

WAR ON VANDALS!

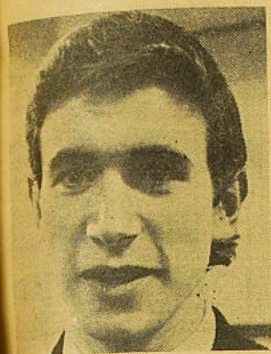


Photo: Graham Sharples
Ray Phillips

REFECTORY TO BE EXPLOITED

LAST night at Guild Council a motion was passed recognising that the Union building no longer offers adequate facilities for the entire membership of the Guild and that the range of Refectory facilities fails to exploit the Refectory building to the full.

In his proposed speech Guild Sec. Ray Phillips said that this situation has led to a split in the membership of the Guild between those who use the Union and those who use the Refec.

A commission was set up to investigate the use of the Refec and the Guild Council members so far elected are: Jarvis, Ray McCann, Sue Jackson, John Branton and J. Watkins. The other members of the committee are to be elected at a later date.

Human error

HUMANISM and Carnival clashed at Guild Council last night when Cindy Ashworth, candidate for Chairman of Carnival Committee, failed to present a policy statement because she was attending a meeting of the Humanist Society.

Several Guild Councillors protested at this, and Ian Nelson, Physics Dept. representative said, "If Miss Ashworth thinks that she can go off and run Humanist Society instead of preparing a policy statement for Carnival, then she has a very mistaken idea of the amount of work Carnival involves."

Miss Ashworth—who was declared elected as the sole candidate later said she would fight an election if an opponent appeared before next Guild Council: if no-one was proposed, she would carry on and accept the challenge anyway.

Hall clique?

THE allocation of tickets for the High Hall Rave on Friday was heavily criticised by some students last Monday. The 50 tickets which are allocated to the Union, were sold out within three minutes.

At present High Hall has a limit of 1,000, of which 600 tickets go to High Hall, 150 to training colleges in the area, and the remainder, apart from the union allocation go to the other halls. Already a thriving black market is beginning, with prices up to 30s. being quoted. Paul Youde, chairman of High Hall J.C.R., said: "The High residents do a lot of work organising the dance and we think they deserve their tickets."

Severe criticism has been levelled at Executive for their lack of action on the matter of student discipline.

Following upon a first ten days of term in which the "Wall" notice-board was torn down during the Freshers' Conference, the main bar was shut early on at least two evenings and a brawl occurred at a B.U.G.S. social last Wednesday, and a major theft

occurred in the Union over last week-end, a meeting of Executive on Monday evening decided that the only positive action to be taken was that a member of Executive should be on duty each night "trouble-shooting."

But Steve Cox, Guild Councillor for the Geography Department, said: "A better stewarding system should be provided, with stewards available to dispel any disturbance from the outside."



Photo: Pete Mills

Dot Weldon and Angela Mould, still homeless, after the theft

DANCE THEFT WARNING FOR UNION

NOTICES warning students to beware of thieves are to be posted "as soon as possible." The decision which follows the theft of £30 worth of luggage from the Union last Friday was taken by Executive Committee on Monday.

Friday's theft—which probably occurred during the Georgie Fame spectacular—was from the Women's Lounge. Luggage belonging to three second-year students, Angela Mould, Dot Weldon and Pat White, had been left in the Women's Lounge since the previous week while they were looking for a flat.

Between 8.30 on Friday and 10 on Saturday morning somebody stole Angela's suitcase containing clothing, shoes, a pair of kitchen scales and various papers including £15 worth of books,

some in Russian and German, and all her lecture notes from the previous session. Her passport, national insurance card and private letters were also stolen.

The girls are convinced the thief was a girl, which seems to be supported by the fact that Dorothy's trunk was broken open and a pair of tights—and nothing else—stolen.

"It must have been a strong girl though" was Angela's comment. "I had to get a boy to carry that suitcase for me it was so heavy."

Selly Oak police are investigating the crime, although there is little that they can do but circulate descriptions of the stolen goods to local second-hand dealers etc.

Guild secretary Ray Phillips said: "We must persuade people to leave their belongings in a supervised cloakroom, if they must leave them in the Union."

University Collection



Barbara Phipps

Photo: Graham Sharples

Arts Festival plans approved

LAST night at Guild Council Vice-President Barbara Phipps revealed plans for an arts festival to be held in Birmingham in the spring term of 1968. It was felt that there was insufficient time to hold a large festival at this time since it would require all the time available until 1969 to make adequate preparations.

Yet it was considered that a festival of some sort should be held in 1968. This would provide experience for the proposed festival of 1969. Consequently, a student festival was suggested.

It was proposed that the student festival be one of combining all student talents in the colleges and universities in the Birmingham area to give a festival containing elements of music, science, drama, literature and art.

Central administration would be at Birmingham University but the various other institutions would be organising separate events and exhibitions. A committee is to be set up including representatives from every other college, the final composition of which would be approved by Council.

70 p.c. DON'T SMOKE

ACCORDING to the Questionnaires filled in by Freshers during their Medical Checks, only a small percentage of both sexes smoke cigarettes at all.

This was announced by Dr. R. H. Bolton, head of the University Health Service. Seventy per cent of the male fresher intake claim to be "total non-smokers," and among female students the proportion is even higher—82 per cent.

Dr. Bolton finds these figures, which are considerably better than the national average (60 per cent non-smokers), extremely encouraging.

"Parents and schools seem to have done a reasonable job," he said, and he would like to see this trend spreading through the University.

BUGS BEAT UP

FOR the second year in succession, gate-crashers have crashers have tried to break up a Kinvig Geographical Social. Trouble started at 10.45 p.m. last Wednesday when several men tried to break into the social which was in Founder's Room. One geographer who had earlier been in the bar recognised the men, but did not know the name, saying they'd been "in the middle of a damned big smoker."

Attempts were made to force closed doors, and when they proved unsuccessful a window looking on to the Union forecourt was smashed, showering people inside with glass. One geographer, Archie Lunson, was cut in the face.

The fire alarm in the Union was set off by the men outside the door, who then went home. B.U.G.S. chairman, Dickie Jell said later, "We

asked the stewards at reception for help, but they couldn't send anyone along. There was only one steward on the trouble last year."

The mood among the geographers since has been one of disgust that such an incident should be allowed to happen two years in succession.

LATE NEWS

EXEC. ELECTIONS

Union Secretary: Bruce Buchan; Guild Relations Officer: Sue Jackson; Internal Secretary: Tony Page; N.U.S. Chairman: Rhys Vaughn.

Phil Irving becomes editor of "Redbrick"; Dick Holt becomes editor of "Wall."

Martin Kenig was elected N.U.S. Publicity Officer.

JUNCTION JAZZ

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Junction Hotel

High Street, Harborne

REDBRICK SAYS...

FREEDOM AND DISCIPLINE

AT present the myth of the top 2 per cent of the intellect in this country being at university seems to be losing a little of its glitter. Many students at Birmingham who read for their first degrees here, and have observed the Union scene over a number of years, are convinced that the standard of student behaviour has deteriorated.

Reasons for this are complex and difficult to analyse. Certainly the larger, more predominantly male faculties are prominent in the recent disturbances.

One possible explanation for the recent behaviour is that the appearance of the bar itself contributes to unruly behaviour. Certainly the University of Aston, with all its hundreds of engineers and technologists, never has brawls in its luxuriously carpeted bar.

The woman factor is probably significant also—bar disturbances rarely occur on big dance nights, because there are too many women around.

The brawls, coupled with theft in the Union and the large-scale disappearance of eating utensils in the Refectory and Union, do not present a very attractive image to the outsider.

It is difficult to see what Executive can do to enforce discipline without taking away all the freedom that the Union enjoys as a private club. Some degree of discipline must be retained, and action by Executive taken if necessary.

the union,
the university,
edgbaston,
birmingham 15.

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LEFT

THE publication date for "Left" has been delayed by one week owing to most of the people printing it being in prison as a result of victimisation in a demonstration against the Greek fascist regime.

Hence "Left" will be on sale Thursday, October 19th, still only one shilling.

Substantial Discount in Men's Wear

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"Fascism brings war"

by Michael Dunn

MRS. NOTBURGA TILT, a prominent member of the Austrian resistance movement during the last war, spoke of her experiences in a lecture delivered to the Liberal Society on Monday evening.

Mrs. Tilt began her narrative with 1938 when, after the Germans had occupied Austria, her uncle was given a four-year prison sentence for saying that "Fascism will bring war." Mrs. Tilt, then only 15, decided to use the favourite method of the Germans—propaganda—to incite anti-fascist feeling. She was, however, arrested and sentenced to 15 strokes of the birch. "Until then I was an objector—I didn't know that in so short a time one could become a hater," she said.

In 1939, on the outbreak of war, she joined a small resistance group and was employed as a courier. She was betrayed in August 1944 and underwent three weeks' interrogation, surviving three days' solitary confinement with only bread and water. She was sent to Dachau concentration camp, but escaped from the train taking her there, and fled to friends in Poland.

Mrs. Tilt suggested that she gives the talks because people are beginning to realise that Fascism is not dead. She cited examples of fascist threats directed against her family in Kentishworth. She described a visit from the Leader of the National Socialist Movement, Colin Jordan, who measured the distance from his

car to her house. "If you are not off in two minutes, I will shoot you stone dead," she told him. "And you should have seen him drive off." To stop giving talks, she said, would be "betraying the many people who died fighting for freedom."

Med. school for Keele

KEELE UNIVERSITY, which has been trying since 1964 to get its own medical school, has been told that it will have to wait at least until next year for a decision.

Next spring the Royal Commission on Medical Education will report, but even then the university may not have a definite answer. Keele had hoped to be granted a medical school last year, but then the Government announced that the next one would be built at Southampton.

Among strong support for the envisaged medical school was that of Professor W. M. Arnott, head of the Department of Medicine at Birmingham University, who pledged Birmingham's wholehearted assistance.

Meanwhile, planning of the medical school continues at Keele, and the university authorities hope to enrol 50 to 100 students in the first year.

DOWNTOWN

Cinemas

JACEY NEWS THEATRE, Station Street. Daily 10.15. Sun. 3. News, Cartoons, Comedy.

A.B.C. CINERAMA Theatre, Bristol Road. "South Pacific." Eves. at 7. Mats. Mon. Wed. and Sat. at 2. Sun. 6.15. Box Office 0413094479.

CAUMONT Theatre, Colmore Circuit. "The Sound of Music" (u). Evenings 7.05. Mats. daily 2.05. Sun. 6.05. Box Office CENTRAL 1488.

SCALA Superama, Holloway Circus. "Un Homme Et Une Femme" (x). Sun. 4.30 and 7.30. Mon.-Fri. 2.30 and 8. Sat. 2.5 and 8. Box Office MIDLAND 2418.

Theatres

ALEXANDRA Theatre, John Bright Street. October 9th-21st. "Friends and Neighbours" by Austin Steel. First Mon. at 7.45 then Eves. at 7.15. Sat. 5.25 and 8. Mat. Wed. 2.30. Box Office MIDLAND 1221.

REPERTORY Theatre, Station Street. Mon., Tues., Wed. October 9th, 10th, 11th. "The Circle" by W. Somerset Maugham. Thurs., Fri. Sat. October 12th, 13th, 14th. "A Severed Head" by Irish Murdoch and J. B. Priestley. Eves. at 7.15. Mats. Wed. and Sat. 2.30. Box Office MIDLAND 2471.

BIRMINGHAM Theatre, Hurst Street. Until November 11th. "The Black and White Minstrel Show." Twice nightly 6.15 and 8.30. Box Office 022-2576.

STUDIO Theatre, Midlands Arts Centre for Young People. Cannon Hill Park. October 10th-14th. "The Servant of Two Masters" by Carlo Goldoni. Daily at 2.30. Wed. 2.30 and 8. Tickets 5s. (Members 4s.) Bob Office 440-3838.

Today

MUSIC.—Town Hall: Organ Recital by Dr. Caleb Jarvis. Admission free. 1.15.

MUSIC.—Town Hall: The Traffic, Vanilla Fudge, Tomorrow featuring Keith West Art. Tickets: 15s., 12/6, 8/6, 7/6, from Town Hall Box Office. 6.30 and 8.45.

POETRY READING.—Midland Institute, Margaret St.: Poetry and Jazz by Roy Fisher, Danny Mass and others. (Poetry reading, jazz and wine tasting). Admission 7/6. 8.0.

JAZZ.—Golden Eagle, Hill St.: Ken Ingram's Eagle Jazz Band. 8.0.

FOLK SINGING.—White Swan, Bradford St.: Cymmet Folk Club. Admission 3s. 8.0.

Tomorrow

MUSIC.—Town Hall: City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Conductor: Hugo Rignold, with a section of Birmingham School of Music Choir. 7.30.

FOLK SINGING.—Civic Hall, Digbeth: Jug O'Punch Folk Song Club. Guests: 5s. 7.30.

Friday

MUSIC.—Town Hall: An Evening with The Dubinners with Guest Stars The Kerries and David McWilliams. Tickets: 15s., 12/6, 10/6, 8/6, 6/6, 5s. from Town Hall Box Office. 6.30 and 8.45.

FOLK SINGING.—Birmingham Arms, Moat Row: Birmingham Arms Folk Song Club. 8.0.

Police warning

Students found parking cars on Pritchard's Road will not only have cars towed away, but will be prosecuted, police announced last night.

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Insertions up to mid-day
Tuesday

SOCIALIST Union: Minister of Defence, Gerry Reynolds, will speak in Council Chamber on Friday at 5.30 pm.

HOW does it feel to be out of the Union? Many happy returns for last Saturday—and wish you what you do with that vote. SIGMA members please see Union pigeon-holes.

TWO years, Ken. November 18th, Tony. First week of Summer Term, Fred. Cuddles to the winner. I'd rather have Roger.

ORD FASHION SHOW tomorrow.

DEC. 4th, 4.35 Founders, John Week of High Ball, John. End of Term, Ian. First week of Summer Term, Tony. Eighteen month Jan.

TRANSOC trip by luminous barge on the Worcester Canal, 12-hour continuous bar, Sat. Oct. 14th, 11 am. to 11 pm. All welcome. See Transoc notice-board.

PAM—it brought tears to my eyes: thanks.
WANTED, two Ladies' Bikes.—Apply Joachim, Union pigeon-hole.

ESCAPED: Thursday, on campus or by Q.E. Derek's furry hat, Russian style, dark brown. If found, please escort to "Redbrick" Office and chain to Comrade Palmer's drawer.

HAT—come back, my dear, ruff's getting cold.—"Redbrick" Office, Derek's drawer.

"REDBRICK" needs a top editor, must be kind to mammals, anything considered, day and breakfast 15/-.—Ring 01-2706 after midnight. We hear the Physics Department is still apathetic.

ORD FASHION SHOW, Dea. Hall.

NETTLES are fertilising the rhubarb crop. What about the reformation? Fire extinguishers are hopelessly outmoded. Most scored!

PAUL, leave my sixth-former out of this. Why did you not take my dress off on Saturday night? Debauchery always has after-effects. Don!

CHELSEA supporter on transfer list at own request, any offers?

PEACH trees still don't grow sugar plum orchards.

ELEC. Eng. Three are even lazier? this year.

SOCIETY for the Promotion of communication with vegetable lives.

AUTUMN Barbecue, Norman Catholic Society, Sunday, Oct. 15th, 8 p.m., Catholic Chaplaincy, 29 Harrison's Rd., Edgbaston, Birmingham 15. Price 3s. 6d.

GOOD! A discussion at 4.30, Selly Oak Methodist Church, preceded by prayers at 4.30 and tea at 4.0. All welcome.

FOR sale, Velvet Gloves.—Apply Paul.

SOCIAL, G.T.G., Founders' Wed., Oct. 11th, at 8.0. Be there!

DARLING, Asidistra wanted for good home.—Claire.

FREE Hoppy.

ORD FASHION SHOW, dinner time.

WANTED urgently, two tickets for High Hall Race, will pay above odds to sincere capitalist.—Contact Alan Skeates, Latin III, through Arts or Union pigeon-holes.

WAKE up Scrooge, it grows on trees.—Dickens.

POLISH Folk Dance Display, Sunday, Oct. 15th, 4 p.m., Dea. Hall, only 2/-.

amateur dance group London. Mazury performance. All welcome.

HERE is a late football result. WHAT is a liberal education? Your views wanted tonight 8.0 in D.R.L. Free coffee and biscuits.

DEB. SOC.: U.N. debate tonight, Council Chamber, 7.30. Humphrey Berkeley & Neville Brown.

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JAZZ TO FLOURISH AGAIN IN BRUM?

SOCIAL PROJECT 84

PROJECT 84 is planning to hold a number of coffee parties and pub get-togethers to provide opportunities for members of the University to meet people active in city life. Although these meetings will be largely social, it is hoped that they will introduce students to the main programmes of action to be adopted by Project 84.

The question of the "Tinklers" in the Birmingham area is one such field of action. Project 84 hopes to find "suitable" sites for the Irish community and to work out a long-term solution to this problem. It plans also to give aid to old people, the mentally sick and problem families, who have been compelled to move their homes, as a result of demolition and redevelopment projects in the city. In the field of housing, the group will investigate discrimination against coloured immigrants.

Finally, Project 84 plans to help the various voluntary organisations to improve communication between themselves and the city authorities, official bodies and people involved in relevant research in the University.

THIS University's once pre-eminent position on the British Universities' jazz scene has been almost totally destroyed over the past year or so by the determined efforts of a few selfish people acting without regard to the main aim of the society, namely, furthering the interest in jazz within the University. These actions culminated in last year's clique-ridden discotheque in Fifth House.

At last, however, plans to rectify this sorry state of affairs are underfoot, with several events already arranged for this session.

In conjunction with Ents. Comm., the Rhythm Club is promoting a jazz festival in the Union on November 11th, with the Don Rendell/Tan Carr Quintet and Pete Burden/Quintet, Sandy Brown's Band and John Chilton's Swing Kings—a programme that should appeal to the whole spectrum of jazz tastes. Plans are also under way for establishing a regular jazz club (perhaps in a local pub) following the demise of Fifth House, which is no longer available, with its attendant competition (an event in which Birmingham groups had a near stranglehold in its later years) in due course.

All these events, and other possibilities, will be discussed at the club's A.G.M. in C.R.2, tomorrow (Thursday 12th) at 5.15. Given enough support, a lively jazz scene in Birmingham is a real possibility—especially as over a hundred freshers expressed an interest in Rhythm Club.

It's up to you.

DICK MAYNARD



How reading **The Observer** can help you choose a career

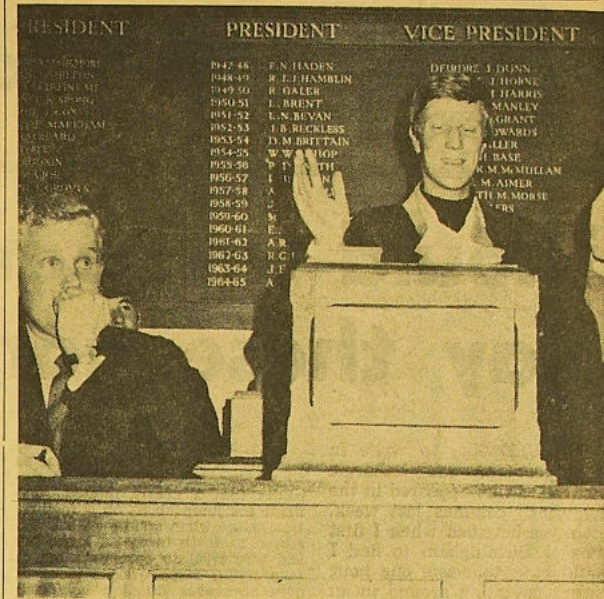


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GET

THE OBSERVER
EVERY SUNDAY



Graham Derbyshire—"irrelevant obscenities" to state his case?

DEBATE

PROGRESS IN PENAL REFORM

"OUR prisons have improved very little since the times when people were cutting out tongues for telling lies," claimed Henry Pickard proposing the motion: "This house believes that the English penal system is both inefficient and unjust."

A large audience turned out for what promised to be an interesting first debate since the Freshers' conference. However, to a certain extent,

'ent, an inherently serious debate was upset by the antics of former Deb. Soc. celebrities who appeared unable to withdraw, even momentarily, from the limelight.

Henry Pickard concluded that there had been wonderful progress in prison reform in the past 20 years, but complained that the majority of prisons were still very Victorian. He criticised the lack of sociological training given to judges, and thought that the prison service was in need of more doctors, psychologists and sociologists. Going on to mention the basic importance of the family unit, he stressed the part it could play in the rehabilitation of prisoners. His sincerity at this point was lost on a house which turned somewhat unsmiling as he asked for a "constructive" penal system where people can keep their self-respect.

The response from neighbouring schools has been good and Mark Burke, External Affairs Chairman, remarked: "We hope to hold more open Guild meetings in the future as yet another way of bridging the gap between town and gown."

Richard Sharpe, opposing, dealt with the aspect of inefficiency, claiming that the penal system was in fact trying to get to the root of the problem. He pointed to the increased use of psychiatry and the ways in which the development of a prisoner's self-respect is achieved through training and rehabilitation. "The machinery may need overhauling," he was prepared to admit, "but to say that it is inefficient when you greatly overload it is unfair."

This speech was concise and lacking somewhat in length, and would have benefited from a fuller development of various points.

Commencing with a series of irrelevant obscenities, Graham Derbyshire took up the case for the proposition. Attempting, with limited success to be both serious and funny, he complained that criminals "were punished for being bad boys" instead of being "helped to be good boys."

He stressed the need for more probation officers, and the benefits of leaving people in their environment and helping them to fit in.

John Reddihough delivered a scathing attack on the lack of information of the other side, claiming that although "Mr. Pickard said that parents were one of the basic things which set off crime," there was no evidence for this.

He refuted the suggestion that judges pass sentence without regard to sociological matter. This impressive defence of the present penal system received a severe blow when Roger Hird, Guild Treasurer, pointed out that the Home Office's own report stated that prison conditions failed to meet its own prescribed standards. John Reddihough recovered with difficulty, losing much of his earlier incisiveness and bite. Nevertheless, he succeeded in holding the audience's attention.

The voting was announced by Chairman Perry Christie as 153 votes for, 124 against and 113 abstentions, but he appeared to have miscounted by about 300 votes.

ROB MEIKLE

GUILD LECTURE

MR. AYKROYD, chief officer in charge of the Canadian centennial celebrations, will speak at the Guild meeting on Monday, October 16th in the Council Chamber. He will talk about his work in Expo 67 and about Canada in general. As Mr. Aykroyd is making only four speeches in this country, the Guild is privileged to have him as a speaker.

sixth-formers have been invited along to the meeting, which will take place at 1.15 p.m., because of the general educational interest of his speech.

The response from neighbouring schools has been good and Mark Burke, External Affairs Chairman, remarked: "We hope to hold more open Guild meetings in the future as yet another way of bridging the gap between town and gown."

A CAREER in the SERVICE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Child Care Service, including residential posts such as those in approved schools, offers careers for men and women which are satisfying and worth while. It should appeal particularly to those who are looking for a career in which their concern for children can be expressed in a service of considerable importance to the community.

Child Care Officers, most of whom are employed in the purpose of helping families who are encountering difficult circumstances in order that the children may continue to live at home; when this does not prove possible they ensure that individual plans are made for the care of the children and try to provide guidance and assistance to strengthen family life. They make enquiries whenever a local authority receives information suggesting a child is in need of care or protection and if it is impossible for them to remain at home make arrangements for placing them either in a foster home or in a children's home as may seem best in each particular case.

Training Courses qualifying for the work of a child care officer are provided at a number of universities including this one. These include post-graduate general courses, social casework and special courses in child care. Candidates for the one-year course beginning in October each year must have university qualifications in social science. There are courses of seventeen months and two-years specially designed for graduates in subjects other than social science. More applications from men would be welcomed.

The minimum salary on appointment by a local authority as a child care officer after training is £1,060 rising to £1,435. There are opportunities for advancement beyond this point.

Housemasters and Housemistresses are required for challenging work in APPROVED SCHOOLS. The primary concern of these staff is the welfare, social re-education and leisure activities of the boys and girls in their charge. Graduates are eligible for appointment on scales rising to £1,255. There are also opportunities for QUALIFIED TEACHERS AND INSTRUCTORS in a wide range of subjects. Graduates can apply, after suitable experience, for one-year university courses of training to improve their qualification for posts in approved schools.

Write to Secretary, Central Training Council in Child Care (X61), Horseferry House, Dean Ryle Street, London S.W.1.

**Frivolous
Biting
Bold
Enquiring**

THIS IS YOUR

opinion

Should we be made to play these games?

I SHOULD like to write in support of the lethargic fresherette who appeared in the "Redbrick" columns last week. I too was horrified when I first came to Birmingham to find I would have to waste one hour a week cavorting around in an undignified manner with about twenty other fellow sufferers.

The University authorities, in instigating the scandalous institution of first-year compulsory sport, have failed to take into consideration the feelings of a small minority, including myself, who do not object to exercise because we are lazy but because every time we come within sight or sound of a gym—I cringe to write the word—we are literally overcome with nausea, fear, apprehension, panic.

Don't be afraid to opt out

DEAR SIR.—May I relieve the lethargic fresherette who wrote in these columns last week, of her anxiety about the system of compulsory sport as propounded at this university.

In practice, it is not nearly as vigorous as it sounds in theory, although this was not unfortunately made clear to the freshmen from the beginning and through official channels.

For the bother of a short, unenergetic walk over to the Old Sports Hall and a visit to Mr. Munro in his office there, this fresherette and all others, who like her, object to the compulsory school like nature of the system, can obtain the right to opt out of all compulsory sport for the rest of the year.

This can only be done on an individual basis, but the more objections are made known, the more serious consideration will be given to initiating reform by the relevant authorities.

In fact the situation is due to be reviewed by a committee of the Senate shortly and if enough dissatisfaction is expressed in the present system, this anachronistic relic of school-day coercion stands a good chance of being abolished.

So if the burden of compulsory sport conflicts with your idea of the mature autonomous life a university student should lead, please make use of the existence of this "safety valve."

Yours etc,
CINDY ASHWORTH

WANTED—LIVE ZEBRAS TO CROSS THE ROAD

DEAR SIR.—I live across the road from the main Bristol Road entrance of the University, yet it takes about twenty minutes to get there.

I do not limp—yet. My eyesight is normal and so is my walking speed. But I get stuck about twenty yards from the main gates—at a zebra crossing. It seems that drivers in these parts would stop only if they saw a zebra—and then only perhaps. On one occasion, when I eventually reached the other side, I spoke to the University policeman at the main gates. I asked him if this was the crossing where a student got knocked down only last year. He replied: "What do you mean only last year? There is a near-miss almost every hour, and to be sure, this is the worst crossing in the country."

Only recently there was a mass demonstration by pupils and parents because there was no zebra crossing over the busy road to

This, in my case, is a result of bullying gym mistresses who so forced me into doing bar somersaults that I nearly fainted, who made me jump about on a footling trampoline when all the time I was scared to death in case I broke my leg, who tried to encourage me to take flying leaps over a piece of gym apparatus called a box with vague assurances that they would be there to catch me when I fell; who sent me out to be nearly blinded by a lacrosse ball smack in my eye—and that in the middle of a blizzard.

If people want to risk life and limb, then let them get on with it, I don't. Apart from the indignity and utter futility of compulsory sport, the principle is gravely at fault. The P.E. Department say many freshmen in the past have welcomed chances of learning a new sport after the inevitable restrictions of school (incidentally I should like to know how many more never bothered to attend their compulsory sports hour).

Perhaps a few physicists would appreciate a compulsory course in modern mathematics, perhaps arts students would appreciate a course in genetics. Let's all do a year of something we never chose to do. The principle of imposing sport on unwilling freshmen for the reasons generally given is to my mind totally undemocratic and unnecessary. Effecting it would cause me at least much distress. I should have thought it would also place an unnecessary burden on the P.E. staff themselves.

If people wish to carry on sport at University they are quite at liberty to do so if people, for one reason or another, don't wish to, there is absolutely no justification whatsoever, for making them do so against their will.

Yours,
ALISON CLARK
(E.P.S.I.)

Scots coons complain

DEAR SIR.—I wish to bring to the notice of your readers a serious instance of racialism. I refer, of course to the persecution being waged against the many Scottish Nationalists on this campus. One can hardly open one's mouth without being called a tartan coon.

I hope this disturbing state of affairs will be brought to the early attention of our Vice-Chancellor and Mr. Humbert, who discriminates against us so violently by never serving haggis in his refectory.

Yours etc,
R. G. LOGAN

their school. I wonder if they would be any better off with a zebra crossing.

Yours sincerely,
ISAM GHANEM
(Law III)

BRISTLES FOR BREAKFAST

DEAR SIR.—This letter is aimed directly at those nameless, self-righteous, egotistical males of the adjoining block to the Calthorpe wing. We should, on behalf of many of the female residents, like to point out to our male counterparts, that the fact that some people wash in the mornings, hardly constitutes "tarring themselves up."

And in addition to this we should like to show these gentlemen—for want of a better term—that although they find the appearance of their charming neighbours disturbing to their bridge, beer-stricken brains, we too find their greasy matted hair and bristly chins far, far more nauseating at the breakfast table.

NO WRITING ON THE WALL

DEAR SIR.—It was a real pleasure to read Dick Holt's remarks in "Redbrick" about "Wall." As I do not know Dick, I am unaware whether or not he would stand for everything that I would, but I want to add my voice to his as a Christian who believes that high moral standards are something worth having.

When has a general moral decline ever really benefited society? Why should a small group of individuals who take a delight in dreaming up muck be allowed to lower the standard of the whole Union by displaying the results of their grog-ridden intellect on its walls? This, surely, is on the same level as writing on those public lavatories and certainly of the same standard.

Maybe I am not able to express my thoughts in the same beautifully lucid way that I am sure "Wall" editors can. But I can ask for all you people with a scrap of decency and/or common sense remaining to Union by displaying the results of their grog-ridden intellect on its walls? This, surely, is on the same level as writing on those public lavatories and certainly of the same standard.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN INCHLEY
(Med. Biochem. II)

IN DEFENCE OF HUMBERT

DEAR SIR.—Coming to the University with no idea that the Refectory and Union meals were organised by different bodies of people, I was naturally surprised to find that there was such a difference in the price of meals. Having read the article on the matter in last week's "Redbrick," I still do not feel that the refectory is altogether justified in making such high charges for identical food.

However, in the light of my limited experience I can at least say a good word about the refectory as opposed to those of two other universities. During my interviews at Durham and Sheffield, I had occasion to sample the dubious delights of their catering. At Sheffield portions were much smaller and an average meal more expensive, while Durham must surely head any list of bad refectories, for I was given a piece of poor-quality, mostly inedible meat on a cold plate, on which the gravy congealed round the cold, watery cabbage, and there were only two alternatives, both equally unappetising, to this delicacy.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH A. UNSWORTH
(French I)

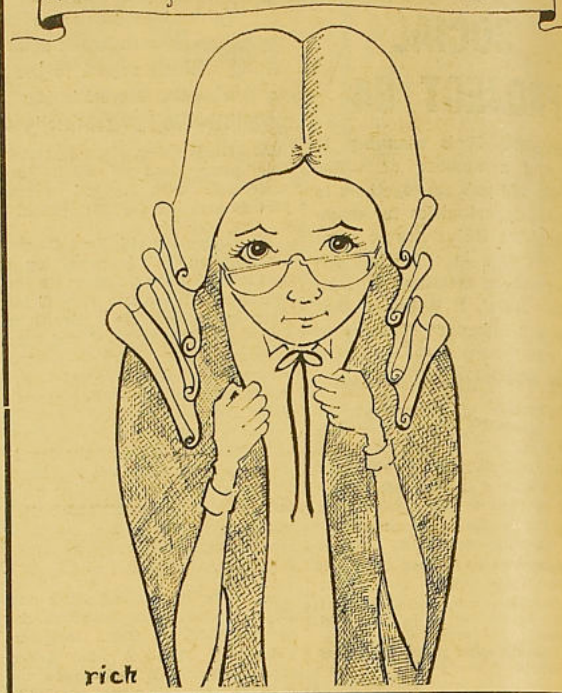
The invisible barrier between the enlightened north and the deep south still exists for those who wish to observe it.

We dare to sign ourselves,
LYNNE BRAIN,
DIANE MCGILL,
GILLIAN ATKINS,
SUZANNE WEDDEN,
LYNNE OWEN

JERRY JONES

M. L. GRIFFITHS

So the Law Faculty has taken in more girls this year.... Here's one of them—meet Juris Prudence.



REDBRICK IS A PAPER TIGER

SIR.—Only two concrete conclusions may be drawn from "Redbrick's" nebulous and evasive investigation into refectory prices, published last week. In the first place, it is clear that

Blatant Tory hypocrisy

SIR.—It will take much more than a letter to you from Anthony J. Page to explode the Socialist Union. The Tory Party is built on hypocrisy, I know, but Page's brand is so blatant I fail to see where he thinks it might take him, the BUCUA or the Tory Party.

In the BUCUA, 1967 Year Book they proclaimed their activities to "include meetings addressed by prominent Tory front-benchers... less eminent but expert speakers, discussion groups, debates, conferences and parties." Well, has anybody seen their programme this term? Perhaps all their plans are secret, and all their meetings are to be private "discussions" over coffee and biscuits. On the other hand, I've heard it said (by a member of BUCUA committee) that Central Office have let them down, deciding B.U. had had their quota of Tory M.P.s this term, already arranged by Debating Society. However, to compensate for this lack of programme, it seems that members of BUCUA are allowed to attend Birmingham Y.O. meetings.

Apparently, BUCUA is not tied to a political party. But without the Conservative Party it wouldn't even exist—it arranges speakers for them (or falls to), it maintains the Y.O.s (on which they are relying this term), supplies their bookstall, produces their Year Book (which is 50 per cent advertisements and 40 per cent superficial comments by their committee).

However, students will inevitably draw their own conclusions about the political activities in time.

LIBERALS STILL GROWING?

UNIVERSITY GIRLS IN ORD FASHION SHOW

A fashion show is being organised by ORD and will be held in the debating hall tomorrow at 1 p.m. Suede clothes are being provided by "Suede Craft" Ltd., and will be modelled by girls from the university. Taking part in the show are Judy Lee, Liz Genton and three other University girls. Tickets for the show are two shillings each and will be sold in the Union and refectory beforehand, and also on the door. All proceeds from the show go to the Serowe Youth Development Project in Botswana, which ORD is at present supporting.

Liz Genton, one of the girls who will be modelling in tomorrow's fashion show



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Debate preview

TONIGHT'S United Nations Debate on the motion "This House believes it would be disastrous to expect the U.N. to take the lead in world peace-keeping," should prove to be a thought-provoking event. Mr. Neville Brown, a lecturer in the Dept. of Political Science, and defence columnist of the "New Statesman" will be proposing the motion. He has just returned from the Middle East and his close knowledge of U.N. work there entitles him to speak with authority on the motion. Mr. John Abeles, a Rhodesian student from Salisbury University will be seconding Mr. Neville Brown.

Speaking against the motion will be Mr. Humphrey Berkeley, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the United Nations Association, and ex-Tory M.P., Mr. G. Chatterbhuti, an ex-Chairman of Deb. Soc., who is now engaged in Postgraduate studies in Law, will be also speaking for the opposition. The debate takes place at 7.30 in the Council Chamber.

Magistrate praises medic

Medical student Douglas Boyce, who went to aid a Birmingham conductor being attacked on a bus, was praised by Birmingham magistrates and was awarded £4 for damage to his clothes during the scuffle.

membership figures on a three-year membership.

This is less accurate than the one-year active membership on which the Liberal Society base their figures. He explained the decline in Socialist Union membership by the control which the Labour Party holds over its youth movement. Young Socialist groups are continually being disbanded for propagating Socialist policies. The National Executive of the Young Socialists, with such members as Mrs. Bessie Braddock, is also not a great incentive to membership.

Controls

The Young Liberals, like the Socialist Union, but unlike the Conservative Association, are constructively critical of their party's policies. They act individually, and unlike the other political associations, do not suffer from rigid controls imposed by their party. Unlike the Conservatives, the Young Liberals run an extensive programme of demonstrations, campaigns and help in local elections. They will also increase their social activities this year.

JENNY WICKHAM

Treble chance for Brum

LAST year Birmingham entered the B.B.C. radio quiz, "Third Degree" for the first time, and the team of Harold Schupack, Alison Morris and Mark Burke reached the final. This year the B.B.C. have

invited Birmingham to enter "Treble Chance Quiz," which is similar in format to "Third Degree." The first recording will take place in the Union on 25th October.

A completely new team will be required, and Mark Burke, Chairman of External Affairs Committee, is organising a meeting in the Council Chamber at 4 p.m. on Thursday, 12th October, for all interested in representing the University. Sample questions from previous broadcasts will form the basis of selection, and a wide general "pop culture" knowledge and "character" will be assets. Women are especially invited to attend, as at least one girl will be needed as a member. For those needing a further incentive, an appearance fee is likely to be paid.



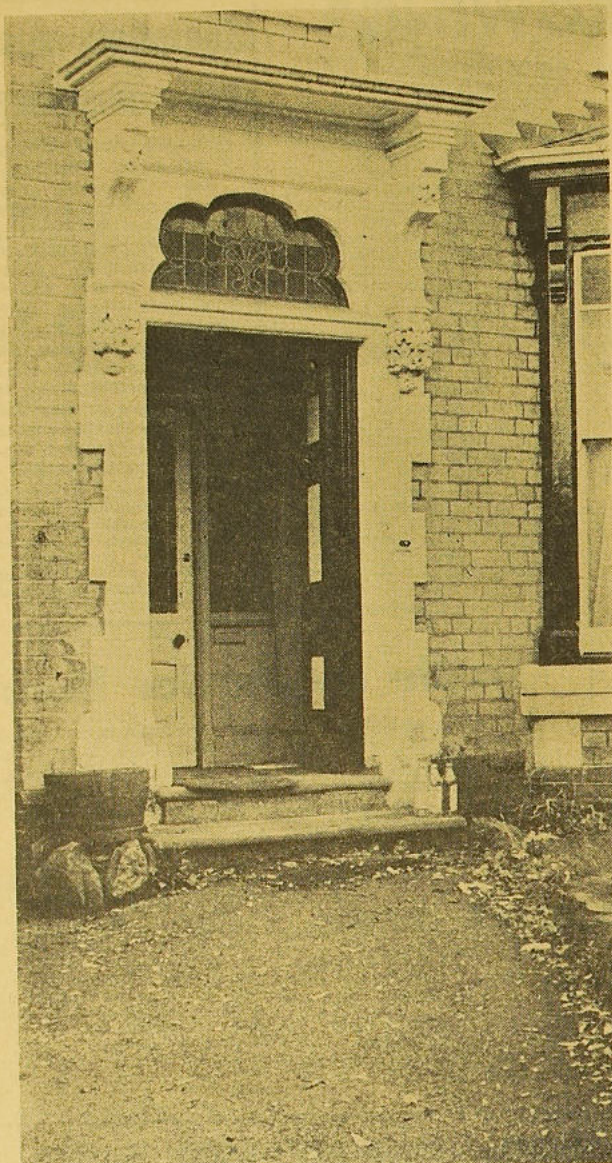
Some might call him a zebra. To me he's Socrates. Matches the scarf, too. Difficult in the digs. But not at Martins. They understand. They're so friendly at Martins—especially to students. Martins have an especial knowledge of a student's need to budget grants and allowances carefully which is why so many students find it worthwhile to open an account at Martins. Ask for a copy of the leaflet "About a Bank Account," specially written for students.

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PIG-STY CULTURE

LIVING AND STUDYING IN SQUALOR

FOR all students, undergraduate or postgraduate, the most crucial factor of their university career is accommodation. The luckiest are those who manage to find a place in one of the halls of residence, where, although fees are quite high, the benefits accruing from comfortable surroundings, as near ideal as possible working conditions, and the companionship of many other student make the expense worth while, especially for the first year student. For the others, however, the job of finding either digs or a flat is a matter of sheer luck; often the most unsuitable lodgings imaginable must be taken, as bad accommodation is preferable to no accommodation at all.

This difficulty can be especially acute in the case of the first-year student who, living away from home for the first time in his or her life, and as yet unfamiliar with the finer points of digs-hunting, is often forced to endure undreamed-of conditions while adapting to a completely different way of life.

It is obvious that a student working in sub-standard conditions is going to suffer academically, and the prospect becomes extremely disturbing when the N.U.S. statistics are examined. In 1950 some 36,000 students were in lodgings; in 1965 the latest figures available were 80,434 university students and 24,000 in colleges of education in lodgings.

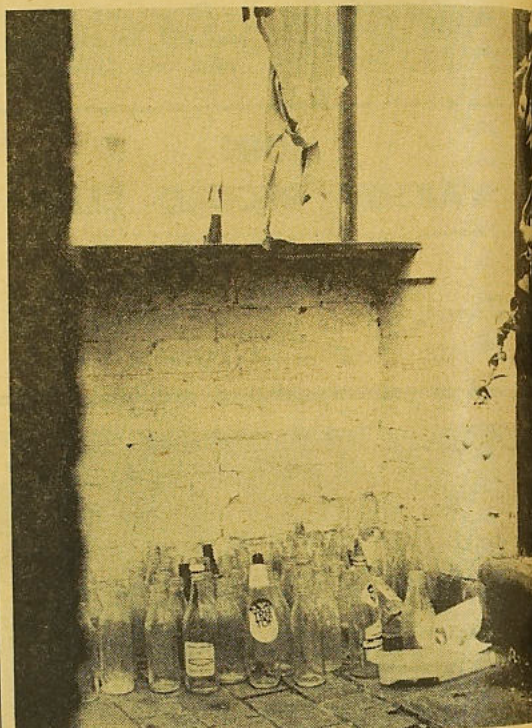
All large universities, and particularly those in the north, are having to push their lodgings boundaries farther and farther away from the campus. Some consider that before long there will be no more lodgings available within reasonable reach. At the new university of Lancaster, students not living on the site have to turn to Morecambe as the chief source of lodgings.

The difficulties of providing for 218,000 students in 1973 (figures from the Robbins report) are increased by the severe restriction that the University Grants Committee has placed on capital grants for building residential accommodation; this restriction is to last for at least the next five years.

come throughout the year; those lost when they leave university and the whole process of finding has to be begun again.

The difficulties are increased by the expansion of Aston, who have far larger catchment areas than Birmingham's Hagley Road, King's Heath and Moseley, and the G.P.O., B.M.C., and the training colleges all want flat accommodation for their own students.

Some universities have taken positive steps towards providing conditions. Leeds University, for example, has the Price Building, a large block of flats on the campus, available to all students from second year. Fees are about £100 per session for each of the small rooms; it is said that a small building inspector found them and found them to be excellent.



Wanted

Students who cannot study in their own homes and who are looking for a place to live in the city of Birmingham should apply to the N.U.S. for a list of available flats.

The request for information appeared in the last two "Redbricks."

Special blocks of student flats, on the other hand, are supplying a few flats on the campus, but these are similar large-scale flats.

On October 14th there was a meeting of the East and West Midlands N.U.S. committees in which it was hoped that political action could be taken. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Universities of Birmingham, Coventry and Warwick, and by the N.U.S. Executive Committee.

The meeting was held in the N.U.S. Executive Committee's offices in the city of Birmingham. The meeting was held in the N.U.S. Executive Committee's offices in the city of Birmingham. The meeting was held in the N.U.S. Executive Committee's offices in the city of Birmingham.

Compiled by
Graham Barker.
Photos by
Graham Sharples

This is the background to the N.U.S. Student Housing Campaign, lasting from October 8th-14th to "focus academic and public attention on the plight of students." N.U.S. surveys have proved that:

- (1) Many students have inadequate heating and lighting.
- (2) Standards of furniture and study facilities are often extremely low.
- (3) Many student lodgings are sub-standard and fall below the minimum of Housing minimum requirements.

Trevor Fisk, Secretary of the N.U.S., outlined the two main aims of the campaign. The first is to get the university authorities to be more realistic in their building campaigns; for instance, there should be no more prestige buildings. Also, where a hall is only five or ten minutes away from the university, there should be no duplication of facilities.

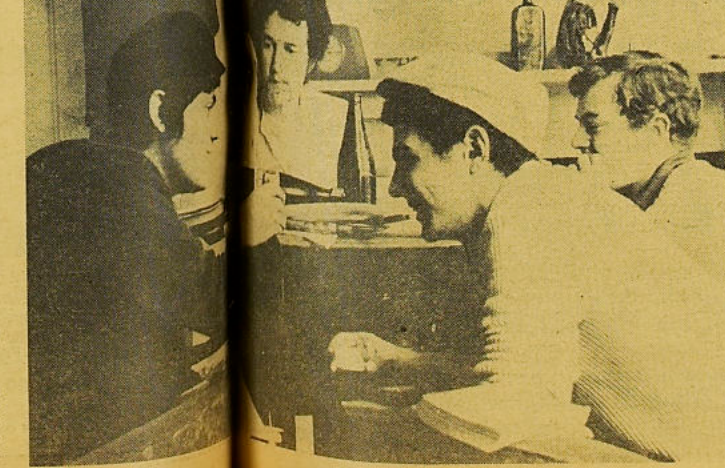
The second is to induce the government to change the law about students building and running their own hostels. In Scandinavia 80 per cent of the students live in accommodation arranged by themselves in co-operation with the authorities. In Britain this is as yet illegal.

Fisk said his complaints were not directed against Lodgings Wardens, but the Universities and the Government. "We are appalled at the reluctance of the universities to alter their views on the problem of student accommodation," he stated.

According to the Birmingham Lodgings Warden, the flats situation is "very bad, but not as bad as last year." One problem not appreciated by most people is the fact that the landlords want their in-

the minimum legal size. There are no separate beds—most are sleeping bags—and there are no adequate communal kitchen facilities. The main complaints are about difficulties in disposing of student flats, and poor sound-proofing. The Guild has been invited to take prices are rising. Rents for beds and breakfast are £4 upwards; conditions are squalid—little faith is held in the Rent Tribunal, as its members always take far too long.

Hull and Warwick Universities also have their own facilities.



and it is hoped to find property suitable for conversion on the lines of projects at other universities. So far it has proved impossible to find any property near the campus which would be an economic proposition. There is also great interest in the situation in Scandinavia, where the union of students has far more power than the N.U.S. has in Britain, thus allowing many progressive student co-operative housing schemes to be carried through with relatively little obstruction.

In order to bring home the importance and the urgency of this problem, "Redbricks" intended to conduct a thorough investigation of the "squalid flats" and inadequate digs, large numbers of which are known to exist if the harrowing tales abounding on all sides are to be believed. The result of the "inquiry" was, however, extremely disappointing as, after two successive weeks of advertising for people with sub-standard flats to come forward if they wished to provide indisputable evidence of squalor, only a handful of students cared to volunteer information. This fact in itself suggests that the problem might not now be so acute if the apathy inherent in generation after generation of students had not prevented earlier action.

Of the flats which were examined, the two main problems of structural defects and spatial inadequacies seem to coincide. The outer aspect alone of some of the Edgbaston residences is extremely depressing. Peeling paint, rotting brick—and woodwork are frequent features of these dilapidated Victorian houses which have been turned into poorly-maintained flats. Inside these buildings, rising damp, loose floorboards and window fittings, holes in ceilings and doors, execrable furnishings and an all-pervading odour of the dead but not departed, are the common characteristics.

In all cases, study facilities are deplorably inadequate, and living conditions in general are extremely cramped; there is often no hot water, and electric wiring is frequently faulty, and dangerous.

Of the few squalid digs we were able to obtain information about, the worst example was undoubtedly an establishment run by a well-known "Christian" organisation. We are unable to print any details which might identify the lodgings because of the dangers of retaliation against our informant. The rent is fixed at £4 11s. per week with gas extra. One of the house rules is that the inmates are forbidden to have the fire on in the living-room if there are less than twelve people present. In the minute bedrooms, there is one small table for three students. Prayers, conducted by a warden who admits to hating all Welsh people, are compulsory on Sunday mornings.

When some of the girls phoned the university to complain about the conditions, their warden eavesdropped on the call and then interrogated and abused them for over an hour, reducing one girl to tears; later, when a girl tried to leave, the warden tried to con her into believing that she was entitled to hold her back for one month. This is, of course, illegal.

THE PAINTER'S WORK IS ALL IN VAIN.
THE BOGHOVIE POET STRIKES AGAIN

SOUP
MIDWINTER
WINTER
We hate Reg

THE MEDIUM IS THE MESSAGE

by GRAHAM BARKER

OF all the art forms graffiti is the most commonly practised, yet at the same time the most neglected, even purposefully avoided. Of all the cultural spheres, graffiti, or the "casual writings, rude drawings and markings on ancient buildings" has a more respectable history than most lavatory-cleaners would like to admit; the monuments of Ancient Egypt did not escape, nor did the town of Pompeii. The Pompeii porn is reputed to be so bad that women are not allowed to gaze upon it, and considering the broad-mindedness of today's emancipated female, and the fact that it is written in Latin, indicates a level of ingenuity unsurpassed even in the age of mechanical devices.

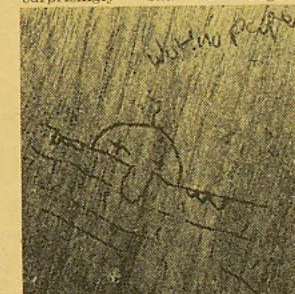
Several learned books have been written on the subject of graffiti, but none has yet investigated it on a university plane; thus, intensive research was conducted around the campus bog after bog was relentlessly searched for humour and obscenity, until, at last, the field was narrowed down to the Arts Faculty bogs and the Union conveniences. From this exhaustive research several conclusions can be drawn.

Firstly, and more surprising than might appear, graffiti is confined exclusively to the male convenience. Reasons for this can only be guessed at, until someone does a Ph.D. on the topic. But possibly university women suffer from some form of paranoia which prevents them from giving rein to their feelings and putting on full, public view their most profound thoughts.

Secondly, there is very little evidence of its occurrence in the engineering departments; this suggests either a low level of imagination or over-zealous cleansing. The state of the medium (in this case the wall) is no excuse for lack of adornment. The members of the Arts departments manage very well on an extremely discouraging, dark-grey marked surface, although all the evidence points to persistent opposition from the cleaning staff. This is disturbing, as the primary academic importance of graffiti is the insight it gives into the mind of the common man. (There was a momentary temptation to put the full-stop after "common".) Therefore, if the stuff was left on

the tombs of the ancient Egyptian kings, why shift the bullet walls in Birmingham? Posterity could in this way be robbed of vital biological evidence of sexual myths.

Nevertheless, what material there is is significant. The bulk of the material, both good and bad, appears in a roughly semi-circular band to the right of the apparatus, having a working radius of some two feet. Mainly writing, there is only the occasional crude and instantly recognisable sketch; inscriptions, where they appear, are surprisingly bad as regards



grammar—the omission of the definite article is the commonest aberration—and the vocabulary is disappointing in scope. In the Arts bog, several of the inscriptions are in rather dubious Latin, Greek, French, German and Russian. This, however, is a factor tending to distort the ethos of the art. In the Union bogs the door is also available, and most of the material thereupon is long, perplexingly obscene, and somewhat hackneyed. This may in some way be due to the use of the Union by students with penoid complexes on dance nights. Masturbation, homosexuality, and the bodily functions are the time-hallowed themes. Poetry, it will be observed, does not occur.

Evidence of the existence of the semi-professional boghovie poet is not hard to find. Their comments are self-appreciative; they are written very clearly in soft black pencil; they also appear in positions impossible to reach from a sitting position. This reveals a certain anti-social tendency towards reluctance to leave, perhaps an unconscious hankering after the womb.

There are obvious characteristic differences between Arts and Union scribbles; therefore, because graffiti does not occur in places like the library or the refectory, one can reasonably assume that there are two distinct bodies of authors. At the moment, the balance of

imagination is weighted in favour of the Arts block, but here, for reasons already stated, one must attend regularly in order to obtain a comprehensive picture. A hearty laugh is conducive to a good crap, and the writer of this article is looking forward to the occasion when someone falls off laughing, and scrawls about it.

As comments on society in general, and political developments in particular, graffiti is disappointing. The ubiquitous CND symbol, peacefully carved on the back of some doors, is the only indication that at times like this people spare a thought for the cares and responsibilities of citizenship. There is none of the Long Live de Gaulle, or the Down With Franco that can get you shot—never mind fined—for vandalism in Spain. The only conclusion to be drawn from this is that the British public when given the opportunity, is politically apathetic, and therefore it is no wonder that there is a total lack of differentiation between the two major parties.

The burdens of leadership provide even less stimulus to pornographic representation or political invective than do those of mere membership. In the Union executive bogs there is not a pencil-stroke or a gouge to be seen.

Because our university graffiti is manifestly not fulfilling its traditional function of providing a running commentary on life; a kind of satirical and humorous "WALL," as one might put it, the onus is on the university authorities to put a stop to the iniquitous practice of cleaning the walls, nay, even sand-papering them. (If the removal of graffiti becomes, for some reason, unavoidable, for instance, on the occasion of a royal visit, the operation should be carried out with a certain amount of tasteful discrimination.) Furthermore, every encouragement should be given to foster the proliferation and raise the standard of this most private and subjective of art forms. Whitewashed walls, ceilings and floors should be universally provided, and instruction in theory and practice be readily available. Perhaps it may be expedient to introduce this option into the first-year physical education syllabus, or better still, instigate a special inter-faculty course to further the scope and at the same time inject new fire and enthusiasm into this flagging institution. Essays of two thousand words of original pornography can then be a prospect to look forward to, a source of salacious glee and a joy to all who read them.

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Radiochemical Centre, Amersham, Bucks.

VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW

RECORDS

New record of dated songs

ALL of the 12 tracks on "Gladys Knight and the Pips" (MFP 1187) were recorded in America in 1965 shortly after the formation of the group, but their style as portrayed on this LP bears little resemblance if any to their present style as shown in their recent hit single, "Take Me in Your Arms and Love Me."

Her voice certainly seems to have mellowed since these tracks were originally recorded and some of the numbers, especially on the first side, are typical of Wilson Pickett's early style. There is a good selection of soul numbers on this LP but there are some which are definitely not suited to her rather biting voice and others in which the backing produced by the Pips tends to overshadow her importance. The music is somewhat dated and is not in their usual Tamla vein; nevertheless the music is easy to listen to and recording quality is quite remarkable for an LP of this price. The record is released in this month on the Music for Pleasure label and retails at 12/6d.

GRAHAM SHARPLES

Bargain-price Menuhin

ON Music for Pleasure MFP 2079 (mono) Yehudi Menuhin plays the Violin Concerto by Carl Nielsen with the Danish National Orchestra, conducted by Mogens Woldike. This is a good performance of a work which is, perhaps, comparatively unknown in this country. The highlight is the second movement, marked Poco Adagio, although Menuhin's pitching is occasionally far from perfect here, and the rapport between orchestra and soloist is also suspect, in that neither seems certain of the other's tempo at times.

As a filler, there are three pieces from Nelsen's "Aladdin" generally competently performed; the delightful and evocative "Aladdin's Dream and Dance of the Morning Fog" makes one wish that the whole work could have been included.

This is a bargain in the true sense of the word, well worth the modest 12s. 6d. asked. The quality of reproduction is also better than on many so-called bargains.

DICK MAYNARD

TOM PAXTON

WENDY GRIFFITHS

Paxton makes Brummies sing for America

"GOD'S checked out man," said the long-haired, pot-smoking priest with rimless glasses. Thus runs one of Tom Paxton's newer compositions, received with acclaim by a capacity audience at Birmingham Town Hall on Friday evening.

The difference between his actual appearance and the rejuvenated "Photo" in the programme gave us a few anxious moments, but we were pleased to find that his loss of hair had in no way affected his performance.

The old Paxton Classics, such as "Raining Boy, My Lady, What did you learn in school today?" were sup-



BY PATSY SIMISON

FASHION

Tracking down the Birmingham boutiques

BIRMINGHAM is an affluent city; a morning constitutional along Corporation Street will convince anyone in doubt. It follows that the prices charged by some stores for clothes bear little relationship to the cost of their production. Shopping in good boutiques as opposed to Rackhams is rather like eating in a self-service instead of at the Albany. One pays for what one gets, not for the name, the prestige or one-upmanship.

"Best quality" does have a realistic price on its head and it should have nothing to do with how much the customer is prepared to pay, or how much the management can get away with charging.

Besides Miss Domino at Rackhams and Miss Selfridge at Lewis's, which are attempts to create the boutique concept within a large store, there are five flourishing boutiques all in the city centre.

Geor Box, behind Colmore Row in Cornwell Street, is rather off the beaten track but often has some good Elgee suits and Ravel shoes.

The Immediate Boutique, again off Colmore Row on Waterloo Street, used to be the more expensive brand names but now sells cheaper clothes made locally by art students.

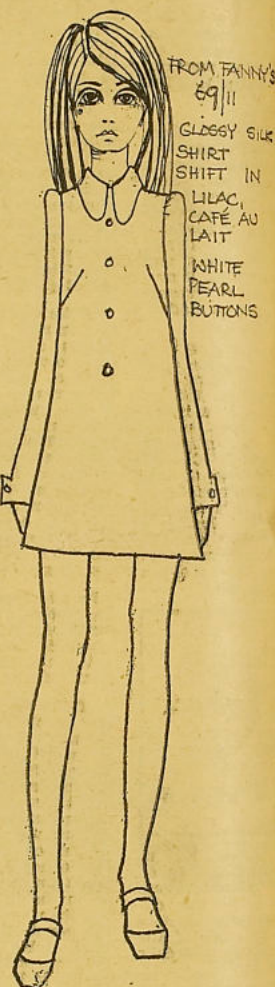
Tiffany's, the most recently opened boutique, is on the corner of Cherry Street and Temple Row, opposite the Cathedral (no fresher ever realises that this is in fact the Cathedral). There is a large variety of dresses upstairs, suits, skirts and evening dresses downstairs. Moreover, the size range tends to be sympathetic to the larger doll.

The Alley, in the Piccadilly Arcade off New Street, has dresses and two-pieces which are reasonable but the styles tend to be a little stereotyped and repetitive.

Finally, Fanny's on the St. Martin's side of town near the Bull Ring, has had a psychédelic face-lift and will probably now be in line for a freebie facial, but the clothes are cheap, well made and often different. Many seem to come from Biba's in London. Consequently the sizes are small and armholes tight, but don't be deceived by the size on the ticket. Any one person has been known to get into dresses ranging from a theoretic 8 to 19.

Boutiques are never the same from week to week. They either change hands, have different stock or different assistants. One can

rarely say this or that boutique is the best for it is ultimately a question of finding one to suit yourself or ploughing through them all every week.



BY PATSY SIMISON

MAGGIE QUYSNER

SEVERED HEAD

PHIL IRVING

Dramatic transformation in mood

ADAPTATIONS to both theatre and screen from novels are usually subject to some sort of transformation both in content and mood, but rarely quite so drastic as in J. B. Priestley's version of "A Severed Head" running at the Birmingham Rep at the moment.

The novel originally had an atmosphere notable for its air of brood and mesmeric inevitability, a group of cultured intellectuals in an ethical mess.

At the Rep, the production is played almost as English farce—the only brooding being done by the audience who were unsure whether the acting was intentionally funny or not.

The stage version is very true to the original plot—briefly an affluent ex-Oxford wine merchant, Martin Lynch-Gibbon, played by Peter Brookes, and his wife Antonia (Charlotte Howard) are both having affairs—he with a student geologist, Palmer. Palmer's half sister Honor and Martin's brother Alexander are then drawn into a series of change - your - partner - and - thing - of - the - most - unlikely - combination - affairs, which occupy the rest of the play.

Alison Key, as the mysterious Honor Klein gives one of the best performances, and the rest of the cast are at least competent.

The play is directed by Peter Deves, the overall impression gained is rather hurried as the focus switches from drawing room to bedroom to bedsit, with a series of very short scenes into which the book has been condensed. O.K. for lovers of farce.

FOLK

Folk success with cosmopolitan songs

THE first Folk Concert of the season was held on Saturday in Deb Hall, to the strains of the discotheque below. Promoted jointly by the Folk Club and Ents. Comm., it featured the Ian Campbell group, John Pearce, and the Munstermen. By all opinions heard it was a social success, even though a slight financial loss was made.

First on stage were the Munstermen, a local group, combining two guitars with a fiddle. Notable in their performance were several lively Irish reels and "the plaintif wind that shakes the barley."

John Pearce, of "Hold down a chord" fame, presented a highly entertaining mixture of songs and "chat." His hilarious folk translation of "Twist and Shout" and his attempt to turn the audience into a

Russian choir with the "Minx from Pinsk" contrasted well with a beautiful rendering of "Plaisir d'Amour" and the Appalachian dulcimer. His sense of humour was evident throughout his performance, and even the casual listener could appreciate perfection in instrumental technique.

The Ian Campbell group, this time without Lorna Campbell, were as popular as ever. Though perhaps not at their best, they nevertheless succeeded in delighting the audience with boisterous versions of "Sally Racket" and "South Australia." Amongst their quieter moments were "Dirty Old Town" and a beautiful contemporary version of "Greensleeves" featuring their flautist. The latter was greatly appreciated, the audience's ovation lasting several minutes.

Three concerts are planned for this season, and it is hoped that they will prove as enjoyable as this one.

VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW

FILMS

MAURICE YAGOWAR

Noble truths in bull-fight

AN excellent film which opens this week is Francesco Rosi's "The Moment of Truth" (Cinephone), which has the beauty of the bullfight, the rhythms of Spanish music and of brilliant editing, and moving statement about the sacrificial nature of the fighter as well as the bull.

The film opens on a religious ceremony at which a bull is killed in an ugly, unceremonial manner. Rosi stresses the ugly side of the kill, by editing and colour set off from the splendour of the ceremonial trappings. Rosi then shows us the beauty as human skills and grace elevate the slaughter into noble test and sacrifice.

The film ends with another religious ceremony, the torero's funeral. Rosi stresses the identification of bull and fighter throughout the film. His teacher advises the torero to have the bull in his head and in his heart. The hero scratches the bull's forehead as his "telephone," communicating, identifying. It is as the bull charges blindly on to his doom that the hero charges into more and more fights, more and more sacrifices, until in the moment of truth he is the bull, he is the animal that the audience comes to see slaughtered.

THEATRE

JAN BAKER

Gusts of the grotesque in Russell Brown's 'Tempest'

"The Tempest," performed by the Department of Drama & Theatre Arts at the Crescent Theatre, October 3rd to 7th.

Violent and the cruel, the unnatural and grotesque, even the obscene—these were the main themes of John Russell Brown's production of "The Tempest," in his attempt to show the force of the supernatural around us. By its accentuation on sound and movement, this production, with its Watkinson undertones, illustrated the power of the elements and was presented as a stimulus to the senses rather than to the intellect. Despite this emphasis, however, Shakespeare's original "Tempest" was not lost and the production proved to be an interesting experiment.

The element of contrast—between evil and good with Prospero holding sway—was one of the main themes throughout. Ariel, acted convincingly by John Evans, appeared in a spirit, hair free curly, dressed in a simple, airy, fairy who was strikingly contrasted to a deformed hairy and masturbating Caliban with his shrieks and screeching and convulsive writhings (or writhing convulsions). Caliban (or Alan Booth) was the embodiment of evil, and this abstract concept was shown in a physical form through his grotesque and obscene postures. Yet he was always completely under the influence of the mystical and awe-inspiring Prospero (Michael Graham), the overall impression, whose somewhat Dadaistic direction, though deliberate, seemed at times out of accordance with the play, which was, after all, still Shakespeare's.

Mimada, his daughter, played by Judith Loe, was sweetness and loveliness, acting just as she ought, and with her sobs and heart-aches brought the play to a more human level (though what she saw in Ferdinand (Barry Kyle) God knows).

The choreography, by Jane Winears, was outstanding in the movement and mime of the mariners in the ship-wreck scene, in the contortions of the Shapes and the writhings of the Goblins (naughty black creatures). Lighting, not particularly dramatic, was nevertheless effective; in several scenes there were heavy contrastings of light and shadow. Costumes, particularly those of the Spirits and Nymphs, were colourful and lavish and fantastical, and the scenery adequate yet simple (though there were hints at one stage of "Flower Power").

Altogether, "The Tempest" was original and interesting and well worth seeing, if for Timothy Curry's antics alone!



Photo: John Porter

Prospero (Mick Graham) and Ariel (John Evans) in a scene from the Drama Department's production of "The Tempest"

Coleshill Street ABC has another interesting late-night film Friday at 11. Montgomery Clift, Elizabeth Taylor and Katharine Hepburn in the film of Tennessee Williams's "Suddenly Last Summer," directed by Joseph Mankiewicz.

Selly Oak ABC has a Settlers Western on for a week, "The Way West," with Richard Widmark. Sunday's film is "Sex and the Single Girl" with Tony Curtis back in drag. Lauren Bacall and Henry Fonda doing a lovely "Anniversary Twist," and a very good final chase. Screenplay is by Joseph Heller (CATCH 22).

Edgbaston ABC has for Wednesday only, October 18th, the Mankiewicz film of "Julius Caesar." The play, not cut for the film, stars Marlon Brando, James Mason, John Gielgud, Edmund O'Brien, Greer Garson, Deborah Kerr, Louis Calhern, with Lumsden Hare as Publius.

India Society shows Satyajit Ray's beautiful film, "The World of Apu," Wednesday evening, October 18th, in Haworth. Three bob. The film is the second in the trilogy which traces the growth of a boy into adulthood in the new India.

FILMS JIM LEACH

Pretensions in the elevator

THE lady in "Lady in the Cage" (Futurist) is a rich, middle-aged, American city-dweller with literary pretensions; the cage is an elevator (it's an American movie) which she has installed in her house after she is injured in an accident. When

BOOKS

MARK BURKE

Poet's faith and fate loom large

"The Life of Robert Southwell," by Christopher Devlin (Sidgwick & Jackson, 18/-).

SOUTHWELL was hanged for being a Jesuit in 1595. It is a pity that in this book, which might well be suspected from the publishers' blurb to be a work of literary criticism, the two facts of his faith and fate loom much larger than the fact that he was a poet.

This is a Roman Catholic book, and a rather clumsy one at that—comment on the poems of Southwell gets lost amid a mass of propaganda. This is rather more than a pity, as the propaganda is partly directed to persuading the reader how great a poet Southwell was, as well as to propagate the view of Southwell as heroic martyr. For the poet Southwell at any rate, thinks Christopher Devlin doth protest too much—he weakens his whole argument by over-stating his case. I cannot think of one poet who has been a better poet by being a Jesuit as



Photo: Graham Sharples

"Look at our human being in a cage," James Caan and Olivia de Havilland in "Lady in the Cage."

the human machine breaks down, man is able to employ mechanical aids. But what happens when the electronic machine fails too? The question has often been asked but rarely has the answer been so forceful as in this film.

She lives in an environment of humours of war, religious mania, cheap sex hypochondria and, above all, the deafening noise of the city. She lives in it but she is not touched by it. As she makes her fateful ascent in the elevator she drowns the city noise with the delicate 18th-century music from her portable radio. Anything to avoid having to think.

While she is helpless in the elevator, her house is invaded by the outcasts of the society to which she belongs—the bum, the tart, and the juvenile delinquents. She rings her alarm bell but few people hear it over the noise of the traffic and those who do hear it ignore it.

She comes to see that man has crawled from the jungle only to build his own artificial one. Her only escape is to become an animal and she does so by poking out the eyes of the leading delinquent (James Caan). His body falls in the road and the drivers sound

their horns impatiently as a traffic jam builds up.

Olivia de Havilland gives a suitably harrowing performance as the lady, and Walter Grauman directs with an unpretentious and unobtrusive style. This, with "The Pawnbroker," is the best of the recent crop of American social-protest films.

Peter Yates' film, "Robbery" (A.B.C.'s New Street and Coleshill Street), loosely based on the Great Train Robbery, starts well enough, with a credits sequence showing the mail train charging through the night like some evil-eyed monster. It opens with a brilliantly-executed jewel theft and a high-speed police chase. This should act as a curtain-raiser for what is called "the greatest crime of the century" but, after the split-second timing of the first raid and the tension of the chase sequence, the actual robbery comes as something of an anti-climax.

Although the preparations are shown in laborious detail, the ending is perfunctory. All the robbers, except master-mind Stanley Baker, are caught in their hide-out because of the panic of two men. The film is enlivened by the brief—far too brief—appearances of Joanna Pettet as Baker's nerve-wracked wife. It is consistently interesting

about this book. I feel, is its title. Titles sell books, and this title does suggest some sort of rigorous survey, conducted according to the methods of social psychology—nothing of the sort—the book is a welter of self-congratulating personal opinion throughout. O.K. for a laugh, I admit, but suppose you've bought it in all haste and seriousness expecting it to help you in your academic work? Another pound goes down the drain.

What makes the whole thing worse is that Grabowski obviously thinks he is making more meaningful statements than he actually does. The areas in the book he devotes to discussion of tea-drinking, cricket and the English woman's sex-life are amusing at first, but one feels a certain embarrassment creeping in when one realises that he is taking his misinterpretations so deadly seriously. Like Don Quixote in the windmill, he assails defunct images, cardboard type-myths that never really existed anyway, outside Mrs. Dale's Diary. This stimulates them, to buy the book then try and analyse him.

THIS WEEK'S SPORT — Rugger - Soccer - Lacrosse

Rugger

London kicks Brum's points

Birmingham Univ. 1st XV 12 pts., Sheffield Town 21 pts.

WITH some old campaigners bringing experience to the side, and some freshers adding young vigour, the first XV ran on to its newly-reclaimed Bournebrook pitch with high hopes last Saturday. But, as might be expected against a club side with six fixtures behind them this season, hope was not enough, and the University side was only shaken into a more determined game by two early tries from the visitors. Neither try was converted, and the first XV, organising itself better now, pressed hard for a try itself.

After a good heel from a loose maul, a handling movement was only brought to a halt under the visitors' posts. Finally, Tony London kicked a penalty to make the half-time score 6-3 to Sheffield.

The University side was slow to reorganise after the break, and Sheffield added 15 points in just a few minutes. The first XV fought back, the forwards showing strength in the set pieces and imagination in the loose, such as will pay dividends in the course of the season. In a blind-side movement from another good loose heel, Tony London was kicking three more penalty goals, so that the final score was 21-12 against the University. The match was by no means one to be ashamed of, rather one to learn by. As one player said, "We gave them 21 points start and licked them 12-0."

Rugger

2nd XV open with a win

Brum 2nd 17 pts., Sheffield 13 pts.

WEST HILLS was in beautiful condition for the first University match to be played there this season. The game was only ten minutes old when the University opened the scoring: from a five-yard scrum, scrum-half M. MacCoss utilised a quick heel by breaking round the open-side to score a try, which was not converted. Both sides were then evenly matched until right on half-time when Sheffield scored from a line-out and then went ahead when the conversion attempt succeeded.

The second half showed many fluctuations. Firstly, Sheffield went further ahead with a converted try. The university then pulled three points back when number eight, J. Suggate, broke through in fine style to score near the posts; again the conversion failed. However, shortly afterwards, Sheffield went further ahead with an unconverted try in the corner. Then the university fought back and after A. Lambert had made a fine break of 40 yards, R. Monk went over near the touch-line. R. Hughes converted with a drop kick.

Cross-Country

Henry VIII splits Brum

1st: Birmingham 1st 38 pts.
2nd: Henry VIII School 68 pts.
3rd: Birmingham 2nd 89 pts.

THE Cross-Country Club opened their season with a match against King Henry VIII School, Coventry. The teams consisted almost entirely of new members of the club, and a comfortable win was achieved.

The course consisted of two laps of a 2½-mile circuit at West Hills, the going being fairly firm. After one lap, Malcolm Thomas had opened up a 150-yard lead on the crest of the field and he went on to win for Birmingham, by over a minute in a new course record.

Henry VIII's first runner was second, and was followed home by five Birmingham runners in the next minute, making victory for us certain. The times of the first six Birmingham runners were as follows:

M. Thomas 26min. 13sec. (1st), G. Wilson 27min. 52sec. (3rd), P. Griffiths 28min. 0sec. (4th), P. Smith 28min. 22sec. (5th), T. Moffat 28min. 35sec. (6th), and H. McCollum 28min. 39sec. (7th).



A quick push goes undetected in the game between Brum 1st and Sheffield.

Soccer

Sub's goals beat Brum

Birmingham Univ. 1, Technical Univ. of Prague 4

LAST Tuesday the University 1st XI entertained a team from the Technical University of Prague, one of the sides which we played on the recent tour. Once again, the University found themselves on the losing end of a 4-1 scoreline. However, the score is misleading in the respect that the home side had as many scoring chances as the Czech side, but failed to cash in to the same extent.

The Czechs played a very effective short passing game, which frequently had the Birmingham players looking both slow and silly. In complete contrast to their standard tactics, after ten minutes their tall inside-left picked up a ball some thirty yards from goal and let fly, clipping the cross-bar with Walker left just watching. At this time, the grim defence of Barraclough, Helowicz, Jones and Rosbrook was effective, but a goal was always on the cards and when it came it was the result of a defensive mistake. Jones and Walker left a right-wing cross to each other and a Czech forward was on hand to sweep the ball home.

Then the course of the game changed. The goal hung Birmingham into, raising their pace and Brown was twice denied a goal by superb saves by the tall goalkeeper. Birmingham continued to press until a quarter of an hour after the interval, when the Czechs brought their substitute on, and as so often happens he crushed the University's challenge by scoring two fine opportunistic goals within five minutes of entering the game. The now confident Czechs attacked again, but the university continued to fight and in the last few seconds Birkinshaw challenged the goalkeeper for Johnson's high centre, and the goalkeeper palmed the ball.

Soccer

Sound defence, weak attack

Medics 1, Wolverhampton G.S. 0

LAST Wednesday, the Medics played their first soccer match of the new season at West Hills. They entertained Wolverhampton Grammar School, who last year won the all-England public schools 6-a-side competition. The pitch was in perfect playing order, but a very strong cross wind made conditions far from ideal. The Medics fielded nine of last season's regular players, the new additions, Cairne and Cameron, both being freshers.

The game started with the Medics pressing heavily, they had control in mid-field, and the back-row dealt fairly competently with the few break-throughs. However, this mid-field dominance was not turned into goals. The forward line

was not performing nearly as ably as at the end of last season. They were rather slow to pass and move off the ball, and the visiting defence was very quick to tackle and this, coupled with the difficult conditions resulted in very little real danger to the Wolverhampton goal.

The only positive chance in the first half was missed by Brotherton who blasted a free kick from about four yards out at a rack of defenders, when a chip shot would perhaps have sufficed. The Medics kept the visitors penned in their own half for much of the first half but were unable to score.

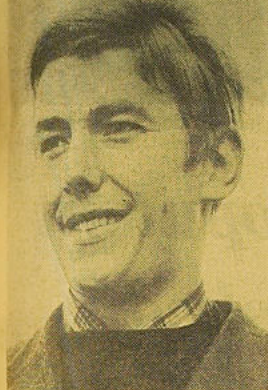
Cross Country—Basketball—Athletics

Basketball

A NEW APPROACH TO THE GAME

TRIALS are over, the dust has settled and the execratic process of team selection has been completed. The first team contains most of last year's aces, losing only Hot-Shot Mupi and Crasher Joiner and retaining three blues and three half-blues.

A.U. Chairman writes . .



(Photo by Peter Mills)

A.U. Chairman, John Wallis.

AFTER much indecision and even more confusion Birmingham has been selected as the venue for this year's BUSF Basketball Tournament. This tournament will include Scotland, Wales, U.A.U. Cambridge and Oxford etc. It is worth noting that last year, Oxford helded all-American first five, which included America's ex-Olympic captain Bill Bradley. The tournament will take place between December 10th-12th in the Sports Centre, and as it is the only major national competition to be held in Birmingham this year I hope that the University members will help to make it a success by giving their support.

Wast Hills, now under new management, seems to be a more pleasant place in which to eat and socialise. Mrs. Moore, now in charge of catering, used to work in the Union and takes more than a little interest in student affairs and welfare. It is hoped this year that more of the ladies' teams will make full use of these facilities and make the club-house more of a social centre. Also, this year, Wast Hills will be open as a centre available for society socials etc. and may be bookable via R. T. Jones, Union Secretary. It may be worthwhile for anyone who has not been out there to take a look at the facilities available.

The Men's Hockey Club, one of the strongest clubs in the University this year, has three representatives playing for the U.A.U. under-25 team in an international tournament in Liverpool this week. The three players, R. Fishburn, J. Van der Cok and the evergreen Martin Norris, form the core of as strong a hockey team as we have had for quite a few years. Captain Norris's comments on their chances in U.A.U. "We should be unbeatable."

Physiotherapist service began on Monday and by all accounts provided an excellent service for people who used it. With the help of much modern electrical equipment Mr. Thomas can treat his patients well within the time specified. He said last week that he had every confidence that the demand for this service would increase as students realised its true value.

After a general panic concerning the well-being of P. J. Bolton, last year's cricket captain, it was learnt this week that he did in fact pass his exams and after a year's absence will be back in Birmingham sporting circles. He expressed a wish that all those who showed such deep concern should be thanked.

Paul Patterson—6ft. 4ins. pivot and forward. Number 6. Captain this year and pronounced mesomorph, though insists he is Church of England. Blessed with a

There is one refugee from the land of popcorn and Bermuda shorts. Bob Pastor, lured over here no doubt by the prospect of a country full of Bens and Twiggies. A basketball fraternity tends to fall into a state of high euphoria at the thought of an American player (he's Yank isn't he? Of course he's good!) and while we hope that Bob does live up to that image, we also hope he enjoys his stay with the club.

The same sentiments are extended to Vic Nussussian, though it is to be hoped that he won't expect a coherent rendering of his name, particularly as the evening wears on. Vic Gregorian also joins the squad, having made his mark (and I mean mark!) in departmental basketball for the last few seasons, as does a missionary from London University, Trevor Floyd, who has forsaken the Metropolis to come and spread a bit of light here in the Mecca of the Midlands. Finally, Keith Booth and Neil Dewhurst, ex-kingpins of the second team, graduate to complete the first squad for this year.

Basketball proved to be such a successful sport last year, in terms of court performance and as a draw for spectators, that special arrangements have been made for the convenience and entertainment of the crowd. Music will be relayed over the loudspeakers before the matches, so you can slap on your flower-power ties and your P.V.C. dearie suits, and then indulge in a minor freak-out in the balcony, aided by the Archbishop of Canterbury and his Ram Jam Band (via a record player or your instant, actual, all-swingin', all-adding, programmes will be provided free for all five-star matches such as Loughborough, Old Notts etc. and though all matches will be worth watching, these specially recommended matches will be billed as "Programme Matches."

Also, there is nearly always room on the coach to away matches to Leeds, Manchester, Cardiff, the Pool etc., and we'd be glad to accommodate anyone who wants to sprint off home for a day, see Liverpool Cathedral by amblelight, punt on the Tewkesbury Ship Canal or even support the teams, and you will be relieved of only 2/- for the privilege. First away trip is to Sheffield University, Kings of the U.A.U. by courtesy of B.U.B.C., and that is today Wednesday, October 11th, so you've just missed that, but see the B.B. noticeboard for details of matches to come. First home match is Saturday, October 14th.

Remember, BASKETBALL is VONDERBALL, so be sure to meet the Team with Tower Power.

PEN PORTRAITS (1st Squad)

ULLI BERGMANN—6ft. 11ins. forward. Number 8.

Gained considerable fame when he was called for a foul, directed a terse, teutonic mouthful at the ref, whose knowledge of German was unfortunately limited to one of the only players in living memory to have promptly slapped a technical foul on him as well.

Rich Cowley—6ft. 5ins. pivot and forward. Number 15.

Physical appearance bears more than a hint of orangutang, particularly around the arms and legs. Has the doubtful honour of being the only player in living memory to take a pot-shot at his own basket during an Old Notts game. Has been known to dunk it with the aid of a rush of adrenalin to the knees.

John Lord—6ft. 2ins. guard. Number 4.

A relaxed player who appears to sink into a shallow coma at times, but is easily roused into action by a swift jab during a time out. Skilful player whose personal fouls are usually very personal and very foul.

Paul Patterson—6ft. 4ins. pivot and forward. Number 6. Captain this year and pronounced mesomorph, though insists he is Church of England. Blessed with a

competitive spirit which has led him at times to temporarily disable a team-mate when pursuing a loose ball. Commands respect from opponents, mainly by judicious use of the elbows and knees.

Ian Davis—5ft. 10ins. left guard. Number 10.

A Norwich import with a Druid degree. Easily identified by the temporary paralysis which affects the right hand when dribbling with the left. Frequently addresses the assembled multitude with a scream of "Kn...rs," which has been variously interpreted as a cry of pain, pleasure or simple aspiration.

George Greene—6ft. 1in. forward. Number 13.

Transatlantic cousin who is at present in retreat behind a beard. Now drinks tea and can pronounce "aunt" without it sounding like some kind of insect. Ferocity of rebounding is matched only by his sympathy for those injured by his upward and downward trajectories. Has been known to dispute decisions.

Chris Russell—5ft. 6ins. Right guard. Number 12.

A diminutive yet highly mobile guard who believes that the shortest, simplest route to the basket is not of necessity the best. Has excellent ball control which tends to leave the straits of the team looking for that vital item of sportsman's apparel.

Keith Booth—5ft. 11ins. forward. Number 9.

Strong, silent type. Has never addressed a ref. in anger but speaks volumes with his look. One of a very rare breed who believes that a game is won with the minimum of vocal effort and that the shortest distance between himself and basket is a straight line—whatever is in the way.

Nell Dewhurst—6ft. 0ins. forward. Number 7.

Ex-2nd team captain who survived the nerve-shattering, body-slaming struggles of the Birmingham League with barely a scratch. Got married in the summer, promised to save some strength for the basketball court and is looking for someone to believe him.

Bob Pastor—5ft. 8ins. point. Fresh from the American colonies, on the round side perhaps, but has two hands, both of which he uses to good advantage on court.

Vicky Gregorian—5ft. 6ins. guard.

Ex-Arabs departmental side, another mini-player but sufficiently fast to leave a slight smell of burning after he has left you about five yards behind.

Vic Nussussian—5ft. 7ins. left guard.

Another new arrival, and most valuable on the left-hand side of the court and thus the middle of the ring with a delicious monotony.

Trevor Floyd—6ft. 1in.—forward. Left the Smoke (University College London) after playing a game here last year and is now playing full-time basketball under the guise of doing an MSc.

Touchline

Soccer

1st XI v Tech. Univ. of Prague — Lost 1-4
Medics v Wolverhampton G.S. Won 1-0

Rugger

1st XV v Sheffield Town 1st, Lost 12-21
2nd XV v Sheffield Town 2nd, Won 17-13

Men's Lacrosse

1st v Hampstead ... Won 5-4

Women's Hockey

1st v Mosley Ladies, Lost 1-5

Cross-Country

1st & 2nd v Henry VIII School (Coventry)

1 Birmingham 1st ... 38pts.
2 Henry VIII ... 68pts.
3 Birmingham 2nd ... 89pts.

Inter-Dept. Soccer 1st Div.

Medics, Soc. 2, Biology 11
Elec. Eng. 17, Russian 1



(Photo by Graham Sharples)

Forwards pack round as Brum fight for possession against Sheffield.

Women's Hockey

NOT DISHEARTENED

BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 1, MOSELEY LADIES 5

THE First XI should not be disheartened by their 5-1 defeat against Moseley Ladies last Saturday. The Moseley side contained several international and territorial players and the whole team combined together well as would be expected from a club side able to keep the same First XI side for several seasons. The four freshers, Pat Parkin, Jane Davidson, Kay Brown, and Margaret Pike, fitted in well with the seven freshers from last season but it was not until the second half that the University side really began to behave as a team.

Moseley went straight into the attack and were unlucky not to score especially with one shot which hit the post. Following a long clearance from the University defence, Rosemary Lown scored a beautiful goal to put Birmingham in the lead. However, Moseley hit back with three goals in quick succession just before half-time.

In the second half the University team began to play more fluently with the forwards producing some good moves. Gill Smith and Jane Davidson were unlikely not to score but generally the perfect positioning of the more experienced Moseley defence prevented the University from getting into a shooting position. In defence, captain Shirley Moore and Pauline Clay played well throughout while Helen Disney found her true form in the last twenty minutes and broke up some dangerous Moseley attacking moves.

Although Moseley scored twice more the second half was much more even and the University team began to mould itself into a promising combination which we hope will be capable of retaining the WIVAB championship this season.

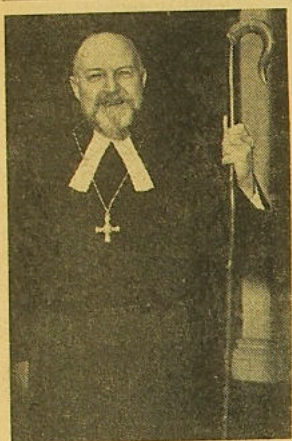
The 2nd XI were unlucky to lose to Moseley after leading 3-1 at half-time. However, Moseley, who had only ten players in the first half, were at full strength in the second half and had the advantage of playing downhill on their sloping pitch while the University were at a disadvantage as captain Pam Joiner pulled a muscle.

The 3rd XI started the season well by beating Moseley 4-0 and captain Mary Downes was pleased to see how well the eight freshers in the team combined together. In fact the most encouraging aspect of these three matches is the indication that the University should have three sides this season with players able to contribute to a 100 per cent team effort.

RESULTS:—

Univ. 1st XI 1, Moseley Ladies 1st 5
Moseley 2nd XI 5, Univ. 2nd XI 4
Moseley 3rd XI 0, Univ. 3rd XI 4

STUDENTS THREATEN TO STRIKE



The Bishop of Birmingham
Photo by Willoughby Gullachsen

Bishop and South Bank leader for SFH

NEXT Sunday the preacher at the 9.30 a.m. Communion service in S.F.H. will be the Bishop of Birmingham, Dr. Wilson. As is usual in St. Francis Hall, this Communion service is open to all and not limited to Anglicans. In the evening, the preacher will be Canon Eric James, former Cambridge chaplain, now at Southwark Cathedral and director of the Parish and People movement, an organisation that works for the renewal and reform of the Church.

During the war, Dr. Wilson was Bishop of Singapore and was there when it fell. He was imprisoned and tortured by the Japanese, who hoped to get information out of him. A film, "Singapore Story," was later made about his imprisonment and the effect that his behaviour under torture had on one of his interrogators.

Eric James last preached in S.F.H. two years ago, on "Knowing God is self-knowledge." He made a deep impression then and there have been frequent requests for him to pay a return visit. This time he will be taking part in the Sunday evening series whose theme is "Creative conflict." The conflict with which he will be concerned is psychological: is there a creative, valuable side to the painful emotional battles that we fight inside ourselves? His title: "Thank God for aggression!"

Union alterations planned

AT the next meeting of Union Committee, a proposal to increase the sales and storage capacity of the Union Shop will be considered. This matter has been under consideration for the last six years, but because of a shortage of available money, it has never been possible to finalise anything.

The Union architect has been consulted as to the possibility of extending the shop, into the old disused lift shaft. This would enable the shop to be divided into

BIRMINGHAM College of Education student threatened to strike last week in an attempt to draw attention to the crowded conditions they are being forced to tolerate.

The inevitable story of increased intake outstripping available facilities has affected the College particularly badly. At the moment there are some 800 students attending the College, and in the main residential area around Westbourne Road, the problem is severe: study-bedrooms for single students have had to be used as tutorial rooms; double rooms house three students, and in some "accommodation of a dormitory type" up to five students are sleeping.

The authorities follow a policy which advocates separate working space from sleeping accommodation—in practice, one 8 ft. 10 ins. room per eight students, or one desk for every three students. In some of the women's hostels five students are living in every double study-bedroom.

Bad though this may sound, the main point on which the student body is taking its stand is the system which is being used to teach second-year students.

They are based at Silvermere (Sheldon) some eight miles from the College, in a building that is in the process of being converted from a school. Pneumatic drills and the sounds of building were disturbing classes, so all second-year students are being sent on teaching practice this term—without the normal term of preparation. They still use the Silvermere annexe for tutorials etc., and at any one time 25 per cent of the total second-year will be trying to compete with the builders in an attempt to prepare classes and lessons.

by DEREK PALMER

This situation is aggravated by the lodgings situation—there are limited digs and flats, and one student claims he will spend £62 on travelling expenses to and from college, digs and school this year.

At Silvermere there are six showers for male students and six for females, and one call-box for the whole student population. If a student is on teaching practice, laundry often has to be taken to school from digs, then into the college so it can be washed.

Impossible

The principal was asked to "send all second-year students home until something could be done. This was impossible, so then strikes were threatened.

These have now been suspended, and the authorities who "haven't got the money and haven't got the time" as one embittered student remarked, have begun to take action—improved facilities have been promised, and some short-term measures are to be undertaken.

David Stone, President of the S.U., hopes to bring up the matter at the N.U.S. conference at Margate, with some relationship to the campaign to gain better living and working conditions for students.

It seems he has a reasonable case to present, for the situation is bound to deteriorate as intake increases, with successive generations of students being seriously hampered in their studies by squalid surroundings.

two sections, one for the sale of perishable items, and the other to be used as at present, for confectionery and cigarettes.

With the increased storage capacity that would result from the proposed extension, a greater range of foodstuffs could be provided for sale. Guild Secretary Ray Phillips said: "Turnover will undoubtedly increase as there is a definite demand for increased space." He added: "I hope that it will be done over the Christmas Vac."

No official estimate has yet been obtained for either the shop extension, or the proposed expansion of the Old Entrance Hall.

BRIEF CASE

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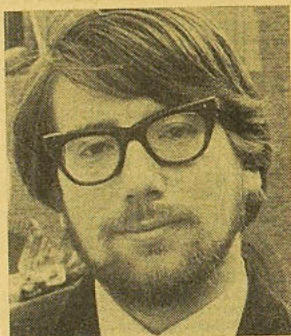
Ridge Hall

IN last week's "Redbrick," owing to an unfortunate typographical error, a paragraph described Ridge Hall, inadvertently, as "the women's hell of the university." The sentence should have read "the women's hall of the university." We extend our sincere apologies to Miss Rigby for any embarrassment caused by the article.

Professor Cahn

One of the most distinguished oral pathologists in the world, Professor Lester Cahn, is to be made an honorary Doctor of Science at Birmingham University at the degree congregation in December.

Professor Cahn is Emeritus Professor of Pathology at the University of Columbia and has been a regular visitor to the Birmingham dental school for many years. His contributions to oral pathology are outstanding, particularly those in relation to malignant disease in the mouth, and its early diagnosis.



Mark Burke

Photo: Pete Mills

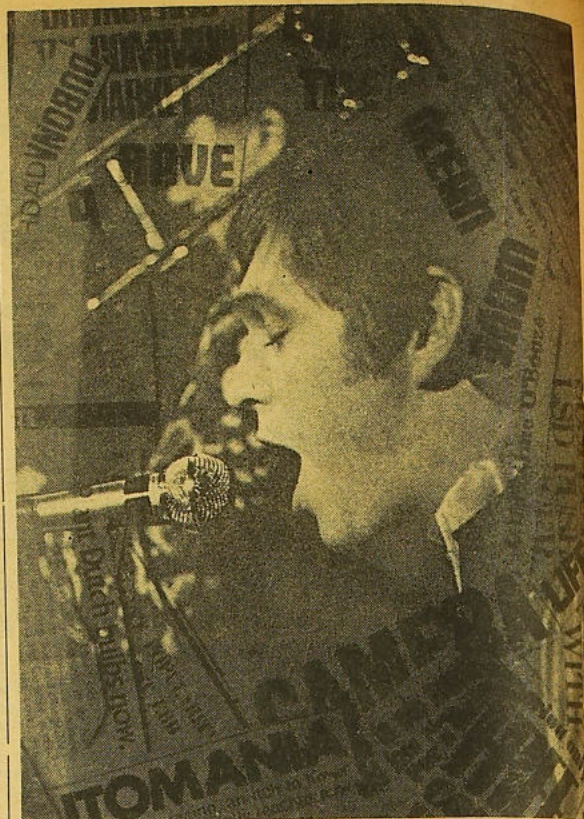
BURKE BLASTS ENGINEERS

DURING the Freshers' Conference, the special Freshers' edition of "Wall" was torn down, along with the complete notice-board, which was ripped from its supports on the wall opposite the Union Shop.

When the board was restored to its former place, Mark Burke, chairman of External Affairs and editor of "Mermade," who had edited this issue of "Wall," put up a note on the empty board, condemning the action of those who had torn it down and accusing the engineering faculties of vandalism.

This note in its turn was torn down and he put up another which was also torn down. He then put up a notice inviting those engineers who objected to his accusations to come up and see him personally. However, only one person went to see him.

In an interview with "Redbrick," Mr. Burke said that he had eye-witness reports that it was engineers who were responsible for the damage. "This sort of thing happens every year," he said. He went on to say that he thought that the fact that engineers were a one-sex group may have something to do with their behaviour. "If they had sex instead of frustrations there would be less glasses smashed in the bar."



George Fame at last Friday's dance

Photo: Graham Sharples

Fame's opulent and polished performance

CREAM. That was the only word for the music of George Fame as he appeared at the Friday Spectacular at the Union last week.

The show was a fantastic success from the point of view of the Entertainments Committee, who, despite an extortionate entrance fee, actually made a £25 profit, even after paying out a ridiculous fee for the star.

George showed himself to have advanced considerably from his days as an immature "rock" singer to become a smooth, professional performer who could quite easily find a niche in the cabaret scene. The audience were with George all the way; not once in his ninety-minute appearance did he lose their attention, and when George stepped out of the spotlight, his seven-piece, with their talent at innovation, easily kept the show swinging. The "oldies"—"Yeah Yeah" and "Sitting in the Park" appeared, but never in the exactly the same form as the recorded versions. It was too bad that George had a road manager who was determined to prevent keen, young "Redbrick" reporters

talking to his pride and joy. Things didn't work out too well for George either—one of his drums was stolen from the Deb. Hall after the show by an enterprising bongo enthusiast.

The two other groups catered for vastly different audiences. "Cockles" played Mayall-type blues purer than eGorgie's, which wasn't appreciated, and "Candy Chorus" though they worked hard to please, were too old-fashioned and too happy to be popular among an audience of depressed, sex-starved males. Fortunately, George's smooth style did much to calm the troubled minds.

Caterpillar a la Chelwood

Cauliflower was served 'a la caterpillar' in the refectory last week. Linda Parry, second year Historian, asked for what she thought was going to be Cauliflower Mornay, and found a caterpillar in her cauliflower.

Nauseated, she complained to Miss Edwards, Refectory Manageress, who was quite prepared to admit that the offending object was, in fact, a caterpillar. It was dead, but nevertheless offensive. She offered another meal in recompense, but the substitute of egg and chips was rather spoiled by the original plateful.

Miss Edwards was asked by Linda and her companions how a caterpillar could have been served up with the cauliflower. "We do wash them," she replied, "but sometimes they get through."

Although the victim was offered another meal, Miss Edwards made no offer of a refund for the ruined meal.

Coffee bar breakfasts

BREAKFASTS are once again being provided in the Union Coffee Bar. Now students who are too idle, or possibly not able, to make their own fried eggs or get a plate of cornflakes can now come into the Union between the hours of 9.30 and 11 o'clock in the morning, and without any personal effort be supplied with breakfast at small personal cost.

More cash for films

THE increase in the Film Society's membership fee, which has risen from £1 to 25/- this year, has already been criticised in some quarters. But Francis Clarke, chairman of Filmsoe, described the increase as inevitable because of the rising hire charges for films, and because the number of feature films in this year's programme has been increased to 46. Any profit on the year's programme becomes a contribution to the Film Production Unit and the Summer Festival.