfare Secretary, Dr. Lee Kum Tatt, Chairman of SISIR, made the proposed of changing the date because of the lack of time for preparation.



Representative Council

At a recent meeting, the 12th Executive Committee resolved to set up Representative Councils in PMC and ARC. Its sole purpose is to assist the Council to carry out the aims and policies of the Union as spelt out in the Constitution. Such a Representative Council function the same way the Council does, the only difference is that it is at a secondary level.

The Union invite applications from members to sit in the various posts of the Representative Council. Vacancies exist in the following posts for both the ARC and PMC Representative Councils:—

- Chairman
- Vice Chairman
- Secretary
- Assistant Secretary
- Treasurer
- Welfare Officer
- Social Officer
- Course Representatives

Please submit your applications to the Union Clerks by 20th December 1972.



The Proposed Union's New Infra-Financial Structure...

By: LIM TIA SONG

BEFORE reading the article, I wish to inform you — the reader, that all the contents in this text are neither the Students' Council's nor the Editorial Board's views. It is my own unqualified opinions and suggestions after having studied the Union's and Societies' present financial structures.

IMPORTANCE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

For eleven years, in the history of the Students' Union, the Council had put special emphasis on social, cultural and educational activities. Unfortunately, the importance of financial control has never been an emphatic issue.

Many identical cases of corruption in an organisation due to a crippling Financial Administration is a clear indication of its importance. Similarly, the allegation of corruption among officials in certain societies, the requirement of explanation for doubtful accounts, the poor control of printing and canvassing for souvenir programmes, journals, etc. and the overspending of the Committee's budget or the running into deficit of a society; has caused much embarrassment both to the Union and her members. Immediate remedies to such debility of the Union's and her affiliates' financial structures should be sought, so as to avoid further decrescent in our financial administration as well as our reputation.

THE UNION'S ACCOUNTS

The Union should have the following accounts:

- i) the Current Account,
- ii) the General Reserve Fund, and
- iii) the Fixed Deposit Account.

The Current Account

The Union's involvement in business transactions requires a necessity of a demand deposit (i.e. deposits on current account). This enables the transferability of monies from person to person through the use of cheques. Moreover, with the usage of cheques, the signatories of the following personnel must be sought.

They are, namely,

- a) the Principal's nominee in the Administration Finance Committee,
- b) the Financial Secretary, and
- c) one of the following:—
 - i) the President
 - ii) the Vice-President
 - iii) the Honorary General Secretary.

In this way the controlling and handling of the Union's finance will never fall into wrong hands.

According to our constitution Article XII Section 6 — The current account shall be a sum not exceeding \$10,000 and shall be reimbursed by the Council from the Fixed Deposit Account when it deems necessary. Monies from this account shall be spent by the Executive Committee in accordance with the Budget.

The above should be amended to read as follows:—

"The current account shall be a sum not exceeding \$25,000 and shall be reimbursed by the Council from the General Reserve Fund when it deems necessary. Monies from this account shall be spent by the Executive Committee in accordance with the Budget".

Such changes are considered necessary because the demand deposit of the latter will not be adequate enough to cover the terminal expenditures. With such emphasis on the using of current account, no corruption is possible as the Administration is indirectly controlling the handling of our Finance.

General Reserve Fund

Into this account shall be paid all excess of income over expenditure of the previous financial year. This account may be withdrawn wholly or partially by a General Meeting or by the Council, who shall have to serve at least 7 days notice to this effect on the Union's Notice Boards.

As its name indicates that it is not for any specific purpose. The setting aside of part of the excess of income in this way is known as "ploughing the profits back into the business."

By that, I mean double purposes. They are:—

- i) if the Fund accumulates, then partial withdrawal, when deems necessary shall be made and banked into the Union's Fixed Deposits Account; or
- ii) partial withdrawal of the Fund shall be made, and reimbursed into the Current Account when necessary.

The Fixed Deposit Account

The Students' Council shall banked into one or more banks excess round sum of monies from the Reserve Fund. Such account may be withdrawn wholly or partially by a two-thirds majority votes in a General Meeting.

The Union's Incomes

The Union shall consolidate all her committees' and affiliated bodies finance in the Singapore Polytechnic Students' Union's Account. The income shall comprises of:—

- i) the Union's subscriptions which shall automatically be the working capital of the Union's standing and special committees; and
- ii) the Society's subscriptions which shall automatically be the working capital of that Society concerned.

The Practice Of Banking

The Union acts as a 'bank' which shall be administered by the Students' Union's Finance Committee and the Principal's nominee from the Administration's Finance Committee, together with the Accounts Clerk/s and the Board of Auditors. The Union shall have in her banking the following accounts. They are as set below:—

- a) Secretariat Committee,
- b) Publication Committee,
- c) Social Committee,
- d) Freshmen Orientation Committee,
- e) Union House Management Committee,
- f) Welfare Committee,
- g) Community Welfare Committee,
- h) Ladies Welfare Committee,

- i) External Relations Committee,
- j) Students' Travel Bureau,
- k) Transport Committee,
- l) Sports Council,
- m) Representative Council,
- n) Building Society,
- o) Engineering Society,
- p) Marine Engineering Society,
- q) Nautical Society,
- r) Polymer Society,
- s) Civil Engineering Society,
- t) Draughting Society,
- u) Chinese Language Society,
- v) Photographic Society,
- w) Bowling Club and
- x) Music Society.

The Drawing Of Cash

The Finance Committee shall issue out petty cash and cash/cheque vouchers. There are two degree of cash transaction, namely, the Union's Committees and the Societies'.

The Union's Committees' System

All Committees shall use the same petty cash under the care of the accounts clerk. The accounts clerk shall withdraw a sum of about \$500 under the Petty Cash Account of the Students' Union. Such withdrawal has to be done on Cash/Cheque Voucher.

Any claimants for petty cash has to fill up a Petty Cash Voucher.

Such claims shall be done only with the approval of the Chairman and Treasurer of the Committee concerned and the Financial Secretary together with one of the following signatories:—

- The President,
The Vice President, and
The Honorary General Secretary

The Society's System

The Society shall has in its finance committee, a sum between \$100 \$300 according to its requirement, as petty cash. The Executive Committee of that Society shall has full jurisdiction of its petty cash's claims.

Withdrawal from the Union a sum of monies as petty cash has to be filed on Cash/Cheque Voucher by the Chairman and the Treasurer of the particular Society concerned.

Any claimants for cash has to fill up a Petty Cash Voucher. Such claims will be done only with the approval of the Treasurer, the Chairman and the Secretary of that particular Society. Certification by the Board of Auditors and The Financial Secretary shall be conducted once in a month together with advice if necessary.

The Cash/Cheque Voucher

All authorised claimants shall supply details of the pur-

pose of drawing the amount. Such withdrawal shall have the approval of the personnel as provided for in the voucher.

All payments to the claimant's clients have to be filed by the claimant on the voucher. No internal transactions should be entertained; in fact all profits or income will have to be cash in immediately. (receipt of acknowledgement will be issued).

The Billing Out

The Students' Union shall have a standard type of bills. This triplicate billing system to our customers shall be conducted by the committee concerned. Monies shall be addressed to the Students' Union and made payable to the Union on behalf of the particular mentioned Committee as provided for in the bills.

The Reconciliation Statement

As the Union is conducting the transactions of the Committee or Society, the Union shall provide the Committee concerned the statement of their account. Such reconciliation statement shall be issued to all Committees and Societies of their income and expenditure at the end of a month. Such monthly statement shall keep the society or committee informed of their financial standing.

Accounts Reports

All Societies or Committees hve to filed up the following accounts after every project she has conducted. They are the Income and Expenditure Statement and the Balance Sheet. Such accounts have to be certified by the Board of Auditors, and submitted to the Finance Committee.

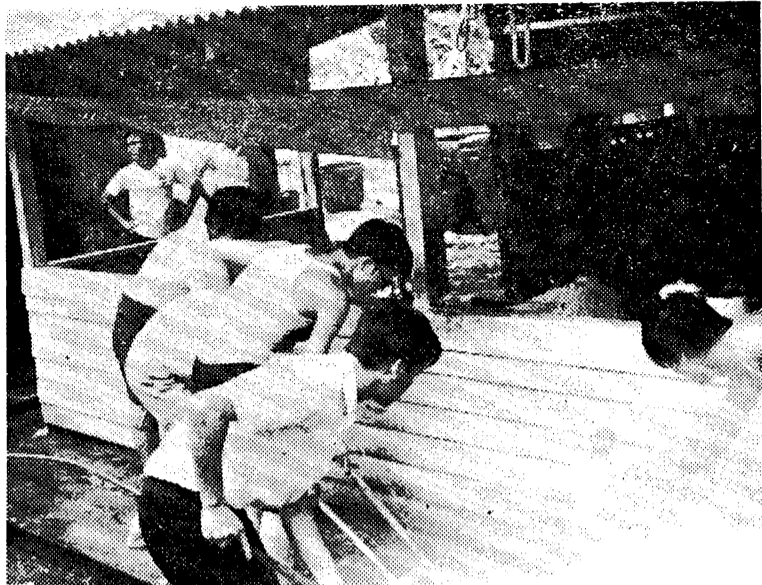
The Board of Auditors

The Board of Auditors shall be presided over by a qualified auditor. He will be assisted by a member from the Finance Committee and three other persons nominated by the Students' Council. This board shall audit all accounts of the Societies and the Committees, and shall have full jurisdiction over the Financial files of all Committees.

Not only investigating the accounts, the Board shall also advise and help to draft out all the required Income and Expenditure Statements and the Balance Sheets. Such practices will help to smoothen out the project's account.

Footnote:

The interna lfinancial controlling will be dealt with at a later date when the time is ripe. Finally, I hope all those who are concerned will take into their kind consideration the feasibility and efficiency of the proposed structure.

CAMPUS NEWS**Visit to the YEW TEE Home**

RECENTLY, a bus-load of volunteers from our Union visited the Yew Tee Old Folks Home in Woodland to spruce up the place. Organised by the Welfare Services Committee, our working force scrubbed and cleaned 3 dormitories and gave a new coat of paint to chairs and tables. Yew Tee Home is owned by a private enterpriser with consultation from the Council of Social Services. A total of approximately 90 inmates were housed in this home.

Mr. Goh Eng Kiat Chairman of Welfare Committee headed this project.

Student Protest Shakes Apartheid Regime

TAY CHENG CHYE

THE racist South Africa regime was shaken by a succession of demonstration, sit-ins and strikes launched by black students in May and June this year. At the African university of the North the entire student body was expelled after a sit-down strike over the white dominance of the teaching body, the oppression of students, and the right to set up an independent student union.

Detail screening procedures and written renunciations of their demand were carried out on re-entry. Most of the students refused to the regulations and quit the University. Those remaining on the campus were kept under surveillance by police with dogs.

At another University near Port Elizabeth, almost all African students staged protests and demonstrations against the rule of security police on the campus, intimidation by lecturers and arbitrary expulsions of student leaders and students. On June 5, students at all non-white universities and colleges in South Africa started an indefinite strike although under threat of expulsion for not attending lectures. A peacemongering demonstration, also held on the same day, was interrupted by police using wooden batons and tear-gas. Sixty one people were arrested under the Riotous Assemblies Act.

On June 6, the racist government issued a decree suspending all public meetings

"of a political nature" until July 8. The students were undaunted. On June 8, 300 students from the University of Rhodes demonstrated for their right of freedom of expression on the campus.

FREEDOM

The black students' struggle for freedom, democracy and justice was vocally supported by the white students. In Johannesburg, students distributed 100,000 pamphlets calling for unity with the black students' demand. Universities which were usually staunch supporters of government policies also voiced criticism of the plight of non-white students and the students and the harsh methods of official repression.

The International Union of Students Secretariat, in a protest cable set to the South African Government, strongly condemned the racist policy and demanded that all ethnic groups must be granted equal rights. It declared that "APARTHEID IS DOOMED TO TOTAL DESTRUCTION AND ALL ITS UPHOLDERS DIG THEIR OWN GRAVES"

NIGHT OF PEACE

BAR-ILAN University Students' Union of Israel is initiating a world peace programme, the focal point of which will be a "Night of Peace". This will be the start of heart-to-heart talks between students all over the world, and between Jews and Arabs in particular. The barriers between nations and countries will come tumbling down when students sit shoulder to shoulder during a night free of politics, quarrels and disputes.

In the light of this initiative and attempts to advance peace, the Bar-Ilan Students' Representative Council urges Arab youth all over the world to reach out and establish a true basis for friendship as a first step for peace in the Middle East, and in the world as a whole.

The night will be dedicated to the better acquaintanceship of people and cultures. It will be symbolic in being placed in an ancient amphitheatre in Israel used in the past by different nations and religions. The gathering will be under one sky, without divisions, and an appeal to all students throughout the world to come and participate. The success of the night will guarantee and exchange of ideas between youth throughout the world.

The Canteen Rally

ON the 30th October, 1972 at 12.30 p.m. the Union staged the first Canteen Rally at the Ayer Rajah Campus Canteen. A large audience gathered after their lunch to hear the Chairman of the Rally, Mr. Michael Hogan and a few enthusiastic speakers voicing their strongest protest against the conditions in the Canteen.

This is a first of a series of actions initiated by the 12th Students' Council to curb the Canteen situation which has worsened over the past few months since the Campus was utilized. At the Rally, the Welfare Secretary called to all members to air their views. He said the Union is prepared to champion the welfare of the students in this issue. Subsequently, a Ultimatum was issued to the Canteen Manager, Mr. Richard Fu. Copies of the Ultimatum were also sent to the Principal and some of the Polytechnic authorities.

During the Rally, some 1000 copies of the Ultimatum together with the result of the survey were distributed. From the Survey, it was observed that complaints were mostly against the poor flavour, quality, ingredients of the food sold in the Canteen. A further point to note is that the cleanliness of the Canteen is deplorable.

At the Rally, a good many speakers came up with the suggestion of boycotting the Canteen. "We have been negotiating with them too often without any improvement being implemented" said one. "Let's show the Canteen people what SPSU can do, let's boycott the Canteen!" Following which were shouts of "SPSU FOREVER!" from the audience.

Another speaker complaint about the attitude of the Canteen Manager. He once found a piece of broken glass in his cup of ice. He approached the Canteen Manager and was given a ludicrous reply. He was told that glasses crack by itself in atmosphere.

"The quantity is decreasing" cried another speaker. He said when he first ate at the Canteen, the quantity you get for a piece of 10 cts fruit is twice what you get now.

The last speaker argued that the cooking of the food could not have been a miscue. He said he eats at the Canteen only once a week yet he found the Canteen food unbearable. "To conclude" he said, "the food is not for human consumption".

Evidently, the Rally was a big success; there was mass support from the student body. However, due to the lack of time, the rally ended at 1.00 p.m.



PKPM visit

On the return of our delegate from the 3rd ASA Conference in Bombay, India an emissary was dispatched to PKPM, (National Union of Malaysian Students) to explain SPSU's stand on the admission of Israel into the Asian Students' Association. At PKPM's headquarter in Kuala Lumpur, our delegation, which consisted of our President, Vice-President, Hon. Gen. Secretary, and councillors met officials of PKPM in a brief meeting also attended by John Vines of Australia National Union on his return from Bombay and our counter-parts from University of Singapore.

Our delegation also met the UMSU's (University of Malaya Students' Union) representatives and discussed on their Union Structures, financial set-ups and running of the Students' Co-operatives.

SPORT

Singapore Polytechnic Swimming Carnival

ON Saturday 23rd of September 1972, Singapore Polytechnic held its Inaugural Swimming Carnival, the result of months of hard work, preparation and joined effort by the organising committee.

The 100 metres freestyle, butterfly, breaststroke and backstroke (men) kicked off the championship followed by the 50 metres breaststroke for ladies. The 50 metres events (men) was next followed by the staff 50 metres freestyle which was won convincingly by Mr. Choo Sin Chow, a lecturer from A.R.C. The 50 metres freestyle (ladies) preceded the 4 x 50 medley relay (men) won by the I.T.C. team.

The meet resumed after the interval with the ladies 50 metres backstroke followed by 4 x 50 individual medley, an open event. The 4 x 50 School Invitation Relay proved an extreme disappointment when only one school turned up for the event, although several schools had indicated their agreement to send teams. However, the A.C.S. team still swam in the event, showing their sporting spirit. The Club Invitation Relay produced a much better response with teams from PSC, CSC, SAFSA, Nanyang University, Singapore University and Queenstown SSC. The CSC team, anchored by state swimmers Tan Thuan Heng and Alan Lelah beat the others in a close and exciting finish.

The Novelty race for staff considered of 2 men and 2 ladies for each team, paddling 50 metres sitting in an inflated tube. Thrills

and spills ran high as each participant fought to stay afloat and upright while exhibiting unique individual styles of propulsion! The 4 x 50 Freestyle Relay (men) closed the programme.

Keen competition was shown both in the heats on Monday, 11th September 1972 and in the finals. There was a close fight for the individual championship in the ladies section it was more or less a sure-to-win affair which ended with a tie for the individual champion.

Results of the meet were:

Inter-Department:

ITC

Individual Champion (Men):

Michael Kong

Runners-up:

Wan Kok Hoe

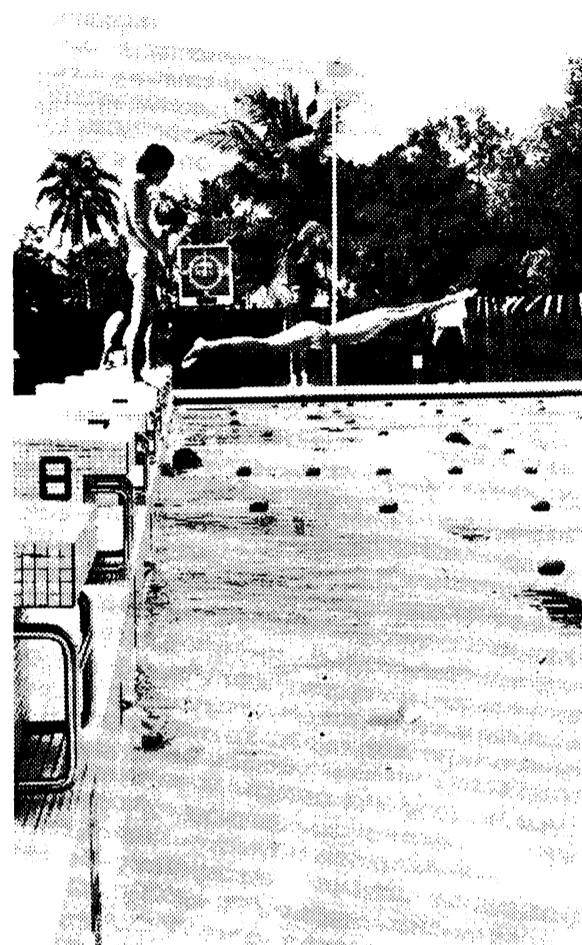
Chia Kwong Leong

Individual Champions (Ladies):

Loh Mei Fun

Lam Ngiet Keow

In his Prize giving speech, Mr. Chan praised Polytechnic and the meet committee for taking the necessary steps towards organising their first ever carnival and hoped that future meets would prove just as satisfying. Prizes were then given out for the individual and team winners.



Intervarsity Soccer 72/73.



DEFENDING champion, Singapore Polytechnic retained the Inter-varsity/College Soccer Title when they beat the Teachers Training College 2-0 in the final game played in our Ayer Rajah Campus, after leading the table with victories over the Ngee Ann Technical College (3-0), strong contender Singapore University (1-0), and then drawing with tournament favourites Nanyang University (1-1).

The game between the Polytechnic and Teachers Training College was played at a fast pace, with both teams, matching each other in speed and fitness for the first 15 minutes. After 20 minutes, the TTC team ran out of 'steam' and in the 24th minutes of play, a Victor Ow's cross from the left flank sent the dashing inside-right Yip Kharm Meng running in to connect the pass, and this he did by slamming the ball home left-footed into the roof of the net to put Polytechnic 1-0 up at half-time.

The second half saw the TTC engaging a ten men defense to counter the onslaught of the Polytechnic forwards. However, our players with their skillful ball control and the match under their feet, assaulted the TTC

goalmouth with continuous raids and this slightly upsets the defense of our opponent. Fully exploiting this situation, Abdul Kadir scored to put Poly 2-0 ahead.

Still not satisfied with the score, the goal hungry forwards kept pounding the TTC goal for more with able support from the half-backs but the TTC defense managed to hold out till the final whistle.

RUGBY

Report on Testimonial Match.

THE Singapore Polytechnic Tigers trounced the International School 49-0 (five goals, four tries and a penalty) in a testimonial match for Mr. Tony Howe and Mr. P.J. Farrell, played on the 25th October '72 at Ayer Rajah Road.

The Tigers, Playing fast, exciting and open rugby started the score through centre Joe Hiew with a try under the post, converted by stand-off Yip Kharm Meng. Within minutes, the score started soaring and by half-time, the Tigers had increased their score to 23 points through a penalty, a goal and a try.

On resumption, the School played much better rugby but still they were not able to match the experience and tactical play of the Tigers. Long and accurate cross kicks by the stand-off sent the wingers racing down for 4 more tries, with 2 converted. In the dying minutes of play, under heavy pressure from the Tigers, the School conceded another goal to put the final score at 49-0.

Scorers were:

Lim Eng Seng and Stanley Suan (2 tries each).

Joe Hiew (2 tries, 1 conversion).

Fong Foo Wai, K. Selvarajah, and James Ho (1 try each).

Yip Kharm Meng (penalty and 4 conversions).

POLY 50

By: THAM HIN KWONG

The Poly 50 was held on 13th October, 1972 at Prince Edward Road Campus. Traditionally this was one of the most spectacular event of the year. As to our expectation we had an overwhelming response with a record entries of 39 teams. These comprise of teams from all our different departments, which also include the staff team.

The rules and regulations stated were that each team should have ten runners which must include three females from their own department. Exception was given to departments without female students and were allowed to choose from any other departments. Out of fifty laps the girls complete five laps. The girls' laps are on the six, sixteen, twenty-six, thirty-six and forty-six lap, and should only be run by girls.

The race commenced at 4.30 p.m. sharp, where we have great honour in having our Principal, Mr. Robert Edis to raise the starter's flag. When the signal for the start was given, the starters of the various teams burst out from the starting line with great excitement.

The Civil department team which have a number of outstanding athletes lick Sockalingam, Kadir, James Ho, Kwang Ngee and Li Siang, lead from start to the end, although they have hot-legs from the Nautical team and the I.T.C. team behind them. It was real competition in every lap where every runner ran with all their might for everyone was an asset to contribute to the victory of their team.

All participants were really tested for their stamina, endurance and tactical team co-operation. The final results were first to the Civil team followed by Nautical Studies and third was the I.T.C. team. The staff team did creditably well (and came in fifth position) with their best runner Mr. Major Singh and a handful of average runners. The race thus ended with glories for those who did well, nevertheless, it was fun and joy for the rest who have at least tried their best to win.

(Cont.) Student Revolt

"LIBERAL UPBRINGING"

An overwhelming majority of leftist student militants in America belongs to the socially privileged strata of society — whether in family income, the professional prestige of the parents, or the level of their education. Moreover, in most cases, the parents of student militants are people of liberal or leftist orientation. These people highly value genuine humanitarian values and are distinguished by their political liberalism. Although they may not be politically active themselves, they inspire feelings of social responsibility, civic-mindedness and ideas of racial equality in their children. The very style of upbringing in such families is distinguished by liberalism, humaneness and tolerance.

Self-expression, independence, independent judgement, activity, and so on, are encouraged in their offspring. Such an upbringing naturally makes young people in these families particularly sensitive to hypocrisy, cruelty and social injustice. And according to sociologist Richard Flacks, a "liberal upbringing" is the primary cause of revolt among young people. Flacks backs up his concept with data concerning differences existing between the parents of active leftists and other students in their attitude to certain political questions (such as the bombing of North Vietnam) and to questions which he interprets as indices of the style of upbringing (the reaction of a father to his son's sharing a room with a girl, or to the expulsion of his son from school, etc).

VALVE ORIENTATION

In order to understand the American student unrest phenomena better, it would be interesting to compare the characteristics of the radicals with certain other data.

The following typology of American students with reference to their orientations towards a number of values is based on

empirical research and particularly on a poll taken from among 120,000 students of 250 colleges and universities in the United States:

1) **The Vocationalists** are students for whom college is first and foremost a means or acquiring a specialization providing a reliable job in future and the prestige that their own family never enjoyed. These young people treasure the opportunity they receive for learning, and specialize mainly in technology and the applied sciences, paying little attention to general cultural and political problems. Their attitude toward the American structure or values is passive, on the whole, with a leaning toward adaptation to it.

2) **The Professionalists** are different from the preceding group, mainly because they come from well-to-do families and the families of specialists, and strive not only to preserve, but even to increase their high social status. They choose highly-paid, prestigious specializations such as law, medicine, management and business administration, etc., because they are well-trained at school as a rule. This political views are generally conservative and are aimed at the preservation of the status quo.

3) **The Collegiates** are interested mainly in association with their coevals, amusements, courtship, sports and other extra-curricular activities. These students come mainly from the middle strata; they are less intellectual and choose specialization which require the least effort. They are characterized by conformism and the pursuit of popularity. At a time of upsurge of the mass student movement they may participate in it, but on the whole politics do not interest them.

4) **The Ritualists** generally lack any specific orientation. Their behaviour is determined by external forces — the influence of parents, coevals, friends or a given situation. As a rule, these people are a political; they simply fulfil what is required of them mechani-

cally, without a thought for anything else.

5) **The Academicians** are most enthusiastic about their studies and plunge into the scientific work of their carefully chosen field or research which they intend to pursue in future. In the majority of cases, they are the children of well-educated parents and have defined their intellectual interests well beforehand, in the senior grades of secondary school. Since they are engrossed in their scientific work, they rarely become political activists. Their high level of intellectual development, however, inclines them to sympathize with the critical ideas of the left, and in the broad development of the student movement they are its potential participants.

6) **The Intellectuals**, as distinct from the "Academicians" with their specialized interests in the natural sciences, for the most part are more orientated toward general culture. These students are philosophers, historians and generally humanitarians. They are individualistic and aesthetically sensitive and liberal in their political opinions. Their interests in general social problems promotes a tendency in them toward social criticism, but a certain emotional coldness (very often specially cultivated) somewhat cools their temperaments.

7) **The Leftist Militants** strive to rebuild American society.

8) **The Hippies** are representatives of complete alienation; they are pessimistic and apolitical.

And from other empirical data, it is shown that students of theoretical and particularly humanitarians specializations (namely the philosophers and sociologists) produce a much higher percentage of active leftists than the students of technical colleges and natural science faculties.

Continue in the Next Issue

SPSU Bye-Elections 1972

AT the SPSU Annual Elections 1972, a total of 6 seats, 4 of which belongs to SIT and 2 to School of Nautical Studies were uncontested during the School Elections (ordinary). Due to this, the Council deemed it necessary to call bye-elections to fill in the remaining seats in the Council.

On 23rd October, 1972, Nomination Day, a total of 11 nominations were received by the Returning Officer, Mr. Lee Tow Kiat — 10 from SIT and 1 from School of Nautical Studies. Out of these 11 candidates, some of them were former Councillors.

Polling was held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on 3rd November 1972 at three polling centres. Lectures were not cancelled but surprisingly, the same number of students who voted at the last Elections turned up to vote for their SIT leaders. Students from School of Nautical Studies did not vote because their only candidate was returned unopposed.

At 3 p.m. on 3rd November, came the critical moment for the candidates — the counting

of the votes. The Returning Officer, candidates and their supporters gathered at the Exhibition Hall to witness the counting of votes. After 2 solid hours, the following were declared returned to office of the 12th Students' Council by the Returning Officer.

School of Industrial Technology

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Mr Lim Eng Seng | 454 votes |
| Mr Kwa Boon Pang | 321 votes |
| Mr Goh Eng Kiat | 328 votes |
| Mr Wong Seong Khuen | 438 votes |

School of Nautical Studies

Mr Teo Seow Heng (returned unopposed).

ASA Conference PKPM (Malaysia) Walks Out

Following the admittance of the National Union of Israeli Students (NUIS), the Malaysian Delegation (PKPM) staged a dramatical walk-out in protest against the Conference's decision.

Israeli's admission was considered at the first meeting of the Credential Committee, chaired by the Australian Delegation. The Singapore National Delegation advocated Israel's admission on grounds that they complied fully with the constitutional requirements of ASA for membership.

Of the five voting delegations, Australia, Hong Kong and Singapore supported NUIS's admission against strong objections from PKPM, India abstained from this motion.

Ismail Bin Haji Talib, delegation leader of PKPM formally handed in his Council's letter of withdrawal from ASA to the Chairman immediately after the decision was taken.

P.S. For more details, see ASA's full report in the next issue.

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