

Guild News

The Guild of Undergraduates—University of Birmingham

No. 543

Thursday, December 11, 1958

Threepence

UP FOR THE CUP

After one of the most distinguished productions for years, G.T.G. have been rewarded by being chosen to go to London for the finals of the N.U.S. Drama Festival Competition run by the "Sunday Times." Ralph Wilton and his cast, not forgetting the technical staff, are to be congratulated on bringing this honour to Birmingham. They were chosen out of 37 entries, and join Bangor (Sartre's "Crime Passionnel"), Hull (Brecht's "The Good Woman of Setzuan") and Leeds (Andreyev's "He Who Gets Slapped"). It is a sad reflection on the British theatre that all the four plays chosen are by Continental authors.

Casting our minds back, we believe that the last time G.T.G. were so honoured was in 1953, when Webster's "The White Devil" was chosen to go to the Festival, which was then not so ambitious an arrangement as it is to-day. That production, which was not favoured in the columns of this paper, was produced by Peter Hancock, and contained some of the better-known members from the past.

"Six Characters in Search of an Author" this year has immediately impressed as a piece of production, and the "Sunday Times" critic, S. C. Evernden, was glowing in his appraisal of it: "My crit. for the internal consumption of you and your group would be very long if I dealt in detail with the many excellencies of your performance" was how he prefaced his remarks. He praised the movement for being "fluid, clear-cut, and significant," and noted the use made of the stage space. The characterisation, which was a vital factor, was found by Mr. Evernden to be honest and thorough, and the characters were clearly differentiated from the actors. He also gave credit for the setting, lighting and costumes, which obviously added to the success of the production. The group are also indebted to him for some valuable suggestions which will stand them in good stead for the finals. Bearing in mind these, and many other points, Mr. Evernden told us that he had no hesitation in recommending the production for the finals. As was subsequently discovered, the selection committee also felt this way. And so to London, where we shall be performing on Friday, January 2, in St. Pancras Town Hall for the "Sunday Times" trophy, the finals being judged by Harold Hobson. Tickets will cost 4s.

Preparations

When I made my way backstage on Saturday I found the company in a flurry of excitement, making hasty preparations for the trip. The actors will be going on the Wednesday before, staying anywhere and everywhere. It is hoped that they will receive some financial aid from N.U.S., and the Guild are expected to

rise to the occasion also. The hard work is only just beginning.

Caroline Wilson is having to gather all her wardrobe facilities again, and the costumes have to be rehired. The Technical Director, Brian Day, is directing operations already. He and his crew are taking the present set, and are hoping to hire the University lorry to transport it to London on the eve of the performance. As yet, nothing is known of the technical facilities of St. Pancras Town Hall stage, but Brian is going down to investigate them for himself. His eight-strong staff will be staying in Birmingham to build the opera set, and they are busy constructing a new fountain which will be painted by Mike Dames.

But this is excitement for all of us, not only for G.T.G. If we win, then we shall have established our position as the best University for Drama in Great Britain. At the least, we shall be one of the four best. The producer and his cast are very thrilled at this, and they hope that as many as possible will come to see them and give them their support. Good luck, G.T.G.!

N.U.S. Debating Tournament

In the preliminary round of the tournament, which was held on November 27 at Gosta Green, two of Birmingham's three teams were elected to go forward to the next round. They were: Mr. Jarvis and Mr. Stanley ("A" team), and Mr. Bayliss and Mr. Wreford ("B" team).

Birmingham's own tournament will be held during the early part of next term, and those who wish to enter should communicate with Mr. Geoff Harrison or Mr. J. M. Levey at the Union. The committee is desirous that members who wish to should communicate suitable motions for debate for the coming term.

LIBERALS—GO HOME!

The Liberal Society's provoking "Go Home Yanks" posters seem to have been doing just that, for before Mr. Roger Sutton began his speech which formed the basis of last Thursday's Liberal Society meeting he saw fit to mention firstly the rumour of Executive clamping down on the meeting and secondly American students at this University having taken them as a personal insult.

On both these points Mr. Sutton hastened to explain away the posters more as eye-catchers than calculated invective; all unpleasant implications must obviously be ignored in the interests of the great God publicity. However, "Wall's" poster declaring "Go Home Roger Sutton" (and take Brian King with you) was in shocking taste; obviously humour for Mr.

Sutton, unlike publicity, does not cover a multitude of sins.

But back to the actual meeting. While I attended as an impartial spectator (politically neutral except that I hate politics), my friend from the States who came with me, was very obviously quite the opposite. Both of us were disappointed. Myself because little coherent thought emerged either from Mr. Sutton's opening speech or the discussion that followed—my friend because really the United States entered very little into things. More time was spent on say our own colour problem and European Free Trade, than on the reasons why, when and how the Yanks should go home. The only exception to this was an interesting (if bitter and biased) attack on American democracy from the other Mr. King. This somewhat sordid little tirade seemed to be mainly accusing the Americans of a policy of oppression in Spain, i.e., by supporting the Franco regime, and having an unworkable constitution in general, and an unjust judiciary in particular. American democracy in other words stank—and Mr. King wanted British democracy to take America's place in leading the West in its ideological struggle with Russia. A wish made none the less laughable by Mr. King's unwillingness to launch into a similar dissertation on the greatness of British democracy.

At least, though, Mr. King felt deeply about what he was saying. In sharp contrast to this, another gentleman whose name I know not, who took up a large amount of the discussion time with a very political, obviously-thought-out, and (dare I say it?) boring series of markedly unoriginal ideas on the subject. Hereabouts things degenerated very much

Continued in next column

A Happy Christmas to our Readers



JAK

A CONDUCTOR FOR THE C.B.S.O.

Sir Adrian Boult's acceptance of the post of Principal Conductor of the City Orchestra represents a very real achievement for the management committee. Speaking last week to the Concert Manager, I was told that both the committee and the orchestra are delighted with the news, particularly those members who played under Sir Adrian during the years 1924-30, when he was chief conductor of the City of Birmingham Orchestra, as it was then called.

Throughout his life Sir Adrian

Boult has devoted himself unsparringly to the interpretation of great music. His wonderful stick technique, which he developed while studying under Nikisch at the Leipzig Conservatoire, is entirely functional and his economy of movement allows the players to follow both his beat and demands for expression. Boult may appear, superficially, to be a passive conductor, yet he can galvanise an orchestra into a tremendous performance through sheer musicianship, as opposed to musicianmanism.

Sir Adrian has an extremely wide repertoire and his scholarship is recognised throughout musical circles, but it is as champion of English music that he excels. He is the only conductor who reveals the full glory of "The Planets" while his Vaughan

Williams cycle is a monument to his own as well as the composer's art. There is little doubt that he is one of our greatest conductors. Let us hope Birmingham is worthy of him.

K.T.



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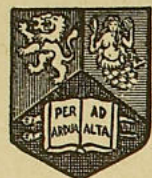
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EDITORIAL

Guild News

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THE UNIVERSITY NEWSPAPER,
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We should like to take this opportunity of wishing everyone, en masse and individually, a very Happy Christmas. First to our readers—you are the most important. We hope that you will continue to read us and to criticise us when you think fit. We are here to please you and not ourselves. We can only hope that your numbers will go on increasing. To Exec. we wish a less stormy passage in the New Year; perhaps they will one day succeed in convincing the Guild that they really are working for its good. To Council we wish a fruitful debating future: May they be persuaded to make their voice felt, and may they resolve to make themselves informed about Guild matters. To Catering Committee we wish that they will continue to try and raise their standards, and perhaps find a way to give us good food cheaply. To the stewards, we thank them all for their long-suffering patience, and hope that their lot will be lightened by the rarer occurrence of obstreperous members. To the gentlemen who crowd the Hop bars, long may you continue to fill the coffers and your own inboxes, and may you learn a few new songs to delight our minds. To Founder's Roomies, may you continue to set an example to the rest of the Guild as to how to get on with each other despite numerical packing and varying tastes. To the academic staff: May you learn to treat your students as human beings and as adults, and to students, may you learn to act as grown-ups worthy of staff respect. A prosperous New Year to you all.

CYPRUS—THE CONSERVATIVE SOLUTION

by

BRIAN E. STACEY

In preceding issues you have been told the University Socialist and Liberal solutions to the problem of Cyprus. Briefly, the Socialists wish for the withdrawal of British troops and consequently civil war. The Liberals wish for United Nations troops. But if three nations cannot agree, I am sure that about fifty will not be able to. In any case, this is not a permanent solution to the problem.

If EOKA had fought for self-government rather than ENOSIS it is possible that it might have gained the support of the Turks. But "Union with Greece" is the one thing that really splits the island. Now that Makarios has dropped this impractical action it is possible that a solution can be reached.

The Cypriots are politically immature and any drastic steps to introduce self-government would be bound to fail, and to launch Cyprus upon self-government with EOKA terrorising the island would be equally disastrous. Once the fear of EOKA is removed, self-government

for Cyprus becomes a distinct possibility. Let the solution be to smash EOKA or preferably negotiate an end of terrorism, and then set about implementing the proposals in the Radcliffe Report.

For under the Constitution proposed by Lord Radcliffe Cyprus would gradually be led to self-government. Lord Radcliffe proposed that the Governor should exercise control over external affairs, internal security and defence, and that in all other matters he should occupy the same position as a Constitutional Monarch, and would automatically give his consent to bills passed by a Legislative Assembly. This assembly would consist of a Speaker, Deputy-Speaker and thirty-six members. Of these, twenty-four would be voters on the general roll (all except Turkish Cypriots) and six would be elected by the Turkish Cypriot community. In addition the Governor would nominate six mem-

bers to represent the British and Maronite communities. The Governor would select one member elected on the Turkish Cypriot roll to be Minister for Turkish Cypriot Affairs, who would be ex-officio a member of the Cabinet. As an additional safeguard the Governor would not give his assent to any bill dealing with the affairs of Turkish community unless it had been supported by at least two-thirds of the members elected on the Turkish Cypriot roll. If this Constitution could be brought into operation it would give the Cypriots a chance to learn how to manage their own affairs and enable the two communities to co-operate in the administration of the island, and this could eventually lead to complete self-government.

In all its proposals the Government has been concerned above all with the well being of the Cypriots. The Radcliffe Constitution when it was proposed during the ENOSIS hysteria, was rejected by Greeks but now that ENOSIS has been dropped it is time to put it forward again. As tripartite agreements and agreements within N.A.T.O. have failed, the Government must get back to the roots of the

trouble and see that it is essentially a problem between British and Cypriots. Once EOKA is smashed and fear removed it should be possible to get the Cypriots to co-operate in the adoption of the Radcliffe Constitution for I believe that in the long run this would be in the best interests of the Cypriots, FOR IT WOULD MEAN THAT CYPRUS COULD ONCE AGAIN BECOME A UNITED COMMUNITY WITH CYPRIOT INTERESTS RATHER THAN A CONGLOMERATION OF BRITISH, GREEK AND TURKISH INTERESTS.

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Cyprus

Dear Sir,
After reading the views of Mr. Brian Stacey on the Cyprus problem, I must say that he ridicules his own correct statement that the situation is grave.
His statement that only the Conservative party has a policy towards the problem shows how deaf he is to the views of those who fail to agree with him. And his suggestion that Barbara Castle and the tame University Socialists are not "decent British people" is childish and offensive, no matter whether you agree with present government policy or not.
One thing that has become apparent in the complex Cyprus problem is that both Greek and Turkish Cypriots have very strong and definite views on how to solve the situation—this, to a large extent—is why progress is so slow. It is dangerous and aggravating to make statements completely condemning one side, especially when the great majority of the Cypriots support the view of this side.
I feel that Mr. Stacey would spend his time more usefully in trying to understand the views of the Greek and Turkish Cypriots, rather than just following without question the party line.
Yours, etc.,
S. J. WRIGHT.

Give it back

Dear Sir,
I had intended to ignore the denigration of "Guild News" into a political scandal sheet in the hope that it was only temporary. However the discovery of an EOKA call in our midst has changed my mind.
Is it not significant that we heard nothing of self-government for Cyprus until the Greeks realised that the ENOSIS would bring down the wrath of Turkey upon them?
The British occupied Cyprus in 1878 with the consent of Turkey—who then ruled it—as a staging post on the sea-route to India. We annexed it in 1914 when Turkey sided with the Central powers. We left India eleven years ago and Cyprus is now a military base, whose threat helps to keep the Russians out of Western Europe.
Greece is a member of N.A.T.O. We could therefore turn the island over to her and leave the base or hand them over to the Americans. "Independence" for Cyprus is merely another way of doing this. Unfortunately, Turkey is not prepared to sit back and watch herself boxed in by Greece and appears quite prepared to fight to prevent it. At the very least she would leave N.A.T.O. and the Baghdad Pact, which would leave the gateway to the Middle East oil-fields open to the Red Army.
Greece has been a continual nuisance to us since the beginning of the century and her contribution to N.A.T.O. is negligible in quantity and quality. The record of the Turkish Army at Gallipoli and in Korea shows that it is possibly the only army in the West that can match the Red Army. This is the army which holds the northern flank of the

Middle East, and oil is the backbone of our economy.
Therefore the logical situation is to give Cyprus back to the Turks. It has never been Greek, why should it be now? As to the Greek majority on the island, the campaigns in Smyrna around 1921 suggest that it would not long outlast the British occupation.
Yours, etc.,
S. J. WRIGHT.

Open letter to the Editor of Bournbrook

Dear Sir,
Your sub-editor, who wisely did not attach his name, spoke his few words; spoke them in a manner which betrayed his ignorance both of the constitution and of the sequence of events about which his article was cast. The banning of card-playing at certain times was in fact an action taken by Union Committee some time before the article referred to appeared in the Press. This decision was displayed on the Guild notice boards, also before the article appeared. How your sub-editor, or you, Sir, could have concluded that the decision was a result of the Press article I could not understand. The amendment, which came from the Union Secretary, was accepted by Council since it was felt to be in the interests of members of the Guild.
Section 53 of the Bye-Laws, page 137, states, and has done so for a number of years, "Statements of Guild policy or decisions of the Guild Council shall, when necessary, be communicated to the public Press by the President." It goes on: "Members of the Guild wishing to discuss any matter affecting the Guild in the public Press should notify the President beforehand of their intention so to do."

The interpretation of this by Guild Council was that in practice only the President or his appointed spokesman could communicate with the Press, which, Sir, is a wise interpretation. It means that any member of the Guild may become the appointed spokesman but those who would wish to act in their own interest, and not in that of the Guild, those who make public things that can be readily distorted and bring ill repute to the name of the Guild and Birmingham University, may be stopped before damage is done.
Council, Sir, is not a "pack of sheep" and neither is their responsibility to "whip up the interest in the annual general meeting." The A.G.M. is a GENERAL meeting to which any member of the Guild may go and speak. To raise any matter not already on the agenda, all that

PRESS POST

has to be done is to give three days notice to the Guild Secretary (constitution, Sect. 39, page 42). The notice of the A.G.M. is displayed for seven days prior to the meeting. What is this drivel about lists being put so that "humble undergraduates" voice their own humble topics for discussion?
I would suggest, Sir, that before allowing your deputy to go into the arena, you check very carefully the factual content of his article. Action will probably save you embarrassment and will not cost those who wish to read your magazine to get a distorted view of the work done by Guild Council and standing committees.
Yours, etc.,
K. R. WILLIAMS.

Mis-spellings

Dear Sir,
I am annoyed, if not disturbed, by the number of mis-spellings we can find on the notice boards, the corridors of Guild Club.
Members of the Guild Theatre Group feature prominently in their misspelling surnames in their lists with apparent nonchalance. (This, of course, might be attributable to the ubiquitous bonhomie of the theatrical profession). Last week there was a particularly crisp list on the G.T.G. board, including such charming innovations as "pantomime" and "noticeboard".
A month or so ago I saw Edmond Spenser's name spelt "Spencer". Only consolation is that visitors to Guild Club probably cannot see either.
Yours, etc.,
A. J. ROBERTS.

Imperial fare

The Cercle Francais was indeed fortunate to have Monsieur A. Favre, Cultural Delegate for the Midlands, as its guest of honour at its annual dinner. This year a pavilion attached to it has its own open-air bar which is completely separate from the main bar, is run by the members of the bowling club and has its own cellar. In the opinion of some regular users of the house, the beer at the "Bowlers' Arms" is superior to that served in the pub proper.
Also in Northfield is the "Stone," a pub which provides the most complete contrast imaginable to the "Black Horse." Here we have the traditional English hostelry, a small building with cosy low ceilings, rooms, and open fires; we are not certain of its age but it is certainly very old. A local joke has it that it is the only pub where whiskey can be bought by the pound and beer by the stone. The pound is the old pound for stray animals of the ancient village of Northfield; and the stone is the boulder of glacial origin from which the pub takes its name.
Central Birmingham
The oldest house in Birmingham proper is the "Old Crown" at Digbeth. Many other old houses have already been destroyed in the air-

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THE PUBS OF BIRMINGHAM

When, at the beginning of Session, I wrote an article called "Wood's Eye View of Birmingham," I dismissed Birmingham's public houses with a few short words of criticism. Since then, I have been frequently taken to task by both reallow natives and other connoisseurs of pubs. While I still maintain that many of Birmingham's pubs are dull and uninteresting and that the philosophy of replacing the few interesting pubs remaining by modern chromium-plated gin-palaces is a foolish and short-sighted one, a little thought has demonstrated that there still remain a number of interesting hostelries.

It is the avowed intention of the bigger pub-owning breweries to place most of the small pubs which still survive in the city centre with the large and rather unfriendly suburban houses which are regrettably becoming so common. They have even gone so far as to write a book extolling this philosophy. While I agree with the view that the provision of suburban pubs is essential, especially in providing a focus for social life on the new and rather soulless estates, I doubt very much if some of the modern buildings can by their very nature ever satisfactorily fulfil the traditional social role of the English pub. This is not to condemn all of the large modern pubs. The "Beech Tree," for example, is a fine building in the best traditions of modern architecture, yet manages to create the traditional pub atmosphere and also to serve an excellently cellared brew. Perhaps this is because it is a Bas house. Other similar pubs are to be found in some of the more fortunate suburbs.

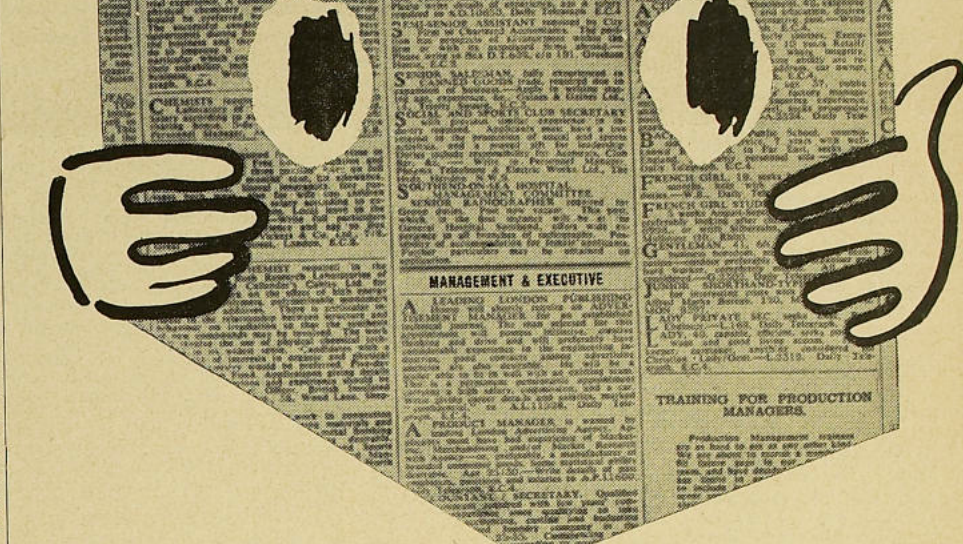
Contrast

One of the older of the modern pubs is the "Black Horse" at Northfield. This is an interesting building in a number of ways. Firstly, the half-timbering is genuine, not merely a facade—a most unusual thing in a twentieth century building. The "Black Horse" possesses a bowling green which is unique in that the pavilion attached to it has its own open-air bar which is completely separate from the main bar, is run by the members of the bowling club and has its own cellar. In the opinion of some regular users of the house, the beer at the "Bowlers' Arms" is superior to that served in the pub proper.

Also in Northfield is the "Stone," a pub which provides the most complete contrast imaginable to the "Black Horse." Here we have the traditional English hostelry, a small building with cosy low ceilings, rooms, and open fires; we are not certain of its age but it is certainly very old. A local joke has it that it is the only pub where whiskey can be bought by the pound and beer by the stone. The pound is the old pound for stray animals of the ancient village of Northfield; and the stone is the boulder of glacial origin from which the pub takes its name.

Central Birmingham

Perhaps after all, I was a little harsh in my first judgment of Birmingham's drinking facilities, but I still maintain that they are not as



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Debating Society

Now that the end of the term is upon us we would do well to review the work of the Debating Society this term—especially with reference to the last two meetings held under its auspices.

During the past debates have always been held in the early evening with the result that many people have been unable to attend as they have had to return to digs and halls of residence for evening meals, and for this reason also debates have had to be curtailed. Last Thursday an all-star debate was held at 8 p.m. before a fair sized audience and proved an enjoyable evening's entertainment. We were only sorry that Dr. Fred Crawford, past winner of N.U.S. Debating Award, found that he had a round of the N.U.S. Debating Tournament on the same evening and could not come. However, with Jack Betteridge in the chair (but only just) and Messrs. Jarvis, Stanley and Sullivan speaking from the platform we could not but have a good debate. Miss P. Kay Sellers made a maiden speech, which, although overprepared, as is common with first-timers, added admirably to the evening's entertainment. To be quite fair it must be admitted that logic was not a major feature of the debate, but the cut-and-thrust was certainly present—"wind and piffle" perhaps, but accomplished and easy to listen to. Now that Union opening hours have been extended, Deb. Soc. would be wise to attempt to hold more late debates, with the hope that they may have the same popularity found in other Unions.

The penultimate meeting of the term was a Political Forum, which again showed the Deb. Soc. to be open to change. This forum differed considerably from previous similar meetings; four "starting-point" questions were put on the theme of Education, and this allowed a more thorough treatment of the problem and, by permitting floor speeches and supplementary questions to ensure that the platform speakers did not wander from the point and that the forum, as sometimes happened, did not develop into a political wrangle. The panel, consisting of Sir Edward Boyle, Mr. Michael Stewart, Mr. Derick Mirfin and Mr. Michael Robinson showed sincerity and a devotion to the subject rarely found in political meetings. This was a thoroughly rewarding evening.

J.M.L., L.P.P.

FROM GIBBON TO DARWIN

A
MERRY
CHRISTMAS
TO ITS
READERS
AND
ADVERTISERS
FROM
'GUILD
NEWS'

On Monday, December 1, Prof. T. J. B. Spencer, Professor of English Language and Literature, gave his Inaugural Lecture in the Barber Institute of Fine Arts. His subject was "From Gibbon to Darwin," and he outlined the development of philosophical opinion during the century which elapsed between the publication of Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" and Darwin's "major works on the natural sciences."

The theme pursued by Professor Spencer was the great change which took place in Man's conception of his own importance during this era. In Gibbon's day, Man, and in particular European Man, was considered to be the centre around which the macrocosmos revolved, and the only history and traditions thought to be of any importance were those stemming from Graeco-Roman origins.

By Darwin's time, thinkers were beginning to realise that there were other histories and traditions than those of Europe and that Man was only a small part, certainly not the centre, of the universe.
Professor Spencer included quotations, both enlightening and diverting, from the two authors and from other writers of their period. His entertaining and informative lecture was admirably delivered in an erudite yet humorous style which other University lecturers might do well to emulate. It was obviously intended to be of interest to members of all Faculties, and it certainly achieved this object.
Professor Spencer concluded by suggesting that as English Language and Literature was common ground for all disciplines, the English Department should serve as a cultural focus for students of all other University Departments. To judge by his Inaugural Lecture, there is every possibility of his wishes being fulfilled.
B.J.C.

TERM'S UNBEATEN RECORD COUNTY SECOND XI BEATEN

L'BORO SWAMP SWIMMERS

A strong Loughborough side overwhelmed Birmingham in the final of the Midlands U.A.U. team championships here on Wednesday. Birmingham's defeat can be easily traced to its usual cause; our lack of freestyle and backstroke swimmers. In the 200 yards event Loughborough took a two points lead, which they gradually increased throughout the evening. The only events in which Brummie acquitted themselves at all well were the breaststroke (Coultais and Lunn coming first and third), the butterfly and the relays. Of these the 'fly' result was perhaps the most pleasing, Chown and Kerry only just being beaten into second and third places. As Bob Kerry had only recently been able to start training we have high hopes of winning this event in the return match at Loughborough next term. In the relays we managed to hold the Loughborough teams until the last man, when, on each occasion, Loughborough's greater number of good freestyle swimmers made itself felt.

The final result was 31-47 for Loughborough.

BASKETBALL LOSE TO MANCHESTER

On Saturday a sadly depleted pair of teams travelled north to meet Manchester. Nine players composed the two sides meaning that three players had to play in both games, an exhausting procedure even for the fittest of men.

Manchester, who haven't lost a match so far, and include three U.A.U. players in their team, opened confidently, scoring three baskets before Brummie could reply. Then came some sharp shooting in which all members of the team had a hand, putting Brummie on top with a slight lead. Manchester switched to a man-to-man defence, but at half-time it was still level pegging.

Despite the overall height advantage of Manchester, our boys fought keenly for the ball under the baskets in what was one of their best matches so far. At half-time Brummie switched to a man-to-man defence and continued to hold Manchester down. The scores increased to 44 each, until sharp-shooter Umit Imre was sent off after a misunderstanding with the referee. This really clinched the game for Manchester who piled on the pressure against a really weary Brummie defence. They forged ahead and finally won 47-56. Main scorers for Brummie were Bob Kempson with 20 and Umit Imre.

On Saturday the Shropshire County Second XI were the visitors for the last match of the term, and with only six regular members of the Birmingham team playing, the first XI did well to maintain its unbeaten record for the term.

The game was fast and open throughout and despite several instances of obstruction by the defences this was a very good match. During the first half the Birmingham forwards pressed hard and were unfortunate not to score, Shropshire opening the scoring shortly before half-time against the run of the play.

After the interval the three inside forwards continued to play well, but in attack they lacked support from the half backs and this reduced their effectiveness. The ball was swung about a lot and a pleasing feature of play was the good interpassing and interchanging of the Birmingham forwards. However, despite repeated attacks, Birmingham could not score until the centre-half Anne Leake, stopped a weak clearance from the Shropshire defence and shot the equaliser. Eventually, after several near misses, including one which hit a post and rebounded into play, Anne Edgington scored the winning goal in the gathering gloom.

Only occasionally did Shropshire look really dangerous in attack and their efforts were continually thwarted by the timely tackles of Annabel Thompson, who played extremely well throughout the match. With more accurate shooting and better support from the defence the margin of Birmingham's victory might deservedly have been greater.

Birmingham U. 1st XI ... 2
Shropshire 2nd XI 1

Mermaids v. City Police

Mermaids lost their fourth game this season to the full City Police side, at the Tally-ho Sports Ground by 20 points to eight, in a very fast and open game. The Mermaids' pack, although giving away almost a stone in weight per man, managed to hold the Police in the set scrums, and Pemberton, a first class forward, did much as he pleased in the line-outs.

The three-quarter line moved smoothly and efficiently in attack but lacked cohesion in defence, four of the police tries being scored through bad covering, rather than by the effectiveness of the police backs. M. Adlington played a courageous game at scrum-half, always endeavoured to get the ball to his backs, and never failed to go down at the feet of the Police forwards. The Mermaid tries were scored by A. Dunnell and G. Heyward. The first was a grand piece of quick thinking by Dunnell, when the ball was bouncing loose near the Police line. The second came after a brilliant run of over fifty yards, initiated by full-back Crelton. After an early failure to land a penalty, Carke gave way to Pemberton. The latter had no better luck, however, although he had a very near miss in one fifty-yard attempt. Carke returned to kick a conversion from a relatively simple position. This was really a creditable display against a strong Police side.

LACROSSE

Thick fog prevented the match against Lichfield Priory on Saturday, and Wednesday's result was a defeat by Morton Hall. The match was an enjoyable one, though the University had been expected to provide more opposition to the

strong Hall side. However, the Morton Hall team deserved their 13-5 victory.

The University goals were scored by S. Andrews (2), G. Griffiths (1), R. Hillier (1), P. Sampson (1).

TRIALS DISAPPOINTMENT FOR NETBALL

On Wednesday, November 19, the Southern University trials were held at Birmingham. All the Birmingham first team had been nominated by selectors to attend, but at the trials our high expectations were short-lived, for only two of our team—G. Duckham and R. De'ath were selected for the Second Southern Universities' team, and M. Mannall was named as a reserve.

U.A.U. FIXTURE WITH LEICESTER

Leicester University 2
Birmingham University 1

The soccer team travelled to Leicester on Wednesday for their last U.A.U. match, and found the home team a much better side than their record might have suggested. Birmingham's side for this fixture was altered to include D. Gray at centre-half, in place of the injured Fay and Roper who resumed at outside-right.

The game was played in very heavy conditions which made it very difficult for players to move with any speed. Leicester opened the scoring with rather a lucky goal midway through the first half, despite Birmingham having held a slight territorial advantage throughout which they were unable to use. In this half the University were a shade unlucky not to be awarded two penalties for what seemed to be clear cases of handball.

Leicester increased their lead in the second half when the inside-left was allowed to go through and shoot with Birmingham defenders appealing for offside. The University came back into the game and inside-left Westwood scored with a fine shot. Leicester, however, held out in failing light and deserved their narrow win as their players were moving much more as a team than did Birmingham's.

We would like to congratulate K. Tipples and D. Sandford who were selected to play for the Midlands Universities XI against Birmingham and District A.F.A. on Saturday at Bournville. The Universities won this fixture 3-1.

SPORT IN BRIEF

MEN'S HOCKEY

2nd XI v. Keele 2nd XI, drew 1-1.
2nd XI v. Worcester 2nd XI, lost 6-2.
3rd XI v. Worcester 3rd XI, lost 2-0.

RUGBY

1st XV v. Wolverhampton, won 8-3.

BASKETBALL

2nd team v. Manchester 2nd, lost 55-27.

NETBALL

2nd VII v. Reading 2nd VII, won 14-11.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

2nd XI v. Sutton Ladies 2nd XI, won 3-2.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL SPORT

Chancellor's Hall v. Mech. Eng., won 13-3.
Chancellor's Hall v. Erdington 2nd XV, won 6-0.

INTER-UNIVERSITY RUGBY

We would like to congratulate B. Russell who played for English Universities against Welsh Universities on Saturday. The English won 12-8.

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SLUMP IN MEN'S HOCKEY

Since they lost to Loughborough November 19, the Men's Hockey has lost form badly, losing games in succession. This has been caused partly by the loss of individual team members, partly by the absence of Eltringham who has been playing for Staffordshire in county games. Reserves have not been very good, and team has really not deserved win.

In the final U.A.U. match on Wednesday, the University lost 3-1 to Keele, North Staffs. Soode Birmingham ahead early in first half, scoring two good goals but Birmingham then slackened and Keele were able to equalise. Towards the end of the match Soode scored the winning goal.

On Saturday, the University played much better hockey and was unlucky to lose, again by 3-2 to Worcester. Worcester opened scoring when Jennings fumbled, he was trying to clear, and the centre was able to put in a shot from a narrow angle. In the first half, Drayson put the ball into the circle and tackled by the Worcester goal-keeper, however, Hurst, who was following up got the ball and was able to level the score. Worcester replied shortly afterwards and at half-time the score was 2-1 in Worcester's favour.

Midway through the second half Hurst had a very fine run down wing, from which he centred Soode, who scored. Worcester scored again immediately after this, the game ended in this position. On the whole the game was uneven, although Worcester probably had the edge. Despite the narrow win the team can take heart from the fact that their play appears to be on the upgrade once more.

FENCING

The Fencing Club have only to win their match against North Staffs. to prove themselves supreme in the Midlands Universities. Following an easy win over Nottingham University recently by 19 fights to eight, the club did very well to beat Loughborough College by 21 fights to six! Surely this is the heaviest defeat we have inflicted on College for some considerable time in any sport.

The credit for these two convincing wins should be equally shared by the team members Hoffman, Howarth and Warner, all of whom have won nearly all their bouts.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL SPORT

Having previously won 5-3, the Law Faculty lost their return match with the L.S.S. 4-6. In a fast and often skilful first half the L.S.S. forwards dominated the game and scored four goals, through McArthur, Williamson (a neat header following a shot by Cotter which hit the post), Jackson and Cotter. The Faculty replied with a goal just before half-time.

In the second half, however, easing-off by the L.S.S. spread their defence and the Faculty scored three well-earned goals; the last, a hotly disputed. Then in a desperate last five minutes, the L.S.S. forwards moved purposefully into attack once more and goals by Williamson and McArthur settled the issue.

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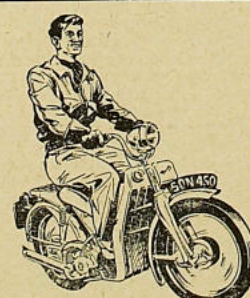
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