

SOUND

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NG HIGHLANDS FAMINE RELIEF APPEAL

An appeal for money to help the famine-stricken highlanders of Papua-New Guinea has opened at Monash.

Dr J.A. Sandover, Director of the PNG Institute of Technology, is a member of the Morobe District Committee of the Highlands Famine Relief Appeal Fund. He has written in the following terms:

"This is an extremely serious situation which could develop into a very tragic series of events unless very large sums of money are forthcoming in aid to provide food and transport for the food for the people in the Highlands who are completely and totally without any resources whatsoever.

"The damage has been caused by an almost continuous drought in the Highlands and particularly in some areas. These conditions have been greatly aggravated by very severe frosts and together these events have completely spoiled the food crops in large areas of the Highlands. Were it not for the present relief supplies, there would be actual famine in many areas. The supplies are meagre enough, being one pound of rice and one small tin of fish per person per week — barely enough to maintain life and certainly not sufficient to keep the people healthy. There is every evidence that the present numbers of people to be fed are going to increase very considerably in the near future and feeding will have to continue for at least another four months. The total money required is between \$2,000,000 — \$3,000,000 and you can see that the situation is an extremely grave and serious one."

Donations from Monash staff or students will be accepted by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Matheson.

SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE: TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Department of Education and Science has outlined the terms of reference of the recently-established Advisory Committee on Science and Technology (SOUND No. 90).

Professor R. Street, chairman of the Monash department of physics, and Mr J.G. Wilson, managing director of APM Ltd., and a member of the Monash University Council, are among the 11 foundation members of the committee.

The terms of reference are as follows:

1. The Committee shall be concerned with matters relating to Australia's efforts and needs in civil science and technology and shall report and make recommendations to the Government on:
 - (i) the development and application of science and technology to national needs and objectives now and in the future;
 - (ii) New areas of science and technology which are of importance to Australia including fields of industrially and commercially oriented research and development;
 - (iii) The balance, adequacy and effectiveness of national efforts in various fields of science and technology, and means for improving efficiency in the use of resources;
 - (iv) The relative importance of efforts in those fields of science and technology which may contribute to national economic and social development and welfare or to the advancement of scientific knowledge, including the priorities that should be assigned to specific major projects;
 - (v) The effective development and utilisation of scientific and technological manpower;
 - (vi) The compilation of statistical and other information on the national effort in science and technology which should be obtained as an aid to the continuing assessment of national efforts and to the formulation of Government policies in relation to civil science and technology;
 - (vii) Any other matters that may be referred to it by the Government.

The Committee shall not be concerned with fields of medical research which are the responsibility of the National Health and Medical Research Council, nor with fields of defence science except to the extent that these may be related to the foregoing.

2. The Committee shall report to the Prime Minister through the Minister for Education and Science. In addition to reporting from time to time on specific matters, it shall present annually a report on its activities.
3. Subject to the approval of the Minister for Education and Science, the Committee shall be empowered to engage consultants and to appoint expert sub-committees to report to it on specific questions.
4. The Committee shall consult with other bodies as may be relevant with a view to ensuring liaison on matters of mutual interest and to avoiding duplication of effort so that each body may discharge effectively its own particular functions and responsibilities.

PARENTS' DONATIONS TOTAL \$26,629

The Monash University Parents' Group has given the University a total of \$26,629 in the past seven years.

Among the major donations have been: Library, \$9200; Robert Blackwood Hall furniture, \$4200; Student Bursary Fund, \$3750; Students' Assistance Fund, \$1950; videotape recorder for the Union, \$1400.

Cheques representing the latest gifts (totalling \$3796) were presented at the Group's annual general meeting on Wednesday, November 22. They included \$369 for a cassette dictating machine to be used in the faculty of science.

NEW READERS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR APPOINTED

Dr. Peter Riach, senior lecturer in the department of economics, has been appointed a reader in the department. Dr Riach's principal interests lie in three fields of labour economics: income distribution theory, productivity bargaining and female labour market problems.

Mr T. D. Smith, senior lecturer in inorganic chemistry, has been appointed reader in the department of chemistry. For the past four or five years he has been involved in research in the field of electron spin resonance of transitional metal complexes.

Mr H. A. Finlay, senior lecturer in the faculty of law, has been appointed associate professor in the faculty. Mr Finlay has been largely responsible for the development of family law as an important part of law school curricula throughout the Commonwealth.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC IN RELIGIOUS CENTRE

The Monash University Choral Society conducted by Douglas Lawrence will present its fourth annual carol service in the Religious Centre at 8 p.m. on Thursday, December 14.

As mentioned in SOUND No. 96, the Monash Chapel Singers and a staff-student chamber orchestra will present a program of Christmas music in the Religious Centre at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, November 29. Admission by program (50 cents).

BUSY TIME IN THE HALL

Three major events are scheduled for Robert Blackwood Hall later this week.

On Thursday, November 30, at 7.45 p.m., there will be a St. Andrew's Day variety concert, sponsored by the combined auxiliaries of St. Andrew's Hospital. Tickets cost \$1.50 for adults, \$1 for children.

On Friday, December 1, at 8 p.m., the Elizabethan Trust Melbourne Orchestra will give a second free concert.

And on Sunday, December 3, the National Boys' Choir will give a program of Christmas music. This will be the last of the 1972 series of free Sunday concerts supported by the Australian Council for the Arts.

MATERIALS ENGINEERING SEMINAR

The department of materials engineering will hold its December seminar at 9 a.m. on Friday, December 1, in room G28, engineering building 1. D. F. Kinder will speak on "Viscoelastic/plastic Behaviour of Polyvinylchloride".

All interested will be welcome. It would be appreciated if visitors from outside the faculty of engineering could inform Miss P. O'Leary (extn. 3910) or Associate Professor B. W. Cherry (3913) before the seminar.

EXCHANGE OF HOUSE

A senior lecturer in the pharmacy department at the University of Queensland would like to exchange houses with a Melbourne academic for two to three weeks between December 15 and January 20. He is Dr. B. D. Rawal, who has a four-bedroomed house at Kenmore. Anybody interested should contact Dr. Rawal at the pharmacy department, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, 4067.

MEETING TO DISCUSS CHILD CARE FACILITIES

A general meeting of the Monash University Family Cooperative Steering Committee will be held in R2, on Thursday, December 7, 1972, from 1.00 – 2.00 p.m.

The agenda will include: a report on long and short term proposals for child-care facilities; adoption, in principle, of the Constitution and adoption of share capital.

All staff and students are welcome.

Authorised by K. W. Bennetts, Information Officer.