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BUS FARE CONCESSION FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS — THE INEVITABLE



LEE MENG

We aren't too old; not too rich either

Perhaps you weren't aware of it but it is a fact that most of the students in Poly and Ngee Ann (full-time) are very young, many enter the college at 16 and graduate at 18 (2 year course) or 19 (3 years course). Maybe our clothing make us look older than the Pre-U students but it is a fact that most of us are around that age.

Or if the SBS feel that age didn't really matter then we are sorry to tell them that our pockets are not fuller either. From the survey done in late 1975 and recently, it has been proved that most Poly students are from the lower or lower middle income group (family income less than \$550 and with an average family size of 5 or 6 heads)

Many of us save money on food, textbooks, stationaries, clothings etc. to make up for the heavy bus fare. Some of us work on Sunday (as waiters etc) or take up tuition so that we can carry on. Most of us are definitely not too rich to be considered for concession.

The Criterion — who gets & who don't

Of course besides age and financial background, there are a thousand and one speculation on why a bus fare concession is not applicable to our case. Some people say that we are technician-to-be, others claim that we can't put on uniform etc.. However speculation are merely speculation they cannot tell exactly what criterion is considered when bus fare concession is granted. What then is the criterion for a busfare concession? If we were to analyse things carefully, it is not hard for us to agree that the most important criterion for

granting a bus fare concession should be the financial status i.e. whether the person is having income or not. Age, uniform, etc are almost out of the question and family backgrounds can only play a secondary role.

At present, it seems that the SBS's criterion for bus concession (if any) is very vague. It is important for us to clarify with them and convince them that we should be considered for a concession before talking about its feasibility and also the type of concession to be given.

Do we really need the concession

Who do we mean by "WE" when asking this question? The present students in Ngee Ann and Poly or the future ones. "WE" majority of the present student population needs the bus fare concession and "WE" the future student-to-be needs the busfare concession even more badly. All of us are relying on our over-burdened family for our expenses. A bus fare concession not only relieves the student involved but also the whole family. Many fathers wouldn't have to force themselves to work over-time, many mothers would have more time to look after the family instead of sewing umbrellas, many brothers and sisters would not go hungry due to lack of pocket money. As for the student-to-be, a bus concession would mean a more equal chance for the poor students to enter Poly. That's why they will need it more.

Would SBS agree?

Having established our rationale in requesting for a bus fare concession, it is time we ask this question — would SBS agree? Recently, a joint letter by SPSU and NATCSU was sent to SBS asking them to consider granting concession to Poly and Ngee Ann students. As expected the reply was negative. The reply consist of 2 main points:-

1. They are subsidizing \$25 million for the school children, therefore cannot subsidize Poly and Ngee Ann students.
2. They would have to raise the bus fare again if a concession is given.

Since our reasons for the request was not mentioned (not to say rejected) in their reply, they should not blame us for assuming that they recognised the fact that we, students of Poly and Ngee Ann, deserve a busfare concession. The question is only one of feasibility. Secondly, in their letter, they cleverly put in a condition — if we want a concession, then when SBS raise the already high bus fare, SPSU and NATCSU are to keep their gap tight because they are the "cause" of this bus fare hike.

SBS — recognising its nature

I hope that all along none of us have thought of SBS as a charitable organisation. Although dealing with public transport, SBS is still a private company (as far as I know) and it will, therefore, by nature profiteer. They withdrawn the season tickets sold by the UBC to Poly students when they first merge together. Within one year of its formation, it announced a bus fare hike of 10¢ per trip. Then in 1975, they tried to withdraw the bus pass from the V.I. students. However, they had to submit to the V.I. students in great embarrassment after the V.I. demo. Knowing its nature, we should therefore expect to have a lot of problem in convincing the SBS to grant us a concession.

You, members of the public, must be aware

After a slight diesel hike in 1975, SBS was already enthusiastically speculating the possibility of another bus-fare

Continues on page 2

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BUS CONCESSION FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS.....

hike. If that was a way in which they try to measure public opinion, they had probably recieved the message to keep their hands off. This matter was brought out again to the two Students' Unions at this time. Isn't the implication far and wide?

Here we want to make clear that we students would never under all circumstances agree to another bus fare hike. We want our concession but at the same time we understand that the public is already having a hard time keeping up with inflation with their meagre wage increase. Besides, if the concession is granted, then there will be greater equality in education opportunity. The issue is certainly not only a students' affair, it is also a public's affair. As a member of the public, you must be aware of what is happening!!



EDITORIAL

Bus-Fare Concession Issue

The BCI had been one of the longest issue pursues by the Students' Union. Eversince the bus fare hike in 1974, the public especially students from higher institutions has really felt the pinch on their pockets. Besides, many others were deprived of a chance to attain higher education because they couldn't afford the heavy transport expenses.

Recently, SPSU had jointly set up a committee with NATCSU to look into this BCI. Repeated attempts had been made to seek an audience with the SBS but were turned down. To our first letter requesting them to reconsider the situation, SBS's reply was a firm 'No' adding that they are already subsidising the Primary and Secondary school students \$25 m per annum. They claimed that a further extension of student concession would adversely affect their financial position which would ultimately results in another bus fare hike or a lower level of service. However simple calculations show that giving concession to Ngee Ann and Poly students (ie 6 500) would cost them a rough figure of \$1 m to \$2 m. Surely \$1 m or \$2 m is nowhere compared to the amount subsidized to school children(not to mention the concession extended to the army and police personnels).

A second letter had already been sent to SBS stating more clearly our rationale for asking for concession. Also one letter was sent to the Minister of Communication to seek his assistance in this matter. It is hoped that with the intercession of the Communication Minister, something fruitful can come out of it.

However, we must not commit the mistake of banking all hope on the Minister intercession. Similar request had been made before and had not achieve much either. We must recognise that we, the students, are still the determining factor. We must be clear and convinced of our rationale in order that our stand on the issue could be firm.

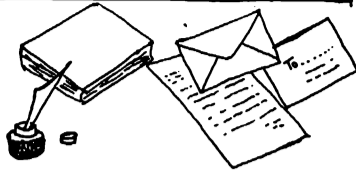
Road Safety Campaign

Singaporeans are indeed a funny lot. Every now and then, the Government had to carry out campaigns to 'educate' them into accepting new moral standards and social responsibilities.

Just 3 months back, many parts of Singapore were 'flooded' with VCs and traffic police who were out to enforce the new 'Pedestrian Crossing Regulation'. But how successful had this campaign been with the public? Perhaps the answer is most accurately described by a schoolboy from GESS: "It's successful only when there is police around but not when there isn't."

Also included is an interview carried out by the Students' Union on the public. The purpose of conducting this interview is to provide the public with

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



ONG KOON HOCK
5th October 1977

THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

The Bus Concession Issue seems to be a very hot topic with every new Council. And why not? If we are able to get the concession card, it means the passport to cheap bus rides and the saving of a small fortune. The present 18th Council's intention of bringing up the BCI is laudable, but let's ask ourselves; are we barking up the wrong tree?

Two years back, the 16th Council was just as intent on persuading SBS to give us Poly students concessions. There were surveys where questionnaires were distributed asking us the average busfare we pay, our family busfare expenditure, etc.. Posters sprang up all over

the campus and there was an air of activity over this issue.

Then quite abruptly, what started with a bang ended with a whimper. There were little news on what went wrong. In fact, there was no indication at all of any failure and the BCI died a natural death.

Even without much news, it was evident what went wrong. The 16th Council barked up the wrong tree. They approached the SBS with statistic compiled and obviously the SBS refused to give in.

Not surprisingly; as everyone knows that the SBS people are as stubborn and tough as the buses they owned.

Now the 18th Council is going to take the same path

I think the present Council should not waste their time with the SBS people. The result is stark clear.

Frankly, one must admit that the BCI is not a battle that can be easily won. But fight for it we will. I suggest that as many Poly student as possible write to the Press New Nation, Straits Times

and even the Chinese papers. Hopefully they will receive a flood of letters that they will be persuaded to publish a few. Now this idea does not guarantee we will get a concession but it is obvious that it is better than to approach the SBS directly as the SBS would be hard put to give a good image in the public's eye. Among our trump cards would be to mention that if SBS reaps million dollar profit per year why can't they give us concession and how can they make a profit out of bus travel, which after all is a public necessity. In fact the government should subsidise it if necessary.

And should everything comes to a head and still we don't get our concession, then maybe we can try writing to Mr. Lim Kim San (Minister for Communications) and Mr. Ong Teng Cheong (Minister of State for Communications). After all, there's nothing like getting down to brass tacks and seeing the top brass to get some business done.

Remember, with the nib of the pen we will fight to the end.

POLY STUDENTS AREN'T RICH!

Recently, SPSU had conducted a survey in conjunction with the BCI to determine the financial situation of Poly students. Out of the 2000 plus forms distributed, 1730 forms were recieved, properly completed.

The forms are filed and an analysis to the survey is presented below.

Average family size is 6-7 members.

STATISTICS FOR TOTAL FAMILY INCOME

Family Income	% of Students
Below \$550	34.5%
\$550 - \$700	22.3%
\$700 - \$1000	23.0%
\$1000 - \$1300	13.2%
\$1300 Above	7.0%



PIE-CHART OF FAMILY INCOME

STATISTICS FOR DAILY ALLOWANCE

Daily Allowance	% of Students
1.50 - 2.00	51.7%
2.50 - 3.50	31.5%
Others.	16.8%

STATICS FOR DAILY EXPENDITURE ON BUSFARE

Daily Expenditure	% of Students
\$1.00 - \$1.50	32.7%
\$1.50 - \$2.00	49.4%
\$2.00 Above	3.0%

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a channel to express themselves and also to bring about closer contact between the public and SPSU. During the interview, many echoed what had been said in the newspaper and seemed reluctant to mention much on the approach & penalty of this campaign.

CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED!

Dear Readers, The committee is greatly in need of your help. You can do it by writing to your working experiences, short stories, jokes, etc....

Editor

FOCUS ON SPSU

UNION HOUSE ISSUE

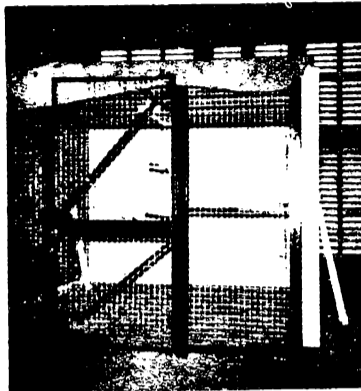
INTRODUCTION

Since the 1st letter of removal was sent to the Union on Oct '76 concerning the PMC Union House, the issue had taken on much changes and proven to be educating and speculative. The intention of the Administration to deny the Union a decent place in the new campus for organising activities is exposed before all, and it would have been successful had it not been for the firm protests and publicity given on this issue. (For full details, please see Vol 6 No. 2 and 3)

RECENT DEVELOPMENT

During the 3 months holidays after the 76/77 session, the Administration had attempted to put up a false facade when the principal and some of the key figures in the Poly Administration came over to the PEC Union House to make a survey and took some measurement of the space requirement of the Union. This attempt did succeed in fooling some of the Excocs as they began to think that the Administration is really looking into the matter after all. However nothing materialised out of it at all; and at the start of the new session, the Union had to take the initiative to 'muscle' into a plot of empty open space within the aeronautical workshop block (which at present is not ready for use as a workshop yet). The open space could only accommodate 2 table-tennis tables, a few medium size desks, and a table or two; and further to this it offers no security at all as anyone can come and go anytime they like. It was only later in the 2nd term that the Union is able to procure a small room (rejected by the Poly bookshop due to shortage of space) from the Administration after some cupboards were broken open

and items stolen. The small room (more like a 'cage') is only 11 ft by 14 ft. It would be use for providing printing and photo-stating services and working within would indeed be like packed-sardines with plenty of air to breathe but no room to move.



THE "CAGE" AT DRC

SHORT TERM SOLUTION

The acquisition of the tiny 'cage' is not without conditions. One of the conditions is that the Union will have to move out of the premises when the Administration needs the place sometime in March '78 or later. From this, it is clear that the case of the Union House Issue is not at an end yet. The alternative place we have now is only a short term solution and in six months time, we would again be left with nowhere to go. Verbal assurances were made by one of the in-charge of the Campus Development Plan that they will not evacuate the Union without giving us any alternative -----but hasn't fact proven itself?

NEW UNION HOUSE — UNDER WHOSE CONTROL?

Enquiries into when the new Union House will be completed met with no solid reply from the Administration. Answers like "not sure", "can't tell" were made and it seems obvious that the Administration does not want to commit themselves at such an early stage. Perhaps they would rather wait and see what is the general sentiment of the students towards the Union before deciding on their next move.

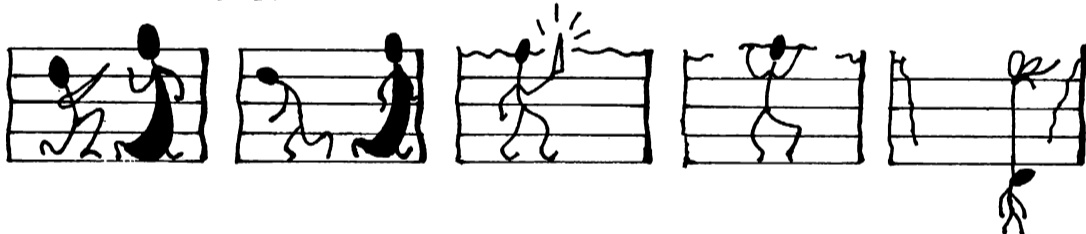
However it is already widely speculated that the new Union House will be ready in 9 months time and the Administration intended to call it a 'Students Centre' instead of 'Union House'. It would not be hard to conclude that the Admin will definitely not allow the Union to have control over the new Union House if they are left on their own to decide. What then would be the consequences to the Union?

That it is essential and basically a right of the Union to have a place in the campus (and one that is under student control, for that matter) is undoubtedly clear. Without a place in the campus, where is the Union going to organise activities for her members? Where are we going to put the various machineries of the Union and provide services for the students? And where is the student Council going to meet and plan the activities of the Union? Surely we are not going to go through all the red tape to book rooms for Council meeting and to be turned down eventually??!!

CONCLUSION

Fellow students, and members of the public, the outcome of the Union House Issue would depend very much on the effort put in by us together. It is my sincere hope that all of you follow this issue closely and always be concerned of what's happening to the Union.

THE SAD NOTE OF LOVE.



LETTER FROM A FRIEND IN NEW ZEALAND

Dear Editor,

I read the Singapore Poly Newspaper---Singapore Technocrat with much interest. I am fortunate enough to come across it in Auckland Malaysia Singapore Students Association Library.

First, I must congratulate the editorial committee for your fine effort. The cartoon 'who make the products' clearly reflects the industrial relation back home. Such message is concise and clear.

The report on Freshie Orientation is most encouraging. It provides a good opportunity for fellow students to enrich poly-life and fraternal organisations abroad will be able to carry such activities and exchange experiences through your newspaper.

I am moved by Sandra Dee's 'Bitterness of working life'. By spending her holidays experiencing factory life will certainly enable her to learn the workers attitude towards their jobs and the treatment received from management. I like to think that the workers are educated and will certainly like to work in jobs that will give them satisfactions, if there is such opportunity. All the ideas told to them while in school weren't true. The rosy pictures the education system painted smeared. It is sad

to learn that the workers are so pessimistic. It convinced me that workers are not getting a fair deal. After studying in a foreign country like New Zealand for ten years. I come to realise that the workers at home are well underpaid compared to a standard cost of living wages. In New Zealand I worked during the three months summer vacation, I was able to earn enough to pay for my year's expenses. In New Zealand average wage is NZ\$2.50/hr. compare to S\$0.50/hr. in Singapore. The fact that the workers here weren't exploited that bad is because the UNIONS made them strong and fought for their rights to the proper wages. Back home Mr. Nair of the NTUC urges the workers to accept what is given to them. So where does the future lie and what is Mr. Nair's interest?

Although life here is comparatively better, the workers are beginning to feel the recipe NZ's PM Mr. Muldoon cooked after he learnt from Singapore K.Y. Lee. No matter what trick the ruling bosses applied, the workers will soon awake and the sky will be forever clear.

The suppression of the SPSU is the most coward and victimising tactics used to suppress the students from questioning the unfair deal and problems faced by the people. They resort to the tactic of first victimised, jailed, contained the students' unions and then control it. I remembered while I was still in primary school I always met with gangsters who first tried to help me get to school and ask for my sweets in return, later

they took away my pocket money and finally they wanted me to call them 'Tai Goa' (Big Brother). That I refused and they bashed me. My face bruised, body ached, but I never forget their dirty fists. Later I learnt that by going to school together with a group of pupils they dared not come near us any more. Eventually this group of gangsters gone but we remembered their dirty ways. But I still remembered those friends of mine who had been bullied by them just the way they did to me. These friends have grown up and our friendship and warm never fade away.

All over the world friends of integrity are beginning to be aware of the exploitation in ASEAN and other developing countries. Students in the world are beginning to expose all repressive acts of the ruling clique.

Your publication is very informative and encouraging. Do keep up with your good work. Please try to send your publication to as many fraternal organisations as possible. This way, we will be able to keep up with the development in your Union. I am confident that humane students and organisations throughout the world will throw their support behind your struggle for the Union's survival.

Once again, congratulation for your encouraging work and fine effort!


Signed,
Yours in Solidarity.

INTRODUCING THE 18TH COUNCILLORS

The SPSU Annual Elections had ended not long ago and the 18th Students' Council stepped into office on the 16th Sept.'77. One thing unique about this Council is that for the first time in SPSU, the Council just elected (with the exception of the part-time councillor) had incidentally stood up for elections together as a group. Further to this, it also make history in SPSU to find the part-time students having a representation in the Council for the first time. It is hoped that something fruitful could come out of this, the least of which would be a better understanding of the needs of the part-time students.

The Council consists of five 3rd years, thirteen 2nd years and five 1st years and majority of them had been working actively in the Union for the past one year or more. With representation from all years and the added experience of some in the 17th Council, it should not be difficult for the Council to work cohesively and cater for the students more effectively.

To provide a better understanding of the 18th Council, we present here the opinions of the members of the Council on some of the questions concerning the Union and themselves. Questions asked are 1) Why do they stand up as a councillor? 2) How do they view the activities of the Union? 3) What do they think about the issues taken up by the 17th Council? 4) What are the problems arising after stepping into Council? and 5) What do they think about student apathy and how it could be remedied?



TEM 2
LOW WAN YIN
COUNCILLOR

I feel that our stay in Poly should be something more meaningful than the 3 Ls type of life. Otherwise it would be tiresome and monotonous.

One way in which this could be achieved is to participate in Union activities. Through participation, we became aware of the work and felt the responsibilities. It is thus that I stood up for elections into the council to organise activities and cater for the needs and welfare of our students.

Students here can be classified under 2 main categories - active and passive. Active ones are either actively for or against the Union -- they are only a minority. The passive ones constitute the majority and are the so called 'apathetic' students. I say 'apathetic' not in the sense that they have no feeling, no interest or sympathy; but rather they are pessimistic. They do realise that the Union is doing the correct thing but chances are it will fail due to external pressure, so why care? For them, I would like to say sincerely that if we do not stand united together, how can success come our way?


On the other hand, other passive ones always demand the Union to do this and that for them. I hope these students would question themselves, "Why don't



TEM 1
PAK GEOK CHOO
ASST. HON. GEN. SEC.

I do this and that for the Union and bring about a more effective Union?"

The rest of the passive students are those who had in them a certain fear of being involved. I do urge these students to come forward and learn more about the Union and her development.




TEMP 1
SEE CHENG HONG
COUNCILLOR

My first step into Poly was indeed a difficult. There was practically no one to turn to had it not been for SPSU. Having participated actively in the orientation, I became aware of the Union. Never had I come across any organisation like SPSU which promote and safeguard students' interest. Through it we also learn more about social welfare and understand the role it plays in voicing out opinions. Another factor which prods me to stand up is the student apathy. I hope to play a part as a councillor to help them understand more about things.


Family objection is one of the problems faced when I stood up as a councillor. This is because of the propaganda against the Union

Secondly, study problem also cropped up as I had to spend more time in the Union. Some of my friends began to misconstrue that I did not come to Poly to study but to do Union work.

However I feel that such problems should not deter me and that it can be solved if I distribute my time properly between my family, study and the Union.




TEMP 1
TAN HOW MENG
COUNCILLOR



TEM 2
WONG LOONG KWONG
FINANCIAL SEC.


Activities organised by past councils (excluding 15th, 16th and 17th Council) usually benefitted only a minority. Examples of such are games tour and annual dinner and dance. I think the Union should instead encourage mass participation and organise more activities like Poly 50, inter-class tourneys, camps...etc.

Also, though our students may be academically & physically 'fit', they are usually morally and socially handicapped. Besides, the alienation among students and the gap between the student and public is ever present. Therefore activities of the Union should be geared towards educating the students morally and socially and maintaining a form of communication with the public.



TAD 2
TAN AI JEW
WELFARE SEC.

My 1st years' involvement was undoubtedly regrettable. I was inexperienced and did not contribute much. However, I was not left in the lurch but received plenty of help from the other members. Academic problem arises when I am in the 2nd year. Draw becomes a hectic activity. I was so despondent, but then again I was much retrieved after some discussions with the other members in the Union. I realised that time can be squeezed out if we really made an effort to organise ourselves properly. Definitely it's easier than done, but everything's worth endeavouring, when you know you are on the right course.




TEE 2
HENG SENG MENG
SOCIAL SEC.

I find the calculator issue very educational. It exposed the true nature of the Administration as can be seen through their actions.

When the petitions by the students were presented to them, they replied that they will look into the matter, while in actual fact they tried to delay the issue.


Also when they finally allowed the use of calculator, they left out the 1st year hoping to create disunity and dissatisfaction amongst the students.

I hope that more students should make it a point to be concerned about issues in future.



TEM 2
LIU WAI SUNG
PUBLICATION SEC.

It's a 'disease' present in any students' organisations --- USSU, NATCSU, NUSU and SPSU. The only difference is the degree of affliction by each Union. I would define it as the indifference of student towards the Union, knowingly or unknowingly. The reason is simply that they do not feel themselves as part of the Union. Only way to alleviate this is to organise more activities or issues which concern them personally. Even then, it can never be totally eradicated; not when the forces producing it is still very much at work




TEELC 3
CHOO TEOK CHYE
COUNCILLOR

I would not say that the victimisation issue is a failure though the Union did not get back the 3 students. 500 over students had signed the petitions and it shows that they are aware of such things in Poly. In the past, the Union had seems to me to be against the Admin, but this issue had shown the truth that they are always suppressing the Union, robbing away our rights. Well, the Union have to take some actions!

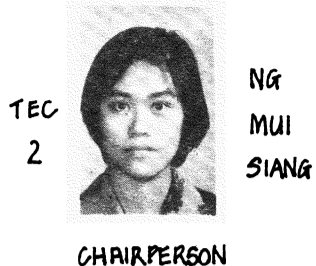


TEM 2
TAN KIN TEO
COUNCILLOR

I believe that other councillors do face the same problems as I do; ie parental objection and study problems. But all these problems don't affect me much at all, because for parental objections, if we can constantly explain things to them, a day will come when they will understand what we are doing. As for our studies' problem, if we distribute our time wisely, we can still be academically fit.



TEELC 2
WONG SWEE ENG
ASST. FINANCIAL SEC.



TEC
2
NG
MUI
SIANG

CHAIRPERSON

It is indeed encouraging to see a group of students from different courses, differently standing up united with a common aim to serve in the Union. With these conditions things can be done more effectively & the Union can progress faster. Though some are inexperienced, they are willing to learn and contribute their best to the Union.

I stood up as a councillor hoping to make more friends and to have a better understanding of things happening in Poly. Thru' this way, it could help us to widen our knowledge and ways of thinking.

From the past activities, I believe that the Union is doing her best to cater for the students --- providing stationeries and organising interesting social activities, etc.. I hope that all students can be aware of the aims and give us their support so as to achieve a better and stronger Union!

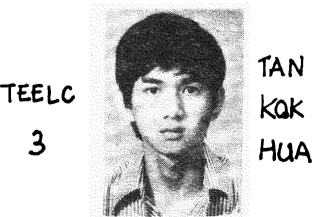


TEC/TB
1E/O
THAM
SWIT
CHAN

COUNCILLOR

Activities of the following aspects --- recreational and cultural. It provides students with a channel to relieve their tension from their work load. Practices in volleyball, basketball, table-tennis and swimming are held regularly during weekends and evening to provide students to come together and relax, enjoy and make friends.

In the sports scene, friendship and recreation are promoted. Interclass tournaments served as an opportunity for recreation and interaction among students rather than to select players or winning glory. The sense of friendship pervades throughout and there is no place for envy among the participating teams



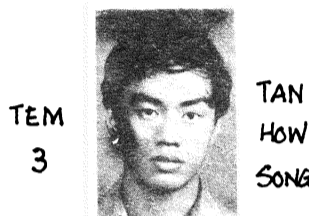
TEELC
3
TAN
KOK
HUA

COUNCILLOR

Ours is a rare organisation left which can still speak out and express freely. Our activities are self-determining without external interference.

Though financially crippled and faced with difficulties which proved frustrating and disheartening, we would carry on with further determination and will when reflecting into the past activities.

Activities now are geared towards mass participation and better relationship among students. Some are thought-provoking and help us to be critical of our surroundings. I believe our present trend of activities is correct and beneficial to us and we should carry on with it.

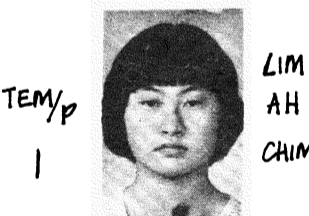


TEM
3
TAN
HOW
SONG

UNION HOUSE SEC

Since I came into contact with the Union, I found that it is aiming at catering for the majority of the students. The activities promote mass participation and involvement. With healthy activities like regular practices in games and cultural, we learn to understand one another better. Besides, group studies are also organised to cater for the academic side.

I feel that the trend of our Union is correct and we must try our best to improve in whatever way we can. I view that the students' support and participation is the most important thing in the Union.



TEM/P
1
LIM
AH
CHIM

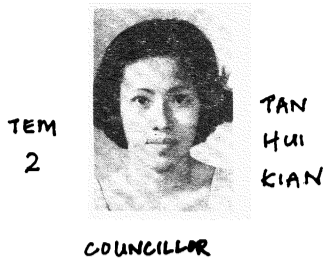
COUNCILLOR

Apathy, in itself, is a common phenomenon in our society. Whether in our social community or student community, we find people indifferent and care less towards social affairs, government policies, etc..... There is a serious devoid of humanity and concern for our fellow beings.

Students, in the process of mugging for exams, rushing to libraries, etc, lose sight of the objective of education in the true sense.

Our present education provides us no channels to seek and question nor develop ourselves but had diminished to a mechanical automation feeding us facts and datas.

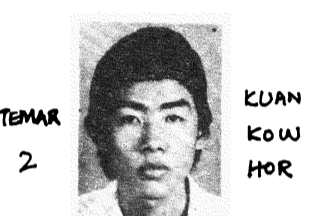
Students are not



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2
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HUI
KIAN

COUNCILLOR

Although the few issues taken up by the 17th Council had not receive full success or support, we are not disappointed. These issues, such as 3Cs and victimisation, have played the role of bringing out the adverse conditions of the campus and also the injustice of the Admin. Take for instance the victimisation issue, how many of the students were aware of such discriminations if it had not actually been dis-



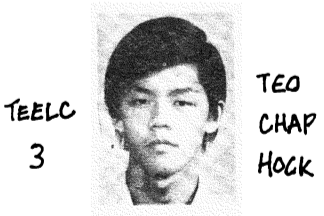
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HOR

COUNCILLOR

Since stepping in, SPSU had taken up a no of issues --- namely arrests, 3Cs, Union Hse, victimisation, Fresh men Orientation (F.O.), and the present Bus Concession Issue. The issues were taken up to safeguard our right and interest.

Though response to some issues is not so good, however we managed to arouse student to be aware of the environment and the Admin's nature. Personally, I think the poor response could be that the Council had not done enough to make them understand the issue. Also students held a wrong attitude in that they support only issues that hit them, neglecting others which do not directly involved them.

Lastly, issues should be taken up to educate the students and not just attaining the material benefit only (ie getting calculator or bus pass only)



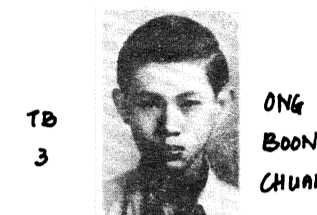
TEELC
3
TEO
CHAP
HOCK

PRESIDENT

born apathetic, but the orientation they are programmed towards is wrong. In order to break through the vicious cycles of this sterile 3Ls life, we must take the initiative to re-educate ourselves by getting in touch with realities. Our Union provides us with just this channel and the activities are geared towards getting in touch with realities.

played for all to see? The answer is not many. Therefore, I personally feel that it is not by the attainment of our demands that we measure our success, rather it should be by the achievement of our aims to educate and awaken our students.

Fellow students, let us then not be blinded by sweet words from the Admin, instead analyse and unite together for justice.



TB
3
ONG
BOON
CHUAN

COUNCILLOR

In my 3 years here, I've seen SPSU taken on much changes and development. The past councillors were mostly corrupted and self-centred, but all these changed from 15th Council onwards. SPSU became truly representative of the rights and interest of students, at the same time exhibiting concern for the society. Under the influence of realities, I became aware and gradually took a liking to the Union. But, the student opinions make me kept my distance from it.

In order to know how an apple taste, we must eat one personally. As such, I joined the U-



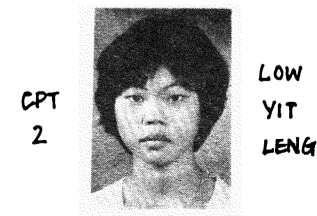
TEE
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LOW
HUEN
IMM

COUNCILLOR

Just like any other students, my aim of coming to Poly was to pursue that piece of

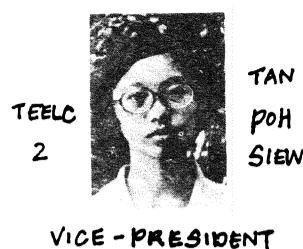
Too often have we been told that paper qualification is the only way to an easy life and it's not surprising to find many adopting the selfish "fittest survives" attitude around.

Another cause of apathy is perhaps the feeling that it doesn't pay to care for others. Enough fear and doubt had already been created by the distorted image of SPSU that many thought it safer to stick to their book. Coupled with the heavy workload, many got tied down and alienated from the Union.



CPT
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LOW
YIT
LENG

HON. GEN. SEC.



TEELC
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TAN
POH
SIEW

VICE-PRESIDENT

Of the few issues, the victimisation is the most controversial one. Besides creating opinions among student it also shattered my dreams of the educational system. Though in a tertiary institution, we still find the Admin employing such low class tactics to cripple SPSU. How then are they to shape future nation builders? Is this 'education'?

Contrary to what some students think, I view the issue as one affecting every students here. It's violating our rights and we must stop it. The remark from other students who doubted the issue is that "they do not see any contradiction, personally". I would advise that they join in the organising work to see for themselves the contradiction existing. I'm sure the coming 78/79 F.O. will be another educational process for them.

nion activities & soon developed a deeper understanding of the Union and union workers. I think most of the union workers do have the same experience too.

paper which would guarantee my security in future. With this in mind, I had originally planned not to get involved. During the 76/77 orientation, my illusion of Poly being a Paradise was completely shattered. I saw unruly students ragging the new students and the Admin's indifference left me no imagination of their respectability

The start of the session found me drifting around aimlessly in the campus. I decided to join some of my former schoolmates and through them, I got really in touch with the Union. Seeing the need for manpower, and with the encouragement from Union workers, I decided to stand up as a councillor.

The prevailing culture plays a part too in diverting the vigour of our youth. The many cheap thrills available provides an escape from the boredom in the campus. To counter this, SPSU serves as an alternative to the prevailing culture. Thru' activities, we can learn mutually and help one another broaden our outlook.

Continued from page 5

Councillor speaks....

It's a rare chance to find Malay in the Students' Council. It might be due to a vague understanding of what the UNION is doing that lead to such peculiarities. Many have wondered why I wasn't active in the Malay Language Society to help organise the students. Personally, I viewed that serving in the society or Union does not matter much. However, as the society is a sub-structure of the Union, then the survival of SPSU is more vital. Furthermore, unlike the society which had a limited scope, we can cater for more students through the Union.

Much earlier, during the orientation, I had been rather shaken by the apparent discontentment and mixed feeling among the Malay students who disagreed to my involvement in Union. The many inquisition and explanation I sought had not been able to satisfy my doubts. After careful analysis, I decided to stick to the Union because I find that as long as we have a common aim in mind, it would not be difficult to overcome any difficulty in mixing with other races or working with them. There should not be a segregation between us as it would only lead to disunity of students.

YEE LC
2



KAH HUI
SINAR

COUNCILLOR

SPSC GAME

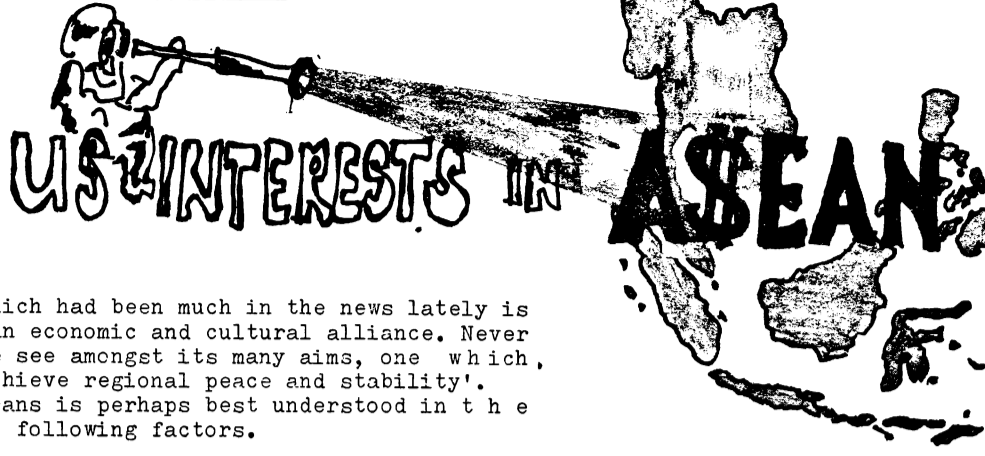
inter-class games

True to its aim of promoting mass participation, the 14th Sports' Council embarks to organise inter-class games for students. Posters were put up in the first term to invite teams for the netball and SPSU 11-a-side soccer. Response were overwhelming for the 11-a-side soccer with more than 80 teams participating. However, participation in the ladies netball games was unenviable with only 11 entries. We urge more ladies to come forward to participate in sporting activities organised by SPSC. The matches for the above 2 games are still in progress. Supporters are encouraged to come and cheer their own teams.

Society Friendship Day (SFD)

Held in conjunction with the Affiliated Societies Coordinating Committee, the SFD was smoothly carried out on the 8th Oct '77. Programmes for the day include friendly table-tennis and volleyball matches, cultural performances by the participating teams, and a tea party for all those present. Throughout the day an atmosphere of mutual friendship was attained. But we feel that such a atmosphere should be maintained at all times and not in occasions like SFD only.

REGIONAL AFFAIR :



Asean which had been much in the news lately is ostensibly an economic and cultural alliance. Nevertheless, we see amongst its many aims, one which reads 'to achieve regional peace and stability'. What this means is perhaps best understood in the light of the following factors.

As it is, Asean which populates some 200m people, is characterised by a series of bilateral arrangements between the US and each member state and between the members state themselves.

During the Vietnam War, Thailand was the main spring-board for US aerial bombardment. Thai troops also shouldered a great deal of the ground fighting in Indochina. Thailand is also linked with maritime South East Asia through longstanding cooperation with Malaysia since the emergency. The border region which is inhabited by Red forces, is particularly useful to both the US and Japan because an oil pipeline or canal can be constructed across it as an alternative to over-dependence on the Straits of Malacca.

In East Malaysia too, there is cooperation between Malaysian and Indonesian military and security armed forces. In both Sarawak and North West Kalimantan, guerilla forces are very strong. Counterinsurgency operations are also very much needed to 'protect' the real resources so much needed by the States.

Indonesia and Philippines are also linked militarily through their concern over the increasing insurgency in the southern islands of the Philippines and in parts of East Indonesia. During Suharto's visit to the Philippines in 1971, contact was established and have been kept open ever since. Furthermore, the Marcos coup in 1972 was certainly welcomed by Indonesia.

It's also interesting to note that in conjunction to all these bilateral arrangements, the Asean complex includes some of the most significant US bases in the world..... example of which are Clark Field in the Philippines and Udorn, Ubon and U-Tapao in Thailand.... & this is but the boundary of a US 'defence' structure in the East. Undoubtedly, it is complex but all the main links focus on Washington.

To date also, US strategists have already speculated upon the possibility of raising a combine Asean force of 50000 & a fast striking airmobile unit of 10 000 deployable anywhere within the region within 48 hours and equipped with 1 500 trucks, 400 helicopters, 500 machinegun and 2500 radio and communication units.

Filipino commentator, Aurelio B. Calderon wrote that:

"Should agreement be reached on the neutralisation scheme & should neutrality be declared, a matter of common interest to Asean, then would not the logical development of it call for an Asean military contingency plan-- to preserve 'neutrality'? The term 'military pact' will naturally be avoided. But who is to object to 'cooperation for defence'?"

Taking everything into consideration then, one wonders if Calderon's 'neutralization' is no more than a preservation of the status quo. What then is Asean really all about? And where does the US feature?

Let us examine the economic relations between Asean and the other economic powers. For both Japan and Western Europe, Asean is the key to their prosperity. We know for a fact that both these countries have enormously valuable assets in the region that they cannot afford to lose. But the one who seems to be primarily dependent upon us is the United States.

Firstly, with the depletion of her own resources, she has to turn more and more to the outside world for these. Secondly, there is growing trade & investment links with Asia. According to the US Department of Commerce, American trade with Asia and Oceania was running at an annual rate in 1973 more than 1/3 greater than that with Latin America. By late '73, Asia had become the second largest trading partner outside of North America. America conducts somewhat larger trade with West

Europe but Asian trade with the US has been escalating. For eg., in '55, exports to western Europe totalled \$5.1b., about double that to Asia. By '70, exports to Europe had risen to 14.5 (a 3 fold increase) as compared to Asia where exports had risen to 10b. (a 4 fold incr.)

On the imports side, America bought some 9.6b from Asia, and this amount was exceeded only by that bought from West Europe and Canada. By this time, exports to Asia had already exceeded that to Canada. Quite visible then is the day when US trade with Asia will easily overtake that with W. Europe.....for after all, we have the people, the territory and the potential wealth.

In terms of investment too, the same trend can be perceived. America firms in Asia are to be found everywhere and Singapore itself is the far East headquarters of many a US corporation. Just the book value of these investments is sufficient to make us aware of how vested American interests are locally. By '69, she had invested some 1.2 b in Japan, 741m. in the Philippines, and more than a billion in other Asian and pacific countries. Sales of US manufacturers in Japan soared from 380m. to 2b in 7 years (from 61 to 68). In the Philippines, it rose from 160 m to 410m in the same period. Undoubtedly, these trends have not ceased to move in the same direction since then.

Equally interesting is the amount America spends on arms vis a vis Asia. Generally speaking, America is well-known for her war economy, that is dependence on military spending to support her economic sector. How intractable and unadaptable is her military-dependent industrial sector and how far does Asia feature in this? Note also that an answer to such a question is inevitably tied up to her dependence upon raw material and her balance of payments. How then is American military expenditure allocated and rationalised???

Cont'd on page 13





CURRENT
EVENT :

THE SUNSET OF RHODESIA THE DAWN OF ZIMBABWE



FEDERICK
LIM

Recently, there were a large number of reports regarding talks between the Black and White leaders of Rhodesia and also the clashes between the Government forces and the Black Guerillas. Below is an article giving the historical and political background of Rhodesia and it is hope that the readers can have a better understanding of the Rhodesia affair.

Makalanka - the land of the Sun

In the 13th century, there is an ancient country standing on the present day Rhodesia. The local people called this country 'Makalanka', which means 'the country of the sun'. The tales of 'Makalanka' has been widely circulated among the Portuguese sailors. In the 15th century, the Portuguese arrived at the East of Africa and undergone great difficulties to find 'Makalanka'. Their hard work is not for adventure-sake nor for archaeological interest; it is because the tale about Makalanka also mentioned the existence of a golden hill. It was believed that gold were used as tiles and bricks by the people there. However, they did not have any luck.

In 1888, the British Colonists actually strike gold there -- not a golden hill but a gold mine. Gold attracted a large number of colonialist but also brought great misery to the local people. The country of the sun was named Rhodesia, after an outstanding colonialist in the year 1895. The mystery of the country of the sun was never solved until this century when a group of explorers accidentally found a very ancient and glamorous castle. This founding confirmed the existence of the country of the sun.

The Castle Of Stone - Zimbabwe

The stone castle found is a very large and magnificent one. It has an inner wall and an outer wall. Its walls are all very high (up to 11m) and are made of gigantic slabs of stone. The city is over 1200 years old and yet remains largely undamaged. From the construction of this castle one can imagine how glorious was the civilisation of the people then.

Not only was the existence of a comparatively advanced civilisation in the ancient days in Rhodesia confirmed by the founding of this stone castle, it also heightened the spirit of the Africans (Black) and increased their confidence in their struggle for independence. The Whites used to claim that Africans are barbaric and uncivilised. They claimed to be the saviour of the hopeless Black-sinners and treated them as only something slightly more than an animal. After a long time, some Africans began to lose confidence and believed in what the Whites claimed.

In local language, the term for stone castle is Zimbabwe. This explains the reason for the local people choosing the name Zimbabwe for their homeland. On the other hand, the name Rhodesia smacks of insult to the Africans. To the Africans, the term "Rhodesia" runs in parallel with colonialism, exploitation and racism.

Racial Discrimination

At present, South Africa and Rhodesia are the 2 main leading countries which openly adopts a racist policy. In Rhodesia, the 5% White of the total population of 6 millions are controlling more than half of the country's cultivable land. The Whites are able to control the country's richest land and live luxuriously while the Blacks are living the lives of slaves.

The Blacks were chased away from the land in which they have been cultivating for generations and forced to live in the 'protected village'. In the protected village, the Blacks can hardly survive with the miserable piece of land allocated to them. Furthermore the burden of all kinds of taxes and un-

believable expensive daily necessities are added onto their shoulder.

Unable to survive, many Blacks are forced to go into the cities to become miners of Whites' coal mine, agriculture workers of Whites' farms and workers of Whites' factories. They are the source of cheap labour. However, it must be mentioned here that the Blacks are not free to move around. They need to apply for a permit and had to return to the 'protected village' after a certain period.



It is only when they have obtained employment that the Africans are permitted to stay in the city or the high grassland in Central Zimbabwe. Even so, their homes are restricted to the under facilitated slum or the slave camp located in the Whites' farms. All of them must carry an identity card and some of the many other documents (there are up to 27 kinds) all the time. (Or else they will be detained.) It is even stated in Rhodesian law that Africans are not permitted to work as train driver, teacher, engineer, etc.

All the best facilities are meant only for the Whites. Not only are the hotels, restaurants restricted to the Whites, even public facilities such as the sport field, entertainment centres are closed to Africans. Blacks and Whites have separate seats in public vehicles, in parks and they line in separate queue in post office, theatre, railway stations etc. Even their grave yards are separated.

Besides all those discriminatory laws, the Economic discrimination plays a even greater role in maintaining White supremacy in the Rhodesian society. A White farm worker or factory is paid 20 (TWENTY) times the wage of a Black worker. Due to the wide economic gap, the white children can afford better education whereas the Black children receives, at most, 'education enough to be a servant.'

Obviously, blacks are not admitted to the government administration. The White-controlled parliament also passed various acts which allows the police to check on any African at any time, eg. the rebellion act, subversive activities act, security act, public order ordinance etc.. In the eyes of the white racist, the Africans are not human beings, that is why there is no need to pay any attention to their plight and their political economical, social and educational rights. The white children are all taught to take Africans to be something slightly more than monkeys and are only for cheap labour. They accepted white racism and became down-right racist.

The Sunset Of Rhodesia

The beginning of 20th century saw the defeat of the natives' resistance by the imperialist British army. As soon as the British have gained control of Rhodesia, a nationalist and colonialist movement begins.

The earliest organisation form was the Rhodesia Native Association followed by the Commercial and Industrial Workers Congress. Both these organisation has popular support and their members are very widespread throughout

the country. However, their main activities are only involved in protest and petition. Their leaders of these organisations are still hoping for the British gentlemen who always shout about human rights and democracy to change their minds and return the rights of the Africans.

After many decades of hard work, these organisations did not improve the situation of Rhodesia and in fact it has worsen. In 1930, the White government began to enforce its "Land Distribution Act" and robbed away vast area of land from rightful owners, the Africans.

The popular parliamentary struggle, although unable to change the situation, has greatly increased awareness among the people. The blacks seeing that this form of struggle would never bring about real changes began to take a new form of struggle. In 1961, the Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU) was formed followed by a even more militant Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) in 1963. Both ZAPU and ZANU took and are still taking arm struggle as their main form of struggle against racism and colonialism.

In 1964, Ian Smith took over the political power from the British and began one of the most cruel and dictatorial reign in the whole world. Strikes, protests and demonstrations broke up all over Rhodesia and all peace loving people of the world were pointing an accusing finger at the regime. Instead of changing his policy, Ian Smith broke away from the Commonwealth (and almost the rest of the world except South Africa) and further suppress the resistance movement. Black demonstrators were smashed (by bullets of course) and many black leaders were detained. However, he did not realise that this is also the beginning of the end of his regime.

At the various camps in the Northern region of the country and in Zambia, small groups of guerillas were formed. They have undergone extremely difficult conditions (unsuitability of the forest for living and also attacks from the white army) and very slowly, the forces of the guerillas grew. In 1968, a big clash between the guerillas and the white army shocked the whole world into realising the might of the guerillas.

The independence of Mozambique in 1975 greatly encouraged the people in Zimbabwe. They were the parallel between the Frelimo (front for the liberation of Mozambique) and their ZANU and ZAPU.



In 1976, the power of the guerillas increased significantly. A reliable estimation of the strength: 1500 operating in the Rhodesia/Mozambique border alone, 10000 in training, many others in other operational region. The Rhodesian army is numbered 13 000, half Africans, half whites. Naturally, most of the Africans have not the will to fight at all and even the white army have lost all Africans in face a completely hostile African nation. This situation is similar to that of Vietnam where 50 000 Americans armed with the most sophisticated weapon in the world fought the NLF.

Continue on page 10

MATERIALS FOR DIGEST

Destination — Defoliation Of Human Society??

— SIMON

It is the historical wheel that we are travelling with. From Ape to man, from man to slave society, to feudal society, to colonial society, to capitalist society, that is our present society now, and from here to where???? If we continue to drive in the same direction as the present trend of society is heading where will we land in? The answer to it is of no mystery but predictable unless we refuse to awaken ourselves to look forward to where we are heading.

his house with the light on so that people will not know that the house is empty. Tourist and women are advised to walk in the brightest streets in the town for fear of robberies and rapes. Children are forbidden to mix with friends for fear of being misled into taking drugs and so on. These sense of our fear and uncertainties in our life which were not experienced by earlier generations is what we are and going to suffer in our future.

ll, we were living in a wooden house in a village. Sitting around in the compounds outside our house chatting with our neighbours was then the popular night activity after dinner. Our parents would start talking about things happening in the world, within the village, in space and so on with no limit to the discussion. Kids like us would then sit around and listen. Whenever there is any big occasion or festival, excess food was always passed to the neighbours to be shared with. The friendships among the kids were good, because we played games, studied and sometimes even eat together. Those were the human relations which we enjoyed in the past and it is just a picture that I can recall and never again will I be able to find it in the present flat that I am living.

All the above phenomena I cited are but a part of the many symptoms of the degrading society. If I will to cite all, it may not take me a hundred sheet of papers but infinite number of pages.

We are now in a society where we are free to compete with each other. It is a society where material enjoyment is looked upon of great importance than human relation. Since young, we were taught to make use of and exploit others rather than helping and loving one another. The system makes us selfish jealous over our friends, and compete with them. If possible, we will even go to the ex-

-tend of trampling over others making them seem minute and yourself as someone high above. A society that taught us that you are a Negroes and he is White and thus must kill one another; and he is a Christian and thus will never get along together. All this meant to divide the people and making them easier to be controlled. We are in a society where there are just like mechanical robots, producing more wealth for the rich bosses, instead of working hard to bring progress and happiness to our fellow common people which include our parents, relatives friend and so on.

It then appears that we are in a quite helpless situation, pessimistic about our future. But no, we should not. If we will take a look at History, we will find that History has proven to us that men can change the world. It is people that is the main motive force in turning the historical wheel. We understand that when the slaves were awakened, there were slave uprisings. When the exploitation by the landlords was realised by the peasants, there came peasant revolts. The struggle of the people against the colonialists are also examples of the ability of men in changing their society to a better one; to a less exploitative one. So long as we realise and recognise the faults of the present and future society and have the determination to change, their history will be on our side.



THE TRUE STORY OF XX PRIMARY SCHOOL.....

HU KIM LENG



As usual, the students of XX Primary school go streaming lazily through the newly painted school gate just before the bell rings at 7.45 am. After 2 months or so of holiday, all those little faces seem to show a sign of unwillingness as they walk slowly through the school gates. Sometimes a teacher walks in and is greeted by her students but few of the teachers are so 'fortunate' --- the students prefer to stand at least 5 yards away from them and if possible, behind some trunks or pillars. As soon as they meet each other the little boys and girls started talking about everything, film-shots, new bags, new uniform and books, how the holidays had been spent, homeworks etc. It's amazing to see those children organising themselves in seconds and started playing hide and seek, ballon, police and thief, etc.

Suddenly!..... "Ringggg..." and the lively scene was frozen for a second or two. Then talking stops, the police went to pick up their bags, the thieves started to tuck in their shirts, those who are hiding crept out from their hide-outs..... No more laughter, shouting and screaming... only sighing and cursing and an occasional speech. As everybody was lining up for the morning assembly, the prefects marched out to the school gate to book those offenders (late comers), regardless of their reasons.

The flag raising was accompanied by stiff singing of the National Anthem and a nd immediately after these, the Principal made his appearance. "Good morning students....." began the principal and as usual, he first reminded the students about the paying of the fees within a few days or else..... Next, he mentioned about last year results... .. and as usual, he brought out his favourite topic --- TUITION. He warned all those with poor results and wanted all of them to get a tutor, by hook or by crook. After some other items and what not, he announced that one of the school students, Kok Kiong, had won the National Youth Championship: "We are honoured to have students like him", he claimed, "and I want all of

you to learn from him." Probably, he had just forgotten that the same Kok Kiong is one of the naughtiest student in the school and he had caned him during a number of occasions.

After standing in the field for more than 20 mins. the students moved anxiously back to the class rooms. Once they reached the rooms, the talking began again and the classrooms were filled with a warm atmosphere. Amidst all the noise a loud whisper, "Hey! teacher's coming! teacher's coming!" These few words worked like magic spell and everyone started rushing for their chairs. Within a few seconds the whole class became dead silence.

"Klok, klok, klok...." the sound of the high heel shoes can be heard from far to near. The new teacher is a very young one and she is wearing a very short mini-skirt. (Of course it was not a foot above the knee but it was the shortest allowable length for a teacher, I guess....) When the teacher arrived the class stood up and murmured something like "Good morning teacher". The teacher then ordered the class to be seated and she informed them that she is to be the form teacher, Miss Wong. Then she proceeded; "I am your teacher in English and Science & I want to warn you that I will be very strict. I want all of you to come in clean school uniforms. Also, all the regular rules will have to be followed.... Now, I will appoint.... hm.... ah! you there! you will be the class monitor." (Pointing to the tallest boy in the class, Chee Kong.)

Believe it or not, Miss Wong took out a little lockable "safe" from her bag and put it onto her desk. "Monitor!" she continued, "now I am going to the Principal's office and if anyone talks or leaves his seat, you take down their names, you understand!"

"Yes teacher," answer Chee Kong.

Despite of her threat, the children started talking and running again. The monitor began his hunt for some of his worse

enemies and jotted down their names and jotted down their names. His friends were spared of course. Suddenly a young looking male popped into the class and the commotion stopped. Most of the students know this sir, Mr. Chew. He is very popular among the students because he treated them like friends.

"Boys and girls," he began, "Please be silent for a while, you know it is very bad for you all to make so much noise because you will disturb the other students in the school. If you want to talk, talk softly. And don't run about, OK?"

"O.K.!" shouted the class.

After Mr. Chew left the class the students began to whisper softly with occasional shouting. Moments later, Miss Wong returned with a few books.

"Where is the list, monitor?" asked Miss Wong. Chee Kong handed her a list of 12 students.

"Sok Lan, Seow Beng, Ahmad... .." called the teacher, "I want each of you to take 5\$, line up here and put the coin into the tin."

"Teacher, I only talked softly...." "Teacher, my rubber dropped." "Teacher, I never talked...." "Teacher, monitor also talked...."

"Teacher, no money....." However all the explanation & protest were to no avail.

"Those who got no money, bring tomorrow!" exclaimed the teacher, "and since you all made so much noise, I want all of you to write 'I WILL BEHAVE MYSELF IN CLASS' one thousand lines and don't forget to leave a line!"

"Why must leave a line?" Sok Lan asked.

This question surprised Miss Wong for a while and she obviously cannot tell them that she also does not know why. However, being a trained teacher, she was quick to regain her posture and replied, "because it looks nicer that way."

Continue on page 10

THERE ARE THOSE

There are those
Living, but they are dead
There are those
Dead, but they live on

There are those
Riding high atop the people,
Oh! How great am I!
There are those
Head bowed, like willing oxen
They serve the people

There are those
Who inscribe their names on stone slabs,
Seeking vain glory
There are those
Who rather flourish as wild grass,
Awaiting the Prairie fire

There are those
Whose very life,
Prevent others from living
And there are those
Who live,
That others might live better.

Those that ride high atop the people,
They will be mauled down!
Those who serve as willing oxen,
They will always be remembered by the people!

Those that inscribe their names on stone slabs,
Their very names stink
Much worse than a rotten corpse!
As for the wild grass,
So long as the soft wind of Spring blows,
They sprout up everywhere!

Those whose very life prevent others from living,
Their days are numbered,
And their fate sealed!
Those who live that others might live better,
They never perish,
Always honoured by the people, they live on,
A shining example for all!

—OSCAR



A SALUTE TO THE HEROIC THAI STUDENTS

It was only 3 years ago
When I first saw your pictures in the papers
300 000 students, workers and farmers
Facing the machine guns and yet so bold

I shared your victory, your happiness
When the cruel regime was overthrown
You have led your people to stand up
And fight for a just and truthful goal

Now again I saw you
Hanging from trees with blood all over your body
Already dead and yet the beating continued
And they even burnt your body

Yes, for you they have so much hatred
And we have even greater love
For they are the fascists, the murderers
And on your side are all the people

Fire is raging in my heart
For you are students just like me
Seeking justice with an untainted heart
Though my courage and determination are far weaker
than thee

Let the fire within me burn
Let the buried volcano erupts in me
For all of them are ready to follow your path
To burn away the enemy of the people

And before I step onto the new journey
Let me pay my respect and honour --- A Salute.

Corporal Lu



STICK OUT YOUR NOSE - I SAY.

— AH SEOW

Recently some wise guys appeared in the TV and made hell of a lot of noise. He shouted and yelled that Singapore's youth leaders to stick out their necks. "If not by 1980 or 1990, she would lack political leaders of good calibre," he said. Well, I was simply puzzled. He couldn't be crazy because nuts don't get their places in the TV.

I mean you and I or any Tom, Dick and Harry (especially Harry) know jolly well what it mean to stick out your neck

in Singapore. Of course, literally you do not actually get them chop off --- it might be worse. Well, talking about political leaders of good calibre we never lack any. Most of them were put in their right place. (If you do not believe me, go ask your grandma.)

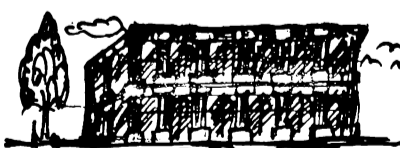
But then, the puzzle still remains, why did that smart aleck asked 'youth leaders' to stick out their necks?

After thinking for three days and nights,

(no sleeping and no eating) finally, Eureka!! I've found it! Must be that his English is terribly horrible. He have mistaken nose for neck. What he actually meant was "stick out your nose" (and perhaps with the holes ready so that it would save them time in getting the ropes on them) and not 'stick out your neck'. Don't you think I ought to be awarded the Nobel Prize for such an incredible discovery? Anyhow, don't bother to propose me. I mean thanks anyway.

VOCABULARY

Academy



THE ANCIENT Athenian here Theseus once carried off Helen of Sparta (who was later carried off by Paris, thus starting the Trojan War), and Helen's brothers, Castor and Polydeuces, went searching for her. Another Athenian, Academus, revealed her hiding place. For this reason, during the wars between Athens and Sparta, the Spartans

(who held Castor and Polydeuces in special honor) always spared the site of the estate of Academus (about a mile northwest of Athens) whenever they invaded Athenian territory. This estate, the "Academia" became a symbol of peace in a war-torn time.

Plato lived near the Academia and resorted to that pleasant place with his students. There he taught for 50 years and his successors for another 800. The Academy (as we call it) was the most famous school of antiquity, and some schools still call themselves academies today as a result. Usually, the term is now applied to college preparatory schools.

The term academic is applied to anything pertaining to these academies, particularly to the type of learning they encouraged. Because Plato's philosophy was highly theoretical and abstract and did not concern itself with practical everyday matters an "academic" question has now come to mean one that has no practical meaning, that is of theoretical interest only.

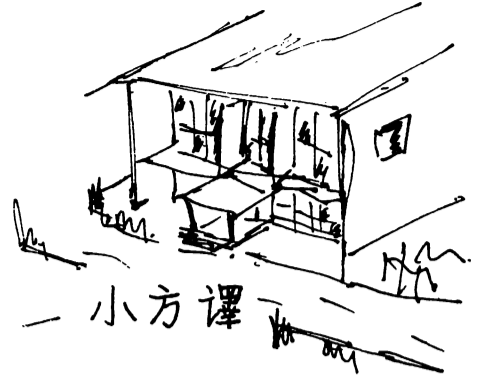
Other ancient philosophers also left the names of their places of teaching in the language. Aristotle used to teach in a gymnasium called the Lykeion, now called Lyceum. It was named in honor of a near-

by temple to Appollo in his capacity as "wolf killer." As such, he was called "Lykeios" probably from the Greek "lykos" (wolf). So lyceum is still used today for a school or lecture hall. It is less popular than academy in America but in France the word for what we call a high school is lycee.

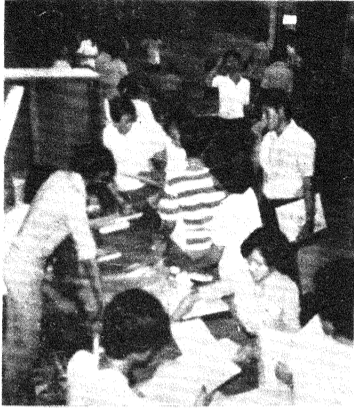
Again, the philosopher Zeno, taught in Athens at a place called Stoa Poikile ("painted porch" in Greek). His school of philosophy was termed stoicism because of it. Since Zeno taught that the way to happiness was to avoid undue emotion, a person who does not show his emotions is called a stoic to this day.

Views expressed in signed articles do not necessarily represent those of the Editorial Board

学生楼事件



拥挤的DRG学生服务中心



前言

从去年十月学生会收到的第一封被令迁移PMC（旧校舍在裕廊）学生会会所的通知信，到现在事件变化多端，然而，这事件却教育了许多同学，校方迁学生楼的企图及目的，被暴露无余，经过了同学们及学生会的力争下，校方才没有顺利达到其目的。

最近的发展

在76/77学年尾的长假里，以院长为首及其他大人物来到了PEC（在珊顿道）的学生楼，煞有其事地作了一番视察及测量工作，这情形开始也蒙蔽了不少同学，以为校方竟关心起“学生楼”来了。然而，直到现在，校方仍未给予任何具体的行动。所谓视察，测量只不过是些假象！

为了争取一个能让同学们活动的地点，新学年一开始后，学生会就采取主动，将活动地点搬到新校舍内一间工场的一片空地上（目前这工场尚未启用），这块地方也只能容纳2张乒乓球桌及一些小桌子，而且这地方任何人都可以自由出入、很不安全。直到第二学期，发生了一些偷窃事件后，校方才肯给一间小小的房子。（四周只用铁丝网围住，其实像个笼子，本来是学校书局用，由于太小，书局不肯接受）只有11尺×14½尺，用来作印刷及复印等用途。

短期解决方法

这小笼子还是在有条件下才获得的。在四项条件中，其中，须注明当校方在七八年三月或以后需要用到这些地方时，学生会必须迁出。很明显得，可以看出学生楼事件还

未告一段落。我们目前得到的，只是一个短期的解决方法。在六月以后，我们何处去？虽然，学院发展计划的一名负责人曾给于口头上的保证——到时，他们将会给学生会另一“适当地点”，不过从以往的事实看来，这样的保证有“保证”吗？

新学生楼将由谁主管？

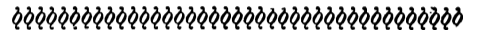
至于新学生楼将会在何时落成，校方当局并没有给于一个明确的答复。询问的结果，不是「不清楚」就是「很难讲」。很明显的，校方并不会在这期间许下任何保证，或者他们是在观察一般学生对学生会的态度之后才决定他们下一个步骤吧！

事实上，一般估计，新学生楼将在九个月才会完成，到时校方将不会交给学生会去管理，而将之命名为“学生中心”直接由学校当局控制。

没有了新学生楼，对同学，对学生会的影响又是怎样的呢？没有了—一个地方，同学们平时课余活动（如打球，下棋，唱歌，玩乐器）在那里进行呢？没有一个地方，印刷、复印、办工……又要如何去处理呢？去为学生服务呢？如果向校方借货，必然会遭到许多繁絮琐节及各种条件的限制和压制！

结论

同学们；广大的公众人士们，争取学生楼，下来必然会碰更大的困难，然而，只要我们大家团结一致，努力去争取，才能争取胜利。希望大家都能保持密切关注学生楼事件及学生会的发展吧！



Continued from page 7

Conclusion



The lesson of Vietnam has taught us that the support of the people is the deciding factor in deciding a war. In case of Rhodesia, the blacks who have suffered great misery for decades are yearning for the change. They are completely hostile against Smith's army. Darkness will be over soon and brightness will shine on the lane of the sun. The sunset of Rhodesia must come and following it, will be dawn of ZIMBABWE.

Note Well:

Recently, in the Commonwealth summit held in England, many of the Commonwealth leaders have once again tried to influence the Nationalist to put down their arms and talk. Apparently they seemed to be peace-loving (even though many of them are famous for their brutality) but if we were to think more deeply and carefully we would be able to see that this would be fatal. The consequence of laying down their arms would be a total failure and by carrying on their arm struggle they would have total success. What is behind the masks of 'peace-loving' is obvious and needs no explanations. History of China, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaya etc, has taught the people of Zimbabwe and they will definitely learn their lesson well.



Continued from page 9

To put a stop to all these questions, Miss Wong took out her textbook and ordered the class to take out their new text books. Instantly, a number of hands shot up and 'no text books teacher' can be heard everywhere. "What no text book?!" exclaimed Miss Wong, "No text book come to school for what?"

Silence.

"Okay, this time you all share, next time those who have no textbook get out of my class!"

Dragging of chairs.

Ms Wong started reading the book....

At a corner of the classroom, Sok Lan, Kim Chuan and Teck Leong were whispering to each other. Only Kim Chuan has a book

TL: This teacher damned fierce, always shout in class.

KC: Why you all never buy books?

TL: Now my mother don't have money yet, wait until end of month then can.

KC: Ya nowadays the books are so expensive, the price of ex-

ercise books also like want to eat people like that.

SK: My brother told me last time they always buy second hand books or use older brothers' and sisters' books. They all damn long then change once. Now every year also change and every year also must buy once.

TL: You know why want to change or not?

KC: How do I know?

SK: Make money lah stupid.....

TL: Shh.. teacher looking.....

One week later, in another class in XX school.

Ring.....

It's time for the next lesson and as usual, shouting, sigh of relieve, talking, throwing down of books and pencils could be heard. It's a small wonder that this is not a hard labour camp run by the SS but a school in a democratic island. Before they

have time enough to stretch their arms, the Maths teacher, Miss Tan, is already banging the ta-

ble with the duster.

"Good afternoon teacher" came the weak and lifeless greeting as if everyone had taken sleeping pills.

"Duty boy, rub the blackboard" exclaimed the teacher and the poor little boy carried the chair to the blackboard and started to clean the blackboard with all his might. He was already thankful that the teacher did not scold him for not rubbing the board before she comes in. After the laborious task was over, Ms Tan started her lesson on 'multiplication with 5 & 10'. Within minutes she finished the lesson. "Any question?" Silence.... although many still do not understand.

TL: Teacher, how to do last week no. 5 E?

Ms Tan: Last week no 5 E, why didn't you ask me earlier? If everybody is also like you, my life will be shortened by 10 years. Go and ask your tutor. If there is no other question, do exercise no

4 a, b, c, d,x, y, z, and hand up by next Monday. I don't want any of you to divide the page and all of you will use only the right hand side of the page, leave the other side for corrections. After every question, leave a line.

Ringgg (time to go home).

The whole school is in a tremor. Everybody is in a hurry to go home. Some are hungry, others wanted to do their Mathematics, English, Science, Chinese, some in a hurry to play games, others hurrying to their fathers stalls to help out.

Writer's note:

Whether there is a primary school with the name of XX or not I do not know. (Hopefully there isn't). Miss Tan, Miss Wong are common names and so are Sok Lan, Teck Leong and Kim Chuan. The writer hopes to hear criticisms from the reader. (Don't send summons.)

时事：泰国特辑



矛盾尖锐化

—黎民译自学联报

泰国原名暹罗，是一个热带农业国，总面积五万二千英亩，有四千万人口，88%是农民，主要的农作物是稻米，它是东南亚的三大米库之一。就如其他印度支那国家一样，她有丰富的资源，富饶的土地，是帝国主义眼中一块肥肉。自十六世纪以来，它一直受到荷兰，葡萄牙，英国，法国的侵略。到了第二次世界大战时被日本所占领，几十年来，泰国的政治情况不断的变动，社会充满了矛盾，尤其在最近几年里学生运动与群众运动此起彼伏，一浪接一浪，统治阶级内的各种势力间经常起磨擦，常有政变发生，因而导致泰国社会一直处于动荡与不安中。

美国在第二次世界大战后，在亚洲推行的政策（美国想当世界警察）及第三世界国家人民尤其是印支人民在争取国家自主独立的斗争的逐渐胜利，使处于东南亚的中心的泰国也受到反帝浪潮的影响，泰国社会有那些特征呢？本文尝试从泰国的政治、经济、社会结构，给读者们一个对泰国社会的初步了解。

民主宪法与军人统治

1932年6月24日是泰国历史上的一个转折点，人民党的比里·帕侬和其他几个军人发动了一场政变，结束了统治泰国达七百年之久的君主制度而成立了君主立宪制，虽然这带来政治结构上的一个大转变，但大部份的人民脑海中，民主权力是一个很新的概念，这些概念只有少部分人才理解，在过去的四十年来，泰国所经过的就是经常性的政变，修改宪法，到最后又把这些废除，这就是所谓的民主，除了八年的共和政府，其他32年内都是军人管辖的军人政府（民主宪法只代表少数统治者的利益）。

1938年到1957年的20年间只有1945年到48年的三年间是由共和政府管理之外其他都是由 PRAK PHILBOONSONGKRAM 元帅所统治。在第二次世界大战中泰国被日本所占领，被迫参加了由德、日、意组成的轴心国，大战过后立即发生了多次的政变，在1955年 PRAK PHILBOONSONGKRAM 元帅颁发一项法令让政党注册成合法的团体，他采取了“HYDE PARK”在政治言论上自由的方式，即刻有25个政党成立，民主的气氛浓厚了起来。但是在1957年的选举中，无数的贪污事件证实了所谓“民主国会”是一幅漂亮的外表，在1957年9月的沙立·他纳叻将军发动了一个军事政变，委任他的副手为总理，废除国会宪法，解散所有的政党，他实际上采用了军人统治，但却对国民说这是“革命国会”，并推出了第一个经济的五年计划，向外借款及吸引外资来投资以给本国的经济打强心针。

1963年12月沙立病死，他依元帅接任总理，巴博任副总理。1969年选举过后新内阁成立，他依保持他的总理职位，为了压制国会内的反对力量以及巩固他本身的政治力量，他在1971年11月发动了一个“自我政变”废除宪法，在军人统治下民主宪法遭受扼杀的厄运，他依，巴博及巴博的女婿，于是成立了一个三人独裁统治的政府，他们一方面受着美帝的控制，另一方面掌握了泰国军政的实际权力，这就是1973年10月前的政治情况。

1973年10月可说是泰史上的又一个转折点，由学生发动的争取民主宪法的运动很快得到广大群众的支持。10月14日三十多万的学生与人民群众在曼谷聚合示威。他依命令军队与坦克部队进行血腥镇压，导致七十多人被打死。巴博等三人的独裁政权，由于内部的分裂及人民的不

满而结束，他们三人也都逃往国外，这次群众斗争的胜利，可说是给民主政治带来一线曙光。可是在过去的三年里这个国家的根本问题并没有得到解决，文官政府即刻面临无数的政治危机，同时流亡的军人独裁者仍然死心不息，曾几度要想回国东山再起。10月6日他依回到泰国不久即刻爆发了一场流血政变，民主宪法又一次被摧残。

历史不断的说明泰国虽然曾经实行民主宪法，但实质上是受军人独裁的统治，这些深远地影响着泰国的政治结构，泰国可说是无民主可言。

对军人来说，枪杆就是权力，就是真理，在枪杆与子弹之下一切民主措施都是虚有其名，并不能真正实行，这些军人拥有军事力量，手无寸铁的人民要怎样才有民主呢？

帝国主义的侵略与剥削

二次世界大战过后的数十年来，国际政治情形显示了美国在亚洲的影响，达到控制过后逐渐衰退，美帝趁着英、法二国从亚洲撤退的当儿，力图扩大他的势力范围，亚洲人民争取独立自主的胜利，逐渐的改变亚洲的局势，美国为了保持他在亚洲的利益，推行了一个与日本、南韩、菲律宾、台湾、印尼、越南、寮国、泰国一起包围中国的政策，美国通过贿赂与渗透来控制这些国家。

由于泰国的军事地理位置，美国逐渐加强他对泰国的渗透，在1957年协助了亲美领袖发动的政变，他还企图把势力扩张到印支半岛。1950年泰美签署了一系列不合理的条约，如“军事援助协定”“经济援助协定”“友好经济合作协定”1950年到1971年6月美国给予泰国的军事援助达十亿美元，除此以外，美国也拨出了另十亿美元在泰国境内建立了军事基地及军事设备，其中包括大型空军基地5个和后备机场30多处，陆军兵营11个，海军基地和兵站十处，4个火箭发射场和两个雷达站，此外还建成了连接各美军基地，并通向泰国邻国的一万公里的战略公路网，美国轰炸越南、柬埔寨与寮国的飞机总数的四分之三就是从泰国起飞的，日夜轰炸越南的基地乌太堡就处在曼谷以南的90哩处。

美国已把泰国变成他侵略印支国家的跳板，美国在泰国军队内成立了三千人组成的「军事顾问团」，从泰国的国防部，直到军队的联队，都有军事顾问，还有一大批美国「公共安全顾问」渗入泰国的警察系统，驻泰国的美军多达五万人，这些顾问与大兵，在泰国都享有特权，到处干扰民生，凌辱妇女，泰国外交上长期执行追随着美国。在1954年，泰国加入美国泡制的东南亚条约组织，此组织总部在曼谷。

在经济上泰国已经陷入一个以外资为主的恶劣情况，为了得到美国的军事援助，泰国只好任由美国在本国内为所欲为，泰国几乎成立美国货物的堆积站，并提供美国低价的树胶与锡，就在1950年到1970年泰国财政上出现了9亿美元的赤字（欠美国之故），外资大部份是美国，日本，他们通过跨国公司在泰国残酷剥削泰国的廉价劳工，并把利润输回本国内，又大量地掠夺了泰国的天然资源（如石油、锡与树胶），通过各种不合理条约，他们不断扩张营业，打击了泰民族资本家，根据官方统计数字，每年从泰国取去的利润高达60亿铢，这是大大的超出了美国给他依政府的援助，泰国的领导层为了本身的利益对美国摇尾弄姿，出卖了泰国人民的利益，把泰国变成一个美帝的新殖民地。

泰国拥有丰富的资源，是个农业国家。百分之89以上的人口从事农业，为世界著名的稻谷产区，每年输出稻米一千四百吨。多年来，政府官吏和地主土豪劣绅互相勾结，或兼并农民的土地，或用来修建军事基地等。使到人民的生活十分困苦。

据泰国官方统计，无地和少地的农民已占全国农民总数的百分之八十五，虽然官方合法的最高租费是25%的收获，但是超过半数的农民却要付出30%—55%的收获为租金，甚至有些在泰国中部要付出80%，同时高利贷利率高达百分之一百到三百，农民受到地租和高利贷的严重剥削导致有些农民要卖儿卖女以付租费。

很多农户因为乡土太贫瘠，遇上天灾或受地主压迫，便迁徙到曼谷市，找寻工作，他们栖身于市区边缘的贫民窟，当散工，苦力或非技术工作，有些家庭为了维持生活，迫使女儿充当娼妓干卖淫工作。



工人方面大部份集中于城市，特别是曼谷市，在170多万的劳工中，有130万人是投身于轻工业和原料加工业，其中以大米加工和锡业为主。泰国没有基础工业，这是受新殖民地主义剥削下的经济特色。工人普遍的工资极低，男工日薪约（美元）5角到8角，女工只有一半，大部份工人的工作时间从12到20小时，工作环境恶劣，又没有福利制度，政府与资本家连成一气，严禁工人罢工。

自1973年10月的风暴后，工人、农民运动兴起，学生们在这期间参与一系列社会运动，逐渐看清楚社会本质及找到与工农群众站在一起的出路。

另外一方面，在泰国各地区纷纷成立农民协会，推动了农民为争取本身利益而战斗的发展。工人运动澎湃发展。1974年的357宗罢工事件中，总共有六千工人参与，虽然，早期的工潮性质以要求加薪，改善福利为主，到了后期，工人已积极参与反对独裁军人的斗争，然而这还只是个开始。

结语

泰国，就像其他许多第三世界国家一样，外国资本家吸尽人民的血，掠夺资源，控制经济以及干涉内政，在乡村地区，地主，土豪劣绅以及高利贷对农民进行残酷的剥削。封建主义的压迫，严重地妨碍了生产力的发展，使人民生活在水深火热之中，跨国公司的侵略，破坏农村的经济，加强了城市与乡村间的距离，这些和一般的第三世界国家没有两样。

但是，“国家要独立，民族要解放，人民要自由”是不可阻挡的历史洪流。第三世界人民的反帝斗争越来越强大，泰国人民也必将在这不可阻挡的历史潮流中，争取国家的独立自主。



BOOK REVIEW



— WILLIAM FONG

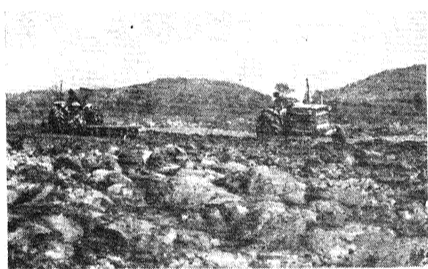
ALEX HALEY ROOTS

INTRODUCTION

Roots is a book but is more than a book. It is a book which topped the USA best sellers list. It is a book which a few months after being published, was reprinted 14 times. It is a book which is now included as part of the literature syllabus for over 200 US universities. After being filmed into an 8 hours TV series, more than half the American population have seen it. Roots also broke the record ratings in the history of all American Network.

In Singapore, despite its 630 pages and price of \$9.60, it ranked among the top best selling books in MPH and Ollei Bookshop for months. Briefly, Roots is a story of generations of American negroes from the time of their ancestor in Africa to the present day. The author Alex Haley was in search of his own origin, his Roots.

* NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH AMERICA WAS USED AS IT IS CONVENIENT. IT ACTUALLY MEANS THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN PART OF THE PRESENT U.S.A.



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The period recorded in Roots was between 1750 and present day, a period of 200 years. In 1750 many European countries have already developed their capitalist economy into an imperialist stage and they have colonised many country including those in the American continent.

Both northern and southern USA are of agriculture-based country and capitalism is only at its infant stage.

The European plundered the land belonging to the Red Indians and killed most of them. However, the land occupied was so large that there is insufficient hands in the field. This is the reason for the bloody and inhuman slave-trade.

In 1775, the people of 13 English colonies in America fought for independence and by 1787 they joined up to form the USA. Capitalism developed in the Northern America whereas due to political and geographical factors, Southern America remains largely feudalistic. With the expansion of industries, more and more labour resources are required for the industry. Also at the same time, slaving of negroes was opposed vehemently by progressive forces both within and outside America.

Under such situation, the capitalist turned their attention towards the labour force tied down in the South. They understand that once freed, the negroes would definitely move northward into the land which they have long admired. Thereafter we have the famous civil war between the Northern and Southern America which ended with the declaration of 'Emancipation of Blacks in America'.

THE STORY.....

Roots is not a thriller but a times you would find it hard to put down. Roots contains a great deal of blood and tears and every single page is an accusation of racism and barbarity of a 'civilised' people.

The story begins with vivid description of an 'uncivilised' village called Juffure, in Gambia, West Africa. The people living there belongs to the Mandinkas tribe who are staunch believers of Islamism. Through chapter 1 to chapter 32 we saw the development of Kunta Kinte in the Mandinkas' society. He was captured at the age of 16 by the White slave-traders and then brought the White slave-traders and then brought by ship to America during which he suffered immense hardship and humiliation. He was then sold to a plantation owner to work in the field. Kunta tried to escape many times and each time he was caught and tortured. His last attempt ended with one of his foot chopped off and he was saved by a doctor called John Waller. He was reasonably treated (as far as a slave is concerned) at John Waller's plantation and started to get along with other slaves. During this time he heard a great deal about the slave rebellion and he could also felt the oppressive atmosphere on a slave, but he did not escape. After many years at the plantation he married the house-cook, Bell, and gave birth to a girl whom she called Kitty. Kitty was sold away, despite Kunta and Bell's pleading, to a Tom Lea when she helped signed a false pass for her boyfriend who attempted to escape to the North but instead was arrested. Poor Kitty at the age of 16 was immediately raped by her new master Tom Lea who was a poor white who had just made some money through cock-fighting and he treated his slaves cruelly. Kitty gave birth to a boy whom was called George.

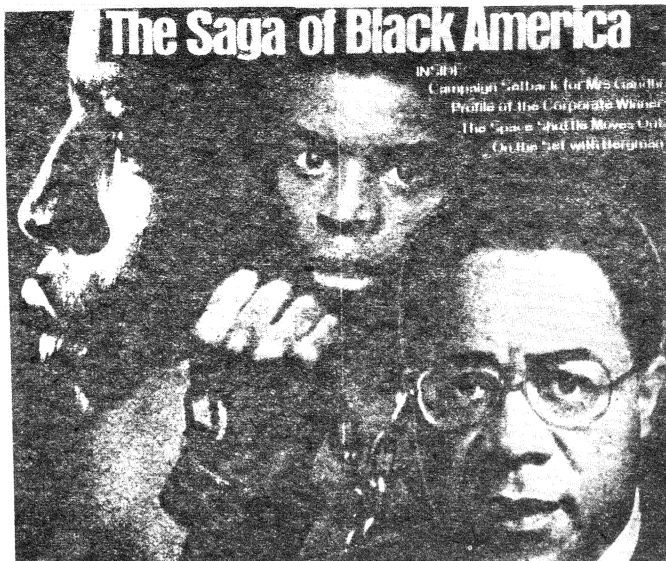
George had many children and they were only freed when George became a grandfather. Even though 'freed' there was discrimination and inequality. George and his family worked on a land continued to work hard for a living...

(There are quite a number of changes in the TV series, making it more exciting and dramatic.)



AFTER READING ROOTS

In Roots, there are descriptions of a 'backward', 'uncivilised' village of the Mandinkas on one hand and the description of the 'civilised and developed' society of the white Americans. It is not difficult for us to compare them and see the complete nature of the 'fittest survive' type of society.



The first and foremost characteristic of Juffure is the deep understanding among its people and their strong moral values. People lived closely together and they respect each other. There is little greed and competition. The young ones in Juffure were taught to appreciate the importance of collectivism in which each individual must play their own part. They were taught to discipline themselves and not to be selfish.

On the other hand, in the 'civilised' world, the students are not only taught that "only the fittest will go up" but were forced to trample on others if they want to be respected by their family and relatives. We can see the deterioration of moral values of the 'modern people' and the alienation of the urban population. Yet we are told that they are civilised.

In Juffure there are also 'slaves' but the slaves are hardly slaves at all because the commission of the seniors in Juffure would ensure his well being and fair treatment by his owners.

In the 'civilised' world, slaves are treated no better than dogs. The owners raped their female whenever he pleases, kill their male if he breaks one of his many rules and there is no freedom of speech, no freedom of marriage, no freedom of religion etc. They are but properties of their owners.

In Roots, Alex Haley tore down the mask of those solemn faces we see in the churches on Sunday and exposed their true colour as a racist, sadist and exploiter. He shows us that even a relatively kind-hearted man like John Waller would be ready to sell away any of his 'niggers' or even shoot them if he found that they are working against the interest of the slave owning class. (The case of Kitty is a good example.) The case of O'George, a poor White, confirmed that racism is actually a root for economic exploitation. O'George is a poor White who had to beg for a living. He begged from Chicken George's family and later stayed on with them.

Although he was later employed by his master to be an 'overseer' (a supervisor) he did not change his attitude towards the black. Instead of supervising, he worked along with them. His closeness with the black people was also shared with his wife. O'George is not a special case, for, many of those fighting in the civil wars are people who hated slavery of blacks and opposed to racism.

IN CONCLUSION

It would be a mistake if we are to think that racism is already dead in USA. It is in fact very much alive and it exists everywhere. Even the notorious Ku Klux Klan is still openly existing. Racism is still used as a tool for economic exploitation. (Refer to America! America! by Felix Greene) One would often wonder, why did the blacks who contributed so much to the prosperity of USA continue to live at the bottom of the American social structure.

How long would it last???

Cont'd from Page 6... US INTERESTS IN ASEAN

The US National Petroleum Council has projected that 40% of US energy needs will have to be imported in 1985. This being the case, it would mean that the outflow of exchange would be about \$30,000m per year as compared to the \$2,100m deficit in the trade balance for energy in 1973. Contrast to this, the total exports of goods and services from the US, adds up to only 66,000m. If it seeks to support this growing deficit in the fuel trade, the US must certainly look for new overseas markets. To allow the deficit in the balance of trade in fuel alone to reach \$25,000 m, exports must increase correspondingly by about 40%. The latter figure is something like 1 1/2 times the total value of goods that Japan was moving in the world market in 1973. Is such export expansion feasible even if it is necessary?

Maybe it is still possible for the US to explore alternative sources of oil, in say, the natural gas deposits at Yukutsk in East Siberia or Tyumen in West Siberia. However, the unit cost of the developed product by this method is estimated to be about 7 times that of current (but depleting) domestic sources. Back home in America, peak production for local sources has been generally recognised as having passed. It might be possible to concentrate on coal or oil shale but both these forms of production are very costly. For example, to extract 1 barrel of oil from oil shale would cost \$5 000 as compared to \$275 for one barrel from the Middle East. It appears highly likely then that development in the exploitation and the use of oil shale (which would eliminate dependency upon foreign sources ultimately) is not going to decrease rivalry among the oil firms to acquire as cheaply as possible the current amount of oil available. What is decisive here is not consumer needs so much as what drives business firms and their desire for ever-increasing profits.

Approximately 1/4 of the American labour force derives its income from the Defence Department expenditure, and this income is becoming more and more dependent upon Asia. In '70, the total outlay for conventional forces (excluding the costs of the Vietnam War & the costs of strategic nuclear weapons) was 44b. Of this amount, 19b went to Europe and 16b to Asia, which means that Asia creates the second largest regional demand for us non-war military expenditure. Add to this the projected full expense of the Vietnam war in 69-70, as between 23.2b and 25.4b, and this means that Asia accounts for 60% of US military expenditure.

Clearly, as long as the American economy depends upon its military and mil-related expenditure, it will correspondingly have to retain control of Asia. And this would apply to both Japan and West Europe at the same time.

Perhaps however, you question if the mil-specific nature of the industry is really so intractable? Seymour Melman in his writings, 'The Economic Consequence of Intervention and Disengagement' states that the continued feather bedding of the American industry by their defence department has so debilitated contracting industries and so warped their educational, training & experimental careers of a major part of the labour force that conversion to civilian purposes is virtually impossible.

Just as important to our understanding of the US vis-a-vis Asia is the dependence of the military-industrial complex on non-renewable real resources. For instance, we know that we cannot make aluminium without bauxite, and we cannot make an airplane without aluminium, and when in the US, 80 to 90% of the bauxite supplied comes from foreign sources, what are the logical consequences? It appears imperative that the source should never stop, since the airplane industry in conjunction with the military department all depend upon it

quite badly. Moreover, American import dependence is particularly acute in those materials listed as strategic and critical by the defence department, and 3/4 of these comes from the so-called underdeveloped nations.

Furthermore, the American airplane industry has, of late, been America's biggest earner of foreign exchange. As such, faced with Japanese and EEC's competition and her decreasing efficiency, the export earning power of this industry has fallen and affected considerably her balance payments. Rising import prices also threatens the fact that US industry could ever earn sufficient foreign exchange to ensure its survival.

Much is at stake in Asia, Thailand is a major supplier of tin and tungsten, Malaysia exports iron-ore, tin and bauxite Indonesia sells tin, and bauxite and a number of other very necessary raw materials. The Philippines not only has oil but also iron. Laos too, as part of Asia, holds a mountain of iron-ore deposits of very pure quality in Xieng Khouang.

Next, let's look at the energy crisis. How does it affect US relations with Asia? To date, nothing has yet been found which can possibly alleviate the pressure of scarcity. The problem arises mainly because of a shortage of the fossil fuel, and because substitutes are unlikely to be developed to salvage the situation in time. In the long run, the energy crisis will undoubtedly lead to a food crisis. Today, even the man in the street is aware of the problem for he experiences repeated increases in petrol prices, and petrol rationing as well. Well, how then is all this tied up to the American economic system??

Given the above factors then, it becomes meaningful to ask if the United States could ever really consider moving out of the Asia region.

ASEAN

Conflict in Cooperation.....

The Asean economic cooperation worked out by the economic Ministers of the Asean countries following the February 1976 Bali Summit appears to be heading towards problems in implementation. One contradiction is over the diesel engine project to be undertaken by Singapore as one of the five Asean industrial projects. The other is the urea plant undertaken by Indonesia.

Over the Singapore project, the Indonesians in particular are unhappy. A senior official of Indonesia Ministry of Industry said that Singapore was not showing "good intention" towards the Asean by her insistence on building a diesel engine factory to produce engines of all capacities.

The Director General for Metal Industry and Machinery - Suhortoyo, said that Singapore should accept Indonesia's suggestion that she does not produce diesel engines under 500 horse-power so as not to damage the Indonesian market for small capacity engines because Indonesia now has a thriving small capacity plant in Surabaya, East Java.

As a compromise, Singapore proposed to do a feasibility study of those engines between 200-500 horsepower and that Indonesia would not offer preferential market access unless she so requires.

The marketing of the diesel engines at Asean level could be a problem for Singapore. As it is, Malaysia is already producing 300 horsepower engines and Thailand 20 horsepower types. If Singapore is to accept the Indonesian proposal of producing only 500 horsepower and over engines, it would mean that she would be catering for only 20% of the diesel engine demand in the 5 countries. 80% of the demands are below 500 horsepower.

Over the Asean Urea plant undertaken by Indonesia, the three major potential buyers, Malaysia, Thailand & the Philippines, were complaining about the proposed price of the fertilisers at US\$170 (\$425) a tonne in 1981, a big increase compared to the present price of US\$140 (\$350) a tonne. This jump in price in 1981 is considered to be "unrealistic" and "far too costly" by the three buyer countries.

The Philippines project, production of superphosphates, is running into difficulty of getting rock sulphur to feed the plant. As for the Thai Soda Ash project, there is fear that the Asian Development Bank which is approached to do the feasibility study might subsequently involve itself in the project.

Adapted from FUEMSSO News.

QUOTE :-

There comes a time in a man's life where he prefers to have a meaningful death than a meaningless life.

-KIM CHI CHA

SACCO VANZETTI

SPSU FUND-RAISING FILMSHOW

SPSU is screening 3 fund-raising filmshows at the Toa Poyah Theatre on Sundays (16th, 23rd and 30th Oct. '77). The 2 films are 'The Great Dictator' (23rd Oct.) and 'Sacco & Vanzetti' (16th and 30th Oct.)

It is with the aim of promoting some thought-provoking and educational films that the project was undertaken. The present trend of films in the S'pore cinemas does not deviate much from the violence, horrors and cheap thrillers.

The secondary aims are to maintain contact with the public and to raise funds for Union activities. For the past few weeks, quite a number of the active Union members had gone round house to house, selling tickets in Toa Payoh and other areas. In this way, the public could get a better picture of the Union from the explanation by those members.

Road Safety Campaign

- NG SWEE LAN

In early July this year, the "Road Safety Campaign" had taken on a new turn in Singapore. With the aims of reducing the road accident and to instil a sense of safety consciousness and social responsibilities, hundreds of VCs went on the road to disseminate and enforce the new ruling of the Pedestrians Crossing Regulations. Signs were put up everywhere advising pedestrians to cross at designated crossings. Anyone caught not using pedestrians crossing within 50 metres of one will be punished.

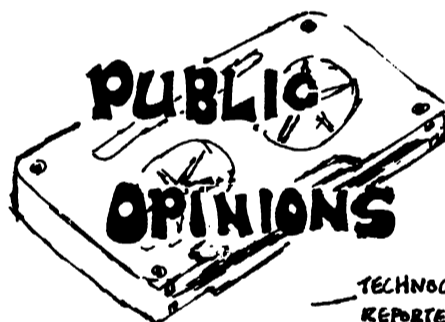
During the grace period, lasting about 2 months, offenders were given warnings and also a leaflet telling them the dos and don'ts in the new ruling. As from 1st Sept.'77, offenders caught were made to pay a fines of \$10/- during the initial period lasting till October, the fines were raised to a minimum of \$50/- and above. School children caught committing the offence will be sent to their school authorities to be dealt with accordingly.

After the hubbub of the whole publicity and the sweat and hard work of the VCs, had the message ever been drummed into the minds of the jaywalkers? Obviously, it didn't seem to be so for in the report in ST. 15/10/77, more than 10,429 people had already been caught, 30 days after the fines had been imposed. And had the campaign been successful in cutting down the accident rate? A look into the New Nation report on 20.7.77, shows an increase in the daily average for fatal and serious accidents from 6.3 in June to 7.4 in July --- the month when the campaign was launched.

Looking into the way whereby the campaign is carried out, it does seem to give an impression that Singaporeans nowadays are not able to take care of themselves on the road. They need to be told where they are supposed to cross the road and coerced to do so if they do not accept others advice. Had not the many ministerial speeches and press editorials talked on nothing but punishment. Is jaywalking really a crime and is punishment the only way to educate the people?



A WORKER OUTSIDE CID BUS-STOP



A LADY

Q: Do you know what is the aim of this campaign?
 A: It is to avoid accidents and made the road safer for pedestrian.
 Q: Do you think this campaign is necessary?
 A: From the statistics, accident rate is quite high, so the campaign is necessary.
 Q: Do you think this campaign is effective?
 A: At present, it might be effective in cutting down on the accident rate, but it all depends on the cooperation from the pedestrians.
 Q: What are the advantages and disadvantages of this campaign?
 A: For the advantages, it would be much safer if you use all the traffic facilities. As for the disadvantages, you might have to walk a little distance off (eg over-head bridges), but it would be better to walk this little distance to save yourself.
 Q: Is the campaign successful?
 A: So far it's doing quite well. We have to see for a few months before we can say whether it is a success or not.
 Q: What do you think are the factors leading to so many pedestrians being caught after the test period?
 A: During the grace period, they are not booked or fined so they do not follow the rules. After Sept. 1st, they are booked and fined. We can see now that the public are beginning to use the pedestrian crossings.

Q: Do you know the aim of this campaign?
 A: It is to make people more aware when they cross the road; take some time and not rush across.
 Q: Do you find this campaign effective?
 A: Most of the people are not sure of how to cross at some junctions, it is quite inconvenient. I do not walk at ease because at times I am not sure whether I can cross or not. Many commented that it is silly to have to wait when there is no traffic. But we have to follow the rules.
 Q: Do you think the penalty is reasonable?
 A: I find it is too much.
 Q: Do you think this campaign is necessary?
 A: It's good, but it has some setbacks. For instance, there are problems for the old people they can't read the signs.

行人过路安全运动

在今年七月初，行人过路安全运动的展开使我国换了一个全新的面貌。它的目的是为了减少公路意外事件以及唤起人们的安全意识和社会责任感。超过有百名以上的国民服役特警人员，人民警卫团与交警被派到全国各地的交通要处把守，宣传和严厉执行起行人过路安全条例。各种指示牌也经在全岛各地装置。任何人被发现在50米以内不利用行人过路设施将遭处罚。

在为期2个月的实验性期间，违例者将被警告，同时也会收到份当局的宣传册子，教导你在新条例下什么是“应该”做，什么是“不应该做”。九月一日以后，违例者就会被罚款，最初的一个月是十元，十月后的最低罚款将提高到\$50和以上，学生触犯条例则被送回有关学校当局予以适当的处理。

在整个喧嚣的宣传和特警人员的勤力工作下，这行人过路安全条例是否已深入那些不守交通规则的人们的脑中呢？显而易见，它并不是如此，从海峡时报15/10/77的报导，有10,429人被捉，那是在罚款实施后的30天吧了。还有，这运动有没有成功地如预期中所言“减少公路意外事件呢？且看国家午报20/7/77的报导，致命和严重的公路意外事件从六月每日6.3宗增加到七月的每日7.4宗那时正是行人过路安全运动积极展开的时候。

让我们来看看这次行人过路安全运动的展开和宣传方法，它给人的一个印象似乎在说现今的新加坡人已不能照顾自己。他们是需要被教导怎样过马路，甚至应强制地被教导，如果他们不接受其他人的劝导。有许多部长级的官员更在他们的演词中，从及报章的社论，大肆地宣扬处罚论，说新加坡人要受处罚，多多的处罚才能听话。不守交通规则当真是件犯罪事件吗？难道处罚是唯一教育人们的途径吗？



马来少年志美

问：你觉得这次的“行路运动”如何？
 答：我不很清楚。
 问：你觉得来这么一个行路运动，有这样的必要吗？
 答：我想是有必要的，如此交通意外可就没有了。
 问：你认为是什么原因既使在广泛宣传后，还是有那么多人触犯条例。
 答：那是很难观察到，有些对于这运动一点也不知，再说，当局十分严厉，根本不给你机会和警告来发传票。



一名妇女

问：你是否知道这次“行人过路”（下简称“行路运动”）运动的目的？
 答：是使更多的人在越过马路时更加警惕，宁可花多些时间而不是匆匆忙忙地越过去。
 问：你觉得这“行路运动”有什么效应？

答：有很多人在一些交通路口都不大清楚如何越过，十分不方便。我现在走路都不象以前那样安逸，因为有时我也不清楚是否能越过去。有些人批评这是多么愚蠢，在没有车辆川行时也是不准越过；然而，大家不得不遵守条例。

问：你认为对触犯“行路”条例的人士的处罚合理吗？
 答：我觉得有点过份。
 问：你认为这运动有必要吗？
 答：是很好，但有许多缺点，比如老年人不能明白那些标志的问题。



在新加坡发展银行对面的一位妇女

问：你觉得这次行路运动的目的应该是什么？
 答：我想应该是为了行人“安全”吧！
 问：这个行路运动有必要吗？
 答：是应该的，但有时它是相当麻烦，因为我们对那些条例不大了解。
 问：你有遵守这行路运动吗？
 答：有，不过有时赶着去上工，不得不匆忙地越过马路。

Continued from page 14



Q: What do you think is the aim of this campaign?
 A: It is to make the road very safe for the pedestrians to cross thus cutting down on the accident rate.

Q: Who are the people usually affected by this campaign?
 A: Usually is the old man and young children who are affected. They do not understand the rules and regulations. (Because they can't read.)

Q: What do you think is the factor which leads to so many being caught even after the intense publicity?
 A: They are not used to the campaign. It is also due to old habits.

Q: How do you think about the penalty?
 A: A lot of people might not be able to afford the fines. They are not rich. But when they are fine, it made them learn to use the pedestrian crossings.

Q: What punishment will students get if they are caught?
 A: Students caught will be sent to the Principal for punishment. So far no student in our school is caught yet.

Q: Do you observe the regulations at all times?
 A: No, I do not. Sometimes I am in a hurry, so in order to save time, I do not follow the rules.

Q: Do you think the campaign is a success?
 A: The campaign is successful when there is police around, but not when there is no police around.

接自第14面



问：你认为这次运动的目的是什么？
 答：为了人民。
 问：你觉得这运动有必要吗？
 答：当然；要不然政府也不会花那么多时间在这运动。

问：你认为它“成功”吗？
 答：我希望是如此。
 问：为什么会有这么多人被捉？
 答：开始是因为他们不晓得这“运动”，但时间一久自然会习惯。
 问：不过，当局给了一个月的试用期，为什么还是坏习惯呢？
 答：对于那些受过教育的人，他们自然会晓得，但，如果他们受教育不多或已惯旧习惯，那么，他们是很可能触犯那条例的。
 问：你对行人过路触犯条例的处罚有什么意见？
 答：如果你能付得起是无所谓的。

Above is an interview conducted by the Students' Union on the Road Safety Campaign.



A COMPARISON OF CONDITIONS IN ELECTRONIC FACTORIES IN U.S. & SINGAPORE.

ILL.

A multi-national corporation recently sent 3 of its electronic engineers from the Singapore factory to the US for training at the parent plant. The production line that they studied was then closed down and about 100 American workers were retrenched. Subsequently, the same machinery was sold to the Singapore Factory at first-hand prices, shipped to Singapore and installed here. This is a report of the experience of one of the engineers.

US Factory	Singapore Factory
1. Average operator's pay is US \$150 per week equivalent to \$ 0 per week.	For the same job using the same equipment, operator gets S\$160 during probation and S\$175 after.
2. Operators are weekly paid.	Monthly paid.
3. Engineer's pay is only 2-3 Xs operator's pay.	About 7 to 10 times. (Much wider gap between skilled and unskilled labour.)
4. 80% of workers drive cars to work. Car park is 3 times the size of factory.	Most operators can't even afford to own motor-cycles.
5. Most workers live in houses with garden like those in Serangoon Garden Estate.	Most workers live in rented Housing Board flats.
6. No discrimination according to sex — both male and female workers on the same production line, but with more females.	All production operators are females. All technicians, supervisors and engineers are males.
7. Majority of operators above 25 years old. Most women are either mothers or grandmothers.	Majority of girls are fresh from school — inexperienced, docile and immature.
8. Workers wear own clothes. Supervisors wear ties or overalls.	Everyone wear uniforms and identification cards with colour photos.

9. Canteen food is company-subsidised and quality is comparable to food in some Singapore hotels.	Canteen food also subsidised. Quality worse than hawker stall food.
10. Better safety standards — fumes from soldering are ducted away from each individual work-station. Hazardous and toxic chemicals not casually used.	Girls doing soldering breathe solder fumes the whole day. Toxic chemicals like TCE used without proper exhaust ducting.
11. Social security (is retrenchment and pension benefits) is paid for by the US Government out of taxes.	Workers are compelled to pay 15% of wages to Central Provident Fund. Employers also pay 15%.
12. A retrenched worker is paid 80% of former salary by government for a maximum period of two years or until he is re-employed.	"Nothing is for free."
13. Profits are heavily taxed by government.	Profits are tax-free under pioneer status except for 2% payroll tax. Profitability is much higher due to cheaper labour.
14. Profits made are kept within the US economy except for small proportion for overseas investment.	All profit is repatriated except for small proportion to be re-invested to generate still more profit.
15. Workers belong to a trade Union which dares to fight for better conditions. Parent company management has learnt over the years to respect workers' rights.	Local management knows that when the cards are down, they can always count on the cooperation of the Labour Ministry and N T U C unions.
16. Supervisors are polite, cannot be rude to workers who frequently resort to industrial action.	"The supervisor is King of the line."

Workers in the Singapore factory are required to produce

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大专学生乘搭巴士,应有优待.

·明仔译·



可能你还没有察觉到这一事实,大部份的工院及义安学生(全日制)的年龄,进入学院时才不过十六岁,毕业时也只有十八岁(对于两年课程的学生)或十九岁(对于三年课程的)。或许因为我们的衣著会令人误以为我们的岁数比高中生还要大,但实际上,我们的年龄是差不了多少的。

倘若新加坡巴士有限公司(SBS)觉得年龄不是主要的话,那么我们也要告诉他们,我们并不是很有钱。据一九七五年及最近的调查显示,一般学生是来自中下层的家庭背景。一般上家庭成员有五、六名,同时每月收入低于五百五十元者。

许多学生把购买课本,用具的钱省下来,是为了缴付昂贵的车资。有些甚至利用星期天来工作(当招待员等)或者教补习来维持费用,我们大多数学生都不是很有钱,是需要优待的。

什么是乘搭巴士优待的标准?

有的“人”还提出很多理由来说明我们不可以享有巴士优待。他们说我们将来毕业后会当技师。又说我们没有穿校服……等所以不能有优待。到底标准是什么呢?如果我们仔细分析,将会发觉到,主要考虑的因素不是什么校服、年龄等,而应该看这些人的经济情况。将来会否赚钱那是一段长时间以后的事,却不能因此而撇视目前同学的困境!

我们迫切需要优待吗?

这里的“我们”是指谁呢?是目前及未来的艺安及工艺学院的学生。“我们”,目前的大部份学生,都很需要巴士优待。而“我们”未来的学生更需要巴士优待。我们学业上的开销,都是已经负荷过重的家庭来维持。

巴士优待不但可以缓和我们的经济问题,而且也可以减轻家里的生活负担。父亲也不用再拖

着疲劳的身体挨加班。母亲也不必再替人缝雨伞,有较多的时间照顾家庭。弟妹们也不因零用钱不足而挨饿。对于未来的学生来说,如果有了巴士优待,那些来自穷苦家庭的学生便较有条件进入工艺学院(由于经济负担减轻了)。所以,他们更需要它。

新加坡巴士有限公司会全意吗?

我们的要求是合理的,但是SBS会答应吗?不久前,新加坡工艺学院学生会(SPSU)及义安工艺学院学生会(NATCSU)曾经呈上一份联合信件给SBS。要求他们考虑给予工院及义安学生优待。然而,答复却又是“不可以!”主要理由是:

- (1)SBS已经付出2500万元津贴中小生,所以没有能力再给工院及义安学生优待。
- (2)假如再给优待,就必须提高目前的巴士车费。

在答复中,隻字未提我们所提出的考虑因素。那么我们不妨就作出这样的假设:第一,SBS也同意我们的看法,即工院及义安学生应获得优待,而主要问题是这样一个优待可否进行。第二,在答复中,他们提出了这样的优待条件,那就是再提高现有的巴士车费。那SPSU及NATCSU就不可以提出任何抗议,因为是她造成车费的提高。



认清SBS的本质

一向来,没有人会把SBS当成是一个慈善机构。他虽然提供人们交通服务,但他还是属于“私人企业”,是必定要赚取利润的。当巴士公司联营之后,他们取消了UBS(联合巴士有限公司)给工院学生的月票。当SBS成立一年后,他们便宣布巴士车费起价一毛钱,两年后,他们取消了职业专科学校学生的巴士优待,但这项措施却由于职专学生的抗议反对,示威而失败。看看过往的历史,我们不难预料到,在争取巴士优待的过程中,我们一定会碰到许多问题的!

公众人士要密切关注意事情的发展

1975年石油涨价之后,SBS便想乘机再来一次提高巴士车费(据说是将分为30¢,50¢两种票价)。然而,这样的消息刚透露出来后,遭到许多公众人士的非议而又按下来。这次,SBS对两个学生会要求中提到若允许学生优待则要加价,这也是很值得我们注意的,也说明这不是学生的事情,而是广大民众所一起面对的切身问题。

在这里,我们表明,在任何困难的情况下,学生是强烈反对不合理地提高车费的。尤其是今天,我们的工人工资象蜗牛式的增加,而物价却不断高涨,广大人民所面临的负担越来越重。我们学生要求优待,也是为了使更多家庭能有机会让孩子去念书,而不须为车费而担忧。这次的要求优待运动,不只是学生的事情,而是广大人民争取合理权益的事,希望公众人士紧密关注事情的发展。

Continued from page 15.

A COMPARISON OF CONDITIONS IN ELECTRONIC FACTORIES....

typically 20% - 50% more units per hour than their US counter-parts. And at the same time, they are expected to make fewer rejects. In front of each operator, there are 2 graphs, one showing her daily output and the other showing the number of rejects. Beyond a certain stage, if the productivity is increased, the quality of the product will be affected. But the poor Singapore Girl is expected to achieve continual improvement both in quantity and quality.

The main raw materials used are brought from the parent company at prices substantially higher than those available from the open US market. The finished goods are sold to a sister factory in Taiwan at a price below the cost of production in Singapore. Local management do not have the final say over where the raw materials can be bought and at what prices and where the finished goods can be sold. As a result of this pricing policy, the factory has been making a loss for the last 5 years. Yet the management keeps telling the workers to work harder so that the company can make a profit!

The MNC involved has 36 plants all over the world. Its overseas plants are owned by a holding plant in Bahamas, a tax-free paradise for MNCs. Currently, there are plans to close its factories in Portugal and France and certain of its US plants. Meanwhile, new factories will be set up in Singapore and Manila.



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