

PRESIDENT STRUCK BY SENIOR LECTURER

MIKE HAYES, Senior Lecturer in the Chemistry Dept., was involved in an incident with Guild President, Rod Playford, at the dinner dance held last Thursday evening as a tribute to the University's Commonwealth Games athletes. The dinner took place in Staff House and during the proceedings Rod Playford made an official toast to the University Athletic Club. This toast had been drafted from notes given to Playford by Athletic Union chairman Jim Aukett.

Following this, Hayes approached Playford and said: "Your speech reiterated what I've always thought of you: shit—real shit." The stunned Rod Playford replied that this was rather a petty remark and Hayes, who had apparently been drinking, became excited and said: "No-one says that to me and gets away with it. Come outside."

When it became obvious that Playford had no intention of resorting to brawling, Hayes began making adverse comments about the toast and also about the Guild. He mentioned a quotation used in the

toast: "To seek, to strive, to find and not to yield" (to be seen on the mechanical engineering building) and asked Playford if he knew where it originated from. When Playford replied that he did not, Hayes scorned his ignorance and said that it came from "Ulysses," by Tennyson.

He then struck the Guild President on the chin, moved away slightly and continued abusing the Guild and Playford personally. On returning, Hayes struck Playford again and shouted at him "Hit me—hit me."

Playford was so obviously dumbfounded by the whole situation that he was just unable to move and Hayes moved off.

At first Playford was going to take legal action against Hayes but has since decided not to carry this through. Hayes phoned Playford on Friday and apologised for "the way" in which he made his demonstration.

However, because the abuse was levelled more at the Guild than at Playford personally, the President feels he is entitled to a public apology. The Vice-Chancellor is also investigating the situation and a statement has been submitted to him by Playford.

Mike Hayes was present at the dinner dance in his official capacity as vice-president of Athletic Club. However it is important to realise that the incident involved personal sentiments and are no reflection of the views of Athletic Club as a whole.

The incident is regrettable in that it is obvious that Hayes has achieved so much in Athletic Club. Before he came, the club was vir-

tually non-existent. However he is renowned for his outbursts.

A couple of years ago he was at the centre of a flare-up at a U.A.U. meeting. He also has prominent anti-Guild feelings. These were shown recently at Lake Hall when Dick Atkinson was giving a talk and Hayes made persistent outbursts.

While respecting Hayes' achievements and acknowledging his right to hold views in opposition to the Guild, it is necessary that a public apology be given both to the Guild of Students and, especially, to President Rod Playford.



Rod Playford, Guild President

Now the History Dept.?

EVERY year, during the autumn term, the History Department organises a two-day conference for first year students. The History Staff Committee appoints a steering committee, comprising three staff and three students to organise this function, which this year is to take place at Alvechurch.

A conditional invitation was extended on behalf of the Steering Committee to Mr. Richard Atkinson, to give a lecture on the History of Education.

A member of the History Department yesterday said that Mr. Atkinson's invitation had now been withdrawn. He refused to comment on the reason for this, but would only say that there would be a staff meeting on Wednesday to try to resolve differences of opinion within the department. He also refused to comment on rumours concerning threats issued to staff by the "Head of the History Dept., Prof. Grenville."

Guild Council reject SGM motion

LAST Wednesday's Special General Meeting, held in Deb Hall, was attended by only 150 people. During the meeting, which at times bordered on chaos, the following motion was passed:

That this General Meeting regrets the failure of Guild Executive's discussions with the Vice-Chancellor to attain the objectives specified in the General Meeting's resolution of 4th November, 1970. It therefore:

Authorises the Executive Committee to study means of reversing the three vetoes by direct action, should discussions prove fruitless.

Requires Guild Executive Committee to report back to a General Meeting on its success in these endeavours.

This General Meeting believes that control of hiring and firing represents a dangerous political weapon in the hands of the University Authorities. This General Meeting therefore calls for the abolition of the University Academic Committee (U.A.C.) and for general assemblies of staff and students in each department to determine staff selection procedures.

This General Meeting calls upon the Guild Executive to organise a campus-wide demonstration outside the Great Hall at the next U.A.C. meeting on Monday, November 16th.

However, the passed motion did not achieve much. Unfortunately, due to misinformation, there was no U.A.C. on Monday. Nevertheless, at an Emergency Guild Council meeting held on Thursday, November 12th, the motion was invalidated on the grounds that it was passed by only a small number of students. It requires 610 people to be present to make a motion, passed by a General Meeting, Guild policy: even then it is within the powers of Guild Council to reverse any such motion.

The Emergency Guild Council passed the following motion:

"That this Guild Council regrets the failure of Guild Executive's discussions with the Vice-Chancellor to attain the objectives specified in the General Meeting resolution of November 4th, 1970. It therefore:

Mandates the Executive Committee to make another attempt to gain these objectives by going to see the Vice-Chancellor, accompanied by three student delegates nominated by students for a Democratic University, and three staff members nominated by the Action Committee for Academic Freedom.

Authorises the Executive Committee to study means of reversing the three vetoes by direct action, should discussions prove fruitless.

Requires Guild Executive Committee to report back to a General Meeting on its success in these two endeavours.

This Guild Council believes that the Atkinson affair has given legitimate cause for concern as to the nature of appointments procedure in this University, and urges the Executive to investigate means of democratising such procedure."

S.D.U. held a tactics meeting on Monday lunch-time in the Council Chambers, but this was a rather disappointing meeting. There were discussions on strategy and talk of non-violence but very little was achieved. Soc. Soc. met on Monday evening and decided to convene another General Meeting of the Guild on Wednesday, at 1.15 p.m. in Deb. Hall. The motion for this General Meeting reads:—

"This General Meeting:

(1) Censures Guild Council for rejecting the decisions taken by the General Meeting of November 12th. (2) Reaffirms its decision calling for the abolition of U.A.C. and for all procedures governing the selection of staff to be decided by general meetings of staff and students in each department.

(3) Adjoints to staff house to promote staff-student discussions and await the results of the meeting

between the Vice-Chancellor, Guild Executive and representatives of the Action for Academic Freedom Group."

At a Guild Executive meeting later on Monday evening it was agreed to proceed with the General Meeting. Although Executive agreed with the motion for this meeting, they felt that they themselves could not propose as they had been mandated to have discussions with the Vice-Chancellor before making further propositions. Exec. are due to meet the V.C. at 3 p.m. on Wednesday.

The whole situation is becoming more and more complex. The basic issues at stake regarding Academic Freedom seem to be dropping slowly into the background as disagreements over "strategy" develop amongst students. The only way to get anywhere would be an immediate concerted effort by all students who are involved in the case and a definite, forceful resolution from the General Meeting and Guild Council.

No confidence

AT the meeting held on Monday evening Guild Executive a motion of no confidence in Vice-President Vinay Kapur was tabled. The motion was proposed by Mr. Oliver O'Toole, who felt that the Vice-President was not relieving the President of much work and consequently the President was overworking.

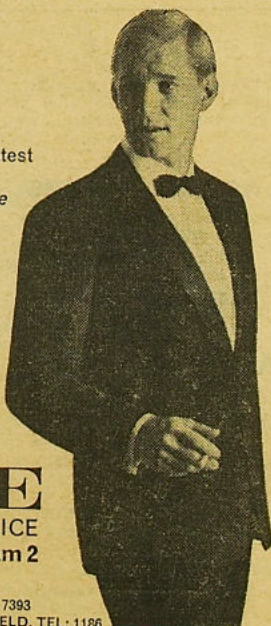
The motion was passed unanimously and it was decided, at the meeting, not to keep the result confidential. Vinay Kapur was asked to take into account the opinion of Executive.

39/-

That's all it costs you to hire the latest style Dinner Suit from DORMIE. DORMIE make it possible for anyone to dress up and be really smart for every social occasion. It's not only the price that's remarkable it's the quality too! Finest materials, impeccably cut, all by Sumrie of course. Anything else? Yes—No deposit or booking fee, all the correct accessories, every type of formal wear and complete valeting between hirings. Try Dormie and you'll stay Dormie.

DORMIE
MEN'S WEAR HIRE SERVICE
25 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham 2
TELEPHONE: MIDLAND 6975

Also at 10 MELL SQUARE, SOLIHULL. TEL: 7393
26 BIRMINGHAM ROAD, SUTTON COLDFIELD. TEL: 1186



CITY SEX SUPERMARKET

THE battle over Birmingham's proposed "sex supermarket" received new impetus last Wednesday when a public meeting took place at Aston University between Malcolm Muggeridge, Councillor Mrs. Nora Hinks, Dr. Dennis Morgan and the Rev. Kenneth Slack.

Ann Summers talked of her plans to open a "sex supermarket" Road, London. A mention that state agents were already looking around for premises stirred up a flood of protest from Councillor Nora Hinks, speaking on behalf of "all decent-minded citizens of Birmingham."

GAMES ATHLETES HONOURED

LAST Thursday a dinner dance was held in Staff House in honour of the University's sportsmen who competed in the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh this summer. The Pro-Chancellor initially decided that some recognition ought to be given to the part these sportsmen played in enhancing the University's reputation. The end result was this dinner dance attended by the Pro-Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, plus 160 staff students and Athletic Club vice-presidents.

BIRMINGHAM University has a fine record on the sports field and this was enhanced by the thirteen past and present members of the University competing in the games this summer. Of these thirteen, nine were present at the dinner as guests of the University.

Top of the list were physical education lecturer Howard Payne, his wife Rosemary and fifth-year dental student Ian Hallam. These three all gained gold medals in the games—Howard in the hammer throw, Rosemary in the discus and cyclist Ian in the 4,000 metres pursuit.

Although the others were unable to gain medals, winning their way into their national teams in the first place was in itself a terrific achievement. They all performed to the best of their ability, as was indicated by the many personal best performances they achieved.

Gloria Donrass only just missed a medal with 4th place in her best-ever 800 metres race. Andy Holden

improved by six seconds to gain fifth place in an eventful steeplechase final and Kev Moran swam his way to sixth place.

Pentathletes Moira Niccoll and Ruth Martin-Jones amassed best-ever in the five events to gain places in the top ten. Ralph Banthorpe found the power of the Caribbean and African sprinters a bit too much and had to give best at the semi-final stage. Nevertheless he produced his best form for some time despite the handicap of all the injuries he's suffered in the past two years. A fall at one of the barriers prevented Peter Griffiths from giving of his best in the steeplechase heats. However, he went out with a flourish by ending the fall with a forward roll in front of the Royal box.

At the dinner, after a speech by Sir George Farmer, Dr. Hunter proposed a toast to the Commonwealth competitors. He complimented them on their achievements and hoped that they would continue to carry the banner of the University in the future.

Following publication of her letter, the "Birmingham Post" took up the protest with cries of "Stop this affront on public morals." They organised a petition against the "sex supermarket" and printed forms on the front page for people to register their dissent. It was then pointed out to the "Post" by Dr. Martin Cole of Aston University, that, as they were a democratic institute, surely they should print a form for those who wanted the "sex supermarket." This they duly hid away in the middle of the paper. David Hopkinson, editor of the "Post", said that to date 2,000 forms had been returned opposing the shop and only 27 in support.

The meeting, held last Wednesday, did not manage to resolve much in terms of action but did raise the issues involved. Councillor Hinks repeated his fears of the shop having an adverse effect on public morals. Malcolm Muggeridge invoked a large response from the audience, the majority of whom had come already converted against

the idea of the shop.

Dr. Dennis Morgan, a psychiatrist, supported the shop on the grounds that there were as many, if not more, cases of psychological damage due to repression of sexual tendencies than those due to pornography. Rev. Kenneth Slack felt that the audience had been whipped into an emotional state by Malcolm Muggeridge and said that in all of us to which pornography appeals. Morality must be based upon the informed will of the individual, not upon legislation and the minority demands of the individual.

While the discussion went on over this attempt to make contraception and sexual devices more easily available the Compton Cinema Club and the Cinephone were filling up with their usual grey-macintoshed customers, the Revuebar had started showing *Follies in Frillies*, and the All American Bookshop had just sold its last copy of "Suck".

PERSONAL COLUMN

JIM.—Can you get enough food in Refectory.—Rod.

PROGRESSIVE Underground and Rock Soc. Mixed Lounge, Monday, 7.30. Members free. Membership 5/-.

FREE University of Birmingham. Non-violence and Revolution Group. Monday, November 23rd, at 8.00 p.m. in St. Francis Hall.

ROD.—Will ask Richard if we can afford a cheap roll in the Refectory.—Jim.

NON-VIOLENCE Training Group Tuesday, November 24th at 8.00 p.m. at 20 Westhouse Court, Westhouse Grove, Kings Heath.

FRIDAY, November 20th. Deb. Hall. Bugs Beat Ball. Floppy Hat. Moby Dick. Disco. Bar. 8.00 p.m. Five hours non-stop Dancing!! Only 6/-.

RICHARD.—Can we afford a cheap roll in the Refectory?—Jim.

DAY Nursery Fair and Bring and Buy—Monday, November 23rd, 1970.

S.C.R., Arts Commerce Tower, 7.30-9.30 p.m.

JIM.—I will let you and Rod know next week.—Richard.

WINE, Cheese, Low Lights. Soft music at the Hut. Friday, November 20th, 8.00 p.m. onwards. 6/- (includes plentiful wine and cheese), at the Post Grad Centre.

FOLK CLUB

COUNTRY BLUES CONCERT with LARRY JOHNSON and PETE CROFT & TOMMY NICE MONDAY, 23rd NOVEMBER 7.30 : PRIESTLY HALL 5/- (6/- non-members).

A.A.M.

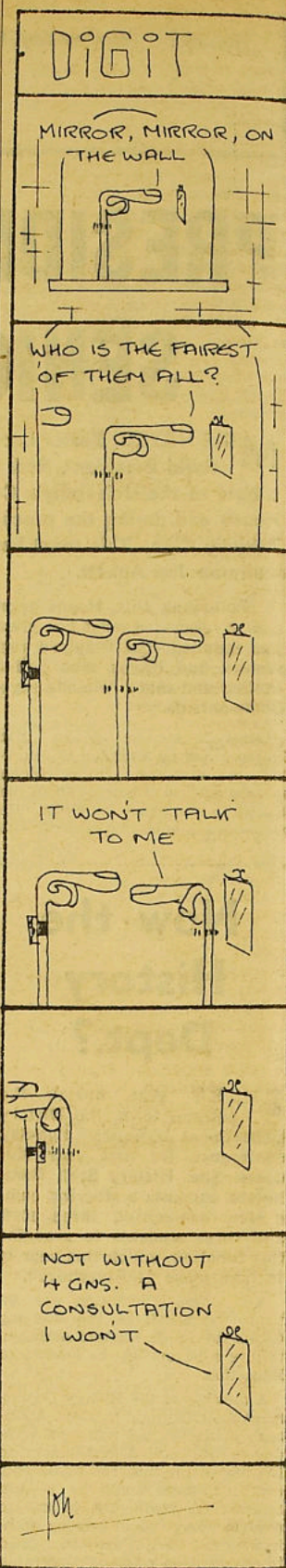
22,000 members The Association of Assistant Mistresses one of the Joint Four Secondary Teachers' Associations INVITES WOMEN TEACHERS STUDENTS in Secondary or Middle Schools training for Secondary or Middle School work. TO JOIN THE A.A.M.

A is represented on all major national and international bodies.

A negotiates salary scales on the Burnham Committee.

M offers professional advice and legal protection to members.

WHY DELAY? JOIN NOW! Write for further details of the A.A.M. to: The Secretary, A.A.M., 29 Gordon Square, London, WC1H 0PX.



THE university authorities have good reason to feel very pleased with themselves at the moment, for the radical movement in the University has been effectively isolated from the rest of the campus and rendered pretty ineffectual. I want to suggest in this article that this situation is potentially only a temporary one, and that if the radicals play their cards right they are in a very strong position indeed.

The authorities can feel pleased with themselves at the moment, however, because they have effectively contained the protest movement over the Atkinson veto. It is clear both that the majority of staff support the authorities on the issue and that the mass of students is completely apathetic on the issue. Coming into the University from outside, one is struck by the hysteria manifested by the majority staff attitude over the Atkinson veto. Neither the excuses given for the veto of Atkinson's appointment nor the A.U.T. enquiry was based upon objective criteria; rather the authorities have been able to make use of the "thugs and wreckers" mythology. Atkinson's appointment has been seen (perhaps as part of a concerted plot to wreck the University) as that of a man who can stir up trouble on the campus, and who has to be barred at almost any price.

Difficult

On the student side, it has been very difficult either to grasp the issue or see that effective action can be taken on it. One-third of the students arrived during the campaign, when it had already assumed a fearsome complexity, and communication on the issue has not been good.

The case falls easily into neither a political nor an academic freedom category. Atkinson is not being rejected because of his party affiliations, which is how most people interpret political vetoes, but because of his role in internal politics, which most people see as being a law-and-order issue. Further, precisely because Atkinson has done nothing against which a defence is required, the whole affair assumes an abstraction which many students find confusing, and for even the students who do grasp the importance of the issue its staleness makes it difficult to work up any enthusiasm.

University administrations are always in a very strong position in dealing with radical protest on campus, for they are almost invariably backed by Press and politicians and, more importantly, the law. There has, historically, never been a successful confrontation in the history of campus protest. The position of the administration here seems on a short view to be virtually unassailable. The small minority of students who care about the Atkinson affair are being manoeuvred steadily toward confrontation with the administration, a confrontation which it cannot win in the present circumstances.

Direct action would immediately confirm the correctness of the administration's position in the eyes of the majority of staff. Atkinson came here, and there was trouble—a simple, fallacious but effective argument, throwing all the blame for the trouble on Atkinson's supporters. The use of extreme measures by the administration would be legitimised in the eyes of the staff and, in view of the events of last year, no-one can be in any doubt of the measures they would take. Injunctions and expulsions are now rife; we could expect, too, our quota of jailings (under the Public Order Act) and following the precedents established in the Garden House and Hoch trials.

There is a faction on the Left which regards this as desirable, believing that it radicalises the campus and raises consciousness. There is, however, no evidence to suggest that such radicalisation of the impotent, since power has effectively passed into the hands of the authorities, and though the Left now has an impressive pantheon of campus martyrs, it is not true that an effective campus movement has evolved as a result.

Quite the opposite. At one S.G.M. a motion was moved mandating the Executive to study ways of "coercing" the University. The people who supported this notion should be disabused of the idea. There is no way—under present circumstances—that the University can be "coerced". Indeed, such an attempt would at present give the administration the perfect excuse to take exemplary disciplinary measures on a scale not yet seen in Britain. Many people—myself included—believe that the authorities are waiting for an opportunity to carry out a complete purge of a university. Such a purge would require the active support of the mass of academic staff and (a desirable but not necessary extra) the apathy of the mass of students. Such conditions have never yet been present in any one university; it is clear that we are getting very near them at Birmingham.

ASSISTANT MASTERS ASSOCIATION

THE professional association for ASSISTANT MASTERS in SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Over 30,000 members represented on the Burnham Committee and on all important Educational bodies.

TEACHERS IN TRAINING

should join as STUDENT MEMBERS For full particulars write to: The Secretary, A.A.M., 29 Gordon Square, London, WC1H 0PX.

Beyond Atkinson

And yet we cannot simply drop the Atkinson affair; it is a classic example of what Christopher Price described in a recent "New Statesman" as "the victimisation which is undoubtedly growing throughout the academic world" (October, 1970), and if the authorities are allowed to get away with this they can get away with anything. Nor, do we need to drop the Atkinson affair, for the authorities, attacked on the right grounds, are very vulnerable. What has to be done is to relate the affair to the wider issues of power and the university, and in particular to the remarkable—and still inadequately publicised—events at Warwick earlier this year.

The authorities' case rests upon a myth. This is the myth of the academic community. According to this myth, universities are self-governing institutions based on consensus, which all elements of the community participate in and which decisions are based on rational discussion among the elements together. According to this myth, reform is possible through peaceful dialogue, and thus extra-institutional action is only resorted to, by definition, by those who wish to destroy the university.

The myth, though still widely believed, is of course ridiculous. Power outside Oxbridge rests not with the academic community but with councils dominated by outsiders. What little power is left over is effectively monopolised by the professoriate, with the mass of staff and all the students carefully excluded. If this situation were tolerable before the Robbins expansion, when institutions were small and cosy and very much elite institutions, it has become less tolerable since.

In fact, the informal community has broken down under the technocratisation of higher education. As institutions have become increasingly large and impersonal, so the disenfranchisement of the mass of people on campus has become increasingly frustrating. Student discontent is well known; what is perhaps less well known is the extent of staff discontent, yet as the survey published in "New Society" (April 9th, 1970) revealed, as many as 75 per cent of university staff were discontented with the concentration of power in a "professional oligarchy" and desired structural levelling.

The natives are indeed restless, and the Warwick affair showed that they were entirely right to be so. The furore over the "secret files" served to divert attention from potentially more serious revelations about the administration of the university. The Vice-Chancellor is alleged to have removed a large number of files from the registry before the sit-in of February 13th, and the Radcliffe inquiry was conspicuous for its failure to look for these, or to consult senior registry staff who resigned, and so we cannot be sure what the exact state of the university administration was, but what was revealed was very interesting.

The original sit-in was called over the persistent refusal of the university to give the students a union building, despite the registered support of the academic community (union, assembly of staff, senate). Odd things happened to this request. It was shunted round in committees, and important minutes supporting the request got into a tangle. Misleading information on the attitude of the U.G.C. was given, and at one point the Vice-Chancellor offered a leading professorial supporter of the students what the professor regarded as a "bribe" to lay off his support.

Consciousness and the Campus

by T. L. Fisher

Finally, the decision came to council which, after hearing submissions from the students, decided against providing a union building, and explained why in a long letter to students issued the same evening. The letter, however, had been prepared and duplicated before the council met. The students, feeling rightly that their arguments had been ignored, occupied the registry.

Most of this information emerged only after the sit-in, and only after a great deal of probing (Warwick appeared a very normal university before the confrontation) and it is clear that to most staff it looked as if the students were being unreasonable and breaking the university consensus. Yet who had originally broken the consensus? The handling of the affair revealed a gross abuse of power by the administration—but this, because the administration controlled access to crucial information, was not apparent to most of the university community.

A second aspect of the way Warwick was governed: In the files was discovered a letter from the V.C. to Max Beloff, in which the V.C. noted that "we" were taking legal advice on the tenure of staff. Neither senate nor assembly was consulted on the issue, so it is not clear who "we" were, but the move is believed to be associated with an attempt to change the statutes to this end by slipping the controversial measure on to a council committee agenda under the heading, "Student representation on Council." The staff, when they learnt of this, were incensed.

A third aspect of Warwick's government: The university commissioned a confidential report on the governance which, when it was examined during the confrontation, yielded statements like this:—

"A surprising number of senior but relatively disenfranchised... academic staff accept that in certain controversial areas... the last word should lie with a small body... this was qualified by the demand that they themselves should have as good a chance as anyone else of serving on the committees that matter... they

were prepared to live with the suspicion... that those on the most powerful bodies could influence decisions in favour of their own departments, but only if they had their own opportunity of redressing the balance in due course."

These, of course, of the men who claim that universities are run by rational dialogue and free discussion.

Finally, a note on power politics. The staff at Warwick were highly incensed by the discoveries about the administration, and in two vital meetings of the assembly of staff, voted (by 75 to 11) that one lay member of council should be involved in spying on staff (Gilbert Hunt) should be removed from council and, at the largest meeting of assembly ever held in the university, voted a motion of no confidence in the Vice-Chancellor. Needless to say, both these gentlemen remain members of the government of the University of Warwick.

Staff powerless

Warwick was a fundamental breakthrough because it showed both that the government of a typical university was warped, and because it showed that when it comes to the crunch, staff as well as students are powerless in their universities. It is from this point that we should begin working. Up to now the authorities have been able to divide the forces of the disenfranchised on campus by raising the bogey of student power, which has been interpreted as student destruction of the campus. We should not conceal from ourselves the fact that some of the more naïve radicals on campuses have played right into the hands of the authorities. The task which radicals must address themselves now is the discrediting of the myth of the university community and the building of effective alliances between the disenfranchised elements on campus—staff, students, research workers, service staff—to the end of creating a genuine self-governing university community.

The last point needs expansion. Essentially there are two elements in the argument for a democratic university. The first lies in the call that control of the university should be taken out of the hands of councils dominated by laymen; after Warwick, this must be a basic precondition of any university reform—the campus must govern itself.

Secondly, the argument centres on the nature of the new governing body of the campus, which effectively means student control of the campus. This is an argument which I find difficult to accept as long as there remain differences of function between different groups—students, teachers, research workers, service staff—within the university. These differences are real, and must be accepted in any new governing structure. My argument would be for a new governing body based on democratic representation of groups with equality of representation as between groups. This would prevent domination of the university government by any one group.

But we are a very long way from discussing alternative governing structures yet. The immediate task must be to raise consciousness on the campus as to the true nature of the university power structure and the liberal myth of the university community. We have to go beyond the Atkinson affair to the underlying premises on which it has been fought. And university power structures being of a fundamentally illiberal and undemocratic nature as they are, an issue comes immediately to hand.

This is the issue of the review body set up after the 1968 sit-in to look into the structure and role of the university. The liberal case against direct action rests on the premise that reform can be gained by rational discussion and debate, the radical case on the inability of power elites to give away power willingly. The radicals believe that, faced with democratic movements for reform, the power structure will temporise, manipulate and distort in order to hold on to power.

Review body yet to meet

This appears to be precisely what is happening over the review body. In the two years since the sit-in, the body has yet to meet or even have a chairman appointed. Even reporters from the local Press are beginning to scent something. This then, is the weak point of the administration, and it is on this that we should concentrate, remorselessly pushing the review body until its futility is apparent to all. There are factions on the Left which will regard such a tactic as useless temporising, but again, the history of Warwick gives them the lie. Nothing could induce the sense of betrayal in the staff than the "enquiry" by the chancellor, the Viscount Radcliffe, which was so patently biased that even the most conservative members of staff had to admit it, and it drew down upon itself the fire of the A.U.T. In order to raise consciousness, one has to start from the myths of the disenfranchised and expose them in their own terms.

A strategy such as this involves a level of tactical sophistication and hard work such as the Left has rarely shown in campus politics. There is, however, no other alternative. Confrontation at this stage could only be to the advantage of the administration. We have to go beyond the Atkinson affair to the underlying issues of power and responsibility and, indeed, go beyond our own campus to ally with others in other parts of the country who are fighting the same battle. Up to now, the radical movement in higher education has nothing to show but failure. Properly tackled, this could be the year we change that.

[* Warwick University Ltd. (Penguin, 1970), p.140.]

REFECTORY PRICES COMING DOWN?

See next week's "REDBRICK"

Substantial Discount in Men's Wear

Austin Jeffs

586 BRISTOL ROAD, BOURNBROOK (2 doors from Woolworths)

'Phone SELLY OAK 1698

CHAMON RESTAURANT

507 BRISTOL ROAD, SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM, 29

Only two minutes' walk from the University, this Oriental Restaurant serves delicious English, Indo-Pak and Chinese dishes.

SPECIAL THREE-COURSE LUNCHEON FOR ONLY 5/-

* QUICK SERVICE * OPENS 12 noon to 12 midnight Monday to Thursday

* We are open until 1 a.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



McGOUGH

"I'm from the Sex Squad, you know, S.S. Mike's V.D.—Virtue Department. We beat John up and try and make him say a four-letter word. Every show should have a bit of copulation, the year's 1970 and Kenneth Tynan is Home Secretary . . ."

Scaffold at "The Open Space."

BOOKS

"SUMMER WITH MONICA"
"FRINK, A LIFE IN THE DAY OF"
"WATCHWORDS"

COMECLOSE AND SLEEPNOW

it is afterwards
and you talk on tiptoe
happy to be part
of the darkness
lips becoming limp
a prelude to tiredness.
Comeclose and Sleepnow
for in the morning
when a policeman
disguised as the sun
creeps into the room
and your mother
disguised as birds
calls from the trees
you will put on a dres of guilt
and shoes with broken high ideals
and refusing coffee
run
alltheway
home.

—from Penguin Modern Poets 10.

you are the moment
before the buildings turned into flesh
and the windows closed their eyes

you are the moment
before the railway stations burst into
tears
and the bookstalls picked their noses

you are the distance
between you and me
measured in tears

from "What You Are,"
Penguin Modern Poets 10.

aren't we all

THERE'S no silk or flannel about Roger McGough. Like the Michael Parkinsons and Eric Morecambes of this world, he stands and delivers with the easy wit and simple humanity of the soapbox.

Messages don't bother him much and he is reluctant to weigh down his words with intellectual ballast—he makes his point with little fuss.

"I suppose we want people to feel the falsehoods and contradictions in their communications with each other. In the media and this sort of business. You know, the dirty old man, perhaps sympathise with him, and maybe sympathise with the person next door. It's L.O.V.E., basically . . ."

In the title poem from "Tonight at Noon," Adrian Henri, one of the louder, more syncopated sounds of the Penguin Mersey trio, dreams of that happy day when "poets get their poems in the Top 20." If any poet can claim a glimmer of success in the popularity charts of mass culture, then it is McGough—not because he is a poet full stop, but because his roles vary.

"The Scaffold" has provided the lift, the publicity and the money to sustain his work as a poet, at the same time giving him the opportunities to tread new ground as writer, satirist and comic. It all started with a little luck:

"Well, we got offered a 26-week spot—like about the time of the Liverpool, Beatle boom. Liverpool was full of guys with big cigars looking for the next thing, looking for the next Beatle. We were doing shows, pulling them in the theatre, and the television people came along, saw it, offered us a job—the three of us. There was no alternative—it was 26 weeks on the tele. . . ."

His partnership with John Gorman and Mike McGear has obviously influenced him as a poet enormously; his understanding of audience/public relations is now fluent, confident and very warm. The material, too, has broadened in its style as a direct result of his experience on the stage, working wonders for oral poetry in the P. C. Plod pieces and things like "McGough's Last Stand." Not so much a reading, more a complete performance, visual and shared.

Yet McGough is not all theatricals and laughs. He can be so quiet and tender. Sometimes he will simply read, and it is at these moments that his seriousness impresses.

"Things come over as sort of colours and feeling—like I talk about the head injury thing, then bang—straight into something funny. You can't wait and explain. It's strange really, people obviously judge you on what you read for an hour and too many of them think they know all about you at the end of it—but they don't. A lot of poems you just can't read, (a) because they won't work, or (b) because they're too personal, you know, some parts of you, you don't want to give out."

Being aware of the great danger of misinterpretation doesn't necessarily imply McGough has an easy solution, as he goes on to explain:

"I'm always afraid of boring anybody—trying to be too clever, or too serious. It's a fault of mine, though. I wish I could say to myself, 'Right, tonight I'll just read serious ones,' you know—heavy reaction. But I never do."

Why?

"I always say to myself, ' . . . I can't do that. Make 'em laugh.' If you're doing funny ones where there's obviously not a lot of response, so you just sit there and you're terrified you've lost 'em."

"We've been round Birmingham, you know, the Dolce Vita a couple of times, and like it's the white suits and the Watney's lads—you obviously can't do poetry there . . ."

It's not difficult to completely miss this side of McGough and in a way it's hard to see him as the sensitive, glitterless creator while the strains of "Thank U Very Much" help the pints down in the public bar. Maybe we get into him more in the solitude of small rooms, late at night, when we find that he

"I don't grind any social axe really, because I think it's not the way to end wars."

writes for the page as well as the auditorium.

"I like writing things—actually writing them down. I like tinkering about, the physical bit, you know, holding the pen. It's part of it to actually publish poems—the visual thing."

Shortly after Penguin brought out "The Mersey Sound," an L.P. was released which featured many of the poems. It seemed that a new outlet for what was predominantly poetry of the expression had become available, introducing clear advantages in atmosphere and appreciation. Wouldn't records and tapes prove to be a boon? McGough:

"I'm sure that's right, yes. A lot of people'll buy the records who wouldn't buy books. And anyway, we're going more audio, the whole of society, the whole country is more audio and audio-visual. There's a McGear L.P. with Andy Roberts coming out, and we said 'are you doing a poetry album?' and they said 'no, it wouldn't sell.' I think they're wrong—I think it eventually will—it'll come, people will buy 'em."



When life becomes a bit hectic, Roger McGough may be seen flitting energetically from venue to venue, mixing comedy with soft love poems, and satire with song. It is not at all unusual for him to do "Top of the Pops" and then go on to a Radio Three broadcast, followed by "The Golden Shot" and then The Purcell Room—all in a space of 24 hours.

It's his capacity to mix and change scenes rapidly that endears him to the mums and dads, and the kids, along with the stream of college audiences. In the old days it used to be the Liverpool circuit—the pubs and clubs and a hundred other gathering places. McGough has never been far away from the ordinary places of big cities, where the rule is survival, but only if you're good. He's had his share of the breaks, but how come he got into poetry?

"I got into poetry for funny reasons: I wanted to be a painter at one time, an artist. There were no poets living that I really knew about, but artists, you know, they got the birds, they had it all together—so I thought I'd be an artist. So I got a studio. And it was alright, except that I couldn't really paint."

So what finally turned him on to writing?

"It took me a long time to get the idea. Maybe it began with reading Rimbaud and Baudelaire—they were eccentric, had a way of life and were into something deeply—really involved in words. I'd read a few poems and so that was it, that's what I wanted to be. Besides, like

it was a masculine, trendy thing to do—which it is in a way, and it's bad really. You still get the birds. . . ."

Thus McGough emerged from a working-class background and along with his Liverpool contemporaries began to appear in the public eye. Pockets of activity sprouted across the country and in his own words "the Oxford, Cambridge, blue-stocking elite" faced an alternative, an immediate wave of poetry.

"Funny thing is, when we started doing poetry readings, about eight years ago, the people writing poems then, like Ginsberg and Corso, they were writing literally about catching yellow cabs, and 42nd Street, and going down the stairs. This was fine. It wasn't ugly, it was fine. . . . But at first, when you talked about Lime Street, and going down Canning Street, they said 'you can't write poetry about that—that's not poetry.' 42nd Street, yeah, but Lime Street, that must be joking."

But as he agrees, there is no surprise at the way things have gone. It was only a matter of time before the popularity of Roger McGough and Co. was practically guaranteed, because this new scene really was, and is, where it's at.

"Now there are people you can identify with. You no longer have to go up towards poetry because it can be part of your background, works . . . both ways—the . . . writing poetry talk the same kind of language, have the same kind of backgrounds, and talk about the same kind of things."

McGough gave up teaching to write. He'd slid through the level system and got his best mark in French and Geography. Then it was Hull University. By the time he gained his degree, teaching became the natural next step, he admits to entering the nobles' ing "because it was there. I'd heard of things like philosophy, social studies—never heard of it until I got to university. They probably haven't changed much, have they?"

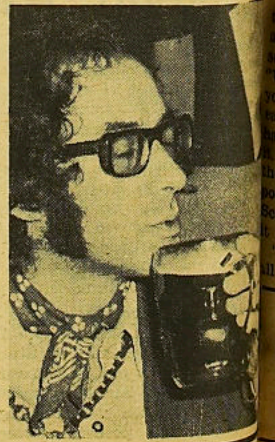
His teaching career was not a comprehensive school was followed by a technical college where he took an interest in catering. French ("I was great fun to go to dinner because I knew it all meant, you know, *le Robespierre*" which is *le soup* . . .), not to mention *lege* . . .). "There was only four men on staff and it was a big girls' lege . . .".

"They all thought I was a bit eccentric but they quite liked me as a poet about the place. In ways I couldn't have been a good teacher—in all my periods, like everyone else was pining their lessons, you know, I was like writing sketches and bryonic lily-the-pinks."

More than anything McGough has the knack of touching truth.

His soapbox is set hard on ground, but he says he has no social axe to grind. He is amused, and sometimes saddened, he says he has no great message to plug. He gives us his poem most of himself, and that's what it's L.O.V.E., basically. . . ."

Copyright John Keetley
Birmingham Free Press



a new kind of dawn

"It's good to work with Brian because of the two styles. When Brian goes on they listen and I do a contrast. They enjoy that and then they go back."—Roger McGough.

If there's an opposite to McGough it's probably Patten. On stage he sits very still, chanting in nasal tones into the microphone, seemingly totally unaware while he's reading that there is an audience.

"I couldn't see anyone out there tonight. You read into a sea of mist. I prefer it when I can't actually see the people because then there's not one person. It's just your own people."

He's quiet, introverted and often talks in images. His poems are loving, apolitical and very personal. When he finished reading the first one there was a burst of spasmodic applause that tailed off in embarrassment. You can't really applaud someone for being himself.

"More serious because Roger's as serious as me—mine just sounds more serious. I mean you're not going to clap for a person whose doing things that sound serious."

He's a difficult person to interview, he reacts against the impersonal question-answer format, so we found ourselves talking to him instead.

Q: The idea of an interview is to get you down on paper. To get something that people will think of as Brian Patten. But it's going to come out as your answers to questions.

A: Well explain that. Don't make it an interview. Make it what you want it to be.

So this is what he said:—

"There was a record of the 'Liverpool Scene' with Adrian and Roger that I was supposed to be on as well, but I dropped out because the studio manager was a homosexual freak. Fair enough, he was a queen, but he was really putting it on strong, you know, and it didn't appeal to me so I dropped out of the record."

"I've done an L.P. I walked into the studio one Sunday morning, read for two hours and walked out. Later I saw a record of mine in a bookshop. I have no connection with that world."

"Not this is what happened to me, but this is where we are. There's a big difference really."

"I used to think that I was writing only for people today. I no longer think that because people's emotions are going to be the same in say a hundred years' time. I'm a traditional poet. I deal with emotions common to men."

"My poems are private poems, and the private poem is the most public in the end. In a way I'm afraid of my own mortality. I'm conscious of trying to make something that will stand against time, that will be strong enough in time, and that will wither in time. I haven't done it yet."

"If I wasn't writing poems now I might be working in an office, or getting a living some other way or just bumming around."

Writing's a totally instinctive thing. It's not a conscious choice. I'm going to be a poet, I'm going to publish books. It doesn't work like that. It just happened."

"In Liverpool we were doing these things locally and getting smashed and drunk and it was fun. Then somebody came up to us and said: 'We'd like to make an anthology of your work, and we'll pay you £10 each'—no, they paid Roger £15, he had more poems in—and that was it. And we said 'Oh sure, give us £10 and we'll give you our poems.' Then 'The Liverpool Scene' came out and the Press took over, and it blew up."

Suddenly you find yourself with these people wanting to know "Burroughs can write 'Love is a sickness I have never suffered from'—and he means it. Do you know who supported Burroughs while he wrote?—his family, they run Burroughs Computers which are used by the F.B.I. He's wooed us so far with 'Naked Lunch' and now he's getting into it. He's a Hitler—a mental cancer."

"Am I going to be a minor poet of the sixties, forgotten for forty years and then dug up after I'm dead. Probably that's what's going to be."

more. So what do you do? Do you just say "I don't want to know about it" and carry on being totally without money or any direction, or do you say "maybe there is a direction now?"

Someone's got to step into certain shoes. Someone's got to keep the language fresh. Someone's got to keep it alive, and so you say "all right, I'll do it." It doesn't mean that there aren't lots of other people who won't.

In five years all the universities will be hating me and they'll have somebody else. I know that but it doesn't matter. That's why I'm slowly dropping out of readings."

"Maybe next year I'll have stopped writing poems. Maybe I'll have dried up totally, or maybe I'll go on and be like Yeats or something. I'm conscious of the fact that Wordsworth is a contemporary of mine. Christopher Logue has gone into his Byron bit and keeps kidding me on about people like Keats. Maybe the 20th century is equivalent—maybe it's not. The 20th century equivalent of Blake may be Ted Hughes. It probably is Ted Hughes because he's the greatest poet living in England at the moment."

"I don't really know where it's going to. If I had enough money I'd probably only do about five poetry readings a year. A cobbler makes shoes to sell them, but people need to wear them. I'm into children's books now, which is good. When I was a kid I used to read things that really broke my head open, and bang—I saw these things happening."

"When you bought that 'Liverpool Scene' you probably gave me £10."

"The fact I write poetry to begin with was an accident and it's still an accident. It's an accident it may end very soon. I've been made conscious of an audience because an audience has appeared. Half the time I can't understand why what I write seems relevant to other people. I suppose it's a catalyst for other people as well. You say where you are and other people say 'yes, that's where I am.'"

"But maybe they haven't spent so many years trying to clarify the thought in words. Their thoughts are as clear but their words aren't, therefore, my poetry is a catalyst for them. Or maybe their words are—I don't know. But probably not otherwise I wouldn't be known. I'm not really conscious of doing something very important."

Twenty. Already inside us
Something has fallen asleep

"Roger's much older than me. When I'm Roger's age I'll be exactly as conscious of opening myself to a public as he is. When I was 18-19-20, when I wrote 'Little Johnny's Confession' I wasn't, but now I am. I'm 24 now, and in most of my new work I'm conscious that I'm exposing myself to other people. But you've got to do that or the poem can't get through."

"There are certain emotional situations—that sounds so cold—there are certain emotional situations and certain feelings that you'll have when you're 17 when you break up a relationship. When you're 20 you're a tiny bit cooler about it. Maybe as you get older you get cooler about relationships. Every time your heart gets literally broken you find that you'll shield yourself from it by past experience."

"Maybe you learn that no matter what passion you have, no matter what suffering you have, it doesn't lead to any revelation. It leads to weariness so people stop having it. But maybe you stay open to these things because you're foolish. Maybe you're 20-24 and you're still having the suffering in a relationship that you had when you were much younger."

"It's like destroying Eros. Destroying passion because it's too painful. That emotion could become a total physical force and not just a spiritual force one day."

"But it doesn't lead to any revelation because logic is always in the mouths of your friends. It's never something you have yourself in a relationship."

"My poems come out of relationships now and they're getting less accessible to a lot of people. Every love poem I've published up to now has been nonsense. I've only just discovered it. It begins in the next book."

"Experience does make you more aware of what you've got to lose, and so maybe you try harder."

"I hardly read from the first book. I read two poems tonight because people asked me to, so I thought maybe I'll read them. But it's like Graves trying to do some new poems and everyone was shouting, 'No, no. We want your old love poems.'"

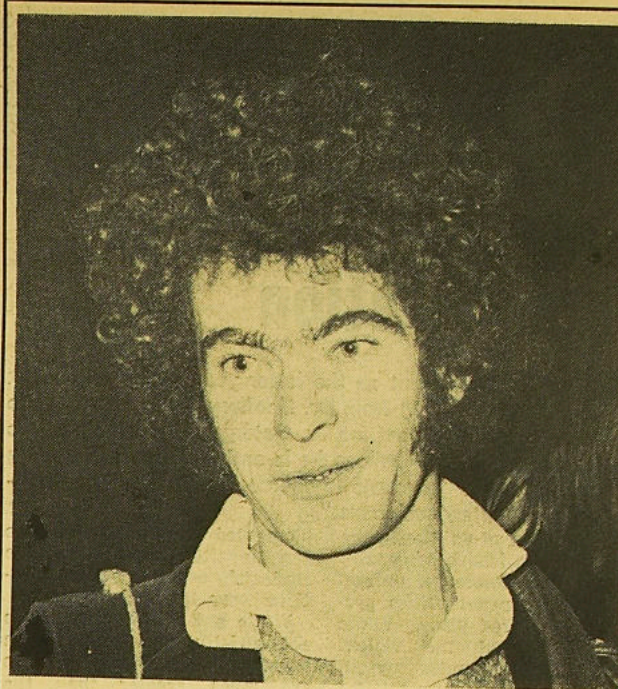
"Then he published this new book and everyone realised what he'd been reading. It's like Donne, his holy sonnets are still not popular, nor his sermons, which are revelations."

"I never look at a poem and think that was what I felt, though it's probably what I did feel, I used to read the Moor poem and it never used to come out cynical, but now sometimes it does. I still care as much for that woman, I still believe in her, but now I always read the poem cynically. And there are certain that are serious now that always seemed humorous. Like the Woodbines and the Guinness stains of Party Piece, that image is dated. 'Mathew Arnold—here we come. He died of a heart attack running for a bus in Beale. I think it was him. Mathew Arnold—the Country Poet entering into the 20th century.'"

Brian Patten talked quietly and very carefully. He often went back to explain an earlier statement. It wasn't till we sat down to edit the tape that we realised just how cohesive a statement he had been making. Perhaps it was something more than a statement, it was almost Brian Patten.

"I'm not into politics. Vietnam is the scab. The germ that causes that scab is in the private sickness. I'd rather go into private emotions and therefore eventually arrive at a cure for the scab. You've got to attack the germ which lies in private relationships. It lies in the inability to love. So you might meditate on these things first."

Copyright Paul Sommers
Birmingham Free Press



PATTEN

"Up to the time I stop writing everything will have been a record of one person's emotional development, and it could be studied as a record of that person's emotional development rather than as a record of a poet. I wouldn't like to put that word on it."

PROSE POEM TOWARDS A DEFINITION OF ITSELF

When in public poetry should take off its clothes and wave to the nearest person in sight; It should be seen in the company of thieves and lovers rather than that of journalists and publishers. On sighting mathematicians it should unhook the algebra from their minds and replace it with poetry; on sighting poets it should unhook poetry from the minds and replace it with algebra; it should touch these people who despise being touched, it should fall in love with children and woo them with fairytales; it should wait on the landing for two years for its mates to come home then go outside and find them all dead.

When the electricity fails it should wear dark glasses and pretend to be blind. It should guide those who are safe into the middle of busy roads and leave them there. It should scatter woodworm into the bedrooms of all peggled men, not being afraid to hurt the innocent; It should shout EVIL! EVIL! EVIL! from the roofs of stock exchanges. It should not pretend to be a clerk or a librarian. It is the eventual sameness of contradictions. It should never weep unless it is alone, and then only after it has covered the mirrors and sealed up the cracks.

Poetry should seek out pale and lyrical couples and wander with them into stables, neglected bedrooms, engineless cars, unsafe forests, for A Final Good Time. It should enter burning factories too late to save anybody. It should pay no attention to its name.

Poetry should be seen lying by the side of road accidents, hissing from unlit gas-rings. It should scrawl the nymphs secret on her teachers blackboard, offer her a worm saying: Inside this is a tiny apple. At dawn it should leave the bedroom and catch the first bus home to its wife. At dusk it should chat up a girl nobody wants. It should be seen standing on the ledge of a skyscraper, on a bridge with a brick tied around its heart. Poetry is the monster hiding in a child's dark room, it is the scar on a beautiful person's face. It is the last blade of grass being picked from the city park.

BRIAN PATTEN

BOOKS

"LITTLE JOHNNY'S CONFESSION"
"NOTES TO THE HURRYING MAN"
"THE ELEPHANT AND THE FLOWER" (a children's story).

RECORDS

BRIAN PATTEN READING HIS POETRY—Caedon Records (Philips).

LOST

Brian lost a notebook of poems on Wednesday. They're the only copies he has of them so if anyone finds them could they please bring the book, or at least copies of the poems to "Redbrick" Office.

letters

Coercion deserves consideration

SIR, I wish to comment on the letter you printed last week (November 11th, 1970) from Dr. Geoffrey Ostergaard. While I have the utmost respect for Dr. Ostergaard's principles, as well as his teaching, I believe he is entirely wrong in stating categorically that "attempts to coerce the University authorities will be counter-productive."

As a student of politics in the United States, I have personally seen violent coercion of universities and other authorities produce the desired goals. While no advocate of the violent settlement of disputes myself, the interests of fairness call me to refute Dr. Ostergaard's statement. I will attempt to do this by way of an example, with general implications, drawn from my own personal experience.

At the institution I attended for the two years previous to this one, the University of California, at Santa Barbara, we had a situation last year similar to the current 'Atkinson affair.' A junior instructor was fired for what seemed to be clearly political reasons. Students and staff held meetings, signed petitions, and tried to discuss the situation with the university authorities. The issue broadened into the general question of student participation in the selection of staff and in the governance of the university.

When all peaceful attempts to get some satisfaction on the issues had failed, students stormed the Administration Building and disrupted normal academic life on campus. Some students had their heads bashed, some were arrested. The instructor was not re-hired. However, as a direct result of this more violent form of coercion, students were placed on departmental academic appointments bodies, were brought into deliberations on future priorities for the university, and were given the opportunity to evaluate their instructors at the end of each term. From the speed with which the authorities im-

plemented these demands, there can be little doubt that the students' coercive demonstrations were the decisive factor. While a British university is not strictly analogous to an American one, the similarities are much greater than the differences. One striking similarity seems to be the dreary sameness of university administrators. They are all constantly worried about negative publicity for the university. Any demonstration which makes the news can only be embarrassing to the university and its officials. Thus it follows that the authorities will do anything they can do quietly to mollify noisy students, while they will let those who talk to themselves continue talking forever. This was certainly the lesson we learned at Santa Barbara.

While no-one would claim that this type of coercion will work in every situation, it is certainly deserving of consideration by students interested in the issues raised by the "Atkinson affair"; obviously, non-violent attempts to "convince" the authorities, as suggested by Dr. Ostergaard, should also be considered. While only a student of politics, and not an advocate of any particular tactic, I feel both possibilities need to be presented and explored.

Dr. Ostergaard's support of student participation in University affairs is certainly most appreciated. Students unquestionably need staff help in this struggle. The basic question which remains, however, is which tactics will be most effective in furthering this goal. The answer remains to be seen.

Yours sincerely,
PHIL SPECTOR.

Twaddle & damnation

DEAR SIR, — Articles and comment in "Redbrick" create the supposition that there exists in this University, Students and Establishment only.

Strangely, there is a third body which, from the 'Redbrick' point of view appears to hover like the ghost butler in a recent television commercial.

Bearing the stigma of dirty hands and no degree, it must somehow appear like the theatre backcloth does—to an actor too busily declaiming his lines.

Incredibly, my very own brain in my very own head does do more than ponder which end of a screwdriver to use. From time to time, issues of the moment do receive my attention and I would, not too humbly, suggest that my thoughts are likely to be as well-sprung as thine.

Shall we now think of a suitable and acceptable burning question? How about apartheid? God save us, we must and will burn up together over this 'nest-ce pas'?

If anyone wants to know about apartheid, let that inquisitive soul

join the ranks of the Technical Staff and thereby find out what the rules really are.

Twaddle and damnation to those who arrogate to themselves alone, the role of Keeper of the Conscience, Defender of the Truth, Kicker of Senatorial Bottoms and the only ones for 48 miles whose thoughts are worth the thinking.

(Signed) "SORCERER'S APPRENTICE."

Bit of tit for tat

DEAR SIR, — Beholden as we are to S. A. Tobias for pointing out the fallacy of assuming that a professor named as an Electoral Board member actually takes part in the work of that august body, may one counterpose to his tit remarks a little bit of tat?

He berates the writers of the article in question, albeit in ironic vein, for getting their facts wrong in one instance, implying therefrom further inaccuracies. Had he taken the trouble to read the boxed paragraph at the top of the page, he would have noted that the report

Reformed Soc. Soc. Who is this Brian Morris?

DEAR SIR, — "Student Role"—what have we achieved on the basis of this demand? Limited representation has proved inadequate. We have achieved nothing, since token representation is meaningless where the fundamental structure remains unchanged.

We feel that a comprehensive critique of the whole economic techno-structure of industrial society is required in order to clarify the rationale behind the organisation of universities and other institutions; educational, economic and political.

Soc. Soc. has been reformed to provide a forum for discussion of this critique as well as to provide an organisational base for action. We see the "three vetoes" as being merely a symptomatic expression of the "structural imperatives" of the present capitalist social system. The authorities feared that the appointment of Dick Atkinson would lead to an intensification of the student critique. We are fighting the Atkinson veto both because we believe dissent on the campus should be tolerated (including criticism of course structures) and because of our principal stand of solidarity against victimisation.

We believe that, in examining the authority structure of the University, the technostructure of society as a whole must be examined as the context in which this particular institution is situated. It is not a simple question of class conflict. Our very acceptance and pursuit

of the ideals: "success," "prestige," "wealth," even "consumption," serves to reinforce oppression, the more obvious manifestations of which are displayed in conscious Conservatism and recently expressed in the Tory proposals for new immigration laws, anti-U.U. legislation, and the call for a "law and order" purge to undermine any challenge to the Establishment.

We are undertaking a conference and campaign entitled "Fight Back," which we hope will serve the dual purpose of providing meaningful "education" for all taking part, and creating a build-up to December 8th when we propose sympathetic boycott action with the T.U.s hoping for a general industrial strike on that date. All students with socialist leanings are pressed to join us in this struggle. Please come to Soc. Soc. meetings every Monday, at 5.15.

BOB HOLROYD.

Claim for validity of AUT investigation

To the Editor, "Redbrick"

DEAR SIR, It is a pity that in her letter of November 9th, Miss Halliday has not considered the facts concerning the A.U.T. meeting on June 16th. The resolution required "the officers of the branch to make full enquiries into the circumstances of the recent decision by the University Academic Appointments Committee to reverse a decision of a Faculty appointment committee" on Mr. Atkinson.

The local A.U.T. committee therefore investigated the rejection of Mr. Atkinson by a unanimous decision of the U.A.A.C., as requested, and as neither Professor Baldamus nor any other member of the Faculty Committee served on the U.A.A.C. they clearly had no inside information about the criteria used in the rejection.

The view of the five A.U.T. investigators was first endorsed by the whole A.U.T. committee, and then presented as a Committee Resolution at the A.G.M. on June 16th.

Prior notice was given that the Committee would make an announcement, and there was a long discussion at the A.G.M. before the vote was taken.

At the same time, the A.U.T. committee was aware of the deep divisions in the Faculty Committee concerning the original nomination of Mr. Atkinson: it is now well known that 45 per cent of this committee were opposed to Mr. Atkinson.

Clearly Miss Halliday and her associates were disappointed that their view did not prevail at the A.U.T. meeting, but the overwhelming support for the committee's investigation remains the same.

As for internal policy, we back the Senate, in that we realise that to maintain a high standard of teaching it is necessary to recruit only the people who will enhance the University's reputation. Since students have a very limited experience we also recognise that the staff alone are in a position to decide the composition of the academic course and who are the best people to teach it.

The purpose of this letter is to publicise our aims and to invite all those who are sympathetic to our course to join us. Applications should be made via the Union pigeon-hole.

Yours sincerely,
D.R.,
(Secretary of R.W.A.).

only democratic expression of overall opinion of academic staff on this campus.

Yours sincerely,
C. F. WELLS,
Honorary Secretary,
Birmingham Assoc. of
University Teachers.

Right-wing aims

DEAR EDITOR,—I am writing to you in my capacity as secretary of the Right Wing Alliance. This organisation has been set up to counter the Left-wing and anarchist influences which have so far been allowed to dominate the University. We shall endeavour to neutralise the efforts of these people who seek to bring the good name of this University into disrepute.

Our general policies are in agreement with those of the National Democratic Party (whose literature will shortly be circulated). We advocate the repeal of the Race Relations Act and the renewal of our traditional friendships on the African continent.

As for internal policy, we back the Senate, in that we realise that to maintain a high standard of teaching it is necessary to recruit only the people who will enhance the University's reputation. Since students have a very limited experience we also recognise that the staff alone are in a position to decide the composition of the academic course and who are the best people to teach it.

The purpose of this letter is to publicise our aims and to invite all those who are sympathetic to our course to join us.

Applications should be made via the Union pigeon-hole.

Who is this Brian Morris?

SIR, — Mr. B. G. Morris's letter of November 11th, in which he informed us of his opinions about Christ, drawn from a (presumed) study of the relevant historical material, contained a presumptuous claim which cannot pass without comment. Mr. Morris's dogmaticism would put many a theologian to shame.

It is true that the scientific study of history cannot prove that Christ was, and therefore is, God. That is a judgment which lies outside the realm of mere historical study. However, it is also true that history cannot prove the reverse.

As Herbert Butterfield, a former Cambridge Professor of History, wrote: "If any man were to say that history had scientifically established or scientifically disproved the Divinity of Christ, he would, for the same reason, be guilty of the intellectual arrogance which marks in all the sciences as each of them transgresses its bounds in order to gain a usurped authority."

Morris's remark, that to the question "Who is this Jesus?" a historian must (my italics) reply "an obscure Palestinian agitator of dubious paternity," is in the class. The historical evidence about Christ does not demand any interpretation.

It allows the Christian understanding of Christ's nature to be perfectly viable one. And each individual is left free to make his own assessment of Christ through the historical data. His further remarks to the effect that those who believe in Christ are "obscurantists" is yet another indication that Morris considers himself to have a unique capacity for perceiving the truth.

Finally, let us hope that in the future Mr. Morris no longer tries to blind people with "history," acknowledging that many competent historians would disagree with his own conclusions. May the evidence be allowed to speak for itself and so this eliminate objectivism, on whichever side of the tracks it may be found.

Yours faithfully,
RODGER G. BAILEY
(Theol. II)

SIR,—If indeed Jesus was an obscure person, how is it that after two thousand years, quite ordinary people, like Brian Morris, are still writing letters about Him? The very fact of his letter would seem to contradict his contents.

The letter was also in error in the facts quoted about the Museum. I wonder if Mr. Morris has investigated Christianity any more fully than he wrote his letter.

Yours,
M. F. HUBER,
Physics III.

DEAR SIR,—As a committed Christian I felt I must write to comment on the letter by Mr. Morris in your last edition. By this one letter he has drawn the attention of more people to the campaign than have all the posters which were circulated.

What a great show of Christian love. His whole letter invites people to look into this Jesus who has such a strong faith in salvation through the Lord. But for me, the greatest showing of faith is in now, more than ever, we must find the truth about Jesus, saviour, the comforter, the Lord the Living God, against the forces of obscurantism.

What a great Christian this man has shown himself to be. I pray to see more of B. G. Morris, Christian, in the months to come, for with the Lord on his side, doing the Lord's will, who can fail him.

B. T. SMITH
(Chemist)

Ack-ack memorandum in perspective

SIR,—Since the national press has reported what it supposes to be the more sensational parts of my private memorandum to Ack-Ack supporters, may I put the document in proper perspective.

Ack-Ack is a political movement of academics formed in response to a political decision by the University authorities. Like any other political movement, it has objectives, and ideas about how to achieve them. Not surprisingly, supporters of the movement are not in complete agreement about ways and means (strategy and tactics).

My memo. was written in advocacy of a particular kind of strategy (essentially non-coercive and minimally disruptive) at a time when students, through the Guild and the newly-formed Students for a Democratic University are becoming involved in the campaign initiated by Ack-Ack.

As a student of politics, it seems axiomatic to me that a political movement can succeed only if it remains basically united, is clear about its objectives, and uses strategy and tactics appropriate to the situation in which it finds itself.

While I have a certain sympathy for those students who are demanding an end to talk and the beginning of action, I do not believe that any kind of direct action will serve our purpose. We are in a Catch 22 situation which calls for a careful choice of the various methods of non-violent action. (The catch is that if we don't protest hard enough, we shall be regarded as having accepted the decision. But if we protest too hard, we shall be regarded as having justified the decision).

It became clear long ago that, by themselves, the normal methods of constitutional action would get us nowhere. Just as it is impossible to wake a man who is pretending to be asleep, so it is impossible to conduct a rational argument with those who refuse to engage in debate.

The University authorities are "standing on their authority," seeking to maintain that the matter of Atkinson's rejection is finally closed. This posture is one which invites

challenge and, by definition, a challenge to authority subverts authority. In the last analysis, all systems of government rest on the consent (active or passive) of the governed. When consent is withdrawn the system begins to crumble.

Archaic systems of government, such as the one that obtains in this University, are unlikely to reform themselves by regular constitutional means. Extra-constitutional means are almost certainly necessary. But one should resort to such means only when one has exhausted the constitutional and, even then, one must be careful to choose appropriate, not counter-productive, means.

In the present campaign, it may be that we have not yet fully exhausted all the constitutional means. There remains an unusual, so far unused but probably available, means which can be combined with restrained non-violent action of the protest type. I refer to an appeal, backed up by a petition, to the University Visitor: Her Majesty the Queen! (Such an appeal would, in practice, be considered by a number of Privy Counsellors).

Even if the appeal failed to achieve its immediate object, a reconsideration of the U.A.A.C. decision, the act of promoting a petition could be a way of creating on campus an informed public opinion on the issue. And by the time the appeal was decided, the opportunity might have arisen for Mr. Atkinson to apply again for a post.

As a footnote, might I suggest that Mr. Atkinson drop the forename, Dick, and call himself Charles Bradlaugh Atkinson. (Any historian will explain the suggestion).

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY OSTERGAARD

CONTACT THE BIRMINGHAM FREE PRESS
tell us about it
write/visit 187 Bristol Road

MANOR HOUSE ANNUAL BALL

Dancing and Cabaret

9 p.m. - 3 a.m.

Bar extension till 3 a.m.

FILM 3.30 - 5.30 a.m.

3 gns. Double Tickets

Breakfast 5.30 a.m.
Reception 8.15 p.m.

Town Hall - Birmingham

A SOLO CONCERT

featuring

AL STEWART

7.30 p.m.

Saturday, 21st November

TICKETS - 13/-, 10/-, 8/-, 6/-

Box Office: 236 2392

SMITH REGIME CONTROLS UCR

THIS term has seen the final step by the illegal Rhodesian regime in their scheme for taking control of the supposedly multi-racial college at Salisbury. The new Statutes which were adopted in September give the Rhodesian Front and their supporters a majority on the new College Council and effectively exclude any non-European representatives.

The withering away of academic freedom and multi-raciality at the college has been a long process which has been bitterly opposed by students at U.C.R. and in this country.

Since the College opened in 1959, London and Birmingham Universities have been responsible for awarding degrees, through the Inter-University Council, appointing staff under a "Special Relationship," Birmingham's responsibility extended solely to the Medical Faculty. This year, however, both Birmingham and London have decided to 'phase out' their relationship prematurely.

The decision by London was taken after a request from U.C.R. which apparently resulted from pressure from the Smith regime. At Birmingham the situation was different. Information obtained from the Inter-University files during the Warwick occupation, showed clearly that Birmingham had been indifferent to the various inroads into the freedom of the College and the confirmed beliefs held at Birmingham that the University had adopted a policy of appeasement.

Under considerable pressure from students at Birmingham the University Senate agreed to break the links, one of the grounds being that assurances could not be obtained that the new Teaching Hospital would be multi-racial.

by MIKE TERRY

The situation deteriorated at Salisbury during the following months. It was decided that the University College would become the new University of Rhodesia, and as a result new Statutes would be introduced. It is these which agreed to the effective domination of the College by the Rhodesian Front.

The students, whose Representative Council had been proscribed, formed an Action Committee and successfully prevented the statutes being ratified by the organisation of a mass protest. The police were called in, with albatians, which resulted in the expulsion and suspension of several students.

Despite continued resistance to the new Statutes, they were eventually approved with only minor alterations. The role of Birmingham and London at this time could not be described as laudable. The London representative at the College Council meeting actually voted for the new Statutes. At Birmingham the V.C., Dr. Hunter, despite being given authority to do so by the University Council, refused to condemn the new Statutes.

The result of this may well be serious for the students at present studying at the College for Birmingham and London degrees. If Birmingham and London had expressed clear, unequivocal opposition, the College Council would have had to think again; once again they appeased.

The response to the victimised students was little better. London was apparently indifferent, whereas Birmingham only after pressure from the Students' Union, agreed to accept the two medical students at Birmingham. Regrettably one of them died in a car crash before being able to take up his place.

The N.U.S. and the students at London and Birmingham have been requested by the majority of non-European students at U.C.R. to bring pressure on the authorities for the immediate severance of all links. At the same time, an academic boycott should be applied to the college so that the new degrees of Rhodesia will not be recognised and will therefore be valueless.

He flatly refused to make such a statement. He also added that he

WITHDRAW DEGREES

THERE are many people here who believe that U.C.R. is an "island of freedom" in Rhodesia and therefore must be defended at all costs and the I.U.C. must send as many European Liberals as lecturers as possible.

These people have still hope, but I must say they are hoping against hope and reason. Many African students, including myself, had the same hope until the beginning of this year, when we discovered that:

- 1.—The Smith regime has gained more control of U.C.R. more than we had been aware of.
- 2.—Racialism within the College campus is more or less the same as that found outside the campus.
- 3.—The May - June College Statutes embodying a racialistic set-up of the College Council, have been ratified against the wishes of the students and the staff.

R.F. CONTROL

The control of the R.F. over the College has been very insidious. The control has not been publicly announced, or legislated, or promulgated, or publicly stated by either Smith or Dupont.

The R.F. has been cleverer than that. They have managed to win support of their U.D.I. and principles from almost the whole of the outgoing Council. It must be noted that Birmingham and London are implicated in this. The R.F.s have also managed to win lecturers on to their side, especially those in key positions, like the Registrars, the Academic Board, senior lecturers and heads of departments. Lately they have won, ultimately, the most important position—that of the Principal.

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine has refused to go against the R.F. as far as the teaching hospital is concerned. He has refused to denounce some of the statements made by Ian Smith and Ian Maclean (spokesman for health). At a Medical Student Society meeting I challenged him to make a public statement assuring both Birmingham University and medical students at U.C.R. that if the teaching hospital was going to be a racial teaching hospital, as Smith and his R.F. visualised, then such a teaching hospital would be totally unacceptable to U.C.R. and would never be used.

He flatly refused to make such a statement. He also added that he

Commonwealth Students, hopes to bring relevant information to the conference at Singapore.

However, the situation on the campus at U.C.R. cannot be seen in isolation to the racist regimes in Southern Africa as a whole. It is time students in the country took seriously requests for assistance from the African Nationalist organisations in the struggle for liberation.

At the same time, within Britain we must work for a complete political, economic and cultural boycott of Southern Africa in solidarity with the black people, and in the Rhodesian context we should oppose any attempt by the British Government to recognise an independent Rhodesia before majority rule.

Many lecturers in the Faculty of Medicine are pro-R.F., especially those in the pre-clinical years. The rest are unsurprisingly conservative.

The Science Department is headed by a strong pro-R.F. member who believes that the Africans should not be allowed into the College. Council, or if it happens, let it be so to calm down student revolt only. His private letter which we got somehow has something more to say. Again, in the Sciences, the majority of the lecturers are pro-R.F. or conservatives. In the Geology Department, there is a professor who ran down from the North as black rule emerged. He is the head of Geology Department, and he does not conceal his anti-African feelings. There is no need to say he is more to the right of the R.F.

by FELIX MUCHEMWA

In the Geography Department, the head of the department also ran down from the North for the same reasons. He is a strong R.F. supporter and does not hide his feeling. The Social Studies Department is headed by one of the most useful professors in the R.F. He is the special adviser on the R.F. regime on, and researches on, separate development and its implementation. His support to the R.F. cannot be doubted.

The Law Department is headed by a publicly-known R.F., though he is more independent in his views. Almost all his lecturers are on his side except one, who is to leave this November. Note the absence of the head of the Faculty of Arts. Faculty of Education head has managed to draw the whole of his faculty into R.F. centres.

P.C.E. is now not a course in Rhodesia for teaching, but an indoctrination exercise in Separate Development at Domboshawa, which is the "Institute of Indoctrination on Separate Development."

The heads I have mentioned form the Academic Board (or now Senate). They also form the seven members nominated to the Council by the present Statutes. It is doubtful whether the regime's nominees on the Council are more extreme than these R.F. academic members I have mentioned. The R.F., therefore, has controlled now, the Academic Board, the Council, the Principalship, the Disciplinary Committee and the Proctors, the whole Administration, through individual conversion, thus, totally controlling U.C.R. Due to lack of space in "Redbrick" I shall have to discuss the remaining two of my arguments at a public meeting on Thursday.

FOR BEER, CIDER, WINES & SPIRITS
CALL AT

Morris's Wine Stores

TEMPLEFIELD SQUARE, WHEELYS ROAD,
EDGBASTON 440 2291

512 BRISTOL ROAD, BOURNBROOK SEL 0195
775 BRISTOL ROAD, SELLY OAK SEL 0173
(Next to Oak Cinema)

Careers Careers Careers Careers Careers Careers Careers

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATES IN THE PROBATION AND AFTER-CARE SERVICE

If you are concerned about people, would you like to offer a professional service to the community and face the challenge of helping offenders and their families? The probation and after-care service offers real opportunities for young men and women graduates. This is demanding but satisfying work which calls for an unusually high degree of initiative and personal responsibility if effective help is to be given to a wide variety of people. Training before and after entry helps the new officer to develop his skill and confidence in dealing with difficult problems of human relationships.

Career prospects are good and there are opportunities for work connected with research, training and administration.

There are vacancies for trained probation officers in most parts of England and Wales. Training combines academic and practical work, and lasts between seventeen months and two years according to the course chosen. If, however, your degree is in social studies or allied subjects you can complete training in less than a year.

Students taking a professional course for probation and after-care work will be treated as trainee employees of the service and paid a salary. Graduates will enter the trainee scale at a minimum of £1,089.

After appropriate training graduates enter the probation officer salary scale at not less than £1,215 increasing to £1,851. Officers working in the London area receive an addition of £90 a year. Senior Probation Officers' salaries rise to £2,331; the salaries of higher grades range up to £4,200 according to area (£4,950 in Inner London).

For fuller information write or telephone:

Martin Wilkinson (University Liaison Officer)
Birmingham Probation and After-Care Area
3, 4 and 5 Bennetts Hill,
Birmingham 2. Tel. 236 0285.

University of Liverpool

Department of Economics
Post graduate courses in Economics.

- Courses in Applied Economics
- (1) Industrial Organisation.
 - (2) Finance of Industry.
 - (3) Industrial Relations.
 - (4) Regional Economics.
 - (5) Public Sector Economics.
 - (6) International Economics.
 - (7) Economics of Development.

Courses in Quantitative and Mathematical methods of Economic Analysis

- (1) Econometric Methods.
- (2) Applied Econometrics.
- (3) Operational Research.
- (4) Economic Planning and Forecasting Methods.
- (5) Mathematical Economics.

Prospectus available on application.

ENGINEERING GRADUATES

Obtain your professional qualifications and make your career in

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

with

J. D. & D. M. WATSON

Consulting Civil Engineers
London—Singapore
Melbourne—Jeddah

Apply to 67 Tufnell Street
London, S.W.1.

WORRIED faces are suddenly appearing on the campus. Excessive amounts of coffee are being drunk, midnight lamps are being oiled. Halfway through the first term people's minds turn to their dreaded subject—careers.

For six years now, you've stalled off the idea. Pushed into "A" levels, the thoughts that filled your head were chief of I.C.I., head of B.B.C., Poet Laureate, all you needed to do was get to university and these were within your reach. So the big sweat was on, working non-stop in an all-out effort—not even time to take your school cap off or polish your prefect's badge.

The relief when you read that strip of paper one August morning—all those U.C.C.A. forms were not

in vain. So for two years you have a pleasant time—main bar, Mothers, Town Hall, Bulls Head, and perhaps even a lecture or two. Then suddenly, about this time of the year, a big brown envelope arrives in your pigeonhole. The Appointments Board have arranged an interview with you. God yes, of course, what's going to happen next year? Panic—a job. What, work! A quick glance through the ads in the paper reveals that provided you have done engineering or physics or some other such obscure subject a £2,000 p.a. plus car and house are yours. More panic.

Who wants to work anyway? Of course you could research—or could you? Research—it sounds nice, but didn't someone mention the need for a second or even a first? That's out then.

Only one alternative. Tucked away on the campus is a large building with lots of windows—the College of Education. Well, at least you can have the pleasure of teaching others to end up in the same desperate situation as yourself.

Where are the early risers?

We're looking for young men whose aim is to rise to the top—as early as possible.

As a graduate in the Royal Navy, you would have every opportunity to do just that. As an officer you enjoy an immense advantage over your contemporaries in business or industry: you get real responsibility right from the start. Equipment worth millions—guided missiles, computers, nuclear reactors—could be in your care from your first day with the Fleet. Even more vital is your job of man-management. You have to be able to think clearly, to marshal your facts, to make decisions, to be a leader. You leave behind the world of problems-on-paper and enter into the world of practical decision-making.

The sea life is unique. It is varied and demanding. Already 6 out of 10 new Full Career commission officers take a degree. You would be part of a service whose work asks a lot of a young man. But the rewards are many, and you'd enjoy a taste of adventure in this day and age that most men never know.

Do you think you could be one of our early risers?

See the Navy before you decide.

Acquaintance visits giving a taste of naval life are arranged for undergraduates in ships and shore establishments.

There is also a 7 week workshop course for engineers and a 3 week computer course for engineers, physicists and mathematicians. These are held at Plymouth in the summer vacation.

COMMISSIONS FOR GRADUATES			
Specialisation	Qualification	Commission	Age Limit
Engineer	Mechanical or Electrical Engineering degree	Full Career or 3-year Short Service	Under 25
Seaman	Any degree	Full Career or 4-year Short Service	Under 40
Supply and Secretariat	Any appropriate degree	Full Career or 4-year Short Service	Under 24
Royal Marines Instructor	Any degree	Full Career	Under 24
	Maths, Engineering or Science degree. A few Arts graduates required	Full Career or 3-year Short Service	Under 32

Or apply for a University Cadetship—open to students under the age of 23 at, or accepted for University on a full-time C.N.A.A. degree course. Award is worth £1,039 p.a. plus tuition fees.

For full details write to: Instructor, University Liaison Officer (27HB2), Old Admiralty Bldg., London S.W.1. Or arrange a personal interview through your U.A.B.



How nice to meet someone who speaks your language

When you meet our interviewer, find he's a specialist in your field—whether it's chemistry, physics, engineering, mathematics, economics or arts.

That means he can answer your questions from personal experience, discuss career opportunities from first-hand knowledge.

This year we'll be recruiting over 200 graduates and using more than 200 specialist interviewers to find them. It gives you some idea of our diversity.

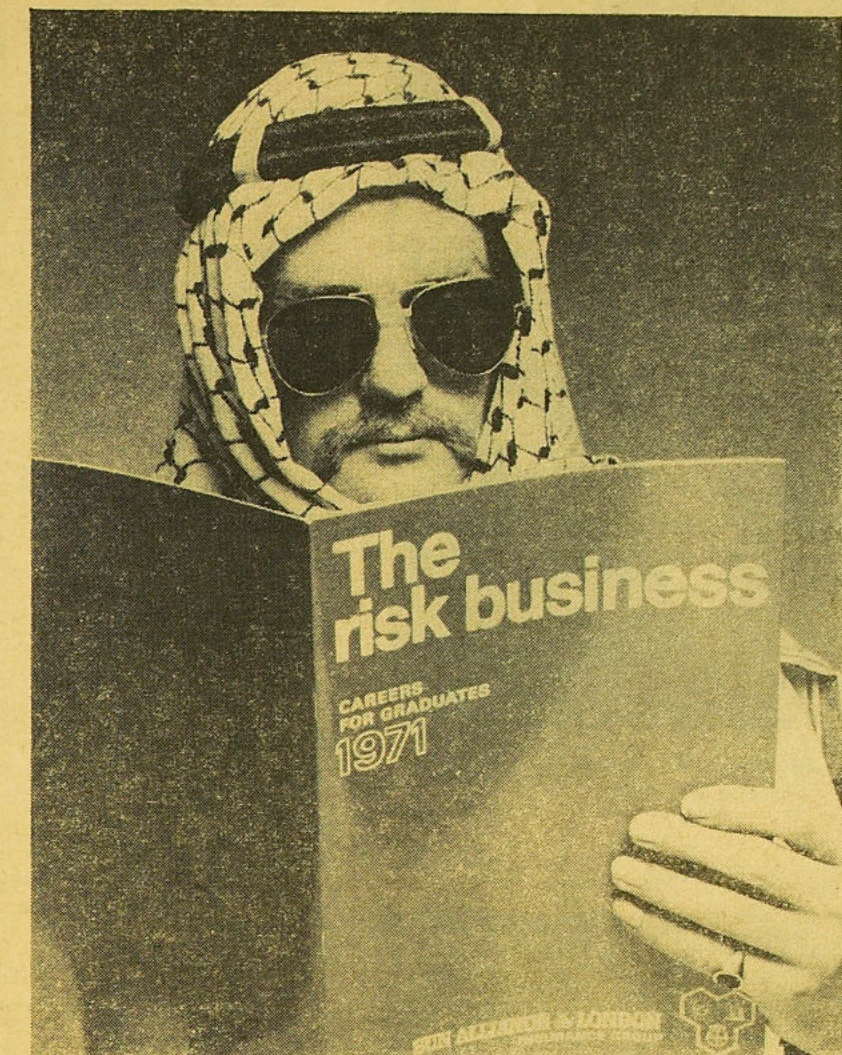
Would you like to meet someone who speaks your language?

Then ask your University Appointments Board to fix up an interview.

ICI representatives will be visiting your University in the Spring term, when you can learn all about the opportunities open to you.



Central Personnel Department,
Imperial Chemical Industries Limited,
Millbank, London, SW1



Take a cool look at the 'Sun'

You may be surprised at what you find. Insurance is about risks, and where there are risks somebody has to exercise cool judgement, make decisions.

We are looking for graduates who can exercise that judgement, make those decisions—people who expect, and indeed who will be expected, to be earning £3000 or more in their early thirties. Major changes are taking place in a once traditional industry. We need people who are stimulated by the prospect of working in a changing environment.

You can get a copy of our booklet, "The Risk Business", from your University Appointments Board (preferably) or by writing direct to Bruce Nixon, Personnel Department, Sun Alliance & London Insurance Group, Bartholomew Lane, London EC2N 2AB.

*Note: We shall be visiting your University in February. Appointments can be arranged through the University Appointments Board.



SUN ALLIANCE & LONDON

reviews

FILMS

THERE is one scene in "Fragment of Fear" (Director: Sarafian) in which Glyn Edwards playing an over-worked C.I.D. superintendent says to Tim (David Hemmings): "What we want to hear is what you know, NOT what you imagine." Tim replies "I know what I know."

What he knows is that someone has murdered his deceptively innocent old aunt and that he is fighting a faceless organisation to get at the truth.

The truth is not all that easy to come by, Tim being a reformed junkie, and he finds it hard to convince anybody of what he knows. The Organisation is persecuting him, trying to send him mad, so nobody will ever believe him.

The question is who to trust. Ironically the man he ultimately puts his trust in turns out to be the demonic voice at the other end of his telephone, the Organisation's man.

Presented with ambiguities at every turn, Tim succumbs to the theory he might be mad. And then he definitely has hallucinations.

The film is an exploration of a very frightened man under intense pressure. Except for his fiancée Juliet (Gayle Hunnicutt), he is without the normal props of friendship, and we must watch him desperately hanging on to the truth and then cracking up.

The theme is carried through by very strong visual symbols—clocks, Juliet's glasses, telephones, the geranium, a cigarette stub, train tunnels, and most of all the sea shores of Sorrento (where the murder takes place) and Brighton.

Theme and plot don't co-exist very easily, but well-timed editing and an excellent but uncredited music score make the film worthwhile.

"Loving" (Director: Irvin Kershner), stars George Segal and Eva Marie Saint in yet another marriage at breaking point drama. This one is quite good—thankfully there is no slushy ending. Children are used to good effect, making the home to look and feel normal. A tender and mildly witty script saves the film from its title.

ROBERT SABIN

HAMMER FILMS once again dabbling in the era and absurdity of "One Million Years B.C.", in a kind of sequel to the first film. The absence of any words understandable to modern ears is no impediment to the plot, which is thin, despite the fact that the publicity handout says otherwise.

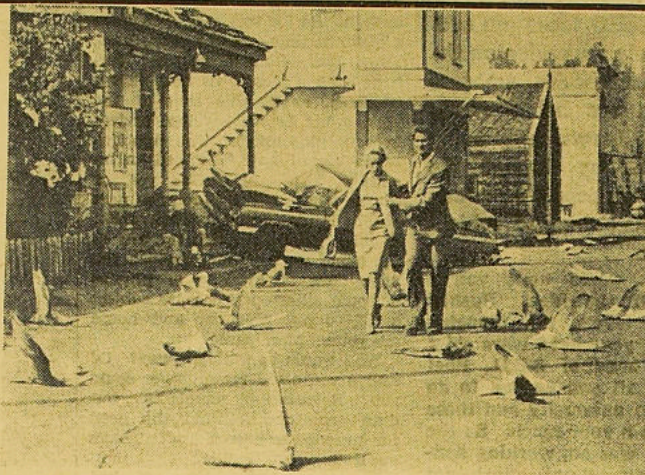
Basically (and it is basic), the plot concerns pretty Victoria Vetri, who, not taking kindly to being sacrificed to the Sun, uses a timely earthquake as an opportunity to escape the sacrificial blade. Thereafter, she encounters a monster or two, a lover and a nasty storm, which brings the film to a close.

The special effects are probably the only reason for seeing the film, and even when not convulsing the audience with laughter, they are not very convincing; the sight of a giant of a reptile doing a Banister sprint is one of the funniest sights on the screen for months.

All this can be added to a nude scene which now seems to be more prevalent in Hammer Films than fangs.

ANTHONY LEE.

"THE REIVERS" (ABC New St.) is a romp or alternatively a frolic. Based on William Faulkner's novel about maturation, it deals with the "corruption" of 12-year-old Lucius by lovable Boon (Steve McQueen), who manages to turn him into a liar, if not quite womaniser, in four days flat. The plot has about every cliché possible, the race that must be won, the gallant heroine sacrificing her newly-acquired virtue to gain the freedom of her friends, the lovable



"The Birds," Arts Lab. late Friday and Saturday

old uncle Tom listening to the whip-poor-will, and even the happy ending, but somehow it gets away with it.

Even the moralising grandfather can escape because everything is so unashamedly homespun that sentiments which would normally be embarrassing are revelled in. It's a beautifully-made film, everyone is obviously having a ball and a splendid cotton-picking time is guaranteed for all. If you have nothing better to do than enjoy yourself this week you might as well go and see it.

STEVEN MALLEN.

"UNE Femme est une Femme." Film Soc., Monday, is a complex statement by Godard on reality and unreality. The basic paradox is that the film, a musical, is set against the slums of Paris. The heroine is a striptease artist, Anna Karina, who wants to conceive an illegitimate child. She's actually got a device for calculating the most likely day.

When her lover won't oblige, she goes off with his best friend (Jean-Paul Belmondo), who, having given up his attempts to impersonate Bogart now plays Gene Kelly to her Cyd Charisse. But they cannot achieve the certainties of the American musical. Their poses are made ridiculous because Godard refuses to cut the film, so they are left, legs in the air, desperately trying to balance.

The situation is further compli-

cated by Godard's usual cinematic tricks. Karina throws an egg in the air, goes out of the room, comes back later and catches it. Any belief in the reality of the film is destroyed.

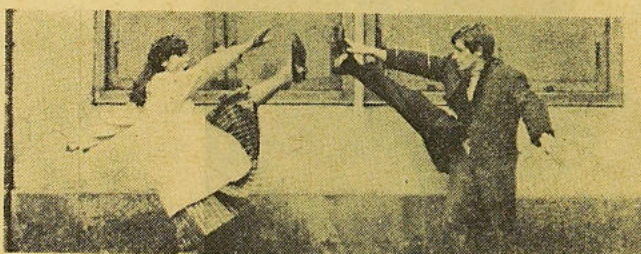
There is also an attempt to identify Karina completely with the part she is playing. The characters laugh at her mispronunciation of her lines. A bad take in which she fumbles for the line is edited into the film. Her distress is combined with the distress of the character she plays.

The final irony is that the lover changes his mind too late and so can only make sure that any child conceived on that day could be his.

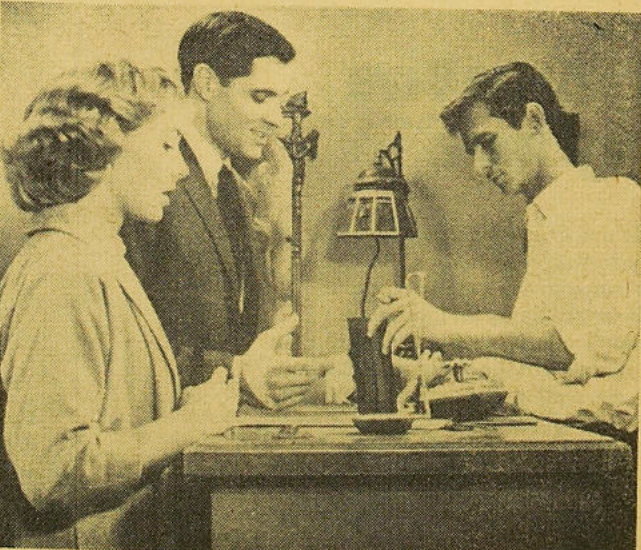
So all the familiar values of the musical are removed. Even the central situation, the heroine wavering between the two heroes, is turned around. Nothing of certainty is left, the fantasy of the musical is seen as totally unrelated to the life of the protagonists and yet it is a tribute as well as a parody, just as in "Bout de Souffle," the fact that Belmondo cannot achieve Bogart's style by mimicking his actions does not destroy the original.

Other films in the festival: Tomorrow is the showing of "Magical Mystery Tour" and "Top Hat." Monday, the great Mae West heads for the wide open spaces in "Go West Young Man."

PAUL LINTON



Anna Karina and Jean Paul Belmondo in "Une Femme est une Femme"



"Psycho," Arts Lab., Thursday/Friday/Saturday, 7 p.m.

THEATRE

TOM STOPPARD'S "After Magritte", which is to be performed at the late-night Rep. this Friday, is almost virgin material. The only other production was a lunch-time showing by the Ambience club earlier this year with Clive Barker, of our Drama Department, in the lead role of Chief Inspector Foot. Directed by Dustin Hughes, the Rep version promises to be very entertaining.

I saw an early rehearsal last week and there the actors were engrossed in the main problem surrounding this initially bizarre play: that of building justifications for the characters. This is particularly difficult in a play which concerns itself with, amongst other things, a blind, white-bearded, one-legged footballer with a tortoise under one arm, a bald nigger minstrel with one leg and a shattered crutch, and a living-room light which works on a counter-balance weighed up (or down) with a bowl of fruit!

The frightening thing about this play is its shattering logic. Everything occurring as the play opens is explained perfectly by the play's close. Stoppard has invested his play with an inverse situation, for though the entire household appear to be mad, it is the policeman, that epitome of reasoning, who is shown to be completely unbalanced precisely because of his unwavering powers of detective reasoning.

Jonathan Holt has the role of the inspector and carries off the subtle changes from reason to insanity very well. He is a nightmare Sherlock Holmes, an English Hercule Poirot slowed down. He was struggling with his lines when I saw the rehearsal, but he seemed to be well on the way to providing himself with a sound basis for characterisation in this difficult role.

Go and see this quite traditional play with surrealist material as its only claim to being called surrealist. You may even see Tom Stoppard himself in the audience. He is at the moment trying to sell this play as a double bill to the U.S.A. with his previous detective play, "The Real Inspector Hound". If they buy it this may be your only chance of seeing a good showing of this new play for quite a while...

BRIAN BUTLER.

REMEMBER "6.5 Special"? The original rock spectacular. Well, the whole show is back in town, complete with Jack Good, all-star cast and what looks like the original set, the whole package under the name of "Catch my Soul" (the soul vaguely substituting for the rock in the original). Oh, and by the way, the words and storyline are from an obscure play by William Shakespeare called "Othello."

I've nothing against anyone remoulding Shakespeare's plays as an experiment, but why anyone should want to produce a rock version of "Othello" I really can't understand. I wasn't much clearer about it after seeing the show, either. Song follows song at the slightest excuse, with snatches from the Shakespeare text interspersed and recited in a sing-song nasal twang which is a British approximation of a deep South American accent.

The thing is that the music isn't all that good. "Gass" seem to be a group of mediocre ability, and the songs are not easily distinguishable from each other—they're all a kind of anonymous soul-rock, although the leading artists are all very competent in their own right—Lance LeGault (Iago) has a good white-blues voice with slight night-club cabaret polish, and P. P. Arnold's soul-filled voice hardly seems to need the microphone which it's imperative to carry around on the

stage. Yes, and P. J. Proby is there too, his right hand still firmly attached to his ear, just like old times.

It's not Shakespeare, but it's difficult to keep from mentally referring it to the original, and without the reference there's not much left except a succession of songs.

The plot is all but incomprehensible, and as for motivation... It's not unfair to expect all these things from a musical—"West Side Story" achieved a fusion of plot and music and successfully made the translation from one idiom to another.

But then, it's not a musical either—or certainly not in the traditional sense. It won't pack them in like the "Sound of Music" or "West Side Story"—the love theme isn't attractive enough and the music isn't exactly to the taste of Julie Andrews lovers.

However, it's not on the level of "Hair" either—the music has nothing on that production, and the whole hippy thing is so forced and artificial that younger people just won't want to know either.

Who does know what's going on? Maybe Jack Good, the producer and Othello himself. But in the production notes he disclaims having any conception of the production: "We make no claims for the resulting collage except the right to have made it. There's just the thought that Good is one of those people who has always wanted to do Othello and was determined to do it even if it meant mounting his own production."

JOHN WILLIAMS

BOOKS

IN his "Doomsday Book", Gordon Ratray Taylor gives his views of the problems facing the world in the next 30 years.

Just as his book "The Biological Time Bomb" took current issues in biology and forecast their possible effect on people's attitudes and on the world in general, so the Doomsday Book takes wider issues—pollution, the population explosion, and all man's technological advances— and predicts their impact on the world.

Inevitably, he tends to sensationalise and over-emphasise some points, but I think this is quite justified as he's not "preaching to the converted", but trying to reach the great mass of people who have never thought deeply of the consequences of our technological advances.

To this end he puts everything in straightforward language: as he says, "words like 'the complex fabric of the biosphere' are too general and abstract to mean much to anyone who isn't a biologist."

Presumably this desire to reach the public, as well as the desire to make money, induced him to have the book serialised in the "Sunday Mirror".

Starting with our basic requirements of water and air, he shows how the by-products of industry affect these... Did you know that 34 tons of dirt per month fall on every square kilometre of Osaka and Tokyo? Seventeen tons in New York? In Japan there are even slot machines dispensing oxygen for those feeling faint. This, he says, is only part of the price of the technological dream.

He compares man in his finite "spaceship earth" with bacteria in a test tube. Given all the food and air they want, bacteria will grow phenomenally, doubling their population every 20 minutes until you can see them as a solid mass. Eventually, however, even with unlimited oxygen and food, they'll die faster than they can reproduce, poisoned by their own waste products...

Most of the examples he quotes are well known amongst the specialists, but Taylor makes them interesting and readable for ordinary people, as in the case of some experiments on rats carried out by Calhoun in 1962. The rats were kept at very high densities—80 rats in a cage 14ft. by 10ft. They displayed the male aggressiveness and inadequate maternal care characteristic of overcrowded animals, but there were some other strange characteristics.

Young males roved about in bands, assaulting females; there was much homosexuality, both in males and in females; dominant males were indiscriminately biting other, smaller males. While there are great risks in arguing from animals to man, the parallels with modern city dwellers are obvious.

Pollutants of various descriptions are dealt with at some length. Not only is pollution by the familiar insecticides, pesticides, fertilisers and radioactivity discussed, but also pollution by metals—mercury from P.V.C. manufacture, lead from the anti-knock in petrol, and cadmium from the plating of containers.

The book is not just a collection of examples, however, put together for the sole purpose of making money. It is in the final part of the book that the real problems of society are faced: "Industrial society is committed to a self-defeating process: the manufacture of ever more goods in the belief they confer satisfaction, by means which create dissatisfaction." "...no rational men would actually set up conditions in which their very food and water were constantly polluted, their children killed and injured, and their whole environment rendered fouler all the time to ear, eye and nose—not through their failures, but through their very efforts and so-called advances."

I could go on for days about the issues involved and the examples given, but the book does it so much better. For those wanting more detailed information, there are 20 pages of references, which give most of his sources of information.

At £2 2s. 0d., it's a book to be bought at the start of term (unless you're just plain rich), but the paperback, when it comes out, will be a much better buy.

His predictions for the next 30 years aren't exactly wonderful: "At best, a way of life marked by stress, diseases and frustration... at worst, a disturbance of the balance of nature which could eliminate whole species, even man himself."

ANDREW TASKER

MUSIC

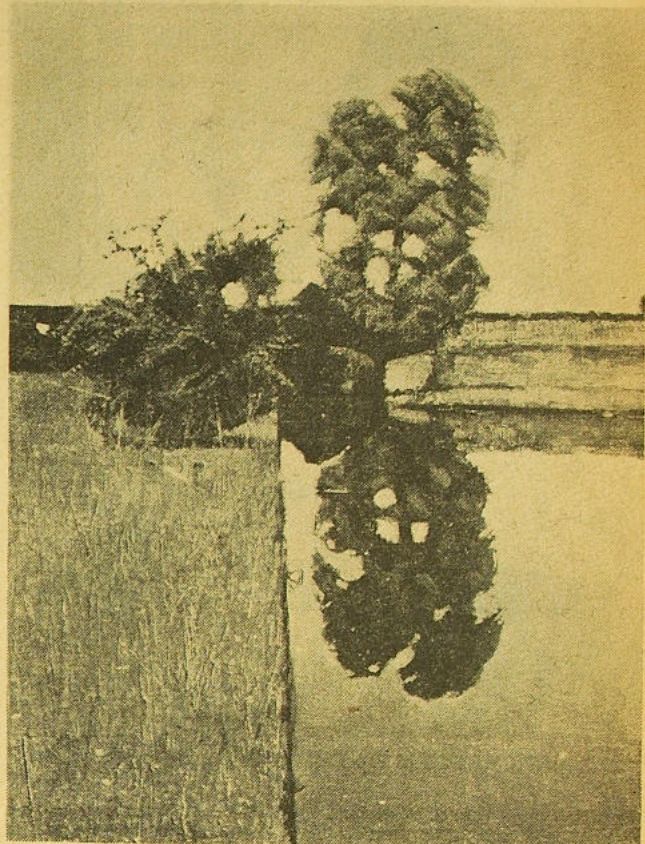
FIRST TIME IN 500 YEARS

THE concert to be held in St. Paul's Church, Ludgate Hill, next Saturday at 7.30 p.m. is a unique occasion. It opens with a performance of a Mass by Richard Cocks, transcribed from the original manuscript by Nicholas Sandon, the only known piece by an otherwise unknown fifteenth century English composer. This nevertheless fine work is receiving its first performance for 500 years.

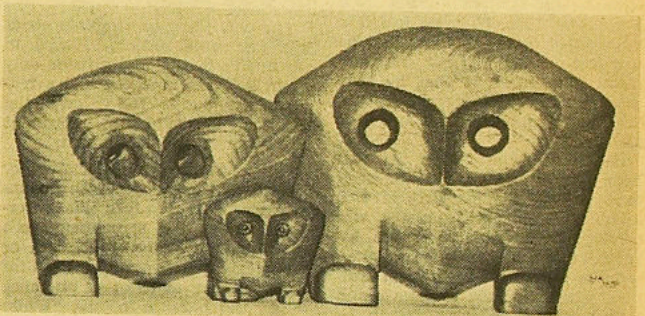
The programme is completed by Machaut's Mass, performed in Medieval fashion with a variety of instruments, and pieces by Andrea and Giovanni Gabrieli, including Andrea's Gloria for four choirs. In the Gabrieli pieces saxophones will be used to recreate the now rare sound of Renaissance cornetti.

"Voices and Instruments, St. Paul's Church, November 21st, 7.30 p.m. Programme 5/-.

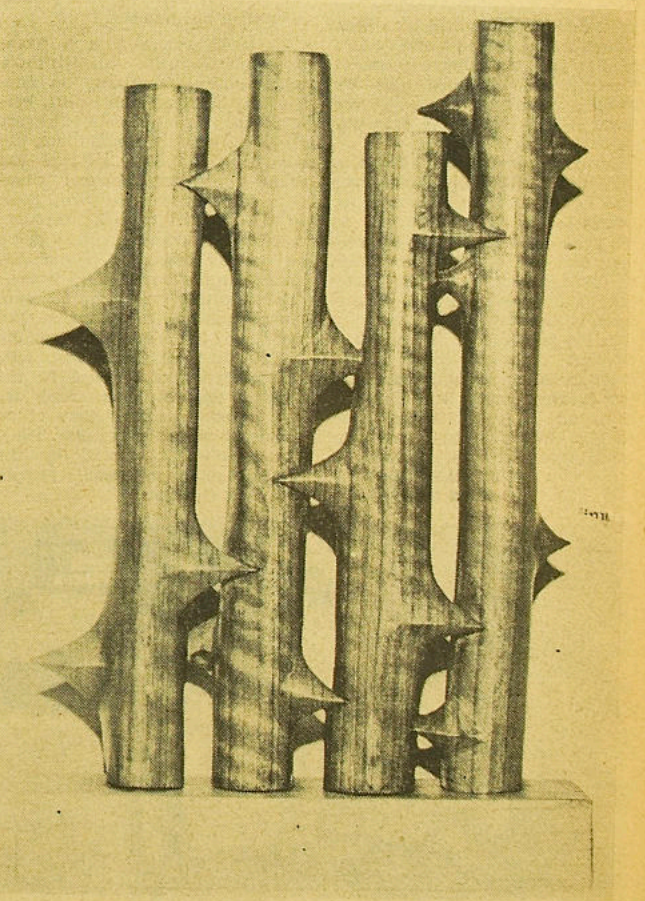
A.F.C.



"Reflections"—painting by Geoff Yeoman. Compendium Gallery.



"Owl Family"—Paul Donovan. Compendium Gallery.



"Natural Growth"—Paul Donovan. Compendium Gallery.

music



JACK BRUCE at the East Birmingham Hospital.

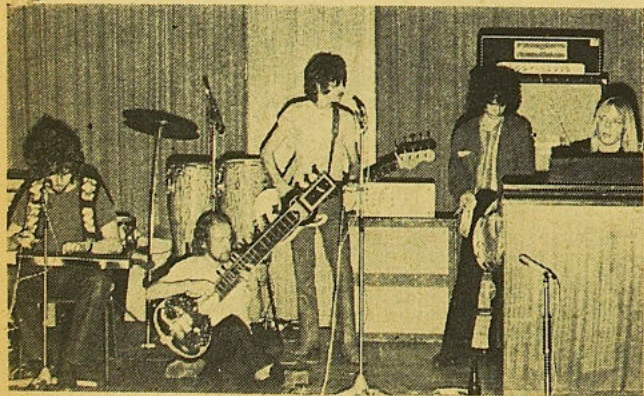
TOWN HALL, Tuesday, November 10th, 9.20 p.m.: The stage is full of equipment switched on, purring in readiness for Lifetime to attack it. The road manager then appears and informs us that Jack Bruce and Tony Williams had had an accident on the way and that he had just received a phone call from them. The news at that moment was that injuries were not serious, Tony having hurt his back and Jack his hands.

Backstage investigation revealed little further except that the accident was on the outskirts of Birmingham and that Jack, who was driving the hired car, was not injured. Hazzarding a guess we then went to the East Birmingham Hospital where we were to arrive and find Jack and Tony waiting to be picked up by their manager.

Jack then told us about the accident which sounded like a classic "stunt" and, as was obvious by then, said that they had both been cleared medically and would be able to play the remaining concerts of the tour. He also hoped to be able to do a rearranged concert at the Town Hall as soon as a date was available.

Earlier the management had said that money would be refunded or that tickets could be exchanged for tickets for the Airforce concert on the 23rd. The latest news is, however, that money is being refunded as from yesterday and that Lifetime will appear, instead of Airforce, on the 23rd!

In the first half of the show The Greatest Show on Earth played a set including straight rock, hard jazz blowing, Beach Boys-type harmony and a lot of self-indulgent soloing. Without the latter they would have been very enjoyable.

JOHN HEADON
JOHN REDFERN

THE STRAWBS — Mason Hall, Friday.

The essence of most of their songs was back to that of the first L.P.—forceful lyrics from Dave Cousins, harmonised by Dennis Hopper and none of the instruments being allowed to dominate. The balance between electric and acoustic instruments made a pleasant change.

There seemed to be a new dimension to the Strawbs with the addition of an organist—especially one such as Rick Wakeman. Besides adding all the subtle background found in the best of the Cousins compositions, he managed to do a piano solo, "Primo Variations" which had the audience laughing throughout, and an organ solo during their final number, "Where are those days of your youth" which had all the quality of an Emerson piece.

This was the second time within a week that something has been arranged that has proved to be successful, both in quality and number of tickets sold (the other being Wednesday's poetry reading).

If Mason Hall and GAS can achieve this how come Events Committee seem to be in such a difficult position?

GRAHAM MOORE

MASON HALL managed to find a successful combination of artists last Friday for their fourth annual folk concert, and, consequently reaped the rewards of praise and profit.

The only thing to complain about was the stage setting. Placed in the middle of the dining room, only about half the audience had a reasonable view of it—the vision of the rest being blocked by an assortment of amplifiers and instruments.

Jerry Lochran and Cliff Augier started off the evening with a competent set of Negro folk blues. Perhaps it was the acrobatics (both vocal and physical) of Lochran or the pleasing folk guitar of Cliff Augier that made the audience forget the paradox of the "White man singin' der blues." But who can complain when they got such a good reception during their second set, with the audience even joining in on their last number?

Stefan Grossman gave a "complete entertainment" although there were signs of familiarity for anyone who had seen him before. Perhaps this is Grossman's biggest fault—it's easy to imagine him, the next day in another part of the country, creating identical situations to crack identical jokes. Even so his originality came through, especially on quieter numbers where he was not trying to put on his "American boy from home" image.

By contrast the Strawbs were almost faultless. Any idea that they were going to stick to the essentially folk outlook of their last L.P., "Dragonfly," was dispelled by the sight of the instruments ready for use, including organ, sitar, conga drums, piano and bass guitar. These were perfectly balanced by the acoustic guitars of Dennis Hopper and Dave Cousins.

NEXT Tuesday at the Town Hall you can see this year's American Folk-Blues Festival which started its nationwide tour in London three weeks ago. The show had its faults, not least of which was the tradition-breaking presentation of the old country bluesmen before the interval with the electric music following.

In the latter half only the gospel-orientated Sister Rosetta Tharpe shone, quite putting to shame the guitarist in Willie Dixon's very mediocre Chicago All-Stars. For myself the first half made the show worthwhile. Jack Dupree played better than I've heard him before, while Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee—the best received artists of the evening—including "Walk On" and a spirited "Whooping Blues" in their set.

And then there was the emotion of Bukka White who, while singing brilliantly, gave signs of his age in his heavy-handed though fierce plucking on his steel guitar. Go and see the show—it's a fine evening of entertaining and emotional blues.

GRAHAM COLE



THE STEVE BYWATERS and TOM SORAHAN ELECTRIC BAND.

TOM SORAHAN and Steve Bywaters opened with a short acoustic set. Tom gave an effective rendering of his songs, the piano well balanced with his voice.

This standard was matched by Steve's more subjective songs accompanied by guitar, and surpassed in "I Shall Wave," where piano, guitar and their very different voices made an unusual and successful combination.

Bill Clague and Chris Roberts (and amplification) joined them when many people, devotees of poetry (famous) rather than music (unknown), had left.

They began well, though their tension, not alleviated by Tom's jokes, was painfully obvious. "Manifesto" was well balanced and competent, and warmed up as it went on.

In "Autumn," with its powerful vocals from Tom, Chris's drumming was impressive, and remained so for most of the numbers. "It's a Summer's Morning," though not inferior, had a lukewarm reception, but the quieter melodies of "Spring" were better received and perhaps marked the high point.

By now, a steady stream of people was leaving, provoking a "can't be bothered" mood on stage, leading to more walking out—a vicious circle. "Nemesis," after a good beginning, started to fall apart when the tempo changed; in places, half the group didn't seem to realise what the others were doing. The 6/4 section went smoothly, but the overall impression was scrappy.

"Beer Drinking Woman," an instant appeal rocker, dragged a "reaction" from the audience, but as "Cold August" progressed, this momentary rapport was lost, until everyone, including the band was just waiting for the end. The technically interesting 5/4 section should (in retrospect) have been the most satisfying aesthetically, but was thrown away into the general off-hand atmosphere, and the 3/4 time passage came over better.

Bill's bass sounded shaky for the first time, so the foundation was not solid enough for the complications of frequent tempo, key and mood changes.

An unfortunate end, for it is obvious that with the four basic instruments, plus Steve's flute and acoustic guitar, they have great potential. They produce an interesting sound, and the performance was very creditable considering the length of time they have been together.

LIZ UNSWORTH

AT the C.B.S.O. concert tomorrow evening Louis Frémaux conducts music entirely from the Romantic era: Richard Strauss's "Don Juan" (a symphonic poem based on Lenau, written in 1888 and first performed at Weimar the following year), Rachmaninov's Third Piano Concerto in D minor (played by the fine pianist John Ogdon) and Schumann's Symphony No. 3 in E flat, "Rhenish" (so called because Rhenish life and gaiety form its main theme).

DAVE EDGAR.

The heart of the nation station



LIGHT colour and large areas of glass front give a palatial look to the new buildings of Britain's youngest local radio station, Radio Birmingham. The main block gleams high above the lower buildings and corridors. The architecture is clearly intended to emphasise the modern and independent character of the station.

Electrically automated glass doors lead to an airy reception centre where a stand displays messages of congratulations and good wishes from all over Europe. The newness of this recently opened radio station is emphasised by the fact that the buildings will not be completed until the middle of next year. I interviewed the station manager, Mr. Jack Johnston, who soon showed that he has a deep and active interest in every aspect of the workings of the station. From him I learned what Radio Birmingham is doing and what he hopes it will achieve in the future.

The first thing to realise about Radio Birmingham is that it does not serve Birmingham alone, but covers a great part of the Western Midlands industrial area. There is a population of three and a half million within listening distance, and of that, nearly half has access to VHF receivers. This number is the potential audience of Radio Birmingham, large to begin with, and steadily increasing. It includes people of a wide range of jobs, backgrounds and cultures, but with a large proportion engaged in the manufacturing industries.

When Schumann moved to Düsseldorf in September, 1850, he was greatly inspired by the Rhenish character, so essentially different from his own native middle German. He wrote several major works in quick succession, of which one was the E flat Symphony. Every movement of the work is marked by its strict formal construction, despite the unusual spiritual content, and by the firm and appropriate handling of the orchestral apparatus. No other work has ever been so filled with the spirit of affirmation and the joy of life.

Not many car radios can receive VHF, and the national radio cannot give detailed road reports for the whole country. The other peak listening periods, lunchtime and early evening, are also covered by Radio Birmingham, with broadcasts aimed exclusively at this community and divided into programmes for housewives, working women, children, immigrants, businessmen, and, beginning in January, a programme for students.

Mr. Johnston's aim is to link the whole of this area of business and industry. The station can reflect the interests of the various parts of the community and help people to find new interests and ideas. A good news service is essential to keep everyone in touch with what is happening around them and near to them, to tell them what issues are becoming important.

Radio Birmingham has no binding government by the B.B.C. Mr. Johnston is free to put on any programme he feels would be useful or appropriate. His broadcasting hours are not tied; he is free to extend them at will. Although the station is financed by the B.B.C., it may

When asked how, in the future, he could gauge the success of Radio

by
A. Wright

Birmingham, Mr. Johnston said that indications could be obtained from B.B.C. audience surveys which are beginning to investigate the effect of other local radio stations. He personally, however, would judge whether he was succeeding by the number of letters and telephone calls received by the station, giving comments, criticisms and sugges-



Fiona Nicol, one of the Radio Birmingham staff makes a programme juncture

JOHN SPRING & COMPANY

John Spring Snr., F.A.I.B., A. J. Parsons & W. J. Spring, M.A. (consultant)

ASSOCIATED INSURANCE BROKERS

191 Baldwins Lane, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28

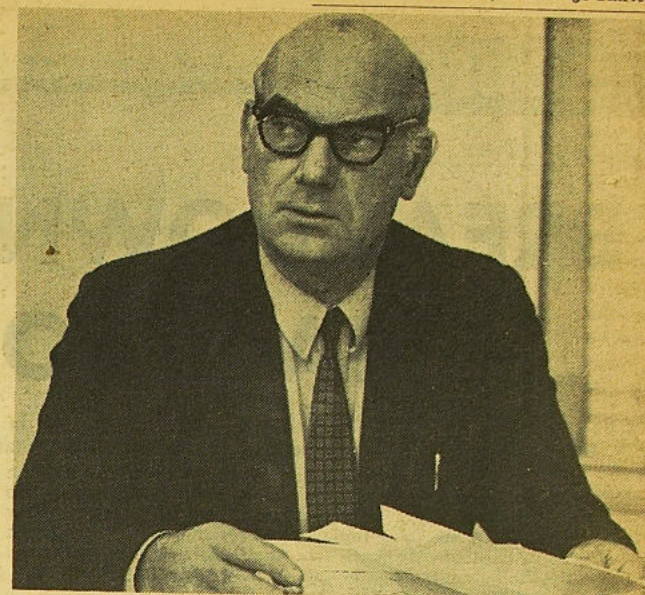
Telephone 01-744-4645 and 021-744-6899

FOR ALL INSURANCES—including

House Purchase Policies—Sports Car and all Motor risks

TIME PAYMENT ARRANGED

(EVENING APPOINTMENTS ARRANGED).



Mr. Jack Johnston, Radio Birmingham's station manager.

Writers take to speech

ON Wednesday, November 11th, Miss Naomi Freedman took the chair to preside over a debate on the motion that "The Mass Media abuse their Power." As soon as the minutes of the previous meeting had been taken as read, Mr. D. A. N. Jones, drama critic for the "Listener" and "Radio Times," stood up to propose the motion.

"All power is sometimes abused," he stated unhesitatingly, "but it's always the press and television that comes under the heaviest criticism upon this account." He pointed out that the mass media were originally controlled purely by the advertising industry, and that now, although a Government interest has become involved, an impartially controlled medium of communication to the masses had yet to appear.

Using the B.B.C. as an example, he told the House that the spectrum of opinion from which television could take its viewpoint was determined by the breadth of opinion spanned by the Press, and since the British Press was bunched somewhere to the right of the middle, there also was trapped the broadcasting media. Becoming more specific, Mr. Jones criticised the Press for invariably failing to report the facts about the origins and causes of any industrial strikes.

Quoting at length from a national newspaper, he illustrated this point and afforded the audience considerable amusement. In conclusion, Mr. Jones advocated the setting-up of a B.B.C. (British Press Corporation) as a means of rectifying the faults in the British mass media.

The motion was opposed by Mr. Brian Priestley, assistant editor of the "Birmingham Evening Mail". He scathingly condemned the proposer's image of the Press as fanciful and not in accordance with the facts.

Demanding to know what sort of power the Press had, he attempted to show the Press's inability to influence public opinion by firstly referring to the Tories' victory in the last election, and then reminding the House of the sad story of Lord Beaverbrook, whose enemies always prospered, and whose printed support was enough to doom any cause to failure.

Biased reporting, Mr. Priestley maintained, was unlikely to thrive in this country because of our libel laws. He therefore submitted that the power of the Press really lay not in what opinions the Press may choose to adopt and promulgate, but rather in the manner in which the Press presents the true facts.

To manoeuvre within the narrow limits of the facts' flexibility was not to abuse power but merely to utilise it.

The seconder for the proposition

Are you interested in North America?

Join

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

ABROAD

International House,
40 Shaftesbury Avenue,
London, W.1 Tel. 01-43705374

Ending with a quotation from dostoevsky, Mr. Haine emphasised the undesirability of the mass media being controlled by too few.

The final speaker of the evening was Mr. John Whale, of the "Sunday Times" and I.T.N. Rising to the bait of a previous speech, he denied that the Press was primarily a commercial venture; money invested in newspapers would give a far greater return if transferred to other spheres of the stock market, he informed the House.

Answering the point that the Press's spectrum of political opinion was undesirably narrow, he put it to the House that this was not the fault of the newspaper industry—it was it not a fact that the lack of public support for the "Daily Herald" caused the collapse of this distinctly leftist paper?

Mr. Whale then went on to submit that the power of the mass media was overrated. He stated that the only modern politician to have his career substantially influenced by television was Sir Alec Douglas-Home, and that the alleged ability of Press and broadcasting to influence in a major way public opinion was largely a myth. Mr. Whale expressed contempt for attempts in America to take television as a scapegoat, and blame it for violence and rioting, which in reality took its roots in social factors.

He concluded that human behaviour was determined by numerous and complicated influences and that it was facile to attribute to Press, radio and television the power to alter significantly people's actions. The mass media, he said finally, have no power which they can abuse.

The debate was wound up after Miss Freedman had accepted some speeches from the floor. A vote was taken and the motion was carried by 21 votes to 16, there being 17 abstentions.

sport 1

CROSS-COUNTRY

BREAKDOWNS BUG
B'HAM BOYS

AFTER beating most of the college teams in their early season relay races, Birmingham University have been raising their sights in the last few weeks.

The first big challenge they met was the initial Birmingham League division one race at Perry Barr. This race included the last two years' national cross country champions—Tipton and Stoke—the reigning national road relay champions—Coventry, and the Midlands road relay champions, Birchfield, plus two more of the country's leading cross country sides, in Worcester and Small Heath.

In this sort of company, life for the University side was expected to be very difficult. Indeed, things didn't look too bright when only one University runner finished in the first 20. However, there were five University runners in the next 11 places, good enough "packing" to give the University third place behind Tipton and Stoke.

Last Wednesday evening the team travelled up to Liverpool to meet some of the top Northern clubs in the Waterloo Round the House Night Relay. A breakdown on the way up meant that three of the team didn't arrive until 15 minutes before the race started, only to find that the other three members of the team had still to arrive.

This meant that they had little choice in deciding the order of running—a factor which is very important in relay races. The three runners already there would have to run the first three legs and hope their colleagues would arrive in the next half hour.

In fact, they arrived just as the gun was fired. On leg one, Roger Brown held on grimly to the lead-

ing bunch and came back in sixth place. Steve Gibbons moved up into second place on lap two. Andy Holden swept into the lead early on in the third stage, and in doing so established a new lap record.

This left Nigel Bailey, Ray Smedley and Ian Gilmour with the unenviable task of holding on to a none-too-safe lead. However, they performed their duties remarkably well and brought the club home 100 yards ahead of their nearest rivals.

Engine trouble struck the team again on their trip down to London to meet B.U.S.F. champions Oxford, and London in their annual triangular match. This time things didn't work out quite so well, and the race started with Ray Smedley and Roy Brown still stranded on the M1.

This put a lot of pressure on the rest of the team. After a poor start

Ian Gilmour, Steve Gibbons and Andy Holden moved swiftly into the leading bunch. Steve showed a hint of the form which made him such a force last year and was challenging for the leadership until two-thirds of the way through the race.

Holden was eventually left to battle for victory against the Oxford trio of Moore, Altmann and Valentine, and his power on the hills eventually took him to a comfortable victory. Gibbons and Gilmour both ran well for sixth and eighth respectively.

The rest of the team backed up well but unfortunately the loss of Smedley and Brown, plus Gavin Russell's absence through injury, proved too much of a handicap. Oxford were victorious this time, but things may well be different at the B.U.S.F. championships in February.



Andy Holden (right) is spearheading another successful cross-country team.

"REDBRICK" NEEDS

SPORTS
WRITERS

Apply: "Redbrick" Office,
any lunchtime.

ROWING

FOURS SHOW
PROMISE

AFTER a hair-raising trip down to London in the dilapidated wreck that is the old A.U. minibus, two IV's from the University competed in the first major event of the rowing calendar—the London Head of the River IV's.

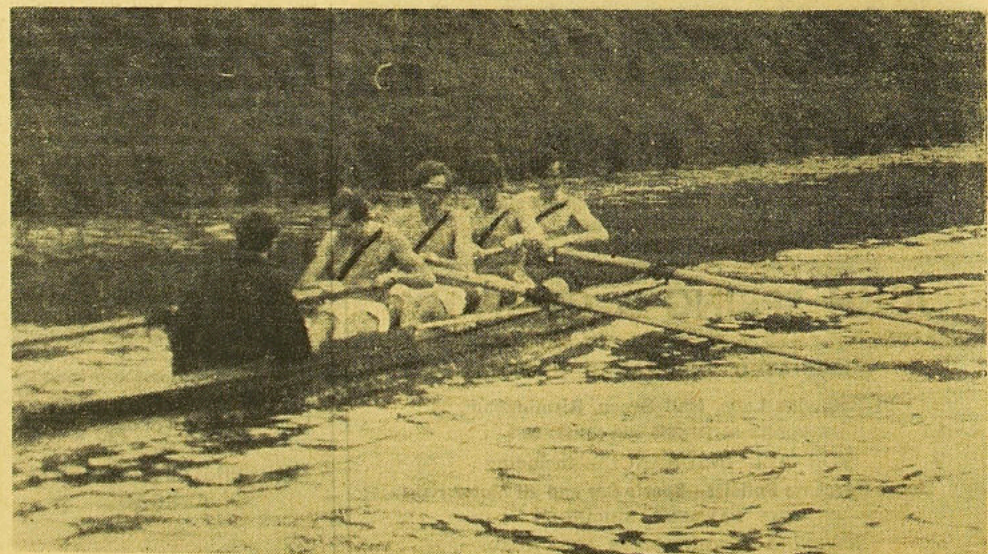
Over 300 crews from all over the country enter this event, and over IV's put up an excellent performance against this strong competition, dumbfounding several pessimists in coming well up with the leaders in their respective divisions.

The performance was all the more remarkable since one of the crews we sent down had only started to learn to row at the beginning of term, and they must really be congratulated on the keenness they have shown. With this sort of performance, and also a certain strength in depth of experienced oarsmen, the prospects for the next event look encouraging, and two eights are now in training for this, as well as for the annual "dinner".

Dave Wilson wishes to deny reports in previous "Redbricks" that he ever got his vehicle stuck in a lane during training one week (even though he was asking everyone how to get it out). Also, Dirty Dick wishes to emphasise that he is still the best of friends with Trobfield and hopes to arrange a touching Union!

An innovation this year has been a serious ladies' section of the rowing club and it is worth mentioning how well these girls are learning—they are certainly better at it than

some some girls we had last year, and put some of the male novices to shame (as well as distracting the attention of a certain senior officer of the club).



Things look bright for this year's fours.

NETBALL

AN M-WAY VISION

Boggle-eyed and blue in the face,
Off to Keele went dozy race,
Perchance our clothes we were ripping,
For on the coach the seconds stripping.
Gone 10 o'clock and all is ill—
Late—and shots to fill.
But, panic not,
The goals we shot
(Full loaded with a pie and beans).
Bashed, bullied, bruised and beat all teams.
Success and shields came for the win,
And back to Brum with merry grin.
Now—netball forgot,
All shots shot,
Except those for Saturday night—
Or not?!

time—Birmingham burst upon their opponents—who didn't know what had hit them—and the day's final results made the early morning rise well worth the effort. On the return journey the coach was heavier by two well-won shields and 14 certificates (as well as 14 players full of pie and beans—as well).

In the first team rally, the team, consisting of Philippa Bonorino, Paula White, Lynette Buxton, Sheila Pook, Gill Woodhead, Jill Barber and Diane Birnbaum, beat:

Nottingham, 16-10; Leicester, 17-11; Keele, 17-5; and Manchester, 20-3.

They thus convincingly won the first team rally—although not finding their best form until the last match against Manchester—when nothing could stop them.

The second VII, consisting of Judith Ridley, Liz Webb, Cath Healy, Anna Barber, Rosemund Murphy, Christine Osmand and Liz Williams, had even more convincing wins over opponents Manchester (25-2) and Keele (12-2)—the Keele match being played with only six players, when Anneta twisted her ankle in the first couple of minutes. Neither Leicester or Nottingham managed (or dared?) to field a team against the might of Birmingham's second VII.

Thus, Birmingham second VII won the second VII rally—and the competition's two trophies returned with us yet again to Birmingham.

From the rallies, the following people were selected to go forward for South W.I.V.A.B. trials at Reading on Wednesday: Sheila Pook, Philippa Bonorino, Lynette Buxton, Paula White, Judith Ridley, Anneta Barber and Christine Osmand.

Saturday's successes are a continuation of the season's successes. The teams have laced every crowd of upstarts that have dared to show their audacious faces. The hordes of Reading University, and a Dame Elizabeth League VII, decked out in Omo-bright nappies, have fallen to the might of Pook Power. Oxford didn't even dare to lift their heads from beneath their cloaks of terror. Anyway, they're tremendous. (Well, Bob thinks so, anyway!)

sport 2

RUGBY

PETE BUTLER THE STAR

BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY 1st 17, LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY 0

FOLLOWING the crushing defeat at the hands of Nottingham the week previously, the University team was out to get some form of revenge, at the expense of Loughborough, on Bournbrook last Wednesday. This was exactly what they did, thanks mainly to some thin in the U.A.U. championship.

Fresh from a weekend off (which is debatable!), the Boys in Blue kicked-off into a strong wind, and soon got stuck in. Throughout the first half the forwards were getting some really good possession in the tight scrums, but their teamwork in the loose rucks once again left a lot to be desired.

This is probably the most disappointing part of our game at the moment, and unless the forwards learn to hunt together as a pack, our list of victims is not likely to lengthen to any great extent during the rest of the term. At half time the score was 0-0, despite a number of penalty attempts by each side.

The real differences in the sides was seen in the second half when Birmingham began to use the wind far more profitably than their opponents had done in the first half. Long, raking kicks by Butler, Watkins (who didn't put a foot wrong at full-back) and White kept the visitors firmly in their own half. After a period of constant pressure, Butler, following a heel against the head, calmly opened the scoring with a well-taken dropped goal. He then added to Loughborough's misery with a long penalty and another dropped goal, this time from broken play, to make the score 9-0.

In the last five minutes Birmingham went further ahead with

a well-taken try. Needless to say, it was Pete Butler who made it, by charging down his opposing fly-half's clearance kick, and then finding Roy White with a long pass. The centre then had an easy job of touching down between the posts. Butler dutifully converted and fittingly underlined the part he played by kicking a further penalty on the stroke of time.

Thus, the University won again, but not really a very satisfying win, for we have turned in much better performances this season, and lost. However, it was a win, and this is bound to give the team extra confidence that has been all too lacking of late.

The Blues' next fixture is against Oxford University Greyhounds on Bournbrook today, kick-off 3 p.m. All support will be gratefully received.

Team: D. Watkins, P. Gardner, S. Guthrie, D. McCoach, F. Butler, T. Pipe, J. Fraser, J. Bond, D. Cooper, S. Bastable, C. Howard, D. Winter, D. Starling, J. Suggate.

BASKETBALL

HOPE IN DEFEAT

LAST week the Basketball Club played two exciting games, against very hard teams, and came out of them very well. The first game, on Monday, brought West Brom. to the Sports Hall—a team with several national players, who have won the West Midlands League for several seasons.

The University went into an 8-0 lead through some excellent shooting by Terry Hornington. In the second half, West Brom. came a little more into their own, and they were able to coast home by 65 points to 42.

The whole of the team played very well, to give us an encouragement for Wednesday's U.A.U. game with Loughborough University.

This non-event was quite a let-down for T.P.

The away team's captain decided that they didn't feel like playing the game just as we were about to start—said they wanted to go home(!) and asked us to give them a medal. After they had been politely told to p--- off, they retired to the safety of the coffee bar to await U.A.U.'s decision.

On Saturday the first and second

teams travelled down to Cambridge to play their two teams and the proceeding were characterised by 14 sleeping bodies on the coach. After the second team had been very unjustly beaten 43-42, the firsts decided that the situation ought to be corrected and set out to win.

Terry and Kev were continually dragged away from the telly, and we were presented with a game ball that I.D.S. would scorn.

The result was hardly ever in doubt, but even so, T.P. put on an exciting display that would have gladdened the hearts of their many admirers, and lost only by the narrow (ish) margin of 87 points to 61.

Terry led the scoring with 14 points, well-assisted by John Pringle, Kev Moran and Adrian Tanner, with 12, and a massive nine from Dave Griffiths (who insists that he made most of the others).

GOLF

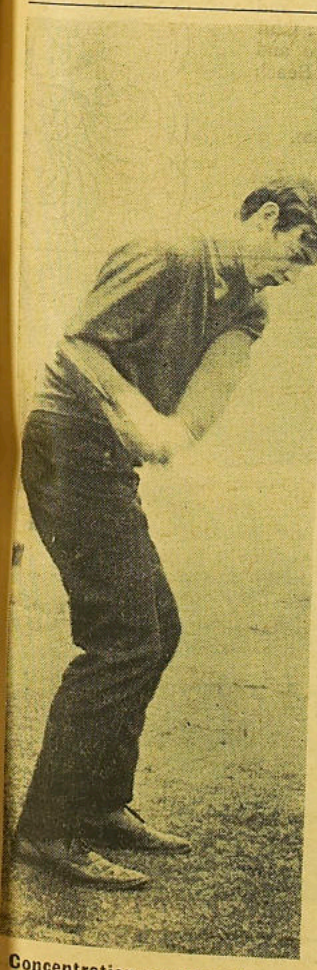
Birmingham's late win
over Leeds

BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY 7, LEEDS UNIVERSITY 5

THIS match, one of the highlights of the season, was played at Lindrick over 36 holes, against a strong Leeds side. The Birmingham team, captained by Bill Harrison, played disappointingly in the morning foursomes. Possibly the 6.30 a.m. start from Birmingham was to blame. Richard Lister and John Wood played well together to give Birmingham its only point before lunch. Thus, five of the afternoon singles had to be won to halve the match.

A bright start to the singles was provided by Bob Ashton, who celebrated a return to form with a crushing nine and eight victory.

Jim Reid showed improved form on his morning display and also won. However, Bill Harrison and Anthony Bond both lost, which put the Birmingham side once more two points in arrears. The next three matches were won by Richard Lister, John Wood and Tim O'Byrne, thus leaving the overall result in the hands of Ken Clarke. Ken had been five down at one stage, but fought back in fine style to win by one hole. One can feel some sympathy for his opponent, who sat with head in hands after leaving the course. Birmingham therefore won an excellent match by seven points to five.



Concentration on the fairway.

Sportscene

SPORT is one media which is supposed to spread goodwill between universities. However, several incidents have occurred quite recently which seem to indicate that the opposite has been happening in many cases. Not only have the sports clubs themselves been involved but also the University Unions have entered into the fray.

Last year the Birmingham Athletic Club was upset by a double cancellation by Loughborough Colleges of their winter match. Demands by Birmingham that some of the cost of preparing the track were reimbursed were completely ignored. This year when the new Loughborough captain wanted to write to Birmingham to arrange a fixture he was forbidden from doing so by a member of the Loughborough staff. Fortunately this rift has been bridged by personal contact between the captains of the two clubs.

This year a similar incident happened in reverse. A Leeds swimming team travelled all the way to Birmingham only to find that the match had been cancelled. The Swimming Club secretary had cancelled the match but had only sent

by

ANDY HOLDEN

a letter with a 4d. stamp the day before. This situation could easily have been avoided by simple use of grey matter and a telephone.

The Swimming Club felt that some blame should have been attached to the Carnegie team for travelling without confirming. However, it seems obvious that our club was mainly at fault and they ought to do something towards making recompense. The A.U. chairman is anxious that the reputation of Birmingham clubs should not be irreparably damaged.

You probably read last week in "Redbrick" of the damage caused by visiting teams in our main bar. This week A.U. here received a bill from Nottingham alleging £35 worth of damage caused to Nottingham Union bar by visiting teams from Birmingham. The allegation that 140 beer glasses (amongst other things) were broken in one night is obviously a bit far-fetched. However, there is no doubt that quite a lot of damage was done.

The question that must be asked is what can be done about all this. Will giving a bill to each of the clubs involved have any effect? This is extremely doubtful as the money will just be taken out of the club's budget and won't be missed at all.

Something must be done to prevent clubs from lowering the university's reputation in similar post-match nocturnal happenings. The banning of late returns is a possible method which could be employed, but this would also hit at innocent clubs who enjoy their late returns without going to the lengths of smashing up their hosts' property.

Perhaps a possible step would be disciplining of clubs involved in trouble by Athletic Union Exec, by the cutting of their grants. Any one brandishing a beer glass would thus be in danger of having to walk to his next match or pay his own way.

This punishment might seem rather extreme but something will have to be done to stop this needless violence. If steps aren't taken by A.U. the next stage could see University Unions putting up the barricades and shutters whenever they hear of the approach of a Birmingham University sports team.

Undefeated Mermaids, Hockey and Table Tennis reports next week.



STUDY OF STARLING IN ACTION.

around

DAY-BY-DAY

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18th

Film Soc.: "42nd Street," Haworth Lecture Theatre, 7 p.m.

Disco: Aston, 3/-.

National Head Band: Mothers.

Concert: Gervase de Peyer, Ilse Wolf, Lamar Crowson. Pieces by Brahms, Poulenc and Schubert. Barber Institute, 8 p.m.

Live Recital: By students of the Birmingham School of Music. B.M.I., 1.10 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOV. 19th

Film Soc.: "Top Hat" and "Magical Mystery Tour." Haworth Lecture Theatre, 7 p.m.

Concert: Barber Institute (as on Wednesday).

C.B.S.O.: Louis Frémaux and John Ogdon. Pieces from Strauss, Rachmaninov and Schumann. Town Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Lecture: "The Chester-Belloc and the Jews," by David Lodge. 1.10 p.m. Bread and Cheese lunch from 12.45 p.m., St. Francis' Hall.

Film: "Town Mouse and Country Mouse." City Art Gallery, 1.15 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOV. 20th

BUGS Beat Ball: Floppy Hat, Moby Dick and disco. Deb. Hall, 6/-.

Late-night Theatre: "After Magritte," by Tom Stoppard. Rep. Theatre, 11.30 p.m., 3/-.

SATURDAY, NOV. 21st

Dance and Disco: Marble Arch. Deb. Hall, 3/-.

Dance and Disco: Jimmy Powell and the Dimensions. Aston.

Musical Futures: David Parsons (violin) and Ruth Gerald (accompanist). Carrs Lane Church, 7.30 p.m.

Al Stewart: Town Hall, 7.30 p.m. Tickets from 6/-.

SUNDAY, NOV. 22nd

Sunday Film: "Deadlier Than The Male." Deb. Hall, 7 p.m., 2/6.

MONDAY, NOV. 23rd

Film Soc.: "Une Femme est une Femme," by Jean Luc Godard. "Alice in Wonderland," by Norman Macleod. Haworth Lecture Theatre, 7 p.m.

Lifetime: (Rearranged concert), Town Hall, 8 p.m. Tickets from 6/-.

Progressive Underground and Rock Soc.: Mixed Lounge, Monday, 7.30. Members free. Membership 5/-.

TUESDAY, NOV. 24th

Open Lecture: "Engineers and a Changing World," by Sir Frederick Warner.

Archæology: "The deserted villages of Warwickshire." A lecture by Mr. James Bond. City Art Gallery, 7.15 p.m.

American Folk Blues Festival: Town Hall, 8.45 p.m. Tickets from 8/-.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 25th

Film Soc.: "Go West Young Man," by Henry Hathaway.

"The Gay Tyrolese": By the Anglo-Austrian Music Society. Town Hall, 8.45 p.m. Tickets from 5/-.

Atkinson Lecture: "Professional control," with Clive Jenkins. Council Chamber, 1 p.m.

THEATRE

Birmingham Repertory: Wednesday, 2.30 p.m. and 7.15 p.m.: "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Thursday until Monday: "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead." Monday until Saturday, December 12th: "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Alexandra Theatre: Welsh National Opera, 7.15 p.m. Wednesday: La Bohème. Thursday: Die Fledermaus. Friday: Aida. Saturday: Simon Boccanegra. Monday and Tuesday: London Festival Ballet's Dvorak Variations/Scheherazade/Etudes.

Theatre Centre: Until Saturday, November 21st: "We Must Kill Tony," by Ian Stuart Black.

GALLERIES

Compendium: Paul Donovan: Wood sculpture; Geoff Yeoman: Painting; Audrey Smith: Line drawings.

Ikon: Until December 5th: David Kelly, One Man Show.

City Art Gallery: Blake and his circle. Until November 29th.

CINEMA

A.B.C., Selly Oak: "The Great Bank Robbery," "When Dinosaurs Ruled The Earth." 7.20 p.m. Next week: "The Battle of Britain."

Futurist: "The Naked Wind On The Sea," "Fantomas Strikes Back." Following week: "Rebel with a Cause," "The Avenger."

Gaumont: "Cromwell." 7 p.m.

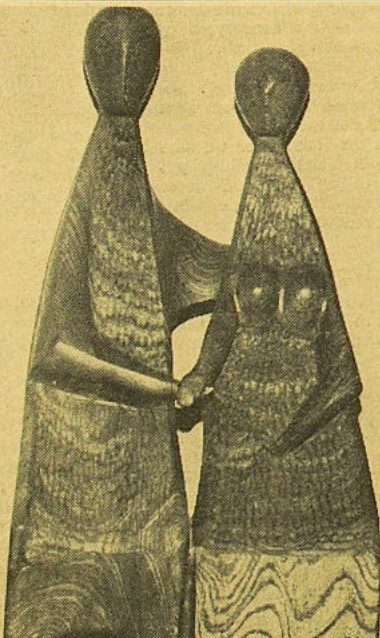
Arts Lab: Thursday, Friday and Saturday: "Psycho" and "Marnie," 7 p.m. Late-night Friday and Saturday: "The Birds," 11 p.m. Sunday, Monday and Tuesday: "The Torn Curtain."

Odeon New Street: "Fragment of Fear" and "Loving" for six days, 7 p.m. Wednesday: Cliff Richard. "Hello Goodbye" and "Prudence and the Pill." Wednesday, November 25th: Beach Boys.

Odeon Ringway: "Fellini Satyricon." 7.30 p.m.

A.B.C., New Street: "The Reivers," "A Whole Lot of Truth." 7.50 p.m.

A.B.C., Bristol Road: "Paint Your Wagon."



Seated Man and Woman by P. Donovan: Compendium Gallery.



"The Reivers": A.B.C., New Street.