

News in brief

THE appointment of a new Guild Chaplain, taking the place of David Hart, has just been announced. The new Chaplain is Rev. J. K. Kimber, from Llandaff; he is aged 26, has a degree in Chemistry and has had experience of working with students at Cardiff University. His appointment commences from the 1st April, 1972.

The Guild Vice-President, Paul Dodgson, was censured at a recent meeting of the Binary Committee because he had failed to make any preparations for the campaign they are running against the binary system. Despite being elected as Chairman four months ago, nothing had been done with only a fortnight to go until the start of the campaign.

The Open Forum last week on the Review Body was very poorly attended, only 100 people, mostly staff, being present. The meeting was addressed by Paul Dodgson, Dr. Burkhardt and Professor Rees, and the views of students, non-professional staff and professorial staff were aired. The meeting stressed the importance of members of the University submitting evidence—this is essential to the working of the Review Body.

This week sees the re-emergence of "Birmingham's underground excuse for a magazine" viz. "Streetpress." With the addition of eight extra pages it is a bargain at the unaltered price of 10p. This larger edition means more in-depth treatment of a greater variety of topics, but one of the essential ingredients is response from the readers. To contact "Streetpress" just call in at Cyclops Sounds, Piccadilly Arcade, New Street, or the Peace Centre, Moir Street, Ringway.

As part of the Guild's educational programme on South Africa, the Debate on Wednesday night (tonight) will be on the motion: "This House believes that the proposed settlement for Rhodesia is better than nothing." Before the actual debate begins, Bishop Muzorewa, Chairman of the African National Council (A.N.C.) will give a speech.

And on Thursday, at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber, a number of guest speakers, under the chairmanship of Professor J. Fage, will discuss "Southern Africa—End of Dialogue?" The speakers include Lord Gifford, chairman of the Committee for Freedom in Mozambique, Angola and Guinea, Nelson Moyo, of Z.A.P.U., Elton Razemba, of the Zimbabwe People's Committee, and Professor John Rex, a white South African and Head of the School of Sociology, University of Warwick.

All this activity culminates with a demonstration in London on Sunday, February 13th, starting at 1 p.m. at Speakers' Corner.

'Redbrick'

There will be no issue of "Redbrick" next week owing to financial considerations. Copy for the next edition on February 23rd should be handed to the Editor by Sunday, February 20th.

DELEGATES ANSWER

by a 'REDBRICK' REPORTER

CONCOURSE on Monday evening was the scene of an unofficial and turbulent meeting of students originally intended as a sit-in in protest to the N.U.S.'s support of the I.R.A. Calls of "resign" directed at Ann Naylor emerged from the outraged students, who demanded explanations from the Birmingham delegation that attended the N.U.S. Emergency Conference 10 days ago.

One student interviewed by "Redbrick" said that he had come to the meeting to find out why Ann Naylor had supported the I.R.A. on his behalf when she had no right to.

Mike Gordon, Guild Councilor for Law, and others circulated leaflets and a petition during Monday inviting students to attend the sit-in. The fact quickly emerged in Concourse Lounge that the bulk of students in attendance were resentful of the apparent misrepresentation of the Birmingham students at the Conference. There is still uncertainty as to whether the delegation split two-two or three-one when voting for the amendment supporting the I.R.A. Three members of the delegation, Anne Naylor, Paul Dodgson and Les Beaumont attempted to explain their actions at the Conference in voting for the composite motion on Northern Ireland which included an amendment supporting the actions of the I.R.A. in acts of self-defence.

Paul Dodgson maintained that because the Guild had no policy on Northern Ireland the delegates had no mandate, and therefore they had no choice but to vote according to their own opinions. Anne Naylor pointed out that the delegates had voted out two other motions concerned with the I.R.A. and the one they voted for was only part of a composite motion which they felt they had to support.

However the meeting degenerated during the time that the delegation was defending its stance and was only brought under control when Rod Playford was appointed Chairman. At this stage the students voted to split the discussion into two. Firstly a discussion of the political role of the Guild and secondly a debate of What the Guild's policy on the I.R.A. should be.

Mike Gordon said that the students had come to discuss representation and why the Guild was unrepresentative. He believed that "massive support throughout the campus" was required to change the present system. He thought that splitting the issues was losing sight of the point which he felt strongly about, whether Guild Council was mandated to represent the students without consulting them first.

The discussion that ensued for close on three hours became turbu-

lent and rowdy at times, and was characterised by several attempts by the N.U.S. delegation to explain their position. Emotional speeches about Northern Ireland created an unsettling atmosphere at times.

Out of the plethora of speeches, questions and points of information came some words of wisdom, including the general agreement by all attending that Northern Ireland could not satisfactorily be discussed until after a projected Teach-in. Bob Saunders compiled a motion which the meeting accepted before dispersal at eleven o'clock stating that whilst the meeting did not condone the activities of the British Army it believed that in its present ignorance about the issues involved it had no right to support the I.R.A. and therefore condemned the N.U.S.'s support of the I.R.A.

Kingsley Manning, A.U. Secretary, collected a petition of a hundred signatures mandating the Executive to arrange for a General Meeting on Northern Ireland after the teach-in, for which arrangements were debated at Guild Council last night.

The discussion of the Guild's representation was inconclusive but it was suggested that if people were unhappy about the present system they should submit proposals to the Guild Commission.

If anything can be concluded from this ad hoc meeting it is that the silent majority seem only concerned about the inadequacies and workings of the representative machinery when an unfortunate mistake has been made. Despite the explanations it appeared that a majority was trying to extract blood from a repentant few.

MINERS' REQUEST

by JOHN GROARKE

ALTHOUGH somewhat overshadowed by the Northern Ireland issue the miners' strike continues, and the University is being asked to give more concrete help than mere moral support.

Approximately two hundred miners, most of them from Scotland and the North of England, have arrived in Birmingham in order to picket the Shortly Gas Works. There is a shortage of accommodation for these men and, despite spending a couple of nights in local Working Men's Clubs, they are looking for somewhere a little more comfortable.

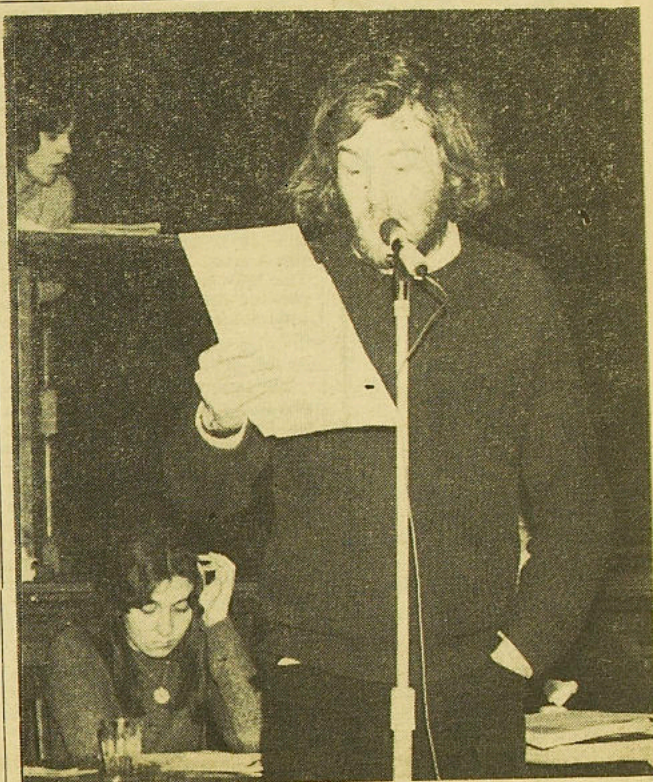
To this end the Communist Party Headquarters in Essex Street telephoned the Union on Sunday night, asking if the University could provide any help. The call was taken by the Chairman of Union Services

Committee, Eric Galvin, who, being unsure of the constitutional position, rang Mr. F. James (the Assistant Permanent Secretary of the Union).

Mr. James advised him that he should get the approval of all the Executive; by the time Eric Galvin had managed to do this the miners had been re-accommodated for that night.

On Monday Peter Tinsey, the Labour candidate for Edgbaston rang Paul Dodgson (the Vice-President) to see if the two hundred miners could come. The matter was discussed at Executive on Monday night and was referred to yesterday's Guild Council meeting.

The general feeling in Executive was that two hundred people have nowhere to stay—it is irrelevant that they are miners—and the University should do something about it.



Stuart King, of the Socialist Society, moving their amendment.

FRUSTRATED GEN. MEETING

A MID cries of "Bastard," a student called "quorum" towards the end of the discussion of Rhodesia at last Wednesday's General Meeting. Predictably, the number required for a General Meeting to have the power to refer a motion for consideration by Guild Council was not realised.

The discussion of Rhodesia had all appearances of being lively and constructive but it degenerated into a lengthy tirade and an attempted manipulation by Socialist Society.

Socialist Society introduced an amendment which included a policy on Northern Ireland, and Stuart King, in proposing the motion, asked those present to recognise the similarities in the political activity between Ireland and Rhodesia. However, the amendment was ruled out of order after Russell Willson, Guild Secretary, had maintained that it was unconstitutional to introduce a subject to a General Meeting which had not been publicly advertised.

The motion, which was almost finally resolved, condemned the proposed settlement with the illegal Smith regime in Rhodesia and pledged full support to all groups

which oppose the settlement. In moving the motion, Paul Dodgson said that students should show the Rhodesians that we do care.

Les Beaumont, External Affairs Chairman, put an amendment which called on Executive to initiate several forms of action, including the donation of £200 to the Anti-Apartheid Movement from General Guild expenditure. It was explained that this would not constitute an ultra-vires payment as the movement was a registered charity.

Unfortunately, because of the "incomplete" nature of the meeting, the motion could not be officially voted on, but it will be put to Guild Council by Paul Dodgson as a private motion.

Paul Dodgson said afterwards that he thought it a great pity that students did not turn up and discuss something as important as Rhodesia.

ARTS LAB CINEMA CLUB

TOWER STREET, BIRMINGHAM. Tel. 3594192

Now showing: Mick Jagger and James Fox in

"PERFORMANCE"

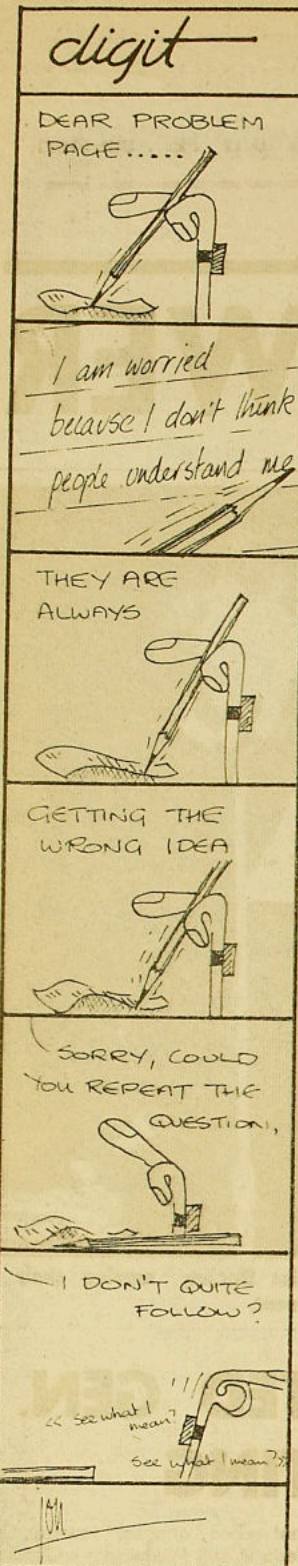
Tonight at 9.15. Thursday-Saturday at 7.00 and 11.30.

Also, separate performances: Alain Delon and Jean Paul Belmondo in "BORSALINO."

Tonight at 7.00. Thursday-Saturday at 9.00.

From Sunday: FILM FESTIVAL.

Commences with Warhol-Morrissey's "Trash"; Peter Watkin's "Punishment Park"; James Ivory's "Bombay Talkie"; plus "East Wind," "Lion's Love," "One P.M.," "The Bookseller who Gave Up Bathing," and many others. Send for Free Festival Programme. Membership 50p per year.



Can we survive the year 2000?

by Alan Martin

NOT if we continue wasting the earth's resources, treating the globe as a vast refuse dump with infinite capacity, and increase our population at the rate at which we do now. Already one-third of the world starves. Another third suffers from malnutrition. People have to be housed and fed—there is not unlimited space—and when they demand luxuries like cars, aeroplanes, and all the comforts of the consumer society, then their requirements deplete the earth's resources even more. The land is scavenged, and urban areas sprawl into the countryside.

Energy, in terms of oil and coal, cannot be renewed. Metals are mined to produce millions of cars that fill the air with poisonous gases and dust. The industries that produce all our comforts, dispose of their by-products into rivers, seas, canals—decimating life in the waters. Intensive farming needs to use more and more fertilisers, pesticides, and herbicides, because the quality of the soil diminishes through over-use. Our whole environment—air, water, land (and thus food) are being affected by this wanton disregard for nature. The 1970s has been called the decade of decision. If we want to survive the year 2000 what can we do?

The important thing is to recognise that a situation created by man can be altered by man. But if the final eco-catastrophe comes, when air, water, and food are so toxic that we die, or we have no resources left to use, then we will behave like animals in a panic. So while we are calm and rational, let's start thinking about the problems, and how to solve them efficiently, and humanely.

If people do not want babies why should they have them? The taboo about sex is a relic of the past—let's have free birth-control for those who desire it, now! This is much better than compulsory licensing of conception, or sterilisation later.

Recycling wastes will both conserve resources and avoid fouling the environment. The countryside must be kept and cared for—a priceless heritage.

Once we can persuade people to stop selfishly overriding the views, the life and the freedom of the majority, then we will be well on our way to a solution. A university is full of minds with complementary abilities specifically nurtured to solve

these problems, which at first sight may seem complex, but after careful thought can be seen to stem from a few basic causes. Senseless fear, which produces horrific extrapolations of the present situation into the future, is unjustified once we start finding these causes.

Consume less! Reject superfluous packaging and the multitude of paper bags the supermarket presents to you.

Nature was balanced before man started to interfere unknowingly to

use it to his own ends. We control death with medicine, yet we do not control birth. We remove the natural predators in agriculture by ripping up the hedgerows where they live, in the name of greater efficiency—so we need pesticides.

We want to get somewhere faster, but we forget that others want to do the same. Result: traffic congestion and pollution. Until we recognise the balance of nature, and live in harmony with it, without greedy exploitation, then we will be signing our own death warrant.

Alternative Education with Ack-Ack

TWO new Ack-Ack, alternative education, projects are now off the ground. The one on non-violent action is co-ordinated by Geoffrey Ostergaard and Nigel Young. At a preliminary meeting it was decided that Geoff Ostergaard would introduce a topic week by week.

Discussion would follow, but any participant was equally free to request time to introduce their views at length. The discussion at the first two meetings was lively, and several different points of view (not all of them accepting non-violence as a principle) emerged. It is clear that those attending are encouraged to think hard and question their own as well as other peoples' assumptions.

Last Wednesday over 100 people gathered in town (Carrs Lane Community Centre) for the first meeting of the "Radical Social Work and Community Action" project which is co-ordinated by Bob Holman and Jean Hardey. After discussion it was left to the participants (who had expected a firmer lead from the co-ordinators) to decide what to do in subsequent weeks.

It was agreed that general meetings would take place fortnightly and would debate such issues as "social work versus community action." Every other week (starting last Wednesday) the meeting would break down into smaller groups to deal separately with such themes as community action (including free schools), the content of social work, training courses, etc.

It was originally planned that each project should only run for one term, however one of those which started last term (Understanding Society) is continuing this term. Last Wednesday there was a general discussion and an invitation was issued to Women's Lib. to send a representative to the next meeting (today). It is intended to look in turn at protest movements ranging from Women's Lib. to Black Power to Children's Rights.

GRASS ROOTS

So as not to be left behind in the advancing rush of Science, the Botany Department have just announced their first Kidney-bean Transplant. The delicate operation, performed by their crack gardener, Adam, was published last night, to a rather disbelieving press.

Apparently the donor plant had been fatally trodden on by a drunk in Burton, and the Kidney-bean had been rushed to Selly Oak Nurseries in a high-speed wheelbarrow, complete with police escort. The recipient has been on the wane since the severe frost of January, and but for the transplant was doomed to a fate of a Chinese meal.

Last night, the donor was said to be "comfortable" in the Nurseries' Intensive Carrot Unit, in an experimental bed of Lemon and Lime.

The operation is the latest in a long line of experiments carried out under the direction of the Botany Department's head of research, Jimmy Seville-Orange. Other trial transplants have been: grafting Hazel trees on to bean plants, to give a Has-bean; crossing a Runner bean with a Broad bean, giving a Bean Crossby; and joining a Bean plant to a hedge, giving a Beanson and Hedges.

'SNIPPITS'

DERIK BISHOP

When I asked how the recipient was this morning, the Nursery said "Decidedly Green."

☆☆☆

"BOWLS"

The inexperienced pipe smoker is probably the funniest thing since a Refectory sandwich. And believe me, there are many about the campus (smokers, not sandwiches). My friend Slim is one of this happy breed. He gave up cigarettes and took to a pipe, and he has the shriveled tongue to prove it.

One day, I was with Slim, just after he had started the pipe. He was having some difficulty, especially holding the stem in his mouth. He just couldn't keep the thing horizontal. Suddenly, he lost control. His bottom jaw shot out, the pipe stem shot up, and the bowl emptied the burning contents on to his thinning hair.

We now call him Slim the monk.

FEATURES COMING SHORTLY TO "SNIPPITS"!

"How to pass University Exams" by Marty Fink, B.A. (failed), M.A. (almost), Ph.D. (never). "My Life and Times" by Reg, a Union character. "Selections from the Museum of Jokes," by "Barb." "Bias in the B.B.C." by M. Python.

Chunderful

Law only knows

SOME things are looking up in the Faculty of Law (Oops sorry —Department of Law, Faculty of Social Studies). It seems that at best, student lawyers are hand-worked creatures, this may be why so few are ever seen in the Union Coffee Bar.

They seem every day to disappear into their Ministry of the Environment protected piece of the Aston Webb complex to work in their very own Harding Law Library and eruditely discern the pros and cons of every case which has besotted the English legal scene since the days of the past and future king.

Alas all motives are not so pure. It so happens that in the Library there happens to be a balcony which is approached by a staircase. It soon became apparent, when some innocent Fresher happened to glance that way to relieve his eye-strain that the young female students revealed all when they climbed the stairs to the balcony.

A group of admirers soon began to collect at the desks near the stairs. However before this could develop into some form of legal striptease, one young lady on the balcony was a little careless and mishandled "Personal Property" by Crossley Vaines. The book slipped from her tender hands and landed straight on to the upturned face of a male law student below, who naturally turned redder than usual. All became apparent to the women. Nowadays female students in the Law Faculty wear maxis or trouser suits.

Birmingham's Calvary

EASTER is for cracking eggs or alternatively giving chocolate to young children. To the Christians amongst us it also means the atonement of sins through crucifixion. It is perhaps apt therefore that the National Union of Students meets at Easter to hold its annual conference and elect its President.

Every year a major university is allowed the privilege of being the hostess with the mostest to the student leaders and fortune would have it this year to come to Birmingham.

In the Easter vacation, while the sinner of us are gambling like the lambs in the song in springtime sunshine or submerged in the academics for the annual University exam farce, your student wench showing exceptional originality by all wearing jeans, donkey jacket and Marks and Sparks pullovers will be vying for a lifter than that atmosphere in the Great Hall and Halls of Residence.

Predictably, like chickens came from eggs, the agenda will include condemnation of the binary system, the Government, the N.U.S. Executive, the James Report, the capitalist system, etc. And after the National Conference the campus, having been duly purged, will return to normality like some stale hot-cross bun.

BIRMINGHAM is a bloody mess! —an example of planned pollution and complacency. —Opinions and comments to "Redbrick" Office. 17th-18th FEB.: 6th Form Conference. Stewards wanted.—Contact W. J. Tustin, Education Office P.H.

MANOR HOUSE

PRESENTS THE

MANOR TITBIT

with

JELLYBREAD

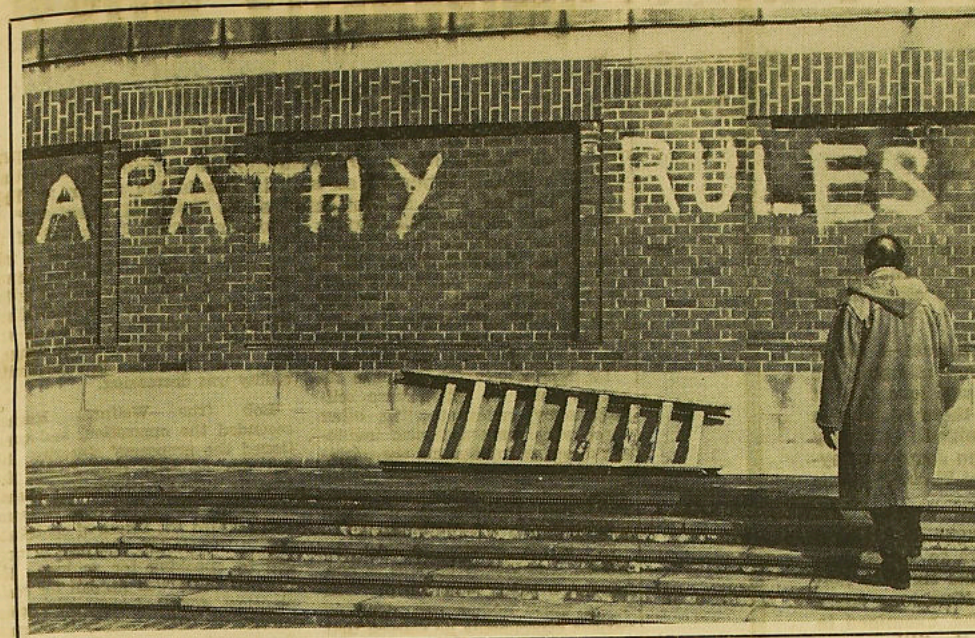
on

FRIDAY, FEB. 11th

30p

Post-Graduate Teaching Qualification

Why not spend your year in the Derbyshire hills at Matlock College of Education? Write to the Academic Registrar, Matlock College of Education, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3FW.



AT the beginning of this term the Grimond Review Body which has been investigating all aspects of the University of Birmingham for the past year, issued a consultative document to all groups on the campus about its provisional views and disagreements. The following article maintains that, despite the seeming indifference shown by some sections of the University Community, the consultative document offers an important opportunity to question the progress our University is making towards reform. Towards a more responsive structure that, if encouraged, could generate a high level of educational and social debate on the Birmingham campus.

In many respects the Review Body report is inadequate. It hardly deals with liaison with the local community, broader education and concepts of a democratic university. This is admitted by the Review Body itself, in the introduction. Section 16 clearly states that it has not been possible to "refer to all the evidence or ideas submitted, or to include all the arguments which have been taken into account."

Evidence

It is suggested that those who wish for further evidence should consult the evidence in the University Library. However this hardly satisfies the major criticism of the report, that its treatment of educational issues is in many respects cursory.

Some sections of the University have argued that the educational basis of the University is central and the Grimond consultative document by limiting itself to structural reform has sidetracked an attempt to create on the Birmingham campus an educational dialogue into the niceties of constitutional functioning.

Here however those who hold this view have tended to over-stress their argument by going on to produce Utopian blue-prints of what Birmingham University education should be like rather than adopting a more pragmatic attitude of realising what the present situation is and how best to change it.

Debate

In this sense, despite all its inadequacies the Review Body consultative document does

has been pressing for approximately one-third student membership of all governing committees.

A major contentious reform suggested by the Review Body is the suggested reallocation of Faculties. The Law Faculty with its fairly rigid traditions and curriculum is amalgamated in a new Faculty of Social Studies because of its inter-relationship with sociology and criminology.

Division

The School of Education is similarly included in Social Studies so that such studies may be duly "set in their social context." A new Faculty of Environmental Studies is proposed which hopefully including such subjects as Transportation, Local Government and Geography will be an important development area.

The Faculty of Science and Engineering regarded for many years as an overlarge mammoth is divided into three Faculties of Biological, Physical and Applied Sciences.

One of the major reasons put forward for this division by the Review Body is that cross-disciplinary dialogue seems to be encouraged by such fragmentation rather than be inhibited by it.

Abolition

In favour of continuing one large Faculty of Science and Engineering, it is suggested in much of the evidence that this developed inter-Faculty will be re-named when the Faculty is fragmented. However the Review Body clearly seems to suggest that large Faculties seem to inhibit any democratic control by Faculty Boards of departments and Deans.

The central University bodies are completely changed in the Review Body's consultative document. The really new model which has caught the imagination of the national press in articles under headlines such as "Staff to have more control" is the abolition of Council and Senate as known and their replacement by a new Council of a majority of staff and students with ten co-opted lay members.

The present governing body, the Court of Governors is reduced from its present omnipotent position to a purely ad-

INADEQUATE DOCUMENT?

A look at the Review Body's Consultative Report circulated last month

visory body with the nominal right of electing the Chancellor of the University. The student membership of the new governing body in relative terms with other major Universities in the United Kingdom is generous, some nine student members are suggested on a body of forty-nine.

Perhaps the most depressing section of the report for student representation is the Review Body Sections 12 and 13 on participation in University Government and the Reserved Areas of Business. Under participation it perhaps deals too negatively with the tremendous contribution that students as transitory members can make to the University community and refers on ly to difficulties student members experience as members of University committees.

Compromise

As regards Reserved Areas of Business the consultative document proposes a compromise—it suggests that attitudes on the campus are as yet so rigid that reserved areas should remain but they should be the preserve of the Governing Body to relax them when University attitudes make this practicable at some time in the future.

In this matter the report clearly states a division of opinion, the students stating that students being adults at eighteen are equally responsible with staff of maintaining reasonable discretion.

Very little change is suggested in such organisations as the Guild of Graduates and the Guild of Students although the report quite clearly condemns the DES consultative document issued last year. Research staff are given a very sympathetic treatment in the section of the report dealing with their needs which seeks to allow research staff the possibility of a much-needed career structure in research and gives them equal status with other members of academic staff.

Criticism

Perhaps two telling criticisms of the Review Body's document remain. Firstly, in many respects it's not specific, not committal enough. Secondly, much of which it proposes has already surpassed or is possibly being implemented in the future.

As "one" member of staff

stated: "Did we need a Review Body to tell us the obvious?"

Certainly much of the wording is vague and ambiguous. In this way it perhaps reflects the evidence presented to it. One hopes that the final report will be much more specific, much more committal of reforms and suggestions, which it only hints at in the consultative document.

On the second point it can be said that the establishment of the Review Body inevitably means that much change has continued. What the Review Body is doing, however, is giving encouragement to the changes and experiments that have been developed on the campus since 1968, and pointing to a new and a much more flexible tradition for future development and change on the campus.

In this sense section 9.30 of the report is the most crucial. This section suggests that in future much of the inhibiting statutes of the University be delegated to ordinances which can be continually changed by staff and students on the new University governing body.

Involvement

If this alone is passed a substantial move forward towards change at Birmingham is possible, if not now then certainly in the future. In this respect the Birmingham charter is being updated to the more flexible charter and statutes of some of the newer universities.

The Review Body's consultative document obviously presents a challenge, especially to the student body who has always been a prime motive force in change on the campus. That challenge is, with the melting pot of the Review Body on the campus, to seek to seriously discuss and amend the consultative document.

To let it pass without comment would be a means of bypassing what could be a means of raising student involvement and interest in their University, which, as members, we seek to improve. Obviously sections of the consultative document are disappointing, but it's up to us as members of the University to ensure that the final report is duly amended to our needs, and our approach to that report is neither clouded by confused educational thinking or excess idealism that may mitigate against any real reforms.

redbrick staff

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The Editor does not necessarily agree with the views expressed by the contributors. 021 472 1841 ext. 34

JENNY'S BOTTOM

IT'S got a mind of its own; independent, you might say. "Dynamic" isn't really the word and "explosive" has all the wrong connotations—anyway, since it walked into my life about three months ago, I've been a changed man.

I can't remember when I first saw Jenny's bottom—I think, perhaps, it was the first week of term when we were climbing the stairs to my room. You'll laugh, I know, but it was love at first sight (if there is such a thing; and I think now there is). It was perfect, not a ripple out of place, majesty personified. It simply glided upstairs, an entity on its own, divorced from Jenny or anyone else, and stared at me under those cheek-tight "Levis," tauntingly, temptingly.

I knew then, as I know now, that I was caught in its grips metaphorically speaking) for life. It was useless to resist, and yet I had to. For three long months I remained the slave of that delectable mass of inviting, yet forbidden, flesh. How long could I last out? I studied it every day from a distance, examined in the minutest detail its every mode of movement—the lilting sway of the left cheek, the curvaceous line of the right thigh, crowned by that tightly-packed right buttock—it was sheer perfection. There would never be another bottom to equal it. Yes, that bottom was tops with me.

Then it happened. I broke down in front of it one evening (I could submit to such torture no longer) and spluttered tearfully: "Bottom? Marry me. I can't live without you—deny me your pleasures and I must die."

But it was no use. It grunted, and wobbled off, leaving me a crumpled wreck on the parquet floor.

This then, is by way of a suicide note. Let it be known that I died the result of unrequited love, affection denied me by a heartless bottom. So saying, I die . . .

ANONYMOUS.

A letter to the Editor

Southlands, Linwood,
Market Rasen, Lincs.

SIR,—Blackmore's Jan Ridd, writing of his adventures in the famous novel, "Lorna Doone," says that he is about to write a simple tale told simply. With your co-operation I should like to tell a simple tale, one without a plot but covering ignorance and carelessness, cruelty, greed and great kindness. Jan Ridd interspersed his narrative with homilies and snatches of advice and my hope is that your readers and many others will take great heed of what is in my story.

For months before the long summer break arrives students everywhere are thinking about it, making plans, trying to save from their allowances and calculating how far or to where they can go. Quite early in the year my son, John, Wendy Mills and their friends, fellow students of yours, talked about travelling east through Europe and in due course, at the end of June, four packed themselves with baggage into a small car, crossed the Channel and were on their way.

The party must have made good progress. John wrote from Sivas in Eastern Turkey, on July 16th. All had stayed three days near Burgas, on the Black Sea coast of Bulgaria, and for about a week in Istanbul. From here two returned home to fulfil other engagements and John and Wendy carried on eastwards because "we are spending very little money and we thought it would be O.K. to hitch-hike further." John finished writing on his postcard by saying: "One town we shall definitely be going to is Meshed (for visas) so if there is any news for us write to the Meshed Post Office." So, at the last main town in Iran, they stood on the threshold of Afghanistan.

From Herat, 50 miles inside that country, they both wrote their last letters home. John's was probably one of the longest he had ever written to his mother and me and he described the peoples, countries and climates of Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan in some detail. At the bottom of the letter is a footnote: "We are having a really good holiday and enjoying ourselves and getting very brown. John is much browner than I am. The countries we have travelled through have all been very interesting except Iran which we did not like very much. Don't worry about us please because we are O.K. See you in England. Love Wendy." The letters were written on July 30th.

There is no good road directly east-west across Afghanistan. The only vehicular route, except for landrovers, is in the shape of an enormous 660 mile half-circle, looping south-easterly to Kandahar and

for help from the Foreign Office, from British Consular Authorities in Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India, from our own police and Interpol. We began having our vaccinations and inoculations and checked on flights to Iran and Afghanistan. We questioned everyone we could to discover where young people get to in that part of the world.

Now follows the remainder of that British Embassy communique I quoted above: "Two months later, on October 18th, the discovery of the two bodies by chance came to the notice of the British Embassy through a German police adviser working with the Ministry of the Interior. On the same day, the Embassy received a letter from Mrs. Elcoate enquiring about her son, John, who was travelling overland with Miss Wendy Mills and had last written home on July 30th from Herat. The Embassy then asked Mrs. Elcoate to send photographs of her son and Miss Mills, which she did. One of these photographs was taken by friends while the couple were on their way to Afghanistan and showed John Elcoate wearing a shirt identical with that discovered with the bodies. At the same time the Embassy checked the border post at Torkham between Pakistan and Afghanistan and found no record of the couple having left Afghanistan."

It seems likely that the two bodies were those of John Elcoate and Wendy Mills but the evidence (the date of disappearance and the shirt) is only circumstantial. The parents were informed and dental records for identification requested. The Afghan police then agreed to open the case and have promised to exhume the bodies today. Meanwhile, John Elcoate's parents are flying to Kabul via Tehran, where they hope to make enquiries about their other son, Robert, who was last heard of in Tabriz, Iran, four weeks ago."

Yes, our other son, working his way to Australia, was travelling the same road. Unknowingly, he passed a few yards from the buried bodies. We only learnt that he was safe and well in Thailand on the 2nd November.

A few hours after arriving in Tehran in the small hours of Sun-

day, October 31st, my wife and I

learnt about the exhumations. We

flew very early the next day to

Kabul. No bodies had yet been

brought to Kabul and they did not

arrive until late Wednesday.

Early on Thursday, under the

supervision of a British dentist,

positive identification was made and

we attended the funerals in the

Christian cemetery in the late

afternoon.

The British Ambassador and his

acting Consul, as well as the Ger-

man Adviser, merit the highest

praise for their determined efforts

to overcome the lethargy, opposition

and possibly the religious suscepti-

bilities of Afghan officials in order

to bring the facts to light. We

and Mr. and Mrs. Mills will ever be

in their debt. The kindness and

help we received in Kabul made our

way easier and we were much im-

pressed by the Embassy staff's keen

desire to be of help to anyone in

trouble.

We learnt a lot about the country

and the people during our stay and

we learnt most from Afghans them-

selves. We learnt of the poverty of

the country, of the two years' drought

thought to make matters worse. We

learned of the poverty paid civil ser-

vants and police, of salaries of £2

per week in our money for jobs

which pay £50 per week here.

With possibly two wives and ten

children a man has got to take

bribes to live and eat, and taking

bribes, giving false evidence, turn-

ing a blind eye, is part of the way

of life.

We learnt of the 50 per cent in-

fant mortality rate, of the wild

nomads over whom the army, let

alone police, exercise no control. We

heard of the dozens of western

people who, annually, just disap-

pear.

There was the American Peace

Corps group who were seized and

the women raped while the men

were made to look on. There was

the nurse who, sitting in a Land-

rover not far from Kabul, was shot

through the window at point-blank

range. After the vehicle had rolled

away and half overturned, hours

passed before help came to her

perished companion. Interference

can mean trouble even to the inno-

cent.

In Afghanistan there is little or

no law as we know it. That of

Islam prevails. This is why an

Englishman we met who motored

to Afghanistan in August to look

for his son and accidentally

knocked down and killed a man as

soon as he had crossed the border

was told by a Judge to pay compen-

sation to the relatives. He was still

held in the country when we left be-

cause he refused to pay. That he

had witnesses to prove that the fault

was not his was immaterial.

This brings me to a religious

aspect of everyday life. The sight

of human skin except on the feet,

hands and face is abhorrent to a

devout Afghan of the Islamic faith.

To him all the rest should be

covered up. You can understand his

resentment, a slur on his religion,

when he sees bare arms and legs on

both male and female infidels visit-

ing his country. Our Ambassador's

wife told me of one occasion when

she asked a young Englishman in

the centre of Kabul to put on his

shirt. He was sunning himself

stripped to the waist and he just

jeered at her when she tried to ex-

plain why.

There are certain courtesies to be

observed in visiting say St. Peter's

in Rome, in being a guest in some-

one's house, in entering a mosque

and in being a guest in a foreign

country. Perhaps this is the time

to say that of the Afghans we met

some were the nicest people possi-

ble, kind, friendly and understand-

ing. I do emphasise this point.

We shall never know why our son

and Wendy Mills were shot. Rob-

bery, religious fanaticism, resent-

ment? You take your choice. But

if you publish this long letter, as I

hope you will, the warnings in it

will be apparent to all potential

visitors to Afghanistan.

I would not wish to dissuade any-

one from making the adventurous

journey unless they were going for

drugs, which can make another and

even more dreadful story. I would

just ask all to observe local customs

and beliefs, in the country, never

stray off the main road, especially

in ones and twos, never sleep out,

which means making sure of get-

ting to a town at night and to re-

member that bribery and corruption

are rampant.

Lastly, frequent letters home

alloy anxiety wherever one goes and

the British Consul is by far the best

person to take one's troubles to. I

should be most grateful if you

would permit editors of other stu-

dent magazines and any outside

journal to print the text of this let-

ter in the hope that other lives

might not be lost in future.

Yours truly,

C. L. ELCOATE

DEBATE

'UNIVERSITY WITS?'

by ANGY MANN

LAST Wednesday's debate, held in Council Chamber at 7.30 p.m., brought together several distinguished campus personalities, and Mr. Justice Ringguth as well, to debate the motion: "This House Believes Man Cannot Survive the Twentieth Century."

Dr. Jasper McKee of the Physics Department rose for the proposition, and dispelled hopes of a pitched battle between the two sides of the motion, since he suggested that the honourable opposer, no less a celebrity than the Vice-Chancellor, was in line for a knighthood.

Dr. McKee went on to make six points, three of which were self-confessedly irrelevant. The other three were concerned with imminent disasters threatening the world: a sudden increase in the global water level, a reversal in the magnetic field resulting in increased radiation, and a virus epidemic.

Dr. R. B. Hunter opposed the motion, and looked upon it as posing not a coldly scientific problem, but a warm human one. Quoting various experiments he showed that nature, without the intervention of man, retained a balanced ecology. However man erroneously believed that it was his inalienable right to dominate and was in danger of destroying his environment. Dr. Hunter saw many practicable solutions to problems such as over-population and malnutrition, and believed that man still had time to save himself.

Dr. M. H. B. Hayes, who had escaped from the Chemistry Department to be at Deb. Soc., found it extraordinary that he and his fellow proposer should find themselves in agreement, since they were both Irishmen. For him the population

explosion, which he explained in terms of exponential growth, was the most pressing problem. It gave rise to the double dangers of pollution from excessive use of fertiliser in food production, and of asphyxiation through lack of oxygen for the earth's photosynthetic ability was decreasing.

Bob (the Welfare) Hughes seconded the opposition, and questioned the proposer's sincerity. He did not consider that Jasper the Physics looked frightened of a sudden death within the next 28 years, and accused Dr. Hayes of contributing to the world's shortage of oxygen by speaking for so long. He realised there was no call for complacency, and that man would only survive the 20th century if he read the warnings now. He feared a future spent in underground stations and public loos—the only places where we would be protected from radiation in the event of a nuclear war. The answer to the problem lay in a renewed realisation of the unity and brotherhood of mankind.

Speeches from the floor were of an unusually high standard. Mr. O'Shea Jenkins had a previous engagement, and could not, unfortunately, be with us) and Dr. McKee and Dr. Hunter summed up. The Vice-Chancellor's faith in human nature was not unfounded—the motion was defeated.

THE BONES OF 'BONES'

By RUSSELL BRYANT

"MERMAID," according to Editor Paul Medley is suffering from a bad reputation and the once-a-term image makes it an oddity. The last issue which appeared at the end of last term sold a hundred copies and was criticised for concentrating on a rigid, introspective theme—namely incongruities in the University.

To combat the decline Paul realised that a change of both appearance and content was required. "Mermaid" has always been the official Guild magazine and as such has developed a traditional and establishment image. The new name, "Bones of Mermaid," was initiated along with further changes such as the adoption of "offset" printing as an integral part of the progression thought necessary by the Editorial Staff.

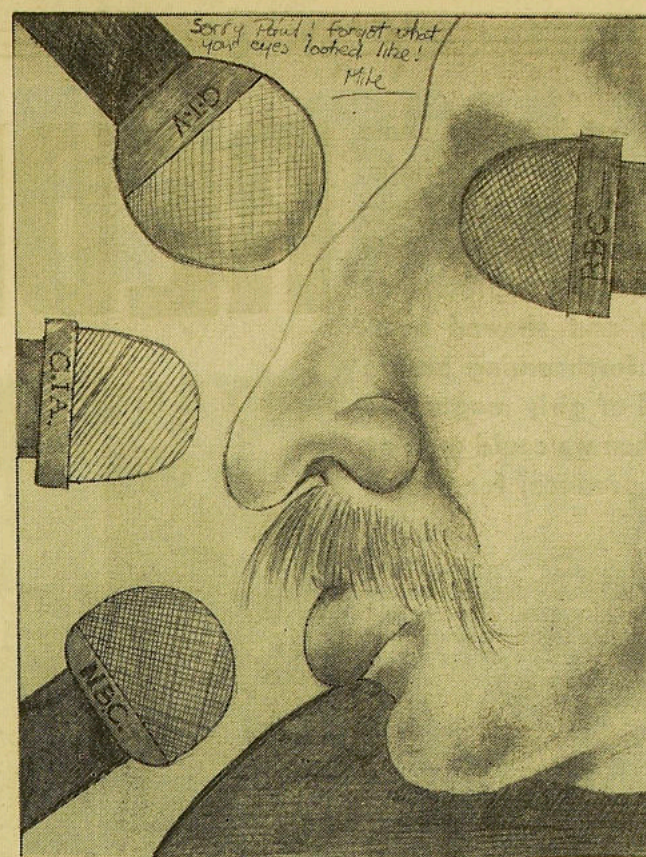
The progression, partly motivated by economic factors, was envisaged as a move away from the luxury I.L.N. image towards a contemporary student publication concept. However, Paul was keen to point out that this was not intended to put "Mermaid" underground as this would require a consistent message or ideology which was not present.

Paul feels that it is important for the magazine to maintain a complete flexibility of content and ensure that opportunities are available for including topics which may be of no immediate importance. Variety is the ideal, no magazine can be purely literary.

Unfortunately the lack of reputation for "Bones" means difficulties. The best student writers are either

reluctant to contribute or ignorant to the existence of "Bones." Paul believes that the mediocrity of the majority of student writers is not sufficient to gain "Bones" a name, the best advantage would come from the interest of the more capable writers.

The next issue of "Bones" is expected at the end of February but before then Paul hopes to see a wider interest shown in the magazine by writers of all styles. Paul feels that there is a demand for any enterprise if done fairly well, but the accomplishment of "Bones's" progression requires hard work.



The Gavin Tweedsmuir Column

ELECTION NEWS

THE Presidential elections get off to a satirical start this week with the exciting news that Mr. Michael Gordon, the brilliant and emotional Guild Councillor is entering the race for the most valuable prize since the Hope Diamond was given away in a lucky bag.

Mr. Gordon has already been to see the Dean of the Law Faculty, to see how being President will affect his course, as a minor preliminary to actually getting the job. Now, the Dean of the Law Faculty is a gentle, mild-mannered man, obviously well used to dealing with clapped-out loonies like Gordon. In fact he goes so far as to humour them. (Sometimes the joke misfires, e.g. Dodgson, but let's forget that).

Mr. Gordon has been told of several schemes to complete his studies while being President, and is quite happy that all can proceed with ease.

However, the story takes an even more heartrending turn, with the revelation that Mr. Gordon has taken to employing one Harold Lipson, Esq., a bumbling, not to say cretinous Salford lawyer as his personal Pierre Salinger, a post not previously associated with the Northern gentleman.

It is even suggested that Lipson, Q.C., has even contributed much to Gordon's manifesto, a crumpled and hastily scribbled piece of chip-paper, which Gordon has been waving in an hysterical manner at anyone in the Law Faculty who can hold back their laughter and waste a few minutes on him.

It is widely believed that the introduction of Mr. Lipson as the secret ingredient in Mr. Gordon's election mixture, has not added greatly to the latter's chances of success.

The latest information to reach my ears is that the man Lipson may actually stand for the job of Vice-President. This news, however, can probably be regarded as untrue, mainly due to the fact that it comes from someone called Michael Dobias, a lawyer of absolutely no consequence whatever, who probably just fancied giving his "friend" Mr. Lipson a spot of publicity.

The only good thing that can be said for the campaign, is that it could be the Law Faculty's gesture of contempt, at the Review Body's preposterous suggestion concerning that esteemed place of learning's future.

The N.U.S. decision to support the I.R.A. is of course an excellent idea. At a time when the student body as a whole is being attacked by the Government, supported by popular opinion, one cannot but heartily agree with the N.U.S. for banging home one more nail in its own coffin.

The plan, of course supported to the hilt by Bernadette Naylor, is such a good one that it really mustn't be allowed to stagnate. The Tweedsmuir Trust therefore offers much encouragement to any enterprising I.R.A. members who decide to blow some prominent monument to smithereens. Some monument such as . . . Anne Naylor.

letters

Take the biscuit!

DEAR SIR,—I was interested to see your "N.U.S. Supports I.R.A." headline last week. The delegates to this Emergency Conference were supposedly intelligent people and yet they supported this amendment which really must take the biscuit for crass stupidity and infantile naivety.

If this is how the N.U.S. conducts all its business, then it is not surprising that the student image is so bad at present. Is it too much to ask the N.U.S. to try and represent the majority of moderate students in this country instead of the few petty politicians and small-minded bureaucrats who enjoy their new-found "power" so much that they become entirely alienated from the majority of student opinion.

Unfortunately, this majority of which I speak is a silent and apathetic one, but perhaps the N.U.S. should pause for a moment to consider why this is the case and I think one of the

reasons could be that the Unions are becoming so isolated and self-orientated that the student just does not want to know.

The message is clear, either the Unions pay more attention to their own student bodies and less to these various external interests, which take up both our time and money, or else, even before Maggie Thatcher makes her mind up, the separation will be so complete that the Unions will have signed their own death warrant and we will have done her job for her.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. VALLANCE-OWEN,
(Medic III).
High Hall

Yours faithfully,
WENDY SAVILLE,
Centre of West
African Studies.

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REDBREAST

REDBRICK office has not been the same this week—somewhat more populated perhaps, but a trifle distracted. Instead of sitting, smoking and talking, the entire editorial staff took up the call for commitment expressed at the last Redbrick meeting and showed overwhelming interest in the forthcoming article for Redbreast. The world of girly magazines was being investigated (when we could grab at our sample collection) to produce, for you, a Consumers' Guide . . .

Playboy

TO change the dominant theme (feeling quite exhausted by all this eroticism) "Playboy" covers a vast field of interests. The classic of the "girly" culture and a way of life in itself, it does not seek to overimpress with gloss or kinky perversions. Its layout is not dramatically artistic or eye-catching; it almost breathes superiority by virtue of its unpretentious paper. For 65p (the cost of titillation has gone up from 50p this month) you have 59 pages of advertisement (25 per cent of the magazine) and a little something to cater for all tastes. It is certainly all there, from the Playboy Forum (which incidentally had more perverted letters than "Forum" itself), Playboy Adviser, good reviews, satire, "candid conversations," fashion, modern living with hi-fi, Jazz and Pop "72," "Mind-Boggling Mr. Rolls" (as in Royce) and an illustrated essay on Macbeth to the pictorial part.

Unfortunately, "Playboy's" Playmate of the Month, a three-page fold-out pin-up, is a somewhat cheap-looking blonde crouching on a sickly pink carefully crumpled sheet; in contrast there is a series of romantic pictures set to poetry and some lewd cartoons of naked women. On a more serious note, however, "Playboy" is often charged with portraying women as sexual objects only. The philosophy behind it (and whether this comes across in the reading can only be a subjective verdict) is summarised by Herbert W. Richardson in "Nun, Witch, Playmate" —

"What is especially unusual about the 'Playboy' Playmate symbolism is that the sexually attractive woman is here conceived as a friend and equal. She is first and foremost, the playboy's all-day, all-night pal . . . The egalitarian, non-aggressive interaction between the playboy and the Playmate stresses the similarity between the two."

Parade

IN utter contrast is "Parade", the man's version of Woman's Own but twice as nasty and equally cheap. It features buxom-barmaid-type wenches but is pure enough not to permit public hair to be on display. There are columns for "What the girls are saying" and "My pet Hate." The main feature is one in the series of Dramas of the Stars entitled "When death came knocking at Hughie

Green's door" which shows a not surprising lack of literary finesse. It makes one wonder if they have yet exposed the rampant sex-life of Coronation Street. But what more can you expect for 8p . . . ?

Mayfair

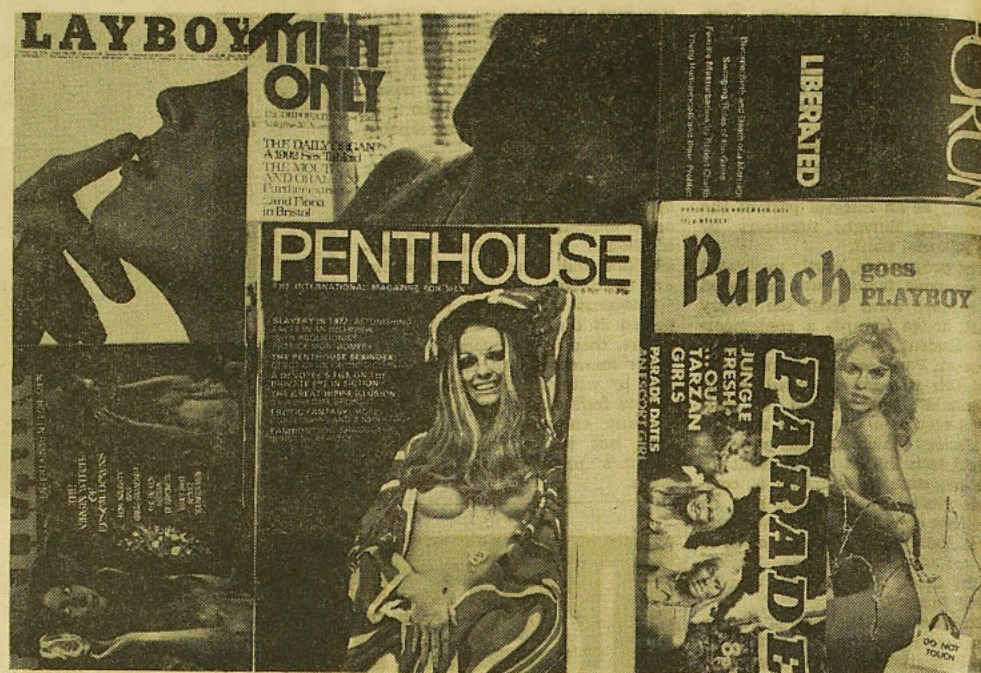
"MAYFAIR" comes in the same size and shape as "Playboy" and "Penthouse" but undercutting the market at 30p. Its similarity to the latter obviously makes it the British answer to "Penthouse". Even the two types of green and white paper are the same. Their gorgeous girdles are Joanna, the demure girl who is determined to shock, and exposed on the cover is Jane, the virgin witch of Epsom Downs. The old-time commercial vehicles are also on parade in all their glossy glory and there is actually some bare male flesh in the photographs of Great Granddad reclining with Mrs. Forthingray from the review of the film "Naughty." It is also the only magazine in our sample portraying a naked negress (and that is in an advertisement for the Mayfair Film Club).

Forum

FORTY pence, containing 82 pages, packed with information. On its fit-into-your-pocket-sized little red cover, it claims to be "the world's most liberated magazine." "Forum", the international journal of human relations, covers all aspects of your perversions and proves they are quite normal and perfectly healthy (if not, we advise you to visit your G.P.). The front of the booklet features a number of seriously sexy articles like "Female Masturbation" where adolescent girls may be informed "about their capacity for achieving orgasm and be taught masturbatory techniques".

The "Do's and Don'ts of Swinging" (or group sex, one of America's favourite indoor sports) is written by a consultant psychiatrist, and "The Young Homosexual" by an official speaker for the National Council for Civil Liberties and counsellor for the Campaign for Homosexual Equality. "Sex and Sanity," like the first article, is written by a Ph.D. which does indicate the slightly more intellectual trend aimed at by "Forum". It also has a distinctly medical (though hardly antiseptic) bent, but its main claim to fame is in the Forum itself—an extensive letters section which promotes discussion of sexual problems and exchange of ideas, dwelling somewhat on commu-

REDBREAST



nication hangups. (Such a sensible objective, but then it has a predominantly female editorial staff and readership). For reference there is also a dictionary on the same subject, so if you suffer from priapism . . .

Point to note: There are NO pictures, so "Forum" scores nil on the bare breasts and buttocks count.

Men Only

PERHAPS the most artful of the so-called girly magazines is "Men Only", the layouts intricately laboured and the lay-downs living art forms. This magazine is not ashamed of displaying its own full frontal and causes no aspiring artist's mind to stretch past that point of no return. (If you buy it you'll know what I mean). Each photograph combines the enigmatic smile of the Mona Lisa with the eroticism of Salome—no guess what the focal point is.

If strong-willed enough to tear your eyes away from these aesthetic masterpieces, you will find out that models have their own Hippocratic oath which runs on the lines of a Sartre-Russell neo-existential Kantian philosophy, and seems to have but one object's expansion in mind.

The articles too are intellectual but above all informative. Did you know you could have soixant-neuf two ways (69 plus 69)? Well, read "Men Only" then.

It is here that I must admit the failing of the male race, and that is that one or two of us don't buy these magazines for their aesthetic pleasure, nor to admire the beauty of the "ladies", nor to read the prognoses on sex, but just for the letters and the sex-ads. This innovation is too good to pass over and if you haven't read one

of these letters then there is something lacking in your life; they are the only part of these magazines which will make you burst at the seams.

Beware only of one thing if you get "Men Only"—it costs 40 p.p. Borrow it, steal it or even say you'll do a review of it but don't buy it.

Penthouse

POOR "Penthouse" is 5p cheaper, an inch smaller all round, and not quite so luxuriously shiny, but it provides its bit of tactical stimulation by some erotically matt-finished dull green cartridge sections interleaved with the opposing white sheeny sheets. And it is here that your erotic fantasies are explored and you can make your contribution to scientific advancement by completing the "Penthouse Study of Erotic Fantasy." To take you one stage further(!) than "Forum's" glossary of psychosexual terms" is your "encyclopaedia of erotic enlightenment" under the name of the Penthouse Sexindex. (The whole edition does rather tend to over-indulge in that word, erotic).

If you've never suffered from alcohol in the bloodstream read "Everything you always wanted to know about hangovers"; to initiated sufferers it is somewhat basic and even farcical. However, one actually interesting article amongst the 17 pages of naked female is "The Great Hippy Illusion," written by a flower-child who has since stopped to cynically conjecture about the beautiful summer of '67. The Penthouse Book Society is well advertised; buy the "book that was banned, and subsequently acquitted, in the first unexpurgated post-trial edition—Mouth and Oral Sex—yours for £3.15, or there is always "Wicked Victorians" or even "Acts of Love" where "the

BEST BUY

THE six magazines we tested for veracity, local colour and value for money, led to their categorisation into three groups:

Class 1: Those containing at least some worthwhile reading—"Playboy" and "Forum".

Pseudo-class 1: Those smacking of breasts, buttocks and glossiness—"Men Only", "Penthouse" and "Mayfair".

Class 2: Cheap and nasty editions—"Parade".

There are some seemingly perennially popular topics featured in issue after issue. These are:

- (1) Oral sex;
- (2) Erotic fantasy;
- (3) Masturbation;
- (4) Homosexuality;
- (5) Man and his car;
- (6) Anything perverted.

The distribution figures give some indication of their popularity in the U.K., but unfortunately these were obtainable only for the following:—

"Forum" — 218,400;

"Penthouse" — 225,000;

"Parade" — 86,700.

"Playboy" sells twelve million copies a month internationally.

Conclusion: The girliest girly magazine with best value for money is "Mayfair", which manages to combine some artistic merit and light cultural interest with its basic titillatory tactics.

QUOTES FROM THE CAMPUS

"Women are more erotically stimulating than men."

"It sickens me."

"If I see another bare breast or buttock . . . they haunt you."

"When you've seen one, you've seen the lot . . ."

REDBREAST

GOES MEN ONLY . . .

APPROXIMATELY 85 per cent of adult men and 70 per cent of adult women in this country have at sometime during their lives read at least one of the type of magazine previously described. Most of this exposure has apparently been voluntary, the result of an active interest in both the pictorial and textual content. Recent experience with such materials is not nearly as extensive as total experience; for example, only about 40 per cent of adult males and 26 per cent of adult females report having read such magazines during the last two years.

Experience of such literature also varies according to the characteristics of the potential viewer. Thus men are more likely to be exposed to erotic material than women, as are younger persons than older ones. In addition, they are more likely to be read by that section of the population which is well-educated and reads a large number of general books, newspapers and magazines. Also people who are particularly socially or politically active see and are likely to read more erotica and therefore more of the so-called "men's magazines."

Interestingly enough, few admit to buying such publications, despite the enormous circulation figures quoted. This may, of course, be partially explained by informal distribution among friends and acquaintances which is common-place. Such sharing is predominantly with friends of the same sex or spouses. Hence, most exposure occurs, especially within the University environment, outside the commercial context as a social or quasi-social activity—a durable commodity for which there are several consumers for every purchase.

What, then, makes people read these magazines?

the other extreme "Knave", "King" or "Parade" cater for quite a different market.

There is great social significance in the large circulation of "Playboy" and its prototypes. More of an institution than just a magazine, it is clearly part of the "established scene". Widely read by rising young executives (or would-be executives) anxious to make the right impression, it is as if to read this periodical is to gain an automatic entry to the high-powered world of big business.

Although many of the articles and fiction contain a significant degree of sexual orientation, many articles are also written on other topics by well-known authors and writers of some standing. This fact is an often-used defence against accusations of supplying pornography disguised as art.

Indeed "Playboy" does claim that its treatment of the female form is both artistic and tasteful, and elevates the woman to a pedestal upon which her beauty may be admired. Such arguments tend to increase the snobbistic value attached to reading the thing, whether they are in fact true or not.

In fact, the "sophisticated" male magazines appear to provide their readers with material which exhibits amiable paternalism progressing sometimes to glowering hostility towards females. Much of their content, de facto, seems designed to denigrate the "fairer sex"—the mood is often competitive or defensive and seems to suggest a masculine drive to protect their long-dominant position.

The "Playboy"-type magazine usually presents women as playthings—pleasant to pet—the glossily-groomed and perfect girl who sprawls each month across the centre pages is always remote, invulnerable and gorgeous. And as such, naturally presents the "consumer" with none of the problems, demands or fears of a real-life relationship.

It is this escapist-fantasy element that is perhaps most important. The man is assured of his supremacy over a woman, usually infinitely more attractive and desirable than any he is likely to meet, or more to the point, seduce. She is just there, unresponsive, unmoving—his slave, his plaything, his helpmate, or anything else he chooses to fantasise her as being.

Although there is no generally held view as to the actual effects of the reading of such literature—a diverse and perhaps inconsistent set of beliefs are held by a large and necessarily overlapping variety of people.

Between 40 and 60 per cent believe that they provide infor-



mation about sex, provide entertainment, lead to moral breakdown, improve sexual relationships, induce men to commit rape, produce boredom with sexual materials, encourage innovation in sexual technique and lead men to lose respect for women.

Surveys of psychiatrists, psychologists, sex educators, social workers and similar professional people reveal that large majorities of such groups believe that these magazines do not have harmful effects on either adults or adolescents. On the other hand, a survey of police chiefs in the United States found that 58 per cent believed that they played a significant role in causing juvenile delinquency.

Experimental studies show that exposure to the erotic stimuli present in the various publications produces sexual arousal in a substantial portion of both men and women—such arousal being dependent on both the characteristics of the stimulus and the characteristics of the reader.

Moreover, this research casts doubt on the prevalent belief that women are vastly less aroused by erotic stimuli than are men. The supposed lack of female response may well be due to social and cultural inhibitions against admitting such arousal and to the fact that

these materials are generally orientated to a male audience.

Research also shows that young people constitute the group most likely to be aroused, especially if they are college educated, religiously inactive and sexually experienced. And depictions of conventional sexual behaviour are generally regarded as being more stimulating than "deviant" sexual activity, which not surprisingly explains why the magazines' portrayal of sex tend to conform to the predominantly accepted sexual "norms".

When persons are exposed to this type of erotica, some increase masturbatory or coital behaviour, a smaller proportion decrease it, but for the main part there is no change. Such increases are in any case short-lived and usually disappear within 48 hours. Other common consequences include increased frequency of erotic dreams, sexual fantasy and conversation about sexual matters among both men and women, but patterns of sexual behaviour are found to be very stable and not substantially altered by any reading material.

Whatever your reasons for reading them and whatever the consequences suffered or enjoyed, we still maintain there's nothing like the real thing.

BARBARA SLOMNICKA.
PAULINE MUNDY.

Why are we at University? Why are we at University? Why are we at University? Why are we at University?

AILEEN PATRICK is a first year History and Sociology Combined Honours student. She is 19 and lives in Kingsheath. She described the steps leading up to the Arts-Commerce Tower:—"They're too wide to go up one step at a time—and then they're too narrow to take three at a time, so you end up feeling as though you're walking with a limp!"

—Why did you come to University?

I don't know really. Well, it's something I've thought about a bit lately. Probably because (a) I couldn't think of anything else to do at the time and it was just... semi-expected that I would go definitely from school—and it was naturally assumed at home that I would keep on with my education, and... I ended up here.

—What about the other aspects of going to University?

Well, obviously for the social life—Carlisle isn't exactly a big city... and when I applied to universities I deliberately applied to places that were reasonably large. I fancied the idea where you could go to the theatre or something if you wanted to. I've been once—and that was with the Cassa thing to Stratford.

—What do you think of Birmingham?

Well, I don't know... I mean, I hardly ever go into the city—you spend your life on the campus.

It's quite good, I think... it's quite good I suppose. It's so much different because at home everything's very compact—I mean, the city centre is one street, there's not much else—whereas here the centre goes on for ages and you still get lost every time you go in. It's funny the way they call all places the "village."

—How often do you go into the city?

Not so much, last term I was hardly there at all. This term I've taken up ice-skating—that's where I was tonight—it's quite good fun really. So... I go as far as the Silver Blades besides Samantha's.

—Do you find that people are friendly at the University?

I find the Birmingham people very friendly—and at the University. I found it a bit large and impersonal at first. But I suppose you get to know people and recognise faces around.

I think I know enough people but I wouldn't object to knowing more. You tend to meet a lot of people—and you talk to them for a while and then you never see them ever again... it's a bit odd.

—Why are you studying History and Sociology?

I don't know—because I've always been interested in history, and I'm interested in people.

—What will you do afterwards?

... Perhaps teaching... I would quite like to be a social work teacher—teaching a few lessons a week in schools, but dealing with the problems relating to the children in that school as well. I didn't come to University with the thought of any particular future in mind. I think University is a total life in itself—if you make use of it.

—What was your idea of University before you came? Were those impressions borne out?

You tend to imagine that everyone's going to be madly intelligent... when you get there you find out that they're fairly normal. I think I was quite favourably impressed with the place because I didn't particularly expect anything. I was fortunate in that nothing dreadful happened to me... I found I settled in much quicker than I expected to.

—How much do you work?

I think I don't do enough work—but that's up to me. There's a great opportunity to do nothing—except three essays or whatever. It's just a case of sitting half asleep in lectures and taking down notes. I do enough, but not much more... Well, I suppose I ought to work more. I sit around a lot and talk about nothing in particular.

—Where do you sit around?

In Cassa Common Room (near the building that looks like a snail).

—What do you think of the buildings of the University?

They're a bit of a hotch-potch. They tend to blend in quite well despite the fact that they were all built at such different intervals.

—What do you think of the Union?

I don't know, I don't really know enough about it... I'm not involved enough in it.

—Why?

Apathetic I suppose.

—Do you think you're different from anyone else in being apathetic?

Well, obviously there's a number of people who aren't, or everything that needs organisation would collapse. I don't think I ever really think about it to be honest—I just accept it as being there.

—Why did you want to come to University and to Birmingham?

I couldn't really think of anything else to do—and I thought I'd like to teach, which seemed like a good sort of reason for coming to University. And thirdly, it was because of the course that I was doing—Birmingham was one of the few universities that did it—mathematical physics... but I dropped that at the end of the first year.

—Are you equally disillusioned about University in general?

YOUR FEATURES TEAM DECIDED TO INTERVIEW A FEW STUDENTS CHOSEN ON A RANDOM BASIS —NOT IN ANY ATTEMPT TO CONDUCT SCIENTIFIC SOCIAL RESEARCH, NOR IN ORDER TO FIND OUT WHAT THE 'AVERAGE' STUDENT THINKS — BUT SIMPLY OUT OF CURIOSITY. WE LIKE TO THANK ALL THE STUDENTS WE TALKED TO, AND TO THOSE WE DIDN'T — REMEMBER, MIGHT JUST HAVE BEEN YOU.

I suppose I am really. The only reason I like University is that I'm relatively free to be what I want to be... and if I suddenly decide one day—"Oh, I'm going somewhere"—I can just go without thinking whether I'm going to get the sack or something like that.

—Is that your main reason for staying here?

Yes—plus my parents being a bit uptight about me leaving.

—What do you think of Birmingham?

I don't like Birmingham. I don't like cities anyway, but Birmingham is particularly horrible.

—Why?

It's all buildings... and there isn't anything much else there? I mean, it's not like London, where... I don't like London, but at least there's lots of things that you can interest yourself in doing.

—How often do you go into the city?

As little as possible. Hardly ever—unless I'm sort of going somewhere else—where you have to go through the city to get there.

—What do you think of the University?

I quite like it being all in one place—on the campus... It's a bit large but apart from that I haven't really got any complaints.

—Do you ever go into the Union?

Yes, every day.

—What do you do there, and what do you think of it?

I mainly go there around dinner-time—for coffee. I'm quite fond of it in a funny sort of way.

—How?

I don't know—I suppose it's just because it's a part of what I do every day... go to the Union and sort of sit down and have a cup of coffee and a chat.

—Do you find it a friendly place?

I think it's friendly if you know somebody there—if you don't, it's awful.

—Are you involved in the Union on any other levels?

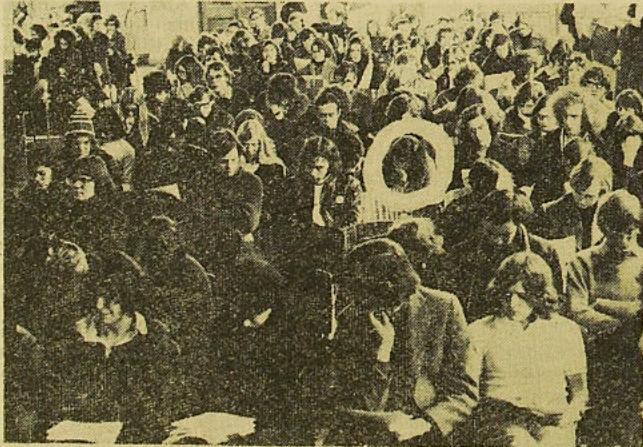
No.

—Why not?

Apathy. I don't know really—I'm just not.

—What might you think of your time here 10 years from now?

I think I'll probably be pleased that I came to University. I've cer-



ELIZABETH WEBB is a final year Maths. student living in Harbourne. We asked her what a ragged looking object that stood on a brass candlestick in the middle of her room was. "That—it's em... I think it's a bone—but I think it's fossilised. Found it in the middle of the desert in Bahrain."

—Why are you at University?

I don't really know. Now I don't. I thought I wanted to go... at school. I've thought of leaving several times, but strict parental pressure is rather against it—so I thought I'd just stay to the end now. It's the course more than anything... the reasons why I thought I'd leave.

—Why is your course no good?

Well, they've put me off maths. I used to enjoy it when I was at school—it must seem a strange thing to say. It's mainly a case of them trying to put too much information across... in too short a time, so you just have to sort of learn it all by heart and you don't get anything out of it because you've not understood it.

tainly changed a lot since I've been here. But from the point of view of the academic side of it, I

will probably look back on it with the same

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everyone except a few close friends. I suppose one advantage... one feature of this place is that you can think on an intellectual level—which is a medium of communication. Instead of outside talking about the weather, you know: "It's sunny today, isn't it?"... and oddments like that, you talk about Maruse or a new book. I mean, they're both pretty meaningless—usually it's just a different type of communication.

—Do you think that University is a bad thing in that it isolates people?

I don't know. I felt pretty isolated from people in that sense before I came here... I just couldn't talk to them about everyday, mundane things. Intellectual in terms of the words and concepts used, rather than what is actually said.

—Why do you enjoy the anonymity of University?

Because it gives me a degree of freedom. I can choose more easily how I want to be and act upon that—rather than if I'm known then I'll have to act according to a specific set of roles that are expected of me—people do that unconsciously, if not consciously... having categorised you, they try to keep you in that category.

—What do you think of the University as a collection of buildings?

Aesthetically ugly... The grass does help in the middle—it pretends to be natural... and the trees as well... Just a real lack of imagination in these buildings. They're functional and that's all that's wanted.

—Do you find the Union comfortable?

Less so than others. I suppose one pleasant factor is that it's fairly grubby and fairly dusty, whereas a lot of other Unions are made of red plastic.

—Do you think it has character?

It's trying... I'm not sure I like the character it's got, but it's got some sort of character, hasn't it? I've never been able to talk to anyone here, in fact, and enjoy talking to anyone... especially at lunchtime. It has a stultifying effect.

—Have you involved yourself in Union politics?

No. That's a waste of time—at least, I think so.

—Why?

Because the problem's so much wider than the Union and the University. Because nothing—as far as I'm concerned—nothing can be done at this level.

—Do you think that you have to start somewhere?

Okay then, what channels can you use in order to do something in this University? I mean, they've got their own channels, they've got their own representation, they've got staff-student committees, they've got staff-student groups... But take the representation—it's so institutionalised—it's just a phoney democracy. I mean, if, for instance they were to make some radical resolutions in Guild Council, they couldn't possibly be acted upon—they'd be overruled by the next guy up. All it's come to is a matter of gaining status in this University, or maybe the possibility of a better job when you get outside. I mean, it's become a social clique.

—Would you include say, Community Action in that?

Less so—it's a valid thing to try. I know, there's no wholeness, no pattern in doing anything particularly political or social centring in this University. The whole constant flow of people through this University means that there's nowhere to base any real sort of position. Because in the first year you don't really know what's going on. In your third year—especially in the last six months—you're concerned with finals... so that leaves about 15 months in between.

People are a lot more aware of themselves in here—they're a lot very self-conscious. They're much more aware of their own inconsistencies and failings compared to their own standards... they're much more inward-looking and critical. This leads them to become very tied up in themselves; they try to get themselves sorted out. It develops a sort of neuroticism—about universities in general—which you don't find outside because people haven't got the time to think about themselves too much.

—Do you think that introspection can be carried too far?

Yes, I suppose it depends very much on the individual—because introspection... to know yourself, or to try to know yourself... is a good thing. The thing most people haven't got here is enough self-confidence. I mean, they're very other directed—they're concerned with how they affect other people—they haven't got this sort of stable ego which they can rely upon.

—What do you think of Birmingham? Have your views changed since you came here?

No, when I came up here I thought the city was depressing and I still do. Mostly because it's so difficult to get into the country here. You know, I can take cities but you've got to be able to get out and get into the country a bit. You can't do that on a bus. You get out there and two hours later you're back again and it costs you eight bob.

—Do you use the city's amenities much?

No, I don't really go up. I haven't been into the city for about, well

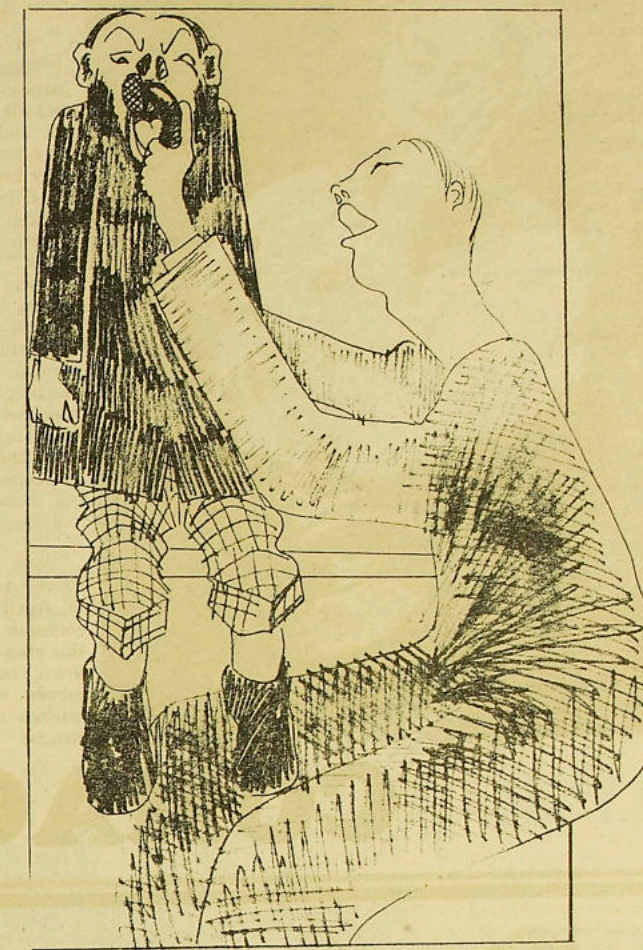
—apart from catching a train—for about five months.

I'm probably unrepresentative in a sense—I'm more reclusive. But, you know, Britain's weather doesn't help—it's usually raining and there's no point in catching a smelly bus to a smelly city.

—How about in the summer.

The summer's a bit different—sometimes I go into the city. In the summer I like getting into the country—which, once again, is problematic. This place is O.K. if you've got transport... it more or less comes down to that. But it's very expensive to get into town and it takes a long time to get there and most of the sort of student places are a few miles round the University. So, you tend to stay either in the University or round at your flat.

EMMANUEL KPIKPI is a 28-year-old Ghanaian student in the first year of a Combined Honours course in Geography and African Studies. This is his second year in England, the first being spent in taking a Social Science course at a college in Selly Oak, sponsored by Cadbury. His position as a foreign student has been made more difficult by the fact that a recent change in government in Ghana is preventing his grant from coming through. He is quite confident that, eventually, it will arrive, but if it does not he will be forced to give up his student here and return home.



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Emmanuel's reasons for taking his degree are specific; he wishes to be of some help in the educational development of his country.

—What do you think of Birmingham?

I've discovered that it's a plural society, in a way that I meet different types of people of different nationalities and I enjoy the social relations. Birmingham as a whole, unlike other parts, where people appear to be more sensitive, is cordial.

—What do you think about the University campus?

Basically, I think life tends to be at times impersonal, and a stranger may feel fairly lost, in a way.

—Do you know many people?

Not really.

—Are there many people on your course?

Yes.

—Do you mix with them?

Not really. The mixing is difficult in that after lectures most people go back to their digs, some go back to the Halls, and Mason Hall especially is fairly big and unless you pick up one or two friends, you remain as an island all the time.

—Do you meet people through the Union?

The Christian Union and the International Association.

—Do you find it lonely here sometimes?

Sometimes I do feel lonely but I try to overcome it by working. Because I am resident on the campus, it should make the mixing easier, but most of the people that I meet in the department just depart to their digs.

—Do you think that because you are older than the majority of First Years, it prevents you from making friends?

Not really, because I try to mingle with them easily.

—Do you actually like University?

Oh yes. I'm enjoying the course very much.



DID you know that Community Action has given you two days off to become involved in projects outside the University? These are the Tuesday, 22nd, and Wednesday, 23rd February of Comac Week. The University authorities think it is important enough to grant us these two days off, so that students can become more aware of problems in their community.

The purpose of Comac Week is to involve students who have given little thought to subjects outside their social and academic circles, and also to make them realise that everyone is not endowed with a sports centre, library and free entertainment. Thus, several of our projects are concerned with improving the facilities in deprived areas such as the community centres in Handsworth (W.E.L.D.) and Winson Green. Have you ever visited these twilight areas? Rows of grey, monotonous, terraced houses; little play-space; few entertainments, giving a total picture of deprivation, these centres are in the process of being renovated and students can help in this work during Comac Week. It includes burning rubble, shifting bricks, etc., and general clearing and construction work. If any female feels incapable of doing this "labouring" remember "Women's Lib" and slimming exercises! Similarly, help is needed in decorating the crypt at St. Chad's—a dossers' refuge for the uninitiated! (see—a dossers' refuge for the uninitiated! (see

Also concerned with Winson Green is a survey to help a future conference on Poverty in April. A group of students is needed to compare the prices of goods in small shops in the area with those of the big supermarkets in town, not available in Winson Green. This survey may well bring to light one of the reasons why poor families have such little extra income.

For those interested in children, there are other projects available. You can spend a day on a farm near Bromsgrove converting an old barn into a play area. The farm provides holidays for local children who would never have one otherwise.

On Wednesday afternoon you can help the children of a local school in Hockley renovating an old canal port which on completion will be used by the local residents of Hockley as an entertainments centre.

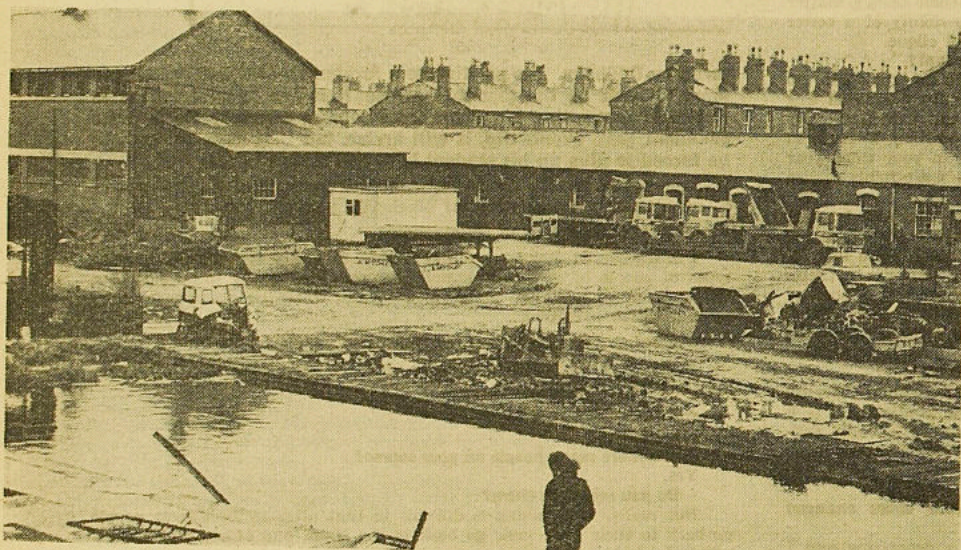
If we have good weather then we can help in constructing a football pitch for a boys' club in Northfield, otherwise there are plenty of repairs inside the club to do. To meet the girls and boys help is needed in the evenings at the club.

Many of you probably heard about our survey on the disabled last term; because of this the Council is producing a leaflet on all existing facilities for the disabled which students can help distribute throughout Comac Week. Those stalwarts who took part in the survey will remember that we asked people whether they would be willing to help the disabled living near them. Those people have been contacted and coffee mornings will be arranged at a local church hall in Selly Oak, which will bring together the disabled with their neighbours. This will take place during Comac Week, and help from students will be needed here too.

There are plenty of other projects that are being carried out during Comac Week as the open meeting (Council Chamber, Monday, February 14th, 1-2 p.m., 2-3 p.m.) will show.

Anyway, read on below for further details about some projects and remember the exhibition in Concourse during Comac Week.

COMAC WEEK



Hockley Point—a possible recreation centre.

HOCKLEY PORT

HOCKLEY PORT is situated in the deprived area of Winson Green. It was a canal basin and canal-railway interface which, for over a century, was very important in the industrial life of the city. The railways lines and associated gear were all dismantled and removed, about five years ago, leaving a four-acre site containing the three canal arms.

This site has great potential in many directions, and it is hoped that several facilities will co-exist on the site when it is fully developed. Clearly the site is of interest to industrial archaeologists, and the development should be compatible with this aspect. It is also a valuable site for canal enthusiasts, as it could supply dry-dock and other facilities at present totally absent in central Birmingham. The most important purpose that the site will be used for, though, is as a youth centre, or a youth and community centre.

Winson Green is at present a slum clearance area, and so obviously deprived. Even when it is redeveloped, however, it will still

be a deprived area in perhaps most important sense, that is, socially. The community will have been destroyed in the redevelopment process. It will be very necessary, therefore, to have not just a youth centre, but to have a place which retains the character and propagates the traditions of the old Birmingham.

Hockley Port is ideally suited to fulfilling this function, and it is here that the other aspects come into play.

Boatyard facilities would form a focus of interest for the centre—which would naturally have an aquatic bias—and, together with the industrial history of the site, would foster an interest in the canal system, and the industrial history of the city in general. They would also help to finance the centre and provide an essential service to boat-owners.

This, then, is what Hockley Port will be—a youth and community leisure centre which will retain the traditions of the old community and lend stability to the new one.

B.A.V.T.E. is an organisation that teaches English to immigrants—primarily Asian women but more recently also to Arab men.

In September, 1970 there were about five students teaching English. Most of them have made real friends with their families. Janet Done's family are Pakistanis from Lahore. They are progressive in their outlook and Mrs. Hussein allows her five beautiful daughters much freedom by Pakistani standards. Pat Meredith's family are Punjabis who are very friendly despite the great evidence of sickness, poverty and ignorance. However, "Miss Pat" has made firm friends

and her visits are eagerly awaited.

In 1970 about fifteen more students volunteered. They have done great work and Wendy wrote to say the experience was one of the most enriching in her university year.

It is quite amazing the rate at which some of the women learn English; one case in particular where a Pathan mother who was illiterate, in strict Purdah and without a word of English not that long ago can now almost chat. For this reason England has become a happy place for her.

Teaching can be very frustrating when from week to week the difference is hardly appreciable and one is constantly tempted to give up the whole affair—particularly when the doorbell is not answered or when constant interruptions make havoc of the lesson; but over the long term the knowledge of the language

ST. BASIL'S

WANT to work for the alternative society? Then come and help us at St. Basil's. It may not be quite what you first had in mind, but we're hoping to be in business soon as a young persons' crypt—an emergency accommodation centre for homeless young people—and we want your help: painting, decorating, cleaning, getting the place ready for inspection by officials before we can open for those who feel they have no alternative but to find an alternative to home, to try and find another way of life or of approaching things. Will you give some time for us for them and try to work out some real, viable alternatives?

Some members of S.C.A. have been coming down—last term and this—and the back of the work has been broken, but there's loads of odd jobs and final finishing touches to please those up there and finally allow us to start.

LES MILNER
Warden, St. Basil's Centre

B.A.V.T.E.

of their adopted country obviously makes a big difference to their lives.

Last November two meetings were arranged at the University with the co-operation of Lynna Moses who succeeded Sheila Leslie as co-ordinator (how much the success of B.A.V.T.E. depends on good co-ordinators such as these two have been) and very pleasantly there were about twenty new volunteers as well as two from last year.

The experience and a grant should mean that this year the volunteers should be better equipped and prepared. There is also this new project of teaching Arab men in classes at the Mount Pleasant centre. B.A.V.T.E. is a project that requires a great deal of patience and the ability to build confidence in some of the more physically projects of painting and decorating and cleaning that are also very worthwhile.

St. Chad's Cathedral crypt project



PLAYGROUPS IN PRIORITY AREAS

GINA is three years old. Her home is a decrepit terrace house in one of the more depressing parts of Birmingham. Gina's father is of low intelligence and rarely keeps a job for any length of time. Her mother is only 29, but looks considerably older. She is frail, apathetic and can see little hope of a better life for herself or her four children, one of whom is already on probation.

Is Gina destined to go the same way? Fortunately for Gina, there is a sign of hope. With persistent support from the health visitor and a trained playleader, Gina has attended a playgroup fairly regularly, and is now beginning to blossom. For two weeks she stood on the fringe of various group activities, pale and withdrawn. Soulful eyes looked longingly from a little body held immobile in dirty over-size garments.

No one hurried her. Enticing puppets were produced from the magic box, little white mice ran up Mickey's sleeves, and music and movement filled the playroom. In a rough and tumble Gina got pushed. "Gerrouit," "Shurruit," "Clear off!"—Gee us a piece, "Shan!" and "Dunno," the words spewed forth, and she was away.

But, like all the other under-fives in the playgroups and day care centres of **PRIORITY AREA PLAYGROUPS**, Gina needs help. Most of all she needs to learn words to describe her experiences so that she can remember and her knowledge can grow.

Students from Birmingham University Geography Department undertook to visit one nursery regularly. They helped paint toys, clean windows, tie newspapers ready for pulping and organise brief field trips of four or five children to the Fire Station, the Library and to a garden to see apples growing. All the time, whatever they were doing, they talked to the children. They spent time, encouraging and listening. Others have followed in their wake, and still more are needed.

PLOWDEN AND AFTER
Research work has focussed our attention on the strong influence a child's environment has upon his early learning ability. By four years half a child's maximum measurable intelligence has been reached, and what losses or gains he has made by this time set him at a disadvantage, or place him ahead in the learning field.

Children constrained in high-rise flats, or in impoverished surroundings clearly deserve a better chance than many are now getting. Gina lives in an area designated by

THE Crypt of the Cathedral was opened as a night shelter for homeless men on the 1st May, 1971.

On a cold night last year a man, sleeping rough in a Birmingham subway, died of cold and malnutrition. That night under the Cathedral the crypt was warm and dry—and empty. To one man at least, Canon Leo McCarty, it seemed that something should be done, and from what at first was a vague idea came into being a practical project.

The project at St. Chad's Crypt is neither specifically Catholic nor Protestant, though it is indeed a truly ecumenical effort, started by a group of similar minded people, men and women from different walks of life, who were not only concerned with the plight of the homeless man, but who were prepared to "have-a-go" at tackling his problems without first having to wait for large sums of money before contemplating having a go.

ally intended to provide food and clothing and a place to rest or sleep at night, it has extended its activities to help this sad and unfortunate section of society in many other ways. Today it is now opened for virtually 24 hours a day and provides a personal and confidential service to encourage men to come in during the day to discuss their problems and difficulties, or ways in which they can be helped.

Men are kitted out with clothes, some have been helped to find work, to find a flat or some other long-term accommodation, to get medical help, to locate their families or become reconciled with wives, etc. Single girls and women have been helped, families, some with as many as six children, have been helped to find accommodation. But these are only some of the things now being done from St. Chad's Crypt, and in the future we envisage a Day Centre, an Information Centre, a Hostel and a Sheltered Workshop—though this will mean money and property and more voluntary help.

We started with a very simple idea—to meet a human need on a particular night, but whilst we have done this, we are also aware of other aspects of this "human need."

But whilst the Crypt was origin-

There are many men who are in the condition in which we find them, because they have some serious problem, be it mental, physical or social, and we must be ready to offer proper help when it is needed.

Some of the men we cater for would like to resettle in society, but many of them are not yet ready to accept an ordinary hostel, and our urgent need is the kind of hostel which will help these men to make the adjustments necessary to live again in a community. We all have a duty to help these men to achieve whatever it is that they wish to achieve.

The problem here in Birmingham is very much bigger than we are led to believe. We are catering for only a small percentage of the total number in St. Chad's Crypt—the remainder are turned away back into the cold and bitter night with nowhere to go, no prospect and often times no hope for the morning. We want to do more, we ought to do more, but we are restricted in this by a sad lack of money. Indeed, we do need more help even if our work is to continue at all.

We need help, we desperately need help. The students in Birmingham have always helped us with their time and their talents, etc., and now through their Carnival efforts we sincerely hope that they will stimulate interest in all sections of life in Birmingham... and from that interest we hope that others will help us financially.

BERNARD RHYS-WILLIAMS
Project Leader.

W.E.L.D.

HANDSWORTH is an area of both educational and social deprivation. A few people who realised the needs that existed formed a group—W.E.L.D.—which has initiated summer play centres and youth clubs for children, social activities for adults.

Lack of premises has limited this work. W.E.L.D. have now, however, acquired a large property, comprising a house, shop, and half an acre of land, which can be developed as a neighbourhood centre.

Working parties, including students from Birmingham University, have been restoring



the property at weekends. Other Community Action students have begun work at New Trinity. This is a former junior school, which W.E.L.D. have obtained the use of for a limited time.

Already playgroups, youth clubs, and projects involving children from local schools, and students, have started here. A group of old people have begun their own social club every Thursday.

Some decorating has been started at New Trinity, but there is a good deal of repair work, self-building, and yet more decorating to be done.

DARTFORD CHILDREN'S FARM

THE farm was designed to take children of nursery school age and in the summer months groups of up to fifteen children and their staff come in turn from the nursery schools and day nurseries and groups in Birmingham.

For the rest of the year other mothers with their young children come for a much-needed rest, or as frequently happens, the children come on their own and are looked after by the Warden. These visits are of mothers and young children are most valuable and the Warden is often able to build up helpful relationships with the mothers.

The Warden who looks after the farm is a "mother" to all the visitors. She encourages them to enjoy the freedom of the farm grounds and to relax in the peaceful surroundings.

The children go into the fields to pat the donkeys and ponies, watch the hens, walk down to the stream, splash and play in the paddling pool near the farmhouse, or swing and climb on the climbing frame in the garden. They are soon longing for the good family meals, which are often eaten outside on the terrace in summer.

There is an ever-increasing demand by health visitors, doctors, psychiatrists and other social workers for children and families to stay at the farm. Despite the greatly improved housing in Birmingham, many children who live in the city badly need a country holiday, to see for themselves fields, farms and animals.

A visit to the Holiday Farm for many city children may be their first experience of playing in the open air without fear of traffic and away from the streets.

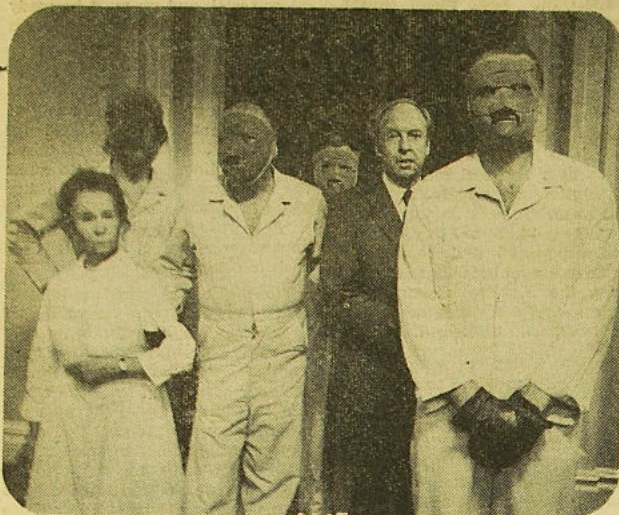
The soup run . . .

HAVE you ever felt homeless and rejected? Have you ever seen six of your mates killed on a building site and felt that you could never work again? Have you ever been accused of murder on Boxing Day, just because you have a record?

There are people like this. How can we help them?

The Soup Run was started over two years ago. For four nights a week volunteers take soup (often cooked in a small kitchen at Tox H. Mosely), bread and occasionally cake, to a small area outside the Bull Ring, late at night, where we meet the vagrants. The soup is often their first hot meal for many days, but it is not only the soup which is so important. It is that they often desperately need someone to talk to, and someone to talk to them. By going regularly and slowly building up relationships with the men we can try to fill a part of the large gap which has formed through their terrible experiences. We can listen and try to share with them their experiences of having lost contact with their families, addiction to alcohol and drugs, long spells in prison and inability to hold down jobs.

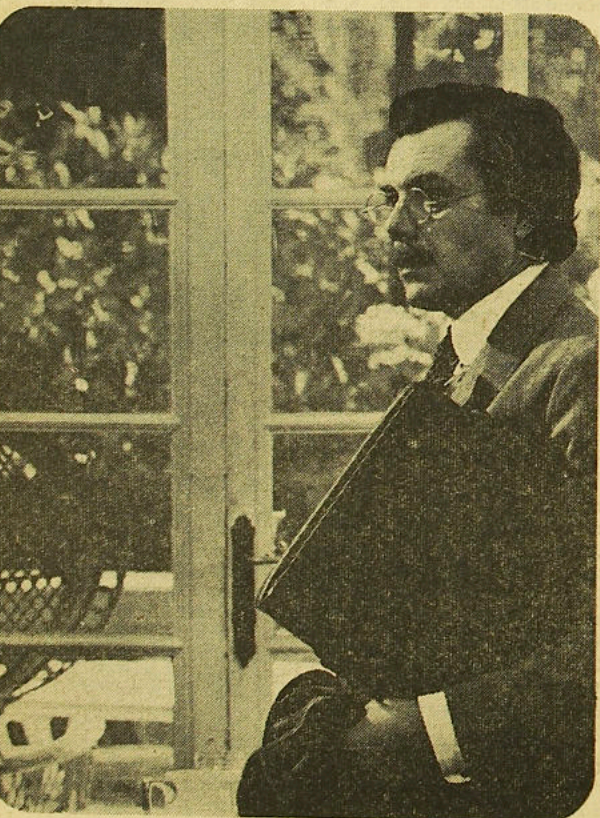
But we find that they are easy to love and have so much to give us; that our time spent with them is very precious.



"They" are watching, in the "Anderson Tapes,"
Odeon, New Street.



Richard Roundtree stars in "Shaft" at the Futurist.



Dirk Bogarde in "Death in Venice," at Odeon, Ringway.

cinema

OCCASIONALLY the film industry comes up with a film that turns out to be very entertaining and yet fails to make any money.

"Borsalino" falls into this category. Shunned by the city-centre cinemas, it got a meagre showing in three local cinemas, and is now showing at the Arts Lab.

After sitting through a number of "heavy" films just lately, "Borsalino" comes as a pleasant relaxation: this is easy-viewing cinema.

Set in France in the 'thirties it takes a look at the rise to power of two crooks, amidst numerous machine-gun battles, knifings, etc. Hardly the stuff for relaxing entertainment, you might think. Except that the two hoods in "Borsalino" turn out to be two very suave and witty gentlemen.

Also at the Arts Lab this week is "Performance" with Mick Jagger.

Finally, a mention for the Arts Lab film festival which starts on Sunday. With so many good films being shown, the best thing to do is to get hold of the festival programme. Besides the obvious attraction of "Trash", other highlights should be "David and the Ice Age", "Punishment Park", "Valley", and "Bleak Moment", as well as films by Goddard.

PAUL TAYLOR.

EVERYONE must have heard the hit single *Shaft*, by Isaac Hayes, and that this is the theme tune for a film of the same name. "Shaft", which opened to a packed house at the Futurist, is the story of a black private detective in New York. Bumpy, a black gangster-tycoon, has his "innocent" daughter kidnapped and John Shaft accepts the job of finding her.

The film is very good considering that the actors are all fairly unknown, and Richard Roundtree, as Shaft, takes to his role very well. Shaft is an agile, quick-witted man, who accepts that white people will generally discard him as just another black. Acting as a link between a revolutionary group in Harlem and the New York State police, he finds a "guardian angel" in the form of a police superintendent, who keeps a watching, but friendly, eye as Shaft goes about his job.

Somewhat the Mafia are worked into the film. They have captured Bumpy's daughter to force his hand. But Shaft, with several "brothers", ingeniously recapture the girl leaving the police to settle the Mafia.

The difference between this and the James Bond type film is the veneer. Shaft, like Bond, is the one-night stand man with women. But the whole hero situation is much more realistic with Shaft because of the lack of the gadgetry that formed the basis of the Bond films.

On the whole an extremely entertaining film with its touches of seriousness hidden in the humour.

"Five Savage Men" is the B film with "Shaft", and is probably one of the most boring films around at the moment. It's almost an exact replica of "Hannie Caulder", including the group rape scene, the constant flashback to this, and once again the savage girl is bent on getting her own back.

So if you found "Hannie Caulder" a bit below standard make sure you give "Five Savage Men" a miss when you go to see "Shaft", because it's even worse.

GINETTE.

THE ANDERSON TAPES" (Odeon, New Street). A superb story of a massive robbery carried out according to Duke Anderson's (Sean Connery) master plan. A film full of intriguing subplots involving the ubiquity of taping, wiretapping, bugging and all the latest means of electronic and photographic surveillance—which makes James Bond look like an idiot.

Though it is based on the best-selling novel by Lawrence Sanders, this film makes his novel look like a bad copy. It uses a very new approach in both screenplay and editing. The story and direction are so dynamic that any good actor would have suited the part, but with Sean Connery in it one keeps forgetting that it is not a James Bond thriller. It looks like he's still getting his fair share in this film also, with Ingrid Everleigh (played by Dyan Cannon) his friend. She is kept by a wealthy business man, Werner Gottele (Richard B. Schall) in a luxurious apartment on New York's fashionable Upper East Side.

Released from prison, Duke Anderson resumes his romance with Ingrid. During his love-making sessions he plans to steal the contents of every apartment in the hotel during a Labour Day weekend.

This film is too good to be missed—it's easier to see than to describe.

"DEATH IN VENICE" (Odeon Ringway) has Dirk Bogarde, Bjorn Anderson and Silvana Mangano and is based on Thomas Mann's acclaimed novel, "Death in Venice."

Gustav van Aschenbach, a composer-conductor (played by Dirk Bogarde) wages a struggle against himself, his surrender to sensual adventure, his strange relationship with the moral realm, his carrying within himself physical destruction—a homosexual who sometimes finds romance and sentiment repugnant.

The film captures you as it opens with the story of the rampant surroundings of the Venetian landscape, a lone passenger (Dirk Bogarde) sitting on the deck of a steam boat with the white sands of the Lido in the background, where the story takes place. Dirk Bogarde plays the leading role of Aschenbach and certainly keeps his reputation as an international artist.

Unlike his role in "Darling," which led him to the British "Best Acting" Award, where he chases women, he falls in love with a boy of 15 and chases him all over Venice.

In spite of the fact that it is produced and directed by the Italian cinema genius Luchino Visconti, and designed by the word famous Piero Tosi, of "The Damned" fame, this film becomes a big bore after 15 minutes.

The film is such a drag that you even miss the wonderful 80-year-old Hotel des Bains on the Venice Lido which was especially decorated in the 18th century style for this film. Authenticity of decor and settings within the hotel extend to detailed reproductions of Italian and French newspapers.

All I can say is that this film is typical of Piero Tosi. A must for designers, as it contains hundreds of costumes, inspired by the late world-famous designer Worth. But take Dirk Bogarde out and you are left with a beautifully photographed, boring film.

theatre

THIS summer during the post-examination period, Guild Theatre Group in conjunction with other parts of the University, hope to put on an open-air rock music version of Aristophanes' satire "The Birds."

G.T.G. considers that the idea of using rock music in a festival atmosphere and using the open-air space in front of the Library is as faithful a reproduction as possible of the original conditions in which the play was performed. Since it is impossible to represent exactly the situations and personalities that Aristophanes satirised, the producers have decided to try and preserve the spirit of the play by updating the characters and the situations.

The band is being formed by the fusion of rock and conventional instruments to play music in the several styles which the play demands, and which is being specially composed for the occasion.

Both the acting and technical staff of G.T.G. have a tremendous, infectious enthusiasm for this production, the like of which has not been seen for several years. However, a production of this size requires a very large cast, technical crew and band, so if you are interested in being involved with this project, which when put on will be free, G.T.G. would be very grateful for any assistance that could be rendered and can be contacted any lunch time at the G.T.G. office, behind Deb Hall stage in the Union.

books

THE publication by Penguin of Carlos Marighela's book on urban guerilla warfare "For the Liberation of Brazil," has caused a considerable amount of controversy amongst some of the more reactionary booksellers of the country. Still, it makes a change for them to be putting principle before profit.

Marighela's book, they argue, encourages the form of guerilla warfare typical to what is being experienced in Northern Ireland at the present time. Therefore, the argument continues, we should have nothing to do with this sort of thing. It is interesting to note, however, that one of the principal bookshops behind the campaign to ban this book still continues to sell the works of Marx, Lenin, Bakunin, Mao and Guevara—all exponents of guerilla warfare!

Up until 1967, Carlos Marighela was a leading orthodox Communist, but in 1968 he changed his views radically and formed his own revolutionary party, Action for National Liberation, on the same style as the Cuban revolutionary movement. For the next few years he created a type of guerilla warfare which began in the countryside before maturing to the towns and cities.

In two years they stole over £400,000 from the banks of Rio and Sao Paulo alone, and established a reputation for themselves throughout Brazil. Shortly after kidnapping the American Ambassador in 1969 and successfully securing the release of 15 political prisoners, Marighela was captured by the police and shot as the repressive forces of Brazil took brutal reprisals.

Marighela has left behind him a rich collection of writings which span the revolutionary movement and cover in detail the tactics of modern guerilla warfare. This book is the most vital of the new series of paperback being issued under the Pelican Latin American Library and meets a demand that has long been overdue.

STEPHEN KELLY.

CARNAL KNOWLEDGE, by Jules Pfeiffer, is yet another publication by Penguin, in the form of a film script.

Surprisingly enough, it turns out to be exceptionally entertaining in this format. The book follows the life of two friends, of completely different characters, from their

—reviews—

college days through to their middle years.

It concentrates mainly on their adventures with women: their successes and downfalls, and even amusing interconnections.

With parts of the book, a good deal of the humour is even enhanced by the way it is laid-out.

I missed the film when it came round but having read the book I shall watch out for the film when it returns. If it is only half as funny as the book, it is worth seeing.

GINETTE.

music

VAN MORRISON is a person whose music is appreciated by what seems to be only a small section of the "rock-loving" community, but what they lack in numbers they make up in faithfulness.

Nor has he disappointed them with his latest LP, "Tupelo Honey" (released just before Christmas—sorry I'm late). This record is very happy, reflecting Van's pleasure and satisfaction at the shape his life (and music) is taking. Despite statements to the contrary I find this LP no less musically or lyrically satisfying than (for example) "Astral Weeks" or "Moondance".

No track can be selected as being the best; my personal favourite is "You're My Woman", one of the slower numbers, but he rocks on in fine style on "Wild Night" and "Straight to Your Heart (Like a Cannonball)".

This LP should definitely swell the numbers of his followers.

AS a double-album package "Jesus Christ Superstar" is well worth the expenditure of £4.18. You don't have to be a religious nut to appreciate the story—the music is self-explanatory.

The composer, Andrew Lloyd-Webber, makes use of several themes, repeating them during the opera to great effect. Although Yvonne Elliman has the hit song, with "I don't know how to love him" for me the best singer is Barry Dennen as Pontius Pilate.

The story sticks to the Biblical tradition quite strictly, starting with Judas' dissatisfaction with Christ and ending with the Crucifixion. Other highlights in the LP are Mike D'Abo singing "King Herod's Song" and the "Apostles Drinking Song" (surely a hit in the Main Bar?). Anyway, well worth listening to if not actually purchasing.

JOHN GROARKE

THE Events dilemma continues. Either put on a big band and lose a lot of money or put on small bands and still lose money.

Admittedly the "big bands" we've had this year have not been that big, but if you lose a couple of hundred on "Fanny", who played for about £500, think what it's possible to lose on a £1,000 band. Couple that with lousy facilities and what can you do?

But first to the small bands, Quiver, Mr. Fox and Keith Christmas, one of the package tours doing the university circuit, hit the Union on Friday. With an assortment of styles on display, it was "Quiver" who proved the most interesting. They played an energetic set of mostly their own numbers and deserved the applause they got. With some pleasant vocals, nice guitar work and practically non-stop music, they might go a long way.

Towards the end of their set they were joined by Keith Christmas on electric guitar. It's funny, but earlier, whilst he was playing his solo set, I thought that he might go down better with a few other people on stage.

As a soloist, on acoustic guitar, there is little originality in his numbers, and his strumming guitar style does little to impress. Playing with "Quiver" he stayed very much in the background, but that sort of set-up might do much to get him further in his writing.

"Mr. Fox" played a good set of folk music and all that that entails. It was their vocals and violin that came across the best.

Only 350 people turned up on Friday night and Events lost £100 on the concert. With the variety of music providing at least something for everybody they had hoped to break even.

But the problem of losing money is not just confined to concerts with small bands. On Saturday, February 19th, the "Incredible String Band" are playing in the Great Hall.

The "String Band" need little introduction. Their music is delicately beautiful; their stage act alternates between the serious and hilarious. Because of the limit on capacity, and because Events want to keep ticket prices down (70p) the concert will lose over £100 even if it sells out.

Due to these problems with facilities the state of College and University music is in a bad way. The only places doing all right are those with the big halls. Events have tried many ways to get round the inadequacy of Deb Hall, but if there's not a better response then there's little point in going on.

GRAHAM MOORE.

JOHN DRUMMOND'S production of "Doctor and Apothecary," presented by Guild Opera Grotup last week, never ceased to amaze me. It was excellent. Faint praise be damned!

This "singspiel" opera by Karl Ditters von Dittersdorf (first presented 1786) is very long; the audience were kept in their seats for a full three hours, discounting a short coffee interval. Yet the singing, acting, orchestral accompaniment, stage-set and vigorous new translation of the libretto by the producer collectively provided my most enjoyable operatic experience to date.

Tim Marshall constructed the set to Susan Drummond's design. The street scene and that in the upstairs room were utterly professional and these were enhanced by the most elegant, well-tailored costumes.

The strength of this production lay in its contrasted characters. What's more, these characters could act. Judy Davies playing the individual and practical Rosalie deliciously offset the dreamy, love-lorn Leonora (Mary Koebel). Paula Hindmarsh as Sichel contrasted with the foppish Gotthold (William Pool). Sichel was, like Rosalie, down-to-earth and go-ahead, while Gotthold was affected and indecisive. Then, most obvious is the distinction between Doctor Krautmann (John Gibbins), upstanding and well-qualified physician, and Stössel (Jeff Davies), apothecary and quack doctor. Their enmity is dissolved in true comic opera tradition by the final marriage of their children, Leonora and Gotthold.

The fact that the cast was made up of people who could act is important. Singspiel requires more than a good singing voice. The other "real life" comic opera type prevalent in Italy and Germany during the 18th century, opera buffa, used the singing voice throughout, even for indifferent dialogue. The absence of sung dialogue in singspiel and its generally less sophisticated musical idiom makes it more immediately attractive today, but poses at least one major artistic problem to a performer: how to sell yourself to an audience in two completely different dramatic situations, singing and speaking.

Jane Wyn Owen as Claudia and Jeff Davies, her husband the apothecary Stössel, gave the most polished performances. Each has a strong, attractive operative voice. The sensitivity with which they ap-

proached their roles was very powerful indeed. Gotthold (William Pool) was convincing in his pursuit of Leonora both through his serenading of her and in their spoken dialogues together, and the object of his affection, played by Mary Koebel, has so beautiful a soprano voice that many of the audience followed Gotthold's example in falling for her charm.

Sichel stole the show in Act Two. Wearing a lady's dress he moved provocatively about the stage, blowing kisses at the audience and singing "Some things aren't what they seem." Paul Hindmarsh here used his ability for situation comedy to the full. This was really comic opera at its best.

Though on the stage for a comparatively shorter time than the protagonists, John Gibbins, Malcolm Ward, Oliver O'Toole and David Winpenny seemed well-established characters at final curtain. John Gibbins as Doctor Krautmann was particularly well cast. He positively exuded superiority over his arch-rival, the apothecary Stössel.

The small orchestral ensemble underpinned the action concisely and effectively. Indeed, its music was best when the stage-curtains were open. The instrumental introductions and intermezzi were dull in contrast to the support the orchestra gave to the characters on the stage.

The homogeneity of the orchestral playing under Peter Fairhurst (Wednesday, Friday and Saturday) and Martin Hindmarsh (Thursday) was consistent throughout the opera.

MICHAEL DOWNING

I HAVE always been a fond follower of the Move and their music. Not so much albums but those singles that used to sneak into the charts a year or so back. The Electric Light Orchestra are not strictly the Move, but Roy Wood and Jeff Lynne playing sounds even more interesting than the Move's.

The immediately noticeable difference between the Move and E.L.O. is the type and range of instruments used. Gone is that wild Wood guitar and the continual rhythm and in their places are the cello, violin, bassoon, piano, etc. Wood and Lynne are joined by Bev Bevan on drums, Bill Hunt on horns, and Steve Woolam violin. The typical Move vocals are there, but the lyrics themselves vary greatly. The overall effect is exceptionally good and it's Roy Wood's cello that makes it.

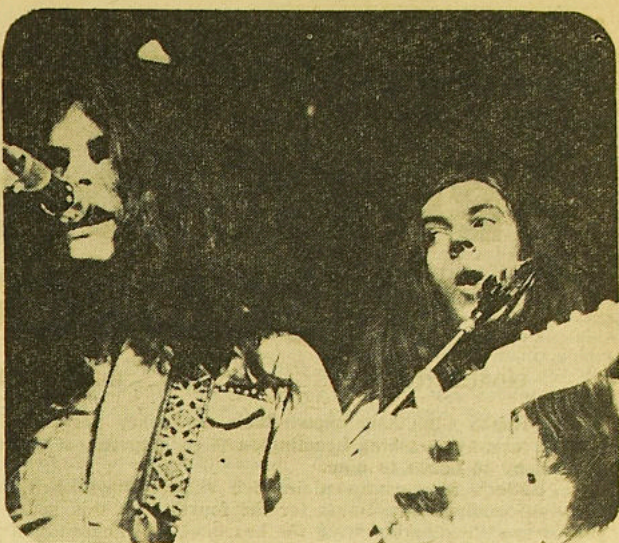
The cello isn't exactly new to rock. "I Am a Walrus" being an early example, but it has rarely been featured so effectively throughout an album. Roy Wood has said that the cello is really his instrument and the music on the E.L.O. album is what he really wants to get into. There seems little doubt, in my mind, that he should be encouraged in this.

Of the album itself there is little in which to find fault. Side two somehow comes across a lot better than side one and contains three superb tracks: "Mr. Radio," Jeff Lynne's vocal complete with 1940 type radio introduction; "Queen of the Hours," and Roy Wood's "Whisper in the Night."

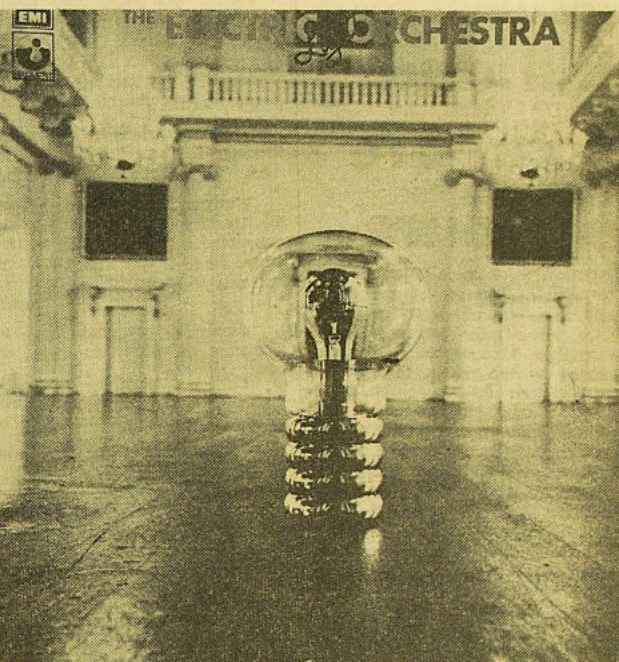
Only one of the nine tracks seems to fall in any way. "Battle of Marston Moor" tends, in places, to get too caught up in the cello work, resulting in an occasionally shapeless and bitty instrumental. But even then, it still has some nice touches.

The future of the Move and E.L.O. are in the balance. The Move are still under contract to E.M.I. and obviously mean money. Thus, until E.L.O. can prove their viability, Roy Wood and Jeff Lynne have to keep the Move going, despite feeling that E.L.O. is where they want to go.

However, if this album gets the breaks it deserves, there is every chance that the Electric Light Orchestra will quickly establish a healthy reputation for themselves.



Jim Batchelor and Carl Renwick, of Quiver, who played
a good set on Friday.



New sounds from The Electric Light Orchestra.



"Carnal Knowledge" — available in Penguin.

sport 1

RUGBY

BUZZ TOPS TRY SCORERS

WORCESTER 15pts., BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 25pts.

THE Rugby Club have shown their customary post-Christmas surge in fortunes. They started the term by thrashing Leamington 15-6, disposed of Oxford Greyhounds 26-6, and defeated Walsall by 14 points to nine.

Butler's Boys continued in their winning ways when they beat a strong Worcester side 25-15 thus confounding Mike Hayes for the fourth time this term. On a drizzling afternoon the lads played sparkling rugby, firing the hearts of the thousands of spectators who had turned down the chance of watching Scotland v. Wales in order to see if Birmingham were as bad as Mike Hayes makes out.

The game started as usual with Golden Boot missing a penalty from the halfway line. Then with John Naylor prompting and pushing the Birmingham forwards with high kicks, Buzz Bastable (now our leading try-scorer), picked up a loose ball three yards out and plunged over the line for this eighth try of the season. Butler converted and shortly afterwards added a penalty.

EBSWORTH OFF

While the Blues were discussing the last night's dance, Worcester hit back with a try and conversion following a short penalty. During this time Pete Ebsworth had gone off with that hospital favourite brought up to prop. With that skill beside him of Col Ashby (who, having taken C.T.'s woman the previous night, found out it was a waste of time, S.C.T. had found out previously), could not help winning another against the head.

Butler put up a high kick and there was Ian (where's my fez?) Young kicking ahead and touching down for a try. Worcester then took the lead back with a drop goal and two penalties.

However, Birmingham immediately hit back with a try by John Naylor. He had taken time off from his lime and lemon (well, you can't ride your bike into the Fridge without a lot of work and John Robson (the referee's friend), who jumps very well and is a good loose player, but tends to be lazy at times.

IMPRESSIONS

Altogether my impressions on seeing the side for the first time this season, were as follows:

They possess a back division which is safe in defence and in Dave Gaun have a winger who will take opposition sides apart given the opportunity. They must learn to feed him quickly, especially from loose play.

The back row now has three very hard-working players but need to create more situations to run with the ball. In the second row they have Steve (Buzz) Bastable who gets through a lot of work and John Robson (the referee's friend), who jumps very well and is a good loose player, but tends to be lazy at times.

The front row will hold its own against most sides with the strength of Don Cooper, Ashby and Pete Ebsworth—a player who has really showed his guts this season.

The side should have a very good remainder of the season. Unfortunately, once again it has taken too long for this state to be reached. They now need a coach, as Mike Hayes says, who will be able to build a side for next year's U.A.U.

DAVE (C.T.) STARLING.

W.I.V.A.B. HOCKEY

NOTTS SECONDS SWAMPED

Birm. 2nd XI 5, Nottm. 2nd XI 1

PLAYING in the mud and pouring rain for which Swamp Hills is renowned, the 2nd XI, cheered on by a band of stalwart supporters, made certain of their place in the final for the fifth successive year.

After continual forward pressure Fred opened the scoring with a goal by Fran from the edge of the circle after Nottingham had only half-cleared the ball. Determined to underline their superiority, Birmingham continued to surge forward and

scored again before half-time after a shot from Fran was kicked off the line and Gill scored from the penalty bowl.

Having successfully churned up one goal circle, the forwards turned their attention to the "better" (all things being comparative) end after half-time. With almost complete domination in midfield and the backs being rarely troubled, Gill soon added to the score.

Nottingham scored a token goal when Lucy in goal dived full length

in the mud, reminiscent of Gary Sprake, only to see the ball in the back of the goal. Such is life!

Spurred on by such temerity on the part of Nottingham, Birmingham scored again when Fran (almost certainly offside) beat the goalkeeper after a good pass from Gill.

Now to the final at I. M. Marsh, Liverpool, on February 26th. Lucy: Chris, Viv, Wendy, Anne, May; Fred (1), Janice, Gill (capt.) (2), Fran (2), Sue.

I.D.S. BADMINTON LEAGUES

Tuesday League, 27/1/72	
P. W. F. A. P.	
Civ. Eng.	5 5 22 3 10
Maths. A	5 4 22 3 8
Geology	5 4 15 10 8
Jew Soc.	5 2 12 13 4
Min. Eng.	6 2 14 16 6
Mason	5 2 7 18 4
Law	4 1 5 15 2
Hellenics	5 1 5 20 2
Commerce and Manor have been expelled for failing to turn up for two matches.	

Thursday League, 27/1/72

P. W. F. A. P.	
Chem. Eng.	5 5 21 4 10
Chemistry	5 4 20 5 8
Biochemistry	6 4 16 14 8
High Hall	5 3 15 10 6
Biology	6 3 16 14 6
Metallurgy	6 3 14 16 6
Geography	5 2 12 13 4
U. House	6 2 8 22 4
Maths. B	5 1 8 17 2
Newman	5 0 6 20 0

RESULT SHEET

BADMINTON (2-2-72) v. Surrey Univ. H. U.A.U. quarter-final: 6-3 Won

NETBALL (2-2-72) v. Leicester Univ. H. W.I.V.A.B. semi-final: 50-13 Won

RIDING (2-2-72) v. Liverpool/Reading. H. 270-Read. 248, Liv. 237

3rd Juliet Horsley.

Qualified University Riding Club Championships (28-1-72). Won

MEN'S HOCKEY, 2nd XI, (5-2-72) v. King's Heath H.C. A. Mid. Lg.: 0-0 D

FENCING (5-2-72) v. East Anglia. A. U.A.U. quarter-final: 11-14 Won

Continuing our unbeaten record!

RUGBY (5-2-72) v. Worcester 1st. H.: 25-15 Won

RUGBY (5-2-72) v. Worcester 2nd. A.: 8-16 Lost

RUGBY (5-2-72) v. Wanderers. A.: 7-15 Lost

RUGBY v. Academics. H.: 0-20 Lost

SQUASH (5-2-72) v. Coventry I.M. H. Midland League: 4-1 Won

MEN'S HOCKEY, 2nd XI, (5-2-72) v. King's Heath. H.: 1-3 Lost

TENPIN BOWLING (30-1-72) v. Lanchester. H. Mid. Lg.: 16-3 Won

TENPIN BOWLING (5-2-72) v. A.U. Universities. A. Brunel Doubles

Not placed. (4th Scotland).

TENPIN BOWLING (5-2-72) v. Bale. A. Midland League. Postponed.

Will play on February 26th.



Pete Butler kicks for touch, watched by Ian Young and John Scott.

MEN'S HOCKEY

TEN MINUTE SPARKLE

BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 0, NOTTINGHAM SAINTS 1.
BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 9, ASTON UNIV. 1.
BIRMINGHAM MUNICIPAL 0, BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 1.
KINGS HEATH 0, BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 0.

ASCINTILLATING 10-minute spell in the first half against Aston University, saw the Birmingham 1st XI play some fine hockey to slot five past the opposition. This proved to be the highlights of the game, and in fact of the term's play overall. For the remainder of the match, only a further four were added to the one conceded.

Of the nine, notable goals were scored by Roger Hawkes, the first by deflecting the ball off the goalkeeper's pads, and the second a superb reverse stick shot from close in. What prospects does a young lad like Rog have in his next five years at University?

Pete Longman, making a guest appearance, also scored twice, one of his shots from wide on the right, not being short of decapitating the poor goalie. The other goals were scored by Mike Gilbert (two unmentionable short corners), Robin Clarke (2), and Bob Moyle—yes, Moyle (what a laugh).

Mention must be made of Dave Taylor, last seen wandering among the archives of the Medical School Museum at midnight, surrounded by pickled objects, creased up in laughter, shouting: "I want my name in 'Redbrick', no 'Redbrick' complete without me." This must therefore be the ultimate in "Redbricks."

The Birmingham Municipal match had little to offer as far as constructive hockey, but was highlighted by our second, "last minute," penalty flick of the season, which the above-mentioned Dave Taylor tried his best to miss. The hockey was poor, the pitch worse (or vice versa) and one of the umpires...

Now for this week's plea—will someone teach Dave Stephenson to score? After a number of quite serious attempts, our Dave has been unable to notch one up, much to the concern of the rest of the team, as frustration is creeping in.

What good are comments like "I know what it feels like," from Bob Moyle, when the two of them sulk on the wing, or "I'll come," from Mike Gilbert, or even "Keep it up, you'll get there in the end," from Burt? The boy's a lonely soul at the moment.

Finally, a team request to Anne: "Thank twice, before it's too late—we know what he's really like."

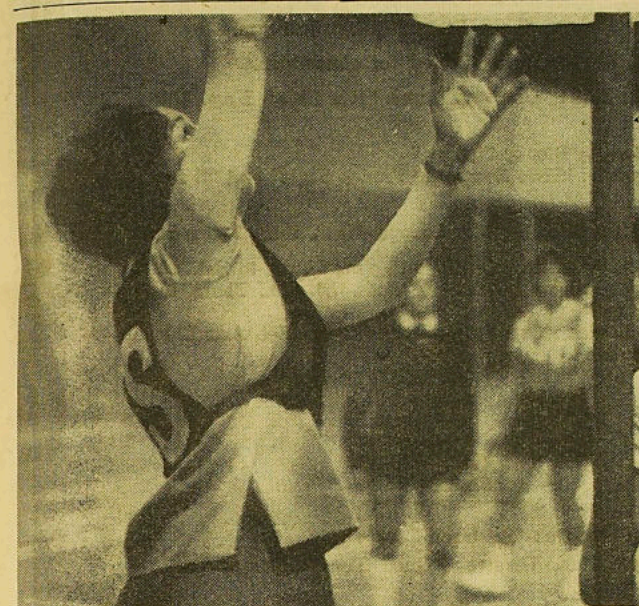
sport 2

CROSS-COUNTRY

GALLANT IN DEFEAT

Says Randy Southam
(In the mud at Sheffield)

U.A.U. individual champion, 1st team; U.A.U. individual champion, 2nd team; 3rd team B.U.S.F.; 2nd team U.A.U.; 1st team, U.A.U.; 2nd team competition; 3rd place, U.A.U. individual championships. Six trophies is not a bad collection for one day of racing, and yet many regard the day's activities at Sheffield a disaster. Defeating B.U.S.F. champions beaten into third place.



Action in the Sports Hall.

NETBALL

Leeds afraid?

ON Wednesday the first team beat Leicester 50-13 in their W.I.V.A.B. semi-final, having shown how keen they were by getting the groundsman to sweep the court. Birmingham again showing their superiority in university netball, won the first quarter of the match by 19-3.

The second team had an even easier semi-final (is that possible?) than the first team, since their opponents, Leeds, failed to turn up for the match on Saturday.

These two results mean that both the first and second Birmingham netball teams will be playing in the W.I.V.A.B. final to be held at I. M. March College, in Liverpool, on February 26th.

First team: Diane Birnbaum, Colette Reeder, Chris Osmond, Annette Barber, Lynette Buxton, Paula White, Liz Webb.

Second team: Stella Jones, Liz Williams, Chris Dinning, Ros Murphy, Pat Devanny, Sue Naylor, Lorna Barrett.

LAKE RACES

ABC return by Val Esite

THE exciting news for this year's annual Lake Relay Races is that the winners of the open race for the past three years, the A.B.C. team, are to return from retirement.

This year the races are to be held on Friday, March 10th, starting at seven o'clock. Each of the four runners in the team has to run in turn round the lake.

The A.B.C. team, so called after its members, Aukett, Bantorpe and Cornes, traditionally invite a mysterious guest runner to complete their squad. This year they have designated him as "T."

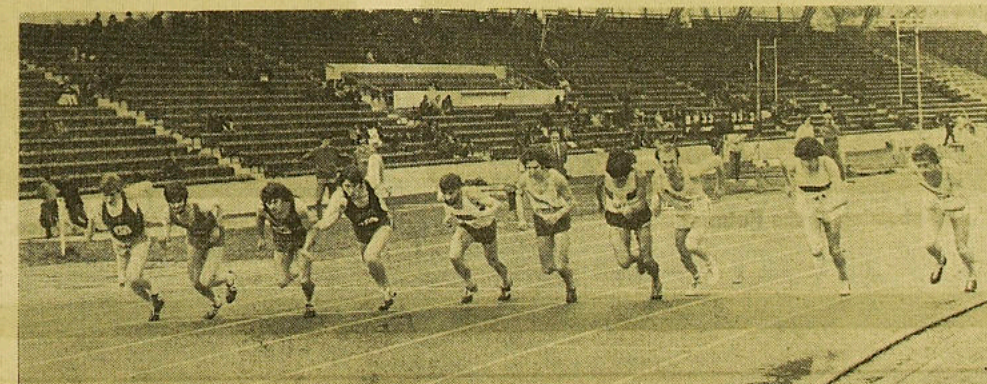
Other star teams known to be entering the open race are the Midlands All Stars led by the sinister Engineer. Last year they were second and hope to beat the ageing A.B.C. Cambridge University are sending a team and Gilmore has a motley crew running for him.

The other races are: The Hall race for men, ditto for women, and

THIS WEEK'S BEST OFFER? Overheard after Athletics Club dinner.

To Pete Ramsey (soberant) and Rog Richardson (retired student), from J. Reynolds (B.U.S.F. long jump champion) and M. Nicorols (B.U.S.F. champion in everything but the long jump):

"Why don't you come back to our flat for a nice mug of malted milk?"



The dismal scene at last year's UAU Championships as the 800 metres final gets under way.

Sportscene

ATHLETIC CLUB officials are very angry at the recent announcement that this year's U.A.U. Championships are to be held on Loughborough College's track. This came after last year's decision by the U.A.U. to hold its future championships at Crystal Palace.

The reversion of this policy came as no surprise, in view of the failure of last year's move. Whether or not this was due to the dismal weather or the lack of interest around South London in this competition will never be known. The empty stadium and lack of atmosphere told its own story.

Few Birmingham athletes will regret the decision not to go there again. Travelling was extremely difficult and getting team members to turn out even more so. The result of competing in front of a large empty stand was extremely depressing. The atmosphere at Liverpool in 1970 indicates the value of a small track when the crowd is only sparse.

However, what is disappointing is the fact that Loughborough is going to be the venue once more. Last year the championships had been fixed for Birmingham and preliminary arrangements made, when the U.A.U., without prior consultation with us, announced the move to Crystal Palace.

In view of this it was thought that Birmingham would have first claim this year. The facilities here are second to none and the last year's B.U.S.F. was extremely well organised. Furthermore, the support here is as good as anywhere else in the country. The last time the championships came here was in 1964. Since then Loughborough have played host on three occasions. This seems a rather unfair advantage to give to such close rivals.

The Athletics Club have a right to feel let down. They would like to know what measures their U.A.U. representative has taken to press their claim. Was the Birmingham U.A.U. rep well enough informed? Or was this another case of mem-

by Andy Holden

ber clubs of Athletic Union only finding out what is going on at the U.A.U. when it is too late for them to act?

There were many instances last year of the B.U.S.F. and U.A.U. representatives failing to communicate with member clubs and vice versa. Whether or not this is the club's fault—or the representative's fault is debatable. Whichever way the fault lies, something will have to be about it or the only losers will be the clubs. Loughborough and other members will continue to get their own way.

Another club with a grouse against the U.A.U. is the Soccer Club. They are disturbed about the methods of selection employed by the U.A.U. It is not the first time that this question has been brought up—but this year Birmingham do appear to have a good case.

It has been noticeable that successes in the U.A.U. competition in recent years haven't been accompanied by increased representative honours for members of the club. It might be thought that after three successful years more notice might have been taken of Birmingham players.

The U.A.U. squad is selected by representatives from Liverpool and Loughborough Colleges. However, anyone who suggests that the 14 players in the squad from these two establishments were selected on any other grounds but sheer merit, is surely guilty of being cynical.

After all, anyone in doubt has only to look at some of the recent results to see the basis for their judgment.

Birmingham 4, Loughboro Colls. 1. Newcastle 4, Liverpool 2. Newcastle 0, Birmingham 1.

The last result will, of course, explain why Birmingham had one player in the squad whereas Newcastle had none.

around

DAY BY DAY

Wednesday, 9th

Town Hall: Organ Recital, 1.15 p.m., free.

Savoy Brown: Plus "Chicken Shack", Town Hall, 7.30 p.m., 25p.

Hellenic Society: Film, "Electra", Mech. Eng., 7 p.m.

Thursday, 10th

Singaround: Folk Club.

C.B.S.O.: Town Hall. Pieces from Suppe, Grieg, Rachmaninov and Arnold, 7.30 p.m., 30p-£1.

Film Soc.: "No Way To Treat A Lady", Haworth Lecture Theatre, 7 p.m., 15p.

Friday, 11th

ABC New Street: Late-night cinema, 11.30 p.m., "The St. Valentine's Day Massacre."

Marmalade: Town Hall, 7.30 p.m., 80p.

Canon Hill: Late-night cinema, 11.30 p.m., "Une Homme et Une Femme".

Saturday, 12th

Kinks: Belfry, Sutton Coldfield.

Carnival Queen Dance: Shaking Stevens and the Sunsets, 8 p.m., 30p.

Third Ear Band: Town Hall, 7.30 p.m., 50p.

Sunday, 13th

Tammi Lynn: La Dolce Vita. All week.

Sunday Flic: "Three Into Two Won't Go". Deb. Hall, 7 p.m. Guest tickets 15p.

Canon Hill: "Prime of Miss Jean Brodie". 7.30 p.m. 20p.

Alex Atterson: Folk Cellar, Bournbrook, 8 p.m.

Monday, 14th

Orchestra da Camera: University of Aston, 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday, 15th

Peace Centre: Open Forum, "Anarchism", Moor Street, Ringway. All welcome, 8 p.m.

The Strawbs: Town Hall, 7.45 p.m., 40p-60p.

GALLERY

Compendium: Gilbert Mason paintings until Feb. 12th. From Feb. 4th: John Hutton drawings and cartoons. Richard Thornton and Jack Metson paintings. J. R. Spiers wood sculpture.

Ikon: Exhibition of Environmental Art until March 11th.

CINEMA

Odeon, New Street: "The Anderson Tapes" and "Summer-tree." L.c.p. 6.50 p.m.
Next week: "Daughters of Darkness."

Odeon Ringway: "Death in Venice." L.c.p. 7.30 p.m.

Gaumont: "Nicholas and Alexandra." L.c.p. 7 p.m.

ABC New Street: "Love Story." L.c.p. 7.55 p.m.

Cinerama, Bristol Road: Closed for conversion.

ABC Selly Oak: "Cromwell" and "The Line." L.c.p. 7.30 p.m.

Jacey: "Sunday Bloody Sunday."

Next week: "Wife Swapping French Style" and "S for Sex."

Futurist: "Shaft" and "Five Savage Men". L.c.p. 7.05 p.m.

Arts Lab: Performance Weds. 9.15 p.m., Thurs. to Sat. 7.0 p.m. to 11.0 p.m. Borsalino Weds. 7.0 p.m., Thurs. to Sat. 9 p.m.

From Sunday: Arts Lab Film Festival. See Arts Lab programme.

THEATRE

Alexandra Theatre: "Robinson Crusoe".

Birmingham Rep. Theatre: "Good Time Johnny", until February 12th.

"Man and Superman", from February 17th.

Birmingham Theatre: "Jack and the Beanstalk".

Midlands Arts Centre: "This Jockey Drives Late Nights", by Henery Livings.

COMING EVENTS

Harding & York: Town Hall, February 22nd. Cancelled.

Incredible String Band: Great Hall, February 19th, 70p.

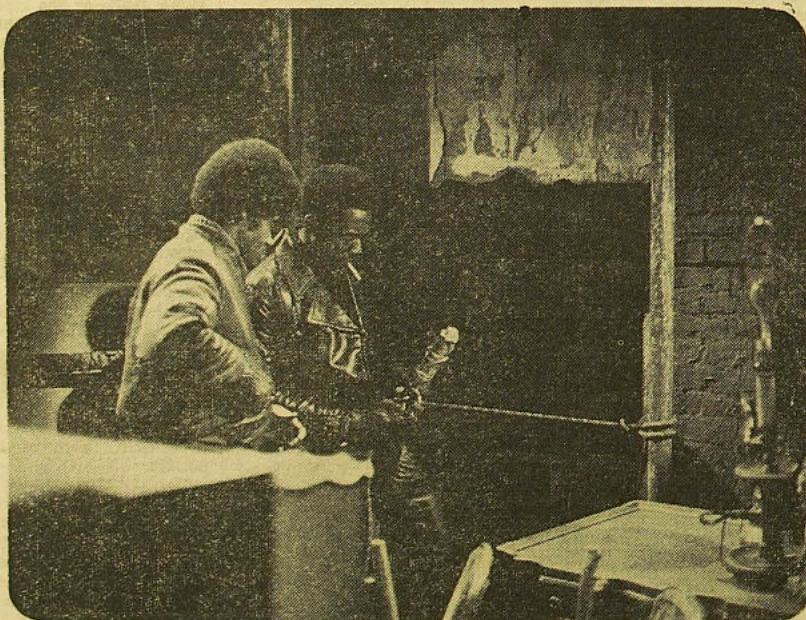
Labi Siffre: La Dolce Vita, February 20th-26th.

Brierley Cross: February 17th, Folk Club.

25th Folk Festival: Central Hall, Corp. Street, February 16th & 17th, 30p.

"The Need For A National Doomwatch": February 16th, Education Building, 7.30 p.m. Free.

Sunday Flic: "Carry on Camping", February 20th, Deb. Hall, 7 p.m., 15p.



"Shaft," now showing at the Futurist.



Mick Jagger in "Performance," Arts Lab.