

WARNING

STUDENT UNIONS IN DANGER

YOUR COLLEGE STUDENT UNION IS A SELF-GOVERNING COMMUNITY. MRS. THATCHER IS CONSIDERING MEASURES WHICH COULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO ELECT PROPER REPRESENTATIVES AND CONTROL YOUR UNION'S AFFAIRS. ADMINISTRATION OF YOUR SPORTS CLUBS, SOCIETIES, BAR, NEWSPAPER AND PREMISES WOULD BE AFFECTED, AS WELL AS YOUR PARTICIPATION IN COLLEGE AFFAIRS.

THE REASONS

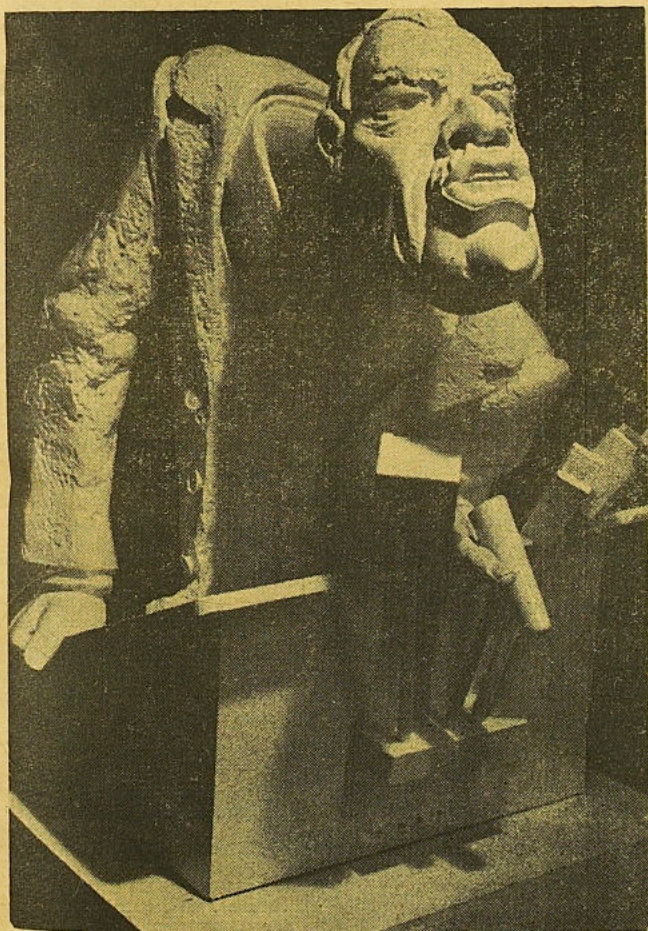
- (1) LOCAL AUTHORITIES WANT TO LIMIT AND SAFEGUARD THE SPENDING OF PUBLIC MONEY.
- (2) SOME CONSERVATIVE POLITICIANS DO NOT LIKE STUDENT UNIONS.

A COMPLETELY UNNECESSARY ACT

STUDENT UNIONS ACTIVELY BENEFIT OVER HALF A MILLION STUDENTS. THEY HAVE AN EXCELLENT FINANCIAL RECORD. NO MAJOR CHANGES ARE NECESSARY TO SAFEGUARD PUBLIC MONEY. TO SACRIFICE ORGANISED STUDENT COMMUNITIES TO THE PREJUDICES OF A FEW POLITICIANS WOULD BE A MONSTROUS ACT OF GOVERNMENT. N.U.S. WILL FIGHT ON THAT BASIS. THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROMISED CONSULTATION AND WANTS AGREEMENT. THE N.U.S. AWAITS THEIR PROPOSALS. READ THE N.U.S. LEAFLET. YOUR INFORMED SUPPORT WILL BE NEEDED.

N.U.S. warning poster.

INSIDE



**The Great Debate
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also Review
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REGISTRAR FOR UNION?

By a 'Redbrick' Reporter

THE question of "students" and in particular Union grants is being discussed again in the national press. A debate on higher education awards opened in Parliament last Wednesday; public opinion is being well-stirred over cases of "misused" Union fees, and fears that the taxpayers' money is at stake. An average of £11 a year is paid by the L.E.A. to student unions for each person studying (which makes for a total of £3 million) and yet Norwich is financially supporting U.C.S. by paying £200 for a militant steward's lecture and Sussex has donated £500 to Bangla Desh.

Students Unions have been called "financially and politically irresponsible" and external mechanisms considered necessary to protect both their members and the public. However, East Anglia have raised their extra money by selling contraceptives and Birmingham like the majority of unions, have their accounts settled by external professional auditors. Money must be spent within the aims and constitution of the particular union (which is approved by the governing body of the University) and offenders can be taken to the civil courts—as has happened to Herriot Watt last year when an injunction was brought against them for an unconstitutional payment.

Political irresponsibility has been cited in the case of York University's move to take away the grant from the Conservative Association while there are six separate grants to socialist societies, but such action is described by the vast majority of students and a democratic 100 per cent franchise can only take effect while every student has a voice in the Union. If membership was voluntary it is more than likely that extreme political minorities would emerge with power despite the spectrum of views in the student body as a whole.

The system of the L.E.A.-supported Unions originates with the growth of unions from the non-political bodies of the early 'sixties which were concerned with the provision of social, cultural, athletic and recreational facilities. The N.U.S. can now no longer be tagged as a "cheap travel agency and nothing more" because the student interest in the whole sphere of education (which surely can only be political) has channelled greater effectiveness in their former far from neglected role.

The Government suggestion is that we should be given the L.E.A. contribution with our grant and then choose whether to join the Union—but how many of the impoverished non-active masses would not welcome an extra bonus without realising how much the Union facilities contribute to their life here. For the rest with a reduced income, services would inevitably founder and the Union's potential would be drastically undercut: much of its income would have to be spent on a system of membership checks and security.

The other possibility would be to have facilities provided by the University (placing the grant from public expenditure in different but nevertheless consuming hands) and leave the Union as an empty political voice: this could only be generally destructive.

However, the proposal which seems most likely to be implemented is the appointment of a Registrar who would regulate the supply of funds to the approval of Union constitutions and financial regulations but removal of responsibility stifles initiative and leaves the onus outside: the experience of self-government under the idealistic scrutiny of the students themselves is the essence and value of the Student Union Movement.

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'redbrick' A YEAR TO UNITE

THIS academic year should prove to be the time when student solidarity is most required—the time when we are most likely to benefit from all working together rather than being too concerned with bickering amongst ourselves. "Redbrick" this week carries reports of the Government's intention to look into their policy for Student Unions and the payment of grants to such bodies, and the Review Body. If the student body is to be threatened by Government interference through the weapon of financial control and the University authorities are to dismiss the careful and exhaustive deliberations of the Review Body, then surely we will be more likely to influence reform on these issues by being united and decisive.

On a more immediate level, the Guild Commission can only hope to succeed if the members of the Union clarify their interests and intentions as a whole and forget the irrelevant but inevitable political struggles. The Presidential regime have taken a significant step in presenting an opportunity for cohesion amongst the student body which could be put to further use if the authorities reaction to the Review Body Report and Government policy on Unions proves unfavourable.

RUSSELL BRYANT

redbrick staff

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The Editor does not necessarily agree with the views expressed by the contributors.

GUILD OF STUDENTS Election of Eight Representatives to the GUILD COMMISSION

Instituted by Guild Council "to consider the role, functions and structure of the Guild of Students and to recommend any changes deemed necessary."

The following Student representatives are to be elected by ballot of the whole Guild membership:—

ONE representative from each of the FIVE faculties, as follows:
Science and Engineering
Arts (including School of Education)
Law
Commerce and Social Science
Medicine (including Dentistry)
ONE representative from the Halls of Residence Junior Com. Rms.
ONE representative from those not living in Halls of Residence.
ONE representative who may be from any category.

NOMINATIONS, on the appropriate form, to be in the hands of the undersigned by NOT LATER THAN 10 a.m. on MONDAY, 1st NOVEMBER, 1971.

WITHDRAWALS to be in the hands of the undersigned by 4 p.m. on TUESDAY, 2nd NOVEMBER, 1971.

BALLOTING WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY, 4th NOVEMBER, 1971, as follows:—

Union and University Centre (Refectory) 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Each Hall of Residence 5.30 to 7.30 p.m.

Medical School and Dental Hospital 12 noon to 2 p.m.
The regulations for the conduct of these elections will be as laid down in the Bye-Laws for the conduct of Guild elections unless otherwise stated.

Nomination Forms are obtainable from Union General Office and Reception, Presidents of Halls, J.C.R.'s and Notice Boards.
R. T. JONES (Permanent Secretary and Returning Officer).

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GAVIN

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IS ON HOLIDAY

READING UNIVERSITY SIT-IN

LAST Wednesday a sit-in began at Reading University in protest against the cost of Halls of Residence fees. Students have occupied the whole of the administrative block of the University, obliging the Vice-Chancellor to move out. No force was used to prevent entry by the students and, although the doors were locked, very little damage was caused when the students did break in.

The number of students actively engaged in the sit-in varies from day to day but the estimated number is about one hundred. A mobile snack-bar is in use, providing free meals for the participants, and a sleep-in was held on Wednesday night in the Council Chamber.

The telephone has been taken over and is being operated by the students. There are student 'guards' on the doors to prevent any undesirable from entering. Our own Guild Vice-President, Paul Dodgson, was one of those allowed in last Thursday when he went to see for himself how the sit-in was going.

He found that, although only a hundred people were actually taking part, practically the entire student body was behind them, as well as many of the academic staff. He spoke to several people on the campus and asked them what they thought of the sit-in; invariably the answer was, "Oh yes, I'm in full support." Such, in fact, is the support that only 20 per cent of students in hall have paid their hall fees although the bills were sent to them three weeks ago; this is in response to the Union's request not to pay the fees.

The dispute which led to the sit-in originally began last term, when the Vice-Chancellor of Reading University announced that Hall fees would be going up by £40 in the session 1971-72; this meant that the new fees would be £250 a

year, £18 above the approved maximum. By a strange "coincidence" £18 a year happens to be the sum required off each student to pay off the loan charge on the halls.

Reading has 3,000 out of 5,000 students in hall and to accommodate this large number they built more halls than they could pay for—so they had to borrow the money. By making the students repay the loan the University hoped to rid itself of the debt quite quickly.

But the administration did not reckon on the opposition of the students, who are protesting that they, by being forced to pay this £18, are subsidising future students of the University; this, they feel, is totally unfair on the students at present in halls of residence.

How long can the students hold out? They are hoping to continue the sit-in for a week, but Paul Dodgson is of the opinion that they can only last for a week, unless they get more active support and more money.

What are they hoping to get out of this demonstration? Ideally, of course, the reduction of the hall fees to £232 a year, but the most likely outcome of the situation seems to be a deadlock, followed by a compromise. It would be something along these lines: The Vice-Chancellor will forgo the £18 this year and ask the Government for a subsidy; at the end of this session the students will find that the Government is unable to pay, and so the whole thing will start off again next year.

Co-ordinating committee

CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE is a number of students and lecturers concerned about the education system as propagated within our schools today. The committee was inaugurated earlier this year in order to help the campaign against the victimisation of Jenny Muscutt, the Birmingham teacher suspended for appearing in the film "Growing Up", and has now evolved from the original four components, Schools Action Union, Women's Lib, Ack-Ack and N.U.S. to students and lecturers from further education colleges, colleges of education and Birmingham and Aston Guild of Students.

Our basic aims are to reach the children of local schools with more than a liberal concept of "academic freedom", hoping that they will eventually come to a fundamental questioning of the values which only give the freedom to accept society as it is in its broad outline.

To this end we have made use of such radical literature as "The Little Red School Book" and the "Vanguard" and "Havoc" of S.A.U., making sure that they reach the people for whom they were written and believing that children have the right to such knowledge as is necessary to understand the society in which they live.

So far, in spite of open opposition from both police and head-teachers which we hope to overcome if we are given a chance to explain our

selves, we have been surprisingly successful in reaching the school students and stimulating interest in educational problems.

Tonight—Sex. 7.00 p.m. Education Block, Birmingham University. Includes a showing of "Growing Up" and a talk by Dr. Martin Cole. Also speakers from Brooke Centre, Birmingham Pregnancy Advice Bureau, Gay Lib.

October 30th—Drugs. 1.30 p.m. Arts/Commerce Tower Lecture Theatre. Speakers from CURE, RELEASE, APA, NCCL, a local headmaster.

November 6th—Schools Democracy. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aston Students' Union. Speakers include Dick Atkinson, a progressive school headmaster, Colin Falconer, Nigel Barnode and S.A.U.

News in brief

City centre controversy

TRADERS in the city have mixed reactions to the new plan, released last week, to convert parts of the city centre into a pedestrian only precinct. The plan envisages the paving over of Union Street, Warwick Passage, part of Cherry Street, and Temple Row by St. Philip's Church in the city centre.

The junior chamber of commerce has welcomed the plan as "bold" and "courageous" but some of the city retailers concerned are a little more sceptical. Some are particularly angry that the plan has been approved before they have been consulted. Others object to being the Corporation's guinea-pigs in this experiment and claim that the pedestrian precinct will certainly harm their trade.

This view is not shared by other traders. Miss F. Smith, managers of a local boutique, stated that in other places where similar schemes had been introduced, her company had found trade substantially improved.

If the scheme is adopted, the Public Works Committee intends to start work in the coming spring. Councillor Harold Edwards, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, said on Friday that the scheme would turn the city into a "shopper's paradise."

More sex!

THERE are indications of an increase in sexual relations between boys and girls under 16. Mrs. Audrey Court, Chairman of the Birmingham Brook Advisory Centre, told a working party on sex education.

The centre had collected "disturbing evidence" that larger numbers of young people under the age of 16 were having sexual intercourse. Mrs. Court said that children should be gradually taught about conception and contraception, beginning when they first start at secondary school, instead of leaving it until later, when emotional difficulties may have already occurred.

"Logical factual discussion can do no harm," Mrs. Court said, "some-one has got to talk to these young people."

Parasite Prof.

THE personal title of Professor of Parasitology has been conferred on J. Llewellyn, M.Sc. (Wales), D.Sc. (Bham), Reader in Parasitology in the Department of Zoology and Comparative Physiology, from October 1st, 1971.

Professor Llewellyn came to Birmingham in 1951 as an Assistant Lecturer in the Department; he was promoted Lecturer in 1953, and Senior Lecturer in 1963. In 1964 the title of Reader in Parasitology was conferred on him.

Professor Llewellyn is an internationally recognised authority in his field and he has been invited to participate actively in a number of international congresses.

Chunderful Off-course

TO most of us, university courses commence in the first week of term. Here and there one may get the tutor or lecturer who is still on holiday or who refuses to start in the first week due to an additional workload entailed by an intake of new students, but generally speaking, Monday October 4th is kick-off time.

You can imagine then the suspense of commerce students who found that no one knew about their course in Commercial Law being organised by Engineering Production.

The Faculty registry of Commerce and Social Science knew nothing, the Faculty of Law was equally blank about the course which supposedly one of their staff was to teach. The Department of Engineering Production were a little more helpful—they suggested to the students that not unlike Oliver Twist they went down the corridor and peered with pinched face into all the lectures to see which one was theirs.

This sort of behaviour might seem quite normal in the first week of term, but in the third week of term it was a little unusual. Just as the frustrated students started to organise a rebellion the situation cleared itself—someone had forgotten. The course was hastily organised and the students started work, fourth week of term.

Keep this confidential

Last Wednesday, Council, the governing body of the university, met in all its august splendour. On the agenda as an item of report from Senate was a statement about an anonymous donation of £100,000 to establish a certain chair in a certain subject. At the directive of the Chairman this particular item was declared to be confidential and all solemnly assented.

One can imagine then the red faces the following morning when this particular item appeared in the local Press, "The Birmingham Post" and later on in the "Evening Mail." The students, the bête noir of all confidentiality addicts had not let one word pass their lips but someone had released the story—either a member of Council, a member of staff involved or a University administrator.

To those of us who have long memories it will be interesting to see if the University will make the same fuss about this breach of confidentiality as they did with Ray Phillips, Guild President in 1968-69 when he released confidential items to the Press. Or perhaps they will let the matter disappear under the proverbial carpet.

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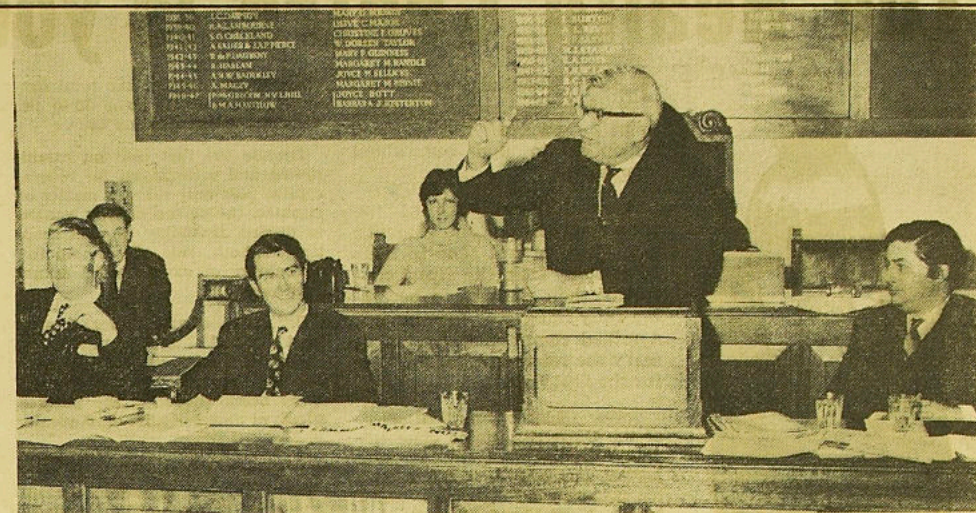
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Debate

Union says Yes to Europe by two to one

A REPORT OF WEDNESDAY'S COMMON MARKET DEBATE



The other guest speakers look on as Desmond Donnelley stirs up the issue.

DESPITE any groans to the contrary, people are still interested in the Common Market issue, and on Wednesday night a packed, cramped but cheerful house not only listened to but joined in, in an extremely argumentative and vocal fashion, on the motion that "This House is totally opposed to Britain's entry into the Common Market on the terms obtained." Debsec was, of course, as immediate and brimming over with topicality as always.

The main business of the evening was preceded by an emergency motion on Bangla Desh, which was passed unanimously, demanding increased aid for the area. Then down to the hard facts about E.E.C., as the curtain rose on the Great Debate in the second city.

Mr. Christopher Frere Smith, chairmanship "Keep Britain Out", started forcefully by asserting the irrelevance of the terms of Britain's entry, which was certainly a cavalier way of dismissing the motion. There was no advantage for us to be had in Europe; we would merely be cutting our home market from world-wide to Continental. As for the promised increase in growth rate, to join a group of nations with a higher growth rate than our own would lead to a relative reduction, not an increase, for Britain.

There could be no doubt as to which side of the motion Mr. Frere Smith was speaking on, as he slammed the idea of Britain becoming a part of a super-power overnight. On the contrary, her sovereignty would be jeopardised and her present order compromised.

The House was urged to view the matter from the other side by Mr. Nigel Lawson (of "The Times"/"Sunday Times"), who foresaw a nation to enter the E.E.C. as leading to impoverishment, both economically and politically of the U.K. Facts and figures poured forth, this time serving to show that entry would increase Britain's welfare cost (which, the non-economists were informed, was to be desired).

And, anyhow, the Conservative Government had a mandate to take Britain into the European Community. Mr. Lawson shattered any ideas that we could hope to receive favourable attention from the United States whilst we remain on our own; to be a match for America or Russia, Britain must join Europe!

Mr. Jim Bovlet, the seconder for the proposition, is an economist—as the House soon found out. From his angle, the United States' policy of isolationism was merely a (fendishly clever!) stage in a campaign towards world free trade—an idea to which the E.E.C. is dramatically opposed. With increases in export markets, decreases in the home market and a rise in the price of consumer products, Britain had little to gain from Europe—the all-

Politics

Students must take sides

WHY are students at University? Why do we think we are here? The answer to these two questions may not be the same. First let us look at the reasons given by the fellow students for their being here, and we will see how they soon realise that their requirements are not now met.

(1) To get training so that they can get a good job. But it is soon evident looking at the graduate unemployment figures that in so many cases these jobs are scarce, and many students are forced to take jobs in which they are not interested and in which their skill is not fully utilised.

This is a characteristic of the labour market under capitalism, where production (in its widest sense) is not for social use, but for private profit, and where an obsession with short-term gains and investment causes frequent fluctuation in the economy.

(2) To pursue an interest in a particular subject. Here many find their courses abstract, and rarely made relevant to the practise situation. Other courses are incohesive and badly organised giving an incomplete or biased view of the subject. Efforts to change the content or organisations of the course in the interest of the student are usually frustrated by the bureaucracy.

(3) To acquire knowledge to put them in a position to improve society. This concerns many social science and education students, who soon see that, what they see as an improvement, involves a basic change in the structure of society in many cases, a basic change which is resisted and often impossible under capitalism.

(4) Those who don't quite know but have realised that they have undergone a process from 11-plus onwards which is supposed to culminate in a degree. They ask themselves why in fact they are at university, and what the process is all in aid of. This inevitably leads to the problem of the role of the university in our society.

We live in a country where the vast majority of the productive wealth is in the hands of a small

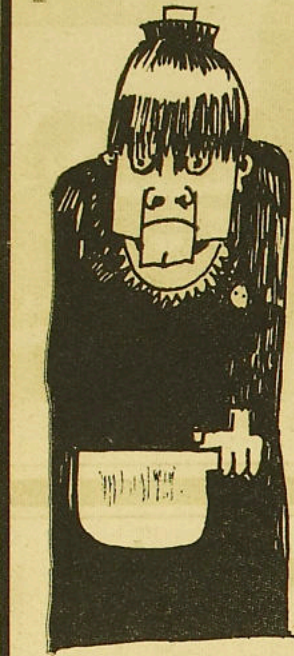
D.J.R.

Welfare

Emergency Grant Fund

WHY should already impoverished students give money to other students whom they might think irresponsible in embarking on a university course, knowing they will not have enough cash to support them? The answer is that we, as students (and therefore no strangers to financial difficulties), should understand in a real way what financial hardship is. Not all students in this University are from comfortably-off families to whom they can write when their grants run out. Many overseas students, and indeed home students, do not have this security; it is unfortunately all too easy for a student to find his university career in jeopardy because of a shortage of funds. It is for such students that the Emergency Grant Fund was set up last year. Requests are being made for contributions and there are very few students who cannot afford to give something—yet there is only £190 at the moment.

The Health Centre is your friend



LAST Wednesday over 150 students, most of them female, packed the Council Chamber to find out about themselves.

Anne Naylor spoke of the problems arising for students, often for the first time in their lives, away from the direct control of their parents, in becoming fully integrated members of a mixed community, having to carry the related responsibilities for the first time.

Doctor Dickinson, medical officer of the University, stated quite emphatically that most students were normal, normality is widespread on the campus, and the problems which were to be discussed, although having every student, would only, in fact, affect one in 10 people on the campus.

Out of 15,000 consultations at the Health Centre, over 13,500 were of purely physical nature, e.g. headache, colds and pains in the stomach. An estimated 700 patients received treatment for psychiatric problems, 530 consultations were made for contraceptive advice.

The psychiatric and contraceptive cases, although only concerning less

than 10 per cent of the total consultations, took up some 30-40 per cent of the consultation time.

Despite the fact that on examination and prescription for contraceptive pills only takes a matter of minutes, the person usually wanted to discuss feasibility of contraceptive methods, side effects and the desirability of extra-marital sexual intercourse.

Dr. Lucas, of the student health service of U.C.L., gave an interesting history of the Health Service showing that in 1902 interest was already being shown in the adverse effects of university life on students.

It was Birmingham University which, in 1943, first introduced compulsory physical education for all first year students. The emphasis of the talk was that students who had difficulty in working, or difficulties of a social nature, e.g. difficulty in integration, failed to recognise that they were medically ill.

Students rarely presented severe symptoms of failure to be able to work efficiently, yet the same patients would possibly seek medical advice for a minor medical complaint.

Questions to Dr. Lucas showed how unenlightened students were on the need for medical consulta-

tion for social and psychological illnesses.

Dr. Jordan, who is a consultant at the Brooke Clinic and a lecturer in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University, started his informative talk by circulating a questionnaire to discover the extent of knowledge about contraception which exists amongst students, and their sources of information.

Unwanted pregnancies do not

**JIM AUKETT
REVIEWS LAST WEEK'S
"HEALTH SYMPOSIUM"**

only occur amongst students and other unmarried parties, but also in married life, where an unwanted pregnancy can be disastrous to the marriage. The most likely time a woman will conceive is during the first few attempts at intercourse, when neither party is prepared and inexperienced. Most forms of contraception require a certain amount of preparation, the condom requires fitting before intercourse, the spermicidal pessary requires prior implantation, the coil fitting—during a cold night, one is unlikely to get out of bed and search for the relevant device before intercourse takes place.

The story of the woman who,

having had a coil fitted, went home and took it out, placed it on the mantelpiece, then when her husband came home and "dropped his trousers and something came over her," then became pregnant, illustrates the way in which a contraceptive may be forgotten or be a nuisance at the time.

Despite forgetting to utilise a contraceptive, all contraceptives have failure rates.

Taking a sample of 100 fertile people having regular intercourse, if no contraceptive device or method is used, 70 to 80 per cent will conceive in one year. This percentage is cumulative, i.e. during the second year conception is almost guaranteed.

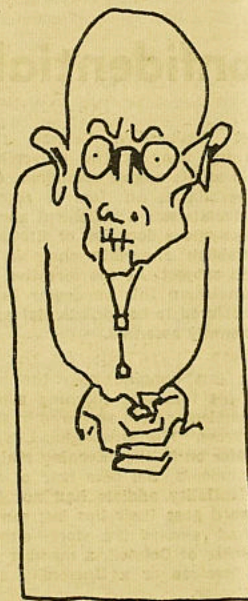
If no device, but "withdrawal" is used, a failure rate of 33 per cent can be expected. Apart from this, withdrawal is supposedly unsatisfactory for the female.

The sheath, used during Egyptian times as a protective, made from a sheep's bowel, is now the main form of contraception used in this country. However, this has a failure rate of 15 per cent in any one year, which means that during a three-year stay at university, if regular intercourse is envisaged, an accumulated failure rate of 15 per cent must be expected.

Dr. Jordan stated: "there isn't a safe period," but heralded the Pill as the most reliable form of contraception next to total abstinence. Here the failure rate in 10,000 women is three per year, two of which are caused by wrongful use of the Pill.

He eliminated all the side effects, such as thrombosis, until it became clear that these in no way outweighed the effects of unwanted pregnancy.

Dr. Rashid Hay, from Birmingham General Hospital, gave a somewhat horrifying illustrated talk on the various venereal diseases. The dangers of hiding this disease, of not introducing your partners to



the clinics, and of having children whilst infected were emphasised. Physical uncleanness in no way causes venereal disease, as the causative bacteria can only live a few seconds outside the protection of the human body. Thus the truth of stories of catching V.D. from "door handles, toilet seats or cricket balls."

Dr. Tim Betts, with the Psychiatric Department of the Medical School, and on loan to the Health Centre, illuminated student anxiety, its causes, manifestation and treatment. Students become worried about exams, thus cannot work, and thus were more worried. Preventive psychiatry in this field is a thing of the future, but a dire necessity amongst students where any anxiety is magnified by the unreasonable importance placed on examination results.

Anxiety can help to get students keyed up for exams, increasing blood flow and sharpening responses, but anxiety can cause depression, loss of concentration or loss of appetite and sleep.

The answer is to change the system, to relieve the pressure of exams, especially finals, and the load of work placed on students. The people can't change, the system can.

Change the society to suit the people is the obvious answer.

letters

What really happened!!

DEAR SIR,—I am by now resigned to "Redbrick's" inability to report events accurately and without bias. However, I feel that the Shelter meeting report in last week's issue cannot be allowed to pass without comment. The account completely missed the whole point of the meeting.

Asutely lifting a phrase from the publicity distributed prior to the meeting, the article implied that the purpose of the discussion was to provide those attending with "a sound knowledge of the housing situation in Birmingham." Only those who persist in seeing social problems in unidimensional terms could be naive enough to expect to master this subject in 90 minutes.

This was the first meeting of a session during the course of which it is hoped that through observation, discussion, films and practical work, group members will get a working understanding of the housing problems in Birmingham and similar large cities.

With regard to our liaison with COMAC, it is a misrepresentation to suggest that I implied that only by doing practical work was the student "actually doing something."

The point that questions from the floor seemed to have little relation to Shelter's activities is quite irrelevant. The discussion was entitled "Birmingham's Housing in the Next Decade" not "Shelter's Answer to the Housing Problem."

To imply that there were few questions from the floor is simply untrue. Questions lasted for half-an-hour before I asked those with points still to raise, to approach the speakers individually, thus avoiding interruption by members leaving for hall meals etc. I agree that it was a pity that those who had previously vociferously stated their views felt unable to continue to do so.

I finish with a challenge. Tomorrow, Thursday, October 21st, at 5.15 p.m., the Shelter Group will be holding its A.G.M. in St. Francis Hall, at which a new committee will be elected. The success or failure of the Group's activities in the next year depend on that committee and the commitment of the body of members who elect it. Shelter locally and nationally needs your support if it is to achieve its ends.

That is the challenge. Will you respond to it?

ALAN J. CLARK,
Chairman,
University Shelter Group.

Redbreast backlash

HAVING read your article in "Redbrick" October 13th, I am at a loss to resolve the paradoxes which spring forth. The major crisis seems that although the article is styled "Consumer's Guide to Men, you quite clearly admit that you have not ventured past the "Invitation to treat" stage (notice the legal phrase) and in fact have avoided consumption—point one, defective methodology—supported admirably by the flimsy façade of bravado offered to the members of Deb. Soc. last Wednesday evening.

To continue your phallic alliterations, you seem to find it hard to come to a decision as to what a MAN is, your rejection of the whole spectrum of testicular talent on campus, even specimens with three hairy legs, suggests an affinity for eunuchs, or a preference for "men" with shaven legs. On the other hand, there is a substantial range of mechanical alternatives, which I presume you will be testing for your next article "The Alternative Man."

I close with one more irking problem, your second paragraph in which you mention your modesty not being your foremost virtue, I would suggest that in view of your following remark about your weary shoulders, it is your proliferating and pendulous knockers which assume perhaps the role of your utmost virtue—(virtues which I admit I wouldn't mind extolling some time or another).

Anyway, a big, healthy stud like me has to catch up on some bed, so I will terminate here.

I am, madam, yours, (for only 50p).

IVOR THROBBER,
(Commerce) Vice-Chairman.
P.S.: Python says, MILK MAKES YOU BUTCH.

The editor apologises for being unable to include some of the correspondence in last week's issue.

DEAR SIR,—There is no truth in the statement that this University issued a Press release announcing the appointment of "a person other than Mr. Atkinson" in your article (6th October). This misstatement is damaging to myself and the damage is made worse by the embellishments added by your correspondent—in particular her description of this non-existent document as "rather glowing." The longer it remains uncorrected the more damaging it becomes.

May I ask you to publish without further delay a full and frank retraction?

Yours faithfully,
M. CHEESEWRIGHT

Gay Liberation: a time for change

WE believe that the time has come to make the time ripe for radical social change. But we homosexuals have to make it so (conscious always that the roots of our oppression intertwine with that of all oppressed people of our society). Come together now.

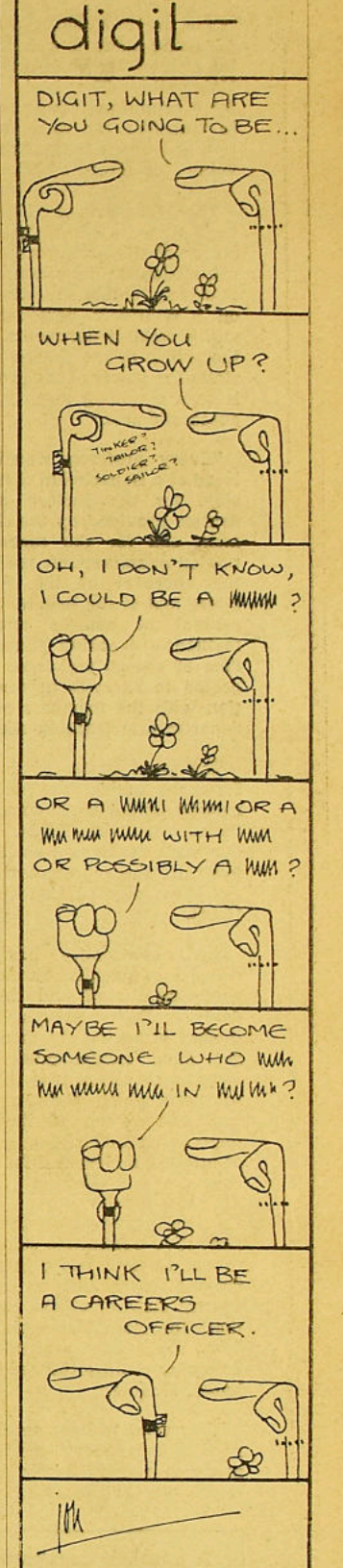
Gay Action Group
Birmingham.

SMALL ADS

FAWKE OFF at Manor House, Nov. 5th, with Tea & Symphony. **CONTRIBUTIONS** to Emergency Grant Fund can be made to the Welfare Chairman or Permanent Secretary or in tins at cashier points in the Union.

INTER-ACTION COMMUNITY ARTS CO-OPERATIVE needs people to work as volunteers during the vacations. Training, Bed and Board within the Co-operative.—Chris Bailey, 156 Malden Road, London, N.W.5. 01-267 1422.

SONGWRITERS WANTED We wish to contact Songwriters (particularly writers of good melodies) with a view to collaboration, in writing, 27 songs written so far. Bob Gear, Ian Thatcher, Wolverhampton, Polytechnic, 4 Vincent Street, Wolverhampton, Staffs.



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Mr. Colin R
Mursion Small's
1971/72 Ski Census
How do you ski? ☐ horizontally ☐ expertly
Have you ever skied ☐ yes ☐ no
from chalet? ☐ why not?
Why not try? ☐ why not?

These are just a few of the more irrelevant questions contained in SKI CENSUS 1971-72, the programme of Swiss Chalet Skiing Holidays devised by Mr. COLIN R. MURISON SMALL. (no connection with Mursion Small Ltd., no relation to anyone also of the same name and now independently rampart).

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24-hour dial-a-brochure service
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ACCOMMODATION MEETING

COUNCIL CHAMBER
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28th
2.00 p.m.

SPEAKERS from City Council, University Admin., Shelter.

MERMAID

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THE Review Body exists because there is a fundamental conflict at the heart of the University. The basic reason for a committee whose job it is to "consider the role, constitution and functioning of the University" is agreed by all.

The Charter of 1900 was written at a time when the power of the professorate went unquestioned; it existed in a relatively stable situation and on a relatively personal basis within small departments. Now the article of the charter which states the power of the professor is seen as giving legality to an autocratic post.

"Every professor who is the Head of a Department is responsible for the pattern of the courses provided by the department and for the conduct of related examinations, subject to the approval of the Faculty Board and of the Senate. Of the content of courses and the methods of teaching he has freedom of choice, which he is expected to exercise in consultation with the members of this departmental teaching staff."

The great power of the professorate within the decision-making bodies is shown by the tables on the right. They dominate the Senate and in the main are the representatives of the University on Council and Court.

Such ascendancy has been called into question by the non-professorial staff and the students. Both groups, even though attacking the same target have fundamentally different aims. It is true that the solutions which they put forward are often similar, but there is an underlying conflict of interest, no less real for being covert.

In the paper which the Staff Executive Committee submitted to the Review Body, they expressed their dislike of the present state of affairs, arguing that "the close hierarchical control by an academically-dominant professorial head is no longer tenable."

They want to have an elected head of department; the title of professor merely being a personal one without authority.

With regard to representation on the central government, their position can be judged by the results of a non-professorial staff questionnaire.

Of those staff who preferred separate non-professorial representation, most wanted the staff to have 20-40 per cent of the total membership, while the student percentage was merely 5-20 per cent. Of those who wanted no separate non-professorial staff representation, the total for students and lay members ranged from 0-40 per cent.

The equivocal attitude towards student representation is illustrated unconsciously by the Association for University Teachers. Though students "should have a real opportunity of influencing decisions which vitally affect them," "in some cases informal arrangements work admirably and the introduction of formal representation and formal procedures may even lead to less effective communication." This was written in December, 1968, a month after the student "sit-in"!

In the Guild of Students presentation, a moderate document which placed pragmatic considerations of acceptability before polemics, the figure for student representation was one-third. Although this figure is higher than that in the non-professorial staff questionnaire, the student position is little differentiated from that of the staff.

The students seem to accept that "returning authority to non-professorial staff is clearly necessary." Before students can assert themselves, power must first be wrested from the professors.

What does the Senate propose? In their report they state that "professors deserve to sit on the Senate by virtue of their experience and academic eminence." But they also outline that a third "would prefer a Senate composed half of ex-officio members and half of elected members."

In effect, Senate wants no change in the present structure. If this is impossible then the change must be a minor one, where the professors would still have control.

CONFLICT AND THE REVIEW BODY

These then are the main parties which the Review Body has to consider in their recommendations. But it would be misleading to see the Review Body as a committee that is balancing one interest against the other passively, like a set of scales. The Review Body is a part of the University, though a temporary one, and it owes its existence to the conflict within the University.

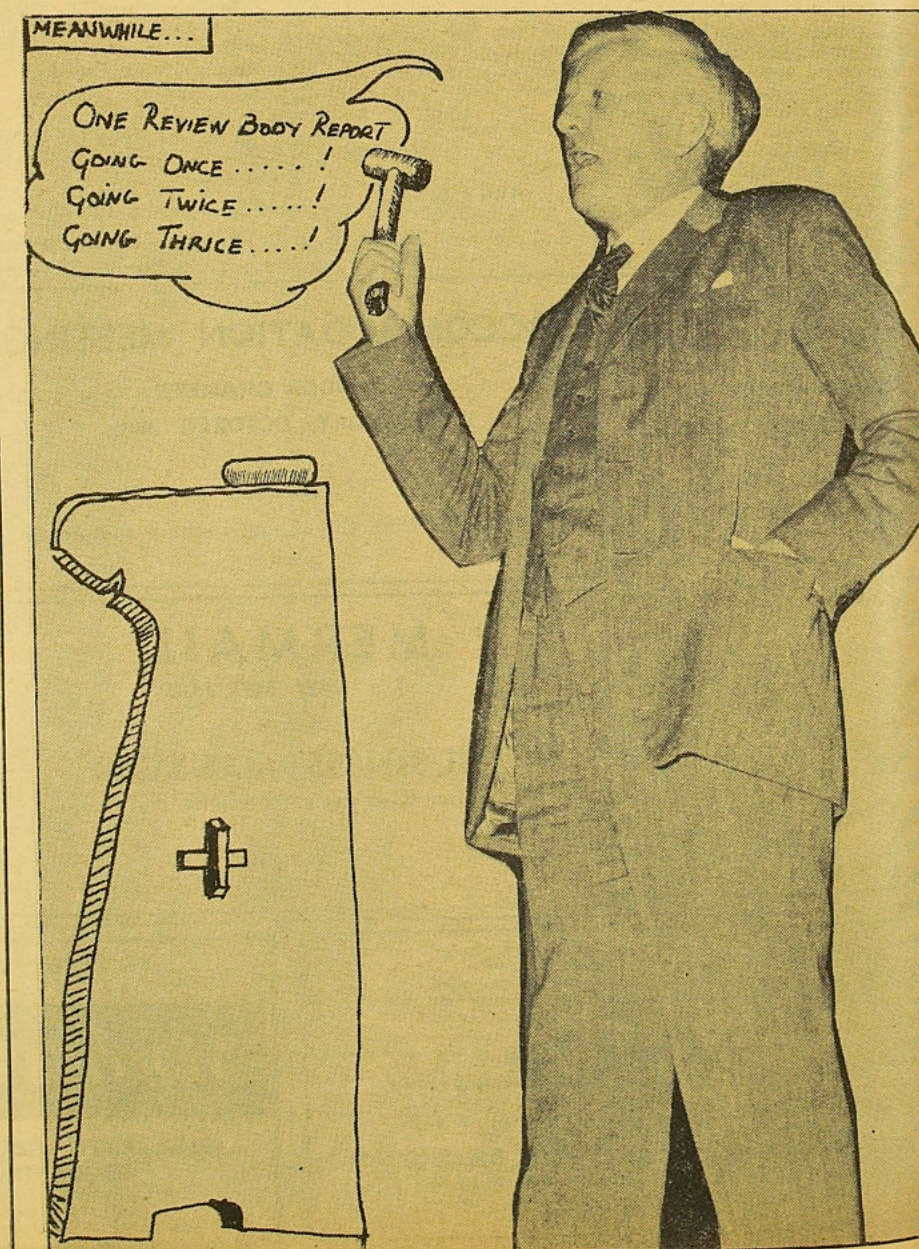
The "sit-in" of 1968 showed that many students were not going to accept the powerless position they were granted in the Charter, and that they were willing to go to some lengths to put pressure on the system.

The best way of channelling this potentially explosive and new-found power (remember the 1968 student revolution in Paris) into more sedate activities is to institutionalise it (though it must be said that it was the students who passed a motion which demanded that the University Authorities must accept a committee with 50 per cent students membership).

After more than a year of procrastination, the Review Body first met in January this year. It would not have done for a newly-appointed V.C. to react too quickly to student demands, even if a review of the obviously outdated Charter was planned anyway.

Given that the Review Body is a manifestation of the conflict within the University which is examining, what will its conclusions be? A comprehensive answer to this question is almost impossible. The guide to the direction of the committee's possible recommendations at the end of the year is found in a paper for a Unitary Governing Body in place of the present system.

The new body, called S, would have not more than members. Council would be abolished, and Court would officially have the position already, losing



A possible constitution of a Unitary Governing Body

	Lay	Acad.	Stu.	Genl.
EX-OFFICIO				
Vice-Chancellor	1			
Pro-Vice-Chancellor	1			
Deputy Principal	1			
Pro-Chancellor	1			
Treasurer	1			
Dean		7		
Student President and Vice-President			2	
	2	10	2	
ELECTED				
Academic Staff				
1 per Faculty				
6 from Assembly		13		
Students				
1 per Faculty			7	
Non-Academic Staff				
Administration				5
Technical, etc.				
CO-OPTED				
Lay Members	10			
	12	23	9	5
Total 49				

some authority vested in it the Charter.

Of course the constitution of a new Senate is vitally important. The table on the left illustrates what the composition might be.

Possibly the most important aspect of this draft is the absence of the class "professor." The constitution would remove the harmful divisions between professorial, non-professorial and research staff.

It seems that in the not so distant future the dichotomy of professorial / non-professorial student might be transformed into the more natural of staff/student.

The possible fluidity in the constitution of the non-professorial staff makes any attempt to describe the effect of such a constitution extremely difficult. What can be said is that the telescoping of the higher decision-making machinery into a small body of 50 people will make any conflict more overt.

The reduction in the size of the lay element, which has a majority in court, to just 10, can be construed as an attempt to make the decisions of the University, both financially and economically, firmly in the hands of the members of the University itself.

It is interesting to note that though the paper accepts student participation in the government of the University at all levels, there is still some doubt expressed as to the level at which their contribution can be most effective as their experience relates essentially to Department and also in well-residential and catering matters. Attention is also drawn to the work-load of students...

Review Body has the same seated qualms as the department the conflict between the professor, and students is most pronounced. Whereas the Senate, Council and Court, seem remote, the department is the basic organisational unit of the University, the centre around which academic life revolves.

It is here that the professor has his niche of power, constitutionalised under article 22 of the Charter (quoted at the beginning of the article).

The group of professors can be seen as self-perpetuating 'Baron-System.' Once they are appointed, their position is secure for life. The alternatives to this are to allow for a staff/student executive committee elected by the elected head of department who has a limited term. The mix for such a committee varies, as does the power and responsibility given. But what all the proposals of change demand is the abolition of the present hierarchy.

Can the Review Body find a compromise. In the original paper they dismissed the idea of a democratically-elected head of department, but suggested that they should be elected on limited contracts of 10 years. At the end of the contract the head of department will be given the opportunity of an extension, or a new (a powerless, but academically distinguished position).

The Review Body go on to say that with this limited tenure, checks and balances that

might have been necessary for a permanent position of authority, are no longer so important. Thus they give an "unambiguous" answer to the question of who has final responsibility with the department.

The key to whether this proposal would actually widen the base of the power within the department lies, I think, in the way a professor would be appointed, or re-appointed. With regard to this, the Review Body states that, "The existing procedure appears generally satisfactory" but that "it should be mandatory upon Electoral Boards to consult the staff of a department before reaching their decision." Whether the Electoral Boards take any notice of such consultation is presumably up to them.

The paper also puts forward a plan to split the Science and Engineering Faculty into five separate entities, and merge the Law Faculty into that of Commerce and Social Science. Thus there would be an increase in the number of faculties from 5 to 7 as follows:—

Life (Biological) Sciences
Physical Sciences
Applied Sciences
Environmental Sciences
Medicine and Dentistry
Arts
Social Studies.

The Review Body also suggests that there should be a move towards creating a looser school system, in place of the restricting departmental one. The issue of a broader and less factual education is advocated by the paper, but it is felt that these are "issues which the University must study and settle for itself."

The Review Body will be informing the University of its provisional and tentative ideas by circulating towards the end of this year a "Consultative Document." The reason for this is obvious. As Jo Grimond has said, "the Review Body will not recommend any changes that will have no chance of success." With this Document the reaction of various vested interests can be tested, and used in formulating new or altered proposals which are more likely to be accepted.

Any real opposition to the final document will most probably come from the Senate and Council. These two bodies will take the final decision on the implementation of the report. It is in these two bodies that the powerful interests of the professorate are entrenched. But Senate and Council will not be cornered into a Yes/No decision which could lead to a contentious issue which radicals hopefully wait for.

If the Consultative Document really does pose a threat to the power of the Professor, then pressure will be exerted so as to change the offending parts. If the final report is still unacceptable then it can always be amended clause by clause so that it loses its sting.

But what is acceptable and what is unacceptable to the professorial interest group depends on the situation. If student and staff opinion is strongly behind the report, then the chances of Senate and Council giving way are much increased. If 'Apathy Rules,' and the momentum for change is small, then the power of the professorate will be unshaken, and the status quo will have successfully survived the aftermath of the "sit-in."

GARY MARKS

Court

THE Court is the supreme governing body within the University, with absolute power. But such authority has rarely been used. Now that its function of a fund-raising body has been superseded by the University Grants Committee, the financial and political power which it once possessed has effectively been shed. The real role of Court is in forming a link with the local and regional community of which the University is a part.

	Lay	Establishment and Non-Prof.	Prof.	Stu.
Chancellor and other Lay Officers		4		
Life Governors	168			
Local Authority Representatives	25			
Local M.P.s	10			
Appointed by other Ed. Institutions	33			
Representative Members appointed by Education Authorities	11			
Ex-Officio Members from Local Bodies	26			
Principals and Deans		8		
Professors		136		
Guild of Graduates	44			8
University Officers		4		
Non-Professorial Staff			6	
Guild of Students				3
	317	152	6	11
Total 486				

Senate

The power of the Senate, though constitutionally small, has grown, is growing and, if left alone, will continue to grow. The fact that its size is also growing makes its smooth functioning as an executive instrument impossible. If the numbers of Senate are not limited, then the creation of an effective Senate Executive Committee becomes inevitable.

	Lay	Establishment and Non-Prof.	Prof.	Stu.
(Ex-Officio)				
Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor		2		
Deputy Principal		1		
Deans		5		
Professors		136		
Non-Professorial Heads of Departments (Elected)		8		
Non-Professorial Staff			3	
	0	152	3	0
(Observers)				
Non-Professorial Staff			9	
Research Staff			4	
Students				14
	0	152	16	14
Total 182				

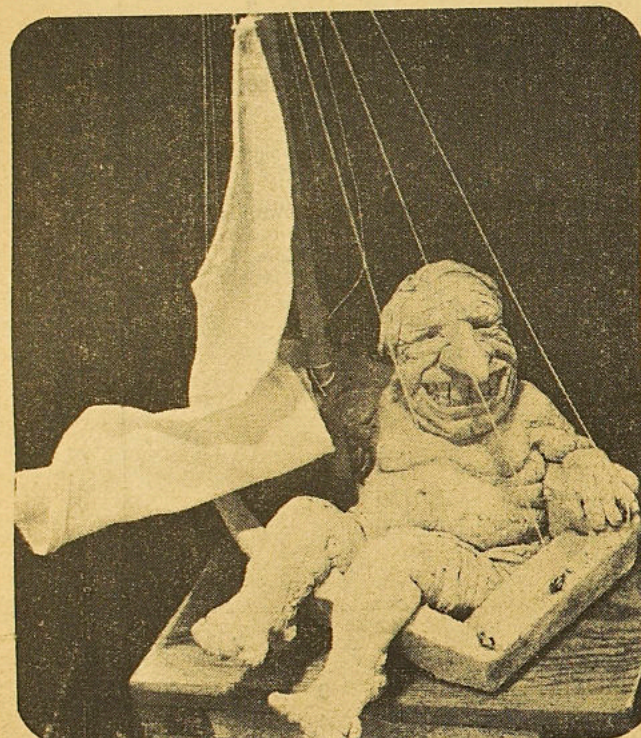
Council

Just as the all-encompassing power of Court has waned, so has that of Council. In the Charter it has the power, subject to the Court's control, "To review and control or disallow any act of the Senate and give directions to be obeyed by the Senate." Over the years an important but unwritten understanding has been developed between Council and Senate. With regard to academic matters the decisions of Senate are accepted by Council, whose area of concern is limited to managing financial matters.

	Lay	Establishment and Non-Prof.	Prof.	Stu.
Chancellor and Principal Lay Officers		4		
Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor		2		
Deputy Principal		1		
Deans of Faculties		5		
Laymen appointed by Court	16			
City of Birmingham	6			
Guild of Graduates	1			1
Non-Professorial Staff			1	
	23	12	1	1
(Observers)				
Non-Professorial Staff			2	
Research Staff			2	
Students				2
	23	12	5	3
Total 43				



Hendrix maxi-single from Track



"Ted riding the waves," by Gordon Govier, Compendium Gallery.



"Silly Harold," by Gordon Govier, Compendium Gallery.

gallery

FOR the past week and until November 6th, Compendium Galleries are exhibiting three distinct varieties of art.

In the central gallery Heinke Jenkins exhibits several rather morbid prints which are classified into three sections, "Disasters of War," "Time" and "Poem Posters." The first section "Disasters of War" lay the basis to her art, as she seems to be very affected by the fact that she was a child in wartime Germany. These prints feature mainly skeleton bodies printed in grey, brown and black.

"Acrobats" are the most preferable in the whole exhibition, but here again the theme is very sparse. Heinke also uses another form of art in the way of poem posters. These remind me of the medieval prose and drawings shown in brass rubbings, although the poems didn't exactly strike me as being anything special.

The upper gallery lifted me out of this non-feeling, in fact, it was quite a relief to be surrounded by colour. Paintings by Norman Lampitt are a colourful collage of shapes, his theme being the countryside. Whether intentionally humorous or not, I found "Job Rogers and Todley Tom" funny. The scene is the peaceful countryside and a real farm yokel looking up to see his counterpart flying off into the sky.

Lampitt's eye for detail is exceptionally obvious in his "Peter Tarrant." Peter Tarrant stands in the foreground surrounded by a dog, rabbit and a blackbird, while in the distance cows are grazing in a valley. The flowers and pebbles are painted individually, whilst through the tiny window of a house can be seen a figure.

"Encroachment" is a rather small painting but it depicts exactly as the title suggests, the serene countryside being encroached upon by development.

Gordon Govier, an art teacher from Hereford, has a lot more humour to offer in the lower gallery. A beautiful three-D caricature of ex-Prime Minister Mr. Wilson, entitled "Silly Harold." This large sculpture, in polished cement, shows Harold in a red, white and blue bathing costume complete with red, white and blue bucket and spade. But Govier doesn't have any bias, because there is an equally good clay working of "Ted, Riding the Waves" in a small dinghy, and another entitled "Ted," a large faced Mr. Heath standing on a rostrum decorated with his name. There are many others but not all are political, for instance, there's Diana Dors, the Queen, the Queen Mother, and an extremely ugly Eartha Kitt.

Gordon Govier started this type of work while still at Art College in Wolverhampton six years ago. He sells about £500 worth of sculptures in a year and, even though this would not be enough to support him, Govier feels the need to teach in order "not to become stale."

GINETTE TAYLOR.

theatre

THE PEOPLE SHOW visits the Arts Lab for four days beginning October 28th. This is the first in a new series in a programme devised by the Arts Lab to bring a new kind of theatre to Birmingham.

The People Show No. 41 will have a cast of just four people: Mark Long, Laura Gilbert, Jose Nava and Mike Figgis. Their intention is not to produce a play as such but to give a show created from the individual personalities. To achieve this they have no director or leader, nor do they work from scripts. In fact they do not form their show until they arrive at the settings, and develop something from the atmosphere and audience.

When they first started five years ago, Jeff Nuttall wrote scripts for them but they have progressed a lot since then. Ignoring all traditions of theatre production and portraying more of themselves, they manage to create an impression for the audience. But above all they need an audience with whom to communicate. Without an audience there's nothing to put across, therefore there's no show and therefore no rehearsals. This is why the audience is such an important part of their work.

It should be interesting to see how The People Show reacts to Birmingham and how Birmingham reacts to The People Show. During the four days there will be six shows, at 8 p.m. on October 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st, and also at 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

The Arts Lab, so far, arranged the following Theatre programme month up until February:—

November—Moving Being.
December—Quip U.
January—One Woman's Show.
February—Brighton Combination.

The Cinema Club recommences on Thursday, November 4th, with a new programme.

GINETTE TAYLOR.

cinema

THERE is an awful saying: "It was a load of rubbish," which seems to me to be the only way of describing *The Owl and the Pussycat* currently being shown at the Odeon, New Street. It is the dream-come-true of the average American male as carefully synthesised by the consumer society; the plot is the virility myth of the Ford Motors advertisement diluted for consumption on wide screen and 35mm.

George Segal plays an unsuccessful writer who calls himself Felix and makes a living by working in a bookshop. Life is hard on Felix; his landlord looks as if he has escaped from the Hammer trailer, his concert-pianist fiancée won't marry him till his first novel is published and today he receives yet another rejection slip. The final score comes when his landlord complains about the noise of his typing.

Determined to wreak vengeance upon an unjust world, Felix takes action when he notices through a pair of binoculars that his buxom neighbour has a fee-paying guest. Felix complains to his landlord who throws the buxom neighbour out and soon poor Felix finds himself the unwilling protector of a pretty, sexually-experienced girl who has nowhere to go for the night.

Still, if you think the plot is corny don't let this put you off if you want to see Barbara Streisand. She plays Doris, Felix's unexpected overnight visitor and is, of course, far too nice for anyone to believe that she could be a real prostitute. Barbara Streisand is nicely photographed in colour, the background music is nicely done by Blood Sweat and Tears and there is a nice happy ending.

ANDREW GOLTZ

A FEW weeks ago we had "Vanishing Point"—not much of a story line, but a film worth

seeing for the stuntsmanship involved in the car chase. A similar comment could be made for *Puppet on a Chain* (retained for a second week at A.B.C. New Street) only this time it's speedboats instead of cars. However, whereas the car chase in "Vanishing Point" virtually lasted the length of the film, the speedboat chase in "Puppet on a Chain" lasts only about ten minutes at the end.

The rest of the film takes the form of a somewhat clichéd thriller with the element of surprise only occasionally paying off—or as the publicity men would have us believe "one man's danger-ridden flight against a vast and highly efficient drug-ring in Amsterdam." So efficient, in fact, is this drug-ring, that they allow one of the lower members of their rank to carry around certain facts in a notebook which eventually lead to their discovery.

But this sort of fault must also lie in the Alistair Maclean novel on which this film was based. One can only hope that Maclean did not make the implicit interpretation of the drug scene that the film does. Discussing a group of people smoking pot, a police officer concludes that most of them would graduate to heroin within a year—a statement surely contrary to a lot of available evidence.

Having inferred this at the beginning, "Puppet on a Chain" then forgets about the problem of the addicts, and it's down to the serious business of capturing the crooks. Slowly the film winds its way towards the chase—two speedboats through the canals of Amsterdam. It is obvious that a lot of special directing has gone into this sequence as the boats shot through low archways, leap over barges and avoid closing locks. At one stage the scene resembles a mad sort of dodgems game.

Just this ten minutes makes it worth sitting through some rather embarrassing attempts to "thrill".

ALEXIS.

books

DR. PAUL EHRLICH is fast becoming the Prophet of Ecology and slowly people are beginning to listen to him—we hope. As a follow-up to "The Population Bomb" his new book *How to be a Survivor—A Plan to Save Spaceship Earth*, co-written by Richard L. Harriman (Ballantine, 40p), has recently been published.

The somewhat gimmicky idea of "Spaceship Earth," its "crew," "passengers" and "cabins" are not really necessary. Ehrlich's arguments come through with a force that does not need frilly edges. Reading through, one can't help being overcome with a feeling of pessimism, a feeling that if the only way to save Earth is along Ehrlich's lines, then we don't stand a chance.

The ideas on enforced population control may well be implemented as the authors themselves observe, to have children.

The Government already controls such personal matters as how many husbands or wives a person may have. The step to limiting family size is not all that great.

But it is when we come to the most politically orientated of the authors' arguments that the basic premise is that overdeveloped countries should de-develop, whilst underdeveloped countries should only "semi-develop." The problems here would be enormous. Who will manage to persuade the Great

reviews

American middle-class that "private automobiles are for transportation only... no family unit shall own more than one private automobile at a time."

Ehrlich and Harriman advocate a Department of Population and Environment (but would this be any better than our own completely ineffective Department of the Environment?) and a strong-minded President. It would seem to me that it would need an outright change in the attitudes of the public at large and we would be virtually near the end before that happened.

The authors discuss this problem under a chapter headed "The Spacemen"—the "new men" who will be needed to radicalise our outlook. Here a ray of optimism gleams through. An analysis of present opinions in an ecological context is one of the best I have read. It is this that pulls the reader out of the pessimism that has built up and gives a shred of hope that perhaps Ehrlich's confidence in our future will become a reality.

GRAHAM MOORE

music

TOM PAXTON is an artist whose professionalism inspires a tremendously responsive atmosphere from his audience. His varied repertoire of songs, ranging from the political commentary such as "Talking Vietnam Pot Luck Blues" and "Mr. Blue," to the more sentimental "Jennifer's Rabbit," are strikingly simplistic in their appeal, and Paxton repeatedly utilises his medium to convey bitterness and sadness with a touch of humour.

On Monday night at the Town Hall he played with great confidence, supported by Dave Willis on bass (David Horowitz was unavoidably absent). But he never really exploited the sympathetic audience, predominantly young and willing to listen to his message of love and peace.

Paxton perpetuated his reputation as a commentator and an advocate of love and peace by playing a balanced selection of songs. "Ramblin' Boy" and "Last time on my mind" gained immediate recognition and approval, and new songs, notably his comment on the Attica Prison incident, were met with strong interest.

Humour was added in both song and speech with Tom's "General Cluster" ("Soon as I get my hair done, we will win the war") proving to be popular.

As an artist, Paxton is slowly achieving what he is striving for, but he will, perhaps, achieve his end faster if he utilises his captive audiences heightening his tempo more violently.

RUSSELL BRYANT

IT'S now over a year ago that Deep Purple performed with the Orchestra of Light Music Society at the Festival Hall. That concert went off live on British and Danish radio. A recorded version has just been released as *Gemini Suite* on the band's own new label, Purple, distributed by E.M.I.

Jon Lord, composer of the score, explains in the sleeve notes that the Suite was "built" around the musical personalities of members of Deep Purple. However... the music grew away from the initial concept and became... more simply, music for amplified instruments and an orchestra. To this end we decided not to make it a Deep Purple project but to use specified soloists.

Hence the talented line-up of Roger Glover (bass), Albert Lee (guitar), Tony Ashton and Yvonne Elliman (vocals), Ian Paice (drums), Jon Lord himself (piano

and organ) and the London Symphony Orchestra.

The work is set out in six parts; one instrument featured in each part. Unfortunately this seems to fragment the final composition just a little too much. There is a need for some means of continuity to hold the thing together. The actual use of a particular soloist on each piece also lends itself to some criticism. There is a tendency for the result to be group versus orchestra, rather than group plus orchestra. This is especially so when Ian Paice's drums are featured. A "conventional" drum solo in the middle of an orchestrated score has an empty ring about it.

However, where Lord has managed to get some integration, the results are impressive. Most noticeable are Tony Ashton and Yvonne Elliman's vocals piece. What more could a singer want than the L.S.O. doing the "backing". Similarly Albert Lee's guitar work blends in well on his solo.

"Gemini Suite" was essentially an experiment on Jon Lord's part, and should be judged as such. He has shown that he is well able to score an orchestra of the calibre of the L.S.O. and the outcome often has the same sort of fluidity as a Vaughan Williams piece. Let's hope that Lord will now go on to compose a more complex work in which group and orchestra are more closely knit. The result should be well worth waiting for.

PAUL TAYLOR.

THREE new singles from Track can be placed in the value for money category. The new one from the Who, "Let's See Action," seems to lack the immediate impact that their previous singles have had, but it definitely grows on you. This Pete Townshend number is not as harsh as usual, in fact, there is even a gentle piece of melody half way through.

The flip side, "When I Was A Boy," is almost as good as the "A" side—a Blood Sweat and Tears type of horn and Keith Moon's unmistakable drumming echoing throughout.

In the wake of their Backtrack albums, Track have now released two stereo maxi-singles. "Gypsy Eyes" contains four numbers by the late Jimi Hendrix, all from around the 1967 period—"Gypsy Eyes," "Remember," "Purple Haze," and "Stone Free." What can you say except that this is a superb representation of early Hendrix?

The other single, simply entitled "Maxi Track," also includes a Hendrix number, "The Wind Cries Mary." The rest of the numbers are "Something In The Air," by Thundersclap Newman, Arthur Brown's "Fire," and John's Children's version of "Desdemona." The memories come flooding back.

If you didn't buy the original singles or haven't managed to pick them up in second-hand shops, then it's well worth getting them new on this single.

ALEXIS.

SQUATTING in the middle of Deb Hall last Friday evening and admitting to little foreknowledge of American-based Terry Reid the reviewer imagined himself to be Judge Argyle—compelled to sum up the proceedings yet with no special qualifications to do so. Let's hope the result is not a similar miscarriage of justice.

Sunshine, a six-piece band, fronted, as the blurb said, by two ex-Hair chicks (it showed) playing (?) tambourines cast a little of their light on the audience. It was all good body-arching athleticism culminating in our being taken for a "Moonride." Always short on quality, long on legs and high on volume, it was, after all, as they said, their first gig.

Then it was Terry Reid together with five friends (Dave Linley, the violinist, unfortunately had his own ulcer troubles, so the horn section from the now defunct Ginger Baker's Airforce came along) especially assembled for this tour, Reid displayed his brass unashamedly and throughout the seven numbers this trio permed any three from six (trumpet, flute, and the full range of saxophones).

On "It All Will Be" Reid gyrated both physically and vocally, while the saxes and trumpet sliced into the number, yelling it out, often at the cost of Reid's lyrics. "Thing To Try" and "July" followed; the latter highlighting Reid's moaning voice (shades of Van Morrison) accompanied by soprano sax.

"F" raised the decibel level once more before the return to the comparative tranquility of flute and Reid on "The River." Long before now I'd stopped jotting and just listened as the penultimate "Dreams" was shattered by "Dean." This finale (bar the Reid solo for an encore) in its own way was a microcosm of the whole session in its tempo and line-up changes.

Throughout, the music of Events Committee, T.R.6, was beautifully arranged and varied. Driving fast then slow, through the whole range of musical gears, it seldom stalled and was always on course. As a head-shaking man was heard to remark above the applause: "First decent band for years." Certainly it deserved better support, but as for its uniqueness in entertainment value we should perhaps reserve judgement until Nucleus have been.

ROD LING

FEW groups of musicians, whatever form of music they play, can boast of almost continual success over a period of ten years or so. The Jacques Loussier Trio is one of those that can and their impeccable concert at the Town Hall on Friday evening showed why this is so. The trio manages to retain a complete freshness in their approach despite the fact that there was little new in the performance for listeners of the "Play Bach" albums.

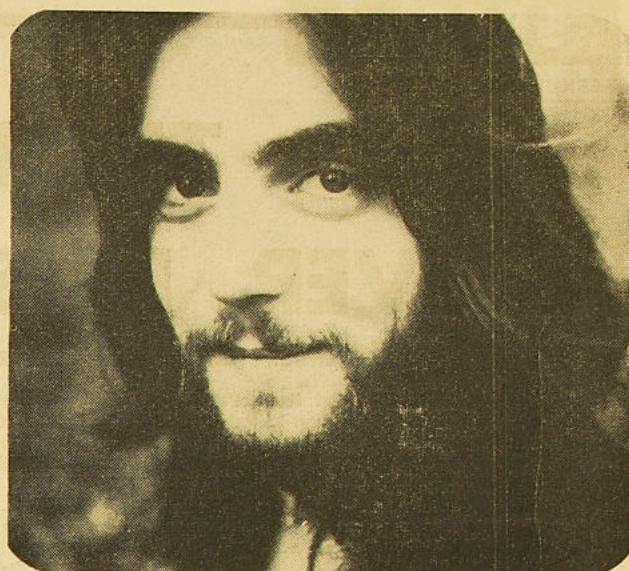
The concert began half-an-hour late due to the trio being delayed by a train derailment—or as Loussier himself put it: "We've been in trouble with the British railway."

Then brushing away the dust from the piano keys, and with a nod of the head, Loussier proceeded to entertain the audience with one of the most pleasant concerts at the Town Hall for the last few weeks. The content was varied, with the Trio prepared to attempt anything from Bach's wide range of works. There was the inevitable "Air on the G String" and "Jesu Joy of Man's Desire," together with preludes, fugues and concertos. It was in the performance of Loussier's own compositions that the trio seemed to have made much progress. On previous tours these have tended to be a slight distraction from the main theme, but on Friday they seemed to have a much freer feeling about them, allowing all three musicians greater scope in expression.

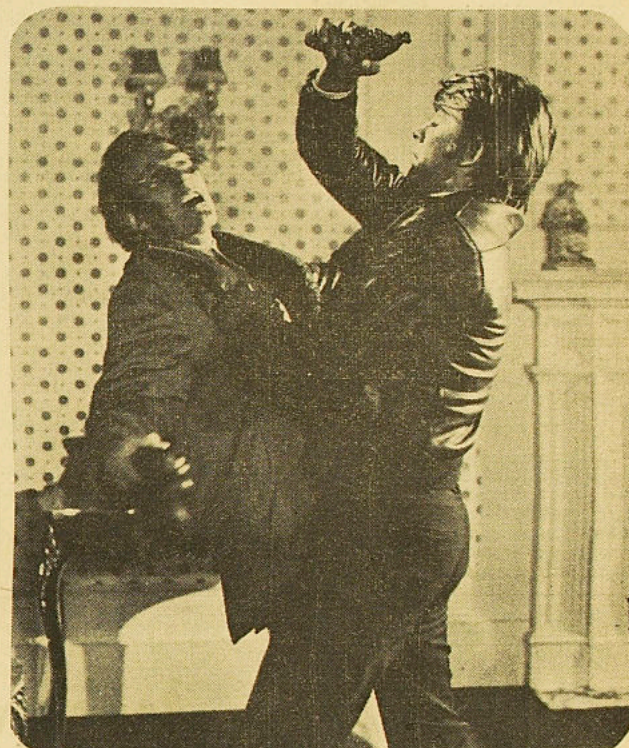
Loussier's piano work was, as usual, almost faultless, but it was Christian Garros, on drums, who virtually stole the show. His solos had the audience literally spell-bound, and his delicate use of cymbals as well as drums made a marked contrast to the heavy rock drumming from the same stage over the last week or so. Pierre Michelot can't really fail to impress: Bach wrote some of the best bass lines ever and Michelot's interpretation of them does much to supplement them even more.

It might be expected that three musicians playing in a similar style for a decade might lead to a certain degree of staleness. The lively performance of Friday evening proved that for the Jacques Loussier Trio, at least, this is not the case.

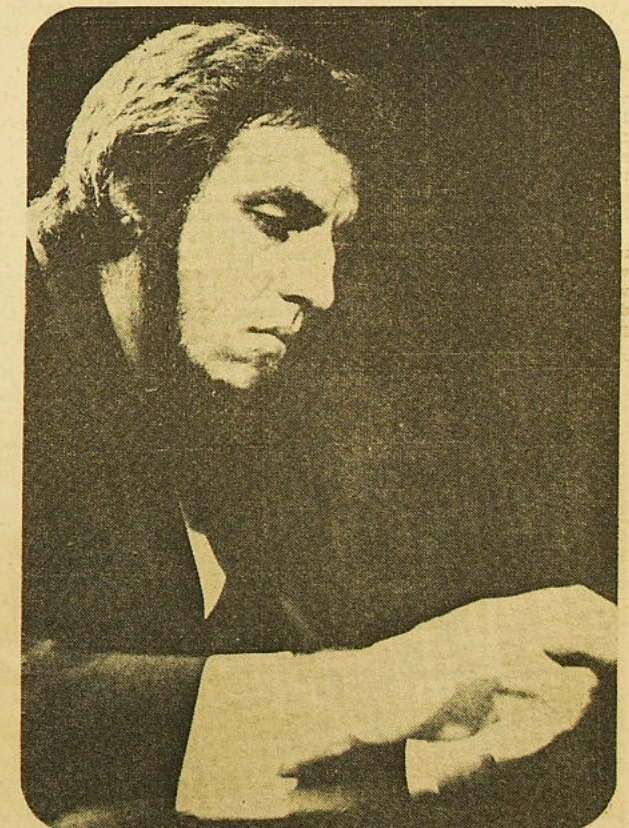
PAUL TAYLOR



Terry Reid, in the Union last Friday—deserved better support.



"Action-packed scene" from "Puppet on a Chain".



Jacques Loussier played impeccably at the Town Hall last Friday.

sport 1

BASKETBALL

SKILL TRIUMPHS
OVER MUSCLE!

ALSAGER 63, BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY 64

It was a miracle that the 1st team ever arrived at Alsager College for this, the first league game of the season. After John's van boiled dry and Malcolm spent 15 minutes on the 'phone and five minutes on the bog (or was it 15 minutes on the bog and five minutes on the 'phone?), we set off on an unscheduled tour around Alsager. Having received the classic instructions—"turn right and you can't miss it"—we promptly did just that.

The following report may seem biased, but having suffered the "blood" calls of a very partisan Alsager crowd for half an hour, I feel justified. It wouldn't have been so bad if Alsager hadn't scored first, at which the crowd erupted and demanded anatomical neckties ("we want their...") for the uninitiated; but happily Tower Power struck back and held the lead until after 6 mins. they were overtaken at 10-8.

Alsager then decided that the intelligent(?) use of elbow and brawn would help their competent team score—they had the right idea. I must admit, and even with Phil and Tay playing well (Tay 11 points, Phil 4 fouls and 4 points), they managed to hold us 4 points down all the first half. With minutes to go, Tower Power changed their man-to-man defence to a 2-1-2 zone and managed to stem the rate of scoring, then Dave Griffith squeezed in a basket to keep us in striking distance and we only finished the half 36-28 down.

STACEY SCORES!

In the second half, Birmingham resisted the temptation to change and stuck to the zone defence. Pete Stacey took to the court and played a competent game, to score only two points. You could say an extremely good shot from Alison Leggett on the left wing.

being a little greedy?! The captain's contribution to the game was a demonstration of how to hold on to the ball while the Alsager defence mauled him, and then how to get very annoyed when he lost the ball and another piece of his shorts!

When 10 minutes from time Phil converted his fifth foul, Alsager were jubilant. Then we brought out our secret weapon—Aydin Esener. Our new scoring machine hit bucket from outside and found even the smallest gaps to score 12 rapid points to boost his total to 20 points in the second half. Then Malcolm hit a purple patch and hit 8 taking us from 50-48 down to 55-60 up. For that we let him get the round in after the game.

TUNE CHANGED

The crowd changed its tune after that, as Dave Griffith showed Alsager how to defend and got trampled over in thanks. It's a wonder he ever saw basket with a 14 stone 6ft. 4in. brute blocking him out.

To give Alsager credit, they pulled out all the stops to keep the game tense to the end, but as soon as it went into the last 3 minutes, Tower Power knew they could win. Ably assisted by the Pringle bril-

liance in missing two free shots, and Tay, with typical Malaysian courtesy handing the ball to the opposition, Tower Power faded towards the end.

Basketball prevailed even over the antics of the Alsager coach and team and Tower Power gained a justifiable one-point victory. (Many thanks are due to Mr. R. Close who posted the team sheet).

RUGBY

An Austin delay

UNIVERSITY 38 pts., LEAMINGTON 8 pts.

"PARTY BOY" AUSTIN DIXON and his "Men of the Midlands," Frank Meakin, Colin Ashby and John Naylor, delayed the start of this vital clash by 20 minutes whilst they toured the countryside dreaming of flowing ale and looking for women of disrepute.

It was soon apparent that the crack University outfit were too smart for the pugilistically inclined Leamington plodders. After the University had sprung into a 13-point lead "Hippy" Dave Watkins staggered, and Leamington pulled back a try.

Goals each side of the interval by Pete Butler put the University in an unassailable position. A consolation try for the bemused opposi-



Pete "the Boot" Butler.

tion could not stop the onslaught—dribbling John Scott squeezed in for a try as did Dave Watkins, crowning the best move of the match.

In a bout of enthusiasm Wild Frank Meakin laid out on on-running prop in princely fashion, and

Dave Hargrave tried in vain to get an early bath! However even these diversions could not stop the scoring—a Pete Woodward chip was met with precision by Steve Clay to add to his first half try. The 38 points were completed by Pete Woodward (try) and "He-Whore" Butler.

DAVE HARGRAVE.

New challenge?

MEDICS IV 18—LUCAS 7

Is this the great rugby revival? An influx of new talent and an acquisition of several ex-Medic heads have become welded into an invincible team, Medics 4th.

On Saturday, despite the absence of Wildman Winter, their Taff captain (coach, who succumbed to Oremaster muscle fatigue, they proceeded to put out the Lucas light with a battery of fine play. The only thing to shine on this dull day was Chris Ball's pink jock-strap, an invaluable support. J. K. Wood, the youth from the football team in a first game did some fine kicking and showed the familiar aggressiveness well known from his drinking habits.

The supercharged forwards worked cohesively. One of the props from Pinner, sponsored by T.V. and Rholf Credig, who was handicapped by a self-inflicted hand injury. Simon and Dave the Dentist, helped by the rest of the forwards, lowered the resistance of Lucas.

The backs, led by the part-time captain, Apoth Newman, the flasher from Pinner, produced some fine movements. A classic started by the scrum half John passed to Apoth, to Adam Ducks-Pea—from Tonbridge—whose former sport was hunting big game, then gave the ball to the outside centre who scored the try. The full back covered well and so Lucas were beaten 18-7 by their inability to strike effectively.

MORGAN THE ROCK.

FRESH PROMISE

BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 2nd XI 7, NOTTINGHAM 0

AN almost completely reshuffled 2nd XI swept to victory over a Nottingham side short of a player for the first half. This was a very promising display and restored honour somewhat after last week's defeat.

Birmingham went ahead after 15 minutes in which all the play had been in the Nottingham circle with a hard shot from Fred. After the initial break-through goals were scored by Janice, Fran and Fred again to give Birmingham a four-goal lead by the interval.

In the second half the Birmingham forwards maintained their

pressure with further good goals from Janice (2) and Fran (set up by Janice). But there were a few anxious moments in defence and Nottingham deserved at least one goal as a reward for the confusion they managed to cause in our circle but Lucy kept her goal-line intact to send Nottingham home with no reward for their moments of attacking pressure.

On the whole a game of promise, and optimism for further W.I.V.A.B. rounds although a few problems still remain.

2nd XI: Lucy, Chris, Viv, Wendy, Anne, Jayne, Fred (2), Janice (2), Fran (2), Sue (capt.).

sport 2

HOCKEY

Gilbert's goolies get going

At last, for all you faithful readers, who have earnestly turned to the sports pages in the hope of finding a hockey report, here it is. Having lost a large number of star performers from last year's team, it was hoped that a number of new players would be forthcoming to take their places behind the vacated pint-pots. However, only one emerged, Bill Allum, who has duly taken up residence at right half-pint.

The job of moulding a team from last year's players has resulted mainly with the new streamlined version of Mike Gilbert (it must have itched anyway), aided by "Lime and Lemon" Taylor. Now, after a succession of mediocre performances, it is hoped that the team will settle down and return to last year's form(?)

Much of the success will depend on the right-wing pair of Dwarf Moyle (all the best things come in small packages) and Peter Longman (who says he's a nice boy really—isn't he, Virginia?)

However a good team is built up from a sound defence (I learnt that at training last night—where were you Furtado?), and with Dick Burt in goal, Mike and Dave at the back, and Bill, Robin Wheeler and John Tapp as halves, this should be possible. It just remains for the forwards to settle down and score a few (goals as well).

Finally it remains for me to mention the final member of the team, our left-wing "Sanders-babe" Barry. Hello Barry.

Team: Burt, Gilbert, Taylor, Allum, Wheeler, Tapp, Moyle, Furtado, Clarke, Longman, Comer.

Wednesday 27th—Loughborough Colleges (home), U.A.U.

Saturday 30th—Barford Tigers (away).

NETBALL

TACTICAL UNION PLOT FOILED

DESPITE a wait of almost an hour for the Nottingham team, after tactical moves by the Union to put them off by sending them on a wild goose chase up to West Hills, the netball teams were presented with the prospect of a game against 11 players swinging hockey sticks instead of the usual seven unarmed players.

Birmingham's second team came away with a 21-5 victory. Even though the side had not played together before, the passing down the court went very well with Pat Devarrey playing an especially good game.

The first team, trying to prove to themselves as well as everyone else that two games in one afternoon was nothing due to their superiority in fitness, managed to win their league match against Edgbaston Ladies by 31-20. Liz Webb, determined to prove to all and sundry that height conquers all, made some very good dodges and shots at goals. After rushing back from this game the 1st team had to face a somewhat irate Mott 1st team.

Although they were all tired and Lynette Buxton was almost on the point of collapse due to unmentionable circumstances, they still came away with an incredible victory of 32-16.

1st Team: Liz Webb, Paula White, Lynette Buxton, Annette Barber, Chris Osmond (captain), Colette Reeder, Diane Binbaum.

2nd Team: Lorna Barnett, Barbara Gregory, Pat Devarrey, Sue Powell, Cath Healy, Liz Williams, Lesley Herbert.



The Soccer Club are currently experiencing some difficulty in producing reports for "Redbrick." This has been attributed by some callous people to the fact that no-one is prepared to admit that Ray Barlow has been scoring goals. Barlow himself can't write.

Sportscene

DEAR SIR.—As a veteran borrower and reader of "Redbrick" and while acknowledging your obvious attempt to inject some new life into the paper, I have but one complaint.

Every week for at least the last year the two pages supposedly devoted to "sport" have slowly but surely become a mass of unintelligible waffling. Presumably though, the readers were expected to plough through to gain an inkling of what has been happening on the University sporting scene.

In the last issue, out of a total of seven articles, only two were directly connected with sport, the other five being the product of someone with that well-known Athletic Union complaint literary diarrhoea. I am sure the day-to-day lives of "Skintrait," "Aggro," "Gerald Nobby," "G.W.H." to name but a few, are not of the greatest significance to the average reader.

I feel confident that I express a view felt by many when I urge you to end the meaningless "drivellings" of this literary comedian and get down to some straight-forward reporting of some of the excellent sporting events which are continually taking place.

Yours in hope,

ROD CARR,
Geology III.

(I've printed the above letter just to show what a democratic lot we are on "Redbrick." We're always ready to listen to minority views.

So now for a few facts which Mr. Carr is demanding. The week about which Mr. Carr complains, I received two articles—a hockey report plus a golf review. The rest I had to produce with the help of Mr. Southam.

Mr. Carr's attitude is typical of so many people. They are willing to sit back and criticise, but are extremely reluctant to get off their backsides and do something to help.

When I don't receive reports then I can only assume that either our Athletic Union clubs aren't producing excellent results, aren't competing or else they are all suffering from literary constipation. I spend quite a few hours a week producing these two pages—a time which is elongated if an extra 1,000 words have to be conjured up.

If Mr. Carr and anyone like him object to the contents, then the remedy lies with them. If pictures and articles are produced, I am always ready to print them.

ANDY HOLDEN

ATHLETICS

WHAT A SHAMBLES
Says RANDY SOUTHAM

NEVER, in my whole reporting career, have I seen a team with such a pathological death-wish as the Athletics Club. In their only match of the winter, against Oxford last Wednesday, there was this apparent dire wish to lose. Nowhere was it more manifest than in that particular area where Birmingham owe much of their success, that of administration.

If the administrators don't pull out their tiny, little fingers then it's goodbye to the U.A.U. Championships next summer. Successful clubs don't exist on good intentions and hope.

In itself the match was quite interesting. Of the "newcomers" on show, by far the most outstanding was George Trmal. He competed in five events, winning two and second in two. The sprinter, Turner, has obvious ability, but he will never be successful without the long background of winter training. In the middle distance races, Lewis, Lynath and Griffith performed with credit, and they have experienced the high standard which will be expected of them.

On the field, Mather boosts the jumping section. However, his ability and aggression need supplementing by strength and discipline before the big jumps start coming.

Of the old lags on display, Pete Crone won two of the sprints and Gilmour starred in the steeplechase and crept over six feet in the pole vault. The only other winner was G.W.H. who happened to be passing when the 3,000 metres was starting. He coasted round for an easy victory before drifting off again.

Result:

B.U.A.C. 83, Oxford U.A.C. 86.

GOLF

DOUBLE VICTORY

THE golf team playing Bangor University at Delamere Forest, Cheshire, found a very weak team and played the match from handi-cap. The morning foursomes were halved 2-2.

In the afternoon, Bill Harrison,

six down with six to play, and not playing his usual best, shocked his opponent by driving arrow-straight from the 13th tee a good 120 yards. His obviously shaken opponent duck-holed into Wales and lost the hole. And the fight-back continued until Bill missed a tap-in on the 16th green.

Newcomer J. Hase, visibly angered by the morning tragedies, slaughtered the enemy six and four.

Other winners: Bill Hawksworth (straight back from the British Open), Bob Ashton, Tony Bond and Sweet Swinging Karim. The match was won 7-5.

EDGBASTON GOLF CLUB
At Birmingham's equivalent of Cypress Creek there was action from the start when Bill Harrison and Bob Ashton beat Dr. Mike (Gladys) Paterson.

Bomber Bond and P. (Goggles) Stanley found trouble straight away and at the 14th thought they might actually win a hole. But their opponent had other ideas, and holed out from a bunker to finish the match.

John Wood, back on form after his South African tour, and the ever-there Ken Clark sailed on to win five and four. Richard Lister brought his teacher's cane instead of a five iron and had problems on the fairway, but was whipped into action by Karim (the Yank?) Klat and they won two and one. Piery fresher, S. Chimeh and Bill Birdlake halved, the match being won 91-21.



Action at West Hills.

around

DAY BY DAY

Wednesday, Oct. 27th

"Education for What"—Open Forum. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Organ Concert—By G. Thalben-Ball. Town Hall. 1.15 p.m. Free.

Forum—Sex. 7 p.m. Union.

Van Der Graff Generator—Plus Genesis. Town Hall. 7.30 p.m. Tickets 50p.

Thursday, Oct. 28th

C.B.S.O.—Town Hall. 7.30 p.m. Pieces from Greig, Sibelius and Dvorak.

Kinetic Circus—Argent, Climax Chicago and Duffy Power. 8 p.m.

Natural History Films—City Art Gallery. 7.30 p.m.

Lunch-Time Concert—Mozart Clarinet Quintet. City Art Gallery. 1.10 p.m. 12½p.

Friday, Oct. 29th

Medicine Head—Plus Genesis. Lake/Wydd Hall. 8 p.m. 60p.

Pete Brown and Piblokto—Three Mile Oak, West Bromwich.

Quintessence—Kinetic Circus.

Citizen Kane—Midlands Film Theatre, Canon Hill. 10.30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 30th

Birmingham Bach Society—Cathedral, Colmore Row. Tickets from Town Hall Box Office.

Eagle Jazz Band—Old Crown, Digbeth.

Slade—Plus Brett Marvin and The Thunderbolts, Aston Union.

Pentangle—Town Hall. 7.45 p.m. Tickets from 40p.

Events Disco—Union. 8 p.m. 15p.

Forum—Drugs. 1.30 p.m. Arts Commerce Tower.

Sunday, Oct. 31st

Sunday Flic—"I, A Woman." Union. 7 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 1st

Mott The Hoople—Town Hall. 7.30 p.m. Tickets from 50p.

Film Soc.—"I Even Met Happy Gypsies," by Alexander Petrovic. Haworth Lecture Theatre. 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 2nd

Jazz—George Huxley Band. Wheatsheaf, Walsall.

Celebrity Concert—By the Polish pianist Malcuzwinski. Town Hall. 7.30 p.m. Tickets from 30p.

Arts Lab.—Dave Panton. One music series. 8 p.m. 30p.

THEATRE

Arts Lab.—The People Show, Thursday, Sunday, 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday, 8 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Birmingham Repertory Theatre—"First Impressions." 7.30 p.m.

Crescent Theatre—"A Man for all Seasons."

Alexander Theatre—"Rebecca," by Daphne du Maurier. From November 1st: "Cherry Orchard."

Birmingham Theatre—"Merry Widow." From November 1st: "Straight Up."

Royal Shakespeare, Stratford—

"Twelfth Night." October 27th. 1.30 p.m.

"Henry V." October 27th. 7.30 p.m.

"Othello," October 28th, 1.30 p.m.; October 30th, 7.30 p.m.; November 1st, 7.30 p.m.

"The Duchess of Malfi," October 28th. 7.30 p.m.

"The Merchant of Venice," October 29th. 7.30 p.m.

"Much Ado About Nothing," October 30th. 1.30 p.m.; November 2nd. 7.30 p.m.

CINEMA

A.B.C., New Street—"Puppet on a Chain," retained for second week. L.C.P. 8.05 p.m. From Sunday 31st: "Little Big Man."

Cinephone—Retained for second week, "Provocation" and "Nude as a Trap."

ABC Cinerama—"The Devils." L.C.P. 7.45 p.m.

Futurist—"The Great St. Trinians Train Robbery" and "Carry on Teacher." From Sunday 31st: "Mad Doctor of Blood Island" and "Brides of Blood."

Gaumont—"The Sound of Music." L.C.P. 7.15 p.m.

Jacey—Cartoons continuous from 12.30 p.m. 20p. From Sunday, October 31st: "Night of the Outrages" and "Seductions of Julia."

ABC, Selly Oak—"One hundred and One Dalmations." L.C.P.

Odeon, Ringway—"Scandalous John" and "The Story of Robin Hood." L.C.P. 6.55 p.m. Next week: "The Horsemen."

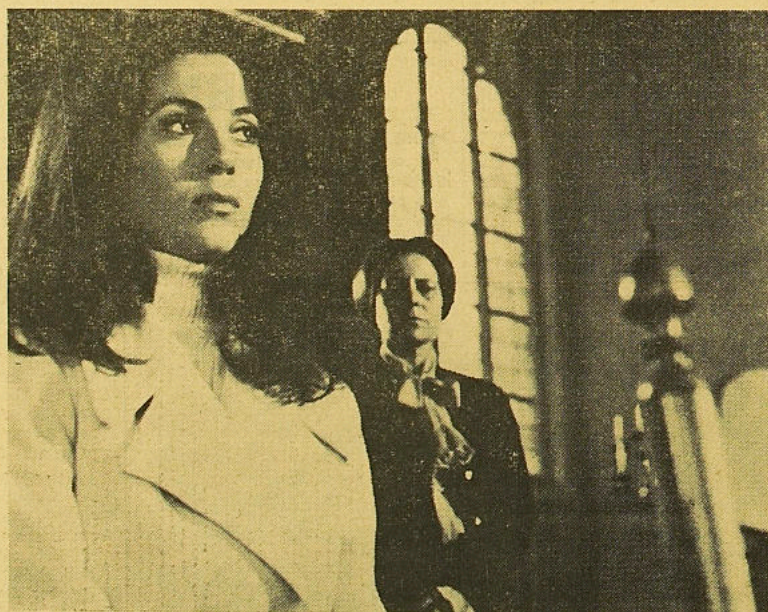
Arts Lab.—Cinema Club closed until Thursday, November 4th. See Theatre.

GALLERY

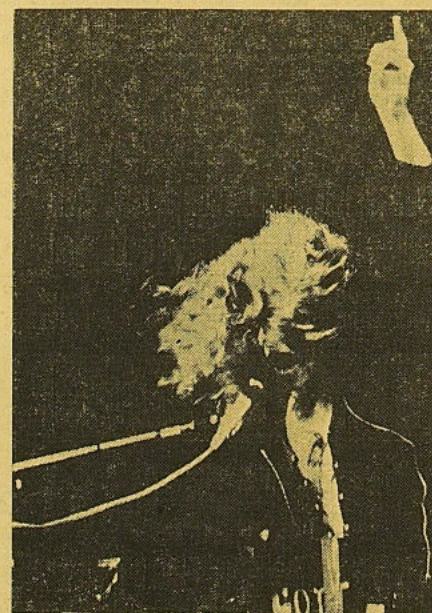
Compendium—Gordon Govier, Political Sculpture, Heinke Jenkins, Printmaker, Norman Lampitt, Paintings. Until November 6th.

Cannon Hill—Photographic Exhibition until November 28th.

Ikon—Pre-diploma students of local colleges exhibit paintings, prints, etc. Until November 13th.



Barbara Parkins in "Puppet on a Chain" — ABC, New St.



Ian Hunter of Mott the Hoople, who are appearing at the Town Hall on Monday.