

REDBRICK

Birmingham University

No. 725

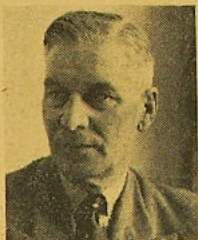
SATURDAY, SEPT. 30th, 1967

Price 3d.

Freshers' edition

Special 4 page entertainments guide inside

• Mr. Humbert, Refectory Manager, has been accused of not caring for student interests and allowing "gross inefficiency." To see how good or bad our refectory really is, next Wednesday's "Redbrick" takes a look at prices and conditions in other Universities.

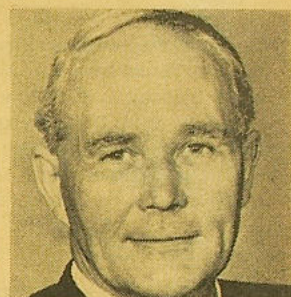


New V-C appointed

THE new Vice-Chancellor, 52-year-old Professor Robert Brockie Hunter, M.B.E., M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), F.R.C.P. (Edin.), F.R.C.P. (Lond.), will take up his appointment on October 1st, 1968. Professor Hunter was appointed by the Court of Governors to take over from Sir Robert Aitken, when he retires at the end of the current session.

Professor Hunter is at present Professor of Materia Medica in the University of St. Andrews. He was educated at George Watson's College and the University of Edinburgh.

He left the R.A.M.C. as a major, and was appointed in 1947 Lecturer in Therapeutics at the University of Edinburgh, and Assistant Director of the Edinburgh Post-Graduate Board for Medicine.



Professor Robert Brockie Hunter, the Vice-Chancellor-elect.

In 1948 he went to St. Andrews as Professor of Materia Medica, Pharmacology, and Therapeutics. He is also a consultant physician to the Dundee General Hospitals and Director of Post-Graduate Medical Education. From 1958 to 1962 he was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at St. Andrews.

Professor Hunter is a member of the General Medical Council, a member of the Ministry of Health Committee on Safety of Drugs, and chairman of the Clinical Trials Subcommittee, and is an editor of the quarterly Journal of Medicine.

Since 1964 he has been a member of the University Grants Commission. He has held several lectureships, and was awarded a Commonwealth Fellowship in Medicine in 1948 and a Senior Commonwealth Travelling Fellowship in 1960.



John Palmer (Chairman of Catering Committee)

FOOD PRICES CONDEMNED

DURING the vacation a hippy was unfortunate enough to be turfed out of Leeds University Library for the crime of disturbing the peace with his bells. Mr. K. W. Humphries, head librarian of Birmingham University, said that "although there is no rule specifically forbidding the carrying of bells, pet alligators or pocket battleships in the library, I would not be very pleased to see them there."

At present there is no plan afoot for silencing Big Joe.

CHARGES of "gross inefficiency" and lack of concern for students were made this week following all-round price increases in the University Refectory.

Said Jerry Jones, chairman of Socialist Union, "For a long time now, there has been a hell of a lot of evidence that the Refectory has been guilty of gross inefficiency and that the Refectory manager has not the

slightest care for student interests."

Refectory manager, Mr. O. Humbert, told "Redbrick" that the Refectory Sub-committee had authorised a general 10% price increase, although prices had been rounded off up or down so that the actual rise was less than 10% on many items. He could quote "no official figure" of the Refectory's income and expenditure, but blamed rising overheads for the increase. National Insurance contributions, for example, had gone up by £1,000.

Mr. Humbert pointed out that the decision was that of the Refectory Sub-Committee. "It's no good creating that Humbert's put his prices up. I take their [the committee's] instructions on this."

"The committee is not just doing this in a brutal sort of way. They don't want to screw the last farthing out of the students. We've held these increases back for the last two years and those who have been here have had the benefit."

"I'm hoping for everybody's sake that this thing will be accepted. I hope nobody will cause alarm and despondency. It will do no good in the end. The prices won't be

changed." But Mr. Jones, a chemistry post-graduate, said that the Socialist magazine, "Dissent," due to appear on Monday would contain "constructive criticism" of Mr. Humbert's running of the refectory.

"It is high time he was made answerable to a student committee. This would be a first and major step towards greater student control of his environment. This is the arrangement we have in the Union, where catering is controlled by an elected student committee, and very successful it is too."

Subsidise

Chairman of the Union Catering Committee, John Palmer said he did not see how the increases could have been avoided. The University would not subsidise the refectory as this "would be almost a direct subsidy of the students." Asked whether he thought the refectory overstaffed, he said "that is a matter of opinion for the experts."

John who is also a member of the Refectory Committee (which is not student-controlled, but contains student representatives) said that the former verbal price-fixing agreement between the refectory and the Union Catering Committee had now been abandoned.

(Continued on page two)

Sir Robert attacks Government policy

THE Government's attitude to the universities was strongly criticised by the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Robert Aitken, earlier this week. Speaking mainly about university admissions, he said that cuts in Government spending have already meant a cut in the University's planned

expansion. This year there are only 50 more admissions than last year, although the target earlier was 150.

In science and engineering there were 12 applicants for each place. But pressure was far higher in the Arts and Social Science faculties, where there were 19.3 applicants for

(Continued on page two)



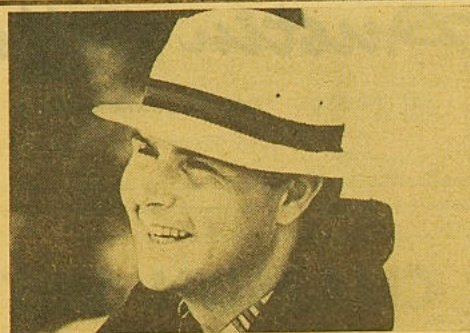
Photo: Pete Mills

Everybody's doing it . . . well, the thought we'd get in on the act. And Hilary Edkins obliged.

Student in crash

MARIAN EVANS, a fourth-year Medic, was on the train that crashed near Didcot earlier this week, killing one woman. Luckily Marian was not hurt. A Guild Councillor, she was supposed to work as a Conference Officer, but understandably she did not want to come up to Birmingham for several days.

The dead woman was on her honeymoon, only a week after her wedding to the Speaker of the Syrian Parliament.



BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6th, at 8.00 p.m.

an evening with

TOM PAXTON

the great American singer/song writer.

REDBRICK SAYS . . .

Price rises:

PRISE rises in the Refectory may not mean much when you are a newcomer to the University. You who never knew the taste of a full 3/3 lunch that people thought was expensive two years ago. At first prices may not matter when you can eat in such a modern building, where what change there is calculated and given you by a computer.

And the best time to get away with price increases is when there are 1,500 new people who don't know what you charged last term and when the others still have their grant safe in the bank.

The Refectory has a good case providing that the price rises are made, not as an easy way out, but as a last resort after every other way has been tried to cut losses by increased efficiency.

The students, worried at rising costs of books and digs, as well as food while their grants remain the same, rightly feel they should have more say in the running of a building which is almost exclusively used by themselves. The financial affairs of the Refectory cannot be criticised because the figures are not made public; even if the Refectory is run efficiently there is no way of knowing this.

Carnival:

On the subject of efficiency, there can hardly be a less efficient way of raising money for charity than Carnival. "It's all for charity, really" has become an excuse for painting faces on Belisha beacons and generally annoying the Bummies. It is a good idea to paint the houses of Balsall Heath instead, and to help with some real social work rather than collect for a selection of charities that mean little to most students.

the union,
the university,
edgbaston,
birmingham 15.

FOR BEER, CIDER, WINES AND SPIRITS
CALL AT

Morris's Wine Stores

512 BRISTOL ROAD, BOURNBROOK SEL 0195
775 BRISTOL ROAD, SELLY OAK SEL 0173
(Next to Oak Cinema)

Substantial Discount in Men's Wear

Austin Jeffs

586 BRISTOL ROAD, BOURNBROOK
(2 doors from Woolworths)

FOR RESERVATION: PHONE SELLY OAK 1698

CHAMON RESTAURANT

507 BRISTOL ROAD, SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM, 29
Only two minutes' walk from the University, this Oriental Restaurant serves delicious English, Indo-Pak and Chinese dishes.

SPECIAL THREE-COURSE LUNCHEON FOR ONLY 4/6d.
★ QUICK SERVICE ★ OPENS 12 NOON TO 12 MIDNIGHT EVERY DAY

Sir Robert attacks

(Continued from page one)

each place. The worst situation is in the Medical School where one applicant in 21.8 was successful. Although this year there will be 6,236 people reading for degrees compared to 9,080 last year, new admissions are up to only 2,570 from 2,520, of whom 1,598 are undergraduates.

"The figures," said Sir Robert, "show the build-up of pressure on Arts and Social Science. The odd thing is that this has been going on for several years now and has got more marked."

"And yet the government is assiduously promoting polytechnics up and down the country and is not promoting institutions which take arts and social science people." He expressed his surprise that no great alternative or provision seemed to be made for arts students.

Sir Robert then attacked the government for "what looked like a deliberate leak from the Department of Education and Science." The situation at the universities knew it, was that the government was planning to increase the number of university students from 197,000 in 1967-8 to 218,000 by 1973-4. But an article in a "certain newspaper" last week suggested that the government were planning to use other figures.

When pressed to name the newspaper concerned, Sir Robert said that it was "The Times."

He continued, "I take it very ill that the department should inform the universities of its plans through a journalist." The Vice-Chancellor hoped that matters of policy would be discussed with the universities during a formative stage.

Food prices

(Continued from page one)

Union prices had risen "nothing like to the extent of the refectory." Although tea, coffee, hot dogs and vegetables had all gone up 1d., meat courses were not being touched, he said.

So far there are no signs of a mass exodus from the refectory to the Union or cafes in Selly Oak, but most students have not yet returned from their vacation. However, John Palmer warned, "If we found the Union flooded with students we would in fact have to put its prices up."

Physiotherapy service

During the second week of term a physiotherapy service for athletes will start in the New Sports Centre. Total cost of the service will be five guineas per week, of which four guineas will be guaranteed by the Guild, and the other guinea by Athletic Union.

Treatment will cost 5s a session, and it is hoped that there will be enough demand to pay for the service.

Any profits will go to Athletic Union.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE

Living accommodation for about 80 students is to be bought by the Union of Imperial College, London. £100,000 is to be raised as a 100 per cent mortgage, and houses will be bought. Cost varies from district to district; from £744 per student in Battersea, to £1,182 near the College. Students would pay about £2 10s a week, and would be allowed to live there for a maximum of two years.

TUPPENCE GOES A LONG WAY

THIS week the first "Tuppence" poetry anthology appears in print, exactly a year after the magazine was first produced in duplicated form, selling for 2d.

It was started by Norrie Hearn and Andrew Tiffin, who felt that there was no scope for developing poets at Brun, as there is at other universities. "Mermaid" could only take the best poems, and talent needs to be developed. So Tuppence printed all poems submitted, however bad, a policy which was proved successful by the fact that both winner and runner-up in the Birmingham Post Poetry Prize 1967, Stephanie Smolins and Alan Booth, first made their appearance in "Tuppence" after having failed to get into "Mermaid."

In the four issues of "Tuppence" were included ninety poems by forty poets, and the editors decided that the best poetry should be published in a more desirable form. So they asked Roy Fisher, a poet of international repute and a graduate of Birmingham, to make a representative selection. The result is

"Tuppence Anthology," a pamphlet which has attracted the interest of numerous individual sponsors, among them the Birmingham and Midland Institute, who donated £10 towards the printing costs. Copies will be on sale during the Freshers' Conference, price 1/-.

"Tuppence" will continue to appear throughout the year and interested poets can contact either of the editors through the Union pigeon holes.

Personal

External Ads. 4d. a word.
Internal Ads. 2d. a word.
Insertions up to mid-day
Tuesday

DICK HOLT thanks God and the History Department for letting him pass his resit.

BORIS is back.

PASSPORT PHOTOS—3/9 for 3. Today in Committee Room 4. Prompt service.

USE "Redbrick" personal column and let your friends know what you really think.

PHIL—how was the damn butcher?

IN case of fire ring CAL 2706 and ask for Hancock.

WATCH what you do with the vindaloo paste, Chris.

GRAHAM is delicate.

GRAHAM for Chelsea flower show.

PASSPORT PHOTOS—3/9 for 3. Today.

ELLIOTT is House proud.

THOMAS STEARNS would not have approved.

I DON'T like smelly things in the Bog.

MARTIN, get well soon.—Dick.

"REDBRICK" wishes to thank Ray Phillips for using "Redbrick" photos in the new Guild Handbook.

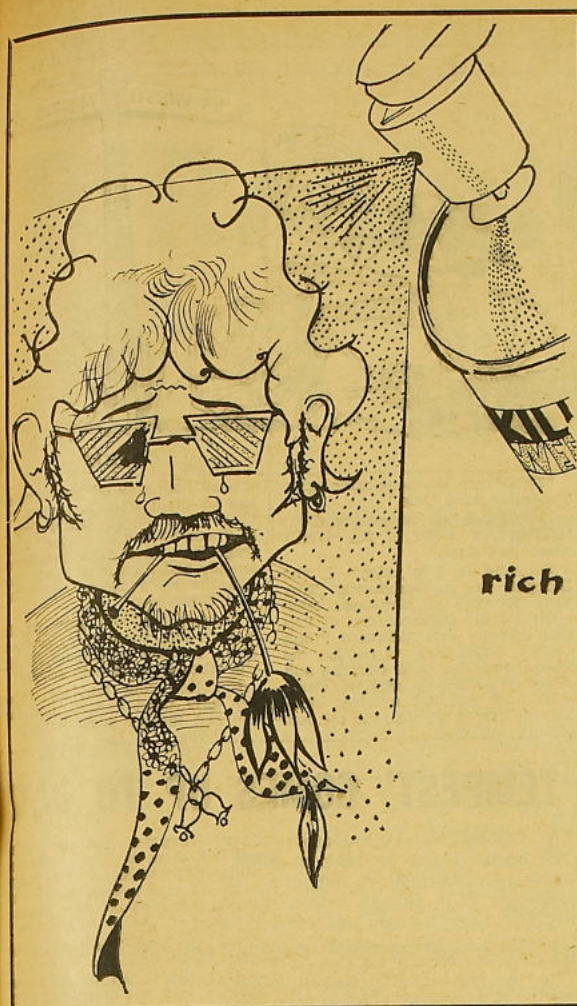
GOLA are here!

PASSPORT PHOTOS—3/9 for 3. Cheaper, better and quicker from Photo Soc.

FOLLOW up Walthamstow victory by your membership of B.U.C.U.A. Hear Sir Alec later this session, debate with Humphrey Berkeley, Enoch Powell, Patrick Wall and John Boyd-Carpenter. Conservatives are worried by endless State intervention in the life of the individual. You are needed to help put it right. And so, you name it, we've got it! Drink-ins! Eat-ins! It's all happening with B.U.C.U.A!

GOLA are great!
LIB SOCS' nut box: get well soon.

GOLA sports shoes from 57/6 at Athletic Union Office, Sports Centre.



rich

Improving relations with city

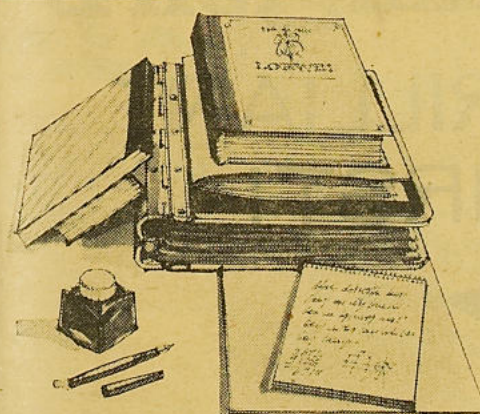
FOR the first time serious attempts are being made at the Freshers' Conference to break down the barriers between the university and the Bummies. "We want to make it the University of Birmingham instead of just a university," Ray Phillips, Guild Secretary told "Redbrick" earlier this week.

Today and on Sunday there will be an exhibition in the Old Entrance Hall on behalf of the Midland Institute, the Midlands Art Centre, the Midlands Art Gallery,

the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, The Birmingham Rep., and the Birmingham Consumers' Group.

This evening the Midland Folk Centre will contribute a 45-minute performance at the Jazz Concert. Entitled "The Making of the Midlander," it has been compiled by Charles Parker of the B.B.C. and consists of songs, poems and newspaper extracts which show the contribution of the individual worker to Industrial Revolution.

"This broadly based and relevant entertainment should give freshers a feeling of the place," he added.



When you have plenty to think about—a bank account makes life easier

You want your grant or allowance to go as far as possible, but you don't want to spend too much time worrying about it. And you needn't. A Lloyds Bank account helps you keep an eye on your spending—you plan your payments when you pay by cheque. You don't need to carry unnecessary amounts of cash around with you. And you have regular statements of account so you always know where you stand. Call at your local branch today.



Let Lloyds Bank help you to plan

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM BRANCH:
NEW RECREATION BLOCK, MANAGER: MR. H. E. TONKS

More money but go easy

—SAYS TREASURER

"MORE or less complete financial autonomy" for the Guild would be the result of a rise in the Union capitation fee, predicted Roger Hird, Guild Treasurer this week. The capitation fee, the amount paid by the University authorities to the Guild, has been raised from £8 to £12 10s. each year per head of student population.

Roger warned, however, that greater autonomy "brings greater responsibility to build up our reserves for the future. The university will not now expect to be approached for special grants for such bodies as G.T.P. or Athletic Union."

Much of the increased income would be absorbed by the increased wages of cleaning and catering staff, and by rising electricity prices and fuel costs generally. The union

Applications for increases in capitation fees have been made in several unions in the past few years. Liverpool, whose financial policy has been affected by their move to a new union building, now have a fee of 17 guineas.

The President of Leeds Union, said that although their fee was raised to 10 guineas about two years ago, they would certainly be applying for a further increase as the union expanded.



Roger Hird, Guild Treasurer

LIBRARY EXTENSION

Substantial work has been done on the next stage of the main library building; the whole extension project is scheduled to be completed in two years. It is then hoped that the library will have doubled its present capacity, and the target is space for thirteen to fourteen hundred readers and one million books.

Coach trips and teach-in show students

Both faces of Birmingham

PROJECT '84, in conjunction with the Guild, are running 18 one-hour coach trips to the central areas of Birmingham. Three coaches leave the Union at 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. both today and Sunday. On each coach there will be a conference steward to look after tickets, route, etc. and one speaker from outside the university.

Says Anne Davies, one of the organisers, "Freshers will have the chance to see the contrasts between large old houses in multi-occupation, back-to-backs and the modern blocks of flats in the city's new housing estates."

Among the activities this afternoon and Sunday afternoon will be a teach-in on Birmingham. Consisting of short talks on many aspects of Birmingham life, and with particular emphasis on opportunities for students to take part in various forms of service to the community, this will provide ample opportunity to meet the speakers informally after the talks.

"In fact," says Roland Chaplain, of Project '84, "we believe that it is the personal contact made at such a teach-in that are ultimately its greatest value."

"Many of our speakers are very

WHAT IS PROJECT '84?

BY THE COMMITTEE

PEOPLE keep asking us in Project '84 to define what we are, but for us to do so would be meaningless. We are a means, an experiment, call it what you will. In taking social and political action in realms where political parties often dare not tread we are attempting to prove that it is possible for people of all ages and walks of life when faced with need to respond together in a way which cuts across barriers produced by party politics, religious conviction or a socially stratified society.

If you are bitterly discontented with the world around you, with its complacency, injustice, hypocrisy or with the force of a church divided into sects each claiming a monopoly of the ultimate truth then perhaps you may find a place for a while in Project '84. Organisations and institutions tend to get weighed down by their rules, structure and internal security. We offer none of these. In fact all we can offer is a growing knowledge of this city of Birmingham. Students, technical and academic staff can use our knowledge as a way into situations which will challenge them to do things which in the security of the academic community they may never have dreamed of.

Westminster Guide for Students

How to handle Banks and Bank Managers

There are two very popular delusions people have about banks. One, that we cannot be bothered with small accounts; the other, that Bank Managers are unapproachable. Neither is true of Westminster Bank. Why? Read below.

Banking is based, like all worthwhile relationships, upon confidence and goodwill.

That's how Westminster Bank feels about its relationship with its customers. You will find this out very quickly if you open an account with us.

The cheque book
Having a cheque book means you can settle bills without having to carry wads of notes around. You can pay people by post, and have a permanent record of what you have paid to whom at what time.

Your bank account will play a vital part in your career

Having achieved your Bank Manager's confidence, you'll find his friendship a valuable asset for the rest of your lifetime! Should you move your address, you can take your account with you: Westminster Bank has 1,400 branches—one is sure to be nearby. If your career should take you abroad, we'll be happy to arrange the necessary financial facilities.

Well, what about the Managers?
Westminster Managers are people like anyone else. They understand your problems, simply because they have experienced them themselves. If you would like to know more about us, send the coupon for a booklet that explains all the benefits of an account.

To: Head Office, Westminster Bank Limited
41 Lothbury, London, EC2.
Please send me your booklet ON USING YOUR BANK

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

Westminster Bank

How I learnt to love my landlady

by Mark Burke

GOOD old landladies! They always get a mention in all the best "Redbrick's" Freshers' editions. They're the mother-in-laws of student farce; bedroom and breakfast long-running knockabouts, the pseudo-womb of all Brum living for £4 a week. And every year, some tattered journalistic hack lams into them with the enthusiasm of Cyrano de Bergerac, squeezes out some weak belly-laughs, really only a despairing flatulence, and then scurries back into his hovel of bad taste like a leper running into halitosis.

Lord knows why! What about love and hope and charity and turning the other buttock? Isn't it about time they had a go? Let's be nice, please . . .

What is a landlady? A landlady is a hostess, a benefactor who takes you in from out the cold September skies. She feeds you, on good wholesome food; she might even make your bed. She has a budgerigar called Joey, a dog called Rex and a cat called Tiddles. She is a grandmother, hale of years and always smiling and she lives in a council house in Rednal/Hall Green/West Heath or Quinton. The air is so bracing out there.

Of a Sunday, she makes you a lovely big lunch, then she'll let you sit in her kitchen while she entertains her five sons and daughters, their wives and husbands and their twenty rosy-cheeked, merry-hearted, boisterous children.

The children will come and peep at you through the kitchen door. Wave to them; they'll wave back to you. Instant communication, instant friendship. A happy household.

you have to be back for her lovingly-prepared meals, about the book you have to sign when you go away for a weekend. She will be just like a mother to you—maybe even more. There need be no fears on your part of the terrors of leaving home, you will find a new home rapidly in her capacious bosom. "Youth and age in joy combining," as the song says—ah me!

Of course, it is quite often unsuitable to bring girl-friends home but, after all, who wants to go courting when you have such a good new home—or to go to parties, when they're such a long way away and you have to be home by midnight because Mr. Tozer bolts the door then, for the burglars, and when the television's on. You grow to love Kenneth McKellar too, after a while.

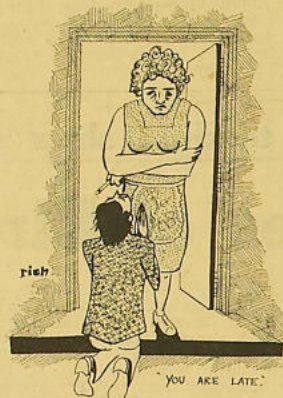
Let the cynics scoff, shivering behind the freezing flat front door that a rabid Roman Catholic Polish landlord is trying to break down to get at them to get his rackrent rent.

What price their mad parties, their pot, their sex, their bacchanalias, when you have your landlady to keep you warm? What is a party but an occasion for those who haven't to try, and for those who have to watch and wonder why; what is it but vomit, broken glasses, soggy butts in saucers, followed by a leaden winter morning with a leaden head, and a metallic cocked below and faring splintered glass eggs into your eyeballs? We can do without that.

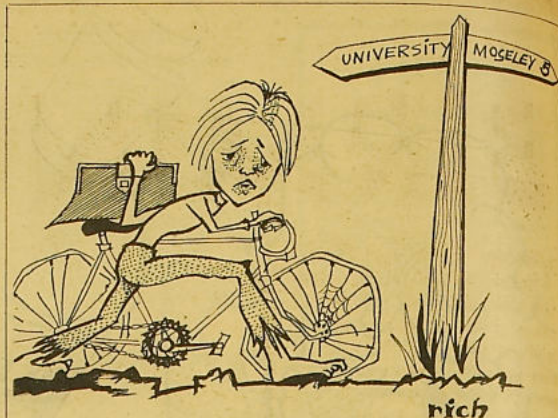
"Such a lovely man is Billy Graham."

Students arrested

MANY political suspects, including Youth and Student leaders, who have been arrested by the Greek Government are to be put on trial. Charges will probably include disobeying military orders, insulting the authorities and spreading false information. Last month four youth leaders were heavily fined and sentenced to nine years in prison for these same grave offences.



Your landlady will let you watch her television in the evenings, all the way up to the Queen—the biggest landlady of them all. She will remind you (your landlady, not the ship of state) of all kinds of things you have inadvertently forgotten. About your socks, about the times



"Those nice Mormons came again just after Mrs. Dale."

"Mr. Tozer will let you read his 'Watchtower'/'News of the World' when he's done."

But who am I to judge? I, who thought of mass-producing Tiny Tims for sale at Christmas especially for the Confederation of British Industry and Alderman Frank Griffin. Who want to publish the Thoughts of Sir Cyril Osborne and often write them on adjacent walls. Who long ago left my last landlady—I shared her with the cat, but

the cat had more felices—to go and live in the Dionysian squalor of a flat, where people would drop in at 2 a.m. to talk about their weekly tragedies, where the bread went mouldy and then froze every winter like the erect sheets. Love in a cold climate.

Perhaps you will too. Or else stay in digs three years, or else in Hall. Leading an intense life with the other girls, of both sexes.

But love your landlady, respect her ways, don't kick the dog, share the last mother you'll have.

'TEMPEST' COMES UP TO DATE

A COMMENT on the atom bomb" is one of the more unusual interpretations which professor John Russel Brown hopes to demonstrate in his production of "The Tempest" at the Crescent Theatre next week.

He sees the control of normally supernatural elements which is the root of the play as a reflection of man's increasing technological knowledge and his growing knowledge of the world which surrounds him.

There is however, no attempt to place gimmicky emphasis on this aspect of the production costumes and set are within the normal conventions of Shakespearean theatre, although they are extremely lavish and spectacular. Choreography by

Jane Winearls, and an original musical score by Jona Sekay are integral portions of the overall spectacle, and provide a visual and aural statement of the themes of the play.

The Crescent Theatre (Cumberland Street, off Broad Street) is one of the dozen or so post-war theatres and has been hired by the drama department for previous productions.

Rehearsals for the play constitute a compulsory section of the syllabus, and for the past three weeks intensive rehearsals have been underway.

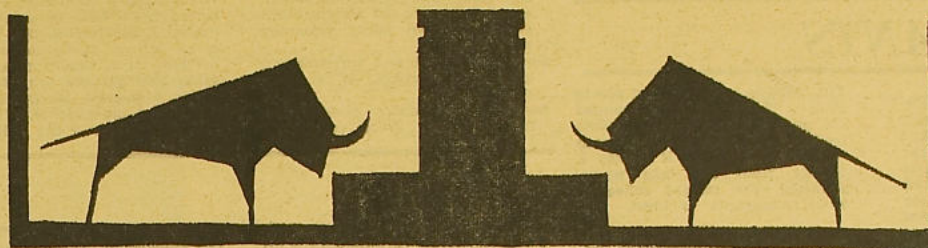
Tickets for performances are available from the drama department office, and from the town hall booking office, or may be bought at the theatre.

BIRMINGHAM LIVES

VISIONS of Black Country industrial conurbations and fifth are a common part of the minds of those students whose only previous contact with the place has been a one-day trip for an interview. Apparently enlightening as such a trip may be—do they ever stop building?—or are all Birmingham buses like the Bristol Road ones?—it could never be taken as the ultimate in geographical topological and social fact-finding.

The problem of what to tell one's family and friends at the Christmas vacation looms large in the minds of those whose worst fears about the place in September, look like being confirmed before the first week of October is finished. Above all, the concept of the rave scene must be perpetuated.

Birmingham, according to the guide-book, is "Britain's 'Second City' with much to offer the visitor (or unwilling resident) in the realms of cultural and artistic importance and of more specialised



forms of entertainment." The question is—where?

Birmingham's culture undoubtedly stems from its historical importance. During the Civil War the townspeople stood out against the king—actually in the Bull Ring, where fierce fighting took place on the escalators. From this humble beginning, the Bull Ring eventually became the rave scene—in the 19th century, "kerbside vendors and the voices of fervent orators exhorting crowds to buy their wares or to follow their religious or political beliefs who not readily be forgotten by those who knew it," and the spot was unique to Birmingham people. By sheer coincidence, it is

from here, too, that Brum's artistic importance stems—the striking symbol of the charging bull towering above F. W. Woolworths and Co. cannot but show the artistic vision of its creator.

It's "more specialised forms of entertainments" are rather more difficult to unearth (though one could probably include gaming and junkie orgies among these). Hence the purpose of this article—written firstly and mainly to show the new students where the rave scene lies, but written also for other more complex reasons—i.e. to fill up the first edition of "Redbrick," to improve "Redbrick" funds by advertising clubs etc., and to show the incompetence of the Guild hand-

book guide to leisure occupations, e.g. the Acropolis restaurant of Broad Street in fact, no longer exists.

Brum, undoubtedly lives. Fashion-wise it is as go-ahead as a "Second City" should be, there being at this moment at least three places where cow-bells can be bought (though admittedly, one is the Institute of National Dairy Farming) and flowers are always available—try the street vendors, Navigation Street. The guide-book also informs us that "No city is better equipped than Birmingham with attractions for the sports fan—his favourite sports being night-clubbing and pubbing. The latter is a worth-while experience—and one which is frequently repeated. How-

ever, at ten thirty p.m.—closing time, the night is by no means over (though if you spent it in the "Greyhound" you may well wish it were.) One has the choice of going to a night-club (for the affluent) having a meal (for the reasonably affluent), sitting in an all-night cafe (for those of a careful nature, or going to the cinema to listen to the National Anthem (for pro-monarchical paupers). If with a bird, however, having a meal is probably the wisest choice.

In this sphere, Brum has much to offer, depending on one's preferences—food-wise—Kattomeat, Chappie or Pal (rich in gravy), not forgetting the several Chippies with clientele of students and unmentionables.

Night-clubs fall into two categories—the expensive and sophisticated, for those with birds whom they wish to impress, and the dubious, for those birdless—though to bohemians and hippies bouncers have been known to give a second look.

Finally, for the cultured, there are Birmingham theatres and cinemas—the Birmingham Theatre, now showing the Black and White Minstrel Show; Cinephone, The Rape. Yes the very obscene exists, if you know where to look. Yes Brum lives—just!

CINEMAS

CINEMAS in Birmingham cater for a wide variety of tastes, with films ranging from the off-beat, such as "Alpha-ville" (Jean-Luc Godard) to the stimulating "The Sound of Music." The most interesting cinemas are undoubtedly the Cinephone (Bristol Street), the Scala (Holloway Circus) and the A.B.C. Cinerama (Bristol Road).

The Gaumont (Colmore Circus) is also a fairly good cinema when it is not showing "The Sound of Music" (running approx. two years!) Its cheapest seats are 7/6d. but for afternoon performances students are admitted half-price.

The Futurist (John Bright Street) has shown the better horror films, e.g. "Psycho," and the worse ones, e.g. "Dr. Terror's House of Horrors," and its prices are reasonably low.

The remaining cinemas—two A.B.C.s (New St., Coleshill St.) and an Odeon (New St.) show the circuit films. Performances usually begin around 7 p.m., and the A.B.C. (New St.) has the advantage of being opposite Long Johns—just in time for a quick drink if you miss the "Queen."

The Scala is an expensive cinema (seats 7/6-12/6d.) but probably Birmingham's most luxurious. Its films are for the semi-intellectual, and in the past have included "Othello."

The Cinephone is Brum's only "Continental and Specialised" cinema—and the cheapest (seats 5s. and 7/6d.)—which caters for the intellectual and the sensualist. It shows new wave films, e.g. "Pierrot le Fou" (Godard), Griffith's "Limare" (totally incomprehensible) with lapses into such films as "Naked as Nature Intended" and "Some Like It Nude." (Warning here to ladies—there are no bolts on the loo doors).

The Birmingham Theatre (Hurst St.) is at present showing twice nightly "The most colourful, care-free, musical hit for years." The Black and White Minstrel Show—"A lavish £50,000 production." Prices in this luxurious "chandeliered" theatre range from 4/6 to 50/-.

In addition to its annual pantomime and performances of Brian Rix farces, e.g. "Chase Me Comrade" and "Stand By Your Bedouin," The Alexandra (John Bright St.) runs its own repertory company during the summer months.

The Crescent (a difficult theatre to find if you follow the signposts) is in Cumberland St. off Broad St. Its productions are reasonably good, it makes reductions for students (except Saturdays) and coffee is served downstairs during the interval. Past productions include Chekhov's "Three Sisters"—performed by the University Drama Dept.—Pinter's "The Birthday Party," and Mollere's "The Imaginary Invalid." During October there will be performances of John Whiting's "The Devils" followed later by Iris Murdoch's "The Severed Head," which had a long run in London.

In the sphere of dramatic art (as the guide-book tells us) the reputation of Birmingham's Repertory Theatre is world-wide. It caters for all tastes—productions in the last year include Shakespeare, Brecht's "Life of

Two Mermaids for the price of One! SPRING 1967 & SUMMER 1967 ISSUES 1/- only ON SALE IN THE UNION

Living on a Shoestring?

Never mind, it can't last forever. And while you are preparing to make your first million, it's just as well to open an account at the Midland Bank. For an account can help you now—when help is needed most—to manage your money affairs more easily. More important, it will go on helping you as your money problems change through the years (for money problems never cease, however rich one becomes—they merely assume a different form). So make the wise decision today: Have a word with your local Midland branch. The staff will be pleased to help you—whether you're ever likely to make a million or not!

Midland Bank THE BANK THAT KEEPS AHEAD—ON YOUR ACCOUNT HEAD OFFICE: POULTRY, LONDON, EC2

THEATRES

Academic Publishing in the Soviet Union is vast

Collet's bring in many of these titles.

Our foremost field is Russian Studies. But we stock books on all subjects: mathematics, physics, biology, economics, history, oriental studies, etc.

Write to us for lists, or visit

Collet's RUSSIAN BOOKSHOP 39 Museum Street, London, W.C.1.

PASSPORT PHOTOGRAPHS

Suitable for University, Faculty, Department Registration

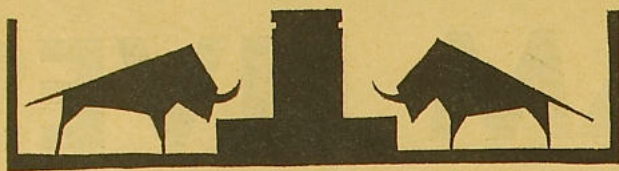
3/9 for 3 ALL DAY TODAY IN COMMITTEE ROOM 4 PROMPT SERVICE

Worthington E

A BRILLIANT FIRST!

ANOTHER FINE BEER FROM THE BASS, M & B GROUP

BIRMINGHAM REDBRICK ENTERTAINMENTS FEATURE BIRMINGHAM REDBRICK ENTERTAINMENTS FEATURE BIRMINGHAM REDBRICK ENTERTAINMENTS FEATURE BIRMI



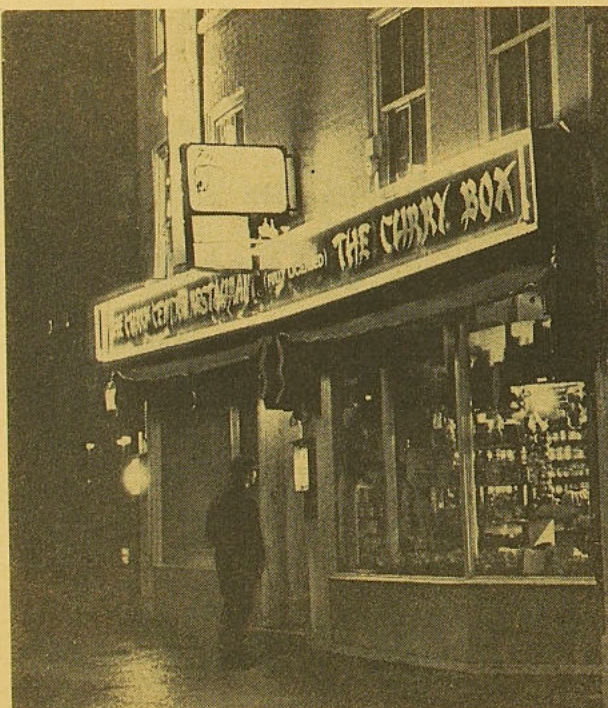
RESTAURANTS

LONG JOHN'S, New Street. Entrance hall has closed circuit television showing steak bar down stairs. Avoid sitting near this—Big Brother etc. Waitresses with nautical T-shirts, denim skirts and sailor boy hats. Decor starting to look somewhat faded and tatty. Clientele young and modern. Tables small but lights too bright for cosy tête-à-têtes. Menu is varied—wide choice of steaks in a range of sizes to suit all stomach capacities. Chicken scampi, cod and halibut also available. Limited selection of wines available, as well as carafes of vin rouge and vin blanc at 12 shillings each. Salad served with the steak is especially good, as are the chocolate and honey and brandy ice-creams. Possible to have very good meal for two for around £2.

Expensive
Slow Boat—Bull Ring. Probably the most expensive Chinese restaurant, in Birmingham, with the exception of the Wing Sang, on the corner of Bristol Street and Smallbrook. The service is superb and the general decor excellent, but in general, the food not up to the prices charged for it. Sweet and sour duck is a speciality, but some of the cheaper dishes are not so good. If you are attempting to impress, then the Slow Boat is recommended—the surroundings are conducive to intimate conversation, and little touches like flowers on all the tables, all add to an atmosphere of affluent ease.

For impecunious students, the Dragon Gate in Corporation Street, much better bet. The service quiet and efficient, and the menu boasts a wide range of Chinese dishes, which are adequately, if not excitingly cooked. English dishes are not to be recommended, but anyone ordering English dishes are not to be resentful that he deserves.

For a restaurant serving really top quality food and plenty of it, it is necessary to go out of the centre. The Warley, out on the Hagley Road, quite near bowling alley of same name, but before the outer circle on the right. Restaurant unpretentious, service excellent. Chinese waitresses make welcome change from more usual inscrutable Chinese gentlemen. The place always looks clean, even at end of evening, and decor not as oppressive as many other similar restaurants.



The Curry Centre, Bristol Street.

The food is excellent, and plenty of it. Especially recommended are set meals. Another welcome feature is the coffee afterwards—made with cream it makes a change from the luke warm, sterilised milk tainted coffee of other restaurants in town.

Liang-Nam, Station Street. Pleasant, very central restaurant. Decor somewhat heavy, but atmosphere in the rear room intimate. Low lighting is somewhat overdone, but service is good and the menu covers a very wide range. The food is well cooked but portions tend to be small. Wines are available, but are expensive.

Curries, Birmingham, like so many immigrant towns, is over-blessed with curry shops. The quality of these varies widely from restaurant to restaurant, and fluctuates alarmingly with the time that one goes into the restaurant. For example, avoid the middle of the afternoon—the curries probably have been festering since dinner. Main advantages of the curry houses is that they are cheap—(only fish and chips are cheaper) and if nothing else, are very filling. In the last year many of them have started opening from 12 midday to 4 in the morning—a tendency which helps give the lie to Birmingham's reputation as a dead city after the pubs shut.

Superb curries
Nearest to the University in Selly Oak are the Chamon and the Ajanta. Chamon much the nearer. Fairly cheap, and the curries at the moment are superb. They tend to be hotter than most, so if you are not used to curry eating, try the milder ones first. Decor tends to be shoddy as the furry wallpaper is getting worn, but Chamon still the place to go for an impromptu cheap curry.

Ajanta Restaurant. The OTHER curry shop in Selly Oak—generally not worth the extra half mile walk to the top. Not a really large place, but somehow manages to preserve a cafeteria atmosphere. Efficient table service rather than courteous and the curries are sometimes quite good—at others rather mediocre. THE place to go if you want to watch the Selly Oak avant garde feeding at the oriental scene. One sometimes sees curry and chips being ordered.

Taj Mahal. Standard of curries well above average and service

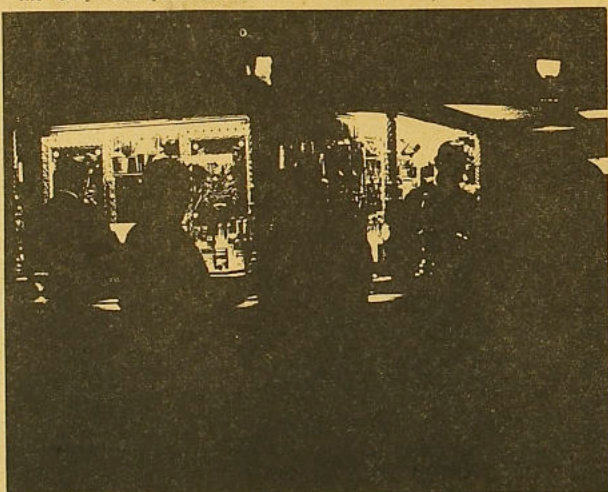
quite exceptional. Curries milder than most—place to try first Vindaloo, Pappadums and chutney included in price of the meal. Prices are somewhat expensive. Situated near Birmingham Rep. Curry addicts mecca in Birmingham is Curry Centre on Bristol Street. Cost of meal is high, but very well worth the extra. Try their soup and fascinating Indian sweets. Curries are all good, but Ceylon chicken curry especially recommended. Service excellent and surroundings quiet and sombre, if a little crowded. Bombay—Few doors along from Curry Centre. Good curries at

PUBS

DRINKING in Birmingham is an experience that one is not likely to forget, be it the water or the beer which is under consumption. It must always be remembered that Brummies prefer mild to bitter and so the mild is usually better than the bitter, more care having been lavished on it. Until relatively recently, Birmingham pubs were places where working men DRANK. Enjoyment and appreciation of the surroundings seemed to have nothing to do with this activity, so the pubs were vast cold places, sombrely painted, and designed to pack in as many drinkers as possible, without disturbing the sawdust too much. Happily the situation is now improved and it is possible to have a good pint in pleasant surroundings, if the choice of place is carefully made.

Our own main union bar owes much to the old concept of the Midlands pub: a vast place, designed to pack as many as possible in. But it's o.k. for Saturday night pick-ups and finding out where all the parties are. Mermaid Bar is much more select. Quiet, and a good place to take a bird on the first date. (When you know her a bit better, take her down to the main bar).

When the union bars are shut, then the Gun Barrels at the bottom of Edgbaston Park Road is the nearest. While the decor is not the best in interior design, the pub has a considerable amount of "character" and also a garden to sit out in (unusual in Brum.). Snacks available. The rest of the Selly Oak pubs are nonde-



The Alhambra Bar

script—but some serve meals (The Bournebrook) and ploughmen lunches (the Brook).

Sports car set

In the Harborne direction, The White Swan (mucky duck) is to be found at the end of Richmond Hill Road. A large mock tudor establishment, the oak beams were faked recently enough for it still to look quite good. It is full most nights with a mixture of students and the Edgbaston sports car set. Prices are quite high; sandwiches and coffee for those in need available on request. Also boasts a skittle alley. Further towards Harborne village, along Harborne Park Road and left along Old Church Road, is The Bell, a rambling establishment with apparently genuine oak beams. Considerably quieter than the duck, it is still quite crowded on most nights of the week. Delicious snacks available, customers cover a wide range of ages, cheaper than the duck. Also worth visiting in Harborne are

moderate prices. Restaurant bright, cheerful and crowded, and the service is good.

Eastern Moon, round corner into Smallbrook. Curries mild, prices moderate. Serve a delicious Rangan Josh. Fairly new and clean.

Ginos Pizza Bar, Smallbrook. Italian food a speciality; pizza at prices from four to seven shillings. English food also on the menu—prices moderate and the portions of a decent size. Pancakes and gateaux are delicious. Decor high-class wimpy. Service quick and professional. There is another branch in the Bull Ring.

the Sportsman in Metchley Lane, and the Plough.

Central Birmingham is noteworthy of its paucity of pubs where one can sit down in surroundings which could be described as pleasant and enjoy a well kept pint. The pubs in the centre could be divided into three categories. (1) old spit and sawdust type (2) tarted up spit and sawdust type (3) completely new. The latter category is generally pale and characterless, and are not usually recommended, with certain notable exceptions.

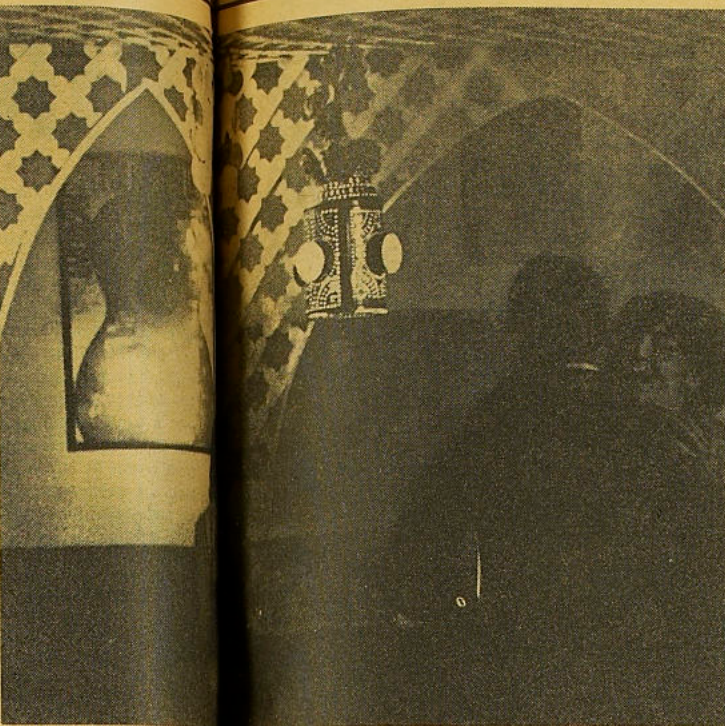
More taste

The Jester, the best of the new pubs, on the corner of Smallbrook and Bristol Street. Decor has a little more taste than most and the canned music is not too obtrusive and the beer is excellent.

Next, The Gunroom underneath the Albany Hotel, Smallbrook. Has reputation for being high-class. Not so. Normal lounge bar prices; has draught Bass red triangle; usually full of affluent looking Brummies.

The Alhambra, underneath the Savoy Hotel is enormous and has mock victoriana decor. Full of hundreds of birds looking for blokes and blokes looking for birds. Possesses electronic organ, and drinkers are invited to sing (this is very unfortunate).

The Trocadero in Temple Street, off New Street, has very good surroundings but unfortunately, lousy beer, they also provide good snacks. The Cabin, Corporation Street and the Back Yard Bar, Edmund Street, are both good to take birds to.



Elbow Room

NIGHT-CLUBS

Penthouse Club

FORMERLY one of Birmingham's less popular clubs, the Penthouse is now under new management and the membership has boomed in response to management and admission charges. Club is next door to the Stop coffee bar (one of the best in Brum open after midnight) on Constitution Hill. A door that tends to be deserted and shut leads to the minute entrance hall, from where one is conveyed by lift to the first floor where the club happens. First floor has a restaurant and juke box, the second floor has the group of the hippie bells. The club sometimes operates all night on Saturday nights, with alternating with groups the small hours. Clientele vast cross section of age, from around seventeen to the twenties. Some gorging on chewing their way through Tamala Mowtown sound, lights around the bar glowing with luminous flowers, for

with luminous flowers, for one is conveyed by lift to the first floor where the club happens. First floor has a restaurant and juke box, the second floor has the group of the hippie bells. The club sometimes operates all night on Saturday nights, with alternating with groups the small hours. Clientele vast cross section of age, from around seventeen to the twenties. Some gorging on chewing their way through Tamala Mowtown sound, lights around the bar glowing with luminous flowers, for

Membership is a guinea a year, titling one to free admission week-days till Thursday, five bob on Fridays and Saturdays.

Rooms are somewhat small, cramped, decor modern, but amateurish. A good bargain for the money.

Le Metro

If you're a Francophile who bob to spare or you want good jazz, don't despair. Le Metro, in Livery Street, has the answer to all your problems. The club is situated in one of the best arches that run under the Station, and from the time you expect to find a rag-and-bone yard, what you actually find is a vast, bright, airy, and authentic right "Ladies" or "Gents" but the carpets simulating "Ladies" and "Messieurs" create atmosphere—but the fully more sanitary and comfortable than most French bop

Cost: membership, one guinea per year (exceptionally good value compared with other clubs). Members can introduce two or three guests. For non-members, the cover charge is 5/-.

To watch the cabaret costs 10/- and the meals are at a theoretically fixed price of 25/- . Choice is not particularly wide, however, and wine is an over-expensive extra; there is nothing to stop you watching the cabaret on its own, though.

This is definitely the place to go to impress, or to celebrate a special occasion. Open from 7.30 until 2. The address is Bradford House, Bradford Street, Birmingham 5. Tel. MID 0232.

Opposite Lock

THIS club is somewhat difficult to find, but it is well worth the effort of looking! It is situated in converted stables (very smart and modern) and is run by a racing-car enthusiast. The racing-car is the theme of the club—photos and souvenirs can be seen everywhere, and one of the bars is designed as a racing pit.

Drink prices are about normal, and the bar is open until the club closes. The club is open every night except Monday from 8 to 2 a.m. and has its own restaurant—"Le Bistro"—which looks reasonable, and where dining facilities are available during these times. Music is provided by a trio—drums, double-bass and piano—interspersed by pop record sessions from the resident D.J., and there is a small dance-floor.

The décor is attractive, the atmosphere lively and informal, and the manager friendly and helpful. Membership is four guineas a year and the member can bring three guests; for non-members the charge is 10/- for the evening. The club is also open during lunch-time—from 12 to 3 p.m.

Rum Runner

OF clubs in Birmingham that can claim to be anything more than places to drink and watch strip, the Rum Runner balances precariously on the fence between sophisticated talking-cum-eating places and the beat cellars. Combining the advantages of neither (one can't hear oneself talk and there isn't enough space for dancing), the club nevertheless seems to attract a large number of Birmingham's younger set.

The club costs six guineas a year to join, but one can be admitted on a test-driving cover charge, if one knows a member. For the money there is a fairly large room—lined on one side with enormous rum casks which can be sat in if you wish, and on the other side a restaurant which the manager claims is the "best in town." Whilst this is quite expensive (steak for two 30/-), it is certainly very good.

A large part of the club consists of the bar, manned (or womanned) by barmaids in long frilly dresses.

Music is largely pop with on occasions some very good groups. Thus the night can be danced or shuffled away from nine till two—women are present in both quantity and quality but tend to be rather conservative—in dress sense. If nothing else, males wear mostly suits with the odd sports-jacket visible around the bar.

Elbow Room

THIS is the club which, more than any other, gives the lie to Birmingham's notoriety as a dead city. Open only two years, the Elbow Room already has a wide reputation among British name groups; artists such as Geno Washington, George Fame, and The Cream have visited it, and Stevie Winwood and Traffic are regular customers.

The entertainment is mainly groups and records, the standards of both being very high. There is a small dance-floor, tables and couches, a bar and a small restaurant. Bar prices are normal up to 11 o'clock, after when they are doubled. The members are mainly in their twenties; dress is informal, but the owner takes great pains to maintain the excellent reputation of the club, and so it is advisable to wear jacket, collar and tie, or a suit, especially if one is not a member; the dress rules are arbitrarily relaxed for established members.



The Elbow Room is open every night of the week until two in the morning; the busiest nights are at the weekend, when the 2/- cover charge is doubled; even so, it is virtually impossible to gain entry at the weekend without being a member. Membership is four guineas per year, but the owner told us he might be prepared to offer students a 50 per cent reduction—this has not yet been finalised, however.

The address is 146 High Street, Birmingham 6. Tel. AST 2400. It can be found by going down Corporation Street, turning left past the Halfords building, and is situated just to the right of Aston Hippodrome.

BOUTIQUES

ALEY BOUTIQUE: Piccadilly Arcade, off New Street. Average price for a dress about £5; apart from the usual stock like trousers, skirts, shirts, knitwear and dresses, they sell jewellery, handbags, ties, posters, cards and Flower-Power T-shirts. About half the stock in the Alley is bought in London; they make half themselves.

FANNY'S: Just off the Bull Ring, next to the Ikon Gallery. Very small boutique, good decor. Average price for a dress about three guineas. They make all their own clothes; also sell handbags and jewellery.

IMMEDIATE BOUTIQUE: Off Colmore Row, in Waterloo Street. Make all their own stock and will also make clothes to order. Average price for a dress about £4; sell knitwear, underwear, jewellery, ties,

hats, Indian beads and stockings as well as usual stock.

LADY JO: Alcester Road, Moseley. Make none of their own goods. Five guineas for an average dress. Carry normal stock for a dress shop; also sell Indian jewellery, some make-up.

MISS DOMINO: in Rackhams, Corporation Street. They sell only branded goods; names include Mary Quant, Lee Cecil and Clobber. No extras such as jewellery and handbags. Average dress price about £6; TIFFANY'S: 43 Temple Row, be-

hind Rackhams; New boutique, open three months. Some dresses are originals, made by art students; average price for these is six to seven guineas. Otherwise prices are a bit lower—around five guineas. They also sell jewellery, ties, crochet and tights.

OTHER SHOPS FOR CLOTHES: Wallis, Newwear (both in Corporation Street, opposite Rackhams); 21 Shop in Marshall & Snelgrove; Richard Shops and Chancelle (all in New Street), and C. & A. in Corporation Street.

DANCES

THE word "dance" admittedly covers a multitude of sins, but the relationship between, for instance, Ballet (capital B as in Him) and a Union dance is akin to that which could, conceivably link a glass of champagne and a bucket of vomit.

Indeed, if you substitute the champagne for several pints of ale, you have got something pretty significant. Picture, if you will, the scene that crisp October evening, the Union pregnant with freshers for that first dance. And what happens? (Chorus in unison: "One man went to sup, Went to sup a noggin," and repeat ad nauseam, which is usually what happens anyway). Most of them never come back. They don't know it yet, but they have sacrificed themselves irrevocably to the cult of beer-worship. The most strict sects are those who, on nights of celebration, be it of birth, marriage or death, take communion round altars of broken glass and autographed knickers, offering up hymns to the virgin. Very much like something out of Hieronymus Bosch, actually, but without the bagpipes; only one tends not to notice the difference.

That first, slow walk up to Deb. Hall is like your execution. Leave your mind, your pride, your ambition, your standards outside, you won't be needing them. If you think you look good in dark glasses, you have a double handicap and will probably trip up and break something you need.

Getting a girl is not easy: to do this requires (a) the sense not to make hasty decisions—here experienced hands (a word chosen after careful thought) definitely have the advantage over the new boy, (b) the ability to move quickly through dense crowds, (c) good lungs, (d) incredibly good eyesight. If you haven't got (d) then get her into strong artificial light as soon as possible. Other virtues, such as money, a vivid imagination, and a propensity to smile and whistle through all difficulties are desirable, but of little account on the field of battle.

And did you put your best suit on? Clean underwear, brush your shoes, wash your hair, talcum powder, small rice? The initial, straining at the leash period of faith, hope and icthy soon passes. Probably starts to slip when you stop swilling out your navel. Socialists of all shades of opinion have ignored sweat, the great common leveller. Arose by any name the smell of sweat.

Sooner or later you've got to face the fact that the dances that make money are rotten dances, and the good dances flop rotten when it comes to the more mundane considerations of life, like showing a profit.

There are several reasons for this, the most important being an acute and heterosexual—taking short-



GET MORE OUT OF LIFE! JOIN REDBRICK

Be ye Writer, Photographer, Critic, Newshound, Salesman . . . you are assured of a welcome in Redbrick Office, 2nd Floor of Union, any lunch-time.

age of women. Little Freshbrier, perhaps used to something different, dislikes being confined in an over-small, noisy, darkened carcass room for hours on end, forced to endure stoically endless short-lived, comatose relationships with engineers in their best grease. The experience is too traumatic by far. She leaves her quota of 43 engineers to make do with each other, and departs. Often, like the beer-worshipper, she never returns. Sad, really, because after a few dances the engineers usually clear off too.

This brings me to my two examples of the stunt that perplexity is made of. The first of these was, for me, the best dance of the year. The groups were little-known, but excellent; Deb. Hall was not busting its gut, and so there was plenty of room to dance. This was just what is needed all the time, but that dance made a loss of over one hundred pounds—and it wasn't the only heavy financial loss of the year.

The second example was the Spencer Davis Group dance/profit. At this event, in an attempt to alleviate the woman shortage, Ents. Comm. went abundance on its usual ploy of importing talent from local (i.e. within about 50 miles) training colleges. Also, there was a fair helping of local Brummies (a completely different breed, easily recognisable with a little practice; can be sampled with safety, but should not be made a habit of). Ents. Comm.'s well-meant, but treacherous policy—as anyone who has spent precious time and money tapping a bird who has to be back on the coach to Hereford by midnight knows—had unexpected results that night. The standard of the imported material

(Continued on Page Eight)

Compiled by Phil Irving and Jan Baker

Boutiques Report: Patsy Simison

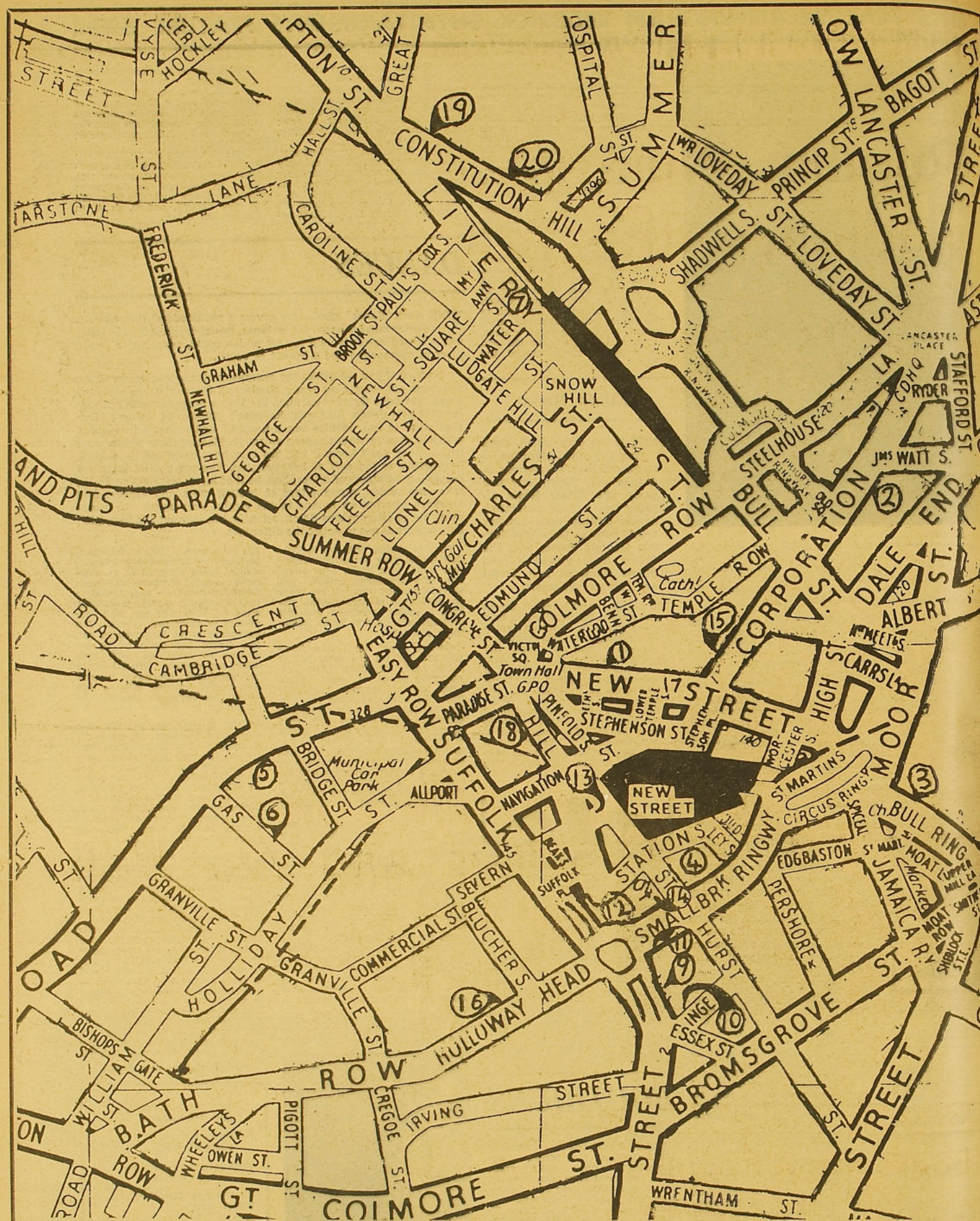
Observations on Dances: Graham Barker

Photos: Graham Sharples

Motif: Rich

Map: Borough Surveyor's Office.

"Redbrick" wishes to point out that the information contained in this feature is relevant to the time of reporting, and subsequent changes may have occurred in one or two cases.



1. Long Johns Steak Bar.
2. Dragon Gate Chinese Restaurant.
3. Slow Boat Chinese Restaurant.
4. Liang Nam Chinese Restaurant.
5. Rum Runner.
6. Opposite Lock Club.
7. Le Metro Club.
8. The Castaways Club.
9. Curry Centre Indian Restaurant. (Open till 4 a.m. at weekends; midnight week-nights).
10. Bombay Indian Restaurant. (open till 4 a.m.).
11. Eastern Moon Restaurant.
12. Gino's Pizza bar.
13. Alhambra.
14. Yates.
15. The Greyhound.
16. The Shakespeare Tavern.
17. The Golden Eagle.
18. The Salvation.
19. The Penthouse.
20. The Penthouse.

DANCES

(Continued from Page Seven)

was commendably high (they are often ugly) but unfortunately the place was so crowded it was physically impossible to get near them. Dancing and verbal communication were out of the question, with not even the chance for a quick blow on

the head and a mimed invitation to jump up and down on the spot. It was like living a bad dream.

Came the great moment all these groups had been waiting for, my mate and I spent an interesting hour jammed, not of our own will, in front of a huge amplifier; our eardrums took refuge deep within our brains, and our bodies knew for whole minutes the horror of deformity, entombed, asphyxiated, crushed out of shape and impressed

by the urgency of female breasts, buttocks and hips. Exquisite agony, and both my feet off the ground.

Things could be different this year, with all this Flower Power around. It might rid the place of its atmosphere of imminent genocidal violence for a start; it's not very pleasant to find yourself standing in a pool of blood bearing a striking resemblance to your own. Haemophilia or murder, it's the same stuff, and it might have warped me for ever.

I doubt if hippie tactics will have much initial impact, unless right from the word Go they ditch their budgie bells and adopt front-line kit, specially conceived by, and possibly profited from, by me. One psychedelic handbell complete with a free practice manual capturing the greatest moments of Big Ben, one seven-foot plastic sunflower, and, in the event of over-crowding, a handy length of bramble for the surreptitious lashing of the ankles.

The odds are, though, that there will be not the slightest change, and frost or greenfly will claim the Flower Children. So all you women take my advice; don't go to the first few dances—let the faint-hearted among the males fall by the wayside—then FLOCK, of one accord (or anything up to THREE accord, for Godard, Bergman, Eisenstein, or even old Bunuel, must be dull indeed—though The Sound of Music is still running at the Gaumont. Just a few to be going on with; we'll keep you posted of any new developments as they occur; meanwhile, keep reading "Redbrick."

VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW VIEW

GUILD THEATRE GROUP

Popular theatre is audience theatre

THREE toilet rolls and an orange land at the feet of a row of girls and men in make-up. Suddenly balloons appear everywhere; streamers fill the air; smoke hangs heavy; everyone is yelling, laughing, singing, "Bum, tit tit—bum tit tit." Not an underground hippy party or a Liverpool football match, but the sing-song at the curtain-call of a G.T.G. production of "The Waters of Babylon."

"The Waters of Babylon" is a play, and G.T.G. stands for Guild Theatre Group. An apology was made for writing enthusiastically about the theatre a year ago, particularly theatre at Birmingham University. Not now. Two Birmingham plays won through to the

finals of the National Student Drama Festival at Cardiff, and then during Easter came the major triumph. Described by one source as "probably the greatest student drama success this country has ever known," G.T.G. won first prize in the World Students Drama Festival in Nancy, France. Yet they are only too aware that a lot of students are really not interested in such achievements, as their attitude to the theatre is one of complete indifference.

Not surprising, said Barry Kyle, G.T.G. Chairman. "Most of the plays you see in English theatres make you want to cry—either with embarrassment or boredom. They are trivial, incomprehensible or just bloody bad. You see it and forget it."

Barry, who has just taken over as the new head of G.T.G., smiled

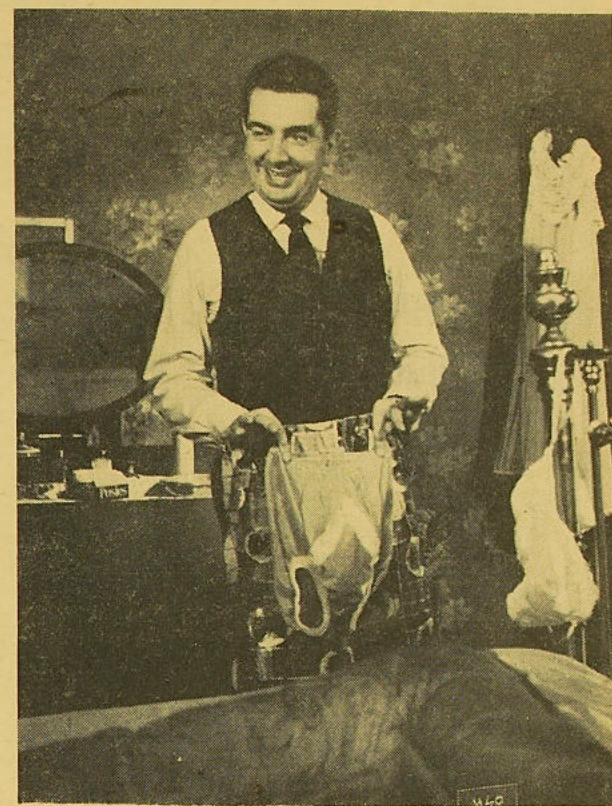
thoughtfully as he spoke of G.T.G.'s successes last year. "Winning first prize in the World Festival is a fabulous experience, but honestly, for students here on the campus to be interested in G.T.G. is worth all your festival prizes."

To achieve this, G.T.G. has pursued over the past year a policy of "Popular theatre." This has produced a new image of G.T.G.: of freshness, clarity, vulgarity, popularity—its determination to provide quality plays refreshingly and boldly done has created a sound impact.

A familiar sight while you are drinking one of your half-million cups of coffee in the Union during the next year will be four or five yellow advertising handouts on the table in front of you. Each will read: "G.T.G. Popular Theatre" presents . . . These are issued in thousands for each show. Advertising is taken as seriously as rehearsing.

"Popular theatre is audience theatre," Barry went on. "We don't want a private theatre which only we can understand and enjoy but one that is dynamic, questioning and at the heart of University activities. One that is extrovert and outrageous if necessary, in order to rouse the audience to respond to the issues we present to them."

This is the second year of popular theatre and G.T.G. are clearly looking forward to the future flying toilet-rolls.



Scene from James Joyce's "Ulysses," produced and directed by Joseph Strick. Bloom (Milo O'Shea) for an early morning joke, waves Molly's underwear at the foot of her bed.

CINEMA

M. YACOWAR and J. LEACH

Schofield's best yet, Sellers and the Mafia

'A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS' gives Paul Scofield his finest celluloid hour. Sarah Miles, Robert Shaw and Orson Welles are also splendid in this sumptuous film of Robert Bolt's screenplay of the trials and modernity of St. Thomas More. For once in an American director's film, the incidental footage is relevant. A bird escaping from the wind-wavering reeds. . . .

More in prison solid against the changing of the seasons. . . . The King's green fields against More's dark vault and home. . . . Hampton Court reflects what is in the water, but Chez More solid. The cliché shots belong. Fred Zinneman directed this Thinking Man's version of 'From Here to Eternity' (Scala).

murderous family. 'Our Mother's House.' Don't miss the late movie at Colleshill Street, 11 p.m., Friday, October 6th. William Wyler's film of John Fowles's novel, 'The Collector,' stars Terence Stamp and Samantha Eggar, both excellent. Good use of colour. "Can't buy me love"—and then some. Indeed it could make for interesting contrast to Bergman's 'Persona' (in London) on the theme of human possession, transfer of guilt, the shaping power of illusion, etc.

At the Cinescope, two extremely interesting films that do not quite come off. 'The Rape,' a Greek film by Dinos Dimopolous (who else?), somehow manages to insert the theme of the post-war attitude of Jews to Germany into a plot which involves ten girls escaped from reformatory and seven thugs

in search of hidden Nazi treasure. Predictably, the old Nazi is shot but his son ends up with the Jewess. It is not really convincing but the black-and-white photography is excellent. Pietro Germi's 'Man of Iron' is more successful in its depiction of an engine-driver who loses his job and his grip on life. This is good old Italian neo-realism, and Germi's film well illustrates both the strengths and weaknesses of this genre. The decline of the old man, played by Germi himself, is poignantly observed, largely through the eyes of his young son, but the end of the film overdoes the sentiment, with the reuniting of the erring family and the contented death of the father. At the Futurist is a Jacopetti documentary 'blood - bath' called 'Africa Addio.' One kind of catharsis. . . . L.L.

BOOKS

LANCLOT GROWE

In books for out people

THERE are in books and out books, and some books are so in you can't get into them, but a few books exist that are a must for any in, or half-way in, or coitus interruptus Fresher. Everyone reads R. D. Laing, for instance—on how to be sane in an insane society, or vice versa if it were so. He's good for schizo-pragmatists and for real Christians—all of whom boil down to much the same thing in the end. It's field of experience, his best book—is ontological phenomenology applied to psychotherapy in a very telling, direct way. It'll stimulate you intellectually, maybe even disturb you; which will be a good thing.

Winnicott's 'The Self and the World' is popular too, of course. Appealing to both the "lost" bourgeois, mentally and to the anti-bourgeois. It's hidden vein of acid comment on the human situation is one of its major delights for the cognoscenti. Or J. R. R.

Tolkien's 'Lord of the Rings' gives many happy hours to unashamed essentialists; beside it, the great books of the last two three years, Grass's 'The Tin Drum', what's-it-name's immortal 'Catch 22', fade into insignificance but are still worth reading—as are Genet and Robbe-Grillet, two noble frogs who give you many thrills.

Marshall McLuhan is coming up the field with 'The Gutenberg Galaxy' and other great tomes of psychedelic rubbish—don't miss these, someone's bound to quote him at you before long.

In 'The Bobo' Peter Sellers is a singing bullfighter who must seduce the town Hot-Patootie to win a singing job. The hero is quick-witted, ingenious, persevering, all at odds with his Nebbish image. But he proves himself boob by waxing gentleman at the end. Britt Ekland, whom Sellers married just before his heart attack, and a guest Flamingo act are the highlights. Sellers is better at slapstick and subtle clumsiness than at this sentimental humour.

With 'Bobo' is an American film (i.e., F.B.I. heroes) that wastes much acting talent. Susan Strasberg, Celeste Holm, Walter Pidgeon, Efrem Zimbalist, Jr., on a colour 'Untouchables.' Its theme is that the Mafia (Casa Nostra) is less attractive than the family as a way of life.

It really is. The theme. Both are at the ABCs, New Street and Colleshill Street. Next week's could be the chaser to Casa Nostra: Jack Clayton's new film about a

EPIC POETRY

W. J. GREGORY

A new look at Milton

'MILTON'S EPIC POETRY,' the new volume of critical essays on Milton published by Penguin Books and edited by Dr. C. A. Patrides, of York University, is very welcome at a time when scholars are again in a position to re-evaluate Milton's poetry.

Milton's reputation, after two centuries of predominance, suffered a severe setback in the first four decades of this century partly initiated by Mr. T. S. Eliot and Mr. Middleton Murry. Whatever one thinks of Milton's poetry it is now possible to approach Milton with an open mind unclouded either by adoration of the Grand Style or

regret that Milton did not follow the line of the Metaphysicals. The book opens to the student of English poetry a wide range of critical opinions on both Milton's thoughts and quality of poetic sensibility. There are essays by such eminent critics as Dr. F. R. Leavis and Mr. William Empson on 'Paradise Lost' and by Professor Northson Eyre on 'Paradise Regained.'

Personally I found the essays helpful in coming to terms with Milton, especially Dr. Leavis's essay which seemed to me to be very fair in appreciation of the poetry and extremely readable. To have so many views on a major poet in one volume is always helpful, if only to see the range of critical opinion current today.

SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENT ENTERS LAW FACULTY

BIRMINGHAM students spent three years collecting money to enable a South African student to take a degree here. Now the necessary £1,700 has been raised and he begins his studies officially on Monday. He is Livingstone Mrwetyana (26), who arrived last May to do preliminary studies before entering the Law Faculty.

ORCHESTRA FOR FRESHERS' SERVICE

AN orchestra recruited by Clive Timms will be playing for the Freshers' Service again this year. Clive has orchestrated the hymns specially for the occasion. The service, which will be held in the Deb. Hall at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday, is open to all: members of staff have been invited and students of all years are welcome. In the tradition of Guild religious activities, it will be inter-denominational, and is being conducted by the Guild Chaplain, Bob Hughes; and Maria Isaacs and by the Chaplain to Roman Catholics, Father Tucker.

After the service, there will be coffee in Priestley and a chance to heckle the preacher, Bob Hughes.

Brum v. Prague

The Technical University of Prague soccer team will be playing Loughborough Colleges on the Bournbrook pitch on Monday (kick-off 2.30 p.m. or 4.30 p.m.) and Birmingham University on Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. on Bournbrook.

Livingstone passed his matriculation in 1960. Late in 1961 he won a scholarship to study in Capetown. There he took his 'A' levels, passing in History and English Literature and obtaining an 'O' level pass in Economics.

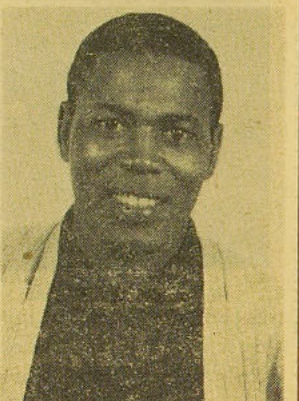
During 1964 he heard of an offer made by the University College, London and immediately applied for a passport. But while waiting for his passport, he was imprisoned under the South African 90-day detention law.

After many difficulties with the law and after spending much time enduring the conditions of South African prisons, he was released.

Says Livingstone: "There are many people in South Africa who would like to study, but are deprived. A number of young people in jail are very keen on furthering their education, and many of them are bright."

"I know (I two) one is waiting for 'O' level results, and the other has got two matriculation subjects."

"I would like to express my gratitude to all the students here for all they have done. I hope I will be able to get through my degree course."



Livingstone Mrwetyana

Squalid flats wanted

"Students cannot study in squalor" will be the title of a campaign organised by the National Union of Students during the week commencing October 9th.

"Redbrick" is anxious to collect evidence of squalid living conditions in flats or dorms. Please contact "Redbrick" office (second floor of Union) as soon as possible. Photographers will be available.

BOOK ALLOWANCE TO GO TO LIBRARY?

Following the Parry report on University libraries, schemes were put forward to reduce the basic £35 book allowance included in grants, as it was a well-known fact that most students spend nothing like this amount on books. One of the suggestions was that the book allowance should be cut to £20 and the remaining £15 given direct to the University library.

The Head Librarian of Birmingham University Main Library, Mr. L. K. Humphries, commented that, from a librarian's point of view this would be an excellent idea; as an individual he opposed it, however, as he believed that students should be given every encouragement to buy books, not just for later life.

STUDENTS RUN BUS SERVICE

A regular bus service organised by students for students is being set up at the University of Aberystwyth. The cost will be borne by the College, which only calls for a fee of 15s. from each student for his season ticket. Any profit will go towards a reduction in the fares.



Prof. S. A. Tobias

£50 science incentive

SCIENTISTS should receive a bonus of £50 a year. This is the opinion of Professor S. A. Tobias, head of the Mechanical Engineering Department.

Speaking at a conference at Manchester University Institute of Science and Technology, he described this as a "national gesture" to encourage more people to opt for science courses.

"Without more graduate engineers," he said, "we cannot maintain our present situation. We certainly cannot improve it."

However, Lord Nelson, Chairman

of the English Electric Company, who opened the conference, regarded the problem as more complex. Not only must industry itself be more attractive, but there must be reform in the schools where, he said, "the influence of suading children to go into logical studies are not as strong as enough and too traditional."

This was echoed by a Birmingham student who said that engineering courses should be made more attractive to school-leavers. "You're unlikely to get the best students if you have to pay them to come," was another reaction expressed.

The opinion of one very young student was that "the idea of a university is that students are equally important."

A.U. CHAIRMAN WRITES - BASKETBALL - SPORTS PROFILE - MARTIN NORRIS

A REPUTATION TO PRESERVE

by John Wallis

Chairman of Athletic Union 1967-8

BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY has probably the best sports amenities of any of the English Universities. They have been criticised and defended, and even raised a question in the House of Commons—they are now at your disposal.

No matter what standard your play has reached, there is a club in the University to cater for it. Novices usually play for their own department in the thriving Inter-Departmental leagues for Soccer, Badminton, Basketball, Mixed Hockey, Rugby, and Table-tennis; more proficient players represent their faculty, while the pick of the University represent Birmingham in the national U.A.U. competitions which cover all sports.

Incidentally, all the teams except the departmental sides will play on the balcony outside the A.U. office, and the only qualification required to play sport at the University is some

basic aptitude and enthusiasm, and if you can exhibit enough of the latter the former quality may well be overlooked in some Departmental sport.

The playing-fields at West Hills have during the last couple of years, caused much controversy in University sporting circles. I can only give an informed opinion. During the dry weather, there are no better pitches in this area than West Hills, but at present the drainage is not as effective as may be desired.

However, the ground staff has done all in its power to improve the situation, and in the coming season we hope that the area will fulfil its promise. Nevertheless, the pitches down at Bournbrook are being reserved for the University representative sides. In the case of West Hills being unfit,

This leads me to my last point. During the last few years, there seems to have been a lessening of interest shown in sport inside the University itself. This has been blamed, with some justification, on the inaccessibility of West Hills, situated as it is in West Heath.

This year, however, the University Rugby team will be playing down on Bournbrook, and it is expected that the games will attract many spectators, as this sport does at all other universities. Also, the University Basketball team, which last year had four players in a Midlands representative side, will be playing the West Midlands Colleges League, which provides a high standard of play and entertainment.

The fixtures will be printed each week in "Redbrick" and it must be manifestly clear that if University sport is to have the status it

deserves, it must receive a little encouragement from the people it represents.

The University has gained honours in every sphere of university sport, both in individual and team events. Perhaps it should be said here that women's sport in the University is the best in the country.

Last year the sportswomen won every competition in the W.I.V.A.B. except two, one of which was lost in the final, and they won the Kerslake Trophy, awarded to the university with the best record in women's sport.

Birmingham has a reputation to preserve, and I would stress again that those who do not participate actively can make a great contribution to University sport as a whole by giving their support.

Basketball

• Canoeing, an exciting if little known sport.

STOP SITTING AND DRINKING COFFEE

If you play basketball, what the hell are you doing sitting on your backside reading this for? Get along to the Sports Centre and put your name down for the trials, and if you are reading this after the trials, go to Athletics Union office and make contact with Paul Patterson.

son, basketball captain extraordinaire, tell him what an ace player you are, lie about your experience and try and look as though you can perform a two-handed backward dunk at the slightest provocation.

It is time you stopped drinking coffee, combing your hair and

speculating on the morals of the crimp in the corner of the Coffee Bar; assume your responsibilities and knuckle down to what you are really here for—playing basketball. If you don't play basketball, you poor thing you, now is your chance to hear the Word. Three hundred people play the game in the Inter-Departmental League every week (that's the biggest university league in the country) and there is room for you in there.

Experience is not necessary and your department is almost certain to have a team which will be more than glad to accept your services. In any case go to the trials; the Basketball Club is not a clique, and even if you don't make a University team, you will at least have got an intro to a departmental team.

Once you do make the grade, the University teams offer some of the best sport in the country. We've got two Olympic-size courts in the Sports Centre (opened only last year—go and be overawed); the First team regularly smashes most of the opposition in the West Midlands Colleges League (toughest league outside London) and were runners-up last year after a play-off for the title.

The 1st team won the U.A.U. title the year before, and this year, after being eliminated by a technicality, had to come on the sideline while eight finalists disputed the title, six of whom we had already crushed during the year (including the present champions, Sheffield).

There are a lot of tall people in the University squads—teams with tower power, they are—but there is always room for a fast skilful player who was behind a door when they handed out inches height-wise; so whoever you are, get with it and go to the Sports Centre now. The frenetic, ankle-wrenching, finger-cracking world of Birmingham University basketball awaits you; contact Paul Patterson via Athletics Union Office, New Sports Centre (past refectory, beside athletics track).



Martin Norris
Photo: Chris John

His tip to an up-and-coming hockey player is that there is no easy way to stardom. Training is his prescription, but firstly personal fitness is very important. He adds that without enthusiasm and enjoyment of the game a good player can't get anywhere.

Martin Norris:

MEN'S HOCKEY STAR

MARTIN NORRIS, a hockey-playing final-year Chemical Engineering student, has been selected to play in the U.A.U. under-25s and during the summer went on the B.U.S.F. tour of Holland. Last season he captained one of the most successful men's hockey teams the university has seen for several years.

REDBRICK SPORTS PROFILE

His early interests were hockey, rugby and squash, but it soon became evident that his favourite sport was hockey. He was born in 1945 in Southampton and later attended King Edward VI Grammar School where he played half-back in the 1st hockey eleven for three and a half seasons. During this time he also represented Hampshire Schools and the South Schoolboys at the same sport.

In 1965 he gained a place at the University and immediately gained a place in the University 1st team. His skill and enthusiasm enabled him to make his presence felt in

University hockey and it came as no surprise when he was elected captain of the hockey club.

Last season brought him further success and he represented the U.A.U. when they retained the British Universities championship. Among his lesser achievements, he has played in the Worcestershire county side on a couple of occasions.

At the same time he has been an inspiration to his own team, gaining their respect and support. He boasts of no great moments but he says he was very pleased when Birmingham won the Midlands division of the U.A.U. championship. His immediate ambition is to lead the University team to win the full U.A.U. title this year.

Martin emphasises that the U.A.U. success has been due to a real team effort. He believes fitness and enthusiasm are the key to success and has been very pleased with the attendances at training sessions.

On the question of University sport in general, he says that he is rather disappointed with the facilities at West Hills; he doesn't really think that enough thought went into the planning and building of the sports fields. As to the sport itself, he feels that good pitches would show the true strength of many university teams.



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

Martins go to extremes to be helpful

98 Colmore Row, Birmingham 3 Tel: 021-236 9867 Ask to see Mr. Hollway

**MARTINS
BANK
LIMITED**

'TOILET ROLL' IMAGE TO GO?

—New Presidents' plans



• Carnival 44. One of the floats which provided entertainment for students and the people of Birmingham. If the President's plans are accepted, Carnival will also help Birmingham directly.

IN a recent television interview, Charles Wright said "The image of Carnival must be changed." He thought this could best be done by changing the whole concept of Carnival, which in the past has probably caused more animosity than friendship in Birmingham. Last year's was a classic example. Factories, a school, the Catholic Cathedral and pubs were evacuated when an "unexploded bomb" planted by students was found by workmen. A stunt to drink dry the "Trees" on the Bristol Road failed miserably and ended in an inter-departmental brawl. Also 70 Belisha beacons were painted with faces, for which Carnival received a bill for replacement from the City Council.

In a memorandum to his commission, Mr. Wright suggests that the money raised during Carnival should be directed to one specific charity which would be selected "on such grounds as topicality and relevance to students as well as on grounds of sheer need." Carnival would be concerned with a project to alleviate social problems in the city, as he is convinced that "the real deficiency in Carnival is that it is not geared around the people it purports to help but merely around money-raising." Societies involved in community work and even departments such as Social Science, Politics and Environmental Planning could also contribute their knowledge in this field. Previously, Carnivals have appealed "to the student who likes to indulge his sense of fun." If these ideas are implemented he hopes that

"stunts will be geared to Carnival's aims and it will not just appeal to people who like to mess around." He hopes that increased publicity will result in a better collection. If the people of Birmingham identify Carnival with charity they will be more willing to contribute, and a target of £20,000 could be quite realistic considering the size of the population.

These suggestions are tentative and will need the approval of Guild Council when the commission set up to consider Carnival produces its report. Some students think the event should be cancelled but the President hopes that Carnival can both improve the relations between the University and the city as well as helping with local social problems.



Photo: Graham Sharples

Librarians' degree

During the vacation, the Head Librarian, Mr. K. W. Humphries, was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters from Trinity College, University of Dublin.

S.C.M.'s VIETNAM PROTEST

THE General Council of the Student Christian Movement has sent a letter of protest to the Home Secretary, Mr. Jenkins, in support of four North Vietnamese students who were recently refused visas to visit this country.

The letter says: "It is realised that the requests already made by Mr. Frank Judd, M.P., appear to have been interpreted as support for North Vietnamese policy. This we feel is a misunderstanding. This country is not only not at war with North Vietnam but trades with it with the full support of Her Majesty's Government. Her Majesty's Government also offers itself as a mediator in this dispute. The General Council urgently requests that you reconsider your decision in the realisation that the national interest of a prospective mediating nation is best served by allowing the full and even-handed expression of the views between which mediation is required."

Exec. Vacancies

THERE are now three unfilled vacancies on the Guild Executive. The third resignation is that of Roger Clipsham, Chairman of the National Union of Students, who has left the university.

The position of Union Secretary and Guild Relations Officer became vacant at the end of last term when the elected officers, Kevin Brehony and Roger Mathew left the University.

Elections will take place at Guild Council on Tuesday, October 10th.

BRIEF CASE
(p. & p. 5/1 ex)
In tough grained
Vinyl. Fabric lined
Rein'd top and base.
Money back Guarantee.
TIONSCUT LTD.
(Dept. B)
2 Charlotte St., London, W.1



PREGNANCY TEST SERVICE
Results by return. Reliable method.
Fee £2. Phone Portsmouth 23366.
(After hours answering service) or
write Dept. S62.
BELL JENKINS LABORATORIES
LIMITED
4 Charlotte St., Portsmouth (PO6) 23366.

Students increase unemployment?

—Union protest

A NEW factory operated by unpaid students at Loughborough University of Technology is meeting stiff opposition from the unions.

Almost 150 students started work this week as fitters, mechanics, lathe operators and electricians. The protest came from Mr. Sam Barton, secretary of the Leicester section of the Amalgamated Engineering Union: "This is fantastic," he said. "There are enough men out of work without students being allowed to take part in the manufacture of goods."

"Many men with families are unemployed in the area and indirectly these students will be doing them out of a job."

The University hopes to give prospective mechanical engineers and

works managers practical experience. Said Mr. Douglas Billa, head of the university's manufacturing technology centre: "Not only will they be trained academically by our tutors and get ample scope for design, they will actually make the goods."

Profits from the venture, which are expected to be £15,000 in the first year, will go to the university's central development fund.

DEMMO DOWN-UNDER

AUSTRALIAN students are protesting against a ban on protests. Some 3,500 university students and lecturers paraded through the streets of Brisbane in protest against a recent law which, they feel, hampers their freedom of assembly and expression.

The new law requires that a special permit be applied for in order to hold a public demonstration. The unauthorised protest march turned into a violent clash with the police. One hundred and seven demonstrators are reported to have been arrested.

Pamphlets from NORTH VIETNAM

on the fight against U.S. aggression; reports of War Crimes Commission; Historical and economic background.

Send for list.

Collet's
Denington Estate,

Designed and produced by the editor for the Guild of Undergraduates, Birmingham University. Printed by Ripley Printers Ltd., Ripley, Derbys.



Photo: Pete

• Miss L. Edwards, Lodgings Warden: Shortage not so acute as last year.

Lodgings shortage

'not acute'

IT is most unlikely that there will be without lodgings at the beginning of this session.

Miss L. Edwards, the lodgings warden said "the lodgings shortage is not nearly so acute this year, and all students are expected to be accommodated without the risk of using camp beds."

There are several reasons for improvement on last year's desperate situation. Mr. Williams, the assistant registrar said, "There are about 150 more students to accommodate this year, but during the past year Chad hall accommodated 295 students and Lucas hall (off Chatts Road) with flatlets for post grads, have opened; the result of this is that it is necessary to find lodgings for about 300 less students than last year."

Some forms of accommodation are still very scarce, on this subject Mr. Williams said: "There is an acute shortage of flats and single rooms, single rooms being the kind of accommodation that most students want."

OVERSEAS STUDENTS HIT BY FEE RISE

FOLLOWING the Government's decision to increase fees for overseas students, the proportion of overseas students in the university has fallen from 9.6 per cent last year to 9.0 per cent this year.

The Vice-Chancellor, Sir Robert Aitken, said that he suspected the Government's decision had something to do with the decrease, but added: "I am surprised the drop hasn't been greater."

On a day of mass protest against the fees rise last February, several thousand Birmingham students and staff attended a meeting in the Great Hall and marched to the city centre, while student strikes were held in some other universities. As a result of this outcry the Government modified its definition of "overseas" students and set up a £5,000,000 fund to help in cases of hardship.

But Sir Robert pointed out that "a quite large proportion are hit by this discriminative decision." Birmingham University had only a very small share of the Government fund—£4,600. The University was trying to raise money from sources other than the U.G.C., "or

even from our own tenuous resources." The Vice-Chancellor added that the amount of extra administrative labour would never be costed, "this would take 'quite a small hit' of the money saved by increasing fees."



Photo: John Rutherford

• February 22nd: several thousand students march into Birmingham protesting at the increase in fees. This was the largest demonstration in the city's history.