



## Bertrand Russell at the Queen's Prophet of Doom?

RESIDENTS of the Queen's Hotel must have been surprised last Saturday to find a white-coated man on their doorstep selling exclusively copies of the "Daily Worker." There were other surprises too. Strains of "Goin' to bury that atom bomb down by the river side" and a song that seemed to consist entirely of the words, "Zum gali gali, Zum gali gali" were to be heard echoing through the regency striped corridors.

The Queen's Hotel was the scene of the "Second Midlands Conference for Peace," addressed by Bertrand Russell.

Some of Lord Russell's critics have maintained that his pacifistic leanings are a sign of an advancing senility—but, if so, this is a senility characterised by incisive logic and an unparalleled ironical wit. The arguments did not seem to be new, but the jokes were—and jokes are, after all, a good deal harder to make up than arguments.

### No war

Russell's argument was this: according to the best studies of the problem (and it was repeatedly emphasised that these studies were by unbiased orthodox strategists), if present policies were pursued, nuclear war was more likely than not. We did not want nuclear war; so present policies ought not to be

pursued. That we did not want war was clear, for although "what would happen if nuclear war were to break out is as yet, fortunately, unknown," the most conservative estimate of the resulting deaths was 160 million in America, 200 million in Russia and "in Europe—everybody."

### Charitable

Of the Prime Minister's statement that "There will not be a war by accident," Russell said that it seemed "charitable to

suppose that he believed what he said," but if so he was ignorant of facts of which he ought to have been aware—e.g. the American radar scanners "on at least one occasion mistook the Moon for a flight of Russian bombs."

### Alternatives

What alternative was there? What the world needed was obvious to all sane well-informed men: the abolition of arms... What could Britain do to further this international aim? He wanted multilateral disarmament, but thought that unilateral disarmament the most effective step that Britain could take to this end.



SIR  
OSWALD  
MOSLEY

(Photo: "Post & Mail")

## The Excelsior Excel

FOR some time now it has been obvious that within the University we have the nucleus of a really fine traditional jazz band; and at the I.U.J.F. contest finals last Wednesday the Excelsior Jazzmen fulfilled all our hopes by winning the cup for the best University trad. group and gaining third place, against strong modern and mainstream opposition, in the overall classification.

This year, as last, the contest, for which over 40 bands were entered, was judged on the basis that the only categories in to which jazz may be subdivided are those of good and bad jazz.

As we all anticipated the really excellent Cambridge University Jazzband won the competition and the cup awarded to the best modern band, despite the fact that they were without trumpet. Lionel Grigson, who had fallen victim to glandular fever the previous weekend.

Second in the overall classification and winners of the mainstream trophy was the Oxford University Jazzband, much improved since last year when they were deprived of a place in the

finals by the N.U.R.K.S. (Birmingham).

### Complicated arrangements

Third, came our own Excelsior Jazzmen, who can attribute most of their great success to the fact that they realize in which direction their ability lies; this method, instead of following that of most traditional groups of concentrating on all-out improvised ensembles with gaps for solos, uses more complicated arrangements which are flexible enough to allow their soloists really to extend themselves.

Two members of the band, Martin Williams (trumpet) and Don Campbell (clarinet) were named by the judges Alun Morgan, Steve Race, Johnny Dankworth and Benny Green as being among the outstanding musicians of the contest; although Martin plays the occasional suspect solo which is hardly surprising in view of the fact that he has only been playing jazz for the past six months—his solos at the contest were uniformly excellent.

Don Campbell's usual exciting work gained him the top clarinetist award, which, following on his success last year on trumpet, led critic Alun Morgan to wonder what instrument he

intends to take up for next year's contest.

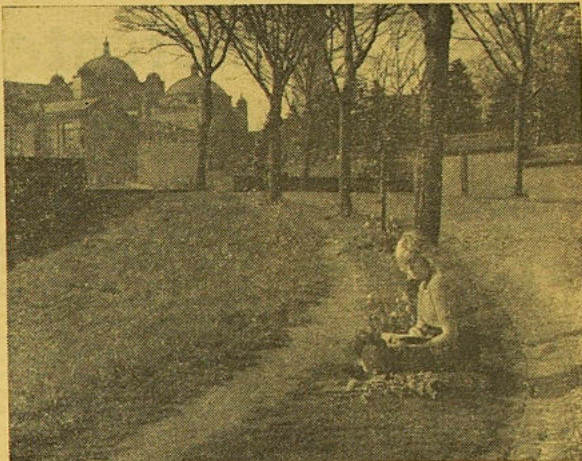
However, in spite of their individual brilliance, both Martin and Don owed a great deal to the work of the rest of the band: Roy Rubinstein, consistently good on trombone; banjo, R. A. Verwill, who, for once, condescended not to break any strings; Roy Stephenson, string bass, with Clive Miles on drums.



The Excelsior Jazz Band.

(Photo: "Post & Mail")

## THE GRASS IS GREENER



"DER SPRING IS SPRUNG, DER GRASS IS RIS,  
I WONDER WHERE DEM BOIDIES IS?"—Anon.

(Photo: Mike Webber).

## Mosley at Moseley

IN very different surroundings the man leaning against the bar was heard to say, "Mosley? Yes, that's the fellow who says..." In alcoholic tones, his companion replied: Ah, but just you wait—he really..."

Addressing a gathering of about 150, in a school in Moseley last week, Sir Oswald outlined national and local questions, correlating the two throughout, through the immigration problem and the effect on housing. He saw folly in aggravating the situation by accepting so many immigrants, whose living standards are so different, and suggested paying their fares home while improving their homeland conditions.

### Black pact

A step in the right direction would be for Britain to buy her sugar from Jamaica instead of Cuba, and he criticised the last Labour Government's "Black Pact" responsible for this.

Sir Oswald emphatically denied desiring to persecute anybody; far from it, he had recently received an apology from "Isis" for conveying this impression.

Sir Oswald explained his policy for uniting Europe, together with Africa and the Commonwealth, and regarded

economic policy before a common government as "putting the cart before the horse." This united Europe would be as least as powerful as capitalist America and communists Russia. This division into three great powers would do much to ensure peace and conflicts over disarmament could easily be settled.

Another topical problem, Africa, brought up the complete division policy. Two-thirds would go to the coloured peoples, giving them the advantages of climate and the richer land, with the whites taking the other third. Each section would have national rights, and no power of interference with the other's affairs.

### Abuse

In the course of his speech, Sir Oswald said the Government was elected by the people, but was given no power by them. His party would increase its power while providing safeguards to prevent its abuse.

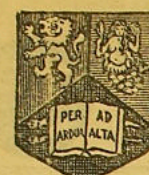
It was no power in dictatorship that he wanted—it was an energetic and enthusiastic democracy. Elect them, and let them use their power.

### Prowess

After his speech questions were answered to the apparent satisfaction of the audience, and the meeting closed peacefully enough. There was little heckling, although a persistent Scotsman was ridiculed at one stage in an example of Sir Oswald's oratorical prowess.

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## SCARS vindicated

MADAM,—During the past ten days SCARS and myself have been subjected to tirades of abuse and insult as a result of your publishing the letter I handed to you recently featured on front page, March 2nd).

I am not surprised that people are unwilling to admit that such prejudiced viewpoints exist at all in their Garden of Eden—Balsall Heath. This is an understandable defence mechanism.

I can appreciate also, that many coloured students are disillusioned and hurt at seeing this vicious minority opinion in the press; but then the truth always hurts someone.

What does surprise me, however, is that a society whose aims are to fight colour prejudice should be accused of forgery and legerism by persons who have been unable to escape their own legerism sufficiently to ask myself or SCARS anything about the letter or what we have done to fight colour prejudice.

To make it easy for them: I replied to the letter within 48 hours of receiving it. I have also visited the writer who has accepted an invitation to talk to students on keeping Britain white.

If anyone still questions my integrity they can (provided of course they are willing to take the trouble) obtain further proof from me.

I remain, yours disillusioned but still hopeful.

M. G. THICKETT.

MADAM,—I was very interested by the so-called near-Fascist letter published in "Guild News" last week. Although I admire the sentiments expressed by SCARS, I feel that the author of the letter was, in some ways, justified in criticising their methods. The ejection of S. Africa from the Commonwealth could do nothing but harm to all concerned.

I should not like anyone to think that I wholly concur with the feelings manifest in the published letter. The Author appears to be worried about two individual problems.

Firstly, he implies that the worst type of people immigrate into this country, and that since their moral standards are low, they tend to lower ours.

This argument is defensible but it applies to immigrants from countries other than South Africa, countries whose people are not black.

Morally wrong

Secondly, he seems to have an irrational hatred for the dark races. This is clearly indicated by his frequent allusions to the existence of half-breeds, and his

description of "coloured people" as being "animal-like!" Although this sort of prejudice is morally wrong, one cannot ignore it. It is so deep seated that I am sure no logical argument would induce the author of the letter to change his mind.

This, however, is the battleground on which the battle should be fought. If argument will not prevail, let them forget about their petition and start some constructive public relations work at home.

Yours faithfully,

D. J. CARTER (Chem.)

## Here we stand

MADAM,—Keith Thrower, in his article "The Only Answer" places, by implication, Increasing Crime, Lower Morals and Nuclear Disarmament in the same category. No doubt he intended to relate the widespread disregard for the sanctity of human life, the disregard for morality in the conduct of national and international affairs and to the manufacture and use of nuclear weapons.

They are certainly so related for many Christians today and I would point out that Elizabeth Fry's work among prisoners, referred to in the article, arose from a concern for the care of all human beings, whether they are judged by society to be criminals or law-abiding citizens, guilty or innocent.

Where do individual Christians stand on the issue of our time?

Are Christians prepared to support the mass murder of the innocent and the guilty in a nuclear war?

Just war  
In former time it was possible to formulate criteria for a just war but this philosophy is now invalidated. In short, it is demonstrable that there cannot be a just nuclear war. How can the Christian support, then, the preparations for the use of nuclear weapons or the threatened use of them?

It is vital that Christians should be thinking about this problem and I would ask members of religious societies to arrange meetings of their members to study Christian responsibility in relation to modern war and the right use of economic resources.

I would be pleased to supply anyone with the most recent literature on the subject.

Yours sincerely,

DAVID CHANDLER.

### Small Ads.

FOR SALE: A Gown, practically unused, suit anyone around 5ft. 11ins., 50/- o.n.o.—Apply M. J. Thomson (Geography), via Pigeon-holes.

TODAY 5.30 p.m.: Christian Science lecture in Committee Room 3—Union Extension. All welcome.

SUNDAY FLIC this Week: "Law and Disorder", starring Michael Redgrave, and "Devil's Bait."

## Guild Dinner and Ball Protest WHAT ABOUT THE PLEBS?

MADAM,—Many people read the notice in the Union last Friday (Guild Ball Day) saying that sandwiches would be available in the Bar for those who normally eat in the Vernon Grill. Could it be that at last something was being done for the ordinary people in the Guild? However, at the appointed time of the feast (6 p.m.) nothing whatever was available.

## Plain begging

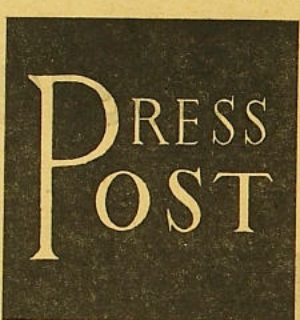
MADAM,—As one of those recently engaged in waving "pitiful little tin boxes," may I be allowed to reply to Mr. Hutton?

He thinks we would have been better employed easing the transport problems of students than trying to ease the hunger of starving people. I suggest he re-examines his priorities. As for "plain begging," this description is surely better applied to hitch-hiking than to charity collections.

May I add that, if Mr. Hutton wants a transport office so badly, he should get some helpers together and start one himself, rather than asking other people to do it for him.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID HEFFORD.



### BAIT TAKEN

MADAM,—Mr. Plant's "controversial" article recently on Foxhunting was tactically superb. He can now brand anyone who writes in protest against his views as more animal-loving than human-loving. With this risk in mind—I rise to the bait!

Much of Mr. Plant's sentiment is true, of course (except such erroneous ideas that the stimulus of anti-foxhunting has nothing to do with cruelty to animals); but he destroys his case with bloated self-importance—playing the psychologist in an arrogantly misguided way.

You see, Plant is wrong. The sport is cruel to animals. Plant knows this cruelty. Plant knows that to make it plain to an animal that it is shortly to die, is cruelty. Plant knows—but chooses to ignore because Plant doesn't really care—but seems afraid to say so.

Yours, etc.

R. K. SHAMSALL.

### MUSLIM

MADAM,—With reference to your article, "Religious Survey," I wish to point out that the word 'Mohammedans' was wrongly used.

I think what you meant is "Muslims." A "Mohammedan" would mean one who worships Mohammed and Muslims DO NOT. So no "Mohammedans" exist on this earth but Muslims who worship God and accept the prophethood of Mohammed.

Yours faithfully,

R. S. MAHMUD.

Secretary, Islamic Society.

Perhaps the authorities thought that anti-ball members would then be hungry and have to leave the Union in search of food, before anyone in a "monkey suit" could see such degraded people, who actually prefer a normal bar to one purporting to be oriental, i.e., has Chinese words on it.

Another shock confronted me in the Entrance Hall, as I expected a number of tables with umbrellas attached. Instead there was a pond surrounded by a papier-mâché nude with a tail and half a ton of tulip festival rejects.

### Conventions

I maintain that ordinary members of the Guild, i.e., the ill-bred majority, should not have to subsidise this function or be turned out of the Union for even a minute. If they wish to dress up, a group of people should book a hotel in town and pay

### CRUELTY, TOO

MADAM,—On behalf of animal lovers in the University, I would like to protest at the use of gold-fish in the decorations for Guild Hall last Friday.

These poor creatures were stuck in a papier maché fountain in a cold and draughty entrance hall, under the glare of harsh lighting, and were subjected to a barrage of coins and cigarette ash throughout the night. Such conditions prevented them at least, from enjoying the evening.

Yours sincerely,  
OUTRAGED.

### PLAY WITH US

MADAM,—We read with joy the words of the staunch poker prohibitionist Mr. Ambrose R. Jenkins. His eloquence did justice to his principles. Such a well-balanced antagonist must be the pride of the opposition.

We therefore extend to Mr. Jenkins a cordial invitation to join us in one of our innocuous poker sessions. It will, of course, be held off the campus. Mr. Jenkins may kibitz watch or, if he desires, participate. Then perhaps he may put once more pen to paper in a complete report on his findings.

We are sure you will look forward to the outcome of this possible encounter.

Yours, etc.,  
PETER PARKINSON.  
M. J. DEBENHAM.

## NOTE THESE DATES NOW!

### CARNIVAL PYJAMA HOP

SATURDAY, JUNE 17th.

### MIDNIGHT MATINEE

MONDAY, JUNE 19th in Bingley Hall.

### CARNIVAL JAZZ BAND BALL

with Mr. Acker Bilk and his Paramount Jazz Band and Cy Laurie in the Town Hall, TUESDAY, JUNE 20th.

### CARNIVAL INTERNATIONAL EVENING

THURSDAY, JUNE 22nd at the Union.

### CARNIVAL MIDSUMMER BALL

FRIDAY, JUNE 23rd at the Union.

### CARNIVAL DAY

SATURDAY, JUNE 24th.

### Talking Point—9



ARE YOU  
RACIALLY  
PREJUDICED?  
by  
Mike Thickett

Continuing the series presenting controversial points of view on social, moral and political questions.

EVENTS in South Africa and New Orleans, where riots started when four little negro girls attended a school hitherto reserved for whites, cause one to reconsider one's own attitude towards race prejudice.

No one would deny that there are differences between races, even though it is difficult to define race satisfactorily, or in many cases, to decide to what race an individual belongs. The question is: are the differences of such a kind to justify the discriminatory social practices which are often imposed by one group on another: restricting their educational opportunities, their chances of employment, the places where they live and their political activities.

The "racial myth" is conceived not merely in terms of differences but in terms of a hierarchy of "superior" and "inferior" groups. But biologists in the main classify race groups merely on superficial characteristics, such as skin colour, cephalic index or facial peculiarities, and their findings as scientists would hardly lend support to these racialist tenets. It would seem therefore that racial classifications are concepts of use only to biologists and social scientists or the layman interested in discovering the basis of racial prejudice.

Minority  
Although it is true that there are few people who are racially prejudiced for reasons which have their roots in the particular individual personality, these are in the minority. This minority, however, is a potentially dangerous one and is responsible for starting off the riots.

More important, it seems a characteristic belief of any human group that one's own society is best and others are in varying degrees barbaric or unacceptable. The conception of other societies in the minds of individuals are based often on such unreliable evidence as is provided by films, novels and rumour; steadily a stereotype, such as the "hot-blooded Latin" or "reserved Englishman" is built up, possibly by people who have never met a Latin or an Englishman. Their attitude to the latter would, however, be coloured by this stereotype should he ever meet one. In fact they see what they expect to see.

Economics  
Children are born into a world full of differing attitudes such as these. Depending on where it is born, the child is taught to accept many stereotypes as being true. When the child

in Birmingham grows up with the learned attitude that coloured people are "queer," "sordid" or "ignorant" he finds his attitudes confirmed by experience. Due to economic factors, such as accommodation, exploitation and employment discrimination, coloured immigrants are forced to live in squalid conditions and accept poorer forms of employment. Immigration policy discourages female migrants, hence the males' choice of female society is often restricted to those white women "what no respectable Englishman would take up with." Such a woman may be unable to budget wisely, keep house clean, prepare decent meals or bring up children sensibly, thus adding to the squalor induced by the economic factors.

All these factors are likely to depress the coloured immigrant's way of life to a sordid state far below the conditions which characterised his homeland. When the young mind has its prejudiced attitudes confirmed by social experiences of this nature, an obvious snowballing effect is likely to take place.

Conventions  
Where conditions are better an important cause of discrimination against the newcomer to Britain is that our society is characterised by a mass of conventions. The Englishman knows that if he acts in a certain way he will produce certain narrowly defined reactions in another Englishman, and he is expected to react in a certain way to other people in particular situations. A foreigner of any sort is therefore regarded suspiciously by the average Englishman, because he is conscious that the foreigner does not know how to react in a given situation... say "hello" to a foreigner and he might take it as an invitation to tea; "you invite them to tea and they don't turn up!" This leads to a passive avoidance of foreigners (and particularly coloured ones because they are more obviously foreign) rather than becoming involved in an undesirable degree.

Barriers between newcomers and the English are surely to be regretted by the latter. There is always a danger in a secure society that it may become inward-looking, self-satisfied, and a little boring. Immigrants present us with intellectual stimulus, a new interest in alternative ways of life, and, coming from different cultures, they may have cultivated values which we are in danger not only of neglecting, but of persecuting.

## Stunts rolling in

AFTER months of planning and re-planning, arrangements for the University's first June Carnival are now well advanced. As can be seen from the exciting list of entertainments for Carnival Week, we hope to cater for all tastes, and don't forget that all proceeds from these functions will go to some local Birmingham charity.

Already ideas for floats and stunts are rolling into Carnival Office. Castles seem to be in vogue this year for floats and it has been whispered that the Medics intend to push an operating table complete with "body" to London.

A Summer Carnival has meant considerable changes have had to be introduced in the organisation of the whole affair. Most of the preliminary work has been done by Carnival Committee this term, but from now on the success or failure of Carnival will depend on how much time and effort YOU are prepared to put into just ONE week after your exams.

### Car Comp.

The most important change

necessitated by having a Carnival at the end of the University year concerns the traditional Car Competition.

The whole question of the Car Competition is at the moment under review, but the proposal to run it through the magazine has arisen out of the fact that we have precisely two weeks in which to complete all business before the end of term after Carnival Day.

In previous years up to two months have elapsed after Carnival Day before it was possible to announce the winner of the Competition. The greater part of this time was taken up chasing after either money or tick-

ets of students who had failed to return them to Carnival Committee a week after Carnival Day. Literally hundreds of letters had to be sent to students requesting them to do so in order that our accounts could be satisfactorily completed.

Eventually, of course, all tickets and money were returned, but this situation could not be allowed to repeat itself this year when so little time is available in which to terminate the proceedings.

However, given good weather and your enthusiasm, we feel sure that a June Carnival can and will be a great success.

PAT WHITEHEAD.

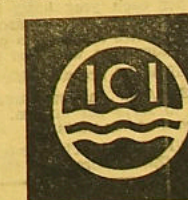
Nature's been bountiful. There's plenty of coal for factory furnaces, plenty of oil for cars and ships, plenty of water to grow crops and generate power—plenty for everyone, but not just for the asking. Much of this bounty can only be found by quest and won by force—the force of explosives scientifically designed for the job. In unlocking metal ores from the earth, one charge of I.C.I. explosive does the work of scores of men. In Middle Eastern deserts, I.C.I. seismic explosives speed the search for oil. Specially safe I.C.I. explosives ease the task of British coal-miners, and I.C.I. has provided the blasting power for the great new hydro-electric schemes in the North of Scotland. Wherever there are mountains to be moved or mineral riches to be won, I.C.I. explosives are there—the power behind man's power to wrest plenty from Nature.

### LIFE'S A QUEST



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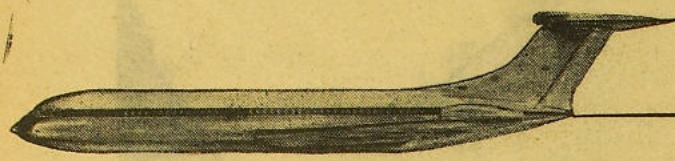




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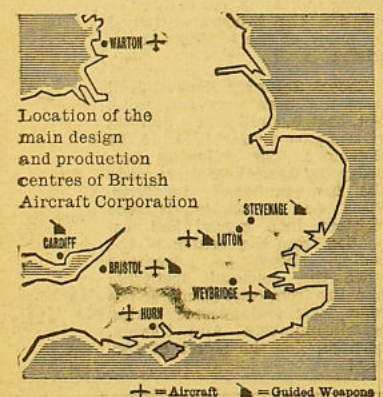
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For further details please contact your Appointments Officer who will arrange for you to meet the British Aircraft Corporation representatives who will be visiting your University shortly.



# HEAD FOR THE HEIGHTS

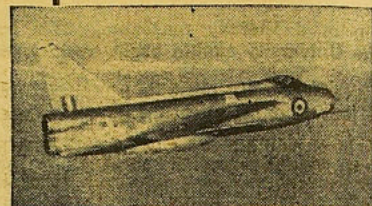
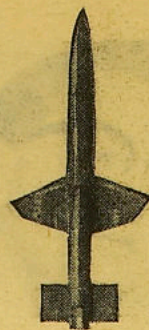
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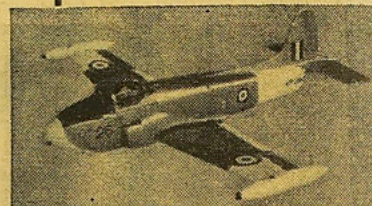
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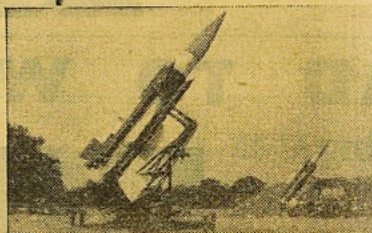
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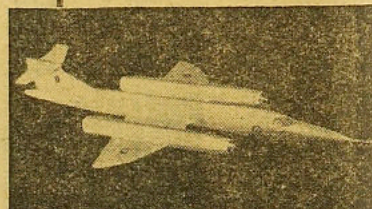
The supersonic Lightning fighter



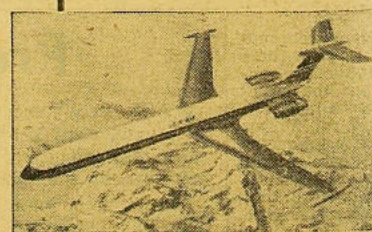
The Jet Provost basic trainer



The Royal Artillery's Thunderbird



The all-steel 1,500 mph Type 188



The Super VC10

# SPORT

## Review

REVIEWING any large organisation's sporting season can be a difficult job. One team does well, another badly and so on. It is difficult to present an overall picture. But this is not the case with the University this winter. The picture is clear-cut.

The major sports clubs have had a very disappointing time. Neither Rugby nor Soccer clubs have shown any really consistent form, and though there have been spasmodic glimpses of brilliance, they have not been able to maintain it. Neither side has really succeeded in settling down to form one cohesive unit. The reason for this is difficult to find, but its consequences are evident when we look at the results. Both have lost considerably more matches than they have won. In addition, the Hockey club's record is dismal. Two victories have been gained in their worst season for years. Indicative of the poor form of the major clubs is the fact that they have provided only two U.A.U. representatives this season—both Hockey players.

The picture, however, is not quite so black. The smaller clubs have made up for the disappointing results of their bigger brothers. The Basketball team has had a great season, culminating in the taking of the U.A.U. championship two weeks ago, and has provided three members of the U.A.U. team. The Weightlifters have done equally well and remain unbeaten. Weightlifting is, of course, only a "Cinderella" sport in the Universities but this should not detract from the lead that Birmingham has assumed in the "iron game." Four Individual British University Lifting titles have been won by the club.

Several other clubs deserve a mention. The Badminton Club reached the U.A.U. final, while the Cross-Country Club was unlucky not to win the U.A.U. title, but as a consolation it has had the satisfaction of providing three members of the British Universities team, as well as a fourth U.A.U. representative. Martin Warner's fencing performances should not be omitted, either. His victory in the Sabre championship and third place in the Foil must rate him among the country's leading Fencers.

Even some of the minor clubs, however, have not been very impressive. The Swimming, Table Tennis and Squash clubs, for instance, have had indifferent seasons.

Our women have done very well. I talked about their successes last week, so there is no need to say more than that two W.I.V.A.B. championships have been gained, two runners-up positions and one semi-final place—all this among six clubs. Not bad going!

The final judgment, then, is not so bad as it might first appear.

No club can do well every season, all have their ups and downs and our disappointments have been compensated for in some measure by our successes. Yet no-one could call this a vintage year.

# GONE FOR A BURTON

UNIVERSITY 9 pts., BURTON 12 pts.

SPECTATORS last Saturday were treated to an entertaining match, which should have resulted in a convincing win for the University. They could safely claim to be better versed in all the arts of rugby except perhaps the most important—finishing.

The game was lost in the first half and early in the second when, with an obvious territorial advantage, the final pass to speedy wingers, Jarvis and Nethorpe, was delayed sufficiently to allow Burton time to cover.

The scoring was opened against the run of play with a well-taken dropped goal by the Burton out-half. After good forward play the University drew level with a try by Woodhall who charged down a kick by the Burton full-back. Almost immediately, Burton went further ahead with unconverted tries on either wing.

The second half saw play almost completely in the Burton half, but no score was achieved. Woodhall went over but the try

was rightly disallowed for a previous infringement. Davies then reduced the Burton lead with a penalty goal following a scrumage infringement.

Both wingers were now seeing a lot of both the ball and the Burton backs, and Jarvis, tired of conventional wing play, successfully tried his skill at dropping goals. With the scores now level it was thought that the University would put the issue beyond doubt. But this was not to be as Burton scored a penalty goal in the closing minutes of the game.

A feature of the game was the excellent forward play with Hietzman commanding the line-outs and Atherton outstanding at wing-forward. Of the backs, Jenkins frequently found inviting gaps in the Burton defence, while Gough gave a good account of himself at full-back.

# UNBEATEN ALL YEAR

THE University Weightlifting Club completed its league fixtures by defeating the Universities of Manchester, Leeds and Cambridge last Saturday. In so doing they have gone a whole year unbeaten, a commendable achievement in itself, and are also the English Universities Champions. The scores in the Cambridge match were as follows:

Birmingham	.....	1,850 lbs.
Cambridge	.....	1,715 lbs.
Manchester	.....	1,697 lbs.
Leeds	.....	1,218 lbs.

## Records

Bill Forshaw and Keith Wylie both broke University records, and the latter also passed the British Universities Featherweight record. Howard Payne, by failing his last lift, narrowly missed doing the same in the heavyweight class.

Individual totals: H. Payne (16 stones) press 240; snatch 210; jerk 280. W. Forshaw (12st. 12 lbs.) press 170; snatch 175; jerk 235. K. Wylie (9st. 7lbs.) press 170; snatch 160; jerk 210.

The team has remained unchanged throughout the season. The standard of the lifting has steadily improved as a result of the patient and painstaking coaching of Terry Merther.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Football

NEXT Monday the Football Club take on a formidable President's XI which includes Jimmy Hill (Fulham), Chairman of the Professional Footballers Association, Bill Slater and Billy Wright. This should be a first-class game and your support will be most welcome. Kick-off 3 p.m.

### Lacrosse

LACK of practice was responsible for the University's jaded display against the Alice Otley School, Worcester. Only Ann Dearn's brilliant goal-keeping kept the school out. Result: 9-6.

## FENCING FORTUNES

IN the past fortnight the Fencing Club has played three matches, winning two and losing one.

The Club went for a fencing weekend in Durham. On the Saturday they met the University, last year's U.A.U. team champions, and won a closely-fought match 15-12. The Club won the Foil 5-4, Warner winning three fights, but lost the Epee 4-5. However, in the Sabre, Birmingham ran out easy winners 6-3.

The Durham Club entertained Birmingham royally on Saturday evening, and as a result both clubs lost to the North Eastern Counties team the next day by the same margin, 18-9. Any victories on our part were purely fortuitous. Nevertheless, everyone enjoyed the match fenced in the sunshine on the lawns of Bede College. Win or lose, this weekend was the most enjoyable fixture of the year.

In the last match of the year against the London School of Economics, Birmingham emerged victorious by 18-9. The match was of a high standard throughout; the University dominated the Foil, winning 8-1, but the Epee and the Sabre were more closely contested. Birmingham won both 5-4.

Martin Warner turned in his usual accomplished performance, but the outstanding feature was the sterling exhibition of Ping Lee. In the Foil, he fenced like a man inspired and won all his fights against good opposition with devastating ease.

## GOOD EFFORT

BRISTOL University came to Birmingham last Wednesday bringing with them fine weather. In the Bristol side which has lost very few matches this year, was the U.A.U. half-back line. As both Roger Flood and Albert Pereira were on county duty things looked a little grim for Birmingham. A draw therefore was a good effort.

Firm control Bristol started the game in great form and looked as if they were going to carry all before them. They scored a goal in the first few minutes and had one or two narrow misses. Soon however, the Birmingham half-back line got a firmer control on the game and the University was unlucky not to score a number of goals.

In the second half Bristol did most of the attacking but could not score. Birmingham on the other hand, scored from one of their few opportunities through Geoff Mason.

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE

# SOCCER CLUB

Meet the players

FIRST and foremost this season has been a period of re-formation for the Football Club. At the end of last year the first eleven lost nine players, a great blow to any team. It necessarily takes a long time to establish a new and successful permutation. The mixed fortunes of the club's result sheet are evidence of this.

A pre-season tour of Scotland was made in order to develop team spirit. It was hoped that the three games played there would give an indication of the probable combination for the forthcoming season.

Many of this season's first-team players were in the seconds last year, and they have had to adapt themselves to a faster game, which requires a higher level of skill and stamina.

A few first-team players have come straight from grammar school, and find that they have to change their mental attitude towards the game, as well as to acquire the greater strength needed when they come up against opponents sometimes a good deal older than themselves.

Frequent changes to discover the best available side have not helped the development of an understanding between the members of the team, although the defence is now more or less settling down to a regular formation.

## PRIMARY NEEDS

At the beginning of the Autumn Term, one of the two primary needs was an experienced full-back. The conversion of John Sibbett from wing-half to right-back has proved a great success. Both he and his usual partner, Malcolm Randall, are strong, uncompromising players who, nevertheless, play according to the rules.

Behind them Ernie Atkinson has been a safe and reliable goalkeeper, having played in practically every game this season. Before coming to Birmingham he played for Bishop Auckland.

The middle line is one of the most important factors of any team, and a side with good half-backs is well on the way to being a successful one—for example, Spurs, Wolves and Sheffield Wednesday.

The half-back line is possibly the strongest feature of the 1st XI.

Dominating the middle of the Birmingham line, the captain, DAVE GRAY, has been a tower of strength. His pleasant firmness on and off the field has won him the respect of his teammates and of opposing sides. Dave has played for the first team all the time he has been at Birmingham, although for one year he played full-back. Before coming here he captained Sunderland's Youth team.

At right-half, Pete Brett is the only regular first-team player in his first year. He has only played in his present position since he came to the University. Before that he used to be an inside-forward, where he played for Norfolk Schoolboys and Arsenal Youth.

At one time Crewe scouts showed interest in left-half Bob Johnson, the vice-captain. He is a strong player who used to be a centre-forward. He has played for Northern Nomads, a Manchester team in the Lancashire Combination. Unfortunately he has been out of the game for much of this season because of a strained ligament.

## ABLE DEPUTY

Alwyn Aberdeen has proved a very good deputy, having ably filled the gaps which have on occasion been left by injuries to other members of the defence. Johnny Westwood, the secretary, is captain of the second team, though recently he has been at left-half in the senior side.

Since the return of Alan McIntosh to the University side after Christmas, the results have been much more satisfactory, and at last they are finding the back of the net with more regularity, as the six goals against Bristol last week show. A player of Alan's calibre has obviously made a tremendous difference.

While playing for his local team, Alandudno, Alan was spotted by a Wolves scout, and he played for the Midland side in his school holidays at the

tender age of 16. On coming to University he made the first team straight away, but he has not always been able to turn out for Birmingham because he has been playing for Cardiff City in the Football Combination.

Alan also has quite a list of representative honours. When he was 17 he was picked for the Welsh Youth international team. A year later he was an Amateur International and he has played for his country seven times. Last year he was chosen for the Olympic trials at which he acquitted himself creditably. If he thought he could make the grade, Alan would like to turn professional.

## LONG SERVICE

Other long-service forwards include Trevor Horton, the fixtures secretary, Bill Roper, the treasurer, and Russ Fleming, an honorary committee member. Trevor, who has played on both wings for the University, has been a reserve for the Birmingham A.F.A. Like Bob Johnson, Bill has played for Northern Nomads as well as for the Birmingham A.F.A. The full county side of Hertfordshire, South-East Grammar Schools and Arsenal Youth have all had the services of Russ Fleming, while he is also on the books of Amateur Cup semi-finalists Hitchin Town. His representative honours include the A.F.A. and Midland A.U.

Other faces in the forward line have included fresher Gordon Cox, a tricky, twinkle-toed outside-right; inside-forward Archie Taylor, who never played soccer before he came here, and Tony Boddy, who has scored many goals from the centre-forward and outside-left berths. In the last few weeks the other pre-season problem spot—outside-left, has been filled by Geoff Tidesley, whose no-nonsense style of centring the ball straight away has considerably speeded up the forward line.



# Entente Cordiale

## Another success for G.T.G.

G.T.G.'s production of "The G. Dumb Waiter" is possibly one of the most difficult things that they have ever attempted. For Pinter demands more continuous effort from his interpreters than almost any other modern playwright; every line, every action, every silence even, needs to be invested with a strange, at first unexplained, but growing meaning.

G.T.G. were fortunate in their producer, Peter Deltch, who has proved before his sensitivity to the needs of his text and of his actors, but the final burden is



Creon (Jim Bernhard) and Antigone (Pam Booth) in a scene from "Antigone."

with the cast—they must communicate the tension of their situation to the audience.

This difficult task of conveying what underlies the text was comparatively well done, although on the first night Paul Harman and David Elboz, who seemed themselves to have an excellent understanding of their characters, were not well prepared for the reaction of an audience with no knowledge of the play.

But the faults in this production were negligible in comparison with the bravery of the attempt and the amount of thought that the whole team of producer, actors and technicians had obviously put into it.

The following play, Anouilh's "Antigone," was proportionately more apparently successful as it was easier to do. Terry Hands' production was a faithful and straightforward interpretation of the text.

We know from the beginning that Antigone will be killed. The interest therefore lies in the reason for which she will die, and at first this, a desire to give her dead brother proper burial, seems natural enough. Anouilh seems to be justifying her idealistic attitude against the commonsense point of view of Creon, the king.

But in the main central scene which is the crux of the play Anouilh brings about a series of lightning reversals of position as we see first Antigone and then Creon in the supremacy.

### Central scene

Anouilh's final judgment should not, however, as the production implied, be thought to come down too heavily on the side of Creon; true, Antigone is a stubborn little rebel who will not accept realistic considerations, but she is of the race of his idealistic young heroines whose essential purity would be stained by the compromise of life, and her choice of death is the right one.

This central scene was dramatic and exciting. Jim Bernhard gave a sympathetic and moving performance, and although Pamela Booth tended to obscure some of her most important poetic speeches by delivering them too fast, she had real insight into her part.

The rest of the cast were hardly more than competent, but especial mention must be made of Peter Aston as the Chorus, his light detached tone was exactly suited to Anouilh's theme of tragic inevitability.

I left the Deb. Hall with greater faith in the future of G.T.G. than I have felt for some time.

M.A.B.

# The long push

"THEY must be mad." Such was the comment of an amazed onlooker as the competitors in the London-Leicester Pram Race dashed past him in Northampton. This race is organised by Leicester University as a stunt in aid of their Rag Week.

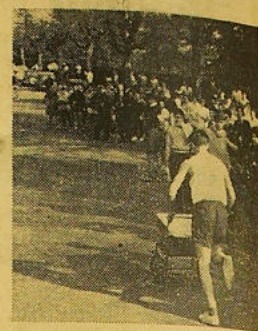
Birmingham's first team was at full strength, but the second team had to enlist the aid of five of the team's supporters. The race started at Regent's Park early on Monday morning and soon dozens of weirdly dressed students were to be seen dashing down the road to St. Albans. The few policemen around seemed quite unperturbed at the sight of a bearded student, wearing a blue and white frock and a rather bedraggled fur, pushing a pram at 14 m.p.h. followed by coach loads of screaming students.

### Smash 'em

The Birmingham second team coach, working on the principle that "if you can't beat 'em, smash 'em," managed to put one rival coach out of action by delicately shattering its windscreen. Unfortunately this practice was not repeated.

Leicester sent in an all-girls' team, and passers-by in the towns en route were obviously impressed by their stamina. However, once outside the town boundaries, both the girls and the pram were bundled into the coach which proceeded to fool another group of gullible spectators in the next town.

The race was eventually won by Leicester Geography Department, with the Training College second. Both of the Birmingham teams did very well, however, coming sixth and 18th, and it is a pity that so few people from Birmingham were prepared to support this race. Perhaps next year a little more interest will be shown.



The pram race to Leicester.

## The net result

IRIS MURDOCH, one of the finest living English novelists, was guest of honour at the English Club annual supper on Tuesday. A lecturer in philosophy at St. Anne's College, Oxford, Miss Murdoch published her first novel, "Under the Net," in 1954 at the age of thirty-five. Other works are "Flight from the Enchanter," "The Sandcastle," "The Bell," and the authoritative "Sartre—Romantic Rationalist!"

In spite of an intellectual background and aesthetic interests, her novels are not coldly academic, but brimming with imagination, humour and sympathetic perception concerning human beings.

A new novel, "The Severed Head," will be published shortly.

# WHEN IS A STUDENT?

SIR.—In reply to your plaintive letter of distress, it is all too evident that you expect many privileges to be yours in your role as a University Student.

There is no such corporate body of students which is recognised by the law in the same way as a Limited Company or a Trades Union. Because the particular insurance company would not insure "students" or persons following various callings this should not imply that for such to be so would be illegal.

The granting of insurance to an individual is embodied in a contract, and it is repugnant to our legal system that a person or a body should be placed in a position where it must enter into a contract against its will.

There is no reason why an insurance company should not contract with a student, but the decision to contract is a discretionary one which in this particular case is motivated by commercial convenience (in the same way, a nonagenarian with chronic arthritis would find it extremely difficult to obtain a life insurance policy).

### PRECARIOUS

I cannot see any difference between a bookie and an impecunious student—both lead precarious lives.

Your hypothetical case—which one suspects is not so "imaginary" presents no difficulty. Obviously if a student contracts with an insurance company and fails to reveal certain information which induces the company to enter into a contract, the student is guilty of misrepresentation, and as such the contract will be void and the company will be free from liability. In these circumstances the car hire firm would sue the unfortunate direct for the damage to their vehicle.

I hope you have had the foresight to put some money away for "a rainy day."

BOZ.

DEAR SIR.—Students are underprivileged and perverted, or so insurance companies seem to reckon!

This summer I discovered to my dismay and amusement that "persons under 21, over 65, students, undergraduates, actors, actresses, jockeys, greyhound trainers, money lenders, dance band leaders, turf accountants, bookies, U.S. forces personnel," cannot be insured to hire cars. What company we keep!

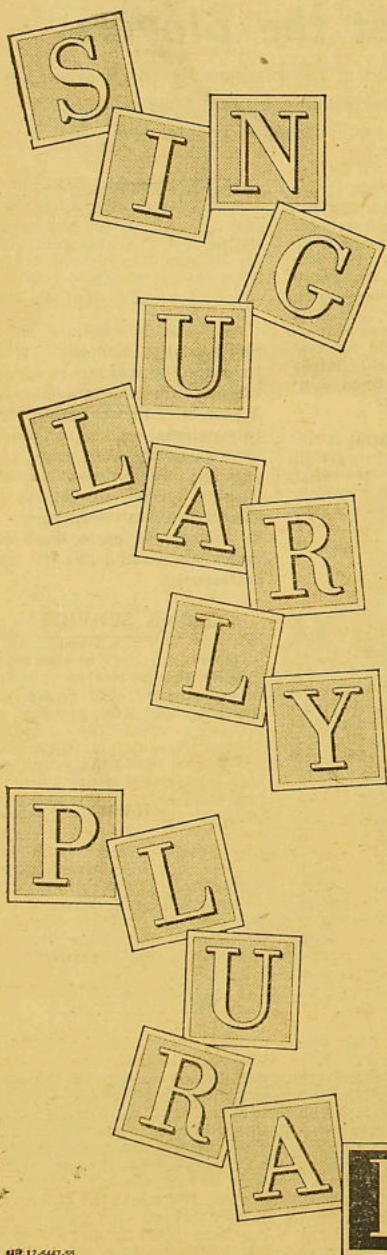
### CITE CASES

I would like to ask the learned counsel of the Law Column. Does the law recognise such a group of persons as "students"? I would contend that "students" are part of the group "unemployed" and as such can be insured.

Is a student still a student when he works for money? That is the question. Can you cite a case where a "student" hired a car, claimed to be unemployed, is involved in a calamity, is sued for damages, etc., and is then discovered to be a "student"? Is the insurance company liable?

Yours hopefully,

MARTIN R. WOODS,  
(Mech. Eng.)



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