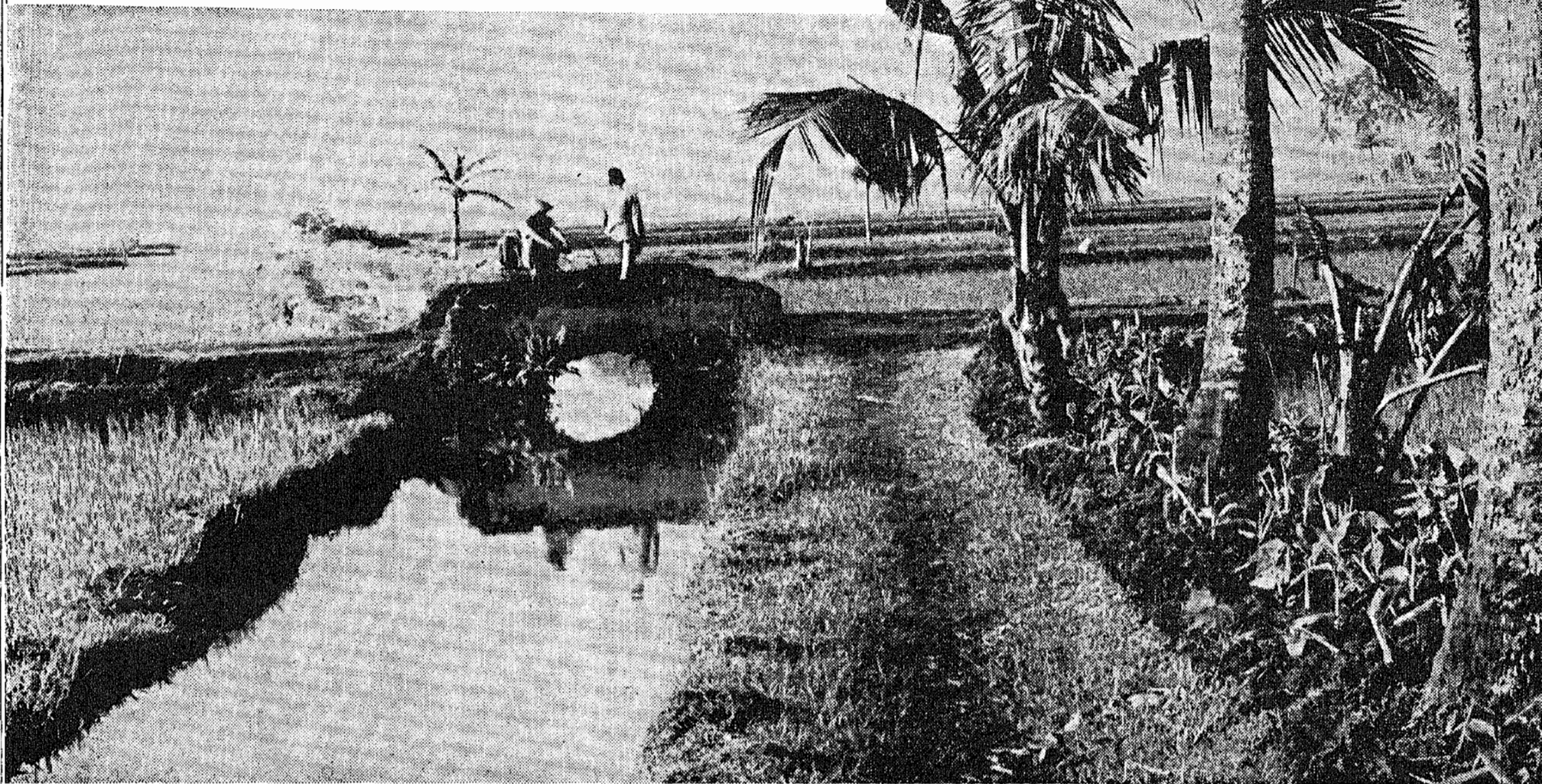


COMBINED UNIVERSITIES

# Australian Outlook

OVERSEAS SUPPLEMENT



This supplement is being distributed throughout Australian universities. You could call it a new attempt to put Australian students in touch with Asia.

**But what if Asia doesn't interest me particularly?**

Let me put it to you another way. Have you ever thought of going overseas? Perhaps you have come to the conclusion that in some out of the way places you would see more clearly how other people live.

**True enough. But riding a motor scooter up Africa's pretty old hat these days and besides if I go out of circulation for a couple of years I'm that much behind the people I graduated with when I do finally look for a job.**

Perhaps the solution to your problem is to work overseas. Many Asian countries are crying out for the know-how that you possess. That way you could get a penetrating look into life in another country and at the same time you could get experience in your own field.

**That sounds OK as far as it goes but what hope has someone, say from Arts, of finding a job there?**

Actually it is not as difficult as you think and this supplement will tell you some of the opportunities offering.

**But surely this is like sending coals to Newcastle? If there's anything the Asian countries have an oversupply of, its labour.**

Agreed. But there's a vast shortage of skilled labour. These opportunities are for people with know-how to go overseas and help put into practice modern agricultural methods, modern hygiene, and so on. They act in a sense as unofficial ambassadors. But this doesn't mean that what we're looking for is a Rhodes Scholar or a First Class Honours man. We are talking about the man or woman who would like to work overseas, whose record may not be outstanding but who feels that he or she can carry an important job.

**Good. I was beginning to think that you were after supermen or missionaries.**

Neither.

**But aren't the Americans pouring millions of dollars into these countries already?**

Sure. Since the war both the East and the West have poured massive amounts of aid into underdeveloped countries in an attempt to raise the standard of living and sway them politically. We now see that a great deal of this money was wasted. It never reached the people it was supposed to help. It often merely showed up existing corrupt regimes. It rarely produced any gratitude. It was either seen as a piece of patronising or as due payment for years of colonial rule.

## A SUPPLEMENT CATECHISM

**As "The Ugly American" pointed out?**

Well, partly, although that book pointed up another aspect of the general failure of overseas aid. That was the failure of the technicians sent to these countries to make any sort of real contact with the people. It accused Americans overseas of living in little islands of consumer comfort remote from the people they were supposed to be making contact with. It has been said that President Kennedy's peace corps, which you will read about, was established to stamp out the Ugly American image.

**You still have not told me what the personnel of the peace corps or similar schemes offer that the highly trained aid technician cannot give.**

The whole point of these schemes is that what the group lacks in experience it makes up for in unique access. By unique access I mean that participants are at

a stage in life when they want to sample different ways of living. They are willing to live on strange foods and learn perhaps their host's language. They are willing to make the sort of adjustments that will make them welcome in the society of their hosts. This does not mean that they go out looking for hardship. Actually what they get is perhaps the greatest experience life can offer. That of being accepted into, and for a period becoming part of, another society.

**I can see that this could be personally very rewarding for the individual but how does this fit in with international relations?**

Well, this unique access creates a give and take situation. Since they are learning so much volunteers find it easy to have their ideas accepted by their hosts. They reach people with new ideas, people who, under other circumstances may be hostile or indifferent to them. The older aid technician on the other hand finds this sort of contact more difficult to make. He is at a stage in life when he is not willing to radically alter his way of life even for a short time. Governments are beginning to realise this and that is why these schemes are being established.

**Well, let's get back to where you dragged me into this. What is Australia doing in this field? What are my chances?**

I'm glad to say we are doing something, though at the moment it is not much. To give you some idea of these schemes, as well as to reassess the relationship between Australia and Asian students, is the aim of this supplement.

**It seems that the future is quite rosy for those who want to work overseas. But what is the period involved? I gather it's not for life?**

Most of the answers to those questions you'll find inside. Basically there are long and short schemes. The long ones cater for graduates over about 2 years. This is the Volunteer Graduates Scheme. The short ones last only a couple of months during the long vacation. But more of that inside.

# Volunteer Graduates

OUR road was rough, pot holes cut great chunks out of its dirt surface, threatening to swallow our jeep. On each side the jungle came down moist and dark to the edge of the ochre strip. The fellow who sat beside me in that becoming vehicle was a Volunteer Graduate, doing a two year term in Indonesia on pasture development. He was in his middle twenties. On our present journey we were going to check some experimental pasture plots that he had planted to the north of Bogor. I was in Indonesia to see what a job in Indonesia offered young Australian graduates.

I had been told before it was arranged that I undertake a survey for the scheme, that Volunteer Graduates were supplied with fares, a bicycle, clothing and health allowances by the Australian Government and that they were paid according to the Indonesian pay scales, which are by our standards very low. I wondered before leaving whether volunteer graduates lived in hardship for their two-year term.

In many cases the every-day life of Volunteer Graduates in Indonesia follows closely that of the Indonesian's themselves, because Volunteer Graduates, if they do not have their wives with them, often live with local families. Take the case of economist Lance Castles, working at the University of Indonesia.

## Mike Rubbo peeks in

He was taken into an Indonesian family for a small monthly sum on the understanding that he would teach the girls of the family to speak English.

In this case the arrangement worked extremely well. He had a room to himself, he could come and go as he pleased knowing that there would always be some food waiting for him when he returned. His teaching burden was light, seeming to consist merely of English conversation at the dinner table.

Lance, as it happened, spent a great deal of time with this family for they were an interesting bunch. One of the daughters was at the University while another was training to be a midwife. The father had been a cartoonist in a Djakarta newspaper and would offer in English or Indonesian a penetrating commentary on the current political or social scene to anyone who had time to listen. In Indonesia there is always time for conversation because life moves at a very relaxed tempo.

## Morning in Djakarta

Work starts early by our standards. You mount your bike perhaps about 7 a.m. and push off among the morning stream of *Beijas* (passenger tricycles) bikes, and water sellers to the office. This may be

in a University or a Government department depending on what your skill is.

Almost every sort of graduate except perhaps lawyers, have found work under the scheme. At about 1.30 p.m. you return riding more slowly in the afternoon heat. The big meal of the day awaits you: rice, a little meat and vegetables, with perhaps banana fritters and tea. For the next two hours most people sleep.

Volunteer graduates though often give one hour at this time to teaching English. This allows them to supplement their official wage and make many friends. At four it is time for strong black coffee on the veranda and conversation with friends who drop in. It is cooler by this time and people become energetic for the second time in the day.

## Evening walk

In the evening the favourite pastime is walking, *djalan djalan* as it is called; the night is warm and the streets are full of people playing cards by the light of pressure lamps, or talking to friends they meet. If walking alone doesn't appeal, there is sure to be a puppet theatre close by or a gamelon orchestra rehearsing.

By the end of my survey I had come to the conclusion that a country such as Indonesia offers a variety of things to the Australian with two years to give. In spite of the political unrest we associate with the country, life at the lower levels can be very pleasant. The Indonesians are friendly and they welcome enthusiastically the Australian who is willing to meet them on their own terms.

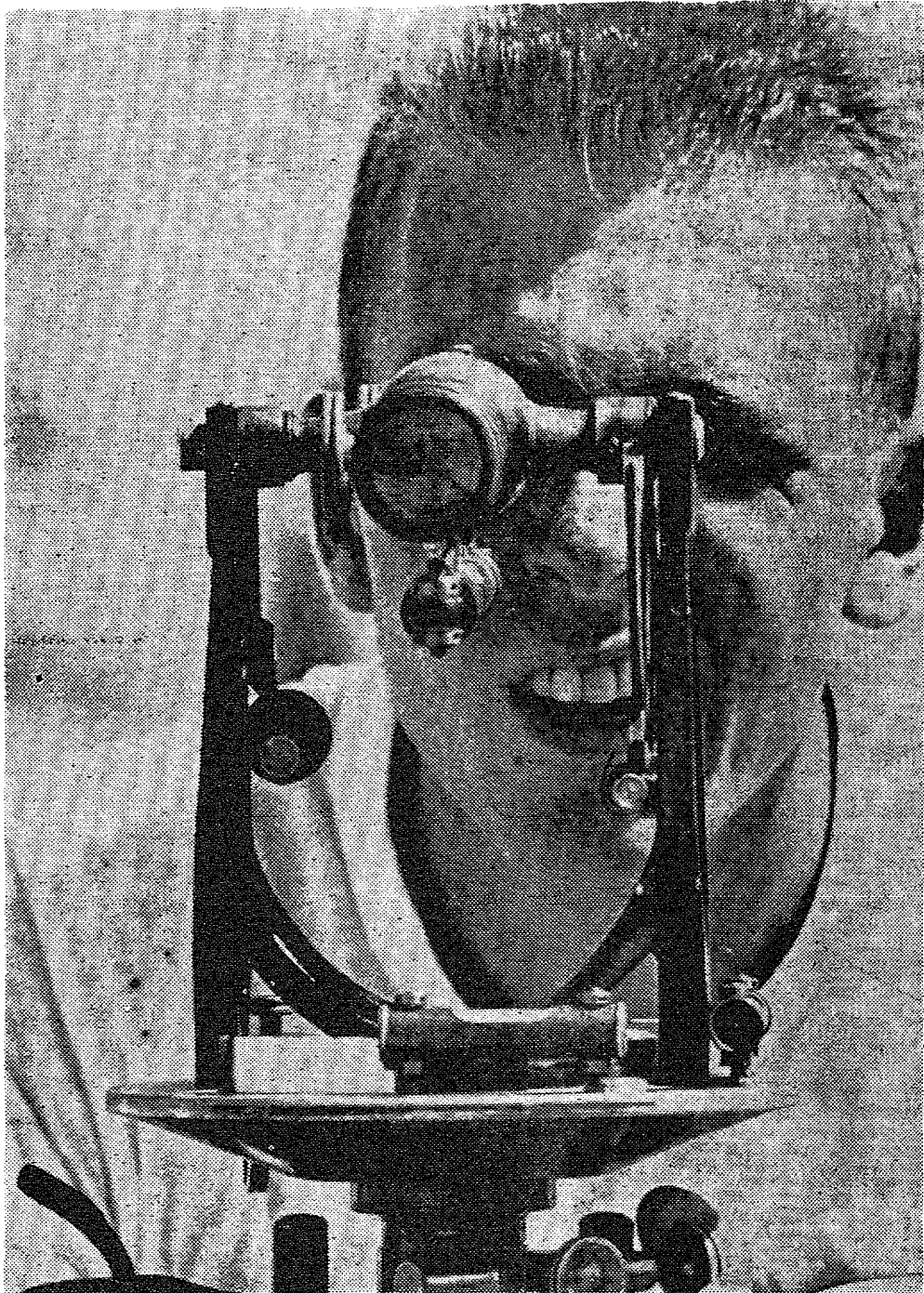
Secondly, past experience of Volunteer Graduates (some 40 have gone away) shows that they often take on jobs requiring authority and initiative. They gain experience that they would not get in Australia until much later in life. They also have the satisfaction of knowing that in their two year period they become experts about Australia's most important neighbour — a country of 85 million, fifth largest in the world, unknown to most of us.

## Personal gains

More important than the individual gains are the social implications of the scheme.

The Volunteer Graduate in Indonesia is a new departure. He is doing something that other Europeans have never done, that is work on a basis of equality with the Indonesians. This is most impressive and heartening to a people who are conditioned to think that Europeans cannot survive outside their whisky and soda enclaves. Volunteer Graduates in a small way are helping to project a better image of Australia. This is vitally necessary for unfortunately many Asian people still think of us as colonialist and racist. Volunteer Graduates are helping to destroy this image; they are also helping to build up in Australia a body of informed people who understand the development problems these countries face. Both these results must be realised if Australia is to have friendly and profitable relations with S.E. Asia in the future.

# Looking down on . . .



## the U.S. Peace Corps.

AUSTRALIAN Volunteer Graduates and work camps in Asia follow to a certain extent well-tryed formulae developed by similar American volunteer agencies in the field of international co-operation.

The most recent, the best known and what may prove the most significant of these American agencies is the U.S. Peace Corps, which was established only last year at the beginning of the Kennedy administration.

During his 1960 Presidential campaign, Kennedy had proposed that the American Government recruit talented young men and women to work on a volunteer basis with the people of emerging nations in an effort to wipe out sickness, illiteracy and hunger.

The general response was immediate and enthusiastic. Within three months of the Peace Corps' establishment applications for enrolment were received from more than 10,000 volunteers.

The purpose of the Peace Corps is to make available the services of well-trained young Americans to the newly-developing nations — countries which are making a determined effort to improve their economies and the general well-being of their peoples.

These nations often have skilled and educated leaders. They also have a plentiful supply of manual labourers, but lack the trained "middle manpower" needed to strengthen their economies.

and determination. There is no requirement that a volunteer must have a university education. Since many of the tasks for which there is a demand are developed in other ways than through higher education men with trade skills will often be more useful than those with college degrees.

After selection, Peace Corps volunteers go through a training period lasting from three to six months. This is often continued at an overseas staging area.

Volunteers study the history, customs, traditions, economy and language of the host country. They will even take refresher courses in required skills or in the techniques of the jobs to be done.

Volunteers receive free training, transportation, subsistence and medical care. Upon completion of service, they receive a modest termination payment.

Peace Corps volunteers have been known to work on malaria control, animal husbandry and public health; to serve as librarians, social workers, nurses, vocational school teachers, surveyors and laboratory technicians.

The most frequent requests have been for secondary school teachers of mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics and languages.

There have been requests for specialists in small farming methods, lawyers, engineers, plumbers, management men and labour negotiators, doctors and public health workers.

## SO YOU WANT TO JOIN the Volunteer Graduate Scheme

If you are interested in hearing more about the VGS, further information can be obtained from—

### New South Wales

Russell Jones, Indonesian and Malayan Studies Dept., University of Sydney.

Chris Tillam, St. Paul's College, University of Sydney

### Queensland

Miss Gwenda Rodda, Institute of Medical Research Herston Rd, Herston, Qld.

Dr W. Thiele, Student Counsellor, University of Queensland.

### Victoria

Mr Jim Webb, Warden, Melbourne University Union.

### South Australia

Mr Hugh Reeves, St. Marks College, North Adelaide South Australia.

### Western Australia

Mr T. A. Priest, Faculty of Education, University of W.A.

Mr R. Flecker, Senior Fellow, Currie Hall, University of W.A.

### Tasmania

Professor M. Clark, Zoology Department, University of Tasmania.

# Asian assimilation: no trouble

WHEN examining the problem of Asian assimilation in Australia the most obvious thing to look for is trouble. With White Australia lurking in the background, it is natural to expect grisly tales of bigoted landlords, prejudiced neighbours, and other discriminatory incidents.

It just isn't so. Asians do experience difficulty in fitting into the general pattern of the Australian community, but their difficulties are almost all minor. There is apparently no deep-seated barrier which makes their stay here an unhappy one.

The most obvious problem is simply in finding a circle of friends within the host country. While most Asians who come here have a good command of English, they do not understand the idiom. "If an Australian speaks of 'twisting your arm,'" one of them said, "it means very little. But if he were to say 'coercing' then every Asian would know what he meant."

This is more significant than it appears at first. Most humour is idiomatic, so that Asians

talking to a group of Australians are likely to find the whole gist of the conversation escaping them. This produces the lamentable situation where an Asian student is likely to derive more enjoyment from a circle of Asian friends than from a group of Australians.

So the first problem is created. The Asian students tend to hold together in small national groups, instead of mixing with Australians. This is especially prevalent in the large universities where the Asian community is large — so large that it can easily become self-contained.

Also the Asians tend to group together to overcome difficulties with Australian food. Many of them cannot eat it for religious reasons (especially Moslems and Hindus). Others simply prefer their own national foods and gather together to make this an economic proposition.

For this reason, Asian students in secondary schools often do more for international understanding than those in the universities. The school children are in small groups and thus are forced into the company of Australians.

Another difficulty common to Asian students is plain downright uncertainty as to whether they are doing the right thing. Three schoolgirls had trouble passing plates. In their own homes it would be the height of rudeness to pass a plate with one hand. Here it seemed to be perfectly acceptable. How were they to know they weren't unwittingly breaking some similar Australian piece of etiquette?

On the question of White Australia, the Asians are disarmingly frank. One Government official even went so far as to say that the worst cases of discrimination in Australia was against our own aborigines.

## Space to spare

"I think as individuals most of us are against any form of discrimination," he continued. "We feel especially sad when Australia has so much space to spare, yet so few people to support."

"Of course if there were a lot more Asians in the country then you would have to work a lot harder."

Most Asians when asked, said they were surprised when they came to Australia at the number of Asians living here permanently. In particular they had no idea of the large Chinese communities which exist in every capital city.

In Asia those who are aware of the White Australia Policy imagine that there are no Asians here at all, apart from a few students.

The two most common bogies of the Student Exchange schemes are that the Asians who enter the country will want to settle here, and that too many inter-racial marriages will result.

On the first question there is a mixed response. By and large, Malaysians seem keen to return home after their study period in Australia. Indonesians on the other hand, make more frequent requests to be allowed to remain in the coun-



try. This reflects the living conditions in both countries. Malaya's economy is more stable than Indonesia's, and the returning student can expect a more comfortable position waiting for him in his native country.

The three Malayan schoolgirls questioned on this were all adamant in their desire to return home. Even when asked would they change their mind

in Australia is just as easy. The three schoolgirls had planned to try for a job in a Maitland or a Newcastle shop, but had given it away in favour of a trip to Melbourne. But they said they knew of several Malaysians who had worked in shops in the district, and that employers had accepted them willingly.

"Where you have people doing interviews — actually

"Malayan students who are at present pursuing various courses of study in this country have every reason to be thankful to the authorities and the people of the host country through whose generosity they are able to gain the benefit of overseas education in institutions which have been built and developed to meet the educational demands of the Australian people."

"In this context Malayan students who are today present here could be regarded as being highly privileged and it is therefore their responsibility to ensure the proper use of this privilege."

"It is hoped that their presence here will benefit not only themselves but also the people of the host country with whom they have had personal contacts, through which they should be able to establish better understanding between one another and cement further the close and happy relationship between the people of their country and those of the host country."

HARUN BIN IBRAHIM  
Director, Malayan Students' Department.

if they could bring their parents out here with them they said they would rather live in Malaya. The cold Australian climate and the old problem of food seem to be the main reasons for their return home.

On the question of inter-racial marriage, the response was much less clear. The Malayan official suggested that his Government should arrange for more Malayan girls to study in Australia to prevent "all sorts of complications" that arose from inter-racial marriages.

When questioned on whether it wasn't through such marriages alone that the racial prejudices would be broken down, he stood his ground.

"As long as it remains the exception to the rule, I don't think it solves anything," he said.

Employment for Malaysians

to adapt to the conditions and demands of Australian society. If some do this more easily than others, this is no fault of ours.

Those who adapt best are (understandably) the Malaysians. They come from a tradition of British contact and are more likely to be acquainted with our customs, sense of humour, etiquette and the like. At the same time, those without this background—such as those from Indonesia and Thailand — seem to have no more difficulty in becoming acclimatised.

Students returning home carry with them the usual impressions of Australia. "The people are friendly." — "I knew it would be big, but not THAT big."

When questioned on what they might warn visitors of in Aus-

tralia, most could find no answer. They were told "You don't have to be polite." But either they remained polite, or else there was literally nothing important for their friends to avoid.

At this point the whole question of race seemed to have dissolved to nothing. There was a consciousness of the question from the Australians and from the Asians, but it seemed to present no real barriers. In fact it is even possible that there is less racial tension in Australia than in Malaya, say, where Chinese distrust Malaysians who in turn distrust Indians.

Whether similar tensions would arise if the Asian racial groups were significantly larger in Australia is only a matter of speculation — one for the supporters of the White Australia policy to chew over.

## NUAUS sponsors overseas confab

Sydney's Collaroy Beach played host for the second Overseas Student Conference of Australia, sponsored by the National Union of Australian University Students (N.U.A.U.S.).

The first such conference was held in Melbourne during the August vacation last year.

The aim of the conferences, which will continue to be held annually, is threefold. They are to discuss how overseas students can effectively improve their own position here in Australia; how they can contribute to the student life in the universities and how they can foster a closer understanding of their problems and those of their native countries.

Convenor of this year's conference was a Melbourne student, John Langmore. Next year's will be a Borneo student studying in Western Australia, Patrick Goh.

Each university sends a number of delegates to the conference, these being chosen by the university student councils.

This year only Queensland and Tasmania were not represented. Those universities present were: West Australia (2), Melbourne (3), N.S.W. (2), Sydney (2), Newcastle (2), Armidale (2) and Adelaide (1).

There were also observers from all the Sydney Asian student associations.

Amongst topics discussed were International Student Centres, Asian - Australian Students Work Camps and the new quotas on overseas students.

There was also a lengthy discussion of the White Australia policy and the conference resolved to ask the National Union of Australian Students (N.U.A.U.S.) to conduct a nation-wide referendum to ascertain student opinion.

## International House will eclipse Opera House

Sydney is to have an International House before an Opera House, according to local authorities.

This is still a little behind Melbourne, where they had an International House as long ago as 1957. But Sydney will have two, and both will be bigger than the Melbourne International House.

One of these colleges will be at Sydney University, the other at New South Wales. Each will hold 150 students, and at least half of these will be overseas students.

The inestimable value of International Houses is witnessed by the fact that there are permanent International House representatives on a number of U.N. committees.

Agitators for International House appeared among students at least seven years ago, when problems of overseas student accommodation were already complex. Agitation continued during 1960 the problem drew greater interest among civic-minded citizens in higher places. Rotary began considering the possibility of supporting an appeal.

In 1961 a student appeal committee was formed at Sydney University and in the middle of 1962 its fund totalled £7,000. Very shortly Rotary is going to conduct an appeal more capable of raising the mountain of money required for such things as new colleges.

It is understood that there are now people in Brisbane thinking of following the trend.

# The work camps wait for willing hands

**C**HRISTMAS in Malaya—swinging a hammer. That's the offer of the work camp scheme. And if there are enough Australians interested the project could begin this year.

Basically the scheme is this. Australian volunteers from universities, trade unions, technical colleges, youth movements, will spend three months in an Asian country taking part in a community project. They may repair a road, build a school, clear some land—whatever the host country decides.

The scheme is already under way in other countries.

## Armidale homes

# Asian scheme

As the result of wild enthusiasm for work camps at a recent Overseas Student Services Conference, Peter Richardson (University of West. Aust.) is looking into these matters.

This could involve the investigation and establishment of work camps both here and overseas. Mr Richardson is already swinging into action and he has some projects in mind.

One has already come to the forefront. Armidale would like to be the centre for an international work camp during the coming long vacation. The project, proposed jointly by the town and University Aboriginal Assimilation Associations involves the construction of an aboriginal community centre

## Town help

Armidale has several things to offer. Firstly, townspeople are assimilation minded, and would welcome such a novel approach as a multi-racial work camp on an assimilation project.

Secondly, being a university town, it would not be difficult to arrange accommodation for visiting work campers.

Both the bush and local hospitality (which is red-blooded to say the least) would be wide open to visiting work campers.

One of the basic aims of such a camp would be to attract wide publicity for work camps and for Overseas-Australian student participation in community projects. It would succeed in this if the project really fired the public interest, if the city newspapers and TV stations gave full coverage, and if External Affairs saw fit to take an interest in the project from an international relations point of view.

These are things that the Armidale planners hope would happen. So keep your ears open for further developments. Perhaps we may see you there in early '63.

Students from all over the world have gathered in Yugoslavia to build a road. And in Malaya a group of local undergraduates spent seven days in singlets and shorts filling potholes in a village road in Lorong 23, Geylang, Malaya.

The efforts received wide coverage in the Press, who looked on it as a break from the traditional aloofness of the local undergraduates. The whole project worked wonders by showing the ordinary people of Malaya that students were sympathetic to their local problems.

International work camp schemes are an extension of this. By performing some simple but immediately beneficial task, the workers from another country are able to demonstrate to their hosts that they are prepared to assist in a practical way.

Students accepting the offer to work in an Asian country would spend three months there—two months working, and one month travelling through the host country talking about the scheme. When they returned home they would be invited to give talks to the next group of volunteers.

Expenses while on the job

are usually covered by the host country. The volunteer's only expense would be fares from Australia and back. By sea these are not exorbitant.

There is also a good chance that such organisations as Rotary, Apex, and the Lions will agree to sponsor individual volunteers. Business houses may also be interested, especially when it is pointed out that better relations between Australia and Asia mean better Asian markets for Australian goods.

Finally, Asian students are already discussing reciprocal schemes in Australia.

## Public effect

A plan to build homes for aborigines in the New England district is already under consideration, using Asian and Australian workers.

It is easy to see the effect this will have on the Australian public. If they can read in the Press of Asian students contributing in this practical way to the Australian scene, they are more likely to approve their presence. The same situation applies in reverse in Asia. The sight of Australians buckling down to the tangible work of building a road can do as much for Australian/Asian relations as a gift of a hundred

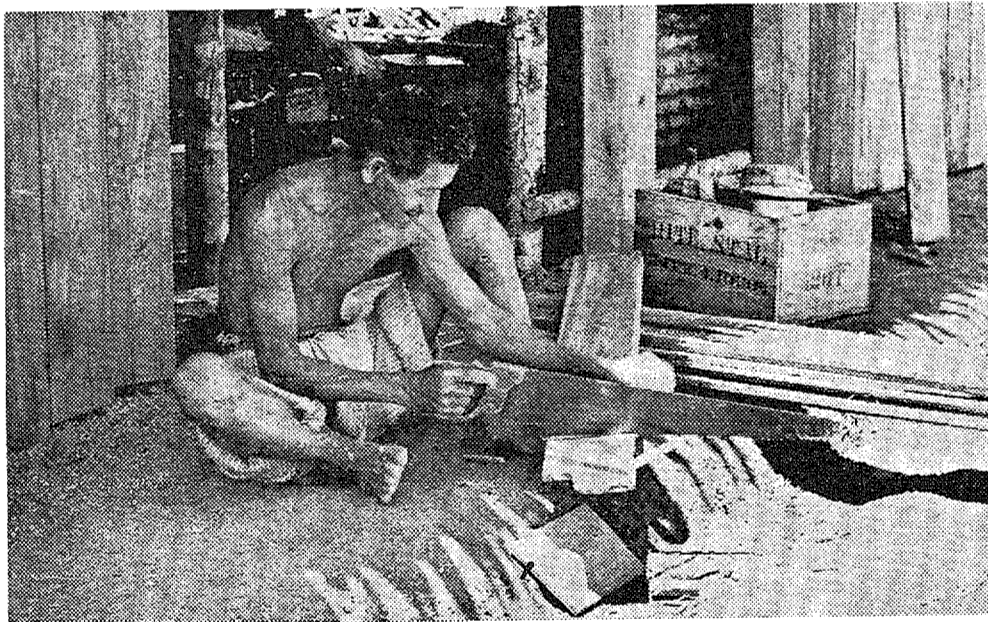
tractors from a remote Australian government.

All the scheme needs now is volunteers. If you are interested in taking part in a work camp immediately, you could write to Mr Joseph Lee, Chairman, Welfare Committee University of Singapore, and offer to take part in the already existing Malayan scheme.

At the same time you could leave your name with your own Students Council, or write to Peter Richardson at the University of Western Australia, who will take over from there.

This is a chance for students to turn over their long vacation to valuable work in the field of international relations. Apart from the opportunity to travel cheaply in South-East Asia, the scheme offers you a way to make an appreciable contribution to Australia's prestige overseas.

The Australian government is very interested in the schemes, and if they prove successful future volunteers may receive government subsidy. But before this can happen the scheme must be launched. To do this involves a little extra work for us now, but we have the privilege of pioneering a valuable project.



Self-help in Malaya. A Chinese refugee in Malaya begins the arduous task of rebuilding his home after it had been destroyed by communist terrorists.

# OSB now in business

If you have no desire to join one of the official overseas work schemes, but still have a hankering to work in foreign fields, the Overseas Service Bureau will fill your requirements.

The Bureau carries out its work by bringing out a regular bulletin, listing jobs available overseas for Australians. In the normal course of events, no Australian would ever hear about them.

As a sample of the Bureau's wares, here are some of the jobs listed in the Bureau's first Bulletin:

**KENYA:** Secondary school teachers. Male grads. wanted for Govt. and mission boarding schools, particularly in physics, maths. and chemistry. Also volunteers required for year-long international work

camp to rebuild flood-damaged villages.

**GHANA:** Senior lecturer or lecturer in agricultural economy and farm organisation.

**NIGERIA:** University College, Idiban. Senior technician for chemistry department.

Australian Indonesian Association of New South Wales supports all modes to further understanding between the two countries and from the beginning has supported V.G.S. Organisation. Annual Summer Schools held by the association on various aspects of Australian Indonesian relations assist Indonesian students studying in New South Wales to meet Australians.

**TANGANYIKA:** Stenographers, secretaries Grade I. Tours, 21-27 months, high wages, fares paid, various allowances.

**INDIA:** Woodstock boarding school in the foothills of the Himalayas. American and Indian children. Teachers needed in all fields. St. Hilda's School, Ootacamund South, India. Teachers of geography, history and maths.

**NEW CALEDONIA:** Ro Neva Church High School. English language teacher wanted. Medium of instruction is French.

**SARAWAK:** Church clinic tula. Nurses needed.

**FIJI:** Teacher of agriculture and jobs in Church schools and hospitals.

**INDONESIA:** Lecturer in geography, Padjadjaran University, Bandung.

The full list of positions available can be obtained by writing to Mr Jim Webb, Warden, Melbourne University Union.

# WUS Union plan for New Guinea

At the first annual conference of World University Service of Australia, held in Sydney recently, it was announced that WUS will take on a large-scale project to assist the building of a Union for the new University in New Guinea.

It is planned to open the University in 1966, and the Union will provide facilities such as dining rooms, meeting rooms, quiet rooms and facilities for student government.

World University Service (WUS) has, under various names, been at work since 1919. It is an international program in which some 40 nations take part, and is concerned to:

- (1) Help meet the basic needs of universities and their members, particularly where these are underprivileged.
- (2) Promote the sharing of knowledge and experience, and to foster the development of international understanding and co-operation between the university communities of all nations.

A considerable amount of interest was aroused by the visit of Mr Ilomo Batton, from the Papuan Medical College.

The conference was attended by representatives of all of Australia's 12 universities.

Frequently WUS activities of the second (fund-raising) type, involve communal effort of one kind or another.

Thus, one of the problems in Africa today is the great gap between the educated people and the other strata of society, and one way of bridging this gap is by community development projects. These

projects are designed to improve the material standards of the village communities, and at the same time to bring the students and the people of the villages together in a common endeavour.

One of the first attempts in this direction was a WUS Community Workshop in Ghana in 1959. In September last year, a regional seminar was held on "The University's Role in Community Development." This was attended by about 40 students and staff from 10 African Universities and some overseas participants to study the techniques of community development and their application on a voluntary basis by students and universities.

The seminar worked out and recommended over 30 realistic and relevant projects for implementation by National WUS Committees. Students in Africa are now taking on more and more community development projects. In the Sudan, a workcamp was organised to build a hospital ward in a small town in northern Sudan. In Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa (Ethiopia), community development projects are taking the form of literacy and hygiene-teaching campaigns.

Within the two basic spheres outlined, WUS activities are as diverse as the nations which take part in them—but all are united by their common purpose, their share sense of fellow-man and fellow-student.

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