

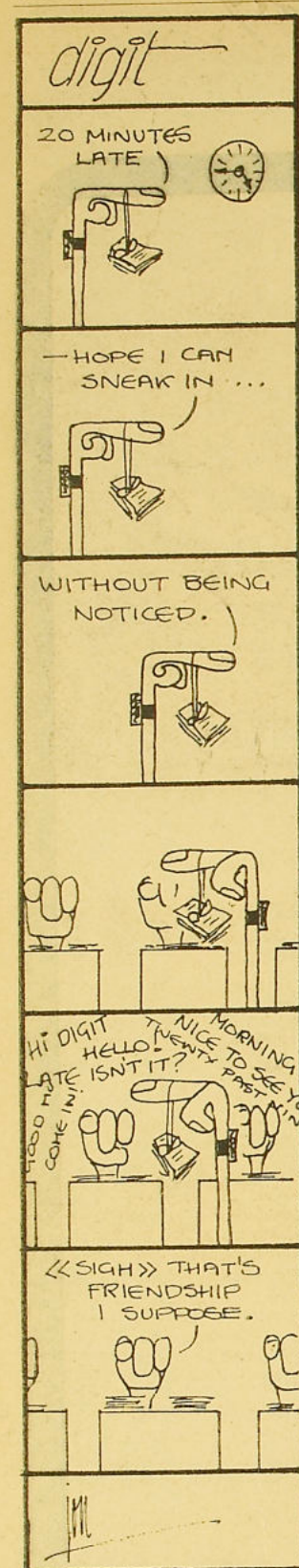


Rev L F
C. L. Coll

redbrick



"is our law; his law?" see inside!



HIGHER GRANTS PROPOSED

THE first stage in the Review on Grants for September 1st, 1971, has been submitted to the Secretary of State for Education and Science. The Review Body was established in October, 1970 to investigate the changes in the cash value of awards, which would be needed to maintain their real value.

The working group was made up of representatives from the N.U.S., including the President Jack Straw, the Scottish Union of Students, and the Department of Education and Science.

A general increase in grants has been proposed by the group. The level of the grant fixed in 1962 was, say the N.U.S., regarded as a basic minimum. Since then prices have risen quickly (the price of books, for example, by as much as 60%). In spite of the increase in the value of the award (up to £380 at the beginning of the 1970-71 session) the real value of the grant will have declined by 20.7% by next September.

Many students are suffering real hardship and few can survive without high vacation earnings, loans from their parents or large overdrafts. Thus, the Working Group have proposed an increase to £450, for University students, in order to maintain the real value. For students at London, Oxford and Cambridge the increase would need to be from £420-£500, while for students living at home it would need to rise from £305-£370.

Another proposal that would greatly relieve the financial burden on students is the abolition of the parental means test. The case for abolition has been greatly strengthened by the recent changes in the age of majority from 21 to 18, which means that parents appear to be even more reluctant than before to pay their assessed contribution.

This reluctance to pay is the most serious for students because the average parental contribution has increased by over 50 per cent since 1962 whilst the L.E.A. maintenance grant has risen by only 12 per cent. The working party recognise that the abolition of the parental contribution could not be implemented before September, 1971, but suggest certain temporary measures to alleviate the situation until this can be done.

These temporary measures include the rescinding of the means test and the release from the parental contribution of students who have completed their first degree, including clinical students and those studying for the Dip.Ed. Also, the report claims, students who are married, or who are aged 21, or who have completed two years' employment before the course begins, should receive grants assessed on their own resources and not those of their parents.

The normal reluctance of a legal adult to extract money from his father, even where there is a good family relationship, drives many students to subsist on less than maximum grant rates which are themselves well below the standard set only a few years ago. As a result, for the overwhelming majority of students, a well-paid vacation job on which savings can be made for the next session is an absolute

necessity. With rising unemployment, vacation jobs are becoming increasingly difficult to find.

Further proposals of the working party refer to mature students. A rise in dependants' allowance is proposed. It is suggested that the special lower rate of grant for married women living in their husband's home should be removed. This aspect is probably one of the most ridiculous in the present grants system. If a woman student marries her grant is immediately reduced regardless of whether her husband is a student or not himself. It is this situation that often persuades students to live together rather than get married—they get more money that way.

A separate paper has been prepared for the Research Council and Department of Education, concerning postgraduate students. Many of the points raised for first degree awards also apply to postgraduates. The working party strongly propose the case for a higher studentship rate

including higher weekly attendance grants. They also press strongly the case for an increase in the number of awards made to postgraduates claiming that present policy to award each year a number of studentships equal to roughly to one-third of the number of candidates as "disastrous."

The Government is not bound to accept the recommendations of the working party, but a decision has been promised by mid-April. The review is now entering its second stage, where the Government will decide how much money can be made available for student grants in consultation with local education authorities. The final stage will comprise joint discussions between local education authorities, the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and the National Union of Students to settle the distribution of the total amount awarded.

At present the N.U.S. is undergoing a massive publicity campaign for the proposals. N.U.S. President Jack Straw has said: "A lot of recent pay claims like the power workers' try to anticipate future rises. This one is just catching up with three years' price rises. We are not asking for any real increase in the grants—merely for the levels laid down in 1962 by the then Conservative Government."

City students take action

A DISPUTE over the social amenities available at the College of Food and Technology in the city centre, led to a boycott of lectures by students there yesterday. The college, which has 500 full-time and 1,500 part-time students submitted a lengthy report to the Local Education Authority Further Education Committee. In this they asked that the grant, paid per student by the L.E.A. for a Students' Union, be raised from 10s. to £3 (as recommended by the Department of Education and Science).

The L.E.A. refused all requests. At an Extraordinary General Meeting held on Monday, attended by 500 students a proposal to boycott lectures on Tuesday because of the unsatisfactory response to the requests and also because of the uninterest shown by Mr. J. E. Short, who is the representative of the Education Office at the college, due to the principal's being ill.

Another general meeting has been called for tomorrow to decide whether to continue the boycott. In the afternoon a meeting has been arranged between members of the students' Executive and the Committee that turned down the requests.

James Kelly, President of the students at the college said yesterday: "This is not a struggle by a few students. It is an attempt to pre-

vent the authorities condemning the existence of Student Unions."

Meanwhile, just across the city, at Aston University, an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Guild was discussing whether a sit-in should be held. The issue at Aston involves the claimed victimisation of Gerry Fitzpatrick, a student who was expelled for not handing work in.

About 600 people attended the meeting and it was decided by a narrow majority to hold a sit-in in an attempt to get the University to set up a Negotiating Committee to look into the Faculty regulation under which Fitzpatrick was sent down.

By 4.30 p.m. yesterday about 200 students were sitting in the corridor outside the University Council Chambers.

Hudsons close accounts

AT a meeting of the University Bookshop Committee last term, Hudson's made known the fact that they intended to abolish student accounts. A handbook available in the bookshop mentions the date 7th April. In fact from the beginning of the term, when Mr. Hornby took over as branch manager (he has been at the shop since last September), no students have been allowed to open new accounts.

Provided existing credit account holders spend more than £20 per year, they will be permitted to continue account purchasing; if their account falls below this figure, it will automatically be closed.

Why have Hudson's found it necessary to discontinue this service, of which 800 students avail themselves, and which produces a turnover of £13,000 a year?

Mr. Hornby maintains that the service is too costly, running at £15 per week. Hudson's make a trading profit of 31 per cent—i.e. clear profit after all bills have been paid. Mr. Hornby would not disclose the bookshop's total turnover, but admitted that it was far in excess of £13,000.

Mr. Hornby consoles himself about the withdrawal of credit facilities, with the knowledge that it will mean one desk can be removed, and new bookshelves constructed to provide a better service.

An inconsistency will be noticed here, in that Mr. Hornby claims existing account holders will still be able to avail themselves of the service. The second thought to give Mr. Hornby peace of mind is that the University Bookshop Committee proposed that students who need money for books could obtain it from the Student Loan Fund.

Mr. Hornby accepted that this would mean a transfer of responsibility from Hudson's to the University. The Rev. Bob Hughes who administers the fund said,

"If the withdrawal of this service means that a small number of students find they need money to buy books then I hope that we will be able to help them. However, if the demand is such that our machinery cannot cope, then the situation will have to be reviewed."

In answer to other criticisms that have been levelled at Hudson's, on the question of the service they provide—or lack of it—Mr. Hornby considers that difficulties have arisen because of poor communication between himself and department. He hopes that these will be improved and that students who have complaints will take them to him.

Figment of the imagination

ON Wednesday, January 27th, Miss Naomi Freedman took the chair to preside over a debate on the motion: "This House considers that the sale of arms to South Africa constitutes a threat to the peace of the area."

Mr. John Ennals, Chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Association, spoke first for the proposition. He said that the United Nations supported his side of the House, and that the sale of arms to South Africa was an indirect affront to the United Nations. Following this he asserted that the consequences of this course of action would be the dissolution of the Commonwealth and the end of the non-alignment of South Africa. Mr. Ennals went on to accuse South Africa of adopting expansionist policies and made a reference to the blatant racism practised in that country. He would be giving our tacit approval to the policies and practices of South Africa if we agreed to sell them arms, he concluded.

Mr. Eric Chiswell, an economist, started by denying that he was an economist, and then having referred to the rambling nature of the University's buildings, suggested that the same remark could be applied to the proposer's speech. Then, with respect to the Simonstown agreement, he reminded the House that one of the facets of this agreement was that the arms supplied to South Africa were for the express purpose of international defence and were under no circumstances to be involved in the settlement of internal strife.

And, in any case, he went on, the nature of the arms which have been sold to South Africa (i.e., submarines, frigates and Buccaneers) rather limited the purposes to which they could be put. They are ineffectual against not only the indigenous populations of South

Africa, but also her neighbours, he maintained.

Finally, he stressed the importance of the sea route around the Cape, and adduced a quotation by a Russian admiral to support his claim that a Soviet threat to this route existed. After reiterating his belief that apartheid was not relevant to the motion, he called upon the House to recognise its duty and vote according to the facts.

The third speaker of the evening was Mr. Guy Arnold, the director of the Africa Bureau. He lost no time in rejecting the idea that the route around the Cape was of any importance to Britain and pointed out that there were only twenty ships available for defending this route, apparently implying that this was an insignificant fleet. After spending several minutes talking about the injustice of apartheid, Mr. Arnold then addressed himself to the motion and observed that if one country is vastly stronger in military arms than its neighbours (as is the case of South Africa), the peace is seriously threatened.

For Britain to sell arms to South Africa is to give the badge of respectability to a racist nation, he went on. He concluded by emphasising Britain's power and condemned Britain's readiness to supply South Africa with arms as a misuse of that influence. The audience was clearly much impressed by Mr. Arnold's address.

The debate was now interrupted by the chairman to allow Lord Chalfont to speak from the floor. In his view, it was Britain's duty as a civilised country to respect the United Nations' resolution debarbing the sale of arms to South Africa. The real reason why South Africa is so keen to arm itself to the teeth is to protect itself against the eventualities of an attack from a neighbouring Black African state; the existence of a "Red threat" is a figment of the imagination, he thundered to a very receptive audience.

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FOR INTRODUCTION NOTES CONTACT: Rodney Watts, via The Union P.H. or Dept. of Medical Biochemistry

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Lord Chalfont speaking from the floor last Wednesday

Accommodation survey

STUDENT accommodation seems to have gone through a major crisis lately. Birmingham, with its two universities and many colleges, was probably hit worse than many other places. Last October some 2,000 new undergraduates came to Birmingham. There were then about 200 students, many first years, who spent their first few days or weeks of their University careers sleeping in the Gym or on friends' floors.

By November, letters of complaint were received by the University from angry parents demanding something to be done. The University was indeed distressed. They still are. The panic is over until next October but last November the Guild started to find out where the problem lay. At the same time, the University was working on its own accommodation survey. The result is the Joint University and Guild Accommodation Survey, the most detailed and important investigation into the problems of accommodation attempted by this University.

This survey is to obtain information about the conditions under which students at the University of Birmingham live and study. What is needed are student opinions about their accommodation and to get some idea of any difficulties which may affect their life and work at University. This questionnaire gives a special opportunity to comment on various facilities and make suggestions about them.

Questionnaires are not being sent to all students but to a sample selected by the University computer to represent all quarters from the student penthouse suite in Balsall Heath to the centrally-heated slum of the Vale Site, from the post-graduate academic to the first-year student. For this reason the return of the questionnaire, fully completed, is very important. Otherwise the findings of the survey cannot be fully representative. One major point is that all the information supplied will be confidential and anyway it would be virtually impossible to put a name to any questionnaire.

Once all the questionnaires are completed and returned they will be coded and the information will be pumped into the University computer for detailed analysis; the results will be compiled into a preliminary report to be issued at the end of February and more detailed analysis will be undertaken thereafter.

The survey is so urgent, what with Griffin Close just being completed and other forms of accommodation such as purpose-built bed-sitters, i.e. halls without the dining facilities as

they have at Southampton University, that the University has postponed an imminent decision on building until the preliminary report is made. That decision could be made in March resulting in a new Hall or Flats or Bed-sitters being in use in two years' time. It depends on the survey.

The survey is officially issued on Monday, February 8th. All the completed surveys can be handed in Department offices, special survey boxes over the campus, Welfare Office or posted (depending on the G.P.O.).

Any queries can be dealt with at the Union and Refectory Welfare Offices.

Concert problems

THE presentation of concerts by Events Committee has been difficult in recent years because in order to put on the type of concert groups people want to see, space must be available to accommodate a large enough audience to cover the booking.

Seating in Deb Hall limits the audience to 500. The largest hall on the campus, the Great Hall, can cater for an audience of only 1,200 (this fact meant that the Pentangle concert, although a complete sell-out) made a loss). This apart, the use of the Great Hall is still somewhat problematic. The gallery cannot be used, because the limited number of exits creates a fire hazard. This difficulty is insur-

mountable short of making structural alterations.

However, what really mitigates against student use of the Hall is the difficulty in obtaining permission to use it, from the University authorities.

When asked what criteria determined one's use of the Great Hall, Mr. Lewis, the Registrar, would only say: "We don't want to start laying down rigid conditions, do we?" He went on to say, with reference to difficulties experienced by Events Committee in obtaining the use of the Great Hall for Pentangle "if they would like to communicate their difficulties to me in a letter then I am sure we will do all we can to help them."

redbrick

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The background

Oil and natural gas supply two-thirds of world energy demand. Oil alone is the largest primary commodity in world trade, by both volume and value. The consumption of oil in the free world has increased every year since 1945 and is currently rising by around 8 per cent annually.

It is in this context that the Royal Dutch/Shell Group operates, being a family of several hundred companies operating in over a hundred countries, whose main business is in oil, natural gas and chemicals. It employs net assets worth £3,500 million and supplies 15 per cent of the oil sold in the non-communist world.

Because of the significance, magnitude and range of its activities, Shell needs people with exceptional intellectual and personal qualities to run its companies, and not all of these can be found in the countries where it operates. Outstanding people are also needed to co-ordinate the activities of these companies and to provide them with advice and services—work which is conducted by the service companies in London and The Hague. Because our business depends greatly on technical knowledge and expertise, the great majority of our graduate recruits have scientific degrees and join us to do jobs where they can put to direct use the knowledge they have acquired at university. Some of these technical graduates rise to senior levels in their particular scientific fields. Others move across into non-technical jobs; many of our most senior management posts are filled by such people, who may have started their career with us in one of the technical functions, like exploration, production, manufacturing or research.

But there is another route to the top, through what we call the 'commercial functions' in our organisation. This term includes such activities as finance, central supplies, personnel and marketing,

The job

The variety of circumstances in which the companies of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group operate is reflected in the diverse initial assignments a graduate may get when he joins. Vacancies can arise in any country where we operate and in any of the commercial functions. A graduate's own preferences will be one of the factors taken into account in deciding where his first appointment will be.

During his first five years with us, a graduate will usually work in one particular commercial function, carrying out two or three different jobs in one or two countries and thereby gaining at an early stage the experience in depth which will enable him to progress. However, opportunities for him in other functions will not be overlooked, because our aim is to provide the few graduates entering the commercial functions with the experience necessary to enable them all to reach management level, whether in a functional or general sector of our business. Training, both formal and informal, also plays an important part throughout a graduate's career with Shell, because we consider it wasteful to put a man into a job for which he has received insufficient training.

Once graduates have made their mark in a particular function, many of them can expect to occupy a variety of senior jobs covering different functions, to help them view the activities of Shell companies as an integrated whole. Others may continue to make their major contribution as professionals in a particular field; in an organisation of this size the scope for the professional is fully comparable to that of the more general administrator.

A graduate's career may be expected to continue with assignments usually lasting from two to five years, normally with home leave at the end of every year where these are overseas. At all times his career will be reviewed and guided by a senior man in the personnel organisation of our central offices. As he reaches more senior levels an increasing proportion of his appointments may be in the service companies in London and The Hague.

If we are successful in our recruitment, a graduate joining the commercial functions can expect to progress to a very senior position, with a commensurate salary.

It is impossible to predict exactly how any individual's salary will rise, but

it is highly relevant that Shell almost certainly has more jobs in the five-figure salary ranges than any other business organisation outside the USA—and virtually all of these are filled by graduates.

The person

During 1971 we are looking for twelve graduates from British universities as recruits for the commercial functions. Most of these will be men aged between 21 and 26, joining immediately after the completion of their first degree, but there may be a few with post-graduate qualifications.

We will also consider outstanding women; opportunities for them overseas are limited by the willingness of overseas governments to grant them work permits, so their careers, at least in the early years, would probably be spent in the UK. It is likely that they would begin in either the personnel or finance functions.

The people selected will be of an exceptionally high calibre, able to cope with the demanding jobs they will be given. They must qualify on each of the following counts:

- * They must have a high level of intelligence, well above the average for the undergraduate population.
- * They must have the capacity to use figures as well as words.
- * They must be able to show evidence that they have the ability to achieve.
- * They must have a well-defined interest in business and commerce, and the ability to influence and persuade others.
- * They must be completely mobile, prepared to work anywhere in the world.

Candidates reading for any degree who meet these criteria are welcome. If we have a preference for one kind of degree over another it is slight, but we would particularly welcome lawyers, economists, scientists, engineers, social scientists and mathematicians, as we have found that these disciplines have in the past provided many good recruits for us.

Our record

Between 1952 and 1968 we recruited 712 British graduates for the commercial functions; of these 63 per cent are still working with Group companies.

Why do graduates leave us? It is not easy to isolate reasons. Selection methods are not fool-proof, and so in a

small number of cases the reason for parting company can be traced to a mistake in selection; in this respect we have cause to believe our procedures have improved over the years and the proportion of selection errors is falling. Personal factors (health, a change in family circumstances, climate, etc.) account for a further proportion.

Some graduates wish to move to another profession altogether, for example to return to academic life, or to become writers. Some leave because they feel they are dissatisfied with the job, the pay, or the prospects of advancement; but it is worth noting that this last group represents no more than 4.3 per cent of all graduates recruited since 1952—an exceptional record.

It is fair to say that, if you do want to move, other employers will regard your experience and training in Shell companies as a valuable asset.

How to apply

Applicants must fill in one of our green 'Personal Information' forms as a first step. These, and a booklet 'Opportunities for Graduates 1971' containing more information about the commercial functions, can be obtained from university appointments officers, or from:

Shell International Petroleum Company Ltd.,
Recruitment Division
(AE) PNEL/3, Shell Centre,
London, SE1 7NA

On the basis of the information supplied on the forms we will write to you letting you know whether you have been selected for an initial interview. If so, it may take place at your university or at Shell Centre in London.

Following this initial interview we will again write to you, telling you whether or not we would like you to come for a day and a half's visit to Shell Centre for our final selection procedure, and, if so, suggesting a possible date. This final selection procedure consists of a two-hour written business problem on the afternoon of the first day, plus written selection tests and individual interviews throughout the second day. No tests are conducted on a group basis, and you will not normally be interviewed by more than one or two people at a time. After this series of tests, we will write to you without delay, to tell you whether we can offer you a job and, if so, at what initial salary.

LETTERS

Text of proposal

SIR,—Since Professor H. S. Ferns ("Redbrick," January 27th, 1971) mis-states the purport of the resolution which Mr. C. R. Hinings and I moved at a recent meeting of the local Association of University Teachers, may I provide your readers with the full text (emphasis added):

"Believing that it is desirable to establish a voluntary code of professional behaviour relating to the provision by University Teachers of confidential references for staff and students, this Association affirms that such references should not, without the knowledge and consent of the candidate, draw attention of potential employers to the following matters:—

- (a) ethnic origins,
- (b) religious affiliations,
- (c) political affiliations,
- (d) membership of a trade union or professional association,

- (e) views on issues of personal morality, and,
- (f) views on issues of University and educational policy, including the issue of University and educational reform.

"The Association further affirms that, in the event of its members in their capacity as University Teachers receiving references from others drawing attention to any of the above matters, members have an obligation both to ignore the particular matter in considering the candidate's application and also to inform the referee and the A.U.T. that they have done so."

The proposed code, it will be seen, applies to both staff and students, refers to views as distant from actions, and suggests general guidelines but with provision for some flexibility in their application.

The resolution was defeated by 27 votes to 20, no attempt having been made by opponents to amend it.

Since neither the local nor the national A.U.T. feel able to state a policy with respect to the behaviour of University teachers in writing and receiving references, I have asked the National Council for Academic Freedom and Democracy to look into the matter.

My main concern is not to publicise the differences between Professor Ferns and myself but to draw attention to what I believe to be an important problem affecting relations between all members of the academic community.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY OSTERGAARD

Commercial radio

The Editor, "Redbrick":

DEAR SIR,—Your article on commercial radio was most interesting, but I feel it misses some important points. The writer of it seems to be completely in favour of Hughie Greene's 'give 'em what they want' policy. I have been a very active supporter of 'free radio' for a long while, but if this policy is to be universally applied, I don't think that 'free radio' will have been a cause worth fighting for.

Admittedly, commercial radio has to make a profit, but this must be done against a background of public service, because radio has great powers for mass-education and for the raising of intellectual standards. The same applies to television. "The Wednesday Play" and "News at Ten" have shown us that programmes can be progressive and of a high intellectual standard, and yet be exceedingly popular, for "News at Ten" is watched daily by about 15 million people.

At the moment this is not so true of British radio, where the

Grant fund

DEAR SIR,—I am writing to criticise the way in which Welfare Committee launched the Student Emergency Grant Fund.

The "Case Histories" were not very well chosen—I know of one far more likely to receive sympathy than any of those already made known. The student concerned was in with an excellent chance of a good honours degree until he ran into financial difficulties in the Spring Term before finals; the hopes of a good degree went and he graduated with an ordinary degree.

This made a considerable difference to his career prospects, and if he had had a small grant he would now be studying for a post-graduate degree. Welfare Committee aspect of the fund which the case above illustrates.

I wish the fund to be a success, but I would point out to Messrs. O'Toole and Mitchiner that if they don't point out clearly to students how the fund is to operate, I doubt if contributions will be made.

Yours,

C. P. WALTERS,
(Soc. Sci.)

The editor regrets that, due to a shortage of space, it was impossible to publish all correspondence received for this issue.



Students at work in the Radio Birmingham Studio

Concourse—student radio

"AND now for something completely different." Already a recognised catch-phrase among John Cleese devotees, those Radio Birmingham listeners who tune in tonight at 7.00 will hear the well remembered words as part of an interview with "Monty Python's Flying Circus," just one item in "Concourse," the programme made and produced by West Midland students and sponsored by the "Heart of the Nation Station." At the moment, the majority of the students involved are from Birmingham and Aston Universities, although it is hoped that in time there will be more participation from Colleges and Universities within the receiving area.

The team at the moment numbers twelve, ably headed by editor Roger Pearce, and co-ordinated at Radio Birmingham by education producer Tony Glynn.

Students at Sheffield and Leicester have been making their own programmes for over a year, and after Birmingham's local radio station had started up on November 9th, it was suggested that the same thing might happen here. Meetings were held and, finally, a pilot programme emerged on December 15th which was promising enough to secure a regular half-hour slot on the station's schedule, 7 p.m. on Wednesday and a repeat at 12.25 on Saturday, beginning on the first week of this term.

The aim of the programme is, basically, to assure the rate-paying citizens that not all students are "long-haired demonstrators," etc. but as well as featuring items specifically related to the campus, interviews with visiting speakers and a regular research spot, pieces are also included on interesting and unexamined aspects of the city.

Although it is hoped eventually to broadcast live, the detailed technical procedure of studio production ensures that for the moment it is recorded, a process which requires a minimum of three hours at the B.B.C. every Monday night. Post-

grads Rob Levi and Margaret Fraser do the presentation at the moment, and it is intended to include a fair cross-section of items per programme, "light" and "heavy," and usually a music spot, featuring local musical talent such as the student group Ten Gallon Head and the Mech. Eng. Jazz Band.

(Incidentally, anyone interested in getting a free plug, and thinks he's good enough, get in touch with the editor. We're aiming at talent!)

Owing to a lack of original suggestions for suitable titles, it was finally decided to call the programme "Herbert," a decision which was vetoed by Radio Birmingham, for not "fitting in with the general tone of the other programme titles in the 'Radio Times'." This has been the only difference of opinion.

Can happy relations continue? Are the students planning a mass take-over of B.B.C. Radio Birmingham? Tune in tonight at seven o'clock and find out.

ELSBETH LINDNER.

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Ask the Secretary of your University Appointments Board for booklets describing the opportunities and have a talk with the railway representative when he visits your university, or write direct to: The Principal Management Recruitment Officer, British Railways Board, Royal London House, 22-25 Finsbury Square, London EC2 P2BQ.



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GYPSIES—AND THE LAW

A survey in 1965 estimated that there were about 3,400 families of travellers in England and Wales, containing in all about 15,000 persons.

At the time of the survey the position of the travellers was greatly affected by the 1960 Caravan Sites Act. This Act was to control the land used for caravan sites. Development of land for such sites had produced more litigation under the Town Planning Act than any other kind of development.

The Act provided for a system of licensing Caravan Sites to be oper-

ated by borough, urban and rural district councils and was to function over and above the more general control of development through the medium of the planning permission granted under the Town Planning Acts.

It meant that no land could be used for a caravan site unless it was licenced. The issuing of such licences was in the hands of the local authorities and a formal grant of planning permission was a condition necessary for the issue of such a licence.

It is worth noting how much control local authorities had, at this stage, over gypsy encampments. And it may be doubted whether many of them were capable of this treatment in allocating sites for the travellers, especially

when we see how they are acting even when duty (under the 1968 Caravan Sites Act) has been imposed on them.

In 1967 the Ministry of Housing and Local Government issued a report entitled "Gypsies and other Travellers." In this it stated that "Unless either the authorities turn a blind eye to caravan encampments, or authorised encampments are available within the terms of the 1968 Act, the travellers can never find a secure stopping place, except in the limited circumstances which are exempt from that Act. This amounts to a virtual outlawing of this way of life. The problem is not that there are few suitable places left; when an owner is willing to allow travellers to camp on his land, he must first obtain planning permission and a licence under the 1960 Act."

So along came the 1968 Caravan Sites Act. The preamble to the Act gave its purpose as to restrict the eviction from Caravan Sites of occupiers of caravans and to make other provision for the benefit of such occupiers; to secure establishment of such sites by local authorities for the use of gypsies and other persons of a nomadic habit, and control in certain areas

unauthorised occupation of land by such persons."

Under S6 of the Act the local authorities were given the duty "So far as may be necessary to provide adequate accommodation for gypsies residing in, or resorting to their area." The Gypsy Council says it would like 200 sites throughout the country. The Act provides that each local



authority should have land for 15 caravans if it is necessary. The councils are also given the optional power "to provide working space and facilities for the site occupiers to enable them to carry on the activities normally carried on by them."

Exemptions can be given by the minister if an authority could show that there was no land available or where there were not enough gypsies residing or resorting to their area to make a site necessary.

Before County Councils set up sites it is necessary for them to consult the District Council involved and this council may object to any decisions. In this situation the minister may cause a local inquiry. Therefore authorities may seek exemption and much wrangling may take place before any site is decided on and set up.

In the meantime, however, the position of the gypsies has remained for the most part unaltered from that before the Act. Anthony Greenwood said in 1967, "For most traveller families there is nowhere they can legally put their home; they are within the law only when moving along the road."

The same seems true today. Now a court order is necessary before a caravan is towed away from a place but it is an offence for any person, being a gypsy, to station a caravan for the purpose of residing for any period on:

- Boundaries of a highway.
- Any other unoccupied land.
- Or any occupied land without consent of the occupier.

Kindly the Act provides as a defence a plea of illness, mechanical breakdown and immediate emergencies.

The Act therefore offers little immediate improvement in the gypsies' situation and in the long-term even if the authorities agree to set up sites the general attitude at present seems to indicate that such sites will be little more than concentration camps. Few people wish to take any responsibility for gypsies. They are seen by a lot of people as outsiders to the community, misfits with nothing to offer except annoyance.

The "Sunday Mercury," in an extremely bitter column, attacked the "tinkers" (a name full of derogatory overtones) for "the foulest despoliation of many areas" and the "terrorisation of innocent families: by stealing and intimidation." The column also suggested that if Parliament did not impose the new Act on councils it would accept that camps must be well away from inhabited areas and, where that is not possible, exempt councils from their obligations.

Between 1966 and 1970 circulars to the local authorities have asked them to avoid needless reliance on the gypsies on unauthorised sites and sites not having planning permission and a licence.

Understanding treatment of travellers and active implementation of the 1968 Act have

been hindered for two reasons. Firstly, not a few of the councils have shown distaste for the 1968 Act and gypsies. In the Midlands, Warley has applied for exemption. Alcester refused to have a site, although Warwickshire planners say the area is suitable to have a site, and in September Dudley and Walsall seemed to have decided to ignore the Act completely, even though the councillors were threatened with legal action. One councillor in the Midlands, when asked how he would cope with the problem of the travellers, replied that he would exterminate them.

Secondly, councils for the most part have been unable to "dispel any unfounded apprehensions about the likely effect of providing controlled sites," among themselves, never mind the general public, and they have been satisfied to follow the whims of the residents in their area. Eight citizen action groups have been founded in the Black Country ready to oppose the establishment of official sites for itinerants and their caravans with councillors at their head.

Harassment of travellers does not seem to have been replaced by useful temporary measures to aid the travellers while permanent sites are set up. At Monmore Green, Wolverhampton, in July, corporation workmen attempted to evict travellers from their site following a council order. They failed to do this when a human barricade (to quote a local paper) was formed to block their way, and they ended up clearing the rubbish from the site with the bulldozers they had intended to use to drag away caravans. The complaint against the site was that it was a danger to public health but apparently the council considered the people more a health hazard than rubbish.

Much of the resentment against gypsies seems to stem from ignorance. They consider gypsies to be lawless, dirty and scrounging. As they have "opted out" of society, it is claimed, it is their responsibility as to how they exist and not society's. It may be more correctly said that society has become too complex for gypsies and this is where conflict arises and also that travellers have not "opted out" of society by choice but merely because their way of life has caused alienation. Anyway it is worth noting that few gypsies are brought before the courts on indictable offences. They are rarely involved in fights except amongst themselves and the stealing that is often blamed on the gypsies but never fixed on them, may be due to the fact that many unsavoury characters follow gypsies around using their reputation as a cloak behind which to hide their petty thieving and con-tricks.

A definite attitude toward the traveller is a dislike of the Irish element. This is perhaps emphasised because Irish travellers, unlike the Romanies and the English (some of which became travellers because of the housing shortage of 1945) move around in bigger bands and tend to be more boisterous and vocal than the others. For example at Monmore Green a small number of travellers had been living peacefully on a temporary site. Two weeks before the Council elections the Wolverhampton Council stated that they had chosen Hickman Avenue as a possible permanent site. This caused somewhat of a stir. At the same time there were two evictions of Irish travellers from Dudley and Lichfield. They all converged on the Monmore Green site. The Irish were less restrained than most already on the site and the richer travellers from Lichfield refused to move on to the site for fear of damaging their caravans. Finally the incident ended with the gypsies moving voluntarily in the hope of eventually getting a permanent site, but few of the protestors bothered to distinguish between the Irish gypsies and the true Romanies who seem to think they do not mind.

Two arguments against setting up permanent sites in Birmingham are firstly the cost and secondly the lack of land. It was said that the site in the East Park District in Wolverhampton would cost £34,000 and about £2,500 a year to maintain. However, these statistics happily ignore the fact that gypsies would be willing to help in constructing their own site and according to students at Manchester who assisted and got to know gypsies in their campus in 1969, travellers would be willing to pay £2 a week for a permanent site. Birmingham Council claimed it

had no available land for a site. A fact which the "Sunday Mercury" said, in September, could be asserted by anyone with an average knowledge of Birmingham. And yet in March the "Evening Mail" reported that Birmingham Corporation officers found the council owned over 1,000 acres of unused land, some of which was completely "surplus to requirements."

The gypsies are at present an unimportant group, although influence is beginning to grow from within and with help from outside bodies. Yet they remain a scattered, and for a large part, an illiterate group. Their way of life has changed somewhat, particularly since the war. Traditional industries such as wood carving, knife grinding and basket weaving have declined greatly since 1945 under the pressure of technological advances and mass production. Fruit picking in the summer also becomes an occupation of decreasing importance as mechanisation increases. Now a great majority of travellers are engaged in scrap metal dealing. But even this industry does not ensure the protection of their way of life. The 1964 Scrap Metal Dealers' Act requires dealers to be registered and as soon as a person moves from one local authority to another he ceases to be registered.

The encroaching on their lives by a changing society and restrictions placed on them by legislation has made some gypsies interested in the education of their children, where education has been available. Others have remained suspicious. It is also evident that those who have involved themselves with travellers feel a need and a duty to preserve their way of life. They note the qualities and vitality of the gypsy way of life and stress the need to avoid education which has the sole purpose of integrating gypsies into the community, as has been practised in Europe.

At present the majority of travellers' children will grow up illiterate. Thus they will be incapable of doing most jobs and they will be handicapped in their relations with officialdom and the law. But these children require a different kind of education from others. If they are not to be made strangers to their own community, by having been educated, their education must be undertaken with the knowledge of the travellers' way of life as a basis. Otherwise education will become only a means of alienating children from their parents' way of life where they might otherwise be of help. It is necessary to build bridges between family life of the camping site and the life of the school. In a few places where permanent camp sites have already been set up (always a necessary prerequisite to any scheme for education) for example, at Edenbridge, Kent, the local Junior School has responded by creating such a special reception class.

At present the law recognises the different position of children of travellers. Under the 1944 Education Act it is required that parents travelling for the sake of their livelihood are not considered to be guilty of an offence provided their children have registered at a school and attended "as regularly as the nature of the trade or business of their parents permits or at least two hundred days during the previous 12 months."

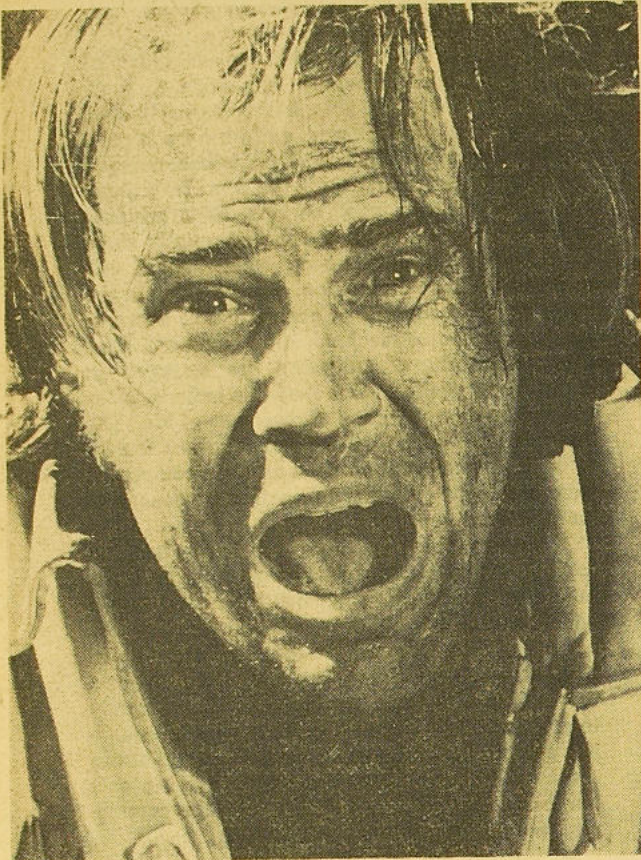
A commission on itineraries in Ireland decided that it was impossible to enforce the attendance of travellers' children. They said it would be impossible for such families to remain in one area for the period of the school year, and to require it would result in most children being taken away from their families and placed in institutions.

Therefore the only practical and desirable way for the children of travellers to be educated is by the setting up of a separate system, perhaps in the future leading to an integrated system of education to that given to the child of an average family.

The gypsies at the moment face a problem that is in some ways a vicious circle. They are faced with the callousness and misunderstanding of society. And yet often they are not allowed to stop in one place long enough to prove themselves to society. They are struggling as society becomes more and more complex but much of society refuses to help them until they conform though they cannot conform until they are educated.

JOHN GIBSON

reviews



Don Stroud in "Explosion" at the Jacey

MUSIC

I HAVE never previously seen Pentangle and have only heard them occasionally on radio and T.V. My expectation last Wednesday was therefore based on the opinions of respected friends and commentators. These people were not let down.

Only one real criticism—too quiet! Perhaps they have reacted against the over-loud present—but then they have always played softly. More likely the strong introversion of Bert and John overrules the natural exuberance of Danny and Terry. And Jacqui prettily sits and sings.

The first half was a trifle thin. Pleasant but unremarkable songs with Olde English lyrics about maidens called Sally and sailors and marriage were daintily performed with every restraint possible. Weren't they ever going to

let go? Not until "Jack Orion," a multi-section number with John Renbourn and Terry Cox taking the main vocal parts. Some very strong and almost too short instrumental passages introduced each of the middle sections of this song which was a logical culmination of the odds and ends which had preceded, but I still feel there was room for further emphasis and extrapolation.

These "odds and ends" included solo pieces for all five of the group and all through them I found myself waiting for the rest to join in and was disappointed when they didn't. There was one exception—Jacqui McShee's beautiful unaccompanied song, "Jack Orion" was the welding of all these elements into a music greater than that of the individuals separately and showed that Pentangle are a group and not merely five people playing together.

The still and attentive audience of the first set became less tense throughout the second and gradually generated a subdued "buzz." Eventually "Pentangling" burst forth to close the set and rouse the audience to generous applause.



Hawkwind at Mason last Friday

and well-deserved cheers. Here was a characteristically simple theme more than adequately emphasised and developed. This was the Pentangle I had come to see—excellent solos, with stimulating support from the rest of the group, in contrast to earlier, isolated strivings, and pounding (well, almost) ensemble passages.

Terry Cox, who must have been frustrated by this time, was able to hit instead of caress his drums and the occasional thunder almost jarred in comparison with the previous delicacy. And then there was Danny Thompson's bass solo—could this be the same man who, in the first half, had been so disgusted with his attempts? With immaculate timing and clarity, and exciting, amusing and dextrous invention, it ranked alongside a classic Coleridge Goode solo of four years ago as one of the two best solos I've had the pleasure of hearing.

Bert Jansch, particularly, and John played guitar as if they weren't quite sure whether they wanted to be heard or not. It's a pity they are not just a little more forward. I only hope everyone could hear well enough to appreciate their excellence.

And, of course, Jacqui very prettily sat and sang.

The "buzz" of the audience then erupted into a vocal expression of feelings which was sustained even longer after the first encore—a blues as raucous as it is possible for Pentangle to perform. And, looking slightly embarrassed by it all, they ended the proceedings with a very tight "Light Flight."

An important Event.

JOHN HEADON.

IT was certainly fortunate that Cradle opened at this dance, because nothing could possibly have followed Hawkwind. Being only a three-piece band, and not using the instruments they had to best advantage, they sounded a little thin at times. Almost without exception, numbers began shakily and warmed up as they went on, though the reverse applied in "Storm," one of their own compositions, which got off to a really good start and then, where I gathered that the aim was an evocation of elemental forces, it became inexcusably weak and reminded me of a farmyard.

Each of their own compositions was based on one riff or melody phrase, repeated over and over again, not with any sense of building or even hypnotic effect, but with the desperate tenacity of someone who doesn't think he'll ever find his way back if he once strays a couple of notes from the original path.

The guitar solos were competent, but more variety in the backing would have enhanced rather than detracted from them, and the drummer managed to be far more inventive in his normal support and rhythm work than in his short solo.

Their best number was probably the slow blues, "Cobweb," with well-controlled solos and particularly good bass work. The vocals were good throughout, and I must admit that in spite of my many criticisms, I can't say I didn't enjoy them.

Hawkwind are a head band very much in the ascendancy at the moment. They began with a jam session, moving into "Be yourself" and then on again, a continuous progression. The beginning gave an impression of a series of crescendos in volume and speed, and though it was perhaps a little too long before they synthesised into a

cohesive unit, once they did it was unforgettable.

Dominated, led and generally held together by inspired drumming from the almost naked Terry Ollis, they took rhythms and phrases to build on, weaving around them and adding layers of sound and texture, both melodic and electronic, with, in spite of the atmosphere of freedom, a strong grip on technique, really stretching the audience until it just couldn't go on any further.

Then the sound faltered, the melody collapsed and a complete musical disintegration followed, till they picked up something else from the ensuing spiral of individual sounds and gave it the same treatment.

Someone told me afterward that the first number lasted over 45 minutes—I just don't know, as time was irrelevant. After a while, they seemed to have been playing for ever, yet to have only just started. With half the audience hunched up with eyes closed to escape the strobe, and the other half mesmerised by it, the atmosphere was incredible.

At the end, when the strobe was used to cut across the beam of the otherwise unremarkable light show, the whole stage seemed to shift sideways, as if everything had taken off. The strobe was switched off after the first number, but the quality of the music never altered.

Someone wrote last term that the Incredible String Band was a perfect example of how you can get high on music alone—well, this was another. Although occasionally I had doubts about their individual musical ability, this does not really matter, for they can only be judged as a unit, and the way the instruments and electronics blend was unlike anything I've heard before.

Their sound was greatly helped by imaginative use of microphones, excellent mixing and skilful integration of the electronics, which complemented the instruments and echoed vocals rather than being used as a virtuoso item in their own right, as often happens. Their superb set ended after midnight, and was deservedly well applauded, but we got no more, perhaps because of the time.

As far as I, and I'm sure, many other people were concerned, I could have listened well into the small hours, and not even noticed the hard floor and icy draughts—



"Double Suicide"—showing soon at the Arts Lab

their music was so compelling and emotive.

This must surely have been one of the best Hall dances for a long time, and credit must be given to Mason for bringing a minority-appeal band, making a success of the evening, and proving that a low admission price and a high quality group are not mutually exclusive.

LIZ UNSWORTH.

BOOKS

I HAVE always been of the opinion that the best light reading is to be found in anthologies of S.F. short stories. The most common type of these is the collection of best stories over a certain period of time (usually a calendar year) and usually from one particular source (author, monthly magazine, etc.) although this is not necessary.

A second type, and probably the only other numerous one, is the collection of stories based on one theme. The War Book (Panther Science Fiction, 30p) is one of these, and, as such, is typical. Collections of this nature always suffer certain disadvantages, particularly in that the best stories are often copyright, and that most of the more recent stories are available in contemporary anthologies.

Given these limitations, which the editor, James Sallis, freely admits, the choices are quite unsuccessful. However, it must be considered that the theme chosen, war, along with conflict generally, probably pervades 90 per cent or more of all S.F.

That all the endings are pessimistic reflects the compiler's attitudes and is not surprising, but some of the endings themselves are surprising—some with excellent logic, some delightfully illogical and some incomprehensible (after one reading).

Highspots are Donald Barthelme's Beckett-like "Game," Mack Reynolds' Spillane-style "Pacifist," Fredric Brown's short and neat analogy, "The Weapon," a satire in the "Animal Farm" vein by William Tenn on the Korean War, "The Liberation of Earth" and, finally, (it also closes the book) an old favourite of mine, "The House by the Crab Apple Tree," by S. S.

Johnson—devastating, sickening, almost pornographic violence. The book's almost worth it for this alone.

JOHN HEADON.

FILMS

"THE Mad Dog Press Archives," by J. Spencer Grendahl (Rupert Hart Davies). This is his first novel and should he continue to write in this vein he may be very successful. At present he is an English teacher in Washington but has spent some time with the Peace Corps.

The story is about a young American radical called Eric. He and his wife, Pam, spend two years in Africa with the Peace Corps, during which time their marriage gradually deteriorates, and they leave just after the beginning of the Biafran war. They stop at Tangier, in transit to America, because Pam is ill. Free from the bush, Eric's true radical feelings begin to show and Pam realises that he won't be conditioned to her society, so their marriage finally breaks up with extreme malice on her side.

The book is extremely emotional and unfolds in the form of a diary—i.e. the author, writing in first person, writes down all the events which take place while he is in Tangier. The mood of the book changes within sentences from being very funny and happy to very sad.

Eric and his friends are supposedly fictional but it would appear that the author is writing about his personal experiences.

This book is not available in paperback but it is well worth spending 30/- for all the entertainment it affords. The only criticism of the book is that the sleeve notes seem so designed to sell it in a sensational way. J. Spencer Grendahl is now writing a second novel which is to be published in the near future and hopefully it will be as good as his first.

GINETTE

"THE Directory of Summer Jobs in Britain" an off-the-Directory of Summer Jobs Abroad" have recently been published by Vacation-Work.

At a cost of 14/- each these two paperbacks supply names, addresses and details of work available during the summer months. Also toward the end of "Summer Jobs Abroad" there is a lot of information on holidays and travel.

On the front cover of each book it boasts 30,000 vacancies, which seems hardly credible in this small book. One complaint about the book is that most of the vacancies require people with experience. It's very useful for those experienced and wanting to be a waiter, waitress, nanny or au-pair for three months.

GINETTE



Pentangle before Wednesday's concert

reviews

over very well indeed. Nevertheless, the literary nature of the play is a stumbling-block; its serious monologues fit uneasily and the comfortable way the plot resolves and entangles itself, at the end, may be all right for the stage but is definitely bad for the cinema.

J. ARTHUR RANK

THEATRE

SCHOPENHAUER said that comedy "has to hurry to lower the curtain in the moment of joy, so that we don't see what comes afterwards." The suggestion is that what we would see would be a far from happy or comic sight if it did not. Now this it seems to me, is where a tragedy-comedy, and a tragedy in threads and patches, as Buchner's Woyzeck is, becomes very difficult to play.

On reading, even in the modern English idiomatic translation, it is a serious and oppressively symbolic piece of patching together. On stage at the Rep, last week it was an uproarious pantomime of badly connected and sporadically funny scenes.

As a notable member of the audience said to me after the show... "It was more like Berg's opera than Buchner's play. It certainly had an odd combination of styles. But, cries the irate director or German student, so it has. Well then there was too much humour; but, cry the same voices, it is essentially a slapstick play of a hard-done-to man who murders his mistress and is laughed off the stage by a urinating horse. Well I still find it difficult to believe it was written 150 years ago, and there were too many laughs.

Nowhere did we get the idea, as I'm sure we are meant to, that we should stop, look what we are laughing at and cry instead. This was like Oedipus Rex performed by Morecambe and Wise; this comedy never had to lower its curtain to stop us crying, though the play does call for sudden cuts between scenes which the Rep. managed with varying success.

If it is impossible to set each scene in blackness, then it is preferable to have everything and everyone on all the time, and stage the play by use of selective and concentrated areas of light, rather than the annoyingly symbolic use of red floods.

This was an interesting production but I can't say that it enthralled the house, and several people, including a colleague of mine, came out of the auditorium at 11.30 wondering what the hell the show had been about.

Henry Knowles, with his thick voice and eccentric physical gyrations was the butt of most of the humour, but he should have tried to impress us with his serious insanity. All the other characters made their easy cameos into light work—David Glover's Captain was a cross between a character from Coward and Mainwaring of Dad's Army. The horse's sense of direction was under-rehearsed, rendering ineffective the bucket placed beneath it. Buchner, I feel, may still be ahead of his time, or this may just be a very bad play.

Friday, February 19th, the Rep do Ubu by Jarry, which is more of the same, but slightly more comprehensible. Cannon Hill has a late show this Friday, February 5th, called One to Ten, and of course our own Drama Festival continues tonight, tomorrow and Friday with



"Perfect Friday"—Odeon, New Street

Les Treteaux Libres and the Theatre Particulaire. More about them next week.

BRIAN BUTLER

"If they were passionate about it, I could see the point, as it was, there was nowt but action—speaking candidly it was a load of tripe, something you and I used to do when we were four or five."

An interesting comment from the snow-haired usher after Monday's "Quo Vadis." It's not easy, however, to exude a passionate atmosphere with twenty or thirty noisy cynics banging and heckling throughout a production. The charged atmosphere of last year was reduced to a self-conscious balloon which every time Treteaux valiantly inflated, was jumped on by perturbed adolescents.

Elements that must have contributed to the fracas included this year's sparse number of actors who through sheer lack of manpower were unable to cope with the callers, also, the comparatively complicated thematic progression of the play cannot stand up against too much unexpected intrusion.

The gentleman who took over the whipping scene was certainly amusing and popular but the gruesomeness and guilty terror that the scene can and must evoke, vanished into a trivial parody of itself.

My sympathies lay with those who felt it had not been given a chance. "Quo Vadis" can be a shocking, cleansing experience but it was obvious that some of the people who left it shouting "what a load of crap!" had gone in with pitchforks and loose bowels.

Not that the beautiful people aren't guilty of a kind of pathetic sanctimoniousness. Occasionally a jewel of a wise-crack merits a suppressed snigger though the prim little freak who glared at me the one time I succumbed, obviously didn't seem to think so.

I didn't stay for the hug-in at the end, because it was an empty gesture after an unimpressive performance. Still I know Treteaux can be tremendous and I felt sorry for what had happened to them.

ANTHONY McNAMARA



"Les Biches"—Arts Lab.

sport 1

W.I.V.A.B. ROUND-UP

Success all round!

NETBALL

BOB'S BEER MISSED

BIRMINGHAM 1sts 35, LANCASTER 1sts 25

EXPERTLY chauffeured to a pub just outside Lancaster by our manager-trainer—who then deserted us for his ale (shame on you, Bob, we needed a quick rub down with your beery sponge at half-time!)—we finally arrived on the court to find that Lancaster had put out what looked like their 1st XV against us.

Our team had apparently arrived before us, and half of the home University had turned out to jeer the one pass that we dropped! At first succumbing to the unsporting harracking, the 1st VII took the first half to settle down, and so the score at the half was only 14 each. Our passing left much to be desired, but in the second half the netballing skill of the Birmingham Belles overcame the brawn of the Lancaster Lellefants.

Although making hard work of taking control of the game because of the northerner's build and close marking, our team finally resembled their old selves in the last quarter.

Phillipa Banarino and Paula White ably scored the goals we needed to see Lancaster out of the W.I.V.A.B. competition, despite being ruthlessly pummeled in the circle. Christine Osmund made some excellent interceptions in defence with Jill Barber, Lynette Buxom, Diane Birnbaum and Sheila Pook supporting well.

Thanks especially to Jill for keep-

ing up our moral at half-time, to Cath for umpiring, Bob and Pook for driving (despite taking the wrong minibus!) and to all the netballers for helping the University to reach the W.I.V.A.B. finals.

NEWCASTLE 'NIALATED

BIRMINGHAM 2nd VII netball team are once again bound for the WIVAB final to be played at Dartford on February 20th after defeating Newcastle (their opponents in the final for the past two years) 35-12 on Saturday.

As yet Birmingham's opposition in the final is not known but, judging by their past record, it seems likely that the second team will retain their W.I.V.A.B. trophy for the third time in succession.

Played in the pouring rain at Sheffield—the offer of the basketball court being declined with thanks—Birmingham's main opposition was provided by the puddle-laden court.

Birmingham dominated the game throughout, with shooters Judith Ridley and Lorna Barrett overcoming a good Newcastle defence to produce some really excellent shooting. Despite the hazardous

ford constituting the centre third, the middle of the court was well controlled by the centre players (the ball now weighing twice its recommended amount).

Annika Barber had her usual "springy" game with some brilliant interceptions, while the new combination of Gill Woodhead and Cath Healy ran circles round the opposition. The two defence, Sandra Hallett and Liz Williams, had no trouble in keeping the opposing team from building up a score, adapting well to the new style of play brought about by the termination of the "blocking" rule.

HOCKEY

Clacton overcome

BIRMINGHAM 5, EXETER 1

BIRMINGHAM 1st XI yet again displayed their undisputed superiority in University hockey when they travelled south and trounced Exeter on their home ground last Wednesday in the W.I.V.A.B. quarter final.

On a pitch more resembling Clacton beach when the tide is out, Birmingham took the lead after only a few minutes. Exeter put up a brave "fight" but found it impossible to run through Birmingham players and several Exeter players finished flat on their backs. Shots, including disallowed ones, regularly slammed into the Exeter net—Angela Edwards's second goal in particular cracked in before the goalkeeper had a chance to move.

Cath Lewis, after many unlucky attempts, hit a powerful shot into the back of the net and Kathy Basham averaged the judo roll she made after a well-aimed trip tackle by flicking in a second goal. The other forwards valiantly persevered but were unfortunate not to score.

So much for the attack. The defence played their usually outstanding game despite reorganisation occasioned by Kate Jackson's hospitalisation due to her wisdom teeth! The one goal that Exeter did score was well deserved though unfortunate for Birmingham as it was the result of the sole mistake made by the defence in the whole match.

With such a performance, surely no-one can stand in the way of

Birmingham's reclaiming of the W.I.V.A.B. trophy.

Birmingham 2nd XI 5, Leeds 2nd XI 0

After a goal-less but fiercely-contested first half, 15 minutes from the end, the first goal was scored by Haze Jamieson with a strong push stroke past a stunned Leeds goalie. This was rapidly followed by another, from June Bench on the right-wing.

A somewhat shocked Leeds defence were once again laid low by the intrepid Haze, who went on to score three more brilliant goals. Although she normally plays centre-half, a last-minute team change moved Haze to centre-forward, and a valiant Viv Welsh (Haggis) stepped in as the half.

Leeds are undoubtedly the best University team that Birmingham are likely to meet, and the score was not really indicative of their skilful play. It was by no means an easy win for Birmingham, but if the team can maintain such a high standard of play in the final, it is to be hoped that the W.I.V.A.B. trophy will be captured on February 20th at Dartford.

sport 2

SOCCER

MAILE BREAKS DEADLOCK

BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY 3, SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY 1

ON Wednesday, despite limited match practice, the University 1st XI defeated Southampton in the quarter finals of U.A.U. on the paddy-field that was West Hills. The conditions probably accounted for the poor standard of football served up by both sides in front of a fair-sized crowd, including the U.A.U. team manager. However, the match at no time lacked interest and the result was a fair reflection on the play, although Southampton might dispute this.

Both sides opened tentatively but the home side soon gained the upper hand and began to exert pressure, forcing a number of corners without reward. The deadness of the opposition's forward line produced the first goal with clinical efficiency, just when Birmingham seemed set to open their account. A misplaced pass, a fine through-ball and the home side were behind.

All efforts to equalise were thwarted by a fine Southampton defence until minutes before the interval when a Barlow cross was handled inside the penalty area and Lyle made no mistake from the spot.

The early stages of the second were even, with both sides concentrating on defence rather than attack. Typically, Maile broke the

deadlock with a well-driven ball just inside the post to put Birmingham in front.

Just as Birmingham had pressed upon falling behind, so Southampton strove to square the game. Stout defence work by Payne, Bigmore and Pearce (E.), kept the number of chances to a minimum but even they were beaten by a cross which found the opposition's U.A.U. star forward five yards but he shot over the bar, when it was easier to score.

The pitch began to take its toll and tiredness began to affect all the players. With seconds remaining, Southampton's fate was sealed when Goss's powerful shot was deflected by a defender past a disconsolate goalkeeper. All members of the team played well with Wortley, Thorpe, Goss and Pearce (H.) outstanding.



Stars of the Birmingham defence. Lyle punches clear watched by Pearce (5) and Bigmore, among others.

BASKETBALL

T. P. crushed

BIRMINGHAM were unlucky to draw the mighty Colleges in the U.A.U. quarter-final. The enormity of the task by no means demoralised us, and the team travelled north a week ago for the playoff. Unfortunately we could only take a six-man squad with one of our stars missing and we were rather disappointed with the poor condition of the court.

However, upon realising that we were as likely to beat them at basketball as easily as at skating we donned our super non-slip boots and set out to do just that.

A quick set shot on our first attack saw our illustrious and inspiring captain get the first of his 20 points, but by the next time we held the ball in our opponents' half we were 8-2 down. The game continued with the home team finding little difficulty in penetrating our

defence with their rather rough pushing tactics under both baskets. Jay Darby gave John Pringle and Dave a few easy points.

Playing against his old team, Terry Mornington casually deceived the home defence into thinking that he was about to shoot and cleverly gave a looping pass into the middle to present Dave with two more points. However, by this time Loughborough had settled the match in their favour.

ATHLETICS

Aukettle supreme

BY RANDY SOUTHAM
(For the men of the Midlands)

Q. WHY did Jim Aukettle run with a fried egg on his head?
A. If it was boiled it would have rolled off.

Given a free run in the 400 metres final, Aukettle swept to a brilliant victory in the National Indoor Championships, at Gosford, last Saturday.

From 250 metres he left the field standing to coast in five yards up, in 48.2 seconds. Dental student Aukettle can now rightly claim to be the country's top indoor 400m runner. He is expected to gain his first full international vest against East Germany on February 20th and also to go to the European Indoor Championships.

Another fine victory came from Ruth Martin-Jones in the long jump. She is getting closer to the magic 20 feet mark every time she jumps. This time the distance was over 19 ft. 9 ins.

Each time I see Moira Niccol run indoors she appears quicker and more fluid. In the 60m hurdles she was just edged into second place, clocking 7.9 secs.

I must protest on behalf of Golden Wonder Holden. During Billy Wright's sports show on television they showed an incredibly grim photograph of our hero. Granted he is not as good looking as, say, Skryby, but this photo was awful. If you can't show a good photo, don't show one at all. By the way, G.W.H. came in a good third in the 3,000m, against a class field. The Saturday before, our old friend Dave Berry, star of the medics table footy 2nd team, was tearing them up in the Chipping Sodbury 10-miles. He was in the winning team and covered the course in 76 minutes.

My spies have passed on two useful bits of information. The infamous Robinson has gathered a secret team of mega-super-stars for the open Lake Race Relay. As Robinson is the only weak link, the dreaded A.B.C. Lake team had better watch it. Also the University's most famous sportsman has thrown off his academic gown and has started training again. He was seen out last Saturday. Yes—Peter Cox lives.

TABLE TENNIS

IMPOSSIBLE ACHIEVED

THE two leading representatives of Birmingham P.P.P. squad, Brian Mitchell and Mostyn Lewis, pulled off a near impossible win in the B.U.S.F. championships at Salford when they emerged victorious with the men's doubles trophy from a field which included Graham Davies, the Welsh champion; Richard Yule, the Scottish champion; and Tony Clayton, the runner-up in the English championships, each with their respective partners.



Brian Mitchell, B.U.S.F. doubles champion, with Mostyn Lewis.

TITUS GROAN
(pp. P.P.P.)

SHORT SPORT

GOLF

LAST Wednesday's match was the first ever played against local rivals Aston University at Harborne Golf Club. The Birmingham team was unchanged after winning against Liverpool the previous week. Unfortunately, the heavy rain of the previous few days had reduced the course to a near morass and it was necessary to play on temporary greens.

The early results showed that Aston were a force to be reckoned with. Captain Mike Paterson, not feeling at his best, halved. Bill Harrison lost; his ball showed a constant inclination to finish left of target. Bob Ashton won—by his own account putting well on the small, bumpy greens.

Tim O'Byrne continued in losing vein, leaving Birmingham in arrears by 2½ points to 1½. However, Ken Clarke, Richard Lister, Anthony Bond and Chris May all outplayed their opponents to maintain the unbeaten record with a 5½-2½ win.

RUGBY

AFTER a disastrous start to the season the University team eventually came good at the end of last term, losing only one of their last six games. The team's best rugby was reserved for their last game of the term against old rivals Aston, enjoying yet another fine season. The 8-6 victory was the first for several years.

Fortunately the cohesion and teamwork built up last term seems to have dissolved somewhat during the Christmas festivities. Of the three matches played this term, those against Burton and Liverpool University have been lost. A win was forthcoming on Bournbrook last Saturday at the expense of Walsall but, because of a mix-up, it was only their second term.

In terrible conditions the University scored 15 points through tries by Guthrie, Birtwistle and Pipe and two penalties by Butler.

MOTOR CLUB

BIRMINGHAM University Motor Club once again scored a stirring victory in a round of the national Castrol-Dunlop motoring quiz, and now go forward to the area finals for the second year running.

The opposition last Wednesday was the mighty Shenhstone and District Motor Club playing on their home ground at Sutton Coldfield. Birmingham were definitely the underdogs on this occasion, as Shenhstone had both a professional motoring journalist and an international rally driver on their strength, although our team-members, Neil Millins (captain), Andy Bodman and Andrew Smith were not to be intimidated. This was shown by the final score of the 665-545 in favour of Millins' squad.

The area final will be held early next week in the Union (Founder's Room) against either Rolls-Royce (Derby) M.C. or Eastwood M.C. and we hope that as many people as possible will turn up to support the team. Full details of date and time will be published as soon as possible. (See classified ads.)

ROWING

REFRESHED by somewhat dubious forms of training, the oarsmen swing back into action on Saturday as hosts for the annual regatta at the Reservoir. Visiting crews will include Manchester, Leicester, Nottingham, Aberystwyth, etc., so Birmingham will be hard pushed to retain the wooden spoon so convincingly held last year.

After a poor performance in the Liverpool Head of the Fleet (apart from "nicking" a couple of good signs!) the policy is now to concentrate on fours, so we hope the sparks will fly at Gloucester on February 13th. (Who spotted the subtle joke, then?) The committee seems to be grinding more efficiently than hitherto (well done, Richard!) so perhaps D.M.B. will soon slip into the background (or somewhere!).

And talking of D.M.B., congratulations on the engagement to J.M.—and the party last Friday, at which Wilson provided a convincing imitation of a bearskin rug (worse for wear!) Some of the ladies tried to extend their limits (and succeeded)—which all looks promising for the Social this evening (February 3rd!).

After graduation- what next?

Discuss the next
step with us when
we visit you on

February 11th

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DAY-BY-DAY

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3rd

Atkinson Lecture: "The New Morality" with David Hart. Council Chamber, 1 p.m.

Organ Recital: Dr. G. Thalben-Ball, Town Hall, 1.15 p.m. Free.

Alexis Korner, Duster Bennett and Kara Korum: Town Hall, 7.45 p.m. All seats 10/-.

Deb. Soc.: Middle East Debate: Council Chamber, 7.30 p.m.

John Cleese: Interviewed on G.T.V. 5.15 p.m.

Drama Festival: "Requiem pour Romeo & Juliette," by Tretaux Libres. Deb. Hall, 8.30 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 4th

"Women's Liberation": By Val Hart, Saint Francis Hall, 12.45 p.m.

C.B.S.O.: Pieces by Lutoslawski, Prokofiev and Bartok. Town Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Film Soc.: "Viriana," by Luis Bunuel. Haworth Lecture Theatre, 7 p.m.

Drama Festival: Theatre Particule, 9 p.m., Deb. Hall.

FRIDAY, FEB. 5th

The Spinners: Town Hall. Tickets from 6/-.

Carnival Queen Dance: Lucas and Mungo Jerry. High Hall, 8 p.m. 10/-.

Late-Night Cinema: Midlands Film Theatre, Cannon Hill. "Nazarin," Luis Bunuel. 10.30 p.m. 6/-.

Late-Night Theatre: Midlands Art Centre. "One to Ten," series of sketches and music, 10.30 p.m. 3/-.

Drama Festival: "Fusion," by Tretaux Libres. Deb. Hall. 8.30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 6th

C.B.S.O.: Pieces by Tchaikovsky, Ravel and Copland. Town Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Orchestra da Camera: Pieces by J. S. Bach, Carrs Lane Centre, 7.30 p.m.

Disco: Union, 8 p.m. 2/6.

SUNDAY, FEB. 7th

"But What is Justice?": Talk by Denis and Barbara Gray (both J.P.s). Saint Francis Hall. 6.30 p.m.

Puppet Theatre: Midlands Art Centre. 3 p.m.

Sunday Film: "You Only Live Twice." Deb. Hall. 2/6.

Midlands Film Theatre: "Ring of Bright Water," 2.30 p.m. and 4.30 p.m.

MONDAY, FEB. 8th

"Hamlet": Olivier's 1948 film version together with Grigori Kozintsev's 1964 version. Midlands Film Theatre. 10 a.m. 5/-.

Film Soc.: "Les Quatre Cent Coups" and "Baisers Voles," by Francois Truffaut. Haworth Lecture Theatre, 7 p.m.

Lecture: "Changes and the Future in Electrical Engineering" by Sebastian de Ferranti. Town Hall. 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 9th

Lecture: Town Hall, as Monday. 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10th

Tom Paxton: Town Hall. 8 p.m. Tickets from 10/-.

GALLERIES

City Museum and Art Gallery: Mount Trust Collection of Chinese Art.

Compendium: Paintings by Ram Mohan Sircar and Roser Pellejero.

From February 8th:—
Paintings by John Inglis.
Paintings, prints & multiples by Barry Eccleston.

Midlands Art Centre: Paintings, masks and costume design by Iris Debley.

THEATRES

Repertory Theatre: "1066 and all That," 7.15 p.m.
Matinees 2.30 p.m.

Midlands Art Centre: "The Hero Rises Up."
"Beggar's Opera."

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry: "Towards Zero," by Agathy Christie.

From February 9th: "The Country Wife," by William Wycherley.

CINEMAS

Odeon Ringway: "Lawrence of Arabia" 7.15 p.m.
Next week: "Spartacus."

Jacey: "Explosion." 7 p.m.

Next week: "Where No Vultures Fly."

Cinephone: "Curious Sex" and "Corridors of Blood." 6.15 p.m.

Futurist: "Carry on Loving" and "Under the Table You Must Go," 7 p.m.

Next week: "Guess Who's Sleeping With Us?"

Odeon, New Street: "Perfect Friday." 7.10 p.m.

A.B.C., New Street: "The Boys in the Band." 7 p.m.
Next week: "Lust for a Vampire."

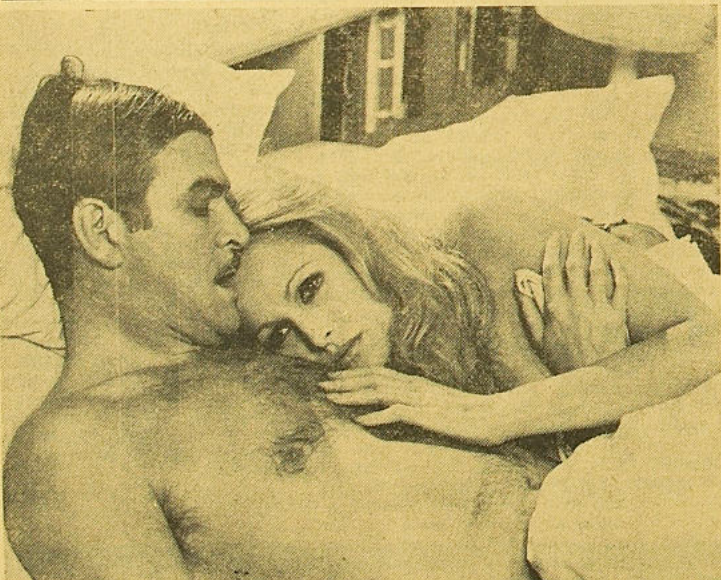
ABC, Selly Oak: "Scars of Dracula" and "Horrors of Frankenstein." 6.25 p.m.

From Thursday 4th:—

Arts Lab.: "Bike Boy," by Andy Warhol plus "Prelude." 7 p.m. 6/-.

"Switchboard Operator" and "Simon of the Desert," 9 p.m. 6/-.

"Les Biches" and "Hugo and Josefin." 11 p.m. (and Sunday, 3.30 p.m.). 8/-.



"Perfect Friday," Odeon New Street.



"Explosion" at the Jacey.