

# PRINT

MONASH PEOPLES' DAILY  
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## THE RULER'S PANIC - BUT THE ROLLERS GO ON PAINTING.

Last week, Print brought you the news of Ken Mansell and Adrian Desailly, who, caught painting "FREE ZARB" on a Northcote railway bridge, were arrested, and receive the customary beating by the cops. They agreed to plead guilty following a promise of a small, \$10 fine, if they did so, only to be fined \$200 by the magistrate, Pfeifer - a typical example of our system of justice. Although ordered to remove the paint by Pfeifer, Mansell and Desailly, on legal advice, refused - and the unfinished sign remained 'FREE ZAI'. A demonstration was held on the spot on Saturday morning, and readers that evening's paper were greeted with large photographs of a young worker finishing the sign, and being dragged away by the cops.

The man with the can of spray was Robert Tillet, a 19 year old ex-student from Adelaide, who many will remember as the man with the guitar at last Friday's leaflet distribution. S.M. Pfeifer was incensed. Not only had the sign not been removed, it had grown. When Tillet came before our guardian of law and order, he was given the maximum sentence - three months "jail" without option. Now even those who support our system of justice find the sentence excessive, after all, sentencing was never meant to depend on the degree of one little man's temper. But Print sees this harsh sentence as more than this, as part of the campaign of intimidation against dissent on conscription for Gorton's little invasion of Vietnam. This cracking down all round is too much of a coincidence - Sime in Sydney (see over), the Langer - Ruben riot trial, the Crimes Act charges against conscription leafleters, Sydney SDS's Mike Jones 125 day sentence and now Munsell - Desailly - Tillet. Our rulers are worried about the growing dissent, but everything they do to stop it causes it to grow. Like the "Free Zarb" sign - by next morning it had been joined by "Free Tillet" outside Pfeifer's East Malvern home (courtesy of Monash Labor Club).

At lunchtime today P.A.C. has called a general meeting on the Tillet affair. A number of motions have been proposed, Print believes they are not enough. Motion 3 states 'That Monash students show support for Tillet by demonstration'. Very good, but when where and how? A demonstration will be organized next Wednesday afternoon at Northcote, leaving Monash at lunchtime. If the PAC motion is to be effective, it should include provisions to hire buses, and to print leaflets to be distributed. Such an amendment will be moved and to be really effective the meeting should support a motion to buy paint and brushes. If they do, the Monash Labor Club will ensure that the "Free Zarb" signs will really grow.

## SELF CRITICISM

Print withdraws its reply to "War and Peace" printed last Tuesday. Our article was unnecessarily arrogant and contained factual inaccuracies. Nevertheless we believe that the Pacifist views are incorrect and will publish a detailed reply when space permits. We will also republish the leaflet "Resist" which offended them in the first place so that Students can judge for themselves.

## OPEN INVITATION

The Staff-Student Commission on University Reform (which is a put on anyway) actually wants to hear the opinion of students! They are opening their meeting tonight (7.30 in the conference room) to the student body. No doubt they expect a few "Student Representatives". Let's all go and show them what students look like. Everyone who comes along has the right to speak.

## EXTENSIVE SPEECH

Who said that there is free speech in Australia? This week speaking out cost a Sydney lawyer nearly \$600.

Murray Sime, a law graduate from Sydney University who is employed by the Commonwealth Crown Solicitor, had his salary reduced by \$585 a year for the next 10 years for "improper conduct" and for "criticising the administration of a government department"

Sime represents part time Arts students on the Students Representative Council of Sydney University. As part of his job as National Affairs Officer of the SRC he organized an anti-conscription march in Sydney last week. Sime did not actually take part in the rally (he was working at the time). The march was conducted with Police permission.

A member of the Law Faculty stakk told a Print reporter yesterday that under the Public Service Act and associated regulations public criticism of any government policy could come under the heading of "improper conduct". The faculty member said that any Public Servant who engaged in public controversy could be laying himself open to disciplinary action on a charge of "improper conduct".

If this is so why have so few Public Servants been disciplined for commenting on public issues? In the sixty year history of the Commonwealth Public Service only a handful of people have been disciplined for critising government policy, and most of them were disciplined for criticising the administration of their own department. Apart from the Sime case, Print has been unable to find one case of a Public Servant being formally disciplined for engaging in "public controversy".

Now if the government has had this power all along why have they waited so long to use it? The answer is that they didn't need to before because public servants were frightened that they would not be promoted. But now some of the products of the student revolt are entering the Public Service and questioning its values. This is why it has been necessary to introduce open repression, both to discipline the offender and to warn others not to express opinions.

It is this sort of repression by the government, both in its overt and covert forms that makes nonsense of the argument that those people who want change should achieve it "within the democratic structure". The claim that our society recognises basic civil liberties is a ridiculous one in view of the fact that nearly one third of the graduates of this university are barred from expressing views which criticise the government.

The views expressed herin are not necessarily those of all club members. Authorised by M.D.Hyde , 120 Greville St., Prahran 3181.