

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETS TODAY

OCCUPATION — TONIGHT!

By JOHN KEETLEY

Today at 5 p.m. direct action will begin, when up to a thousand students are expected to gather in the lobby and Great Hall of the University administration building.

A discussion which will be to decide on a definite plan of action which will most probably result in the staging of a symbolic 24-hour occupation of the Administration block. If the meeting agrees a take-over lasting indefinitely may be organised.

This latest development is the long-awaited sequel to the ultimatum issued to the Administration by the Guild a month ago. The statement was that if Student Role was not accepted in toto, then "direct action" would ensue. Other important reasons for this demonstration are the Senate's failure to accept the two-day teach-in and the refusal to institute the proposed commission on University reform.

University Council meets at 3 p.m. today to reach a final decision. Members of Guild Executive will be present until 4 p.m. after which a further discussion will take place culminating in a public statement at 6 p.m.

Although students who meet in the University building will be waiting to hear the official decision, there is already circulating a seemingly accurate report of what University Council will say. In fact, a provisional statement was arrived at when Council met last Saturday week. The decision was in a sealed letter, which was presented to Guild Executive before last Wednesday's E.G.M.

A meeting of Exec. was held on Monday night to decide whether this letter should be opened. The general opinion was against unsealing the document but much debate surrounded the point. Officers were asked to leave the meeting when it moved to a private flat at 11 p.m. The Vice-President, Sir Jackson, was absent throughout.

Executive has sent the documents back unopened, but a senior member of University staff has released the contents, which show that Student Role will not be accepted in toto. The notable omission is that student representation on Planning and Priorities Committee will be denied, although there are several additions. Firstly, the Guild President and Vice-President will be instituted as speaking observers at University Council and, secondly, the same two officials may sit on the University disciplinary Board. But the request

that University committees should be open has been rejected.

Reform group leaders quickly commented on the leaked information. One said yesterday: "If Student Role is not accepted in toto, it proves that the Administration refuses to acknowledge students as full members of the University community. Student Role is Guild policy and direct action has been advocated by the Guild on its rejection."

If opposition is encountered from University Police or Officials when the occupation begins, "passive resistance" is anticipated, but one reform group member said: "We do not envisage being ordered out or forcibly opposed. The purpose of this proposed occupation will be to show that a great many people are concerned and are willing to go back to their departments to consider Academic and Administrative reform."

Tomorrow an E.G.M. of the Guild has been arranged for 1.15 in Deb. Hall to reaffirm the previous decision to take direct action. Executive will put forward the latest plans to the meeting, to which the Vice-Chancellor has been invited. The resignation of the Vice-Chancellor and the rest of the University Administration may be demanded. Following this, a special Guild Council meeting will be held when the events of the last two days will be discussed, and Council will then vote on any proposals submitted by the E.G.M.

TORIES SEEK NEW PURPOSE

THE Emergency General Meeting of the Conservative Association at 1.15 tomorrow (Thursday), threatens to be crucial for the future of the Association.

The Association's chairman, Rod Thurman, said that one of the purposes of the meeting, called at the suggestion of some members of the Committee, was to define a role for the Conservative Association in the light of recent developments towards

student participation in the University. He said that it was also felt that the Association was "out of touch with a lot of members," and he hoped that this meeting would help to both regain and create interest in it.

It is not clear exactly how much internal differences within the committee contributed to the calling of the meeting. Rod Thurman said that there is "one section of the party which thinks we should define our role

in terms of the Ad Hoc Committee, while others think we should speak as individuals and not take any specific viewpoint."

He said that he supported the latter view.

The committee's secretary, Graham Frost, was non-committal about how serious this

By
**PETER
DONOVAN**

difference of opinion is, but said that there "could well be resignations if this new role is not defined." His own view was that the Association "Can't exist in its present state," and he felt that it must reject the idea of holding meetings with guest speakers—such meetings, which a few years ago would have drawn 400 people, now only attract something like 40.

But it is obvious that some of the Association's faults stem from bad organisation and ineffectual leadership. Rod Thurman has been heavily criticised for his failure to get the Association off the ground again this year.



Maggie Ainley who plays the lead in G.T.G.'s production of "Phaedra."

MERMAID SELL OUT

All copies of "Mermaid" were sold last Thursday within an hour of its appearance — an unprecedented triumph for Pete Leech and the rest of the staff. Reasons for buying it varied from "the adverts for it looked interesting" to "people might think I'm literate if I carry 'Mermaid' around under my arm," but all agreed that it was worth a shilling or even more.

This is very promising, since due to financial problems it may be necessary to increase the price to 1s. 6d. or even 2s. If, however, the present standard of "Mermaid" is maintained, it should have no trouble selling at the higher price.

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Butcher's Carnival

THE success of a student rag does not depend on new ideas, but on the extent of student participation. Here in Birmingham there is an appalling apathy, giving us the lowest total of money raised per capita throughout the British Universities. Lancheester Tech, managed to produce the same amount as us last year—£3,500—but with only 300 students, not 6,000. This was John Butcher, chairman of Carnival, talking about his ideas on the coming student rag, lasting from February 19th to 22nd. This year, he explained, he has changed the whole set-up for Carnival by integrating it with Festival.

The festival section is to include an International Drama Week, when G.T.G. and groups from other universities, such as Cologne, Frankfurt and Liverpool, will perform in the Midlands Arts Centre in Cannon Hill Park. Numerous dances, including a pyjama hop on February 14th, when the Valentine Queen will be selected, and concerts to suit everyone's tastes, are planned.

There will also be large-scale debates and teach-ins as well as a professional wrestling match organised through Lake Hall. It is hoped that the section involved with entertainments will produce enough money to subsidise Carnival, which is solely concerned with raising money for charities.

This is to be done in four different ways: firstly by a street collection accompanying the procession on the final Saturday. There will not be a second torch procession, as there has been formerly, but the one remaining "is to be even bigger and better than last year's."

Also various articles will be on sale, including carrier bags with the Festival symbol, tin badges, sticks of rock, Buros, and the Rag Mag

"Barb," which is to be very widely distributed throughout the city.

A sponsored walk, or "Mammoth Plod-in", starting at midnight, around the Outer Circle, is hoped to bring in a lot of money, as one individual alone may raise as much as £20.

Lastly, competition tickets will be sold, and this year many of the prizes are worthwhile, including record players, fridges, and very reasonable sums of money.

The Community Action section of Carnival was started last year to improve relations with the city and proved so successful that the former five projects involving social work in Birmingham have been increased to 30. The idea is that each project will be taken over by a department who will then be responsible for it from beginning to end.

Among the stunts arranged are pillow-fights, barrel-rolling round Edgbaston, and wheelchair convoys through the city involving students and paraplegics, to show one can go all over the shopping centre without going up a step.

Surely with such a vast and varied programme all of us could manage to become involved in Carnival in some way.

Wednesday

G.T.G. REP.
2.30: "Phaedra" "Racine"
7.30: "Daughter-in-law"
D. H. Lawrence.
DEBATING HALL.

DEBATE

"This House eagerly awaits the Defence speeches in the forthcoming murder of Richard Nixon"
COUNCIL CHAMBER
7.30 p.m.

Thursday

G.T.G.
7.30: "The Homecoming"
By H. Pinter.
DEBATING HALL

FILM SOC

"Loin de Vietnam"
(France, 1967)

HAWORTH LECTURE
THEATRE - 7.30 p.m.

Friday

"The Drink of Total
Sound Experience"
CELLAR DISCO
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(6/- at door).

Saturday

G.T.G.
2.30 p.m.: "Daughter-in-law"
(D. H. Lawrence)
7.30 p.m.:
"The Homecoming"
(H. Pinter).

DEBATING HALL

and
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NIGHT DISCOTHEQUE

Sunday

SUNDAY FLIC
"I Was Happy Here"
and
"Bird Brain Dog"

Monday

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back to front

In hypnotic mood

TO the Western ear, Indian music has a strange, indefinable quality, which may sometimes jar, sometimes soothe, but always mystify; yet above all it has a quality of serenity that lulls the mind and allows it, in its new-found relaxation, to wander into fresh reflections and meditations.

Perhaps it was this latter feature which most impressed the audience, when Ravi Shankar performed at the Town Hall, Birmingham last Saturday. No-one could help but be moved by the gentle atmosphere evoked by the hypnotic drone of the three Indian musicians sitting cross-legged on the stage amidst the sweet smell of joss sticks, nodding and smiling to each other in happy rapport, a silent appreciation of each other's abilities since, as Mr. Shankar explained, it is not the Eastern way to hiss and clap, for the flight of imagination may easily be destroyed.

Ninety to nine-fifty per cent of Indian music is based upon improvisation, built around the Raga, a specific melodic form, that consists of an octave of a series of five or six notes. A particular mood is associated with each raga. It may be one of happiness, sadness, romanticism, devotion, heroism or eroticism.

When you talk to Mr. Shankar, a short, slight man (with huge, soft brown eyes—very compelling), he is quietly spoken and unassuming, yet obviously somewhat perplexed by the cult of "pop star."

"I do not want to be known as the teacher of the Beatles," he said. "George Harrison is one of my students, it is true, and he is a beautiful person and I love him, but he is only one of my many students and I have many more."

He considers the influence of Indian music on Western pop as somewhat shallow. When pop stars play the sitar, they are playing it only in a very simple and superficial way. They have a minimal technical command of the instrument and their interpreta-

BACK TO FRONT . . .

a page of odd items of interest was compiled this week by:

JEREMY LAURANCE
LINDA POTTER
ANNE MOORE
ROLAND CLARK

Passing the buck

A CROWNING example of a bureaucracy gone mad is illustrated by the following story, wanted to advertise a society meeting in the Arts Faculty, so I wrote a notice on the blackboard in the foyer.

Two minutes later I returned to find the notice gone and the blackboard clean. I asked the porter if he had seen anyone rubbing it off. He was responsible, and in the most possible way, proceeded to justify his action by thrusting a letter from the Bursar's office under my nose.

The letter in question expressed "concern at the number of unauthorised notices going up around the university" and "reminded everyone that all notices, including those chalked on blackboards, must bear the signature of an authorised person giving permission for their display."

On ringing the Bursar's office to inquire who was authorised to give permission in this case, I was told, after a short delay, that I should go to the Arts Registry. So I duly hopped next door and asked the assistant registrar if I could write my notice on the board. His reply: "Er . . . yes—just ask the porter—if it's all right with them, it's all right with us."



Ravi Shankar last Saturday.

A significant clash

FRIDAY, November 22nd will go down in history as the date on which an Underground revolution was brought perceptibly nearer. On that day, leading representatives of this country's opposing factions, for each of which it is difficult to find a suitable definition, but which are quite clearly differentiated; on that day, Friday last, these leading representatives made two significant publications. One was the release of a package of new and beautiful songs from the Beatles; the other, the announcement of a package of extreme purchase-tax increases by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The significance of these lies not least in their simultaneity; no doubt, in the weeks to come, the great thinkers of our time will be evaluating the nature of the coincidence, and pointing out the inevitability of its having far-reaching social and political consequences.

spectator

A SERIES of three articles written pseudonymously by Ian MacGregor in the weekly journal "Spectator" (October 19th and 25th; November 1st) has attracted a good deal of attention over the past few weeks.

We had proposed to ignore them until we learned that they had been circulated "for information and discussion" within the University of Birmingham. The agency responsible for this action, it seems, was the much-vaunted "University Forum," or someone acting in its name.

In our earlier discussion of the August "Encounter" we drew a distinction between the rational, intelligent conservatism of writers like Raymond Iron and Sidney Hook, and that we called the "mindless reactionary response" of those English academics who are terrified by the idea of change in the universities. The articles by Ian MacGregor fall into the latter category. The point is not that they are bad; that is obvious. What is worrying is that many people (including those with University money to spend) have been deluded into taking them seriously and that indicates that they are more important than we had supposed.

Ian MacGregor (described as "a senior university teacher") may be thought of as the Enoch Powell of Academe. Like Powell, he appeals to the deep-seated, irrational herd-prejudices and fears which are as common among academics as among the population at large. And, like Powell again, he is dangerous for precisely that reason.

MacGregor makes three basic assumptions. The first is that there is an "unholy alliance between Vice-Chancellors and militant students." The second is that "students are, by and large, adolescent, inexperienced, ignorant, naive and not overly bright." The third deserves to be quoted in full:

"The great majority of university teachers, who are

un-young, un-radical and un-enamoured of most student demands, are almost without influence. And it is on them, not on administrators and undergraduates, that the future of Britain's universities depends. More and more of them are getting fed up."

The author, who is apparently one of these men on whom the future of the universities depends, takes the argument about examinations as the central question. His method of conducting rational discussion is well represented by the following. Undergraduates, he says, condemn examinations: they claim that "Mistakes are made; people get put in the wrong class." He replies: "Yes, and trains are sometimes late, so we should abolish the railways?" This is the man whose views have been circulated "for information and discussion."

The first question is why money was spent circulating this material when so many good books and articles on the university situation are available. Is the purpose of the "University Forum" merely to encourage and reinforce the prejudices of the silliest members of Staff House? Is it aiming to poison the atmosphere, to create a backlash situation in which mindless acrimony and recrimination replace rational discussion? That seems to us what Ian MacGregor himself was trying to do.

The second question is more difficult, and we shall return to it next week. Academics, according to "MacGregor," "when they were undergraduates, got first or good seconds and deserved them." They are, therefore, assumed to be intelligent.

How is it possible, then that one of their number produced these articles, and why have so many more taken them seriously? What is there about the academic profession that can make intelligent men and women act so unintelligently?

PERSONAL ADS.

NOW about a ski-ing holiday in Austria this Christmas, Dec. 26th-31st? Cost about £35. Please contact Jenny Hayley via Union Pigeon Holes for more details.

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PLUMPTIOUSNESS.

MAC and Steve: Thanks for having Robbie—Catherine.

BILL does it without a tandem.

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KLONDYKE BILL FOR FESTIVAL

ON the night of Monday, 17th February next term, the Union Building will rock upon its foundations for around three hours as a total of 10 wrestlers wage battle royal in the four tournaments arranged for the evening. This night of Professional Wrestling is to be promoted by Birmingham's Lew Phillips in conjunction with Pete Harrigan and Harry Fine, of Lake Hall, for Festival Week.

Star attraction of the evening will be the monstrous 38-stone Klondyke Bill, who is to fight the ex-boxer Gordon Corbett. In another bout Klondyke's little sister, 18-stone Klondyke Kate, is to fight it out with her arch-enemy Lovely Lolita "Spitfire" Loren.

Also featured is a challenge fight to the finish with no rules, no referee in the ring, no draw, no time-limit and no disqualification between Cowboy Cassidy and the Apache.

The fourth bout is a tag-match between the two hideous masked Brummies: "The Diabolical Undertakers", and the Homicidal Welsh Killer Ken Davies and his partner coal-porter Billy Jordan from Belfast.

Said Harry Fine: "We are a little worried that the bill may be con-

WANTED: ART

Contributions are invited for the University's Art Exhibition for Festival '69 from February 14th-23rd, 1969, from all staff and students.

Painting, sculpture, pottery etc. are all welcome. Enquiries to Dr. H. Beaumont, Department of Anatomy, or to Miss Lindsey Stoker in the Union.



The Klondyke Brothers
Jake (left) 24st., Bill 38st.

Mermaid theft causes concern

By ROLAND CLARK

CRITICISMS have been levelled at Ents Comm regarding their policy of importing large numbers of Birmingham's younger teenage element into the Union for the Saturday night discotheques. This follows the theft of a watch from the Mermaid Bar last Saturday evening, when many youngsters, both boys and girls, who were obviously not students, were seen in Mermaid.

On English student, who was in Mermaid at the time, said: "I was surprised at the number of 15-year-old teenyboppers who were around. It seemed as if there was no check made on them; presumably, when a theft like this occurs, they are completely untraceable." John Butcher, Carnival Chairman, said "Ents Comm are certainly concerned about this."

One way of keeping non-Guild members out of the Union is to insist that people who come in on dance nights and who cannot pro-

duce either Guild or other student cards should buy a ticket for the dance; this was done last Friday with success, but so far no similar procedure has been put into effect on Saturday nights, when there are not big dances in the Union. However, John Burkill, Ents Comm Chairman, feels that people coming into the Union should not be let in unless they can produce either a Guild card, a membership card from another college or university, or an N.U.S. card; this could be applied both on Fridays and Saturdays.

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REPERTORY— Another experiment

IT is unlikely that the majority of students at a mainly technological university have many strong feelings about the sort of theatre they want to see in G.T.G. The chairman, Alan Booth, sees the main function of the group as providing its audience with as many different types of production as possible.

This term G.T.G. has already presented Brecht's "The Exception and the Rule" and Arrabal's "Car Cemetery" and have just opened with their two-week repertory season incorporating "The Homecoming," by Harold Pinter, "Phaedra," by Jean Racine, and "The Daughter-in-Law," by D. H. Lawrence. None of the three plays has been chosen because of its outstanding social message, which under "Popular Theatre" policy was the prime consideration; they have great implications and relevance but their essential value is entertainment.

The fact that there are three productions has meant that an unusually large number of actors, actresses, wardrobe

supervisors and technical staff have been needed; consequently, nearly every member of the group has been actively

by
**Anne
Mottram**

involved in a production, including a high proportion of new members. After the unnecessary friction within the group caused by having two main productions it was decided

to run the three plays in repertory; this places all plays on an equal footing as regards budget, rehearsals, bookings, and publicity and forces directors and technical staff to work together on set designs and lighting.

It was also hoped that this more professional system would provide experience for those involved; the actors themselves have not been quite so affected as the technical staff, who are fully realising the immense difficulties of coping with a different play each night within the considerable limitations of the Deb. Hall stage.

A tremendous amount of work has already gone into this ambitious venture: its success now depends on the support it receives from the six thousand-odd non-active members of G.T.G. In case you hadn't realised—this means you.



(Photo: Nigel Gray)

Phaedra by Jean Racine

"PHAEDRA," Racine's masterpiece of the French Classical Theatre, newly translated by Jocelyn Powell, in a simple, graceful style, has been given a Japanese setting by its director, Alan Booth. This is partly "because the result is beautiful." Never, I am sure, has a G.T.G. play been more stunningly costumed, more visually powerful. And, more important, such a setting is perhaps vital to the meaning of the play for a modern English audience.

The story is of a woman, Phaedra, who falls in love with her stepson. Its interest lies not so much in the love itself as in its result: the destruction of the society in which it takes place.

That society, like that of the 17th-Century France in which Racine wrote, like that of ancient Greece which provided him with the story and which given a Japanese setting by its director, Alan Booth. This is partly "because the result is beautiful." Never, I am sure, has a G.T.G. play been more stunningly costumed, more visually powerful. And, more important, such a setting is perhaps vital to the meaning of the play for a modern English audience.

No such society is to be found in Modern Western Europe, where "The freedom of the individual" is all, and accordingly these elements are not contained in its Theatre. As a result this production will perhaps be a pleasurable shock to many. Just as the society portrayed is one of ordered form so is the acting of the play.

But restricted gestures—never uncontrolled, never mechanical—

hold back intensity of feeling. This intensity, being enclosed, gathers greater strength and finally explodes leaving the pieces of a way of life in an horrific, yet still ordered, beauty. This is the aim of the play.

With such notable successes as last year's "Hamlet" and "Doctor Faustus," the year before, behind him, Alan Booth nevertheless feels that "Phaedra" is his best production to date.

Performances take place in the Deb. Hall on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 27th at 2.30 p.m. and on the evenings of Friday, November 29th, Monday 2nd and Wednesday 4th of December at 7.30 p.m.

COLIN HIGGINS

Daughter-in- Law

by
D. H. LAWRENCE
Evenings: Nov. 27th;
December 3rd & 5th
Matinee: November 30th

Phædra

by
JEAN RACINE
Evenings:
November 29th
December 2nd & 4th
Matinee:
November 27th

The Homecoming

by
HAROLD PINTER
Evs.: Nov. 26th, 28th, 30th
Matinee: December 4th



(Photo: Nigel Gray)

The Homecoming by Harold Pinter

FOLLOWING the successes of "The Birthday Party" and "The Caretaker," Harold Pinter's "The Homecoming," by turns his funniest and most brutal play, was first performed in 1965, and remains the latest of his full length plays to be staged. It concerns the return of the Boy Who Made Good to the place where he was born, and his reception by the rest of the family—his father, his uncle, and his two brothers. With him comes his wife Ruth, whose gradual rise to a dominant position in the household brings confusion and alarm to the rest of the inmates, particularly to Max, the father, and Sam, the uncle, who have seen it all happen before. Max says of his deceased wife, Jessie: "Even though it made me sick just to look at her rotten stinking face, she wasn't such a bad bitch. I gave her the best bleeding years of my life, anyway..."

Much of the play's violence is disguised by the raciness of the dialogue, but before humour can get out of hand it chokes on acute embarrassment or moments of sheer aggression: "That night—you know that night with Mum, the night you got me, what was it like, eh? When I was just a glint in your eye... I mean, is it a fact that you had me in mind all the time, or is it a fact that I was the last thing you had in mind?"

If one character in the play makes a statement another character may agree or disagree as it suits his purpose or not. Thus any character may choose to believe one piece of information at one juncture and may choose to believe its precise opposite at another. Consequently nothing in the play can be understood at its face value; and any "truth" that might exist is a complete structure of fabrication and illusion which is continually shifting as the relationships in the play develop, and which does not exist outside those relationships.

BILL HINDLE

Daughter-in-law by D. H. Lawrence

LAWRENCE in a new role. As novelist, critic, poet and painter—this play, one of the loosely called Nottingham trilogy has waited 50 years for its first major production (at the court). Why? It is hardly a Büchner or a Jarro piece, redefining and shaping a new theatrical dimension; it is a well made traditional piece (its ancestors are Scribe and Ibsen), a naturalistic setting in the mining town of Eastwood, a striking study of the working class relationship. It is neither an exposition of working class poverty nor a militant anti-bourgeois attack.

So what? The what is Lawrence, probably the most talked about, the most abused and the most ill-read artist of the twentieth century. A man of poetic vision, of amazing understanding, a man who cares. A man to whom love is not just a four letter word, not only a metaphysical concept loosely applied to life, but a harsh terrifying, beautiful reality within man—a power to transcend or to destroy. The play throws considerable light on "Sons and Lovers," but is more than just an academic exercise—it is a living reality in its own right.

This is what we have aimed for. Leave your ready made book bound concepts at home. Forget your prejudices. Forget me and the above. Forget Lawrence.

We have aimed at making the play live now. It is not a play of primary colours, but muted pastels. It is a simplification not a clarification, to play these people as unchangeable, clearly defined, contained people. The spirit of life is ever burning, changing, reshaping in its flames.

STEPHEN J. WRIGHT.



(Photo: Nigel Gray)



Ray Phillips addresses the General Meeting.

MEETING CALLS FOR CAMPUS UNITY

AT last Wednesday's General Meeting a motion was passed expressing support for the attempts of non-professional staff to get more representation in the University. It also called for more effective participation in the Guild by postgraduates, and assured technical and administrative staff that they would not be thrown out of the Refectory when students took control.

Over 300 students had assembled in the Great Hall, but that number which would have filled the Council Chamber to overflowing, looked smaller spread out in the 1,500 seats of the Great Hall. The first motion to be passed expressed regret that the Vice-Chancellor had excluded student representatives from the meeting of Senate held later that afternoon at which the proposed teach-in was discussed (it was decided at that meeting that the

University should refuse to hold the teach-in as it might interrupt lecture schedules).

Nearly two hours from the start of the meeting Gerald Hitman proposed an amendment to add a demand for the abolition of Court of Governors, Senate and Council; this was ruled out of order by Sue Jackson as it recommended a new policy which the meeting, consisting by now of only 200 people, was not competent to do. However, eventually this was tacked on to the motion calling for a University Commission, so that it should be established with these ends as its aims.

By the time the meeting had passed all its motions there were less than 50 people left for what should have been the most important section, the discussion of proposals for University reform. The meeting then just lay down and died.

Vandals

The Table Football Machine, newly put in the Games Room this week, was smashed up by an unidentified attacker last night.

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DEBSOC TO THINK AGAIN

By MARTIN JENKINS

DO you, the working classes, stink? The question was posed to the council chamber last Thursday. Mr. Andrew Lenox-Conyngham believed that they did. Why? asked the house. "I'll tell you," this Cambridge stalwart shouted back, and never did.

Mr. Nero Vaughan fiddled while burning with inextinguishable hatred of the bourgeoisie. "Gerald Hitman" he observed, and the house hissed.

That tirade over, Mr. Nick Statham addressed the motion: "Dear motion... He accused the purelle Paganini on his right of talking in a hotch-potch of emotion but meaningless phrases.

A resplendent Roger Mathew extolled the virtues of the working classes, as exemplified by his maternal grandfather and an old but devoted family retainer. Mr. Vaughan tortured his violin.

From the floor, Mr. Nigel Shepherd decided that workers must stink, since work stinks. (Loud applause.) Mr. Emmanuel Vella re-

minded the house that the motion was not about the working classes but about Mr. Gerald Hitman—"and if you think he represents the working classes, support the motion."

Mr. Hitman took his cue and his Soperic tones lulled the house into a mood of somnolent antagonism.

The house defeated the motion by a large majority and fled before the joyous scraping of carpet. There is, however, one argument which was never debated, and that is the validity of a debate such as this, which seems to encourage rather outdated ideas, however frivolous the intention may be. The standard of debate on this motion (which was of very questionable importance anyway) was low, and sank to a petty triviality deplorable in a community of supposedly intelligent, educated students.

Deb. Soc. should perhaps reconsider its policies; if it is to remain a respected institution both inside the University and on a national level it must provide a standard of debate higher than that of last week.



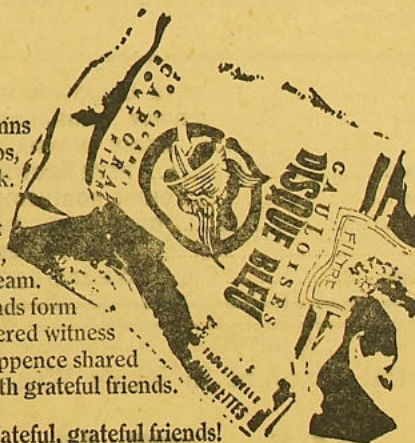
Rhys Vaughan making a point to his Cambridge opponent.

Farewell my 20 Gauloises

Farewell those twenty white-clad columns
of Gallic tobaccos,
so pungent, rich and dark.

The crumpled white and blue pack
now drifts destitute,
mere flotsam on alien stream.
Only small twisted butt-ends form
here and there scattered witness
to five and tuppence shared
with grateful friends.

Hateful, grateful friends!



REDBRICK

Confidential humbug

THE issue of confidentiality in University government which Guild Executive has been thrashing out during the last week is one of the symbols of the outdated and illiberal attitude of the University authorities towards the running of the academic community. They believe that it is better to take these decisions away from the people affected, and to leave them free to continue their studies. This is the attitude of an administrator who wants everything to be nice and simple for him, so that his decisions are untrammelled with the restrictions of democratic processes.

For the University to impose on Executive the burden of such an alien way of government as confidential communications may have been very smart of the Vice-Chancellor, since Student Role says that students should respect confidentiality when committee chairmen ask. But this put the Guild Executive in an invidious and untenable position as they are committed to abolish the procedure, to bring the University in line with the Guild and to inform all its members.

It was very fortunate in some ways that a senior member of University staff decided to ignore the confidential nature and release the information to students; it just goes to show what a load of humbug the University speaks when it demands secrecy. Senior members of the University are beginning to realise that there are vast numbers of anomalies and defects in the present structure. The fact that so many of them were in favour of the two-day teach-in on restructuring the University shows that many are concerned; in fact Senate might well have agreed to the teach-in if the Vice-Chancellor had argued in favour of it more persuasively. He refused to allow Ray Phillips to address the meeting, yet, as he showed last week, he did not know exactly what the Guild had in mind.

The University's whole attitude throughout the negotiations has been unyielding and obstructive; it has shown, by its refusal to establish a University Commission, that it is not thinking about its role in society, about its administrative structure, about the quality of its education, and about the changes necessary to bring it into line with the 1970's. Because of this lack of foresight and understanding of modern educational needs the University authorities have proved that they are totally inadequate to administer what is essentially an academic institution on the present basis.

Valuable work

Students at this University are often accused of being apathetic, not just by Union politicians, but also at times by this newspaper. What they mean is that people are not interested in Guild politics. This always has been and always will be a minority interest.

The feature on the travelling show spotlights one aspect of the social work carried on by members of the University. There is an amazing number of social work projects organised through the Guild Committee on Service and other groups, and the number of people involved in this kind of work completely disproves the accusation of apathy.

Immigrant teaching, hospital visiting, helping handicapped children and decorating projects are all activities that go on all year round, not just at Carnival time. The work done often goes unrecognised and unpraised; it is a valuable contribution to the community and should be recognised as such. To spend one's spare time helping others is a valid interpretation of getting the most from a university education. More people do social work than get involved in Guild politics, and their work deserves praise.

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The residents of Highbury Hall—they were disappointed when the show ended.

THE magic words G.T.G. symbolise for most people a close-knit clique producing two plays a term and which has little connection with the University or with Birmingham.

Although this opinion is to a great extent true, since last year's Carnival there has been an attempt to initiate contact between the University and Birmingham. Following Derek Palmer's original ideas for Carnival, and the resulting plan for a Community Project it was decided that G.T.G.'s social enterprise, popular theatre, should go outside the University as it was felt that to keep a so-called "social theatre" within the University would be a contradiction in terms. From this initial idea Kirsty Shekleton suggested a travelling show to tour old people's homes, mental hospitals and geriatric wards during Carnival Week. The venture, which is financed by G.T.G., proved so successful that the show has continued and now performs every fortnight or so.

The show can perhaps best be described as a present-day variation on the old time music hall, with a solo singer, folk singers, a piano accordionist, pianist, saxophonist, flautist and a Polish dancer. Sometimes the show includes a comedian, though they are hard to come by as jokes must be of a specialised nature; what appeals to students might not be appreciated by old people, to say the very least.

There are rehearsals before the fortnightly performances, but the routine is mainly the one worked out for Carnival, and anyway it is difficult to organise full rehearsals since it is never quite certain who will turn up.

Last Wednesday the Travelling Show went to Highbury Hall, an old women's home, with a slightly smaller number of performers than usual. Normally ten to thirteen students take part, though on this occasion there were eight, including Kirsty Shekleton, the organiser.



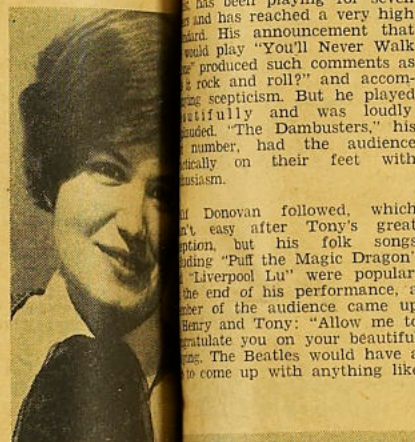
Tony Davies on piano accordion—he had the audience practically on their feet with enthusiasm.

'BEER THAN THE BEATLES!'

Once we had managed to get into the hall, we were mistaken for a visitor. The group began to rehearse the finale in which the audience was to be clung to the stars at the end of the show. The group failed to prevent ourselves from being hurled into the drum on the cymbal stand. There were several frowns as the group recoiled at the piano was flat, but the pianist had to pull as he played.

Popular

We got stuck in the jams along the way, several stops and starts, evident that no one had of the route to Highbury did arrive, twenty-five minutes at the same time as the teacher. I was informed.



Kirsty Shekleton, of the Travelling

played the saxophone show together, sang and chatted to the audience popular with female "the older woman". Everyone adores them all jealous.

Undeterred

As we wandered imposing home trying in. Jan Higgins remarked that the probably complaining inconsiderate young. She wasn't far wrong we entered, a few cling in the corridor us to shut the door. cordial of reception red the group was principal into a pointed out a attraction for group tea. I was assured at such institution but this time it was ing.

There was a stage formers, which is rarity. Denise Horton and the only one though she has costumes for all the introduced the first tical and by now audience.

Faint

Brian Revell, Mr Henry began the show. Were meant for the from the applause received. I didn't have watch audience reaction one woman told me faint—strait at waiting

that. They wouldn't be climbing on the floor, they'd be going up the wall."

Appreciation

Audience participation was at its peak when one woman in the third row accompanied Jane Morahan when she sang "Autumn Leaves" and "Softly As I Leave You." Several people commented: "She's got a lovely voice," and one, who had been muttering throughout most of the show, roused the audience with: "Why don't you all clap louder and show your appreciation." Jane also sang "Misty" "The Very Thought of You" and "The More I See You," and managed to keep time with the piano despite the fact that there had been no time to rehearse beforehand. One woman declared that her performance was "my favourite of the evening." Mine, too.

The finale consisted of old time singing by the whole group, joined by Kirsty. This is often the most successful part of the evening and can be entertaining when the audience join in, particularly when it includes men, who tend to be less inhibited than women.

Success

The audience enjoyed the show and seemed disappointed when it ended. As we left, the principal told Kirsty not to hesitate in letting him know when they would give another. On the way back it was obvious that the performers had enjoyed themselves and that in their opinion the show had been a success.

The Travelling Show will have to change its present content when it tours the same homes. There are



Jane Morahan—"favourite of the evening."

The Travelling Show is just one aspect of the social work carried out by students which few people know about.

Stephanie Major, who wrote this article, and photographer Nigel Gray, went along to a performance last Wednesday night at Highbury Hall.

YOUNG BUMLEY

Potentially excellent

The Travelling Show not only provides a social service, it gives enjoyment to those who perform in it. At the moment there are few members, probably due to lack of publicity, but those that there are are enthusiastic and resulting shows a success. But it seems to me that unless more people become interested in this venture, the present enthusiasm will fade into the apathy which invades most of the organisations here.

This is a new venture and deserves to continue. At a time when student apathy is one of the talking points of this University and there are complaints of lack of contact with Birmingham, it would be a complete waste of a valuable service if this potentially excellent Travelling Show were to fold through lack of support.

If anyone has aspirations to sing, dance or play, this would be a superb opportunity. There is no need to be apprehensive about approaching G.T.G. Kirsty Shekleton will be grateful to see you. You never know, you might even enjoy it.

Your obedient servant,

Bumley

CANADA

Canadian and non-Canadian students who are interested in receiving specific and general information on opportunities in Canada for

Postgraduate Fellowships

and

University, Government and Industrial Positions

are invited to arrange a counselling appointment by writing to the address below, or by telephoning Mr. John Corning at 643 3005, Monday to Friday, 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Canadian Government Immigration Service, Rotunda Building, New Street, Birmingham.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GUILD REPRESENTATIVES STAND TOGETHER

DEAR SIR, — We, as elected representatives of the Guild, recognise that, in a democratic community, there must be differences of opinion—all with an equal right of expression. We realise, too, that there will be times when we will differ in our own approaches to the situation. But we consider that this is right, for it is only in this way that we can hope to represent a cross-section of opinion on the campus.

However, one fundamental principle firmly unites us, and that is that we are both striving for progress in this University.

We therefore deplore any attempt to silence differing opinions by articles based on unfounded and inaccurate hearsay evidence. For the time has come when we must accept our responsibilities and fully respect the right of each one of us to express our views.

We must get on with the matter that faces us, and that is to improve the quality of our education together.

Yours,

RAY PHILLIPS, President of the Guild.
SUE JACKSON, Vice-President of the Guild.

REDBRICK'S GROSS BIAS

DEAR SIR,—It is often the duty of a newspaper to print facts and opinions damaging to individuals, but only if the facts are correct and the opinions fair. In your last week's back-page lead attacking the Vice-President, the facts were so incomplete and so mis-stated as to imply either the grossest incompetence or the grossest bias on the part of your reporters.

To state that Sue Jackson rarely attends Exec. meetings is a blatant lie—of the official Exec. meetings this term Sue has missed two; she was ill at the time of the first, and had a departmental interview during the second. Similarly, to say that Sue caused the misunderstanding in the University's above direct action, is to transfer to her the blame that primarily rests on the shoulders of "Redbrick." Sue was only doing her job when she explained to University Council that the motion had been supported less by those who wished to force a confrontation with Council, than by those who wanted to give the University and the Guild time to work out an acceptable solution.

If Sue cannot be "trusted" by "other members" of Exec. to put the Guild's case, it is only because she cannot be "trusted" to produce the spiteful and venomous invective which some of her colleagues believe to be necessary.

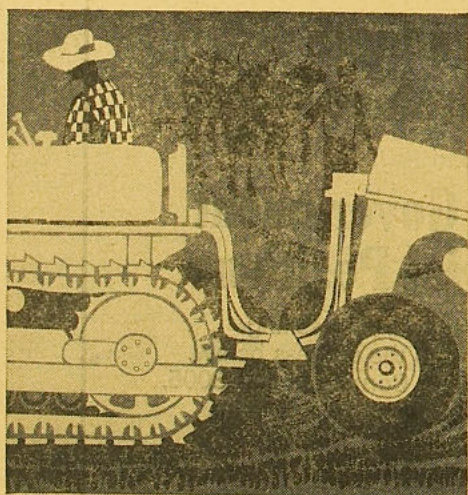
Yours faithfully,

ROGER HIRD

Talking point

SIR,—In our opinion, the article by Dick Holt in last week's "Talking Point" degenerated into a series of untrue and defamatory statements. The place for this sort of commentary is on "Wall" and we are astonished that such rubbish should have been allowed to soil the pages of "Redbrick." It is sincerely hoped that such a puerile article will not appear again.

WENDY PALMER,



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Our staff don't swear

DEAR SIR,—I would like to comment on some points made by Dick Holt in his letter last week.

When he complains about the attitude of the staff in the coffee bar, I really must protest. He said that empty crockery was left lying around because the staff "could not be bothered to clear it away." This is a complete lie, and he knows it. The reason the plates are not immediately cleared away on some occasions is that the staff do not have time to do it. The women in the coffee bar are busy all day; there is invariably a queue of people waiting to be served.

These women do not work in the best conditions: the juke-box is continually blasting at them; when they clean the tables they invariably have to wipe around people's feet, and they have to put up with people like Dick Holt complaining about the food. Yet these women are always cheerful and never complain. I doubt whether Dick Holt would last an hour behind the coffee bar without swearing.

Everybody who has anything to do with the staff in the Union would agree that they have a difficult job to do in far from ideal conditions, and that they do this job wonderfully. Our staff, far from being incompetent and not bothered, are some of the best staff we could hope for.

Yours sincerely,

IAN NELSON,
Chairman, Union Services Comm.

Parkinsons Law

SIR,—Pursuant to your feature in last week's edition, re the Guild money, about which, incidentally Medics and Dentists have increasingly militant feelings (lest the Guild forget), it seems to me that the most salient point made came at the end, when your correspondent remarked upon the fact that Guild Council passed without discussion, the financial estimates for the current session.

This is fairly standard procedure for financial matters; the situation typifies the working of Parkinson's Law. Most Councilors, faced with a sum on paper of £8,000, let alone £28,000, have little idea of what this means; it is a sum entirely beyond the comprehension of a student on a grant of under £400 per annum.

In the unusual event of there being a councillor brass-necked and clued-up enough to dare to challenge any points of financial estimates, he is generally fobbed off with some incomprehensible and/or irrelevant spiel; if he is then foolish enough to pursue the matter further, he is rapidly made to feel that he is wasting everybody's time by quibbling over a little matter of a hundred (or a thousand) pounds. (Again, I know this only too well.)

Council, on the whole prefer to spend their time discussing at exhausting, sorry, that should have been exhaustive (or should it?) length, matters of momentous importance to the student body as a whole, such as motions for the forthcoming N.U.S. conference of whether Mermaid Office should become Events Comm. Office, or become Television Room (about four meetings and a special "informal" meeting were spent on this in 1966-67), or University Challenge Team's remuneration.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ROGER W. MATTHEW.

FILMS

PHIL IRVING

Romantic Interlude

IF no-one had ever seen a cigarette ad. or a diamond is for ever ad., "Interlude," at the Scala next week, would probably be a very good film indeed. As it is, it comes out as saccharin sweet, self-indulgent and I winced all the way

through the first half. You have the story of a love-affair—as opposed to the people in the affair. It has Oskar Werner as Stefan Zetter, world-famous conductor; Barbara Ferris as the reporter he falls in love with; and Virginia Maskell as Stefan's long-suffering wife Antonia.

It's a very solid film, well-made all the way through, with excellent supporting parts, and beautifully photographed, though again, I have seen far too many soft-focused scenes with couples gambolling through the woods, full of the joys of sweet, romantic narcissistic love.

Towards the end of the film, when the affair starts to break down, and their love starts to congeal (ugh!), it starts to be rather more life-like and really does have something to say. Worth seeing if you are feeling a little or a lot romantic.

Cushing clichés at the Odeon

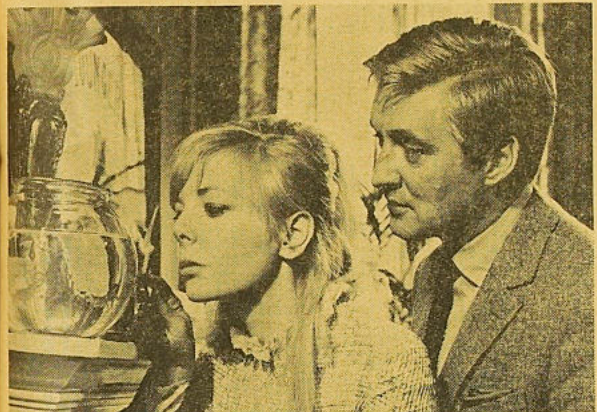
"CORRUPTION" unfortunately at the Odeon all next week is a hysterical title for a very hysterical and melodramatic movie. Both Rank and ABC circuits seem to be reaching a new low at the present time and "Corruption" hardly alters the current trend.

It has Peter Cushing — which means it has to be horror — or pseudo-horror in this case—and is a variant on the old theme of a beautiful woman who has her face ruined in an accident, with trauma all round for everyone who is even vaguely connected with her career. Peter Cushing tries very

hard to be a distinguished surgeon tragically, and hopelessly in love with his beautiful model fiancée; I say tries very hard—he'd be much better as a steady insurance clerk, instead of wielding knives over a very unprofessional looking operating table. He wants to restore her face, retiring to his mahogany panelled room, surrounded by dusty tomes of long since and best forgotten medical works and comes up with a new process.

Somewhat inevitably, one feels, the process requires bodies, and that modern scientific cliché — the laser. So there's blood, and there's blood, and there's bodies — I don't know how many — all interest having been lost long before the first murder.

It only remains to be said that the film possesses more clichés per minute than any other film I've seen, the acting is around primary school nativity play standard, and the final apocalyptic scene, in which they are all done in by the laser gone berserk is justice for them all.



Oskar Werner and Barbara Ferris in "Interlude."

TANTALUS

Rising full from the Eastern Moon

SEVERAL years of patronage have convinced us that the Eastern Moon is probably the best restaurant in the city centre, and conveniently situated on Smallbrook Ringway, opposite the Albany and near the Scala, and as such is readily accessible by means of the Bristol Road buses.

The restaurant is a large, first floor room whose only pretensions to Oriental derivation are the inevitable furry wallpaper, and a record of "I Want To Hold Your Hand" in Hindi; despite its size, however, it is often full even at 3 a.m. Like most of its kind, it is open till 4 a.m.

Service is very good, and the prices are low by city standards.

REVIEWS

DANCE

VINAY KAPUR

Feeling groovy or bored?

THE artists were great, the music was great and the audience was shit! The groups, incensed by audience reaction, could have given us a fantastic evening to remember but they were let down by audience non-participation. Perhaps it was because Arts Lab was also on, that there wasn't the right kind of audience to appreciate the music. For example, while Bach Denkel played "My Wife's Bicycle" two girls were jiving! Bach Denkel and Village played a fusion of blues jazz and pop, nowadays called "progressive commercial" and it contains vitality, intensity and aggressiveness. However, all of the performances could have been much enhanced by a more imaginative use of stage lighting.

The Love Sculpture brought the dance to an exciting end with a vibrating version of "Sabre Dance" which is their latest single. Throughout their performance they kept the audience interested, and their replica of the Beatles "A Day in the Life Of" was well appreciated.

Unlike the other groups whose music I found exciting, it was P. P. Arnold's act which "turned me on." It was a combination of her high emotive shrieks and the gyrations of her behind. And I wasn't the only one to become excited, for in the middle of "Nowhere To Run, Nowhere To Hide" a person next to me became so enraptured by her trying to manage her strap, sing and comfort herself into hellish positions, that he flicked away his burning cigarette from the balcony on to the floor below—so if you see anyone with a small piece of Elastoplast in their hair . . .

Afterwards I interviewed P. P. Arnold and she told me that although this mixture of pop and soul had established her she didn't really enjoy singing it, and is planning to sing more in the style of Nina Simone, and will soon be doing some numbers with Quincy Jones in the U.S.A. I'm sure she'll form some rapport with him unlike with her present backing group T.N.T., who to me seemed indifferent.

The dance was unsuccessful, both financially and also for the crowd who said it wasn't danceable music. Mech. Eng. should have put on groups to appeal to the type of people they were selling tickets to. Also why the restriction of Union Cards? This prevented the beautiful people from coming and turning the night into a memorable evening, both for the groups and us.



P. P. Arnold at Mech. Eng. dance.

Photo: Ashley Dunn



Scene from "I, a Woman."

FILMS

HERSH ZEIFMAN

Rubbish in our time

IT seems to me that the only feasible reaction a reviewer can have to "Love In Our Time" (ABC New Street and Coleshill) is awe — awe that such a staggeringly shoddy and revolting film could ever have been made, let alone distributed.

BOOKS

TONY PAGE

Better to be red and read

"RED BASE" is aimed at the minority of students, those who are familiar with the basic jargon of Marxist thought. But since Socialism Union have placed it on general sale, it must be judged on its relevance to radical students as a whole.

A summary of André Gorz's views on student workers loses force because it is a summary and because most readers will be unfamiliar with the context of his views. Furthermore, the atrocious style hides his argument extremely well.

Charles Wright's article is a written version of what he has been saying at the various meetings in recent months. Nevertheless, his words are both timely and worthy of consideration.

Possibly one of the most interesting contributions is the attack on "Redbrick" by Steve Schonberg, although he may be condemned for stating the obvious. Other articles are an interesting cameo of the Mexican Students' troubles and a piece on racialism, which concerns a trade dispute.

"Red Base" has its faults, but is worth 6d.

sport 1

JUDO

Blackburn wins B.U.J.A. title

IN the British Universities Judo Association tournament on Saturday in the sports centre, John Blackburn won the individual championship for 2nd Kyu and under. This follows last year's win by Ian Parsons.

In the contest there were 21 entrants, six of whom were from Birmingham. In the first round four of the Birmingham entrants were eliminated: K. Murray, J. Routh, K. Foks and J. Taparovsky. The two remaining Birmingham entrants were both beaten in the second round but both qualified as best losers to go into one of the semi-final pools. Mike Dunning was beaten in his first contest but John Blackburn, although he had an injured shoulder, won three bouts to qualify for the final. The final was closely contested, and Blackburn was eventually given the bout by a decision.

The rest of the tournament was taken up with the B.U.J.A. inter-regional Championships. Three Birmingham men were in the Midlands team, Ian Parsons, Ken Murray and John Blackburn. The team did well and finished second after a close match with the South-Eastern

Region in the final. The other teams competing were Scotland and the North.

The Birmingham lads did well, Parsons winning twice and losing once. Blackburn won once and drew twice, and Ken Murray drew one and lost the other two.

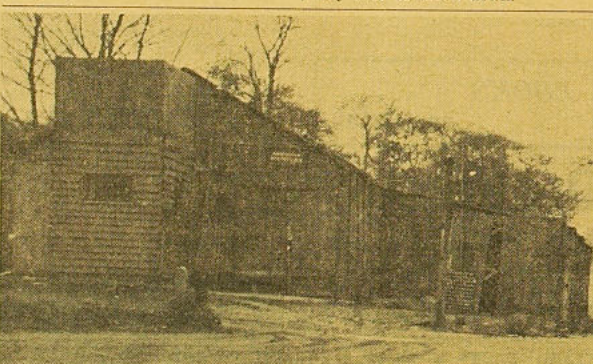
At the International Universities Judo Club Tournament in Holland, Birmingham University, one of four British Universities represented, was most unfortunate in being drawn for their first match against the eventual winners, Leuven University, of Belgium. After 20 hours' training and only six hours' sleep, a team of four black belts, one a 2nd Dan International and one brown belt, this was a bit of a disheartening start.

The second match, against Eindhoven, was much more promising. A rather defensive play on Eindhoven's part caused Birmingham to lose narrowly by half a point. Special mention goes to John Blackburn (heavyweight) and Ian Parsons (light-heavy) for both scoring points.

The third and last match, against the host University, Nijmegen, was extremely successful. The Dutch team were higher graded than Birmingham, but nevertheless, all the team managed to score points. Bob Willis (lightweight), Ken Murray (welter), and Parsons and Blackburn won their contests fairly easily. Dave Nicholson fought well and managed to gain half a point, but his opponent was higher graded and eventually won.

Unfortunately two matches lost prevented Birmingham from entering the quarter-finals. Leuven University finally won the day after meeting London in the semi-finals.

An excellent tournament in Holland was only marred by the tragic death of four of the Leeds team on the homeward journey. The Judo Club and Redbrick Sports Staff wish to express their deepest sympathy.



An end to all this for the Rowing Club. (Photo: R. Parker).

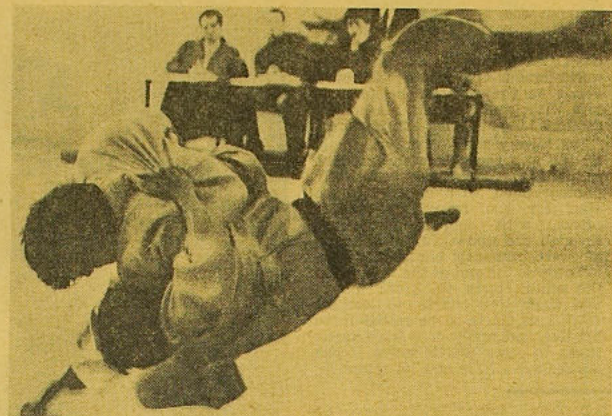
ROWING

Skullers modernise

AFTER many years using a dilapidated boathouse and deteriorating equipment, the University Rowing Club has at last good facilities. In conjunction with Birmingham R.C., a new boathouse is being built at Edgbaston Reservoir.

Earlier this year an appeal was launched to raise the £8,000 necessary for the project. The Sports Council has promised £4,800 and the University, in return for 25 per cent of the facilities, £1,000. The University of Aston, where there is, as yet, no R.C., has promised £250, and the rest has come from various donations.

The scheme consists of one 100ft. long boathouse and a smaller building with changing room, showers and toilets. The project, now being built, should be finally finished by January.



Another opponent falls victim of 17-stone John Blackburn on his way to the final of B.U.J.A. championship. (Photo: Chris Robinson).

RUGBY

WATKINS PENALTY PAVES THE WAY

Birmingham 1st XV 6pts., Old Dixonians 1st XV 5. AFTER their somewhat unlucky and unexpected defeat in mid-week by Loughborough College, the 1st XV regained their composure and overwhelmed Old Dixonians on Saturday at Bournbrook.

The score, 6-5 to Birmingham, is not a true reflection of the run of play, for the team, with their far superior intelligence, outwitted Old Dixonians continually. A reshuffled pack with the return of Batterby and Plank, together with a more imaginative set of backs, fought hard after losing five points early in the game. A 60-yard penalty (at least) by Dave Watkins, together with their punts at half-time, kept the boys going, and the capacity crowd have never seen a better feat of fouls and open play in the second half.

Broken-nose Morgan was chopped down on the line, and despite Monington's pleas and tears to the referee, a penalty try was disallowed. However, still fighting, the team threw everything into it and finally succeeded. Two Old Boys were injured and the way was open for a brilliant tactical move with Mick Allaway quick-stepping his way over to touch down.

Results

SOCCER

Academicals 2, Wolverhampton Grammar Schools 0.
Academicals 2, Welwyn 0.
1st XI 2, Leicester 1.
2nd XI 6, Leicester 1.
Wanderers 3, Homesteaders 1.
Queen's College 7, 1st "A" (Old Boys) 3.
Badminton 8, G.E.C. 1.
Squash 5, Leicester 0.

This week's sport

TODAY
West Brom. v. Dynamo
Bucharest (Cup Winners' Cup)
k.o. 7.30 p.m.
Soccer 1st XI v. Loughborough Colleges.
SATURDAY
Coventry v. Ipswich (k.o. 3.15 p.m.).
West Brom. v. Sunderland (k.o. 3 p.m.).
Birmingham v. Hull (k.o. 3 p.m.).
Walsall v. Brighton (k.o. 3 p.m.).
Women's Lacrosse v. Manchester University.
Hockey: 1st XI v. Edgbaston; Ladies v. Kidderminster.
Squash v. Manchester Univ.

The ladies team broke the University record in defeating Notts. Colleges 16-0.
The Golf Club beat Sheffield 1-1 in a mid-week match at Sherwood Forest G.C., despite Tim Bowdler losing 684 after an alcoholic lunch. The team lost 4-2 to South Staffs.

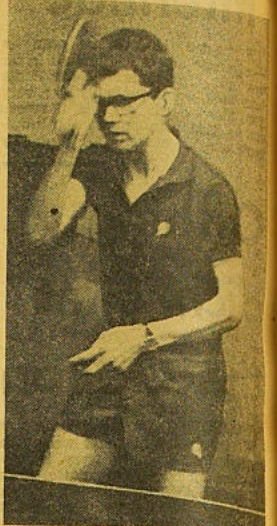


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TABLE TENNIS

Daly tests Mitchell

BIRMINGHAM 12, Leicester 3. BIRMINGHAM emerged from this U.A.U. clash as easy victors over a disappointed Leicester team, thus avenging the defeat at their hands in the self-same match last year.



Brian Mitchell

The best event of the afternoon was between Brian Mitchell, the Birmingham No. 1, and the Leicester No. 2, I. Daly, whose superb defence severely tested Mitchell's all-out attack. Daly won two of Leicester's three games, beating off-form Steve O'Neale and then winning a grim tactical struggle with Clive Coombs on deuce.

Team: B. Mitchell, S. O'Neale, R. Henderson, C. Coombs, C. Wong.

SHORT SPORT

IN their first match for several weeks, the ladies lacrosse team defeated an inexperienced Worcester ladies side 11-0. L. Boyd (centre) scored six goals and M. Rogers (1st Home) three. S. Hobbs was unable to play as he was at Motespur Park for W.I.V.A.B. trials.

The men's lacrosse team were the better side for three-quarters of their game against Stockport "A" but were unable to pull back a first quarter deficit of six goals, and lost 12-7.

The rifle team were narrowly beaten 1,503 points to 1,486 by Reading. The sloping firing point and double card system made conditions difficult, but Pete Taylor scored a remarkable double 98.

Without Mike Donovan and G. Mostafa, the badminton club lost their U.A.U. clash with Loughborough Colleges 5-4. They just failed to clinch two close games which would have swayed the match. Soo Sun Wah, the U.A.U. Singles champion, won all his three events for Loughborough.

A fine 558 series from Mick Stamp and a consistent performance from Tim Baldwin gave Birmingham fifth place in the first U.A.U. Ten Pin Bowling championships.

The ladies team broke the University record in defeating Notts. Colleges 16-0.

The Golf Club beat Sheffield 1-1 in a mid-week match at Sherwood Forest G.C., despite Tim Bowdler losing 684 after an alcoholic lunch. The team lost 4-2 to South Staffs.

sport 2

SOCCER

LEICESTER HIT FOR SIX IN U.A.U.

BY ROGER KELLY

Birmingham Univ. 1st XI 6, Leicester Univ. 1st XI 1

REGULAR followers of the First XI have always suspected that there was considerable potential lying beneath the surface, and last Wednesday in the Midlands Area Final of the U.A.U. Championship, this latent skill exploded in the best display of the season. Within 15 minutes of the beginning, the outcome of the game had been decided as Birmingham threaded their way through the Leicester defence in a performance that could not fail to thrill any real lover of football.

Whilst no one can fault the Birmingham team, it was the quality of the Leicester defence that initially gave the University the spur of the first goal. Defence errors allowed Birmingham to pile on the pressure and a fine header by Mel Birkinshaw was fumbled away to Roger Hawkins, whose first time shot gave Leicester no chance. From this time the only pertinent question was how many goals would there be.

The whole team was playing very well. Running hard and capitalising on a fine blend of skill and power. For once the whole forward line and the half-backs were moving.

The U.A.U. Area Finals brought Birmingham an unprecedented FIVE quarter-final and one semi-final place. The table tennis, squash, soccer and two rugby teams play the winners of the Welsh Division for a place in the semi-final.

The basketball club join seven others in the tournament to decide the championship at Birmingham next term and an away fencing win gives them a semi-final place. The water polo and second hockey teams have still to play Midlands area matches. Only the badminton, rugby, hockey and second hockey teams were eliminated.

SOCCER

GARDINERS GOALS NOT ENOUGH

Loughborough Coll. 2nd XI 3, Birmingham 2nd XI 2.

EARLY goals were just not enough to bring Birmingham victory over a fit and hard tackling Loughborough team in the U.A.U. 2nd term championship. In the 63rd minute a cross from the right found an unmarked Loughborough forward who banged home the winning goal from close range and shattered Birmingham's U.A.U. hopes.

Inside 10 minutes Keith Gardiner had tapped in a Hatton cross which was flicked on by Pete Davies to leave the Loughborough defence marshalled by a former U.A.U. skipper very flat footed.

Loughborough scrambled two goals after weak clearances, but minutes later Birmingham equalised when Pete Davies pushed a ball through for Keith Gardiner to slip it past the advancing keeper.

Throughout the first half the Birmingham attack seemed to worry the Loughborough defence but the middle three of Barraclough, Wortley and Hatton had to do a lot of running to contain the probing Colleges passing.

In the second half Colleges found the measure of the Birmingham attack and their hard running middle men gained the control which inevitably led to the winning goal.



Andy Maile heads in Birmingham's sixth goal against Leicester. (Photo: Chris Robinson).

MEN'S HOCKEY

Loughborough apologies too late DEFEAT BY DISPUTED GOAL

LOUGHBOROUGH COLLEGES 1, BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY 0

DESPITE a fine performance by the defence, Birmingham were knocked out of the U.A.U. competition last Wednesday by Loughborough Colleges.

Though not as illustrious as their Rugby colleagues, the hockey team at Loughborough had a successful time in the last few seasons, and under the guidance of Stan Wigmore, the British Olympic Hockey Coach in Mexico, they have developed a highly mobile, robust technique. Nevertheless, Birmingham were distinctly unlucky to lose this match, through one highly disputed goal: Loughborough, to their credit, apologised for it after the game. By then it was too late.

The Birmingham defence, under severe pressure for much of this match, played splendidly, restricting the Colleges forwards to only one shot in the entire game from open play.

Outstanding were Tilsey and Cubley, John Tilsey, from Norwich, came to University as a left winger, but moved to left-half, in which position he has improved with every game, and U.A.U. have acknowledged this by picking him as a reserve in a recent game. Colin Cubley, from Caldey Grange, played for Cheshire County Schoolboys before stepping into the University 1st XI at left-back or left-half last season.

Tall, with a long reach, his hockey is improving steadily as he speeds up and improves the timing of his tackling. With Tilsey, Cubley has ensured that no opposing right-winger has had an easy time of it this season.

As a game of hockey, this match was ruined by appalling umpiring. Petty to an extreme, they blew every small infringement, and made no effort to allow the game to flow. It was doubly unfortunate for Birmingham that two of the worst of many bad decisions led to the Loughborough goal.

W.I.V.A.B. TRIALS

NINE FOR WIVAB

Nine Birmingham girls were selected for the W.I.V.A.B. teams following the final trials at Motespur Park on Saturday.

In the netball trials the first team finally chosen included five Birmingham players, Pat Dodgson, Wendy Palmer, Liz Cole, Chris Williams and Lesley Baker, with Sue Johnson in the second team.

The hockey team included Pauline Clay, Shirley Moore, Rosemary Lown and Helen Diney.

The U.A.U. competition is the most important event for the University team each season and to be "removed" by bad umpiring does nothing to increase enthusiasm for the game.

Team: Buchanan, Blake, Cubley; Williams, Freedman, Tilsey; Van der Kolk, Wood, Brown, Fishburn, Guise.

Birmingham University 1, Harborne 3.

On Saturday the University lost to a strong Harborne side containing several highly-rated players, in what was nevertheless the best performance of the season to date. Despite the rain, the pitch at West Hill played splendidly, and the ground staff are to be congratulated on their efforts.

Birmingham scored first through van der Kolk, but despite even play in midfield, the Harborne forwards scored three goals, and showed their experience in front of goal.

Team: Buchanan, Blake, Cubley; Williams, Freedman, Tilsey; Guise, Fishburn, Brown, Wood, van der Kolk.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Holden beats mud

THE Cross-Country Club were badly under strength for their two fixtures last week. On Wednesday against Nottingham only Pete Griffiths and Andy Holden of the first team were competing. However, Ron Taylor gave them strong support and ran exceptionally well, staying with the leaders for much of the six miles and eventually finishing fourth. Dave Crossley backed up well, along with a reluctant Tom Salway, who had not expected to be called upon, so had already trained in the morning.

Results: 1 Birmingham University 31 points, Aston University 44 points, Nottingham University 38 points.

Individual Joint 1st Rick Wilde (Aston), 2 Holden and Griffiths (Birmingham), 4 Taylor (Birmingham).

On Saturday the club were hosts to Birchfield Harriers, leading Welsh Club Cardiff A.A.C., and Swansea University. Cardiff brought along a strong team including three Welsh international runners, Jeff Kirby, Bernie Hayward and John Williams. Unfortunately, there were again only two Birmingham first teamers running.

Andy Holden chose this occasion to produce his best performance of the season and demonstrated his love of muddy conditions by powering away from his rivals on the second lap. This was a remarkable run in view of the fact that he had had absolutely no sleep the previous night.

Steve Gibbons and John Eley both won in superb form all afternoon, winning seven out of his nine events. Bob Vella also showed the polished and effective style now expected of him. The "match of the day award" must go to Evans, whose 5-9 demolition of the Loughborough captain at epee was a joy to watch.

Results: 1 Cardiff A.A.C. 37 points, 2 Birmingham University 59 points, 3 Swansea University 123 points. Individual: A. Holden, 32min. 08sec., 2 J. Kirby (Cardiff) 33.01, 3 B. Hayward (Cardiff) 33.31.

FENCING

EVANS ON FORM

Loughborough Univ. 13, Birmingham 14. In a real cliff-hanger of a match last Wednesday, the Birmingham fencers defeated Loughborough University 14-13 to win their way through to the U.A.U. semi-finals.

An even match was certain when Birmingham were held to a 5-4 win in the foil. Loughborough won the sabre 5-4 and the match stood at 4-4 in the epee with one bout to play.

Captain Ralph Evans took the bout to clinch the match. Evans was in superb form all afternoon, winning seven out of his nine events. Bob Vella also showed the polished and effective style now expected of him. The "match of the day award" must go to Evans, whose 5-9 demolition of the Loughborough captain at epee was a joy to watch.

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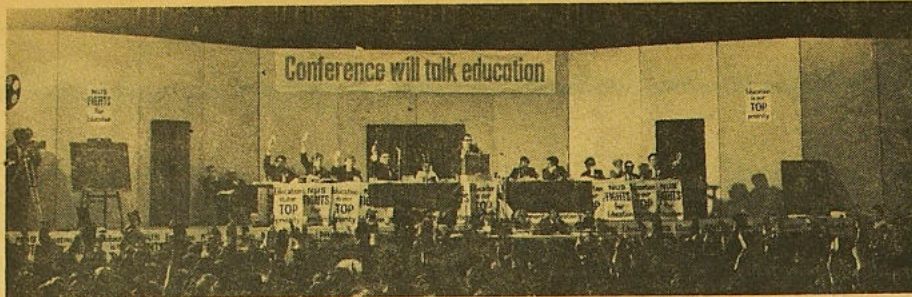
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N.U.S. Exec. at last Easter's Council in Leicester

REDBRICK

Birmingham University

WILL GUILD QUIT N.U.S.?

By PHIL IRVING

After a Margate conference last weekend, described by one N.U.S. official as "The worst for several years," the Birmingham delegation were recommending to Guild Executive, that Birmingham should disaffiliate from the National Union. "There is no point in going along to N.U.S. any more" Martin Lowe, one of the Birmingham delegation commented.

In contrast to the Margate conference last year, where Birmingham were reputed to be the top delegation, the Birmingham delegates played little part in the incoherent, narcissistic, internecine fighting, which ruined this year's conference.

Few educational motions were put down on the original agenda — the majority of time allocated for debate being taken up by amendments to the union's own constitution — i.e. who is a student and who is not a student; what is the Union capable of discussing; and other non-educational topics. The situation was worsened, as delegates did not receive vital documents, informing them of motions to be debated, and reports due for discussion until they arrived at Margate.

Much of the blame for the time-consuming technical points of order, which continually interrupted debate, must lie with the union executive, as they tried to push their own point of view, with consequent annoyance to the majority of delegates present. "Throughout the conference there was deliberate and persistent provocation from the chairman conducting the debate" — Charles Critcher, another of the Birmingham delegation commented.

Eventually, only one educational motion — clarifying N.U.S. policy on the B.Ed. degree was debated at length; other motions — such as the one setting out a higher education policy for the Union, in which Birmingham had a major interest, had the time allocated to it reduced from an original two hours to a brief ten minutes, with just time for a proposal, an opposition speech, and a summing up.

The grants campaign received an hour's discussion, a decision to continue with the campaign being eventually taken, despite a move by Swansea, who claimed that a grants campaign at the present time was not likely to gain much in the way of success, and N.U.S. effort would be better occupied with campus reform plans.

The latter motion was only narrowly defeated — a rather surprising reversal of the situation of the last conference at Leicester, where the vast majority supported a grants campaign.

Whether or not Birmingham eventually disaffiliates, will depend on Guild Council's opinions of the matter, but if Birmingham do stay in, they are getting little for their money apart from a travel service; the main aims of N.U.S. — to be an educational pressure group, and to educationally benefit its members, are fast disappearing, as the union tends towards anarchy.

WALL apologises

FOR the second time this term the Press Council was convened last Thursday.

The meeting had been convened to consider a complaint lodged by Mr. John Butcher concerning a letter which had appeared on the current issue of "Wall" newspaper, signed by Mr. M. O'S. Jenkins.

Mr. Jenkins said that he had written the letter because of the persistent use of the name "Tara" in connection with Mr. McDavid. He objected to this practice because the name "Tara" was associated with his (Mr. Jenkins') family name.

There was general agreement by the members of the Press Council that the letter had constituted personal abuse and smearing and it was agreed that the following be recorded as the findings of the Press Council in this case:

- (1) That the Editor of "Wall" newspaper shall make a written apology to Mr. E. McDavid for the publication of the letter; it was further decided that the author of the letter, Mr. M. Jenkins, should also make a written apology to Mr. McDavid. It was further agreed that the apology from the Editor of "Wall" newspaper be published in "Wall" newspaper and that a recommendation be forwarded to the Editor of "Redbrick" that it should also be published in "Redbrick."
- (2) That the letter be removed from "Wall" newspaper.
- (3) That these findings be reported in full to the next meeting of Guild Council.

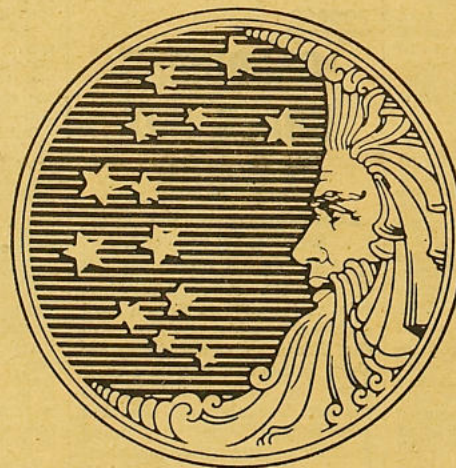


Tony Klug, N.U.S. Vice-President-elect.

V-P DEFEATED

Ray Phillips and Chris Tyrrell were, predictably, elected as two of our three representatives on the University Court of Governors in last week's election. Both received over 300 votes.

The third representative to be elected was John Butcher, Carnival Chairman, who collected 267 votes. The defeated candidate of the four who stood, was Sue Jackson, who pulled only 91 votes; this result is slightly ironic in view of her claim on G.T.V. last Friday that she represented a large section of student opinion. Her lack of success in the election is undoubtedly due in part at least to the criticism of her which has recently been expressed both in "Redbrick" and in other parts of the Union.



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TAX HITS

THE latest set of tax increases announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Friday, is already hitting students severely. Beer, which all students consume in some quantity and most in large quantities, has gone up by 1d per pint, and for those with more expensive tastes, whisky is also considerably increased in price.

Cigarettes, the universal nerve calmer and space filler when conversation lapses, are also more expensive — there are price increases of up to 5d for twenty, so it will now cost even more to relieve your neuroses, whether by nicotine or liquor.

Those students who are already running their cars on shoestring budgets will also be hit by the increases in petrol prices — as much as 5d or 6d on a gallon. The price of new cars is also up, of course, but then not many students can have been thinking about buying one anyway, as such things are well beyond the pockets of most of us.

The fact that the increases have come near the end of term, when many people are already living on overdrafts (and incidentally, overdrafts are also going to be much more difficult to obtain) does not help the students any; one could at least have wished that Mr. Jenkins had waited to make Britain's contributions to the easing of the international monetary crisis until next term.