

red brick

Birmingham University

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letters

Redbrick criticised

DEAR SIR,—I write in connection with the article, "Graduate coup at General Meeting" which appeared in your last edition. There are several points about this ill-written, rather snide piece of work that require comment.

Firstly, the constant references to myself, although in keeping with the traditions of the University gutter press, are in somewhat doubtful taste, and, which is more to the point, are both irrelevant and untrue. The final sentence, "Let us remember we owe this largely to . . . who? (sic) Dick Holt!" is yet further proof of a fact which becomes increasingly obvious throughout the article—that the writer was not present at the meeting.

The success of the venture was due almost entirely, as anyone present could see, to those kind people who had risen early on a Saturday morning and devoted most of the day to this democratic exercise. Thanks are due especially to Messrs. Frost, Morris and Gaines, who bore the brunt of the extensive and far-reaching work of organising the 40 people.

Secondly, one must criticise the priority that "Redbrick" has given to this story. For several years the students here have demanded full representation on Council, and have been prepared to fight for this. Indeed, the Sit-in of 1968 was over representation on far less important bodies, namely sub-committees of Council.

Now the President of the Guild has achieved for himself full representation (albeit via the back-door) and a precedent has been set that should be obvious to any intelligent person. And so "Redbrick" gives us

Bombard the workers

DEAR "REDBRICK,"—I am not a student at the University, but work at the Travel Agents as a typist.

Whenever leaflets are distributed on the campus regarding such things as apartheid, discrimination or any other SOCIAL problem, I think it would be a great step forward to distribute these leaflets directly to the people who work for a living on the campus; by this I mean the porters, postmen, cleaners, canteen assistants, wardens, shop staff etc.

I don't claim to be as intelligent as the students, but I do care and when I go home, I don't just cook my husband a meal and sit down and watch telly, and I don't expect ALL the workers at the University just think about football, a pint and Mrs. So and So down the road.

I should think that we are the very people who you want to get through to. Bombard us with facts about discrimination, hate, exploitation.

Make us SEE, make us THINK so we can tell our families, friends and workmates—or is the door firmly shut?

Yours very sincerely,
MRS. JANET M. POWELL,
(20 years old).

a rather badly-written article on Page Five. One appreciates your staff problems, Sir, but surely this has no effect on your editorial policy? One can only assume, regrettably, that it is this which is at fault.

Balsall Heath, Birmingham, 12.

N.U.S. proposals too vague

DEAR SIR,—I must voice, through your newspaper, the dangers inherent in the new N.U.S. proposals on "academic freedom and the law." Their document proposals are by nature contradictory, since they limit to a great degree the power of the N.U.S. In fact Jack Straw et al have shown themselves to be typical of non-democratic unions; they are willing to compromise and be reasonable in face of government pressure. They wish to bring an anti-union law upon themselves.

And how would the proposals be interpreted by the university authorities? "Engaging in conduct which actively disrupts the teaching or study or research of the college." What does that mean? If you will pardon the expression, it is specifically vague and could be interpreted at will.

Another proposal is that students "damaging or defacing any college property" would be liable to be sued for damages in court. What is college property, and who does it belong to? Staff, students, university authorities or the public? Would the writing of slogans and the parading of posters be offences?

The rights students are entitled to are equally vague, "freedom of thought and interpretation" being one.

What this document really shows is that major unions and reformist bodies (the N.C.C.L. helped draught this report) cannot be trusted to help overthrow either social or academic injustice "but if we are nice, it will be all right in the end."

Yours faithfully,
G. R. TUTTON,
(Medic. VI).

Responsibility for course disclaimed by Dean

DEAR SIR,
As I had to represent the Faculty at a meeting of Principals and Deans Committee on Tuesday, October 20th, I was unable to attend the assembly of Commerce and Social Science students held the same afternoon.

I do not know, therefore, how the assembly came to pass, among its many resolutions, one which "condemns the Dean of the Faculty for his veto of the Sociology of Education course," but I am quite clear that under the Faculty's constitution, the Dean has no power to determine which subjects or courses should or should not form part of a degree syllabus. Responsibility within the Faculty for providing courses which can be recognised as part of the official teaching programme and degree structure rests with heads of departments, Boards of Studies and Faculty Board. In the case of the Sociology of Education, the decision that it was not after all possible to provide a second-year option in this subject was taken by the person responsible—Professor Baldamus, the head of the Sociology Department.

Professor Baldamus had reported to Faculty Board on October 9th his difficulties in arranging for the teaching of the Sociology of Education. He indicated that a last-minute re-allocation of duties might enable himself to lecture on this subject if teaching assistance in other areas were available.

The Faculty Board supported him in this, but asked that an early decision be reached so that the students knew whether or not this option would be available and could proceed with their studies accordingly.

On Monday, October 12th Professor Baldamus informed me that he had decided against giving the course himself, and that it would not after all be possible to offer students this option. We then arranged to meet the students concerned the following day to inform them of the position and this was done.

It should be known that Professor Baldamus had taken steps to cover the teaching programme of his department, including the Sociology of Education, by making

Reactionary Appointments Board

DEAR SIR,—Much as I appreciate the work of the Appointments Board I found, in registering that, their registration form reflected a somewhat reactionary attitude. Not only does one have to state one's achievement in "O" and "A" level but one also has to state what school it was at that these results were achieved.

Presumably "A" levels from a public school are superior to those from a comprehensive school. To pursue the point that social background counts, it is also necessary to state the occupation of your father—I suppose managing directors must spawn good second-generation managers.

On top of all this they also require to know your religion. Anyone thinking that political and religious tests went out in the 19th century need only read the Atkinson history.

Yours faithfully,
PETE MAYES,
(B. Comm. III).

surprising that the lecturers previously approached by Professor Baldamus indicated they did not wish to become involved.

In so far as the plans made by the head of the department for the teaching of the Sociology of Education were thwarted by the Action for Academic Freedom Group, it is surely plain enough where responsibility for failure to provide a course in the Sociology of Education really rests.

Yours faithfully,
PROFESSOR A. T. COLLIS

Beware—B.B. Slayer

DEAR EDITOR,—It has not escaped my notice that unfamiliar and unauthorised hands lie even at this moment on the Most Prized Organ in the World. No good will come of it! Let them beware, for there is no health in them! The curse of Graham Holt lies upon them, and also that of Dick Entwistle and David Barker. O immense naughtiness.

God bless me.
pp. B. B. SLAYER.
(Name & address not supplied).

Students for a democratic university

DEAR DR. HUNTER.—We are a group of students who have come into existence because of an awareness that the decisions to veto the appointment of Richard Atkinson as a lecturer in the department of sociology, to cancel a course in the sociology of education and to refuse permission to use a room for the above course of lectures are a direct result of the undemocratic way in which our university is governed.

There have been repeated requests by staff, the Guild of Undergraduates and a social science faculty assembly for a discussion with those responsible for exercising these vetoes, but to no avail.

Since we understand that the Senate is the supreme academic body on this campus and that it was responsible for upholding the veto against Mr. Atkinson, as members of the university, we request that Senate at its meeting on Wednesday, November 4th, reverses these three decisions.

We also request the opportunity to explain why we believe these decisions should be reversed by attending Senate Executive on Tuesday, October 29th, when the agenda for the Senate meeting is discussed. We would be grateful if you would reply to the Union pigeon holes by Wednesday, October 28th.

Yours sincerely,
CLAIRE VOSSBARK,
Chairman,
Students for a Democratic University.

Your most grovelling servants,
STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC UNIVERSITY

PRIVILEGE AND PREJUDICE IN EDUCATION

PRIVILEGE and Prejudice in Education is a symposium title which should give us food for thought. Balanced precariously at the peak of British education—an undeniable élite—we must surely ask ourselves whether our successes have been entirely the result of our own innate ability or whether perhaps there was unnatural selection in our favour. It is an interesting fact that eight per cent of children in All Saints' Ward (largely slum) pass the 11-plus, while 63 per cent of the children in Hall Green (next to Solihull) pass it.

It is equally fascinating that while the working class make up 80 per cent of the population of this country only 27 per cent of them reach full-time higher education.

What is unnatural selection? It has been convincingly shown that at primary school level the most important factors in the development of the child are the parental attitude to the child and the home environment.

The child with a stable background and interested parents has infinitely more chance to succeed in school than those from broken homes and unsympathetic parents quite regardless of innate ability. At commencement of primary school social factors are already shaping a person's future.

As the child goes through school the non-academic distinctions reinforce themselves so that by the age of eleven a whole range of, responses and attitudes to situations, academic and otherwise, have developed. These responses are but little to do with innate ability but rather reflect the history of that

child. Nonetheless, at the age of eleven, as a result of tests which in no sense measure potential ability, children are segregated effectively into "successes" and "failures"—successes who go to grammar school, and failures 25 per cent of whom will leave school barely literate! The inequalities of background are deliberately exaggerated by a bipartite system which pretends to measure "ability".

The grammar school child goes on to develop a critical mind, ambition and middle-class attitudes. A large proportion of these children go on to higher education and here

system but the question we must ask is essentially simple: Should our educational system aim at removing the educational inequalities or should it reinforce them?

Social variation is established young—and perhaps the best way of removing widespread nursery education amongst working-class kids—positive discrimination to erode the social differences resulting from parental care and environment. At the secondary level the separation of kids at 11 reinforces variation; the best way to introduce positive discrimination is to remove the social segregation of the eleven-plus and replace it by a really comprehensive system.

Hence the high-ability children are self-motivating while the low-ability children are stimulated by the people around them. Potential is fully developed and natural variations in ability are minimised rather than exaggerated; social stratification cannot be removed but opportunity is equalised. At higher education level, is it right

that some students are treated like second-class people? Are colleges of education really second-class institutions, and should they be, or do we just assume an unrealistic awe of superiority? The functions of colleges of education are certainly different from universities, but are teachers any less important than professors?

We have some serious thinking to do about the relations of education in this country to the class stratification, and to that extent this stratification can be minimised by altering the education system. And beyond that we must ask ourselves whether or not the aspirations of university degrees and research are really more important than teaching, physiotherapy and nursing or whether we have, in fact, got our values rather twisted.

It is questions like this that the symposium set out to ask and it is up to you to provide some of the answers. We urge you to attend the symposium to join the discussion groups and to tell us—is the present system fair?

BUSINESS SCHOOL SEMINARS

THE Business Graduates Association will be holding a series of 1½-hour-long, free seminars on business schools in America and Europe. The object of the seminars is to enable prospective students for full-time postgraduate business courses to meet recent business school graduates and discuss problems with choice of schools, finance and application procedures.

The seminars will be held at Imperial College, S.W.7, 9.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on November 7th and at Manchester Business School, Hilton Street, Manchester, 11.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on November 21st. Please write to the Association at

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(Featuring singers from local Clubs and Colleges)
8 o'clock THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29th
PRIESTLEY HALL
Admission 1/- & 2/- (non-members).

HOMOSEXUALS BIRMINGHAM GROUP
now established.
For details of our aims write: Committee for Homosexual Equality, (Dept. 68), BCM/Box 859, London, W.C.1.

HONOURS GRADUATES

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Please quote reference AG/71.8

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

NON-DISRUPTIVE SIT-IN AT KEELE

FREE PRESS FREAKS

RUMOUR has it that Birmingham is about to undergo a fresh burst of FREE PRESS activity. This latest threat to the stoical foundations of bull-ring culture and municipal blinkerdom is to appear in the guise of a magazine-cum-newspaper, as yet untitled, displaced and quietly elusive.

"Fat, fortnightly, nappy and cheap" was how a spokesman put it yesterday but there is some doubt as to what exactly he was describing.

He urged "Redbrick" to mention to its clientele that there is room for volunteers and/or people with steady literary/journalistic/commercial aspirations, or just people who write things—especially those who want to get into something from the start.

Currently premises and other needed items are being sought, while plans for issue number one are rolling along and editorial staff is being recruited.

The spokesman added that quality was the overriding consideration, much more important to stress than the range of subject-matter, which he could only loosely pronounce "all-embracing".

Personal

MONDAY, November 2nd, 8 p.m. Free University Group on Non-Violence and Revolution, 83 Bournbrook Road, Birmingham 29.

POETRY/Music/Folk/Dance with Milkwood plus Mary and Louise, Columbus Poets and others. Founders Room, 730, Wednesday, 2/- members, gas 1/-

DOVEDATE ☆☆☆

DOVEDATE ☆☆☆

DOVEDATE: Dating Agency for students. Application forms in the Union entrance hall rack.

IF you want it. Here it is. Come and get it. But you'd better hurry. Cause it's going fast.

☆☆☆

STUDENTS can earn £10 for four weeks' work in our neighbourhood helping with evening/weekend charity collections for well-known charities. South Birmingham areas. — Contact: Welfare Office or phone 438 1700.

WHO IS THIS JESUS?

U.S.A.
Are you interested in North America? JOIN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ABROAD
International House, 40 Shaftesbury Av., London, W.1
Telephone: 01-43705374.

ABOUT three hundred students at Keele University were involved in a sit-in yesterday and Monday. The decision to occupy the Walter Moberly concert-hall came during a late-night general meeting. It was emphasised that the occupation would be non-disruptive in order not to break one of the University's regulations which deals with "disruptive" situations. A predetermined time of 40 hours' occupation was agreed to, so that the hall could be used for a concert today.

The situation at Keele has been smouldering over the last few months and it is almost inevitable that it should terminate in some form of direct action. There are three issues at stake.

Firstly the handling of the June Nude Bathing affair. It appears that the V.C. greatly exceeded his authority in fining the students involved without an initial hearing of the case.

At the moment Keele students are looking into the legal situation and are threatening to take the V.C. to court over the issue.

Secondly the students have, for a long period of time, been making

certain requests for representation in the university. These include equal membership on disciplinary committees, eight student representatives on Senate, an Academic Appeals Tribunal (this request came after thirty people who failed their sessional exams this year were asked to leave the university with no offer of re-sits), and a full part in departmental committees.

Thirdly for a continuous discussion to be held between students and the authorities on the nature and role of the university.

Yesterday the students in the Hall took part in talks and seminars on these subjects and members of N.U.S. Executive arrived to help out.

PROTEST WITH NO CAUSE

"**PROTEST AND DISCONTENT**" (Pelican Original) is intended as a background to a very wide subject, and the result is that the book has to make some broad generalisations. Especially in the historical background there are only a few examples to illustrate the point, so that while one chapter might be good enough in itself, one wishes it could have gone deeper; as in the section on Japan. But the book had to be kept short, and it does well to say what it does.

It ranges from a fairly lengthy analysis of "student unrest" and the "generation gap" to relatively brief chapters on France, Japan and India, and a short study of protest within the Establishment, via the trade unions and M.P.s. But it concentrates on what might be called unofficial protest, and is far more concerned with the "generation gap" in Britain and America, as if that was the main problem which was the cause of all discontent.

The psychological analyses, mainly by Arthur Koestler, apply far more to young than old, and to students rather than workers. The book could be taken to be overspecialised.

Generally the writers in the book consider that protest and rebellion are justified because there are good reasons for being discontented, even when one is a privileged member of the affluent society, because our society is basically unjust and it should be altered.

We should be concerned about this and should try "to do something about it." However, of those who protested against anything nearly all concerned themselves with trivia, and restricted themselves to protesting only against something that directly concerned them. They were concerned with the results of injustice, not the cause.

For example, student sit-ins and demonstrations, Trevor Fisk points out that protest was directed against local issues; use of student buildings, disciplinary action or even lack of library facilities. The larger but still indirect issue of student representation was handled piecemeal by each university. Above, all no-one directly questioned why they were at university, what they should achieve, what was the role of a university in society, etc.

And the protest was more theatrical than anything; sit-ins, demon-

strations, heckling of political speakers. No one fought for a cause, except perhaps against local police; the Vietnam war is not the same as the Spanish Civil War.

Student protest is on its own; although it receives more notice than other protest (as this book proves yet again by devoting at least half its length to discussing students), it is less important than industrial protest, i.e. wage claims, strikes. The two are totally unrelated; students do not protest on behalf of workers, and vice versa.

The writers generally agree that protest will increase unless the social structure in practically every country is changed. They agree that protest is justified, because no society today is truly democratic, even Cuba or China. They are less able to agree what will happen in the future. Trevor Fisk is very bold.

"Student unrest matters not by virtue of its more heretical advocacies, but because it is one manifestation of a strident, very worried, but essentially humanitarian and democratic generation doing its own thing."

Really?

Another quote, by James Jupp, from his chapter, "The Discontents of Youth" states that:

"While there is unlikely to be a straightforward battle of generations anywhere, youth will have to be added to the economic and cultural forces in future political equations."

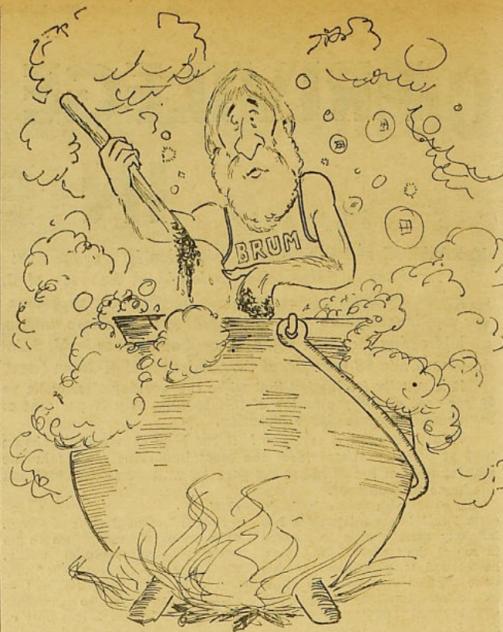
Again a consoling word for your elders.

There is less optimism when considering, for example, the reasons for discontent among the immigrants in this country, and the situation in America. While the writers do not predict the worst, they strongly believe that things will be far worse before they get better. In America, they consider the end of the Vietnam war will not solve any problems, almost the opposite.

Although rather generalising, the book is excellent, particularly since there is probably nowhere else an impartial view of both sides of the problem. Since it usually, but rather vaguely, justifies protest in the name of progress and justice, it should fit in with most political beliefs. But it gives most political complacency; Che was right when he fought against Batista, but he has been used as a symbol for the worst kind of anarchy.

The project has three central aims:—

To establish the extent and



Brew it yourself

CRUSHED malt bought from chemist and health shops is masked in a suitable size container to fit on the home cooker. Malt being mixed with water at 150 deg. F. at the rate of one pound weight of malt for one gallon of water. This is left to cook, at this temperature for about three hours.

The liquid extract is then strained from the malt grains into a container in which it can be boiled vigorously for one to one-and-a-half hours; adding one ounce of hops to a five-gallon quantity of the liquid extract at the beginning of the boil. At the end of boiling the hops are strained off and the volume of liquid lost during boiling replaced with cold tap-water. When cold, yeast is mixed into the extract. Dried brewer's yeast is obtainable from chemist shops.

Use about two ounces of yeast

to a five-gallon quantity of liquid extract; ferment in a warm room for about five to six days, after which the yeast can be skimmed off the top and the beer decanted off and finings added; again beer finings are obtainable from the chemist shop.

After two days the fined, clear beer can then be decanted off into bottles and a teaspoon of sugar added if required. The beer will be ready to drink in about seven days' time. Cost of five gallons—about ten shillings.

Legal services investigation

THE Nuffield Foundation has made a grant of £21,950 to the University of Birmingham Institute of Judicial Administration to support a three-year project of research into legal services in Birmingham. This will have close links with the Foundation's own programme of research and innovation in legal advice and assistance which is currently being planned.

The British Academy has already awarded a "Thank-Offering to Britain" Research Fellowship to Mr. Richard White, M.A. (Oxon.) to enable him to work full-time on the project for at least the first twelve months. Mr. White is a lecturer in the Faculty of Law, having previously been in private practice as a solicitor. The project will be under his personal direction, within the Institute of Judicial Administration whose director is Professor Gordon Borrie.

The project arises out of a situation in which, as Mr. White says, "many of those who are in need of legal advice and assistance do not get it, even though they are entitled to it." This situation has been referred to in several recent Reports of the Lord Chancellor's Legal Aid Advisory Committee which reports annually on the working of the legal aid system.

Since 1968 proposals to correct this situation have been put forward by the Society of Labour Lawyers, the Society of Conservative Lawyers and the Law Society which itself administers the Legal Aid Scheme. These were referred to the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee which reported: "There is in our view an urgent need for proper research into the causes and extent of the problem... which we hope will be financed by one of the Foundations."

In the light of the first two items, to pin-point areas of unmet need, to identify any barriers to the use of the existing legal services and to indicate methods of removing or avoiding these.

A wide range of legal and quasi-legal services will be covered by various surveys. All these surveys give rise to problems about confidentiality. Methods of collecting and recording information have therefore been devised so as to give full protection to the privacy of those who use the services.

COMMUNITY ACTION EDUCATION SURVEY

THE large-scale survey that is to be conducted on Friday is a new departure for a Student Community Action Organisation. To understand its evolution we must look at the brief but eventful past of Community Action. It was in 1967 that the then President of the Guild, Charles Wright, suggested that Carnival should be concerned with a project to alleviate social problems in the city and that "the real deficiency in Carnival is that it is not geared around the people it purports to help but merely around money raising."

The fact that Carnival alienated the people of Birmingham from the students was another factor that led to the creation of Community Action to run alongside the traditional "Rag." The first Community Action week was in 1968/69 session when about 20,000 students were involved to a greater degree. When compared with the traditional voluntary social service organisations it was a dramatic advance, but there were doubts in the organisers' minds about some aspects and in particular the quality of the involvement.

Last year Community Action ran along similar lines and although improvements were made in the light of experience the doubts grew into dissatisfaction and it was decided that Community Action should be changed. The two major dissatisfactions were inclement weather and the form that the involvement took. With a few notable and praiseworthy exceptions students were involved in a "blitz krieg" and saw about as much of Birmingham and its people as a passenger on a London to Manchester express.

It is hoped that this arrangement will improve the quality of community action both from the students' point of view and in the projects undertaken.

However the immediate concern of Community Action is a city-wide survey on public attitudes to education. The idea of the survey came from a concern that little was known about the social aspects of education.

Since education is second only to the family in its influence on a child, the interaction of one on the other is of vital importance. Questions abounded but answers were few. Is it true, for example, that the middle class make most use of nursery schools, and if so is it because they want their children to go, while working class don't care?

Are Parent Teachers' Associations strictly a middle-class preserve, and if so why? In some areas of Birmingham less than 10 per cent of the children pass. What are the attitudes to the 11-plus and Grammar Schools in the different areas, and how do these attitudes vary when children pass or fail the 11-plus?

The information obtained by the survey will be processed by computer and published. Should any disturbing situations come to light (for example about provision of nursery education) we will use the information to put pressure on relevant bodies to do something.

The results also serve as a launching point for a longer term Community Action project. Anyone interested should contact ward leaders or the information desk in the Refectory and Union at dinner times.

Community Action in conjunc-

tion with the Education Committee has selected several streets from each ward and interviews will be conducted on one side only. For each ward there will be a leader who will go out to see how many houses on each street are to be visited.

He or she will then distribute the questionnaires to the interviewers. Each interviewer will spend about three hours interviewing and it is hoped that call backs will be made on the Saturday or Sunday to include those houses where there was no answer on Friday.

Mini-buses will be provided on all three days for those who need them. The survey will be conducted in co-operation with Aston and several colleges of education who will take wards near to their colleges.

The content of the survey has been decided by a working party made up of Community Action, Education Committee and others. A draft has been shown to many interested bodies including Birmingham Education Department, the Conservative, Liberal and Labour parties and the teachers' unions. The draft has also been given to several lecturers and researchers at this University and at the other colleges involved and their comments have been noted.

The questionnaire has been tried twice, each time with a sample of 100 and any faults and ambiguities eliminated.

The information obtained by the survey will be processed by computer and published. Should any disturbing situations come to light (for example about provision of nursery education) we will use the information to put pressure on relevant bodies to do something.

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Broader education report

AT the last meeting of Science and Engineering Faculty Board it was agreed to widely circulate a report on degree structure. This report of the B.Sc. Regulations Subcommittee, chaired by Professor Allanson, suggests wide-ranging alterations to the present degree structure.

The report starts by outlining nine possible types of degree structure but soon concludes that the faculty cannot attempt to provide courses for all groups of students. The report states that there "is a continuing demand for special single and joint honours courses of the 'professional' type now provided and it is felt to be only sensible to continue to develop and extend these."

The report argues that integrated courses (i.e. elements of conventional single subjects combined, e.g. Molecular Sciences) . . . is hindered by the departmental structure of the Faculty. No discussion, however, is given to how these hindrances may be minimised or removed.

The credit system was considered by the sub-committee but "rejected as a basis for reconstructing B.Sc. courses."

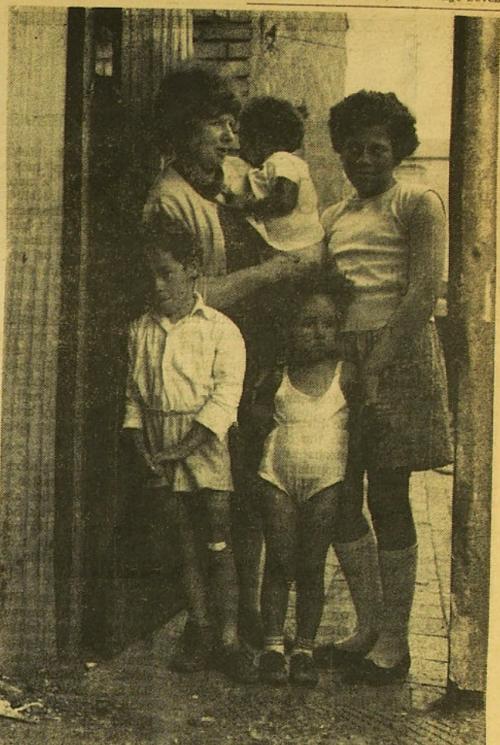
The committee recommended that three main types of course be provided. The first type is described as possessing "intellectual coherence" as in the present special honours courses. It is suggested that this type of degree may include a supplementary subject carrying considerably more weight than the present subsidiaries.

The second type of degree would be provided for students with personal objectives or special courses in mind. For example, as a preparation for teaching, two contrasting subjects may be studied or alternatively a special subject may be accompanied by supplementary study of a contrasting topic. The result of this degree course would be to allow a wider range of subjects to be studied.

However, this degree type could only be arranged if course units could be drawn from the already existing pool of subjects. This is because new courses would place an intolerable strain on teaching time when University expansion is proceeding slower than the increase in student numbers.

The third type of course, called a Focused course, is certainly the most interesting suggestion and deserves considerable discussion on the campus. It would be far broader than any existing course and would include "for instance, philosophical, historical, economic and social considerations" of the subject besides the more strictly academic areas.

The report notes that "the teaching will need to be carefully integrated to form a coherent approach," and adds that only about four courses of this type are envisaged, two in science and two in engineering.



MUSIC



EMERSON



LAKE

and



PALMER

CONSIDERING the staleness of this transitional period of rock music development it was a privilege to attend a new experience at the Town Hall last Wednesday. To the ranks of true innovators (Pink Floyd, Soft Machine and spin-offs) must now be added Emerson, Lake and Palmer.

Their concert philosophy makes a refreshing change involving musical entertainment for a cross-section of tastes. The show was in two parts, the first of "thinking" music ostensibly for appreciative concentration and the second of music geared more to direct and simple emotion swaying appropriate to freaking and generally having a good time.

This is not to imply that "Pictures from an Exhibition" is not emotive. The first set comprised this Emerson adaptation on themes by Mussorsky and has its moments of humour, surprise and intensity.

Barriers on the music genre based on keyboards, bass guitar and percussion have been extended to almost unrecognisable limits by this group, yet it is a moot point as to whether or not Keith Emerson has broken into the relatively new field of sound composition. The basis of ELP's music is still the conventional keyboard. At the Town Hall Keith used his usual two Hammond organs plus grand piano, electric piano and the Town Hall pipe organ.

However, he also made considerable use of the Moog Synthesizer, much of the time in the manner of a Hammond organ with many more stops but often it was used to produce "white noise" and this must be classed as at least partial sound composition although it is performed to a conventional rhythmic background.

Then again, Keith has, in the past, produced (and still does) "white noise" by physical manhandling of the Hammond organ. However, conjecture on whether or not atonal and arhythmic concepts are being merged with conventional 12 semi-tone scalar structures by ELP is probably pernicious and I may be better employed analysing the merits of the music and entertainment (which are virtually inseparable in this case) as they stand.

Briefly, "Pictures from an Exhibition" is based largely on a beautiful theme which is treated in several moods. Musically, Keith Emerson has an impish sense of humour reflected in the opening a la Reginald Dixon at the Town Hall organ. His visual humour is less successful and the attempt to elicit belly laughs using an extension fitting of the Moog fell rather flat.

The serious stuff which followed provided so much food for thought that it would be foolish to attempt a detailed assessment here, but strong sections included a passage for Greg Lake's clear and forceful voice, his funky but melodic bass guitar and Keith's empathetic Town Hall organ, and a few bars of quiet but vital Hammond organ, played to the accompaniment of a small church-like bell hammered by Carl Palmer, which had me jumping nearly out of my skin.

Individually, the abilities of the group are very impressive. Greg Lake's use of fuzz, wa-wa and normal tone on the bass guitar fitted the moods of the music very sympathetically and his thoughtful, if occasionally over-ambitious, acoustic guitar playing blended easily with his third instrument, the voice.

Carl Palmer worked immensely hard to tremendous effect during arranged passages, but his playing during improvised sections, whilst very forceful, lacked bounce, but this is somewhat unfair criticism as such "swing" is conspicuous by its absence these days.

Keith Emerson has immense prowess with respect to technique. In fact, no-one approaches his ability and originality. He is also, to put it mildly, no mean musician, and an outrageous showman. This great debt to Jimi Hendrix was acknowledged with the first song of the second set, "Barbarian," an instrumental of menacing power.

"Take a Pebble", written by Greg Lake, was my personal favourite, featuring Keith at the piano using a fascinating and effective strumming technique behind Greg's flowing bass and vocal. The act then gradually built up to dramatic climax and, inevitably, "Rondo". Musical analysis from this moment becomes pointless as the performance became orientated to the generation of excitement.

One of the most jubilant receptions I can remember at the Town Hall brought them back to encore with "Nutcracker". From the beginning of "Rondo" the show had become entirely Keith's—his unbelievable energy and acrobatics (including the ancient knife act) created an electric atmosphere.

With coloured searchlights scouring the leaping audience a further encore was knocked off in the dark leaving a stunned sea of people to make their way home in rapturous mood, reflecting, I hope, not only on "Rondo", etc., but also on the stimulating potential of the group to advance towards the novelty of unexperienced reality.

JOHN HEADON.

RUSSIAN FOLK

A PACKED hall greeted the Soviet artists who performed in St. Francis Hall last Tuesday and listened to a highly professional concert of a variety of classical and folk music and songs, played by leading international performers.

The piano did an injustice to Natalya Obnyakova, who plays and teaches at the Leningrad State Conservatoire. Nikolai Ogrenich (tenor) sang arias from various operas—an unusual (perhaps unexpected) addition to the normal run of student concerts.

The most successful part of the evening was provided, of course, by the balalaika and bayan-accordion players. Valentin Makarov and Yuri Voskrevlov, who kept the audience enraptured with lively performances of pieces of music varying from Khatchaturian's Sabre Dance (an incredible feat on an accordion) and a fantasy on themes from Carmen to the famous Russian folk-song, "Kalinka".

It is hoped that further such concerts will be organised in the University—enabling people to hear more music played by outstanding artists from other countries.

ANN SIMPSON
JOHN TOPOROWSKI

MATTHEWS SOUTHERN COMFORT

UNFORTUNATELY the complete line-up of Matthews Southern Comfort did not play at the Town Hall last Saturday. An apologetic manager appeared on stage to tell the audience that lead singer Ian Matthews had been taken ill and could not perform.

The remaining five-sixths of the group improvised a short set which was understandably imperfect. The set included "The Southern Comfort"—a 15-minute piece that rocked along nicely. The lead guitarist had a country style with a touch of Clapton.

They finished up with a severely butchered version of their superb single, "Woodstock", of which they could manage only two choruses since, incredibly, they did not know the words of the remaining verses.

It would be unfair to make too much of this particular performance. There cannot be many groups who could put on a good show having lost their principal member. A return performance is planned for when Ian Matthews has recovered, which I hope is soon, both for his sake and the group's.

ALAN MORRISON

FAIRPORT CONVENTION

FAIRPORT CONVENTION have over-fed on the fruits of former success. The present formation consists of only two original members, Simon Nicol and Richard Thompson, and their output, if one may be allowed to draw conclusions from last week's concert at the Town Hall (Monday, October 19th), has deteriorated into an over-amplified assault on the eardrums; attempting to cover a multitude of individual abuses.

They were, however, astute enough to reckon that a provincial audience would find itself incapable of any fine discrimination. Bad timing on the drums, wrong notes from the lead guitarist each time he unglued his eyes from their gaze on his guitar strings, and over-exposed fiddle-playing of limited capacity, nevertheless brought them vociferous applause.

Fairport Convention are a "big name", and so received the homage due to a group whose image has superseded performance. This supreme insult to an audience's intelligence (giving the audience the benefit of the doubt) is offered so widely that it is rarely noticed. The experience of attending a concert where instruments are mislaid, performers late in showing, or where groups don't even bother to turn up, is not unusual.

The programme was well planned, and but for Fairport Convention, would have provided an excellently balanced entertainment. Alan Taylor, a folk-singer on his first tour, started the evening with relaxed and informal songs, from a variety of sources; ranging from a Border ballad, "The Birth of Robin Hood" to a modern lament on the rise of the "Skinheads" which was a brave offering considering the possibility of a sprinkling of that type in the audience. Not strikingly original or "different", he yet managed to establish an easy, informal air, which was a good prelude to the slapstick session which followed.

Roger Spear, late of that menagerie of super-goons, the Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah Band, gave a long session of bombastic insanity. The act, though, was of such a length that it was barely sustained by his collection of kinetic concoctions, which whirled and wobbled around him. With a stream of appalling puns, large dollops of pigs' vomit, huge tits and the rest, Roger fought on manfully, and got a final applause of one minute five seconds—well, it was better than Bob Hope. Slapstick is alive, and—well!

MICK BURROWS

C.B.S.O.

THURSDAY'S C.B.S.O. concert gives us three Romantic works, but of widely varying styles. Schubert, Rimsky-Korsakov and Elgar, whose Introduction and Allegro for strings begins the evening. It is written for a large group and a quartet, with violins, viola and cello, thus observing the practices of the eighteenth-century composers of the Concerto Grosso. But there the similarity ends.

Although there is evidence in the early twentieth-century of revivalism, it would be difficult to call this a neo-classical piece, even though there is even an attempted fugue in the development section.

The essence of the work is "purity" achieved by the homogeneity of the string-sound and the nominal homage to Handel and Corelli.

Schubert's 5th, written in 1820, is at the other end of the spectrum and is virtually the child of the Mozart symphony. It contains Schubertian features, though, in particular a strongly melodic interest. It is also perfectly constructed and an excellent concert-piece in every respect.

Needless to say, the appetites of an angry Sultan are rather spectacular, and consequently, the four movements of this Symphonie Suite become ever more intriguing: "The Voyages of Sinbad", "Prince Kalendá, masquerading as a clown, thief, etc.", "The Young Prince and Princess" and "Festival of Bagdad", and the "Shipwreck of Sinbad."

Scheherazade is depicted by a solo violin accompanied by a harp whilst the irate Sultan growls in various places on the brass instruments. Apart from the sheer attractions of the musical invention, this is also a virtuoso orchestral piece and we can expect some dazzling woodwind and string playing from the C.B.S.O. under M. Premaux.

The main work, and that on the largest scale, is Rimsky-Korsakov's oriental fantasy — "Scheherazade", written in 1888. In case there is any concert-goer that is not acquainted with the background, Scheherazade is a character from the "1001 Arabian Nights" legend, who mollifies a Sultan (angry with all women, and wishing to have one executed daily) each evening by telling him stories.

HOWARD C. FRIEND



MATTHEWS SOUTHERN COMFORT—minus IAN MATTHEWS



VALENTIN MAKAROV and YURI VOSKRELOV

TARTAN POWER WINS THROUGH

ON Wednesday, October 21st, Miss Naomi Freedman took her seat to preside over a debate with Strathclyde University on the motion: "This house wishes that Hadrian had built the wall a little stronger." Miss Alison Baxter read the minutes of the previous meeting. Subsequently, during the Godfrey Winn/Eleanor Bron Debate that appeared in "Redbrick" last week.

In particular, the meeting wished to commend the excellent speaking of the seconder for the proposition, Mr. Bob Vella.

Passing on to public business the chairman called Mr. Gerry Bates to propose the motion. Questioning the sex of his opponents, and declining their offer to submit to chromosome analysis Mr. Bates burst forth into a flood of oratory couched in a Geordie accent (or was it the Polo mint he was sucking) which afforded considerable amusement to the Scottish opposition, if to no-one else.

Mr. Louis Loutz-Mitchell rose, ostensibly to oppose the motion but in fact to present "Madame McC-Chairman, sir," with a haggis. A paintbrush dangling loosely in place of his sporran he swigged jolly at a bottle of Scotch and demonstrated to the house his new hover-kilt, promising all the while to get to the motion eventually.

In raucous tones, Mr. Loutz-

Mitchell accused the first speaker for the proposition of failing to have understood the motion, pausing in mid sentence only to deftly split in twain, with a slash of his claymore, one of Mr. Bates' Polo mints. He then sat down.

Looking very pensive, Mr. Andrew Sillett found his way to the dispatch box and launched into a diatribe against the gurglings and inarticulate mumbblings of the opposition. The purpose of Hadrian's Wall was to "prevent the hairy hordes of the North from raping and plundering the smooth men of the Midlands." Denying that he was a rabid anglophile Mr. Sillett magnanimously implied that it would have been to the advantage of the visiting speakers if their British Rail train had been prevented from luring them South by an effective wall at the border.

In addition Mr. Sillett maintained the wall could preserve the



flora and fauna of the natural game reserve which Scotland ought to be; a quaint place for Sunday trippers to visit, he suggested to a delighted house.

The last speaker of the evening was Mr. Larry Balfe who produced a portrait of Mr. Edward Heath framed in a lavatory seat; "It stuns Haggises," he told the house, "that's how we catch 'em alive." Forecasting the establishment of the

Third Reich (sic) in Scotland, Mr. Balfe (as the prospective leader, with the assistance of Moira Anderson) threatened to nationalise the Loch Ness monster.

Amid thunderous applause and with a cry of "Tartan Power!" Mr. Balfe returned to his seat. After a number of speeches from the floor, a vote was taken. The motion was defeated by 98 to five, there being 20 abstentions.

SUBIX RISES FROM THE ASHES

WITH a mind-baking roar the Lesser-frequented Free Yuni machine pulped the cage in which it had been incarcerated by the hideous Veese monster during the Great Sittin' Age. Shaking off the tenacious blood-sucking Sennit-parasites, which cause intellectual death in ten minutes and 16 seconds, Dai Reactation is summoned with his Cathartic ray guns, he threw himself into an unprecedented effort, flapped his scaly wings, with great sounding of buzzers and flashing of coloured lights, and lumbered through the air back to his homeland of Lower Academia.

Terrible scenes of spiritual desolation lay around him as he flew over the one-fertile cerebral cortex of the land. He could not know that in his absence the tyrannical Professors aided by their barbaric gangs of bestial Lecturers, had laid waste the state and psyche, demolishing every pinnacle of learning and monument of scholarly achievement, scraping on to each tabular fasa its own distorted and deformed conceptions of knowledge.

He looked and he saw that it was bad. He soon realised that there was only one road leading back to the rebirth of goodness, wisdom, truth and understanding—the setting up of courses under his own aegis.

Accordingly he summoned what was left of the body of Sages, which had once included so many, to 19a Carlyle Road, to give them his instructions.

To David Hart, of 83 Bournbrook Road, he boomed "thou shalt organise Encounter Groups at the weekends of the 13th and 20th of November, and thou shalt make the fact known so that those who show interest may speak with thee of it beforehand."

To the fair and lovely maiden, Valery Hart, of the same address, he said, "Thou art doing nigh well with thy Women's Liberation Workshop—keep up the good work."

He decreed that groups of people should come together both on Monday, November 2nd, at 83 Bournbrook Road, and Tuesday, November 3rd, at Woodbrook College, Bristol Road, Selly Oak, to speak on Non-Violence and Revolution, and that those interested in the preservation, nay restoration, of the peoples' environment should meet on Friday, November 20th at 7.30 p.m. at Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, to hear Dr. Fremlin speak on "Optimum Population" after which Shammii Puri will convene a Free Yuniiversity Group.

The delicious Anne Randles was commanded to organise a group of citizens to meet every Monday at the abode of 43 Lee Crescent, between the Bristol Road and Five Ways, where they will discuss the concept of Cultural Change in the 60s.

Yuni understood that Democracy

in the University is a topic upon which much discussion and action is needed, and accordingly Geoffrey Ostergaard was summoned from the desert to convene a such named course to meet on Monday in Committee Room 2 of the Union and to be based on the booklet "No Easy Answers", to be obtained from the above worthy in the Political Science Dept. Black Culture was to be convened by Bob Bennett at 9b St. Augustine's Road, off the Hagley Road, commencing on Tuesday, November 3rd, and a Sociology Workshop to meet at Aston University, organised by David Seymour of your very own Transportation Dept. (Extension No. 0682).

In his epoch-making flight across Academia, Yuni had noticed that the citizens previously wholesome sex drives had been exploited by capitalists and suppressed by neo-puritans and accordingly he conceived of a course in Human Sexuality and he gave of his huge genitals, which metamorphosed into Henry Godfrey of the Dept. of Experimental Pathology in the Medical School, who will purify your Libido for a small fee.

When this great gathering had ceased formal discussion of business, there was great merry making with food and strong drink, the peoples music was performed and orgies of dancing and self realisation took place.

All present rejoiced at the checking of the degradation and decadence produced by the dreaded Professors and their butchering hordes of lectures, and the anticipated reflowering of the collective intellect, and they vowed to spread the good gospel of the Free Yuniiversity throughout the wretched terrain.

N.U.S. anti-apartheid

AS a follow-up to last Sunday's Anti-Apartheid demonstration, the N.U.S. are holding a rally to discuss what form action against the South African government should take. A meeting will take place at 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 1st at University College Collegie Hall. The speakers will include Mr. Reg Prentice, M.P., M. Yengwa (of the African National Congress) and Tony Klug (Deputy President of N.U.S. and former President of Birmingham University).

At the meeting a film will be shown about South Africa and entertainment will be provided by the Scaffold. It is hoped to work out the tactics to build up campaigns against the arms sales to South Africa; the case of Caborra Bassa; and Universities investments in South Africa.

To follow on from this, there will be a meeting at 7 p.m. in the Aston University Union to discuss specific action in the Birmingham and West Midlands area. This will be attended by speakers from the Anti-Apartheid organisation, N.U.S. and the African National Congress.

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SPORT



NETBALL

FOUR WINS IN ONE DAY

LAST Wednesday ended in four victories for the university netball teams against what promised to be tough opposition.

On Wednesday afternoon "A" and "B" teams comfortably beat Keele University 1st and 2nd VIs, thus gaining revenge on Keele 1st team who last season knocked Birmingham's 1st VII out of the WIVAB competition in the semi-finals.

The Keele fixture always proves to be a needle match providing much excitement and rivalry, but our "A" team showed their superiority in their convincing 22-16 goal win.

Centre court players Anita Barber, Colin Healy and Christine Osmond had complete mastery over the centre court and continually fed the ball into shooters Philippa Bonarino and Judith Ridley, both in good shooting form this season.

Defence, Sandra Hallett and Diane Birnbaum also worked well to contain the Keele attack.

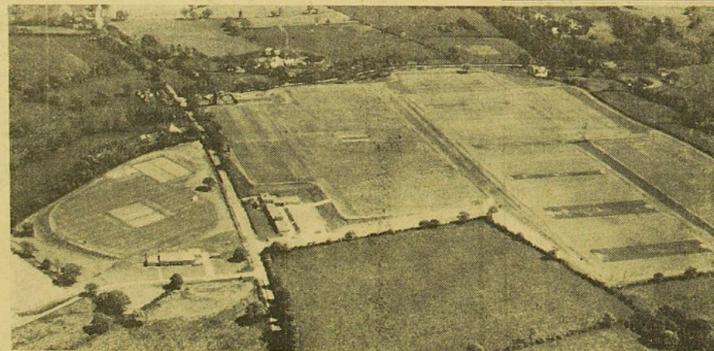
The "B" team had an even bigger victory over Keele's 2nd team, which contained two WIVAB players, the final result being 16-3. The team of Val Jones, Barbara Williams, Barbara Palmer, Rosamund Murphy, Les Jones, Lorna Barrett and Katrina Mathewson played well to achieve this result.

Warwick's 1st VII also unexpectedly arrived for a phantom fixture but ever ready! we managed to raise a "mixed" team who nevertheless far outmatched Warwick's scrappy 1st VII, winning by 22 goals to four.

Bournville College of Further Education was the scene of another vital clash on Wednesday evening, in a 1st VII league fixture. Bournville, the team promoted with us last season narrowly beat us in the equivalent away fixture last season so it was with some trepidation that we set off to play an unchanged team under their same poor floodlights.

All fears were soon grounded however, and revenge in the form of a 34-4 goal win was sweet.

The 1st VII played accurate and skilful netball throughout despite grim conditions and mesmerised not only the Bournville team, but also their umpire, with their smooth flowing play. Despite the overwhelming victory it was a good match with the high score reflecting the superb shooting of both Paula Wink and Phil Bonarino (obviously either raw carrot eaters, or bats!).



Wast Hills. To become a worm reserve?

Defence Cath Hindley and Jill Barber gave the Bournville shooters a tough time while centre court players Sheila Pook, Lynette Buxton and Gill Woodhead co-ordinated well both in attack and defence.

However, after Wednesday's success, the 1st VII were brought back down to earth with a thud and had their complacency smashed in Saturday's match against I. M. Marsh P.E. College 1st VII (with all their England trialists and daily practices—excuses?! Yes—but all true!).

The final result—defeat by 31 goals to 12 however by no means disgraced Birmingham's 1st VII who played determinedly and well against this, the strongest side we'll probably meet this season. I. M. Marsh by no means had all the play and Lynette Buxton and Sheila Pook co-ordinated especially well in the centre court to contain their opponents by blocking tactics.

Defence Cath Hindley, Jill Barber and Gill Woodhead all had hard jobs in containing a tall and practiced I. M. Marsh attack, while Phil Bonarino and Paula White also worked hard to escape their towering defence and even baffled their opponents at times by cunning cross circle passing. The Liverpool team were superior in tactics, accurate passing and above all fitness!

The 2nd VII did extremely well to draw with a strong I. M. Marsh 2nd team—each side scoring 27 goals, surprising both themselves and I. M. Marsh and proving the depth of good players in the netball club this season.

The University side settled down and much improved after half time, the first two quarters being rough, nearly ending in a free fight with members of both teams being on the floor at some stage.

Lorna Barrett and Liz Webb both shot well especially in the second half, Liz especially using her height well to get the better of her defence. Cath Healy, Ros Murphy and Christine Osmond worked determinedly and successfully to beat their college opponents who were making the most of the blocking rule and also gave the back some of their own treatment while there was also some good interceptions by the centre court players.

Defence Diane Birnbaum and Cynth Hill, returning after a year's absence, also co-ordinated well to restrict and contain their I. M. Marsh attack and Diane was invaluable in helping to feed the ball back down into our attacking circle.

RUGBY

Half-time speeches inspire Starling's boys!

COMPLETE lack of drive and purpose and non-existent tackling and covering contributed to a shambolic university performance in the first half of their match against Solihull on Bournbrook last Saturday. At the changeover the score was 26-0 in favour of the visitors, who had made full use of glaring university mistakes.

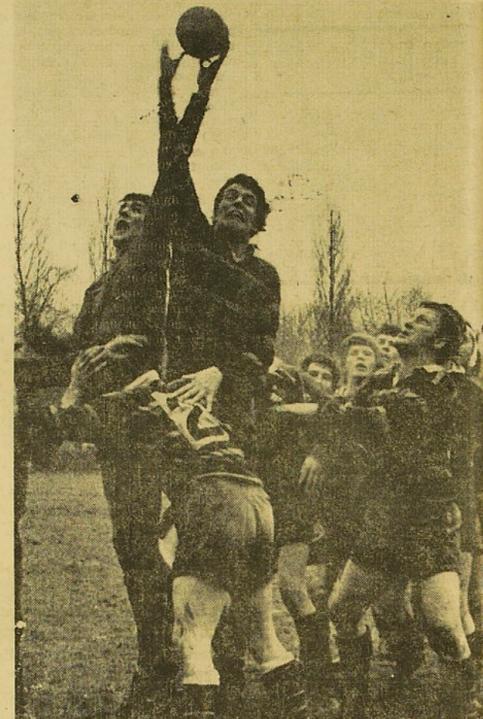
A number of stirring speeches during the interval aimed at persuading the Blues to remove their digits, seemed to have the desired effect. With a fresh wind at their backs, Starling's boys began playing like a team possessed. Following a period of constant pressure, the Solihull line soon broke, and it was Steve (the Mouth) Bastable who plunged over for our first try of the season. With that and Watkin's conversion that followed, spirits revived considerably and for the first time this season the team visibly began to believe in themselves.

A bewildered Solihull team were never in the match during the second half as the University went from strength to strength. All they could manage in reply was a lucky penalty mid-way through as the home side faltered momentarily. It is not often that a side so dominant at the end manages to lose by such a substantial margin, as was the case here.

At long last a few would-be heroes have begun to raise their ugly heads—no further mention need be made of D. J. Starling; Dave Watkin continued to justify his last-minute selection as he nonchalantly added two penalties to bring his points total for the season to a record 17; Stu Guthrie, despite his wrestling activities, charged around like a locomotive; Roy White at last fooled someone with his side-step; John Riordan, our latest international representative, covered (the field?) unceasingly while Derek Houghton wandered around looking for his car!

So the revival mentioned in last week's report shows definite signs of continuing; and if the side can repeat movement, on Wednesday in their U.A.U. fixture with Leicester, like the one that led to their second trial, then they must surely be odds-on to achieve their first victory.

From the kick-off a smart break by Jules Bond, fooling everyone around him, started the passing movement that led everyone in the team to handle at least twice before Roy White penetrated in the corner. Despite vociferous support from the capacity crowd of nine,



Dave Starling reaches for the ball. What else is he reaching for this year?

the University were unable to produce the further 16 points they needed for victory. Team—R. White, D. McCoach; A. Edwards, T. Pipe; D. Houghton, J. Bond, F. Meakin, D. Starling, S. Bastable, D. Watkins; S. Guthrie, I. Young, J. Suggate, J. Riordan, J. Mills.

TEN-PIN BOWLING

NOTTS. SMASHED

BIRMINGHAM, somewhat supported by Aston, smashed Nottingham University yet again, by 12 points to four. The "A" team and "C" team won 4-0 each as expected, the "B" team dropped one point and the ladies sadly managed to lose three. Pretty amazingly poor performances from most people, the only noticeable scorers being Chris Slater (Theology) and Col Hart (Mech. Eng.).

The club is running leagues on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays—lots more people are needed, so watch the T.P.B.C. noticeboard outside Founder's.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Birmingham win in spite of new positions!

BIRMINGHAM 1st XI 5 — NOTTINGHAM 1st XI 0

A NEW formation designed to confuse the opposition only succeeded in confusing Birmingham, but nevertheless Nottingham were a match for Birmingham's superior play. The new formation meant that there were, in the strict sense of the word, only four forwards, but the two inners, Angela and Gillian, combined extremely well. Gillian scored four of the five goals. The one back was played as a sweeper, the job executed admirably as usual by Helen Disney, but the whole team needs more practice with the new form of play, yet given the chance it could prove successful.

I. M. MARSH P.E. COLLEGE 0 BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 1st XI 2 Birmingham were looking forward to I. M. Marsh providing a tougher opposition, being renowned as one of the top P.E. colleges in the country.

But again Birmingham were to be disappointed. I. M. Marsh fielded an inferior side, which they must have regretted, having to contend with a well-integrated team from Birmingham who had reverted to the more familiar formation of play. I. M. Marsh managed to move the ball to their scoring circle about twice, surprising the defence enough to make them muddle each other. But this is only to be expected as the Birmingham defence is beginning to lack practice from matches owing to poor opposition.

W.I.V.A.B. BIRMINGHAM 2nds 0 NOTTINGHAM 2nds 0

Nottingham failed to provide an opposition to a Birmingham team who were in fine scoring form dominating play from the start. Question: "Do Birmingham 2nds need backs?" Answer (from Judy and Jane): "No—we're bored stiff."

But it is a game that the forwards enjoy as they manage to have plenty of shooting practice. There was fine running and centre play from Sue and June on the wings, enabling the inners to centre-forward to follow the passes and take the opportunity to score plenty of goals. Other results: Madeley Coll. 0, Birmingham 1st XI Cambridge Un. 3, Birmingham 1st XI

sport 2

CROSS-COUNTRY

NAVIGATION IMPROVES

THE navigation of the Birmingham University cross-country team around the Manchester relay course was somewhat better than the pre-match tour of Manchester suggested it would be! Indeed the lads won handsomely, covering the 6 x 2 mile circuit in a new record time of 58m. 41s. to eclipse old rivals Sheffield and Leeds.

The Birmingham team were so superior to their rivals that they led all the way and won by nearly a minute. The Birmingham second team finished 4th; a great performance, just one minute down on Sheffield in second place. Birmingham lads by the end of lap three. Andy Holden then took Birmingham into an unassailable lead, recording the fastest lap of the day and missing Rick Wilde's course record of 9m. 25s. by a second.

In greasy conditions, Birmingham found no difficulty in holding their huge lead with John O'Meara (9m. 49s.) and Ray Smedley (10m 01s.) running into their best form, but completely unpressed. Meanwhile, quite a race was developing behind for the minor placings. The Birmingham team to 4th place by the time John Eley clocked in at the end of the 6th leg having gone round in 10m. 01s. Pride of place for the 'B' team must go to Roger Brown who clocked 9m. 53s. on the 4th leg, backed up by a tough 10.05s. from club captain Dave Hill.

The 'C' team ran incredibly well to finish 28th (out of 48 teams) with Malcolm Shaw (10m. 26s.) and Dave Berdy (10.41) taking the honours.

BASKETBALL

B'ham off target but still win

IN the first game of this year's U.A.U. championship, the University travelled up the A47 to Leicester, where our welcome was far from cordial. We were given five minutes to change and then four minutes to warm up, before the home team's animals got to work.

It was obvious at the onset that the game would not be a high scoring one, with the score only 10 points to two after 10 minutes, and very little good basketball had been seen.

The away team's shooting was very much off form, and various reasons for this on the return journey were: Terry's driving, the sloppy rings, the animals bellowing in our ears as we shot and most frequently "It was a good party last night, wasn't it?"

The second half started in the same way; a host of missed shots all round, some devious calls by the ref, and several fouls by the opposition, but after the 16th minute of the second half we were in the lead by 24 points to 16.

Leicester then made half an effort to get back into the game and caught up to within four points of the Reds, but some fouls and disqualifications in the last minute helped us on our way, by providing more free shots. The final result: a sparkling 32-22 to us.

P.S.: Come home John Simmons!

TEAM RESULT

1. Birmingham Univ. 58m. 41s. (new record)
2. Sheffield University 59m. 44s.
3. Leeds Univ. 60m. 12s.
4. Birmingham Univ. 'B' 60m. 50s.
5. Durham 60m. 58s.
6. Manchester Univ. Vice-Presidents 61m. 09s.
1. A. Holden (Birmingham Univ.) 9m. 26s.
2. A. Pretty (Durham Univ.) 9m. 43s.
- J. Fox (Leeds Univ.) 9m. 43s.
4. I. Gilmour (Birmingham Univ.) 9m. 45s.

SUNDAY—ROCHDALE FELL RACE

After the usual light refreshments on Saturday evening, the Birmingham lads again sallied forth to Rochdale intent on relieving the locals of as much ale as possible. Andy Holden, unable to get to the pub at the finish quickly enough, fell when just sighting victory and conceded the race to local hero Colin Robinson. However, a quick transfusion of local bevies revived him enough to finish in second place and claim his prize—a large bottle of whisky. It has been suggested that he might have fallen deliberately after seeing the prize-list before the start!

Ian Gilmour ran doggedly for 6th place, aided by a desire to unburden himself of a large quantity of liquor, consumed the previous night, for most of the race. His time of 25min. 03sec. was only one minute down on Holden for the four-mile trip.

Surprise of the race was return to form of Geno Griffiths, returning to something like his old form after a good weekend, he slayed and tripped away many of his rivals on the downhill finish to climb to 9th place, just ahead of a wet weather begarred Ray Smedley in 11th place, who succeeded in flooding two of his main rivals by astute use of his headgear on the crest of the hill.

Fine team running by John O'Meara (13th), Dave Hill (14th) and Ian Aldridge (15th) concealed their need to zig-zag on the flat as well as up the hill. Little has been seen or heard of Roger Brown and Steven Gibbons, who were last seen doing a third lap of Manchester Ringway at 10.30 on Sunday morning. A reward is to be offered for their recovery before the B.U.S.F. in February.

Results: 1 C. Robinson, Rochdale (24min. dead), 2 A. Holden, Birmingham University (24min. 03sec.), 3 G. Noriman, Kendal (24min. 47s.), 6 I. Gilmour, Birmingham Univ. (25min. 03sec.).

POSTSCRIPT:

Fresh from his endeavours in the relay the day before, Pete Ramsdale was unable to claim his rightful last prize as the unexpected training raised his placing to 57 out of 61 finishers. Nevertheless he did manage to delude the organisers into thinking he had finished 7th and thus notch up his best performance for five years!

ROWING

Captain sunk!

ON a dismal Saturday morning the Sailing Club struck back at the oarsmen with a vengeance. Novice scullers waited expectantly as captain Clarke, in his nominal role, was about to commence a scintillating technical display. Alas our poor hero was uncompromisingly sunk!

It was left to Burrows D. M., shrieking and howling like an infatuated ostrich, to raise a gesture of defiance as he drove Trafalgar and Wilson unceasingly up and down the Res.—a display befitting the worst of Greek tragedy!

New members (must detest sailors) still welcome. The A.G.M. will be held on Tuesday, November 3rd, 5 p.m. in the Athletics Union.



Rowing Club in action in an Inter-Univ. match.

Sportscene

ONE of the most controversial subjects at the recent A.U. General Committee Meeting was the A.U. Minibus. A report was presented on the financial running of the minibus and the conclusion was that unforseen repair bills had been offset by extra vacation use.

In the ensuing discussion Mr. Spinks, of the Kayak Club, complained about the condition of the minibus. The Kayak Club had, in fact, used the minibus whilst it was in poor condition, but this had subsequently been rectified.

Mr. Spinks advocated that a member of A.U. Exec. be detailed to keep the minibus in good condition. Mr. Spinks was appalled when someone suggested that he, as the chief user of the bus was the obvious candidate for the job.

The question of the minibus arose again later in the meeting. This time the reason was a motion from the Orienteering Club proposing that the current priorities list for use of the minibus be revised. At the present, Kayak, Sailing and Rowing Clubs have prior right to use the minibus and if one of these clubs wants it on any date then no other club can use it.

by Andy Holden



OXFORD TO BE SMASHED

Randy Southam

The man they can't grab

PRIOR to the imminent winter and their impending hibernation the glorious B.U.A.C. Superstars will be unleashed on Oxford University next Saturday, at the Stadium (alias the Athletics Track), start 2.30 p.m.

Those avid readers of this sports page will realise that the only way to learn of sporting achievements is to be there on the day. This will also facilitate the understanding of next week's exciting instalment of "Sport at Brum", the adventures of a drunken Athletic Union.

Many of the regulars will be there. Andy Holden swaying drunkenly round the track seven and a half times, Jim Aukett in his new central heated tartan jock (a special present from one of his admirers from North of the Border) will explode from his blocks as never before. (This is believed to be not unconnected with the I.R.A. type activities of a jilted Irish ex-admirer.)

Many questions will be asked and probably left completely unanswered. Is Pete Cornes as fast as he tries to make out? Will Pete Cox ever break six minutes? (Did I hear someone ask if that is for a lap?) Did skryby or will he? What got Herby on the Hop?

Anyway, come along and try to puzzle out some of the answers for yourselves. Half past two. Don't be late.

Footnote—Randy Southam bears absolutely no relation to the Cross-Country Club secretary, "Redbrick" who is to give you more information on this phantom reporter next week.

The reason for this is that the minibus is the only vehicle on the campus which possesses a towbar, which is necessary for transporting canoes, etc. to venues. Without the minibus these clubs would cease to exist. The orienteers' case was based on the fact that the venues which they compete at are usually inaccessible to coaches so that the minibus was for them the most viable means of transport.

They pointed out that the new coach-driver regulations would prevent them from travelling to more remote venues, so that they would have to miss some national events if they couldn't obtain the use of the minibus (under the current regulations this is unavailable on all weekends until the end of the year).

The Kayak Club's retort was that all the events they compete in are national events. This possibly explains why we never hear much about the results of Birmingham University Kayak Club.

One point which emerged from the discussion was that the Orienteering Club had been able to hire a Land Rover (complete with towbar) to go to one of their races. This had worked out much dearer than the minibus. However, this could provide an alternative mode of transport for the Kayak Club, etc. Mr. Spinks's attitude to this was that other clubs could pay extra, why should the great Kayak Club.

Manipulation by the chair prevented any meaningful discussion of the subject and the motion—which wasn't too clear in any case—was duly defeated. However, the question has been referred back to A.U. Exec. and will undoubtedly arise before General Committee again in the near future.

There is no doubt that the current policy on the minibus needs revising. Many clubs who enter smallish teams or travel long distances to important events need a minibus to be able to do so.

Alternative modes of transport for boats should be investigated. Priorities should be based on a combination of importance of event and the possibility of other modes of travel.

Using a more flexible scale of priorities, A.U. Exec. could strike a balance between the general needs of the boating clubs and the specific needs of other clubs for certain events.

around

THEATRE

Repertory Theatre :

Wednesday, October 28th : "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, 7.15 p.m.
Thursday until Saturday : "Barretts of Wimpole Street," 7.15 p.m.
Wednesday, November 4th : "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Midlands Arts Centre :

"Pinocchio."
"The Tin Soldier."
"The Emperor's New Clothes."
"Peter and the Wolf."
"The Frog Princess."

Crescent Theatre : "Hedda Gabler," by Henrik Ibsen, 7.15 p.m.

Alexandra Theatre : Until Monday, November 2nd : "Boeing-Boeing," by Marc Camoletti and Beverley Cross.
November 2nd - 4th : Oxford Playhouse Company—"Othello".

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry : "What the Butler Saw," by Joe Orton.

GALLERIES

Midlands Arts Centre : Paintings by Bruce Hurn until November 1st.

Ikon : Exhibition by Yvonne Henthorne until November 14th.

Arts Lab : Today, 7 p.m., 8/-
"La Femme Infidele," directed by Claude Charbrol.
Thursday for six days, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. :
"Black God—White Devil," directed by Glauber Rocha.

DAY-BY-DAY

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28th

Discotheque : Aston University, 3/-
Atkinson Lecture : "Parliamentary Democracy" with Anthony Arblaster, 1 p.m.
Greek Festival of Music, Song and Dance : Featuring the Music of Mikis Theodorakis. Town Hall, 7.30 p.m.
Deb. Soc. : Joint debate with B.U. Evangelical Christian Union—"This House considers that God is irrelevant in a Modern Society," 7.30 p.m., Council Chamber.
Quiver : Mothers.
Poetry/Music/Dance—with Milkwood, Columbus Poets and others. Founders, 7.30 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCT. 29th

Film Soc. : "Voyage Surprise." Pierre Prevert, 7.30 p.m.
C.B.S.O. : Louis Fremaux and Felix Kok. Pieces from Elgar, Schubert and Rimsky-Korsakov. Town Hall, 7.30 p.m.
Concert : The Nash Ensemble. Pieces from Schubert and Nicholas Maw Chamber Music. Barber Institute, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCT. 30th

Dave Symonds and The World : Mothers.
Guitar Recital : By John Cadman. Works by J. S. Bach, Albeniz, Tarrega, H. Villa-Lobos, etc. Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, 7.30 p.m., 9/-.

Incredible String Band : Town Hall.
Heavy Jelly—plus Disco : Aston University, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCT. 31st

Anatomy of Drama : Live rehearsal of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," at the Repertory Theatre, 10.30-12 o'clock.
Record Recital : By EMI including preview of new C.B.S. recordings. Art Gallery, 7.30 p.m.
Mick Abrahams : Mothers.
Status Quo : Dance and Disco. Deb. Hall, 8 p.m., 8/-.
Mike Gottons Satisfaction—plus Paper Lace plus Disco : Aston University, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOV. 1st

Groundhogs : Mothers.
Sunday Flic : "Nobody Runs Forever." Founders Room, 7 p.m., 2/6.

MONDAY, NOV. 2nd

Forum : "Censorship and the Arts" with Mrs. Mary Whitehouse and John Calder. B.M.I., 6.30 p.m. Members Free. Students 4/-.
Progressive Jazz : Mike Westbrook Concert Band with Norma Winstone. At the Opposite Lock, 9.30 p.m.
Gypsy : Mothers.

TUESDAY, NOV. 3rd

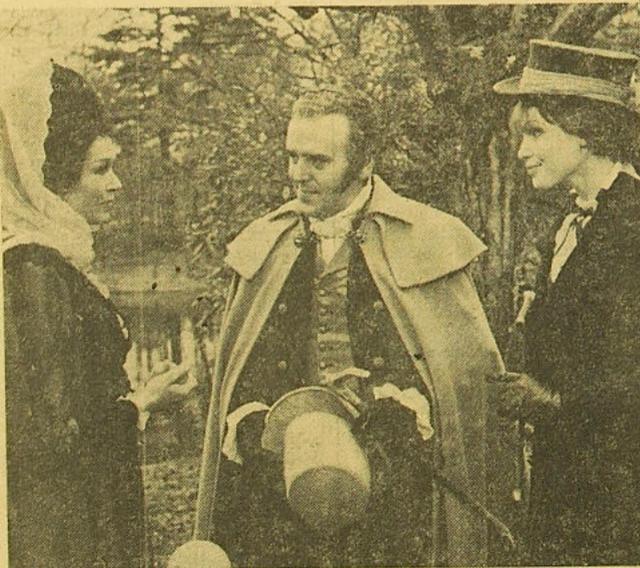
The Sound of Glenn Miller : Syd Lawrence and his Orchestra. Town Hall, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 4th

Illustrated Lecture : "The South Face of The Annapurna," by Chris Bonnington. Town Hall, 7.30 p.m.
Atkinson Lecture : "Workers' Control," with Ken Coates. Council Chamber, 1 p.m.
Concert : Kathleen Jones, Orchestra Nova of London. Pieces from Mozart and Haydn. Barber Institute, 8 p.m. (also on Thursday evening).

CINEMA

Jacey : "Love Variations"/"The Plank." Soon : "Cactus Flower," 8 p.m.
Odeon, New Street : "The Sicilian Clan," 7.30 p.m.
Odeon, Ringway : Today—"Viva Max"/"Magic Christian," 7.5 p.m.
Next Week : "Valley of the Dolls"/"The Boston Strangler".
ABC, New Street : "Vampire Lovers"/"Angels From Hell."
ABC, Selly Oak : "Jungle Book," 7.5 p.m.
Next Week—MASH.
ABC, Bristol Road : "Paint Your Wagon."
Futurist : Today—"2001/A Space Odyssey."
Next Week—"The Body."
Gaumont : "Cromwell," 7.30 p.m. weekdays, 6.45 p.m. Sundays.
Cinephone : "Run Virgin Run."



"Vampire Lovers" (ABC New Street)



John Cadman, Friday

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