

DEBATE:
"That this House
would not kiss the
Blarney Stone"
Visiting Irishmen will
oppose,
THURSDAY,
Council Chamber, 5.15

GUILD NEWS

No. 604

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd, 1961

Price 3d.

FILM SOCIETY
La Grande Illusion
Popov the Clown
Colour of Man
Mech. Eng. Theatre:
Thursday, 7.30

'Haloes and hairshirts' : Estate architects

CASSON PLANS FOR FUTURE

Let there be light

THE time is approaching when Entertainments Committee must consider the decoration schemes for Founder's Dinner Dance and Guild Ball.

On previous occasions Guild members have expressed their disappointment at not being allowed to exercise their creative talents and to submit designs. This is not the case, however, because anyone who is so inclined is most welcome to put forward a scheme for either function and the impression that this may not be done is entirely false.

Persons wishing to submit schemes are invited to contact the chairman of Entertainments Committee to obtain further details of the scope of the functions. It is requested that this contact should be made by Tuesday, November 28th, so that an estimate of the number of schemes to be considered may be formed.

Firework injures two

TWO laboratory technicians from the Chemistry Department were taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital last Wednesday suffering from injuries caused by an explosion.

The explosion occurred on the canal bank at the back of the University and was apparently caused by a firework. Though it was the second explosion within a week involving members of the Chemistry Department, it took place outside the University, Professor Stacey confirmed.

Michael Thompson, aged 20, was detained in hospital with injuries to an arm, his stomach and ears. The other technician involved suffered only a slight injury to an arm and was released the same day.

FRESHERS!

Voting for your representatives on Guild Council takes place TODAY from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Bring your membership cards with you.

LAST Wednesday Sir Hugh Casson and his partner, Mr. Neville Conder, the University's estate architects, addressed members of staff in the Haworth Chemistry Lecture Theatre on the University building programme.

Talking in very general terms about the present plans for known expansion, Sir Hugh disclosed that the main feature was a building programme to the North of Pritchatts Road. The city authorities had been approached about the possibility of closing Pritchatts Rd. to external traffic, and the idea had been sympathetically received although no decision has been taken.

Working parties are now discussing expansion plans in the

Chemistry and Chemical Engineering departments, and a report on the Physics department has been completed. A committee is now discussing the possible functions and site of a University Theatre.

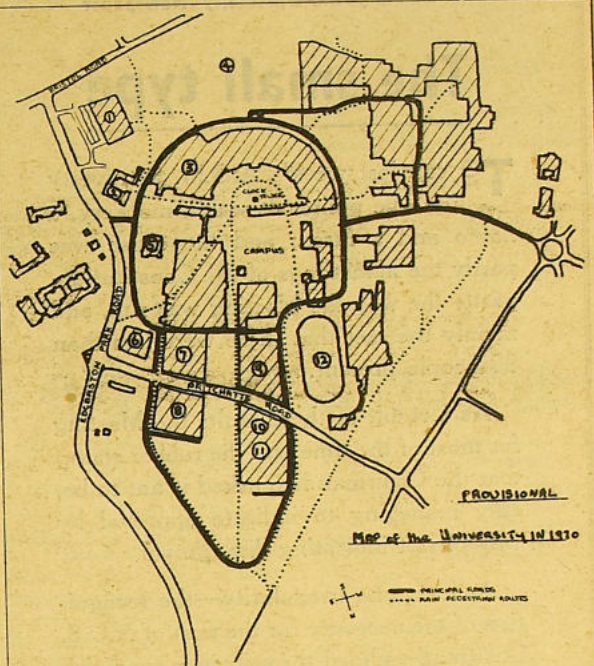
Warning the staff that he would be wearing hairshirts and haloes alternately, Sir Hugh outlined the original aims of the 1957 building plan and surveyed the progress that has been made. The plans were designed to preserve the character of the University's hilltop site, and keep the boundaries firm. The buildings would be designed on a courtyard system, not because he was obsessed with the Oxbridge idea, but because it was a logical design.

As yet, however, none of the courtyards is complete. The Civ. Eng. and Refectory areas are awaiting the withdrawal of the builders.

TEMPORARY

The temporary gymnasium to the South of the Chemistry block prevented any work being carried out there, and the space to the North needs to mature. The square in front of the library and the semi-circle were causing the hairshirts to scratch a little.

Sir Hugh thought that the large number of paths in front of the Library were unsightly, and more thought would be devoted to them once the new Refectory and Staff House were



1. Students' car-parking structure—600 cars.
2. Students' Union.
3. Physics.
4. Bristol Road Playing Fields.
5. Barber Institute.
6. Theatre.
7. Students' car parking structure—600 cars.

8. Electrical Engineering.
9. Education.
10. Mining and Minerals.
11. Physical and Industrial Metallurgy.
12. Running Track.



Sir Hugh Casson makes a point.

(Photo: Andrew Hornig)

WHEN TWO OR THREE..

A.G.M. rejects an amendment

THE funeral dirge sung over last year's accounts and reports at the annual general meeting of the Guild last Monday week was unaccompanied except for a few discords from David Hugill and Terry Staples. The service was conducted in an almost deserted hall and lasted for 105 minutes.

Proceedings were opened with the unanimous adoption of the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports by the gathering of 90, and these were followed by the Guild of Undergraduates' accounts and the Catering accounts. Among the points arising were that membership fees will be increased by £2 a year next year and that the Catering Department made a profit of some £4,000 last year, a state of affairs unlikely to continue because of rising costs.

QUESTIONS

Mr. Stagg asked a question about investments and Mr. Hugill was interested in wage increases for the staff.

Mr. Hugill wanted more money

for little societies such as the Liberals; when informed that the money was there if he needed it, he wanted more publicity to this effect; he also desired more copies of "The Guardian" to be placed in the lounge.

By
the Editor

Finally the Constitution changes were discussed. After a challenge to the quorum which was narrowly defeated, the suggested change in carrying out Freshers' elections was queried

by Mr. Siddons, supported by Mr. Hugill and Mr. Staples, and eventually defeated.

It was then discovered that the meeting was unable to discuss the election of a new member to Executive — the N.U.S. Chairman — on constitutional grounds, the requisite notice not having been given. Despite prolonged protests from some members the Chair's ruling held, and the only other objection raised was by Mr. Hugill about petitions to the University.

DIFFICULTY

Towards the end, difficulty was found in maintaining the quorum, although a personal appeal from the Chair did not prevent some members leaving.

Hot seat

PUTTING questions afterwards, members of staff queried the estate architects on a number of specific points.

Mr. W. A. Linning, chairman of the Non-Professorial Committee, felt that multi-storey car-parks would be expensive and inconvenient. It had been worked out that if the University Ring road was widened by 18 feet it could accommodate 3,000 cars. This suggestion was greeted with the obvious approval of the majority of the audience.

Mr. Neville Conder, in reply, stressed the basic principle of keeping cars off the University site. Sir Hugh Casson pointed out that widening of the road would be costly.

SURVEY

Professor J. Kolbuszewski, of the Civil Engineering Department, felt that a survey should be made on University traffic. The Vice-Chancellor came to the architects' rescue by pointing out that any survey would become outdated when the proposed buildings came into use.

Mr. I. A. Shapiro, of the English Department, was disturbed by the draught which blew between the Library and the Arts block. Sir Hugh appeared amused. He was less amused, however, by the arts professor, who described the area around the Physics bridge and Arts terrace as squalid. Mr. Neville Conder was replying when the professor disappeared through the side exit.

The Birthday Party by Pinter

G.T.G.
Debating Hall
All next week, 7.30
Tuesday, 6.30

GUILD NEWS

The Birmingham University Newspaper

The small type

TO call last week's A.G.M. a travesty is to be polite. It was a mockery, a fiasco and a farce; and the cause was partly the hamstrings of the Constitution, partly the way the Meeting was run, and mainly the fact that there were less than 90 people present.

As a result of these faults the Meeting for most of the time was the rubber stamp that the Chairman had asked it not to be, only managing to indicate approval by way of not indicating disapproval.

At least one irregularity—the recognition of the necessity for the post of N.U.S. Chairman—glided through in a sandwich packing, and the final absurdity came when the General Meeting found itself constitutionally unable to discuss the most important change proposed by Guild Council—another Officer to be added to the Executive.

Anomaly

And when all the Amendments had gone through, even then the Meeting could not discuss the anomaly of its position because three days' notice had not been given about something which had not been foreseeable!

Clearly the powers of an A.G.M. need redefining. The fact that such a redefinition would need first of all the deliberations of Council and then the ratification of another General Meeting, is another pointer to the reality of this need.

EDITOR BOB BOOTLE
ASSISTANT EDITOR . . . TERRY STAPLES
BUSINESS MANAGER . . . CHRIS MACKIE
TELEPHONE: SELLY OAK 1841



Virility cannot be suppressed PROBING AHEAD

SIR—I was glad to find Bernard Beatty's article on "Mandarin Culture" in a recent edition of "Guild News" a good deal more legitimate than the activities generally associated with him.

But, however interesting his views, he is completely wrong to expect of the present generation any other than its present reaction to modern obscure art forms. It's not only obvious in history that the taste of a generation cannot catch up with that of its intelligentsia overnight—it is also clear from the nature of things that it can never catch up. The function of the intelligentsia being to probe ahead, the nature of the generation being to accept what is

familiar and has proved its worth.

WRONG

Mr. Beatty is wrong to hope for anything but a cynical attitude during the Freshers' Conference to the painted objects in the Union. Modern art forms require, at all times, that the observer should be well steeped in the cauldron of past or archaic cultures, because they are a confession from, or an improvement upon past forms. Few freshers have had this steeping because

their education has been too narrow.

There is also an inherent danger in obscure art that uncultured nitwits will exploit—the danger of childish scrawlings passing for the products of an enlightened mind which best some lesson or message. Obscurity hasn't any merit on its own.

LEGITIMATE

One can, however, be legitimately obscure when one's meaning can only be given symbolically or mystically—as often is the case with T. S. Eliot or Ezra Pound. We always have condoned such legitimate obscurity throughout history (e.g. John Donne). When however obscurity becomes so prevalent that art becomes identified with it, then that art has been prostituted. There never was any thought that wouldn't have been better more simply expressed. And there never were any artistic mandarins who could succeed when the scum and dross had been burnt in ultimately suppressing the virile and the beautiful.

to read the opinions of others on these problems.

Yours sincerely,

REFORMER.

Yours etc.,

IAN K. REID.

No critical thought WHAT'S WRONG HERE?

SIR—It seems surprising that there is so little discussion of our university system. If it is accepted that one of the main objectives of this system is to produce men and women able to think critically it looks as though it is drifting away from this objective.

The following factors may be responsible for the lack of critical thinking:—

- 1.—Staff-student contacts on an informal level are too few. The responsibility for this would seem to lie on both staff and students;
- 2.—Lecturers tend to be unable to understand a student's difficulties with his work and they tend to give too much discouragement and not enough encouragement;
- 3.—There is too much set work. Very often a student has to follow too many courses simultaneously;
- 4.—Each examination paper is too closely tied to a particular course of lectures which makes it difficult for a student to miss lectures and tackle a subject along his own lines; and
- 5.—Many lecturers do not put their material across well. They are often unable to transfer either an understanding of their subject or an enthusiasm for it to the students they lecture to. In other words they frequently lack the ability to teach.

These are the views of one person. It would be interesting

SCARS SHY AWAY

SIR—What has come over SCARS? It came into existence because N.U.S. felt incapable of tackling the subject of racial discrimination. And now SCARS, especially in this University, shies from any active work in pursuance of its aims.

Last year, SCARS refused to join the Birmingham Committee against Racial Discrimination. This year it is making every possible excuse not to do any practical work against discrimination in local pubs, though quite a few other University societies have assured it of their active help.

As far as we can see, SCARS considers itself to be debating forum with equal honours for both sides, but with no opinion of its own. How else can it explain its invitations to speakers from South Africa and the British Union Movement?

We believe that many SCARS committee members are only nominally opposed to racialism.

We especially charge one particular committee member, for having recently made public allegations about the tendency of Indian immigrant workers to draw knives when attacked. Any one who is conversant with local life knows what a silly remark this is.

We hope that all SCARS members and supporters will try to remedy this deplorable situation.

Yours etc.,

Melvin Carlows John Smyth
J. Hewitt Shirley Fossick
D. Vir Brian Leonard

DON'T BE VAGUE

SIR—Where were the poppy-sellers last week? Or are students in Birmingham completely lacking in patriotism? I trust that next year this omission will be rectified.

Yours etc.,

Rosemary Woods.

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THE PSEUDOPODS by 292



We are inqurate; therefore the house will divide.

EISENSTEIN BISECTED Bang switch and click

SIR—I am writing not as a Guild Bonham-Carter anxious to redress any grievance, but for the first time in my short and undistinguished career in this University. I am writing to protest against the harsh, thin men in blue who bang open the door of the television room in the Union, switch on the lights, and switch off the television.

Rarely does television provide anything worth watching, but occasionally it does, and as the "Observer" says "Television, the greatest medium to get through to the masses, is largely disregarded by intellectuals." However, it remains to say that there are some programmes of real value, and on Friday nights now they seem to be showing worthwhile films, i.e. Sir Laurence Olivier's "Richard III" and some films by Eisenstein, but no, I am not allowed to see the end, indeed I shall be lucky if I see an hour of a great film, for a man in blue enters, bang, switch, click, and the screen is dark.

PRESS POST

AWAY IN A MANGER

SIR—It is a sad day for a University when two scientists, in an attempt to get out of the rut so vividly imagined by students of the Humanities, are condemned to read the fatuous remarks such as appeared in the last edition of Guild News, above the name of Mr. Ash.

Under the pretence of laughing at our article, one can read between the lines that he is desperately afraid of having his Ivory Tower invaded by thinking people who are perhaps a little tired of the limitations of science. Indeed, Mr. Ash gets so

MEN LIKE GODS

SIR—Having read Messrs. O. Blackburn and Nimhofer's letter in last week's "Guild News," we diagnose cerebral diarrhoea, and should like to point out that adverse effects, if any, of segregation of other students from Medical Undergraduates will be upon the rest of the University rather than on the medicals themselves.

It is in medical, rather than in other studies, that wider experience of people outside the confines of academic life is acquired.

We have never met a medical man of 20 years' experience who is extremely dull as the writers suggest.

Because of the intimate nature of our profession, it happens that we are made remote from the community in practice as well as when students. If other students want medical company, they are quite at liberty to seek it for themselves.

Yours faithfully,

P. F. T. CAINS,
R. E. CHAPMAN,
J. A. KIERNAN,
A. G. THOMPSON.

From Durer to Dali ALL ME OWN WORK

THE self-portrait is the best means of expressing that which moves the artist most—was the recurrent theme and final note of Professor Ettlinger's Open Lecture last Tuesday.

The Professor is a very co-ercive lecturer and took pains to make each step logical and easy to follow. The profusion of illustrations eased a difficult task and each slide succinctly emphasised every new point in his argument.

The cult of the self-portrait was used to show the steady intrusion of the artist's own personality and even beliefs and desires as his core of society gained confidence.

Starting with the rough, honest Greek sculptors who left works unsigned, Prof. Ettlinger

carried us past the medieval artist who initiated his offering with the tools of his trade, until under the reawakening from 16th century Italy, when "man discovered himself," he naturally proudly pinned his own name or features to his works.

Then skipping lightly through several hundred years represented by Durer, Rembrandt, Van Gogh and Gainsborough; we finally see the latterday artist emerge as a gentleman and equal, at last, to poet and writer.

The inevitable revolutionary splinter groups were countered by new modern trends, for example, interest in the art of the primitives, and even Dali is justified by placing himself outside society and painting it from this better, clearer standpoint. As one student remarked at



Professor Ettlinger
(Photo: Dolphin)

the close, "he certainly covered a lot of ground"; on recovering one realises the true worth of our system of Open Lectures.

Meeting of Scars

OPPOSITION OUSTED

The Republican Constitution of the country gives the President, Dr. Nkrumah, the position of head of state and leader of the majority party in Parliament. His ambitions for the country can be summed up as "Ghana—an African Socialist state, reflecting the social background of the Africans themselves," said Mr. Ashie Okoe, a

Ghanian, at the S.C.A.R.S. meeting last Wednesday.

Speaking about present-day Ghana and the recent crisis there, Mr. Okoe stated that in the present system, there is apparently no place for an opposition party.

What anti-British feeling existed, the speaker concluded, was found only among far-left leaders and was not even remotely concerned with race relations.

While few of us wish to know the future, many hope—reasonably—to have a hand in shaping it; and this requires acquaintance with what may lie ahead. But traditional methods of probing the future are no longer in favour. Crystal-gazing has obvious limitations. Witches are prophets only of ultimate doom. So today one turns, in the first instance, to the appointments officer for the pathways to the future. We, for our part, would like to elaborate what lies along one of them—Unilever Research.

THE FUTURE

AND YOU

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UNILEVER RESEARCH

Small Ads.

K.U.D.U., the Inter-Varsity Scout and Guide magazine, is now on sale, price 1/-—Apply Mary Guest (Comb. Subs. 1).

Mrs. Grimond will be speaking to the Liberal Society on Tuesday, November 28th, at 6.15 p.m.

Pakistan Society Social: Mixed Lounge, November 23rd, 7.30 p.m. Tickets at door, or from any member, price 1/6, 1/- to members.

Scout and Guide Club Tramp Supper. Today!

AGAINST SOCIAL POVERTY



The older people too find community at the Settlement.

(Photo: Mike Webber).

Students work in Newtown

By the Features Editor

SCREAMS, ballistic footballs, bodies hurtling through the air on ropes and the middle a battered sociology student trying to organise five-a-side football for a horde of seven-to-eleven year-olds in a cold gymnasium. By 5 o'clock activities of the youth section of the Birmingham Settlement were in full swing under the supervision of one permanent leader and a collection of students from the University and training colleges throughout the city.

Founded in 1899, the Settlement in Summer Lane, Newtown, was situated in one of the poorest and most densely-populated areas of Birmingham. Housing conditions were appalling, the infant mortality rates the highest in the city, and in the nineteen-twenties unemployment aggravated the bad conditions still further. Following the lead of London and other industrial cities, the Settlement was founded by the well-known local philanthropic families involved in the beginnings of the University.

will incorporate a coffee-bar and new handicraft rooms. Though modern in design with plenty of glass panels as in all parts of the building the windows are high above ground-level to avoid the carefully-aimed stone.

Animal spirits are worked off in the gymnasium or the "pen," a floodlit hard court caged around the sides and above with wire netting. Here ball-games can be played without danger to the windows of the Settlement or the adjoining plastics factory.

Perhaps the most valuable of the Settlement's activities is the Day Room for old people. House-bound pensioners are collected in a minibus and spend the whole day or an afternoon there at least once a week. One of the Settlement's aims is to ease the loneliness of the old. Twenty-five first-year sociology students help in the Day Room or visit old people in their homes to give what help they can, such as getting in coal or arranging for a home help. The Day Room is visited by a chiropodist, who gives treatment at reduced rates—one of the ways in which the Settlement supplements the work of the Welfare State.

Expanded

It started modestly enough with a warden and a few student helpers in one house in a decaying early 19th-century terrace, but gradually expanded to take over the whole of the terrace and the land around. In the thirties a three-storey building for clubs and youth work was added. The original premises are still occupied by the warden, two full-time staff and their families, social workers from a variety of professions and ten students mainly from the University's Social Science Department. The building is in a state of decay and as soon as a little more money is raised will be completely rebuilt along with new club-rooms.

Money raised by the University Carnival is being used for an extension to the youth block which is already under construction. It

From the inception of the Social Study course at the University in 1904 the Warden acted as Practical Tutor to the students, but with increase in numbers this became impossible. Students still do practical work there and a small number are in full time residence.

The housing in Newtown is still some of the worst in Birmingham.



Rapt attention from a pupil in a handicraft class.

but a large part of the scheduled for slum clearance multi-storey flats will take place of the old terrace houses. The population is out to new estates or housed in the area. The settlement tries to give a sense of community, to encourage improvement in living standards and to combat the loneliness among the old and the young. It has to combat poverty, but against social poverty, which is an integrating force in social disintegration.



By Doris Eiriel Lewis

"FROM the earliest self-government was granted to colonies of settlement," said development in the Commonwealth, 1955). These are fine words, only words, since England has not carried out her policy towards Wales.

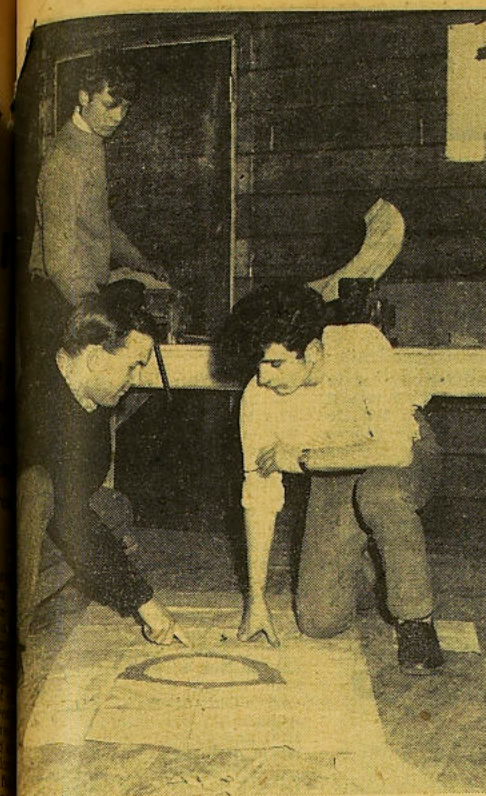
Wales has never been united to England, in fact, the "Union" is a misnomer. It states quite clearly in the preamble that it is an annexation and subjugation of the Welsh people. It is in no way a treaty between negotiating parties, as was the case between Scotland and Ireland at a later date. President of the Council, Wales knew nothing of the intention of the Government until March, 1536, after the Act had become law, and only indirectly.

Something of the colonial status lingers on today. "Governor" Hill, to quote us with sugar-coated words when he is not too busy with the housing problem, course.

Subordinated

Our artists and writers weaned away to the "land promise" — "Augustus John, Englishman," they cry. Our poets are subordinated to those of England. All this for the good of the country. Which country, says.

This is all very well, but Yorkshire in a similar position. It is about the same size as Wales and it is said that the millions of gallons of water speak a different language to those in the south. But Yorkshire and the Welsh are not the same. Also the profit was ing or non-Welsh-speaking conformists or Anglicans. It is generally agreed that the common descent, distinctive national character, common religion, common interest are all disappearing factors in marking a group as Welsh. "Our culture,"



Plans are made for the building of a canoe.

Walking point

No. 4

OUR CYMRIC ANNEXE

Compare this with what the Socialists have to say. Dr. G. A. Williams writes in "Aneurin 3": "Two generations of young Welsh people have found the Welsh language is inadequate." As a member of the above section I must protest that I found that it was not so much the Welsh language that was inadequate, but the number of schools teaching in Welsh. From the above it is obvious that there is another argument for self-government.

Inadequate

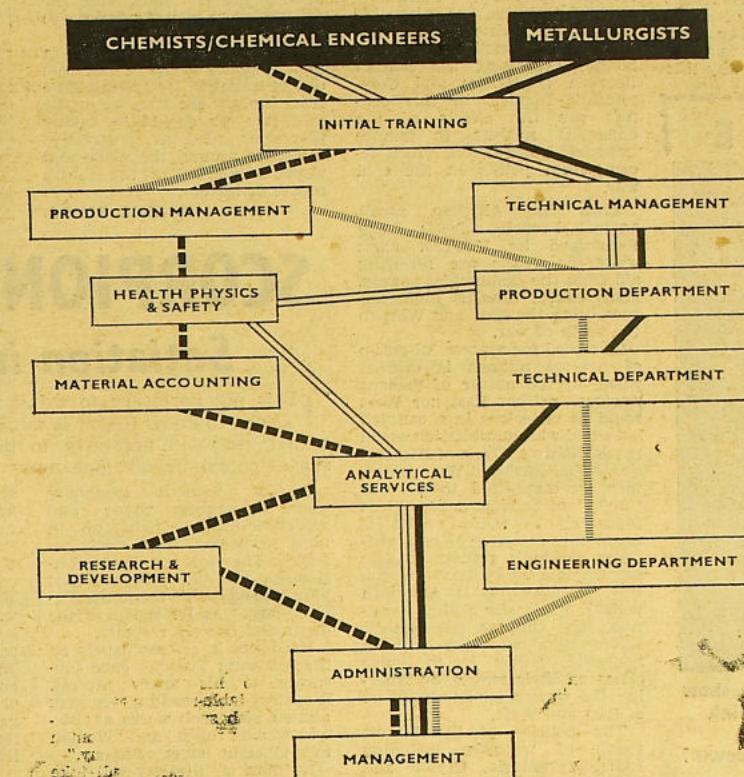
If Welsh culture is to survive, it must have the political means to ensure survival. The Welsh language (without which the culture would disappear), has been undermined for a long time by the Act of annexation and subsequent Acts—at one time Welshmen were not allowed to take up posts unless they spoke English; at the turn of the century Welsh was forbidden in schools and the right of the Welshman to be in his own language has always been denied.

Profit

What is now needed is not the passivity of the English parties but active backing. This would mean, amongst other things, a reorganisation of the educational system, and the granting of official status to the Welsh language. Finally, there will always be those who refute the notion of self-government, with a plea for unity—as if unity already existed. Certainly these isles are called the United Kingdom—but is it a union of the four nations in Britain, and does it stand for co-operation between them, or is it little more than a Greater England?

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Sitting on a positive fence Between Two Giants

IN 1800, Charles Fox said in the House of Commons that "we live under a system of malevolence by which we are taught to consider war as the natural state of man and peace as a dangerous and difficult extremity." The C.N.D. and NALSO school on Positive Neutralism at Oxford 10 days ago, showed the statement's truth today.

Stuart Hall, editor of "New Left Review," Peter Worsley, a sociology lecturer and David Ross, who attended the recent Belgrade Conference of Non-aligned Nations, together with students from several universities, showed how and why this

system must be radically changed. The concept of a neutralist foreign policy, essentially credited to India, has arisen because of the division of the world into two monolithic military blocks; expressing the conflict between Capitalism and Communism. Implicit in this conflict are the efforts of the emergent nations to remove imperialist domination which become focal points in the cold war.

Thus the Algerian revolt against French rule is being suppressed by N.A.T.O. arms while the rebels are receiving aid from the Communist powers. Many efforts towards independence bring the East and West to the brink of war.

The need for a powerful group of neutral nations is evident when, by the nature of modern warfare, neither East nor West could be victorious in a conflict, but world-wide annihilation would result. Nehru's "Cycle of History" shows that East and West statesmen are committed to a "continuity" of foreign policy. Thus judgement of world events is made only in terms of past attitudes. Britain's refusal to vote for China's admittance to the U.N. (because this is American policy), while she openly recognises the Chinese government, shows this only too well. A neutralist policy is to judge crises on their merits, by ignoring the superficial homogenities of East and West.

The policies of the largest group of neutrals, including India, Yugoslavia, Ceylon and

Cuba generally deserve the support of Socialists because they are adapting fundamental socialist principles to their own conditions and are re-vitalising human values and the whole concept of international Socialism.

That their influence is growing is shown by Ireland's ability to generate world-wide protest against nuclear tests and the favourable results of missions to Washington and Moscow.

Britain's adoption of a neutral policy would be far from one of isolation. By cutting loose from the nuclear strategy of the cold war, we should be taking the same road as progressive countries around the globe and would be abreast of the future course of history.

DENNIS PIKES.

SCORPIONS STING Satiation in excess

"IT is not necessary to drink the whole of the Atlantic Ocean to know that it is salt." No more is satiation with sexual sensation necessary to the proper coverage of sex stories containing genuine news value.

Editors without principles wield damaging power and reader-victims brought up in their traditions, have weak defences. This was one of the conclusions of W. Stevens Esq., joint sub-editor of the "Birmingham Post," as he spoke to the Methodist Society recently.

Headlines in certain papers on the following Tuesday gave substance to his angry protest. Breakfast-table-reading eyes were abused with such words as "Sixteen women raped" and "Woman tells of eight hours of agony." No man of integrity will take

Not The Only Ones

Spring! Spring!

STUDENTS from Melbourne University have been par-taking in a new, exciting Rag Stunt. Myers (a local department store) claim to have the biggest mattress in the world, and to prove this, they challenged the student body to load a hundred students on to it.

A spokesman for the store said, "I hope students will regard this as an ordinary rag. We are doing this because we believe that provision of opportunities for GOOD CLEAN FUN will keep their minds off dangerous or subversive political or social matters which they don't understand."

Only 22 tickets were sold for University College London's Autumn Ball last week. As a

result of this lack of support, the ball had to be cancelled. The tickets were being sold for the exorbitant price of 5/-, so perhaps this was the reason. Ent's Comm.—take note!

"UNION NEWS," three weekly newspaper of Leeds University is now being sold outside the University. Four newsagents have already offered to sell copies, and it is hoped that others will follow their example. One wonders how the citizens of Brum would react to finding "Guild News" glaring at them from a New Street Station book-stall.

An Out-of-Hall Students' Association has been formed by Hull and students have recently been discussing their requirements. The popular idea is to have "a games room, coffee bar, alcoholic bar, and a spare bedroom in case of unexpected eviction from lodgings."

[? It has: they didn't. Ed.]

Nov. 25th, 1936

"That Communism is a menace to Europe" was the motion proposed by two members of the "Deutsche Landschaft," Herr Wagner and Herr Schmidt, at a meeting of the Debating Society. A Mr. Cooke, the only member of the house to speak in favour of the motion "appeared to be making the most of his uniform before the Public Order Bill is passed." Motion lost by 84 votes to 55.

C.L.

ARE YOU
BIG
ENOUGH FOR
POWER

For engineers and scientists a career with the Central Electricity Generating Board is important, responsible and rewarding. The variety of opportunity within the Central Electricity Generating Board is wide. A two-year programme of training is given in generation or transmission or design and construction: planned, practical training can be given to engineers who join research. Chemists, physicists, mathematicians and metallurgists, as well as engineers, are required for research and development work; they usually receive direct appointments. The research and development work covers fundamental and applied research into both conventional and nuclear generation. If you would like to know more about the Board, please write quoting reference to the Appointments Officer, Central Electricity Generating Board, Buchanan House, 24/30 Holborn, London, E.C.1.



SPORT

SOCCER
HOCKEY
RUGBY

Pentathlon

EASTWOOD WINS

THE Athletics Club Pentathlon last Wednesday afternoon was won by Phil Eastwood, who scored a total of 1,960 points. He was a convincing winner from Curmuck, who finished second with 1,814 points.

On Saturday at Loughborough the Club was heavily defeated by 99 points to 43. The depleted Birmingham team was never a match for a powerful Loughborough side which included several internationals, such as Brightwell and Birrell. But Birmingham's Crabtree distinguished himself by winning the high jump with a height of 5ft. 9 inches.



Nick Flindall coming out of a tackle during Wednesday's match.

FACILITIES PROBLEM REACHES CRISIS LEVEL

Annual general meeting reviews past year

"THIS has once again been an interim year for Athletic Union," reported the Secretary, Mr. K. Peterson, during the Annual General Meeting of Athletic Union, held last Friday in the Council Chamber. "We have had to make intelligent use of our limited facilities with the prospects of better things in the not too distant future."

The main problem is the inadequacy of facilities in view of the increase in the student population. The existing playing-fields have deteriorated in the past few years, and an outside report indicated that the chief difficulty on the lower fields was land subsidence. This could

be remedied only by leveling, which, it is hoped, will start after the move to West Heath—which may be in two years' time.

ACUTE SHORTAGE

The problem with regard to changing facilities has reached "crisis level." The ladies have an acute shortage in this respect, and the men's position is almost as bad.

Even general cloakrooms are being utilised, and showers are either insufficient or non-existent, so that it is an embarrassment to entertain visiting teams.

Although the University authorities are providing a pavilion extension, their planning is difficult because of the uncertain date of the opening of the Sports Centre, which is already a year behind schedule. The vague financial situation is also delaying the Water Sports Centre, though news in recent

weeks has been more encouraging.

The question of facilities is becoming more important with wider participation in inter-departmental sport, which will play a greater part in University sport of the future. On this point, Mr. A. Barton, last year's Chairman of Interdepartmental Sport, stressed the need to increase the administrative machinery.

FINANCE

Presenting his report, Mr. W. Slater, the Treasurer, described the financial situation as "healthy." The Guild's grant for current expenditure was £5,000, plus £200 for the reserve account. Club expenditure was approximately £2,900; general expenditure (e.g., hire of facilities, wages, etc.) was approximately £1,700; expenditure on interdepartmental sport came to £376. The reserve account contained £549.

Rugby TENSION PACKED

Birmingham 0 pts.
Loughborough 6 pts.

THE tension in this game was the result of the fact that Loughborough did not increase their early three-point lead until seconds before the final whistle. Though they certainly deserved their victory, their inability to penetrate the magnificent defence and covering of the Birmingham side led them to make errors, which might well have proved fatal.

There were moments when the foot rush or breakaway by the University players, who were always quick to take advantage of any mistakes, looked more dangerous than the orthodox attempts of the Loughborough backs, and the narrowness of the lead, under such circumstances, served to sustain an electric atmosphere throughout.

The nature of the opposition justified Birmingham's somewhat negative approach, and they assumed this uncharacteristic role with startling success.

The club's away fixture with Oxford City was a big disappointment after such an impressive display, since Oxford thoroughly deserved their 15-0 win.

Women win rally

THE Southern Universities W.I.V.A.B. Hockey Rally at Bristol on November 11th was in the form of an American tournament. Birmingham, Bristol, Exeter, Swansea and Cardiff took part.

The Birmingham team, without the services of Doreen Hall, fielded a changed forward line, which showed much more confidence and sense of purpose than in previous matches—an essential factor in the short games of seven and a half minutes each way.

LAST ROUND
When they reached the last round, the Women's Hockey

Club had defeated Cardiff and Bristol and had drawn with Exeter. In the final game Birmingham and Swansea stood level on points, although Birmingham had a narrow lead on goal average.

This highly important match was open and fast. With Birmingham trailing 0-1 at half-time things looked grim, but a good goal by Val Catliff restored the balance, and there was no further score.

Therefore, Birmingham, although still level on points with Swansea, were winners of the rally because they had scored one more goal than the Welsh team.



Val Catliff, Birmingham, scored the winning goal.

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FILMS

The army game

AS films go, "The Queen's Guards" (Odeon, New Street) is something of a nonentity, defying conventional classification. Perhaps it is safe to settle for the all-embracing "tragi-comic-dramatised documentary-feature-film," no less a contradiction in terms than the film in styles.

On one level, the film takes a young officer (Daniel Massey) from the scarlet ranks of anonymity at the ceremony of Trooping the Colour and unfolds, through a series of flashbacks, his background at home and career in the Guards. His father (Raymond Massey) was an officer and is a cripple. His brother was an officer and is dead.

COLOURED

His own life is thus coloured by some desire to perpetuate the line, though the film was content, to some extent, to pursue the mystery surrounding the brother's death, without squeezing undue significance from it.

On this particular level, the film aimed too high and missed. On lower levels, one was amply entertained. For those who find

irresistible the combination of traditional British pageantry and Her Majesty the Queen in glorious colour, this film is a must. Those who can laugh at "The Army Game" will kill themselves and others will find much of the film amusing. Some fine sequences of the army in action are most realistic in their attention to detail, as is the film generally, and much blood is spilt with remarkably callous efficiency.

Despite a most peculiar lower lip, Daniel Massey gives a pleasantly-negative performance as a pleasantly-negative guardsman. Other parts are played by other people except the Queen, who played herself.

HARVEY JERVIS.



A briefing session in the film, "The Queen's Guards."

POLITICS

Like the curate's egg

THIS week sees the launching of a combined Socialist Union and Communist Society news-sheet, "Dissent." This is a welcome innovation in a Guild where political societies are often in danger of becoming stultified feedbacks of the party line, and a new venture such as this, run by an always vital left, should indeed, in the words of the editorial, "help increase the level of political activity and understanding within the Guild."

The content of the first issue tends to remind one of the fabled curate's egg. There are a couple of excellent articles on race prejudice and immigration. The former, dealing with prejudice in Smethwick, can hardly fail to rouse the support of most people. It is a useful thought, and, one hopes, action-provoking article. The "notes" on immigration are also good.

Also in the "good" category, comes a useful collection of figures on the shortage of teachers and overcrowding in classrooms.

It is all the more regrettable therefore, that the Communists should have cast a lamentable shadow over a bright publication, with their article on Soviet tests. In this they display considerable paucity of the qualities of intelligence, thought and veracity that mark most of the rest of the issue.

The author of the articles spews out the dreary double-talk of Moscow radio as if it were Marx himself speaking from some people's Valhalla. By

all means let us discuss, or further our own political beliefs, but not as the expense of our minds, which is precisely what this article indicates. It is hard to conceive how anyone without some form of mental bloc can show us Russia as the lilywhite dove, and the West as the fiend of War. Even if we discount for a moment the annexation by the U.S.S.R. of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, East Germany, Estonia, an abortive attempt at Finland (now backed by new threats), plus one or two other small nations, and also discount the fact that the West has given independence to 2,000,000,000 people, it is still difficult to comprehend why one country cannot be justified in polluting the atmosphere, and another can.

It is high time that these "pocket Communists" shook themselves out of their ideological stupor and realised that in the world we know today "no-one hath right, but humanity." And if their political articulacy

T.V.

Smooth, smooth

I AM a keen admirer of John Freeman and his interviewing technique in "Face to Face" on the B.B.C. It is unfortunate therefore that in the programme chosen for review he apparently should have failed completely to make an impression on his "victim," Viscount Hailsham.

The famed tin-tinabulist was almost impregnable to attack; he smoothly parried every thrust that was made at him. Answers to political questions dissolved into bland generalities; answers to personal questions nimbly avoided any specific details and compounded with lofty sentiments.

How is it that the technique that succeeded so admirably with, say, Gilbert Harding, failed here? It was not until the end of the interview that one began to see the reason.

Hailsham—like all politicians—has built up around him such a wall of smooth evasion, such a thick outer crust, it would appear that not even he knows what he is really thinking.

Was this what Freeman was trying to get across? Towards the end after politics, father, mother, and personalia had been blandly turned aside, I thought so. But the end itself was a curious anti-climax.

Freeman finished by putting tabloid-type questions of the "what do you have for breakfast?" genre. This was rather flat. The aggressive approach

Assorted trio

LAST Thursday's C.B.S.O. concert at the Town Hall provided interesting contrasts in the art of orchestration, as seen in works by Ravel, Chopin and Stravinsky.

Ravel's suite, "Le Tombeau de Couperin," originally planned as part of a "Suite Française" for piano, is an exquisite piece of orchestration. Under the baton of Hugo Rignold, the C.B.S.O. gave a splendid performance.

That Chopin was not entirely at ease when writing for the orchestra is a fact well known to musicians. The Piano Concerto No. 2 in F minor, to say the least, is not one of his more inspiring creations.

The work soon ceases to be a concerto for piano and orchestra, and becomes rather one for piano with orchestra obbligato.

The evening's highlight came with a performance of Stravinsky's ballet "Petrouchka." Com-

does not go beyond yelping "Uncle Nikita and Uncle Karl say so, so it is," one feels sorry.

This will no doubt produce cries of "Reactionary," but personally I am prepared to pursue the matter further, if only because a good magazine, such as "Dissent" appears to be, should not be pulled down by the "shallow prejudices and naive behaviour" of fellow travellers within the Guild.

In conclusion, the best of luck to "Dissent." It deserves to be read, and thought about.

B.P.A.

DEBATING

Space motion grounded

THE barrier between good-naturedly bantering wit and vulgar mudslinging seems to be unrecognisable to a large proportion of those who attend the debating society, which is a pity, because this certainly marred the success of the pre-hop debate last Saturday.

For this reason, Mr. M. C. Coe's speech must be commended in that his laughs at the chairman's expense were obtained within the bounds of decorum and, moreover, with real wit; and he did not allow these lighter matters to blur the actual purport of his speech. This was the proposition of the motion that Space Travel is an Outdated Frivoliety. Mr. Coe declaring that we ought to set our own house in order before invading

those of other people, by achieving and maintaining an economic balance between nations.

SEARCHING

At this point Mr. M. Freeman arose from what he admitted to be a compost-heap in order to present an opposition. Searching for frippery among bits of skirt, "Beowulf" and G.T.G., he at long last decided that real space travel was the exercise of the imagination, which was certainly not outdated.

Taking his cue from Mr. Freeman, Mr. C. Mosedale went on an elaborate search for frippery, garnishing his finds with in-decorous references to opposer and chairman. Fortunately he made the remark that space travel meant transport, and transport meant Mr. Marples, who was outdated, and so awoke the house in time for the opposing seconder.

UNRESOLVED

Mr. P. F. Swann was pleased that the house was smaller than usual, and, perambulating pontifically, took for his text, "Nearer my God, to Thee."

The floor discussed at great lengths the various merits of chemical engineers and Mr. Brendan Behan; and these matters still unresolved, a plea for peace returned the motion to the principal speakers. Mr. Freeman trekked across the Antarctic in the interests of topicality, and Mr. Coe stressed the greater urgency behind hunger and war. The motion was vociferously defeated.

K.S.

History is bunk

FORTY THOUSAND school books can't be wrong. The granting of the right to bail and the prevention of the intimidation of juries were made statutory in 1483 by one of the most liberal and progressive Parliaments in history. The King behind these measures was Richard III, yet in the pages of history books this ruler is described as the worst tyrant and mass murderer in the history of the English crown.

"Daughter of Time," by Josephine Tey, is a detective story about a 15th-century murder; the victims: the Princes in the Tower, the accused: Richard III.

STIMULATING

In a stimulating and entertaining novel, Miss Tey tells how, from a hospital bed, a Scotland Yard detective, with the aid of a research worker, uses methods of police investigation to unravel the mystery surrounding the death of Edward V and his brother.

A substitute suspect is provided in Richard's successor, Henry VII, and from contemporary evidence the murder is dated in the summer of 1486, almost a year after Richard's death. Tyrell, who was accused of the murder 20 years later and was never tried for it, was given a government job abroad and a lucrative pension by Henry that same summer.

By the end of the novel the detective turns in disgust from the values of historians which are divorced from real life. The moral tale of a so-called usurper is followed on their pages by the

MISNOMER

Last week we referred to a book as being available at Hudson's University Bookshop. We meant, of course, Hudson's University Bookshop.

bald announcement that the wisely-considered policy of Henry VII was ruthlessly to rid himself of all rivals to the throne.

The plea for the innocence of Richard III is not original; writers have in fact been making it for hundreds of years, but as the novel says, people are strangely reluctant to listen to the true facts of a mostly mythical tale. Most people prefer Shakespeare's monster of villainy, though Richard III wasn't even a hunchback and didn't have a withered arm.

The daughter of time, incidentally, is truth.

V.J.J.