

Deb. Soc.

This House Has No
Confidence in CND
Council Chamber
Thursday, 5.15.

REDBRICK

Ents. Com.

Only Two Can Play
Peter Sellers

Deb. Hall
Monday, Oct. 7th, 7.15

No. 640

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2nd, 1963

Price 3d.

we
confess...

FULL STEAM TO LONDON!

15/- for one-way trip

A CHEAP charter train down to London at the end of term. That's the plan being discussed by Guild officials this week. British Railways have offered the Guild a 400-seat train for only £250 for the trip. This would work out at 12/6 each, about 2/6 more would go in expenses.

The Union's Permanent Secretary, Mr. R. T. Jones, said: "When I was told about the idea by the railways I said I would see if there were enough demand. I only saw the representative last week. What we will probably do is put forms in the Steward's Office to find out who is interested."

The organisation of the Student Special will be left to N.U.S. Nigel Taylor, the secretary, said: "Everything is in the air at the moment. We want to find out if there are 400 people who want to go down to London first, then we can start making firm arrangements. The best thing about the idea is that the fare will even undercut the coaches and will be more than 10/- cheaper than the normal train fare."

Great success

Although the scheme was a great success when it was tried at Exeter last year, N.U.S. officials are worried that the train will be hired and then travel half empty. "One thing we can't afford to do is blindly arrange the train, find that about 50 people turn up and leave the Union with a £200 bill," said Mr. Taylor.

"Obviously we can't run the train before the last day of term and we have to face the fact that many people go home before then, to work at the Post Office at Christmas, and if we ran the train at the end of the summer term we'd have to consider the number of people who go home straight after their last exam."

If the idea comes off N.U.S. are planning to extend the scheme and run a train at the beginning and end of every term.

APOLOGIES, BUT WE KIND OF GOOFED

IT'S always the same at the beginning of the year. No photographers. Or, rather, those we HAVE got are grossly overworked.

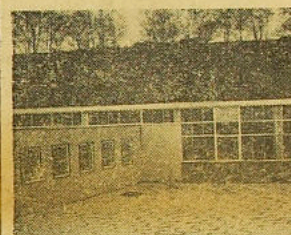
And so, when something goes wrong, it goes very badly wrong.

This week's prize error, for noticing which there will be no prizes, happened when the planned front-page photo. failed to develop.

In an effort to save the day, we chose this picture of Debbie Reynolds who figures in our chief feature this week (see centre spread).

But we're sure you won't object very strongly.

NEW COURSE



IS A BIG FLOP

THE production engineering department has suffered a major setback as a result of the complete flop of its three-year undergraduate course, planned to start next month. Only four applications have so far been received, although over 1,000 circulars were sent to schools and industrial concerns in the area.

Of the four applicants, only two have so far been enrolled for the B.Sc. honours degree course in the department. Dr. E. N. Corlett, senior lecturer in production engineering, said, "It seems surprising when so many people are saying there are not enough university places."

Post-grad

Until now, the department's work has been entirely post-graduate, and its courses have been over-subscribed, but there are now six more places in the course still to be filled. There is still time for qualified students to apply.

U.N. at Manor

A record number of countries were represented at this year's Overseas Freshers' Introductory Course held at Manor House. "The social contacts made and

the knowledge gained about the university were of undoubted value," said Rodney Watts, Assistant Guild Secretary. Accommodation problems were more acute than last year.

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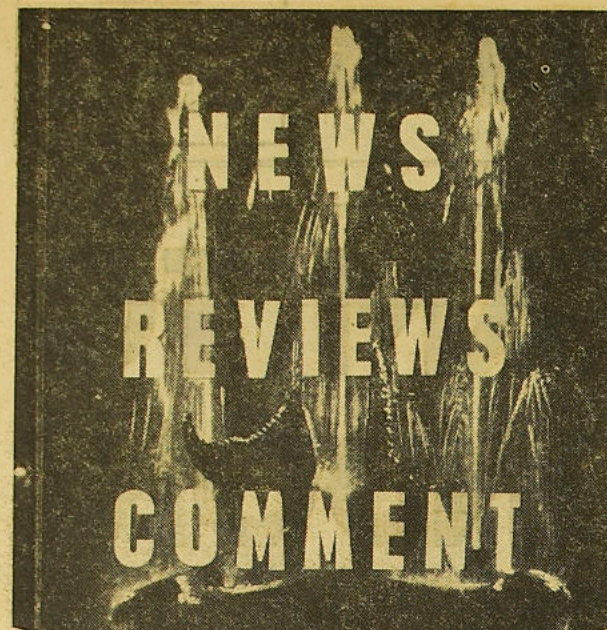
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This restaurant invites Freshers to try our excellent English and Oriental dishes. Parties catered for

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World affairs, books,
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It's rubbish, says Allen FIRST DEBATE HITS DEPTHS

IT is to be hoped that the Freshers do not take Friday's performance of the Debating Society as typical of its achievements: to do so would be to render the Society an unfortunate disservice. "In spite of the rubbish, you've all stayed," observed the Chairman, Andrew Allen, and one couldn't help suspecting that he might well have been serious.

The motion, "This House Is Glad To Get Away From Mother," was carried, but the huge number of abstentions bore witness to the widespread boredom and confusion. Don Wyndham Mears and Mike Hartley-Brewer were by far the most entertaining, even if the latter did pull out too many tired, "Daily Mirror"-type jokes.

His mathematical newscast was well done, with or without a credit to Victor Borge; but he gallantly resisted cries of "Throw him out," and admitted that "I was an accident." Some of the attempts at ludicrous logic were also good (notably from Don Wyndham Mears): we could have done with more.

The other speeches, including those from the floor, were marred by an uncomfortably

blurred demarcation line between seriousness and frivolity, so that Val Tompkins' "very interesting speech" fell flatter than it need have done, and the Fresher who declared himself a father had his real sincerity rubbed in his face.

The response from the floor to the Chairman's half-dozen loaded pleas for entertaining contributions ("You can talk about golf or anything") was appropriately poor, and we thus missed the opportunity of discovering new talent.

On the whole, then, it was a disappointing evening. As the same time it might stand as a salutary check for the Committee. On the strength of this performance alone one could argue that Deb. Soc. needs to have an appreciable increase in the number of serious debaters—if only so that the funny ones can be better prepared, and the bottom of the joke-barrel not be scraped so often.

WILLIAM ORWIN

THEY WON'T WRITE

THIS term's edition of "Mermaid" is scheduled to appear in about six weeks' time, but the staff are still being hampered by students' apparent unwillingness to write. Very few contributions have been received from outside the Arts Faculty, so editor David Bird and his colleagues remain on the lookout for bright ideas and new personnel.

Two articles which will be included in the new edition are an extended feature on Birmingham's new building developments, and a satirical piece. All other contributions must be in "Mermaid" office within the next fortnight.

CRESCENT THEATRE

Season 1963/64

Sept. 1963 - June 1964

Seven Productions: Plays by Ibsen, Shaw, Cross, Helman, Shakespeare, O'Neill, Farquhar.

AUDIENCE MEMBERSHIP for Season — 30/- entitles one to a seat at each of the seven productions.

Single Production Bookings accepted for Parties of Students at Reduced Rates—subject to 48 hours' notice.

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Following in the footsteps of Lord Byron is graduate Bernard Beatty (pictured right). Mr. Beatty, now occupied with second-year post-graduate research on Byron in the University's Department of English, made an extended journey to Greece and Turkey during the long vacation. Though he was not too impressed by some of the people, he liked Turkey so much that he has since contemplated returning there to live.



PROBLEM OF THE SONG NOT THE SINGER

What is the point?

HARSH lights glare down on a stage devoid of all scenery and dominated by an abstract figure of a man self-imprisoned in swirling barbed wire. Then the figure rises up and away for the beginning of James Saunders' "Next Time I'll Sing To You" (at the Rep. until October 19th).

The theme of the play is, ostensibly, the life and death of one Alexander James Mason, who lived alone in a little hut in Essex from 1906 until his death of malnutrition and old age in 1942. Mr. Saunders assembles his cast of five to ask "Why?" and "What was the point of it all?"

Or so the programme note assures us. And assures us wrongly, I believe. Mr. Saunders may have started with an attempt to realise this theme only then to come to understand the colossal presumption of his attempt. Instead, his play deals with those around the hermit—as the hermit himself says, he is "just a hole in the play."

The four investigators adroitly bowl and no-ball each other with verbal conundrums under the direction of Rudge (William Ingram) who is the most persistent of the four. He, at least, has some real interest in the problem of Mason, sees him as an individual.



Photo: Bham. Mail

• Ralph Nossek as the Hermit.

up and walked out at the end of the first act. But that it is intensely enjoyable there is no doubt. Five stars all round. Go and see it for yourselves.

BOB BOOTLE

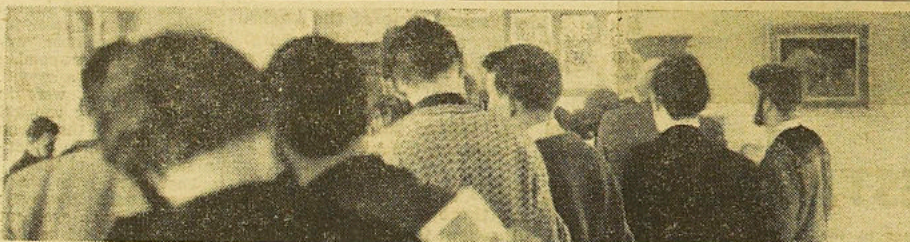
POMPOUS

Slightly to one side stands Dust (Robert Robinson), pompous and slightly annoyed by the hermit's persistent life. To get the evening over is his one aim: to dismiss the hermit as a simple "textbook case" of frustrated sexuality and to send him back to his grave.

Ralph Nossek plays the hermit himself. Originally hired to act the part, he finds his own interpretation of Mason as a saint, "a St. Francis with a twinkle in his eye," taking him over. His false beard takes root but this is the only part of the transformation to affect the others; his plaintive complaints have no effect upon their refusal to allow his life significance.

This conflict-provoking rather than conflict-resolving play is also uproariously funny. The profundity is concealed beneath a doubly-thick layer of jokes, inconsequentiality and absurdities which are put over with the utmost zest by the cast. The acting is superb. Lighting too is worth a mention.

What to make of it all is the problem. Harold Hobson thought it the best play in London; a party of middle-aged women at the first night got



• Queues . . . queues . . . theme of Fresher's Conference.

They're still not disillusioned

FRESHERS' first impression of Birmingham seems for the most part to be favourable, and some even confessed to REDBRICK'S spy that they were not yet disillusioned. "I've been fascinated

and hypnotised by what I've seen," said a girl from First Year English; "It's all a bit confusing, but I'm enjoying it." This sense of rush and hordes of helpful people was the dominating impression

derived from the Conference.

"Everybody tells you things all the time from every direction," said a Combined Subjects girl, still managing to look remarkably composed.

Old & new

THE demand for lodgings by married graduate freshmen at OXFORD is causing worry for the Oxford University Delegation of Lodgings. 400 enquiries have already been received, but while some colleges (such as Magdalen, New College and Somerville) are building or have built blocks for graduates, the situation remains critical.

The new University of East Anglia at NORWICH was opened at the weekend. The University village, two miles from the city centre, includes arts and science buildings, dining and assembly halls, common rooms and lecture theatres, but so far no accommodation.

The new University of YORK opening this session, will cost over £1m. more than was planned for in the original estimates.

The increase is mainly due to the rises in the price of building costs, wages and materials since the plans were made over sixteen months ago. The university will take its first students this week

Recent theories about stars and particles

GENESIS OF THE ELEMENTS

Findings of classical nuclear physicists and astrophysicists combine

MODERN explorations in science have enabled us to investigate phenomena and structures at distances of up to two thousand million light years away by telescope and down to one hundred millionth of a centimetre by high energy particle accelerators.

Not much has been said about the theory of nucleogenesis which accounts for the creation of the elements in our universe, and which is based on knowledge derived from the "near frontier" regions of nuclear and astrophysics. This remarkably successful theory, associated with the names of Hoyle, Fowler and E. M. and G. R. Burbidge, must rank as one of the greatest achievements of our civilisation.

Essential to the development of the theory were the findings of the so-called "classical nuclear physicists" who elucidated the mechanisms of nuclear reactions by means of accelerating machines such as the cyclotron, and the astrophysicists who, looking simply at the light emitted by stars and using theoretical inferences, had determined in many cases the mass, diameter, luminosity, temperature, composition and internal conditions of many stars.

Hydrogen

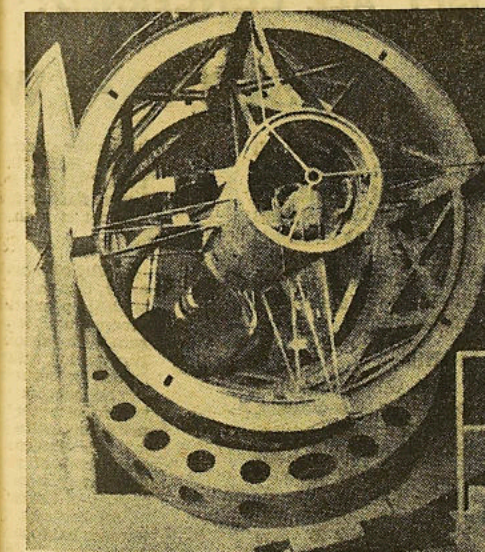
Terrestrial and near-space measurements have shown hydrogen, the simplest of the nuclear species (containing one proton) to be the most abundant. The relative abundance of heavier nuclei decreases with the mass of the nucleus, such as gold, uranium, radium, etc., are rare. The curve of abundance against nuclear mass is not quite smooth: it exhibits distinct peaks in the neighbourhood of atomic masses (2, 4, 8, 16, 20, 28, 50, 82 and 126).

In order to explain these features, Hoyle et al. assumed that the initial material of the universe was hydrogen, which slowly separated into aggregates of gas. These aggregates then

gas aggregate contracts.

Once the star reaches the hydrogen burning stage it contracts only slightly because the pressure of the hot, internal gases is sufficient to support the star against further gravitational collapse. The star may exist in this stage for 100 million years.

The next stage of the evolution of the star occurs when the



• The 200-inch reflector, largest telescope in the world, on Palomar Mountain, California.

experience gravitational interactions which make them condense into stars. The condensation and contraction continues until the thermal energy of the interior hydrogen is sufficient to initiate thermonuclear reaction in which hydrogen nuclei are converted into helium nuclei. The thermal energy is derived initially from the gravitational energy released as the

interior hydrogen fuel is expended. The star again starts to collapse until the internal temperature and density is sufficient to induce nuclear combustion of the product of the first stage, i.e., helium. In this condition, further reactions occur, and isotopes of elements such as carbon, nitrogen and oxygen are formed. After a period of typically a million years, the

helium fuel is used up and again the star begins to collapse.

The supernova stage is now reached. None of the products of the previous stage is sufficient for nuclear combustion, and the star continues to contract, converting its gravitational energy into heat, which in turn raises the internal temperature of the star still further, ultimately to one thousand million degrees Centigrade. Heavy nuclei are now synthesised. Intense heat conducts out into the cooler, outer shell of the star, and thermonuclear reactions are initiated. The star explodes, sending its products far out into space.

Abundance curve

These products, still abundant in hydrogen, now contain a greater proportion of heavy elements. The whole process repeats itself, so that the new stars become progressively more abundant of heavy elements. Calculation of these processes in terms of the above picture and knowledge of the nuclear physics involved have enabled the abundance curve to be accounted for in all its detail.

One or two interesting sidelights emerge from this theory. For example, in 1064 A.D. Chinese astronomers had seen a supernova outburst and plotted its light output with time. The light intensity dropped to half intensity after 55 days. Now the Hoyle et al. theory predicted that the supernova outburst should produce a heavy isotope of Californium. This nucleus is unstable and it undergoes fission with the generation of energy. The half-life of this element is equal to the half-life of light intensity observed by the Chinese.

Finally it is interesting to speculate that there may exist stars in the universe which evolved before our stellar system. In such systems the abundance of heavy elements will be even less than in ours. I wonder how the values of society on a planet in such a system would be in the absence of gold. Perhaps, after all, "it is the stars. The stars above us (that) govern our condition."

by Tegid Wyn Jones

Science & Life

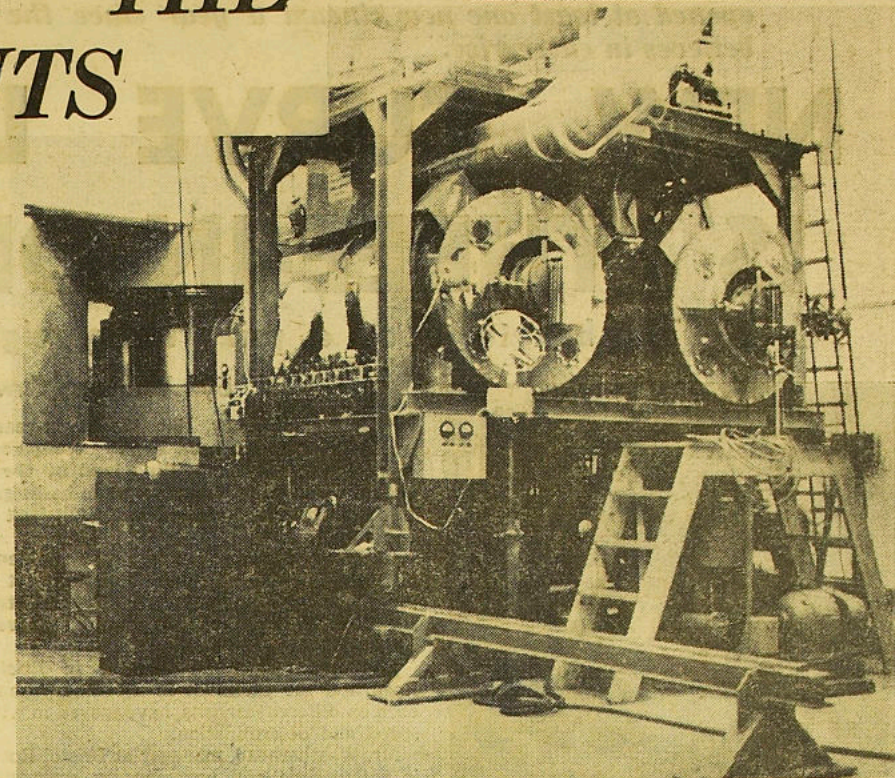
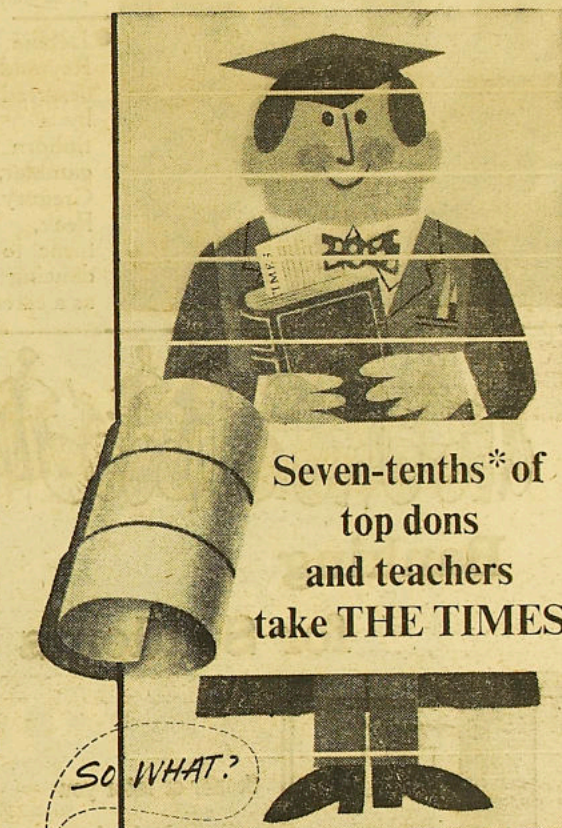


Photo: Dr. J. H. Fremlin.

• The Nuffield cyclotron: a tool of nuclear research, it accelerates charged particles to high energy in order to get them into the nucleus.



So only this: these particular Top People must keep themselves fully and widely informed. They must be aware not only of happenings in their particular field, but of discussion and comment on questions of the day, international news, politics and the arts. For all this, they turn to THE TIMES.

You may not want to be a top don or top teacher: lots of people don't. But the same is true of top civil servants, top businessmen, top politicians. Whatever kind of top person you hope to be, it's not too early to get in training now by

taking THE TIMES regularly. Especially since, as a student, you're entitled to it at half price: ask your newsgagent or write to THE TIMES Subscription Manager.

* The exact figure is 69.829667%. We are aware that this is a little less than seven-tenths: please do not write to point this out. Do write, however, if you would be interested in an account of the research which produced these and many other revealing figures. Who are Top People? What do they think on the important issues of the day? Write to The Times' Department SP1, Printing House Square, London EC4.

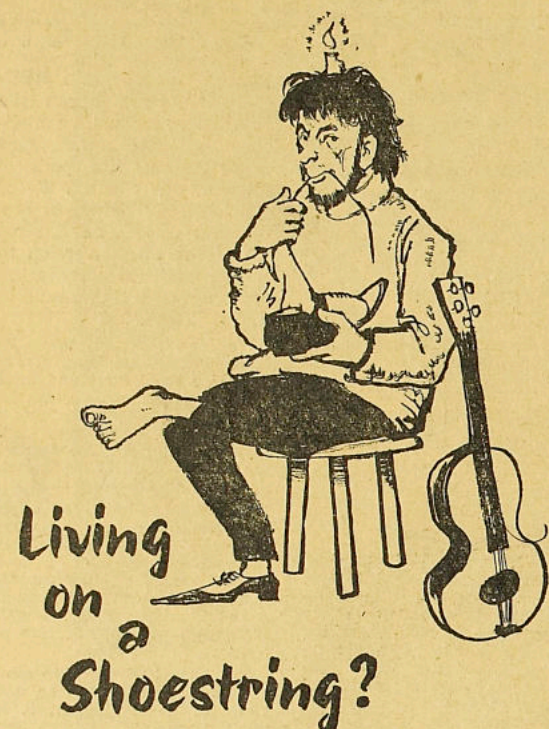
CRIME

Meet the criminal plan

THIRD year Social Studies students will have a course in criminology available to them for the first time next session.

Dr. Cavenagh, introducing the course, said, "as a large proportion of Social Study graduates will come into contact with criminals either in a professional capacity or as voluntary workers it is important they should have an informed and balanced view of crime and criminals."

The course itself will be split between the administrative aspects of dealing with crime, such as the police and the legal system, and theories of criminal behaviour including philosophical aspects of moral responsibility.



Practically everyone has to—from the inveterate midnight oil burner to the most dedicated Union type. Some people, of course, manage better than others. It's all a question of balance and balance is exactly what you will have if you open an account at the Midland Bank.

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'A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM'
ONE NIGHT: SUNDAY, 6th OCTOBER
7.15 p.m.

DEBATING HALL

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PIPES, PIPES, PIPES

Stoking up the pipes for the big puff-puff

Brum gets set

PIPE-SMOKING is a contemplative business. Philosophers are good at contemplation. So, philosophers make the best pipe-smokers.

Andy Allen, last year's Fresher of the Year, philosopher and pipe-smoker, will try to prove the truth of this proposition at a Grand Churchwarden Pipe-smoking Contest next Thursday.

He leads a team composed mainly of thinkers (and one girl, Pat McCullough) to The Malt Shovel at Stonebridge on the Coventry Road to compete with over ten other teams who can make a pipeful of tobacco last the longest.

The present record stands at 83 minutes for men and 61 minutes for women. The male record is a new one, set up only last week in Leicester.

Mr. Lindsey, a spokesman for Murray's, the tobacco firm which organises the contest, explained that each competitor is given 3.3 grammes of tobacco in a standard 13-inch churchwarden.

All contestants are given five minutes to fill and light their pipes, which time does not count in the competition. Once the actual contest has started no contestant may light his or her pipe again or put more tobacco in it.

A system of time cards is used to time each contestant and these cards have to be handed in when the competitor is unable to raise smoke at the request of the judges.

Mr. Allen was rather upset to learn all the rules. "This means," he said, "that we shan't be able to put vinegar-soaked seaweed in our pipes, as planned. Although the whole team is in training, I think a modicum of cheating might be allowed."

Prizes for the winners include a new pipe and a pound of tobacco for the principal winner, a team prize for the team putting up the best average performance, and a special ladies' prize.

FROM EVEREST TO DARKEST AFRICA

THE autumn programme of open lectures begins next Tuesday with a lecture by the Rt. Hon. Dennis Vosper, M.P., on "Service Overseas."

The programme for the rest of the term ranges from a lecture by Barry Bishop on "Everest" to the Registrar, Sir George Cartland, speaking on "The New Nations of Africa," via Neville Borg, the City Engineer and Surveyor, on "Birmingham, City of Europe."

Other subjects covered during the autumn period include archaeology (Jacquetta Hawkes), Space Research (Desmond King-Hele) and examining (Dr. J. H. Petch, secretary of the N.U.J.M.B.). A full programme of the term's lectures can be obtained from the New Entrance Hall.

Poetic Justice

ASHER KELMAN, leader of the Movement for Lodgings Reform and founder of ORD, will be without digs for the next two weeks. Said Mr. Kelman, "This is purely temporary and has nothing to do with my agitation about lodgings reform."

Cheap click, click

N.U.S. are offering Olivetti typewriters at a 15 per cent. discount. If you or your society are looking for a new typewriter, you can obtain further details from N.U.S. office on the top floor of the Union. Also there is 10 per cent. off adding and listing machines.



Photo: Arthur Burgess.

• Puff, puff . . . the Birmingham contingent getting into practice.

THESE NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY, YOUNG STUDENTS

A SHATTERING broadside against students was delivered last week in a report presented to the governing body of the Church in Wales. Moral, drinking, sex and "Uncertainty of faith in God" are all covered in a gigantic, all-embracing moan by Canon Thomas Halliwell, principal of Trinity College, Carmarthen.

Canon Halliwell's main gripe was concerned with heavy drinking ("all too common an experience in student life"), sexual indulgence, failure to rise to opportunities offered ("tendency to have a good time and get through on a minimum of work and effort") and misuse of (quote) generous grants.

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Inter-varsity driving trials

BIRMINGHAM DRIVERS PASS THEIR BIG TEST

by REDBRICK reporter

THE Motor Club staged the second inter-varsity driving tests on the roadway behind the library and the north perimeter car park last Sunday afternoon.

Three universities, Oxford, Cambridge and London, besides Birmingham, entered several teams. Each team consisted of a BMC Mini or 1100, a sports car and a saloon, the team having the fastest aggregate time over all the tests taking the championship.

John Leach, winner of last year's Austin trophy for the best undergraduate driver was first away for Birmingham. Smoke poured from the tyres which screamed protest as he did a handbrake turn then pushed hard on the throttle.

The handbrake turn is a most spectacular driving test technique, involving as it does a rapid series of operations which locks the undriven wheels (back on a mini, front on most other cars) and spins the car around the pylon.

As the cars shot into the garages, the body was thrown forward and the bonnet dipped sharply as the drivers plunged down on the footbrake.

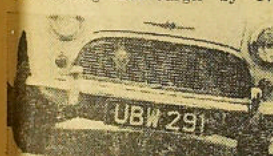
If the wheels locked, the car was flung into reverse even though still moving forwards, brakes on again, full lock, into first and the car was moving away into the next section of the course.

The most interesting car was a giant vintage Lagonda which achieved a creditable time through the superb driving of its owner from Cambridge. The enormous car, meant for a more serene existence, swung round tight corners in a manner more suited to modern sports cars. The car's only shortcoming was its slow acceleration, although the noise it generated might have convinced anyone it was nearing 80.

WOMEN

Some myths about women drivers were exploded by Jane Pearson from Cambridge. She took a friend's TR4 round in 55.9 seconds on the first course, a time which was bettered by few male drivers.

After the first test Birmingham's first team (Leach, mini; Baker, Midget; Pickering, VW) was leading Edinburgh by 17



seconds in three minutes; less than two seconds behind were Cambridge II and Birmingham II.

The good crowd which had assembled saw Birmingham increase their lead to over 40 seconds, Cambridge, who won the event last year, took third and fourth places. Tim Baker (Birmingham) in an MG Midget was the individual winner.

The afternoon was rounded off by a breathtaking display of go-kart driving. The kart showed that it could accelerate up to 80 m.p.h. with an E-type Jaguar engine.

HAVE YOUR SHOES REPAIRED BY PAYNES

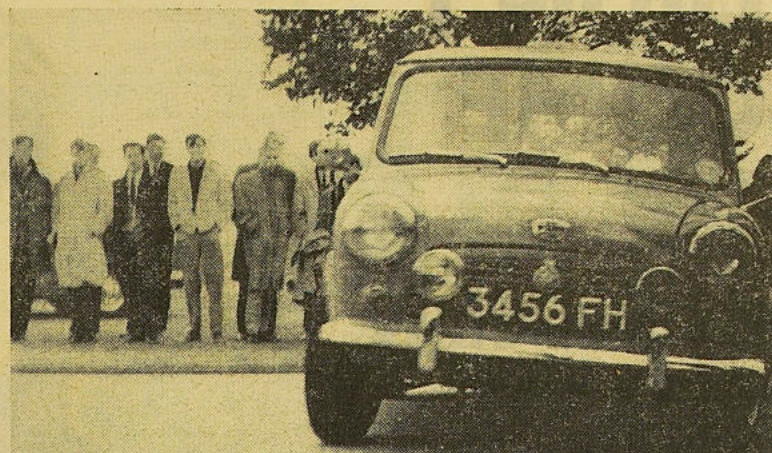


Photo: Andrew Horng.

• A mini screeches round a marker- pylon in last Sunday's driving tests.

AROUND THE CLUBS IT LOOKS GOOD

THE Men's Hockey Club is contemplating running four teams for the first time this year. Only four first team players have not returned and there were many talented freshers among the trialists on Saturday, enough the committee hope to enable the club to run a strong second team as a prerequisite to a successful first team.

M. Bradwal has captained the Punjab and may well be up to first team standard. Other prospects include a county schoolboy player, P. Gregory and Tony Watts of Bournemouth.

The forward line was the weakness last year but new blood in the form of Milne, Long and Field may add strength to the club's general standard.

The committee expressed surprise that only 27 freshers came to the trials on Saturday. If anyone else would like to play hockey, D. Linehan is the man to contact.

SWIMMING
David Staveley and David Skidmore were selected to swim for British Universities against Germany in Munich. They will swim for Birmingham again this year.

Prospects this year are good. The outstanding fresher is Neil Nicholson the National Champion, who won a medal in the breast-stroke at the Perth Empire games.

GYOLING
The cycling club's season is still in progress. Throughout the vacation the successful team of Crown, Lucas and Stickland have raced most weeks and the club gained three placings in the U.A.U. Championships.

This term the emphasis is on club runs starting next Saturday. Freshers will be especially welcome at this initial event.

BASKETBALL
There will be club practice every Tuesday at 5.0 p.m. Captain U. Imre invites experienced players and novices to attend.

SOCCER
Although there are fewer freshers wanting a trial this year, the captain is confident that all team vacancies will be filled. Outstanding freshers include R. N. Parker, Welsh amateur international trialist and R. S. Morrod, an English Schools' international. As well as several county schoolboy players there are league club trialists.

MOTOR CLUB
Next Sunday the motor club boast they are staging the best-ever treasure hunt! This 60-mile event will not be on traditional lines but should be great fun. Only O.S. maps will be used and an average speed of 15 m.p.h. is anticipated. The organisers will endeavour to find cars for those members without.

sporting REDBRICK

FILLING THE RUGBY GAPS

A GOOD nucleus of last season's fairly successful first Rugby XV will still be available for selection this year. However, there are gaps to be filled, chiefly in the pack, and more especially in the second-row forwards.

The freshmen's trials held on Saturday were particularly encouraging. The overall standard seemed to be generally higher than last year, although there were apparently fewer outstanding individuals. This obviously makes it difficult to say how many freshers will make the 1st XV, but the overall standard of the club's play will undoubtedly rise.

Because they are unhappily unable to return this year there are two amendments to the published committee. Tony Ball was elected vice-captain and the new treasurer is Bill Bowden.

The Rugby club's fixture list opens next Saturday with the 1st XV playing Bedford Wanderers at home. A new fixture this, and, it is to be hoped, a good one. The club would like as many supporters as possible at this match.

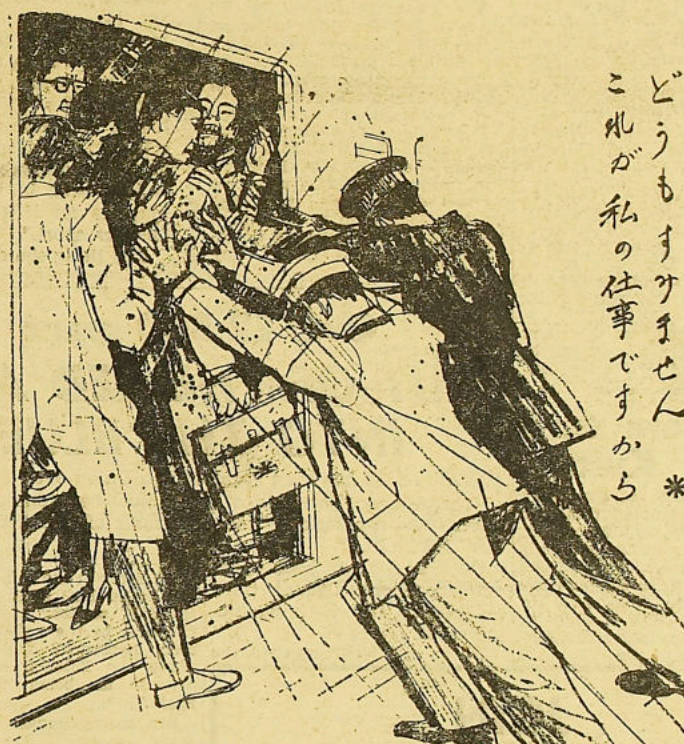
SPECTATOR'S GUIDE

Soccer: Wednesday, 2nd October. 3rd XI vs. Saltely Training College.

Rugby: Saturday, 1st XV vs. Bedford Wanderers.

Hockey: Saturday, 3rd XI vs. A.E.I. Rugby.

Cross Country: Saturday, vs. Harbourne Harriers, Worcester and Dudley.



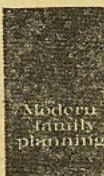
どうもすいません
これが私の仕事ですから *

* I BEG YOUR HUMBLE PARDON BUT I HAVE MY JOB TO DO

By working as "Pushers" at tube stations, Japanese students can earn extra money. This drastic solution to the rush-hour crush would never do in England but population pressures do affect our daily lives, often on the most personal level. And at this level a thorough knowledge of family planning can contribute immeasurably to well being and future happiness. Everything relevant to this important subject, including details of the latest developments in family planning, is fully discussed in the booklet, "Modern Family Planning". Send for your free copy.

To: Family Counsel Publications, 12 Oval Rd., London, NW1
Please send me a free copy of 'Modern Family Planning'. I am married or about to be married.

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The old flea-pits round the corner are closing down — not merely because of telly, but because they do not plough takings back into the cinema. The ABC circuit, which has opened at least one new cinema a year since the war, believes in enterprise.

NEW CURVE LINE IS THREE-IN-ONE

The box takes on a prize heavyweight

by William Orwin



THE film industry, like the seven-year-old outlaw, refuses to be dead when it has been shot. Hollywood may well be losing its stars, demolishing sets and selling land by the acre, but the industry insists on living. Television seems to me to be its greatest menace, possibly its cancer, but even this is explained away ("it isn't a threat: it has made us pull our socks up").

Cinerama stands at the forefront of cinema enterprise as the most drastic attempt yet to breathe new life into the industry and two Birmingham cinemas have scrambled feverishly on to the bandwagon.

The ABC Cinerama Theatre in Bristol Road and the Gaumont in Steelhouse Lane, each on different circuits, have moved in with speed and determination.

Mr. Weatherhead, manager at Bristol Road, is enthusiastic and unreservedly optimistic. "This is it: all the proof you need that we are still alive and kicking. These films will be the 'blockbusters' par excellence." He may well be right. With full-house bookings for the next four weeks and a life-expectancy at Bristol Road of from nine to 12 months for "How The West Was Won," the enterprise can hardly be called a flop.

Debbie Reynolds, deserted by a tinhorn gambler, Gregory Peck, turns to dancing as a career.

£75,000 has been ploughed into his cinema to transform it, during 19 frantic weeks, into a plush, all-comforts-thrown-in "theatre", which makes the old-time picture-palaces look pre-historic.

A licensed bar ("it ought to have been bigger"), powder-rooms, deep-piled carpets, a visitors' book and, inevitably, Musk in the foyer, bar and corridors, bear witness to the determination at least. The auditorium (seating

reduced from 1,616 to 1,245) has been completely renovated — all in one colour ("I think it's called 'smokey pink'").

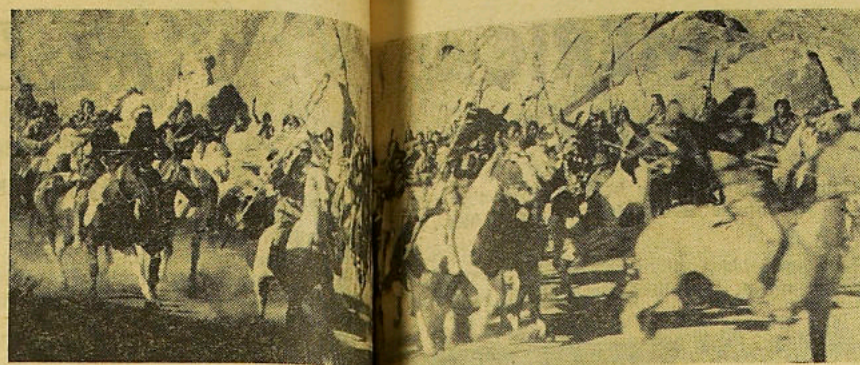
Brain-child of American, Fred Waller, who began experimenting as far back as 1937, Cinerama first acquired that famous commodity "full audience participation" by using a huge battery of eleven 16 mm. cameras and projectors. Working on the principle that perception of depth depends on what he called "peripheral vision", he mounted a deeply curved screen to approximate to the field of vision.

The Company

Later refinements include the louvre-type screen (2,000 vertical strips of perforated, overlapping tape); a multiple sound-track system (nine speakers); an upward curve in the floor to meet the screen directly; and a single, unobtrusive colour for the whole of the auditorium (to help concentrate attention on the screen).

The original Cinerama company, formed by Laurence Rockefeller and Time Inc., suffered something of a false start: in July, 1950, the majority of the directors proposed liquidation of the company and the motion was carried. A co-opted member, Hazard Reeves, originally there to develop the sound system, promptly acquired the physical assets for a quiet 1,500 dollars.

SPEARAMA



• Spectacular scene swarms out of the West Was Won": an army of Indians attacks on the wagon train. The scene is a good example of the real potential of the wide screen.

established a new Cinerama, coaxed new investors, and "This Is Cinerama" films later, grossed over 10 million dollars.

Today there are nearly 100 Cinerama theatres showing Cinerama films. Many of them on the ABC Rank circuits. Total cost of version is around £50,000. A handful in Britain alone, as bug continues to bite. The version of the biggest, newest best is—wait for it—a "Cinerama Dome Theatre" (140 ft. diameter, 63 feet high, made of precast concrete).

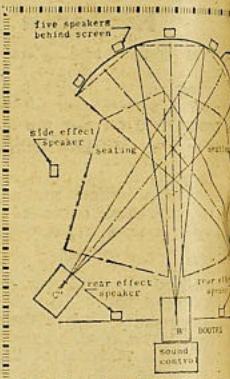
I can't wait for the ultimate in ultimates, "Spherama," perhaps?

The oversized reels can each hold about 12,000 feet for a running time of over 80 minutes, and special reel lifting devices assist the operator to raise and lower them off the projector spindle. The projection geometry, or the optical arrangement of lenses, magnification and distance from the screen according to the size and shape of the theatre and screen.

SOUND

The sound is recorded on seven-channel, 35mm. magnetic film dimensionally the same as the picture film. It is on a separate reproducer at the same speed as that picture.

The all-transistor amplification system, equalised for frequency response, differs from other customary ones in that the high and low frequencies are equally amplified in each of the seven channels.



CINERAMA

HOW WAYNE WON THE WEST

by Nigel Harris

IT has been said (see accompanying article) that Cinerama is the great, white hope of the film industry. Now that it has effected the transition from being merely a travelogue medium, and is being used to tell a story, people will, we are told, begin the great trek back from their T.V. sets to the cinemas.

"How The West Was Won" (ABC Bristol Road) should therefore be judged in this light, as a beginning and as a hope for the future. Judged by any standards it is, in the main, an impressive picture.

Spread over three generations of one pioneering family, it is concerned with the opening up of the American West, from the early days of the trappers and hunters, through the coming of the railways and the Civil War ("Directed by John Ford"), to the establishment of an organised society at the end of the last century.

Improvements

Technically, it is a vast improvement on the old Casino days: if the problem of the flickering vertical lines at the junction of the three images has not yet been finally licked, it has at least been made a great deal less irritating. The use of space, colour and line to create visual patterns on this vast screen is now far more imaginative than in the early, travelogue-type Cinerama productions. Some of the epic-scale scenes are quite genuinely breathtaking in the degree of audience involvement they manage to achieve.

Unfortunately, a cliché is still a cliché when blown up to ten times the size, and some of the dialogue lets the visual side of the film down badly. A film concerning vast chunks of pioneering American history in the high, wide and open West is, of course, a sort of king-sized cliché in itself, but even so, many of the hackneyed situations, thin, cardboard characterisation and tired snippets of dialogue could easily have been avoided with a little more careful writing.

The use of the old, one-hundred-

• One of the scenes which seem to engulf you without noticing it. Karl Malden and family fight hard to keep the raft afloat in the rapids.



top-stars (each on for about three minutes, and including the inevitable John Wayne), and the six-million-extras techniques wear a bit thin after a while, too.

Promise

See it, therefore, for the buffalo stampede and the train crash, both of which bear comparison with the ultimate in epic scenes, the chariot race in "Ben Hur." See it because full use is at last beginning to be made of the vast, Cinerama screen. See it, to return to the original point, as a begin-

ning: it holds considerable promise for the future, even if it is, basically, a normal Western writ large. Whatever one may think of Westerns, epics and the whole "bigger equals better" philosophy, it does drag people back to the cinemas in hordes.

Whether this is entirely desirable is, of course, another matter. One can but hope that now people have started leaving their firesides for the big, spectacular films they will also leave them for artistic expression and a lower content of blood and thunder.



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NAME (block letters)

ADDRESS

HOW TO SATISFY ALL CONCERNED:

Stop the system — want to get off

THE renewed problem of lodgings will recall for many the debate last term at which most speakers voiced their disapproval of regulations which, they said, withheld the educational values of independent existence, and put many students into faraway, gristly digs. One cannot help wondering if such regulations have anything to do with the lodgings chaos, and if the blame need all be thrown at "reluctant landlords."

Regulations

A glance in some local Post Office windows will bear this out. What is to stop us, we wonder, cautiously, if we look at a few of the rooms advertised therein, and perhaps obtain a room a little nearer the University than Hall Green or Olton?

The following types of regulation hamper such independent spirits: (here) "Where an undergraduate is in his third year in the University or is over 20 years of age and is of at least one year's standing in the University, permission from the Lodgings Warden to reside in rooms without board or attendance may be requested." At Leeds: "Students under 21 may not apply for permission to transfer to an approved flat unless they have obtained a first degree; parental permission is required before the student can move into a flat but even with parental permission a move is not allowed

unless the student graduate."

At Hull: "Students allowed to live in flats if over 21. Not resident in the house, flats or flats to be shared by two and not more than."

Why such regulations difficulties at every University each year as the student population grows? It is unlikely that the programmes for these will keep pace with such expansion, the lodgings situation getting ever more difficult.

No one can solve the problem of work falls on the lodgings warden who even have to keep track of students over 21 or who have lived away from home and are clearly capable of looking after themselves.

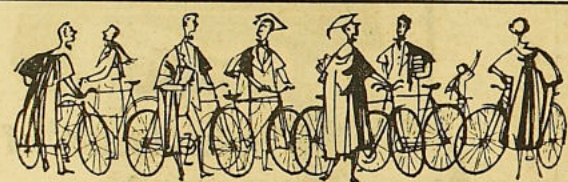
In our case, the lodgings warden is a man who would be prepared to do it for a bit of advice and in their second year would find the necessary restriction. Of course many students who are not kiddy straight from sheltered boarding school and is not ignorant of the outside world and more often than not, ready to assume adult responsibilities. Those who wag their hoary heads over the immature and immoral student, horribly bearded and bearded, might stop to think that old-fashioned and restrictive discipline is a root cause of immaturity.

find themselves always subject to a tutorial veto when they wish to move into a flat, and the giving or withholding of parental permission would aid the decision of the tutor in the case of students under 21; these are logical restrictions. If lodgings warden had only to help those who really need their services, they and their staffs would clearly not be subjected to quite such hideous chaos as at present.

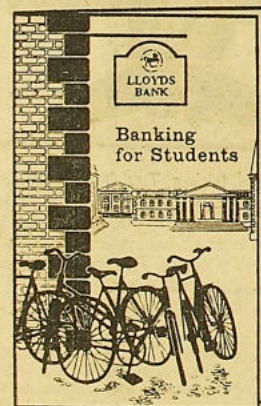
Character

Present lodgings systems seem to indicate that Universities are slow to appreciate the changing character of the Student population. More and more students are finding that a period of paid or voluntary work or some other change of environment between school and University is a valuable addition to their education; this means that these students, and others as well, not unreasonably regard University education as a means of existing as civilised adults and starting to direct their own lives rather than a mere extension of school with lessons from 9 to 5, then home for tea.

The student today is not a kiddy straight from sheltered boarding school and is not ignorant of the outside world and more often than not, ready to assume adult responsibilities. Those who wag their hoary heads over the immature and immoral student, horribly bearded and bearded, might stop to think that old-fashioned and restrictive discipline is a root cause of immaturity.



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The moving finger writes, and having writ moves on to . . .
WALL

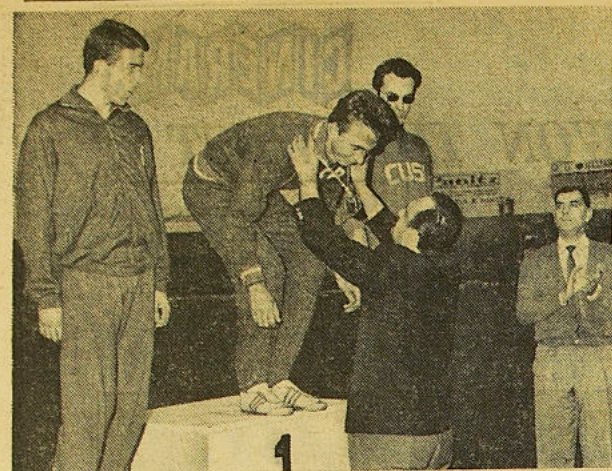


Photo: Planet News.
● Edwin Ozolin (USSR) receives the 200 metres gold medal. On the left is Britain's Richard Stearne. Third was Livio Beruti (Italy).

World University Games BRITONS FIND GOLD IN SOUTH AMERICA A SUCCESSFUL SHAMBLES

THE British team's views of the 1963 World University games held in September and August at Porto Alegre, Brazil, are summed up as "successful... a shambles... but very satisfying."

As expected, the games were somewhat dominated by the large Russian team which ended with a total of 21 athletic medals which meant that they were placed in almost every event.

Britain's successes, some hoped for and others out of the blue, made the games worthwhile from our point of view, and the final medal tally of four gold, six silver and three bronze put Britain third of the 33 competing nations.

If it is remembered that the British Universities Sports Federation could afford to send 30 competitors (at a cost of £250 per head) it is easy to understand the satisfaction. As a matter of interest, Russia's 80 and Hungary's 70-strong teams were state-sponsored.

Expenses

France and Germany, 60 competitors each, had a third of their expenses paid by their respective governments, and France collected only one silver and two bronze medals. Japan, assisted by her Olympics Committee, spent over £30,000 on the Porto Alegre project, compared to the £7,500 that the unaided B.U.S.F. managed to raise.

Britons

Apart from the successes of gold medalists, Peter Jacobs, Adrian Metcalfe, John Whetton and the 4 x 400 metres relay team and supporting cast of Mike Lindsay, Mike Hogan, Richard Stearne, John Boulter, Sue Denner, Joy Catling and Ron Hill, the most pleasing aspect of the games was the British Universities' team spirit.

Everyone competed vocally and with great enthusiasm to back up the efforts of the competitors in the pool, at the fencing salle, on the tennis court and at the track. Indeed it was so noticeable that officials of the German, French and Italian teams made a special point of praising the morale of British representatives.

Valiant

It is impossible to mention the valiant effort of every individual including non-medalists who played an important part in the team's success.

For sheer athletic prowess nothing can match double gold medal winner, Adrian Metcalfe's two magnificent 400m. runs. No one looked ever remotely capable of beating him. The excitement reached its highest pitch on the last day when little known John Whetton came through to win the

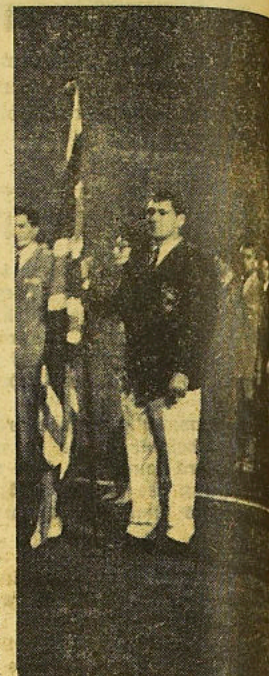


Photo: Planet News

● Some of the British contingent at the opening ceremony of the World University Games in Porto Alegre.

1,500m., upsetting all the odds and forecasting.

Peter Jacobs required tremendous courage and determination to take him through 12 hours of battle for the epee title. Britain rounded off with a gold in the event of all, the 4 x 400m. relay. The shambles? Overcrowded, ill-furnished accommodation, poor transport facilities, a bad, hot track finished incredibly early on the morning of the first event. The organisation was obviously improvised and at times frantic. But the competitors survived and triumphed, and returned from an unforgettable three-week trip, grateful for the opportunity to visit Brazil.

BRITISH UNIVERSITY MEDALLISTS

GOLD

Adrian Metcalfe (Oxford) 400 metres, 46.6 sec. (record).
John Whetton (Manchester) 1,500 metres 3:49.5.
Peter Jacobs (Cambridge) Epee.
British team: 4 x 400m. 3:11.9 secs.
Menzies Campbell (Glasgow)
Richard Stearne (London)
John Boulter (Oxford)
Adrian Metcalfe (Oxford)

SILVER

John Boulter (Oxford) 800m. 1:48.6 secs.
Susan Denner (Oxford) High Jump, 5ft. 5 1/2 in.
Mike Hogan (Oxford) 400m. Hurdles, 51.4 secs.
Mike Lindsay (Oklahoma) Discus, 168ft. 0 1/2 in.
Mike Lindsay (Oklahoma) Shot, 58ft. 3 1/2 in.
Richard Stearne (London) 200m. 21.4secs.

BRONZE

Joy Catling (London) 800m. 2:10.3 secs.
Ron Hill (Manchester) 5,000m. 14:43.2 secs.
Mike Hogan (Oxford) 110m. Hurdles 14.2 secs.

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REDBRICK comment

The Birmingham University Newspaper

Union train plan only the start

NOW it's a train.

The Union really is going into business. And a good thing, too. There are a wide range of services that are vital for students, and costly.

It is a reflection of the progressive approach of Guild Council and Executive.

The Union has now gone into the stationery, clothing, travel and off-licence trades.

All these services are being provided for Union members, saving a few pounds a year each if they are made full use of.

Of course, Council and Executive are not perfect. They are only human after all and make mistakes like anyone else. But no one can accuse them of being dull (look at the Juke Box) or out of touch.

The thing can be carried too far though. The Union could become a massive travel-bureau cum Super-market. Only services that are bread and butter ones for students, such as beer and writing paper, should be provided.

There is plenty of room for expansion yet, and some lines the Union hasn't explored. It's got to be a slow business, a case of trial and error.

Guild officials deserve credit for what they have accomplished so far.

These look pretty dull

THE list of Open Lecturers doesn't inspire wild enthusiasm in anyone.

"Some fundamental Principles in Examining" and "Archaeology in the USSR" are not subjects to drag students into the Debating Hall.

It all depends on the speakers. But the fact remains that the students have to be attracted to the lecture first before they can enjoy it.

It must be a hard job finding interesting people to come and talk to us. By interesting, of course, we must mean famous.

Famous people are in short supply. This is evident from the present list.

Editor - - - - - Chris Buckland

Assistant Editor - - - Tim Austin

Business Manager - Roger Griffiths

The Union Oct. 2nd, 1963

Edbaston

Birmingham, 15 Sel 1841

personal column

THURSDAY NIGHT. The ORD Social is not a meeting of do-gooders—it's the best dance of the year. Top rate music and the best of spirit. The event of the term.

THE Basketball Club require players for both 1st and 2nd teams and also referees, scorers and timekeepers to officiate at Inter-Varsity and local

matches.—Please contact the secretary, R. G. Shrine, immediately.

Club invitation run at Wednesday. Leave Gym 2 at all welcome.

THE Society that presents once again social

External Ads. 4d. a word.

Internal Ads. 1d. a word.

Insertions up to mid-day Tuesday. REDBRICK accepts no responsibility for non-insertion or mistakes in adverts.

...CRITICISED

SIR.—About that new mural. I don't like it either.

Yours etc.,
(Mrs.) BARBARA HUGILL.

External Ads. 4d. a word.

Internal Ads. 1d. a word.

Insertions up to mid-day Tuesday. REDBRICK accepts no responsibility for non-insertion or mistakes in adverts.

BASKETBALL. Wed. 2nd Oct. 6 p.m., St. Paul's College, Cheltenham. Sat. 5th Oct. 3 p.m., Leeds University. Wed. 9th Oct. 7.30 p.m., R.A.F. Cosford. All matches will be held in the gymnasium.

GO-KART Club. Meeting, Wed. 1.10, Committee Room 3. Most important for anybody interested.

UNABLE TO VOTE EVEN WHEN 21

SIR,—I became 21 years of age on the 15th September of this year, and I had always been under the impression that being of sound mind, I was eligible to vote immediately after attaining my majority. I have now been informed that, through no fault of my own, I shall not be able to cast my vote before October, 1964. By this time I shall be well over 22 years of age.

THAT MURAL...

SIR.—About that mural. I don't like it.

Yours etc.,
DAVID HUGILL.

MRA MAN REFUTES CHARGES

SIR,—I read the article about MRA in the last edition of REDBRICK last term. Mr. Rodney Watts packed every lie the Communists have ever told about MRA into one, small paragraph at the end.

It was too late at end of the University year to raise an immediate protest, but as a member of the Staff I should like to have the first opportunity possible to refute everything he said and challenge him to bring one shred of evidence in support of his allegations.

If REDBRICK gives a man with such obviously scant knowledge of the subject such a large space of paper, then it is only fair that a similar opportunity be given to somebody who holds a different point of view and who can speak with wider knowledge and can give a proper factual account.

This, Sir, is what I request.

Yours etc.,
G. S. LESTER,
M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.,
F.R.C.O.G.

GROUSE SEASON IN THE SNACK-BAR

SIR,—The Freshers' edition of REDBRICK saw the opening of the grouse season in grand style this year. And we must congratulate Mr. Humbert on doing his best to add fuel to the flames.

The Freshers' dinner last Thursday ensured that only the Snack Bar was open that evening in the Refectory. One would have expected Mr. Humbert to foresee that more people would use the Snack Bar, and that there would therefore be a greater demand.

Out of food

Alas, it was not to be! The Snack Bar ran out of food by 5.45, despite the fact that there was supposed to be sufficient to last until 8.30. A magnificent start to the new term.

Yours etc.,
DOUGLAS CAMPBELL.

CORRESPONDENTS are reminded that even if their letters are to be signed with a nom-de-plume, they must communicate their names to the Editor.

SOCIALISTS STATE FACTS

SIR.—Once again REDBRICK has begun the academic year with a malicious and quite unnecessary distortion of the political scene on the campus. We of the Socialist Union do not, however, intend to analyse their psychotic aversion to serious political activity (so repeatedly self-evident in recent years).

We are going to state the facts. Firstly, Socialist Union is by far the largest and most active political society in the Union, has staged the most controversial meetings and organised almost single-handed the various political demonstrations during the past year.

Secondly, the outmoded labels pinned on us "Keir Hardie, hunger strikes and Righteous Indignation" are dead and buried. We're for a new generation of socialism, and though some of us may disagree with Wilson we will support him to a man.

If REDBRICK wants to comment on the political scene, and many of us think that it is totally unqualified to do so, let's have some accuracy and not this obsessive smearing of serious student activities which suggest that REDBRICK is nothing more than a second-rate breeding ground for the Beaverbrook press.

Yours etc.,
JOHN ORR,
JOHN MORTON.



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UFAW sponsors research on, e.g. humane laboratory techniques, anaesthesia, euthanasia, etc.; publishes educational books; holds two conferences a year, etc. Attractive catalogue of stationery illustrated by Pougasse available on request.

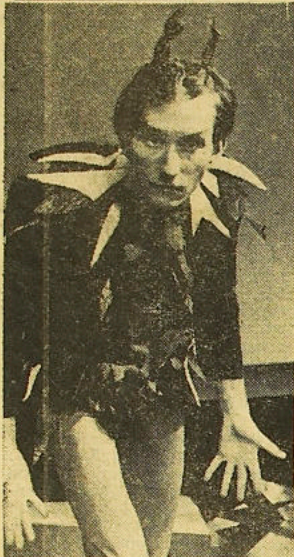
Not enough freshers turn up

BUT THE STUDENTS

NEWS DESK

Redbrick, Oct. 2nd, 1963

**puck
returns**



• Paul Harman

PAUL HARMAN, pictured above as Puck, is to return from the professional stage at the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, in G.T.G.'s successful production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" next Sunday evening.

Mr. Harman, who graduated last year, was the star of last term's week-long run of the play. Bookings for Sunday's performance, in the Deb. Hall at 7.15 p.m., will continue in the Old Entrance Hall for the rest of this week.

G.T.G. also announce that their Autumn major production will be "Live Like Pigs," by John Arden.

Lots more turn up for Kultch

ATTENDANCES at the June Academic Festival this year was nearly 80 per cent. up on last. With the same number of events as last year, average attendance was up from 380 to 600, and the total attendance from 3,700 to 6,030. The Deb. Hall is likely to be inadequate in future if attendances continue to rise.

DIDN'T COME TO DINNER

THE new Sunday lunch service in the refectory flopped badly on its first try-out last Sunday. Of the 56 people who turned up, only five were freshers who could not obtain lunch in their digs.

"We need at least 300 every week to make the scheme economic," said Mr. O. F. Humbert, refectory catering manager.

"We're going to lose money hand over fist if no more people than this turn up."

The plan was originally the idea of Miss E. M. Teverson, the Lodgings Warden, and was designed to enable her to let freshers have digs near the university which do not serve Sunday lunches. Judging by the response this week, very few seem to have taken advantage of them.

The great majority of the 56 were people who just happened to be drifting around: those going to Barber concerts, freshers showing their parents around, and graduate research men.

"We shall carry on for at least four weeks to give it a fair chance," said Mr. Humbert, "but unless more of the people we are aiming at — those who can't get lunch in their digs — turn out, then it won't be worthwhile keeping it going any longer."

Over £2,500 spent OUT OF THE RED AND INTO THE BLUE

OVER £2,500 has been spent on the Union over the summer vacation. "The bulk of the money has gone on general repairs and decorations," said Treasurer of Union Committee, Ken Overshott.

Over £1,600 has been spent on decorations. Over a third of this by the Catering Department.

"We've completely repaired the

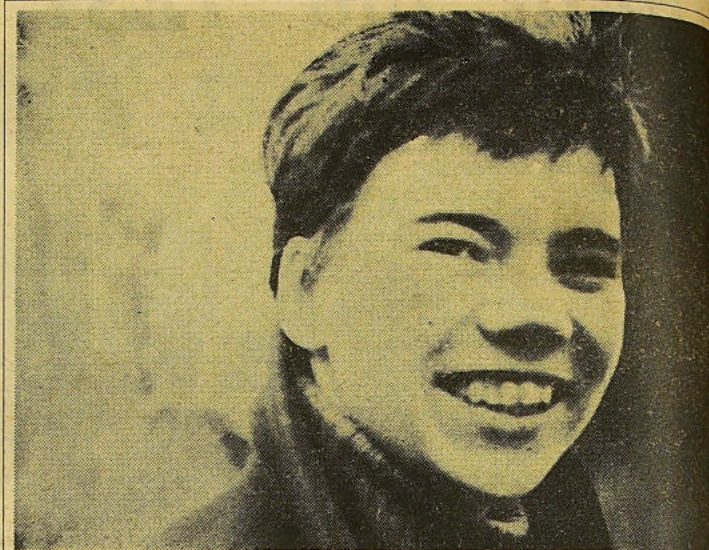
wood floors in the coffee room and the Lesser Hall after 30 years of faithful service," said Ken. "Seating in the coffee room has been re-covered and the roof above the Kitchen insulated to prevent us being flooded out again."

Big room changes have been made as well. The Television Room, with a new T.V., has moved to the old Reading Room. This is now in the Men's Lounge, which has disappeared from the Union.

"No really major innovations have been introduced," said Ken, "and we face a £2,000 bill almost every year for this sort of general repairs. Union finances are healthier this year. But we converted a £6,000 loss the year before last into over £2,000 profit in the last academic year."

Bridging that gap

THE BRIDGE currently being built across the gaping hole in front of the Union (the new Ring Road) is expected to be finished by Christmas, when the Union will be once more united directly with the University. The first stage of the new ring road is complete, but further stages will not be finished until 1967.



GERMAN VISITOR

Photo: Andrew Horn

Marion finds life easy

MARION THIEDE is here on an exchange visit from West Berlin. She is a student, pretty, and vivacious in a light (dare we say Continental?) fashion.

Her main subjects are English and Russian and she is sufficiently fluent in both to keep up a conversation on any topic. In best Renaissance style she also studies philosophy, has a grounding in the sciences, loves sport (especially swimming) and is interested in meteorology "to see if it will be fine for sport."

One thing she can have

too much of, and that is politics. She dislikes the intensity that divides left and right in her University.

As a German abroad she does not find life difficult. When she lived in East Berlin, her father, whose views were directly opposed to the régime, found life more and more difficult to bear; even his job, as a mathematics teacher, was in jeopardy.

It's a pity that Marion will stay in Birmingham for only two weeks.

DA VINCI STRIKE

THE new mural in Foundry Room was daubed with red paint before term started. Lord Huntingdon, who was painting the mural, said the damage was not serious and that he had been able to paint most of it out.

"I left to go to lunch," he said. "And when I came back the red paint was there. Obviously somebody was painting left there, and the situation proved too great for me."



Photo: Arthur Burgess

BLONDE fresher Linden Hocken (photographed by Arthur Burgess signing on with G.T.G.) finds the University geography rather muddling. "I keep getting lost all the time," she says. "But people are very kind — they help a lot."

She got trapped

on the campus on Friday night when she found the Main Entrance gates locked. So she climbed over the wall.

Linden is overcoming other obstacles with equal determination.

Despite the claims of her course — Combined Subjects,

French and Philosophy — she expects to find enough spare time to work in G.T.G. wardrobe department and possibly join ORD.

REDBRICK freshers' edition with her approval. "I thought it was quite good. I'll be it next week."

BIG GAINS FOR THE PINKS

RECRUITING figures for the Guild political societies suggest that this year's freshers are rather on the pink side. The Socialist enrolled 46 new members and prominent Communist David Evans claimed an addition of 18 freshers to the Communists' rather thin ranks.

The Liberal revival finally petered out; enrolments were 50 per cent down on last year, to 26. C.N.D. gathered in 21, and the Conservatives, not surprisingly perhaps, were not available to give their total.

Other points about the Conference:—

• As an experiment, all the society stalls were concentrated in the Deb. Hall this year. This blocked up the upper floor of the Union instead of the Course Lounge. General thought, an improvement.

• The refec. is now strained to the limit to cope with the Freshers' Dinner. Mr. O. F. Humbert, the catering manager, says: "We have dining room space only three hotels. In future it may be necessary to spread the dinner over two nights as about 2,000 freshers are expected next year."

JOIN REDBRICK STAFF!

All freshers welcome in REDBRICK office, top floor of the Union. No experience necessary.

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