

25 FEB 1971

pg LF

redbrick

"NOW CHILDREN".....

SUNDAY 28 MASON HALL:
Folk Concert (MAGNA CARTA)
Midnight Stroll AND DRATZING

MONDAY
1st MR ASTON
DANCE KINGS

TUESDAY 2 NO MORRIS
DANCING
FASHION SHOW!
DISCO FILMS AND STUFF!

WEDNESDAY
NASH BRAD
3rd MIXED MEDIA

THURSDAY 4
PRESENTING!
DALE PLUNK
CARNIVAL DEBATE!

FRIDAY 5
GRAPPLE AND STRIP

SATURDAY 6
AND LASTLY
PROCESSION
AND PARTY

27. RAFT RACE
26. PUB CRAWL (METABURGER)
GENTS

..... IS FOR CARNIVAL !!

Carnival messages

From the V.C.

IT may or may not be argued that the primary objective of Carnival is to raise money for charity, but the fact is that much good work has been done for charities. Since its innovation, a total of more than a quarter of a million pounds has been raised by Carnival for the endowment of hospital beds and the relief of suffering among the sick and the very young and old in Birmingham.

From the inception of Carnival in 1921 until the National Health Act in 1948, the total proceeds amounted to £125,000 which was given to the Birmingham teaching hospitals for the endowment of beds and other purposes. Between 1949 and 1966 over £150,000 was distributed to various organisations in Birmingham which care for young and old people.

These include:—

Royal Institute for the Blind	14,685
Birmingham Council for Old People	28,300
Birmingham Settlement	7,750
Birmingham Federation of Boys' Clubs	4,375
St. James's Youth Centre	1,000
Birmingham South African War Veterans' Association	1,000

To ensure the continued success of Carnivals it was decided in 1966 to hold a joint event with the University of Aston in Birmingham, the reason being that a joint effort would provide a greater student population on which to draw for support, and hence a better quality Carnival and greater ability to raise money. Also the unwanted rivalry often apparent in the past would be replaced by healthy competition in a joint Carnival.

Once a joint enterprise was decided upon, the time of the Carnival was changed to March and the teaching timetables for the students were altered in order that they could have time free to participate in the event.

During the last two years there has been an attempt to break away from the old concept of Carnival or "Rag" in an endeavour to maintain and increase public support, but also to increase public knowledge of student life and the University. The Festival was therefore divided into three main sections: Community Action, Carnival and an Arts Exhibition. Due to the size and complexity of such a large organisation it has not always been possible to combine these successfully, but efforts continue.

There is a general feeling that Community Action must be supported and expanded because of the increasing realisation that students' social awareness is desirable. But while this and the Arts project endeavour to develop their full meaning, the charities' efforts remain as a vital part of community action.

Next week sees another Carnival. Make this the most successful ever. Community Action—for more money for deserving charities.

R. B. HUNTER

Vice-Chancellor,
University of Birmingham.

From Guild President, Rod Playford

BIRMINGHAM University Guild of Students abandoned the old concept of a student rag three years ago and the Carnival this year is like "Festival" in both 1970 and 1969—an attempt to seek greater student involvement in the city of Birmingham and its environs.

This attempt to liaise with the city is not just that of the privileged student seeking a temporary alternative to the academic oasis, but a more meaningful realisation of the responsibilities that students and higher education generally has to community needs—raising money for charity, undertaking community action projects, and providing entertainment for the city as well as the students is, through Carnival an attempt, however limited, of obtaining this involvement.

It is hoped that such a relationship with the needs and character of Birmingham will engender a more long-term social concern by students towards their fellow citizens which will find its ultimate expression in changes in both the nature and content of university courses to ensure they are now more related to service to the community.

The work undertaken by this year's Carnival committee, despite the setback of the postal strike, has been enormous and I hope that all students will partake of the activities planned to ensure that the goal of £10,000 for Birmingham charities is an adequate reward for the commitment they have shown.

ROD PLAYFORD,

Guild President, 1970-71.

redbrick staff

staff

paul taylor
pete donovan
andy holden
john redfern
john headon
mike horseman
betty herbert
liz unsworth

help and
contributors

ginette
alan
alex wright
dave parry
keith palmer
john gibson
roy leese
beth bryson
rob levi

COVER

mike horseman

The editorial board do not necessarily agree with the views expressed by contributors.

DISSATISFACTION WITH APPOINTMENT

THE way in which the female undergraduate member of the Review Body has been appointed has led to considerable dissatisfaction being expressed by the Guild President and his Executive. The sub-committee appointed by University Council, to make the appointment, comprised the Vice-Chancellor, the Dean of the Arts faculty and the President of the Guild.

A meeting was held at which Mr. Playford suggested three possible candidates, and the V.C. submitted nine names on the basis of recommendations from the Deans of the Faculties.

The President, finding that he knew only one of the V.C.'s candidates said that he was worried by the possibility of someone being appointed who had no previous contact with, and had shown no previous sustained interest in the question of University Reform.

He agreed to the V.C.'s making further enquiries about one particular woman, but was under the impression that no final decision would be taken without a further meeting of the sub-committee. He

was unfortunate enough not to stress this, and Dr. Hunter assumed that he had been given carte blanche to go ahead and make the final appointment.

On Monday the V.C. said: "As far as I was concerned, there was no need for further consultation with the sub-committee."

The president has since spoken to the undergraduate concerned and feels that she is still unsure of the amount of commitment, that will be involved with work on the Review Body. He has also felt con-

cern at the way in which the Deans selected the female undergraduate nominees. In a letter to the V.C. he stated, "I have received complaints from students that the nominations were discussed behind 'closed doors', i.e. the students and the faculties were not consulted for names by the Deans... indeed one young lady who was consulted as a possible nominee stated that the main criteria suggested by the Deans was that she should not have been on Guild Council."

Dr. Hunter said that he knew nothing about this but went on to say he was decided to find a student who would be representative of the average young lady in the University.

Symposium flops

THE symposium on "The Cost of Education Today" was to have explained the N.U.S. grants campaign in the context of the expenditure in the different sectors of the educational system. However as only four people turned up, it didn't get very far in this aim.

The intending speakers who included Neil Scrimshaw (Vice-Chancellor of Birmingham Education Committee) and Digby Jacks and Mike Terry (from N.U.S.), decided that there was little point in even starting.

Oliver O'Toole, welfare chairman and organiser of the Symposium, said that he was very disappointed in its outcome but thought that the speakers were very sympathetic and took the attitude that they should try to do the best for the students if they were not in the slightest concerned.

Some blame for the failure to attract people has been put on the publicity. The two hundred posters to advertise the symposium were only ready three days before the event.

On Monday night twenty of these were displayed around the city centre, at Aston University, and in the College of Food and Catering. On Tuesday night others were posted up in Selly Oak.

O'Toole has not been totally deterred by student attitude to the campaign. Last night he tabled a motion at Guild Council calling for the Council to "declare its support for the N.U.S. claims for the grants review."

The risks to health were minimal—approximately equivalent to the risks of smoking half a cigarette per day!

What were the solutions to the social problems of contraception or the lack of it? Contraception had to be made far more available and

'Make everyone contraceptive'

LAST Tuesday evening, the Biological Society held a Symposium on Contraception which was designed to approach that ever controversial topic from three sides. These were the social aspect, personal points of view, and the biological implications.

Dr. Helen Humphries, consultant at the Brook Family Planning Advisory Centre, spoke about some of the social aspects which had become apparent to her especially while at Brook. She said that although the problems of over population were mostly manifest in under-developed countries, it was up to people in our Western society to set an example by putting our house right first. We have reduced our birthrate considerably but it must be further reduced to 2.1 per family to attain a state of stability.

To do this Dr. Humphries suggested a number of possible methods—mass sterilisation, freer and more available abortion, contraception—and abstinence! Contraception was the most desirable as far as the majority of people were concerned and abstinence the least.

Only 35 per cent of births were deliberately planned but even if the 65 per cent did not occur the birth rate would only be reduced to 2.27, which would not even stabilise the situation.

Although the first step was to prevent all unwanted births, people must be persuaded not to have more than two children. What were the problems involved in encouraging people to have fewer children? Many people were against contraception for a variety of reasons. Dr. Humphries quoted examples of doctors who refused to advise and help unmarried people on contraception matters. This often led subsequently to unwanted pregnancies and a suspicion of the medical profession and consequently to large families.

Other reasons why some people didn't use contraception were religion, ignorance, language difficulties, prejudice, fear of reliability, fear of medical side-effects and general inability to make decisions.

The risks to health were minimal—approximately equivalent to the risks of smoking half a cigarette per day!

What were the solutions to the social problems of contraception or the lack of it? Contraception had to be made far more available and

in contraception was necessary. It is our responsibility to educate people—especially biologists.

Dr. Jock Cohen, Senior Lecturer in Zoology and Comparative Physiology in the Department of Zoology, then gave his views on contraception as a biologist. He opened by saying that he was at that moment addressing the results of over-population!

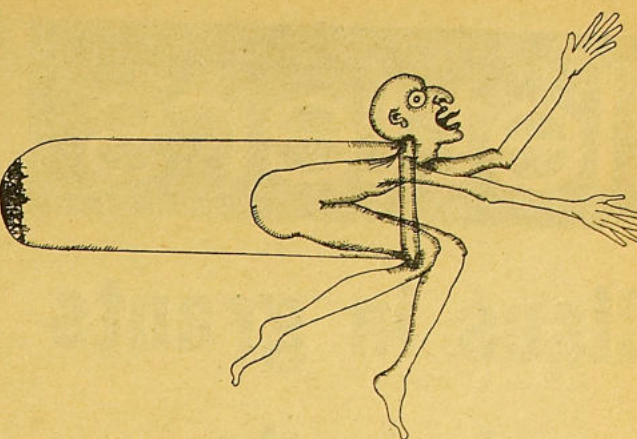
The increase in population was not due to a decrease in death-rate, as was so often stated, since for every man there is one death. The decrease in the number of people dying before reaching sexual maturity had, however, contributed immensely to the population explosion. Population control was necessary because no matter how well they were used, resources would eventually decline.

Dr. Cohen was worried out the fact that the results of population explosion were creeping on us gradually so that the full implications of the situation were not widely realised. War would not reduce the population of the world sufficiently. This was illustrated by a calculation which showed that if one bomb of the type that fell on Hiroshima had fallen every day since the Hiroshima bomb, destroying a city the size of Hiroshima each time, this would have only decreased by one-third the population increase.

The present system of voluntary contraception was bad for the species because this would lead to a decrease in the ability of the population, resulting from subsequent births, to make decisions, since the decision to use contraception is a positive one and genes controlling decision-making will be reduced in number in successive generations.

A better means of contraception therefore was to make everyone contraceptive so that when pregnancy was required a positive action would have to be taken. In this way decision-making capacity would increase.

Voluntary contraception was de-



humanising man since he had got where he was now because of his ability to make decisions.

Dr. Cohen finished by saying that people do not necessarily have the right to breed any more than they have to live.

The discussion which followed produced a large number of interesting and varied questions from the audience and a number of points were made. One member of the audience criticised Dr. Fleetwood-Walker's moral views on contraception but generally the audi-

ence seemed to be in favour of contraception.

The aim of the Symposium was not to present anything like all the arguments for or against contraception but to present some viewpoints and to invite discussion of these. It was also to bring to the attention of the campus just how important it is that the population explosion be curbed. It is a difficult enough task now and we cannot afford to ignore the problem and hope that it will go away because eventually it will be beyond control. The time to tackle the problem is now.

HEARD IT ON THE 'GRAPEVINE'

COMING at the beginning of March is a new magazine for people living in and around Birmingham called "Grapevine."

Similar to London's well known and successful "Time Out," the magazine aims to give a comprehensive coverage of events—films, rock dates, theatre, jazz, folk clubs, pop, soul, poetry, and the arts, political events—happening in Birmingham every month.

The magazine places its main emphasis on giving as much clear, objective and useful information as possible, both on conventional entertainments and other happenings which don't get very much in the way of conventional advertising.

"Grapevine" will be on sale before and during the first half of March on the campus of Birmingham University and also at the Arts Lab, Tea and Symphony (Hurst

Street), Aston University and other outlets in the city centre.

"Grapevine" needs information on events planned in April—especially events involving students. Contact Mike on 350-5015—the service is free. "Grapevine" also needs sellers, especially in schools and colleges. Contact Brian at 29 Linwood Road, Handsworth. Sales on a sale or return basis, with a generous discount.

SALE OF LOST PROPERTY

A sale of unclaimed property that has been found in the University will be held on March 17th, 1971, in the Old Law Hut, commencing at 09.30 hrs.

The articles include bicycles, pens, brief cases, scarves, watches, clothing and textbooks.

The sale will cease at 15.30 hrs.

What's wrong with a Working Class Hero?



JOHN LENNON PLASTIC ONO BAND

YOKO ONO PLASTIC ONO BAND

Apple Records

FOR BEER, CIDER, WINES & SPIRITS
CALL AT

Morris's Wine Stores

TEMPLEFIELD SQUARE, WHEELYS ROAD,
EDGBASTON 440 2291
512 BRISTOL ROAD, BOURNBROOK SEL 0195
775 BRISTOL ROAD, SELLY OAK SEL 0173
(Next to Oak Cinema)

ODEON NEW STREET

Tel: 643 6101

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26th at 8.0 p.m.

ON THE STAGE — ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY

ARTHUR HOWES in association with FRANCO FONTANA present
BY PUBLIC DEMAND — IN PERSON

THEODORAKIS

CONDUCTS

THEODORAKIS

A CONCERT OF GREEK MUSIC DIRECTED BY
THE COMPOSER.

Tickets £1.75, £1.50, £1.25, £1.00, 75p.

ALL SEATS MAY BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE.

BOX OFFICE: Weekdays (Not Sunday) 12-8 p.m. Tel. 643 0815/6.

The Universities of Sheffield and Leeds MASTER'S DEGREE COURSE IN MICROWAVE AND COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING

Full-time or by Components
This master degree course organised jointly by the above Universities recommencing in October, 1971, can be undertaken full-time (one year) or part-time in components (up to 3 yrs.). Among the topics are:
Microwave Circuit Theory
Microwave Semi-conductor Devices

Wave Guide Theory
Information and Random Signal Theory

Uses of Computer-aided Design.
The Science Research Council have designated the course as suitable for tenure of its advanced course studentships. For further details write to either Professor P. N. Robson, Dept. of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, The University, Sheffield S1 3JD. (Tel. Sheffield 78555) or Professor J. O. Scanlon, Dept. of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, The University, Leeds LS2 9JT.

letters

Rises in grants to students wasteful

DEAR SIR,—Having read the recently-published leaflets on the subject of grants, and also attended the open meeting of Wednesday, 10th, I should like to volunteer one or two views on the subject.

Firstly, many students find their present grant, including any parental contribution (to which I shall refer later) adequate. This could possibly be borne out by the evident disinterest with regard to the open meeting. Having spoken to several people, I am satisfied that many of those receiving the full grant, whether or not parental contribution is included, should be able to, and do, manage reasonably well.

While students would certainly not reject an increase, I am sure that many would be happier if they knew that the large sums involved were helping the homeless, or the overseas aid campaign, for example.

Collin Phillips—who are you?

DEAR SIR,—Poor old Stobart. Is it just old age or the pressure of being the University's number one snide that has made him commit, what shall we say, a "gross inaccuracy"? Stoppage claims that I am the writer behind the nom de plume of "Colin Phillips." Manifestly untrue. The real writer is a person not a million miles away from the present President of the Guild, whose name for the moment escapes me. Mr. Strawboat's errors are both unfortunate and rather too common.

Furthermore, may one enquire what "high standards" one adopts to create things like David Part or to call Presidential candidates "politicians"?

As Mr. Stoadbane knows, I would (indeed once did) contribute to "Wall" if I was allowed to avoid the four-letter words usually to be found in that journal.

Anyway, my thanks to Stewart for being such an excellent publicity officer for me lately.

Yours, etc.,
ANTHONY LEE
(Law I).

Thus I maintain that rises for many students would perhaps be rather wasteful. Incidentally, how many students spend at least £60 p.a. (only £2 per week) on drink and cigarettes alone? Without being too puritanical, I would think that there are more fruitful ways of spending public money.

Undoubtedly, there are cases of hardship, notably those students who do not receive the required parental contribution. As was stated on Wednesday, 10th, a fundamental right to higher education for persons who have reached a certain academic standard, irrespective of parental income and hence parental contributions to the grant, should exist. Thus I strongly favour a very critical examination of the means test as a first move towards the achievement of these objectives.

Finally, on the introduction of overall rises for every student, many would increase noticeably that portion of their grant allocated to luxuries—students tend to have a fairly high marginal propensity to consume!—thus, in effect exposing themselves to very heavy criticism from the public, especially from those less well off.

Are we really concerned about equality, the third world, selfishness, greed; or despite the ideals and shouting is it still basically number one? How many of us, in the interests of equality, would ever try to restrain our income?

May I suggest that in the event of all or even some of the increased proposed, there should be a great awareness of first how the extra cash is being spent, and a complete open-mindedness towards the possibility of financial commitment to the less fortunate, represented by many charities.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN WHITELY,
Commerce II.

Misrepresentation

DEAR SIR,—As one who has worked with Rod Playford on Executive for two years, I should like to take exception to the article in last week's "Redbrick" which in my mind totally misrepresented his attitudes and actions over the last year.

I will leave aside at least three major errors of fact to be found in the article. I would just point out that far from restricting the Guild to "working within the framework of the existing system," his policies have brought us nearer to fundamental change in the University than we have ever been. To say that his attitude is one of "let's be nice to people," apart from being an offensively patronising journalist's cliché, is a misrepresentation of the principled firmness he has

Workers the least class conscious

SIR,—So there exist students who are actually aware of what University cleaning staff have to endure daily. Amazing. At least, that was my impression on reading the letter (February 17th) by Roy MacDiamich, Sara M. Cummins, Ron Hickman. What would be far more amazing though would be an improvement, as a result of their letter, in the future state of things for the cleaning staff. How many students guilty of the behaviour criticised in the letter will take notice and make an attempt to be more considerate to the cleaning staff?

What is the explanation for the vandalism and the "callousness and ignorance frequently displayed by a sizable sector of the student body . . ." towards the cleaning staff? OUR cleaners give these answers: "It's the way they were brought up." "You can tell what kind of homes they come from." "What kind of mothers and fathers have they?" "They were never chastised at home." "I'd be ashamed if mine behaved like that." And so on. The homes and parents are always given pride of place in the answers.

Personally, I believe that only a minority of the students, and not a "sizeable sector of the student body" deserve such censures. But I am often wrong . . .

In spite of their praiseworthy desire to better the educational lot of employees on the campus, the three writers spoiled their letter, for me anyway, by their harping on class. Read "students" for "middle-class" and the letter would have a stronger effect.

Their backgrounds are "broadly working class," they tell us, adding a few details about their collective experience of some of the "more menial jobs." Fascinating, no doubt—but relevant? Then they attack "middle class bad manners," everybody lower than "middle class" being a paragon of politeness.

Later they quote a cleaner addressing a student as a "middle class twit." Much as I admire the choice of words, I cannot accept that a cleaner would use such language. I know lots of cleaners, and never have I heard one use

such a phrase to or about a student. "Twit," yes—you can understand that—but never "middle class twit."

Ordinary working men and women do not see things in terms of class. The only social barrier they are aware of is the financial one. The one dividing the "haves" from the "have-nots." A good pooler win tomorrow and they are equal to any lord of the manor, or student of what have you. And why not?

In fact, ordinary working people are the least class-conscious of humans. I am one of them myself—a pools win will soon alter that, though!—and I am not the slightest bit self-conscious of my rough accent, my calloused hands, grimy nails, homely boots. Not the slightest. We can't be bothered with petty class-distinctions. Long live the aristocracy!

Yours faithfully,

T. HALLISSEY,
Lake Hall Porter.

Lake Hall,
The Vale.

Responsibility for report

DEAR EDITOR,—Many students are distressed at the unusual manner in which the Middle East peace report in your last issue of "Redbrick" was handled. . . . The chairman of Deb. Soc, Miss Naomi Freedman, has put her impartiality into question.

After asking her about the author of the report (before publication), she replied that it was a reporter from "Redbrick," a false reporter denied in person by the Editor.

In the debate of 10.2.71, she was

asked to confirm what she told me in private. Miss Freedman replied by denying Deb. Soc. responsibility for the report, i.e. denied any responsibility for that misrepresentative report.

If we were to accept her reply at face value, then it becomes the duty of Deb. Soc. to explain officially the fact that the hand-written text of the report was entitled "Deb. Soc. Report to 'Redbrick'" and that Miss Freedman handed it in person to the "Redbrick" editor.

It seems to us that this kind of behaviour is a cause for distress not only because of its contradictory facts, but more important, because it is correlated with the false emphasis in the report that Mr. Kjaduri "drew attention to the ruthless treatment of the indigenous population of Palestinians has received at the hands of the Jews."

Mr. Kjaduri was at pains to lay responsibility for this ruthless repression on the Zionist movement, a concept which is different from the concept of Jew.

It is indeed pathetic that when reason fails there are members of this Union who resort to misrepresentation in order to achieve publicity goals! This is manifested no less by the fact that the result of the debate was initially reversed, and corrected only after our protests.

FAHDIL MAHDI
(Secretary, Arab Soc.)

(Correspondence on this subject is now closed.)

Yours faithfully,
B. J. MORRIS.

Uncareers!

DEAR SIR,—Certain assumptions made by the Director of the Appointments Service in an article published in last week's "Redbrick" do, we, feel, prompt some response.

Mr. Buller assumes students are apprehensive about their future careers through ignorance of life "on the other side of the sorrowful hill of Final Examinations." On the contrary, students are often well acquainted with that society and the slots into which they are expected to fit on leaving university.

For some students it is true that the Appointments Service serves a useful function in guiding them into career situations. However, not all those who utilise the service are committed to the kind of jobs to which they are introduced. This is suggested in a circular issued by the Appointments Service in which interviewers are said to have found many candidates "woolly and poorly motivated."

Other students are more immediately repelled at the thought of involving themselves in a career in which status and self-advancement are the main considerations, and an undignified self-sell the means by which they are attained. Such students realise they are being obliged to meet the requirements of their company rather than their own personal needs and those of society in general.

This awareness is not born of unrealistic idealism or ignorance of the world, but of genuine criticism of the aims of industrial society.

The Appointments Service is unable to provide any real individual service for these students and moreover tends to dismiss or discourage consideration of less usual jobs or courses of action to which they may be attracted. There is a real need among students which is left unanswered by the Appointments Service.

We hope in the near future, to attempt in part to meet this need, by compiling information about such jobs and making it easily available to students.

PROSPECTIVE UNCAREERS
F.U.B.

CORRECTION

DEAR SIR,—I would be grateful for an opportunity to correct an error in Professor Ferns's letter which you printed last week. I did not vote to prevent Mr. Tivey speaking at the General Assembly of this Faculty. I abstained.

Like a good many people at this meeting, I was torn between letting Mr. Tivey have his say and a desire to let old wounds heal.

Yours faithfully,

RICHARD JOHNSON

Scene: A typically rowdy, insane post-gig dressing room behind Deb. Hall stage. The interview followed a noisy altercation about the earlier equipment failure on stage. As can be imagined, it was not a setting conducive to coherent conversation, and unfortunately they had to split before we could get on to their own music.

SONJA



Sonja Kristina

Redbrick: How did Curved Air get together in the first place?

Sonja: The four of them got themselves together.

R: Before you joined?

S: Yes. Without the present bass player. I was looking for a band and they were looking for a singer . . .

R: You were in "Hair" before joining Curved Air. How did you get into that scene?

S: I didn't know anything about 'Hair' then. I just wanted some work and was looking for something musical and I heard 'Hair' was a Musical. I saw an ad. which said: "Happy hippies wanted"—you had to be a member of Equity which I happened to be and I went along and got the part.

R: How do you feel about it now? Do you think it's become commercialised?

S: It's become very static. The script has been doctored. To begin with it was a growing thing and changed every night.

R: What were you doing before "Hair"?

S: I was at Art College.

R: Yes. Before the album none of the band were known at all, and it has been said that it was all a big hype.

S: I don't think our audiences would say so—as far as we're concerned it's not a hype. As long as we get a good reception from the audience . . .

Yours faithfully,

RICHARD JOHNSON

CURVED AIR

Interviewed by John Heaton and Paul Taylor

R: What happened to Robert Martin, the original bass player? There are a couple of his songs on the album that I really like.

S: Yeah. He's a very good composer. He has a crippled left hand and from time to time two of his fingers would get locked. It happened on gigs sometimes and, although he could carry on, he had to give up eventually. He's trying to get a place in university now.

R: Similarities have been noticed between your music and that of Jefferson Airplane. What is your reaction to this?

S: I wasn't aware of Jefferson Airplane or Grace Slick before people started making these comparisons. I've listened to them more recently and really appreciate what they're doing.

R: When you came back for encores you appeared to be stuck for material.

S: No! It's just what we feel up to playing. We're working on a whole lot of new things now, but we're not doing them in live performances at the moment because we feel it's more important to get the tracks down first.

R: When you're writing lyrics do you fit them to a melody line already written by the others?

S: Yeah. It's very difficult sometimes. One melody line can mean a lot of different things.

R: Have you written any lyrics for which the music has been written later?

S: No, it's very difficult to write something which isn't pretentious. You can only write something which relates to what you're feeling at one moment, what you're feeling like when you write the song and whether this ties in with the mood of the music.

R: On the album I find difficulty in distinguishing many of the lyrics.

S: Yes. That's because of the production.

R: I'm referring particularly to the coloured album. I don't know if the ordinary one is any better.

S: Most of the coloured ones are O.K. It's only a few which have the surface noise. The vocals are not quite together because they were double-tracked and not put together right. They're not quite synchronised and some of the ends of words are blurred over.

R: Don't you feel sort-of drowned at times, on stage?

S: Do I sound it?

R: Unless you knew the words originally it would be very difficult to distinguish them—even where I was sitting—directly behind the guy who was doing the mixing.

S: It shouldn't be because we've got a lot P.A. now. Did the voice carry?

R: Yes. But not always.

S: I couldn't hear myself as well as usual tonight. This is something we'll just have to work out. It depends a lot on the halls. We do try and get to the place before the gig to sort it out, but, of course, it's empty then. The guy who does the mixing hasn't got complete control as not everything goes through the P.A. at the moment. The solo instruments and the drums, I think, go through, but we can't get the separation we'd like.

R: How large is the P.A.? One thousand watts?

S: More than that—about 1,700. It's not perfect yet.

R: Well, perfection's impossible anyway. S: Perfection is possible—but it's very frustrating. When you've reached perfection you've nowhere else to go.

R: I'll agree to that but I would still say perfection is impossible.

S: Why should it be?

R: Well, you can't argue against that logically . . .

DARRYL



Darryl Way

Redbrick: Would it be possible to have a word with Darryl?

Darryl (having overheard): Darryl's shagged out! . . . I agree with everything Sonja says . . . I agree with everything Sonja says . . .

FRANCIS



Francis Monkman

Redbrick: Where did you meet Darryl? Francis: Well, we met in Orange-Orange music shop—he'd just had his first electric violin made there—shows how green he was . . .

R: What were YOU doing there?

F: I was trying to get a pick-up—shows how green I was. It was a chance meeting—I'd never thought of anyone playing electric violin . . . This was before Jerry Goodman and the others. As far as I knew it was a new thing then.

R: What were you playing then?

F: I was playing guitar and piano. I was still at the Academy at that time. We sort of teamed up and went through a formative period before Curved Air started.

R: What's next?

F: The next L.P.—we can't really see beyond that, and America.

R: What sort of tour have you got in the States? Very busy?

F: Very, very busy—lasting about two months.

R: Is it well planned?

F: No. It probably won't be. Half the gigs aren't booked yet. We'll see what happens—at least we'll have the L.P. finished before we go. We've got most of the backing tracks down now. It really does sound a lot better than the first one.

R: What's the writing proportion? Just you and Darryl?

F: Yeah. It's about half and half.

R: Both you and Darryl are classically trained. How do you rate other guys in rock with similar training?

F: Well, I think Keith Emerson's very good technically, but I don't rate his musicianship very much. I think the new L.P. is a lot better than anything the Nice ever did. On the others he would get into something and then suddenly break into a bit of Bach at double speed and spoil the whole thing.

R: You rate originality above technique?

F: Originality is a very difficult thing to define, but to needlessly lift chunks from the classics . . . If you want to make a quote from the classics I think it's completely reasonable to do so—there's one work, I can't remember the composer, which is entirely built round Mahler's 2nd Symphony . . . Who else is there? . . . Jon Lord—I don't think he's making much use of his training. I don't like the combining of a group and an orchestra. You can use rock instruments as an addition to an orchestra.

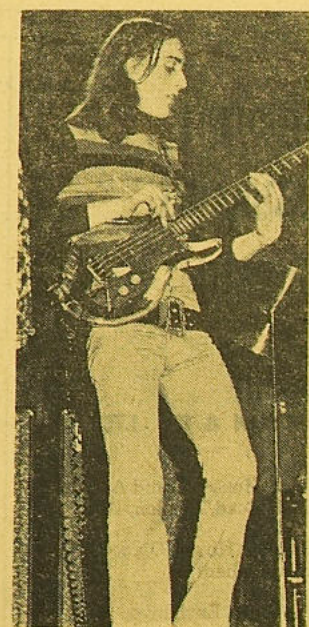
R: Have you heard "Atom Heart Mother"? This is a different concept and I think this is why it's come off.

F: Yeah, but it rings of war film music, and I think the sections haven't enough thematic link between them. But apart from those small criticisms, I think it's a fantastic work.

R: What do you consider is your main instrument?

F: At the moment, piano—keyboards. I've been playing them for 13 years and the guitar about three. I would rather be called a musician—that should be enough of a qualification. The instrument can come afterwards.

At which point they had to split.



New Deb. Soc. Chairman elected

ON Wednesday, February 17th, Miss Naomi Freedman took the chair to preside over a debate on the motion that "This House fears trends in the Biological Sciences."

Before the start of public business the election of next session's Chairman was held. Mr. John Ringguth and Mr. Chris Gibbons were the two candidates. Mr. John Ringguth (Law II) was elected.

The Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Robert Hunter, rose to propose the motion. He began by drawing the House's attention to the life-saving drugs, such as sulphonamides, which medical science has recently given birth to, and stated that he would not wish to decry such an achievement. But at the same time, he reminded the House of some long-term consequences of medical discoveries. Insulin, he said, has not simply permitted diabetics to live, but has caused a proliferation of the condition by allowing diabetics to reach reproductive age. The Vice-Chancellor expressed concern at the findings which biologists were making, especially those which indicated that man's behaviour may be dependent on factors outside his control such as his genotype and the psychological impact of his environment.

Dr. Hunter went on to offer a piece of advice to scientists—"They should hurry slowly," he said. He ended by urging the audience to assume responsibility for assessing the advances of science and not to leave such a duty to moralists or theologians.

Dr. Clifford Hawkins, a physician, spoke first for the opposition. "Sex has come to stay," he told a not unresponsive audience. He asserted that it was a woman's right to decide whether or not to have a baby, and even to decide its sex. Dr. Hawkins did not subscribe to the belief that going to the marriage bed with boots on ensures the conception of a male child. To fear a trend is to make a prophecy, and Dr. Hawkins told the House of the Industrial Forecast made in 1929 for the subsequent quarter-century—the top American scientists involved failed to forecast the coming of radar, computers and antibiotics. The conclusion is that prophecies should not be trusted.

Dr. Hawkins expressed confidence in the trends that science was exhibiting, and asked the House to judge the biological sciences on their record and to stop worrying about trends.

The second for the proposition was Mr. Bob Hughes, the Lodgings Warden. Trends should be treated with reverence, he asserted, and when one doesn't know where those trends are heading, reverence means fear. Mr. Hughes produced a quota-

tion from a biologist which suggested that biological scientists were not content with finding out the facts and truth about life, but were now attempting to change life.

He referred to the possibility (admittedly it was derived from "Doomwatch") of man-pig fertilisations. Also, Mr. Hughes wondered whether tissue-typing would ever replace trial by jury. The climax of Mr. Hughes's speech came when he described some of the experiments which scientists were doing in the name of humanity.

He mentioned the pounding to death with mallets of dogs in an American laboratory, and the rearing of baby rhesus monkeys for their mothers. Furthermore, to Mr. Hughes's mind, the "curing" of ideological deviants in Russian "mental hospitals" was reminiscent of Dachau and Belsen, and he finally passionately called upon the House to support the motion.

The final speaker of the evening was Dr. Jack Cohen, of the Zoology department. He began by exposing what he described as the "greatest con-trick of all time," namely that medical science had produced the population explosion by reducing the death-rate; the death-rate, he maintained, remains forever unchanged—one man, one death.

The truth, he said, was in fact that medical science was helping to put off the moment of death; was this to be condemned? Dr. Cohen believed that the vendetta against cyclamates in soft drinks was launched by competitors for the

market. The consequences of the removal of cyclamates for the obese was worrying, he said.

Referring to thalidomide, he extolled the virtues of this drug, while regretting the drawback that a small segment of the population (women carrying four-week-old foetuses) should not take it. After a number of amusing anecdotes, Dr. Cohen asked the House not to take away his grant and to vote against the motion.

After taking some speeches from the floor of the House, Miss Freedman called for a vote. The motion was defeated by 121 votes to 66, there being 26 in abstention.



The Vice-Chancellor speaking at last Wednesday's Debate.

Refec. committee collapses over 1½p

ON a motion proposed by Dr. Rod Griffiths (representative of the Medical School users) and seconded by Rod Playford, the executive management committee of the Refectory suspended operations last Thursday and is to report that it cannot continue to operate under its present terms of reference to the University Centre Committee.

The meeting had been called by Guild representatives to discuss a petition presented to Guild President Rod Playford which called for Snack Bar prices to be reduced to make them comparable to the Guild of Students' Union. The petition was signed by 36 students.

After some discussion it was unanimously agreed that filled rolls should be reduced in price from 6p to 5p. It was then suggested that coffee should be similarly reduced in price. It is 4p in the Refectory, 3½p in the Union. The Committee unanimously agreed to this, but the

A KIBBUTZ . . .

What's it all about? Stay with us for a month or more. Live with us. Work with us. Scheme for the young 18-35. Apply for details to Kibbutz Representatives, 412 Regent St., London, S.W.1. Tel. 01-930 5152. Ext. 332/333. Please enclose fair-sized s.a.e.

BIRMINGHAM ARTS LABORATORY
TOWER STREET, BIRMINGHAM 19 Tel. 359 4192
From Next Thursday for 4 nights—

THE BRIGHTON COMBINATION

in two shows.
Thursday and Friday, Feb. 25th and 26th—
at 8.0 (late show 11.0 Friday)

THE N.A.B. SHOW
(or CARRY ON CLIMAX!)

Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 27th and 28th—
at 8.0 (late show 11.0 Saturday)

UBU ROI
(or THE RISE AND FALL OF KING FRED)
with apologies to Alfred Jarry and Spike Milligan.
TICKETS in advance from the Arts Lab. 30p each.

Lecture cancelled

THE lecture, "Life on Other Planets," which was to have been given by Patrick Moore on March 2nd, has been cancelled.

Mr. Moore regrets that, due to sudden programme changes, he has to be present in the B.B.C. studios on that day.

The next Open Lecture will be given by Mrs. Shirley Williams, M.P., on Tuesday, March 9th, at 1.15 p.m. in the Debating Hall of the Union. The subject is "The Community's Investment in Higher Education."

Handicapped by lack of legs

ON Thursday last, in the House of Commons, Sir Richard Thompson (Con., Croydon South) said he thought we should "pay heed to the expressed wish of the silent majority."

This stimulated me in to thinking that perhaps "Redbrick" should have a weekly column for the display and dissection of ideas, quotes, misquotes, theories, bits of information, invented or discovered words and phrases, whether strange, profound or downright belly-aching.

For another example, did you know that Henry Saville in 1611 denounced the drinking of tea as a filthy custom? In 1756 John Hanway wrote that through his men seemed to lose their stature and comeliness and women their beauty.

And the Coofus Bird deserves wider recognition. It is said to live in Wisconsin/Minnesota, and builds its nest upside down and flies backwards, not caring where it's going, only where it's been.

Then there are the academic(?) questions; for example, Schopenhauer asked in what mood we can only guess at—if children were brought into the world by an act of pure reason alone, would the human race exist?

Then there are environmental possibilities, like throwing a giant tent over the whole of Birmingham and fitting sunray lamps. After all, the concrete doesn't need watering.

If you would like to contribute to this column, anonymously or with your whole or fractured name, please hand in your contribution, with or without comment, briefly if possible, to "Redbrick" Office or to Union Reception or via the internal post, or to me personally.

DAVID HART.

'Redbrick'

Due to financial problems "Redbrick" is only able to bring out one more issue this term. Rather than have a large gap between the end of term and the last "Redbrick," it was thought better to miss out next week's issue and have the final issue of this term on March 10th.

UNIVERSITY INSIGHT FOR SIXTH FORMERS

LAST weekend the Guild of Students Education Committee held a sixth form conference which was attended by 450 pupils from Birmingham schools. The aim of this conference was to provide information about the various types of available higher education so that sixth-formers can make a real choice about their futures rather than just drifting into University. The conference started by asking "Why Higher Education?"

How many of us came to University just to put off work, or to avoid making a real decision? Would a year in the real world, working for a living, have made a great difference? We can only speculate, but the sixth-formers have the decisions ahead of them.

The conference then went on to discuss the different sectors of higher education—universities, polytechnics and colleges of education—how they differ in aims and function, the "binary" system of provision, the university and "second best" polytechnics was mentioned, particularly the technological reputations of the polys.

The sixth-formers were urged to avoid applications to colleges of education as safety-nets, in the event of not making it to University. Teaching is a vocation in its own right, and is different from, but not inferior to, University life.

The next session tried to outline the forms of learning on the campus. The difference between remembering and understanding was brought out, but the constraints of examinations to real learning were mentioned. Learning by rote to pass exams is a problem not restricted to 'A'-level!

The rest of the conference aimed at giving some insight into the life

of a student and the sort of problems which one comes up against. John Stobart treated the conference to a shattering accurate picture of student life under the title of "Student Apathy."

If the conference enabled sixth-formers to see better the animal called "higher education" and to make a more informed choice about their futures then it will count as a success. It is to be hoped that in future years the university will co-operate with the students to make sixth-form conferences a regular feature. After all, the university can only gain by having better informed and better motivated first-year students.

Guild Council elections 1971/2

Nominations opened last Monday (February 22nd) for the undergraduate elections to Guild Council for the Session 1971-2. The Guild Council that is elected has responsibility with the retiring Guild Council 1970-1 for approving the accounts of some £82,000 and electing next year's Executive except the President and Vice-President who are elected by a ballot of the whole campus.

For the following vacancies undergraduate students only are eligible for nomination.

CONSTITUENCY	Number of Vacancies
MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES	2
PHYSICS	3
CHEMISTRY	3
GEOLOGY (and Archaeology)	1
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (Botany, Zoology, Comparative Physiology, Genetics and Microbiology)	3
BIOCHEMISTRY	2
PSYCHOLOGY	1
MEDICAL SCIENCES (Anatomy, Physiology and Bacteriology)	1
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING (Industrial Engineering, Engineering Science and Engineering Economics)	3
ENGINEERING PRODUCTION	1
CIVIL ENGINEERING	2
ELECTRONIC & ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING	3
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING	3
METALLURGY	2
MINERALS ENGINEERING	1
MEDICINE	6
DENTISTRY	4
CLASSICS (Greek and Latin)	1
HISTORY	2
ANCIENT HISTORY, ARCHAEOLOGY AND NR. EASTERN STUDIES	1
ENGLISH	2
FRENCH	2
GERMAN	1
RUSSIAN	1
OTHER MODERN LANGUAGES (Italian, Spanish)	1
GEOGRAPHY (B.Sc. and B.A.)	3
COMBINED SUBJECTS (Arts)	4
PHILOSOPHY	1
THEOLOGY	1
MUSIC	1
DRAMA	4
LAW	1
COMMERCE AND SOCIAL SCIENCE	5

Nomination forms are available from Reception Desk in the Union Building and must be returned by 10.00 a.m. on Monday, March 1st to either:—

- (1) the Returning Officer, Senate Division of the Registry, the University, via internal post,
- (2) the Permanent Secretary, Students' Union, via Union Reception Desk. Balloting for contested seats will take place on Thursday, March 4th in the Union and Refectory.

'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 5/-
* QUICK SERVICE * OPENS 12 noon to 12 midnight Monday to Thursday
* We are open until 1 a.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



Some of the 6th formers who attended last week's Conference

AT LEAST LOOK LIKE YOU'RE WORKING!

THE following document was sent to "Redbrick" last week by a "Frustrated member of the Mechanical Engineering Department" who felt that it disclosed "the character, approach and philosophy of this peculiar 'educator' (Professor Tobias)."

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT
VISIT BY THE U.G.C. TECHNOLOGY SUB-COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, 11th FEBRUARY, 1971

The above Committee will be visiting the Department on Thursday, 11th February between 11.15 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. and between 2.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m.

We clearly want to give a good impression and for this reason all members of the Department are asked to implement the following:

1. All laboratories are to be cleared up and rubbish or equipment not used is to be stored away without, however, giving the impression that any special steps have been taken to tidy up the place.
2. All research workers are asked to work in the laboratories during the period of these visits stimulating "feverish activity."

The intention is that we should give the impression of being a highly active Department which looks after its resources and utilises them to the utmost.

S. A. TOBIAS

8th February, 1971
Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Substantial Discount in Men's Wear

Austin Jeffs

586 BRISTOL ROAD, BOURNEBROOK
(2 doors from Woolworths)

From SUNDAY, MARCH 7th

Sutton Coldfield Odeon

SUNDAY - 3.45 and 6.45

WEEKDAYS - 2.30, 5.20 and 8.10.

"Magician Fellini conjures up a Roman orgy to end them all..."

IT'S DECADENT, obscene, horrific, homosexual, heterosexual, bisexual, fetid, aromatic, bizarre, beautiful, breathtaking, gross, crude, poetic, sad, tender, extravagant, subtle, alienating, seducing, bacchanalian, sobering, magical, stimulating and exhausting. I LIKE IT!

FELIX BARBER - LONDON EVENING NEWS

AN ALBERTO GRIMALDI Production

"FELLINI SATYRICON"

COLOUR by Deluxe PANAVISION

STUDENTS INSURANCE BUREAU

MARMOT
BOOTH
HEYLIN & CO. LTD.

Apex House, Grand Arcade,
High Road, London, N.12.

Spencer House, Digbeth,
Birmingham 5.

208 Corn Exchange,
Manchester 4.

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FACULTY COUNCIL

TODAY

At 1.15 p.m.

Room 203

HAWORTH BUILDING

'The Review Body'

An address by
ROD PLAYFORD
(Student representative to the
Review Body).

Continental Provision Store

102 DALE ROAD,
SELLY OAK,
BIRMINGHAM 29.

SEL. 0992

All kinds of Provisions from:
Bulgaria; Cyprus; France
Greece; Holland; Italy
Middle East; Portugal
Rumania; Spain; Turkey.

Ecology.. disaster.. waiting..

by Geoff Hall

SIR SOLLY ZUCKERMAN in a recent book, pointed out that while Western Germany and Japan had higher growth rates than either Britain or America, they put less in research and development. The rate of decline in the standard of living will further decline, he asserts, due to the population explosion.

A further dimension is added with Gallbraith's attack on this traditional preoccupation with growth, and drawing conclusions about living standards from a comparison of the capital GNP. In a recent interview ("Observer," Nov. 22nd, 1970) he replied to the question "can companies work without growing" (in the traditional economic sense):

Important people

"I can readily imagine such a society. I would like an even better one in which little attention was paid to annual reports. If maximisation of consumption is the goal in life, then the people who provide consumer goods will be the most important in life, and those who write leaders on how to increase growth and consumption will be the John Milton's of the age. But if people ask themselves . . . not whether they have an automobile but whether they can get where they enjoy going, not how much they have to spend but whether they have time for the things they really want to do, they will no longer be so dependent on the big corporations . . . We can now see what a single-minded preoccupation with growth does to the environment."

A recent British White Paper (and 4373, 1970) took up these issues. It records that "with the explosive growth and industrialisation of the last 100 years vastly increasing numbers of people, on a vastly increasing scale, are using up earth's resources and from everything that is made or eaten, pollution is generated. It is widely recognised that increases in material goods brings with it certain 'discontinuities' in terms of health, amenity and the attractiveness of the environment."

The problem is that old frames of reference are still being brought to bear on the subject of the environment, e.g. (1) the reliance on central authorities (nations) where tribal or regional autonomous groups would be more rational; (2) the belief in competition, and/or capitalism where co-operative models are needed; (3) the recourse to the profit motive when resources are dwindling, populations are proliferating, and political systems from capitalism to communism are growth orientated (the latest Five-year Plan just accepted in Russia has emphasised consumer goods more than heavy industry for the first time); (4) the faith-in-infinite-technology syndrome, while the same technology creates its own problems and is only partially effective; (5) the emphasis on anthropocentricity, when the species is in fact inter-dependent.

This last point is most important, for it directs our attention to "ecology" which derives from the Greek "oikos," meaning "house." Recent phrases used to bring out this meaning are "unity of the biosphere" (Nov., 1970 World Wildlife Fund Conference) and "Spaceship Earth" and "Planet Earth," which emerged particularly when astronauts relayed their pictures of a receding earth. The point emphasised therefore is that just as on a spaceship everything contributes in some way and thus everything is inter-related, so our world possesses a similar characteristic: all forms of life modify the environment.

The most frequently cited example of an ecological problem is the motor vehicle. Sixteen per cent of British workers are connected with the industry in some way. Factories producing cars use up a large proportion of the world's resources, and pollute the air and rivers in the process. The product itself further pollutes, it maims and kills, disrupts city life, damages property, causes some diseases and aggravates others, and itself uses vast quantities of resources. Finally it brings pollution to hitherto unaffected areas.

Yet is all this the "prophet of doom" mentality? It was said recently that the words "conservation," "environment" and "pollution," "toll like bells through public discourses these days. They have a width of reference that runs from the temporary dumping of bags of kitchen refuse on street corners, to pylons in national parks, to the common survival of butterflies and hedgerows, to the biological conditions of inland waters, to the persistence of pesticides in the food chain . . . to apocalyptic warnings about man so degrading his environment that it will cease to support life."

This common reaction confused people for such "catastrophes" have little in common: "one grieves at the death of a canary. But the reaction of a rational man will vary according to whether the victim is a pet in a parlour or a miner's companion." ("Times," November 19th, 1970).

The response is obvious—that while the miner took note of the fact that his canary had dropped dead, the fact that birds are dropping dead out of the sky tended to pass unobserved, at least till recently. For instance, despite the relative abundance of peregrine in the North, more than half the eggs laid by some pairs have failed to hatch. An egg tested from an abandoned nest at Perth revealed the presence of poison.

Mercury and Benzene Hexachloride (B.H.C.) were found in a sample of 740 pheasants' eggs, too—each of these chemicals is used in agriculture. A tawny owl found dead at Kensington (August 9th, 1962) was analysed; it contained mercury, B.H.C., heptachloride and dieldrin.

As for birds, so also for fish—e.g. the tuna scare last December. Tuna is a deep-sea fish which indicates the phenomenal spread of industrial poisons, such as mercury.

Tanker accidents

The damage done to marine life due to oil has been underscored by a recent spate of tanker accidents, and the question was posed: What if ships carrying weedkillers or military defoliants were wrecked? This has happened.

During November 1970 a ship carrying 1,800 drums of the aforementioned dieldrin went aground off La Corunna, on Spain's Atlantic coast. About 500 drums were lost overboard, many breaking open, which led to the total destruction of a £2,000,000 oyster industry, and of every kind of marine life, bar fish, which got away. One barrel of this agricultural aid split into the Rhine in 1969, eliminating the entire fish population of the river. This same river was used to desalinise recently-reclaimed Dutch polders—or at least, it would have been if it had not been discovered that it introduced an unacceptable degree of pollution into the areas reclaimed.

These are just a few examples indicating the problem is an ecological one, i.e. a chain reaction with all areas of life being affected, rather than a series of multivariate, loosely-connected events. The world's population gets ever larger, is induced to join the consumption race, more people are involved in processing scarce resources, more chemicals are applied. Pervading all is this question of population.

By 1650 A.D. the population had reached 500 million, i.e. was doubling every 1,000 years. By 1850 A.D. the first billion was reached (1,000 million) and another billion was added by 1930—thus doubling in 80 years. By 1960 came the third billion; doubling in 30 years. There will be four billion by 1975, and the pace grows ever faster: five billion by 1985-86, six billion by 1993-96, and about six years later the seventh billion will have been added (figures from Rattray Taylor).

Rising frustration

Underdeveloped countries are increasing at a faster rate, which has important social and political ramifications. For instance, the underdeveloped countries look to the consumption pattern of the developed countries and want a similar "standard"—the "revolution of rising expectations" (that so quickly becomes "the revolution of rising frustrations").

Resources are related to the revolution of rising expectations, for this is partly a question of the rich versus the poor nations. The U.S., with 6 per cent of the world's population, uses 40 per cent of the world's resources (source: White House Council in Environmental Quality; "Times," August 11th, 1970)—it may even be using 75 per cent by 1980 (Rienow and Rienow). And projects like supersonic transport (S/S/T) ensure that demand on primary resources soars ever higher.

On the question of land resources, by the year 2,000 in Britain the car density and demand on the countryside will treble. There will be an average increase of 2,000 under-15s per week, which in turn means that two 650 child schools must be built each week for the next 30 years.

Further, that another 10 million houses (30 times the size of Nottingham) must be erected, and that farm yields must rise 80 per cent if we are even to continue to supply one half of our food needs. In all, urbanisation and industrialisation will bury an area equivalent to Devon and Cornwall in concrete and asphalt.

Population and resources are two aspects that can be identified in the ecological whole. Other facets are industrial methods, agricultural methods, the problem of values. Concerning industrial methods there is a large volume of information indicating impending ecological crises. The human cost of the Japanese miracle is frightening. Japanese industrial pollution has given the world two new

diseases: Minamata Disease, named after a bay in Western Japan that was stricken by mercury from a nearby chemical factory. It attacks the nervous system, and survivors are left paralysed, deranged, or suffering from speech defects. That it do not die.

Public hazard

In 1953 111 were affected, 42 of whom died, congenitally defective babies were born to mothers who had eaten poisoned fish. The other disease is Itai-itai (pain) resultant from cadmium poisoning and now proclaimed a "public hazard."

Air pollution is equally bad in Japan. Tokyo policemen do not stay at busy junctions for more than minutes, and 40 crossroads have oxygen machines.

In Britain one of our national parks may be the ceaseless quest for more resources—Snowdonia. Riotinto Zinc have applied to use a 300ft. dredge in Mawddach Estuary. They also want to mine 100-200 acre open-cast pits over a 1,000 acre area too far away, in the Irish Sea, 2,000 tons of effluent and 7,000 tons of sewage sludge are dumped each week from Liverpool and Glasgow. This partly explains industrial effluent that cannot simply be poured down a drain, either because it solidifies when cool, or is too thick to flow.

There are few sanctions for such dumping, and a three-mile limit (as with the American nerve gas) is it coincidence that 10,000 seabirds have died in the Sea area, especially when traces of industrial effluent have been found in them (notably P.C.B.)?

Chemicals feature in new agricultural methods, the classic case being D.D.T., which, again, shows agriculture cannot be viewed in isolation, has reduced oxygen-producing capacity of the oceans, polluted every body of water in the world, and built up in tissues, especially of fish. Already Swedish fish contains 117 ppm. (Swedish National Institute of Health), which means that "breast-fed babies get 10 per cent above the permitted amount of D.D.T. in English babies much the same, American babies even higher." (Rattray Taylor, Page 136).

One of the biggest problems in agriculture is monoculture is deemed ever more necessary, with profound and unmeasured effect on our ecology. The

a question of looking pretty with or without hedgerows, just as "making gas stations look like Ann Hathaway's cottage" or restoring the High Sierra to what it was before the first Kleenex was dropped, are not prime questions. It is the question of whether the soil can stand such heavy demands, especially when huge quantities of inorganic fertiliser are used, which do not break down in the soil.

There are the problems created by the reliance on pesticides (Rattray Taylor, paragraphs 82-84). Parathion (a chemical related to nerve gas) has poisoned farmers and grape pickers, and mercury fungicides have caused illness, mental damage and death. Meanwhile, some insects become immune, and other get bigger and are more difficult to control (e.g. the cabbage worm simply gets more ferocious on D.D.T.).

Finally, there is the question of values, which merges into the debate concerning the solutions we must apply. On the simple level, the ability to grow more food and to prevent more deaths from disease, etc., is in many ways short-sighted (this is being ruthless) for it fosters a larger population to suffer the inevitable disaster—one million will die instead of 100,000. It is not even certain that advances in agriculture, for example, are indeed "advances."

Two Australian scientists have shown that a gas laser situated more than a mile away from a field triggers "the plants' natural flowering mechanism . . . by an artificial source of light, which brings closer the day when the growth of crops will be under the direct control of the agriculturist" (Nature, December 5th, 1970, 228, 1970). Yet the experience with D.D.T. and other pesticides for which equally important claims were also made, has shown that the end product may be vastly different from the intention, when the balance of nature is disturbed.

Starvation

The Green Revolution has been much hailed, but unexpected social, economic, and political problems have arrived in its wake. Ehrlich has criticised it further on a scientific basis—namely that with the new strains of rice and cereals a reservoir of genetic variability must be maintained to be able to select new resistant strains to any fungi or pests that may develop. Otherwise there may be a repeat of the Irish Potato Famine, where the population grew from two to eight million only to suffer catastrophic starvation when a blight struck two successive crops. A

further point is that while Dr. Boerma (head of F.A.O.) has claimed the Green Revolution "has brought time in which to seek a breakthrough in population control," in fact the population may increase ever more rapidly while there is more food available, again outstripping the food production before enough time has been bought.

There are socio-political implications, too—in December 1968 there were riots in Southern India, where the A.T.D.-127 strain of "miracle" rice was being harvested. Peasants demanded a bigger share of the increase in profits the landowners were enjoying: the latter refused and brought on blacklegs. But deeper than this, the conception of such vastly improved yields has challenged the land allocation systems of many agricultural societies—the Naxalites (Maoists) in India are one group who exploit the situation and there is the threat that many hard-hit peasants will join them in their fight against the bigger landowners.

Short of money

The main peasant support is from the middle peasants who have neither the cash to buy the new grains, nor to pay the interest (25 per cent unless they are in a co-operative), while the top 10 per cent of peasants can afford to buy the grain and see their profits rise 40 to 50 per cent. The lowest peasants, constituting 30 per cent of peasants, are also better off for there is more work and cheaper food.

Probably the biggest conflict over values involves birth control (any choice . . . with regard to the size of the family must invariably rest with the family itself . . .) (U.N. Declaration of Human Rights). Or must it? Ehrlich puts forward his own "rights," which include:

The right to eat; the right to eat meat; the right to drink pure water; the right to live uncrowded; to breathe clean air; to limit our families; to avoid pesticide poisoning; to enjoy natural beauty; to be free of nuclear war. (Page 187).

Radical solutions are needed. Robert Ardrey has written a book called "The Social Contract?" In it he makes the point that in the natural state "animal numbers will never challenge the carrying capacity of the environment" (unless the balance is suddenly thrown out). What he means is that there are natural forms of birth control. He gives an evolving proof of this, which leads to one conclusion, that stress is part of "an infinite variety of self-regulating mechanisms, physiological and behavioural." Stress is not the only variable; another is ranking. But stress seems particularly relevant to man.

In 1968 a study (in science) of 270,000 corporation employees, statistics on educational background, job achievement in incidence of coronary disease were correlated. The situation was similar to a laboratory and the "population" was large.

The results showed that:

Workmen contract coronaries at 4.33 per 1,000 per year.
Foremen contract coronaries at 4.52 per 1,000 per year.
Supervisors, local managers contract coronaries at 3.91 per 1,000 per year.
General Area Managers contract coronaries at 2.85 per 1,000 per year.
Higher Executives contract coronaries at 1.85 per 1,000 per year.

For executives this is a rate of 40 per cent of the workers level. Other conclusions were that while college men were a better risk; the worst risk were college men who rose no higher than foreman, though non-college men at the top had equal immunity to executives.

This leads to Ardrey's formulation of two chances for mankind. Firstly, the simple way is for immediate mandatory birth control, bearing in mind that population is the key variable according to the ecologists. This solution is proposed by others with lesser or greater degrees of fascism! The problems for this are enormous—such birth control would suggest dictatorial governments and police states until the people had been (forcibly) educated enough to "accept" that they must limit their families. Less extreme are the obvious alternatives of withdrawal of material incentives and, indeed, or moral incentives. ("Mother of how many children? That's wonderful!")

Birth control

In Britain the birth rate needs to be reduced to 14 per 1,000 (from 16.3 per 1,000 in 1969) which means there should be 2.1 children per family, for exact replacement of the population. The main target new brides, persuading them not to have children they want, for even if all unwanted births were eradicated, the rate would only drop from 2.4 per family at present to 2.27. It is not too drastic to reduce to 2.1; it means that there must be one child fewer between three families.

Solutions to achieve this could be the withdraw of family allowances after a certain number of children; increase in marriage age by legislation or substantial fees for licences; tax benefit for the single or people with small families; grants for first marriages when both partners are over a certain age. Morally there should be propagated the ideas that it is better to marry next year, and that childlessness is not a stigma. Also, there must be no panic that we as a nation are declining in numbers.

The industrial solutions are already being found—the Bill banning S/S/T in America, the renewed actions of the redoubtable Ralph Nader, that champion over General Motors, who is now petitioning about mercury disposal. And only this week Coca-Cola had an advertising spread in America which promised to requisition all bottles and cans, even "disposable" ones, giving five cents for their own containers, and one cent for all others; this was on the grounds that the much-criticised non-returnable "disposable" bottles had not proved so disposable after all. In fact, they had been one of the fastest growing headaches. The recognition from industry of its "sins" was bound to come after such an intensive campaign, together with the



knowledge that a society that had at least two rivers pronounced "fire hazards" could not be exactly Utopia. If you add a "dead" lake (Eyrie) the arguments become even more compelling.

But, to return to population, the arguments in this direction have still to filter through at the personal level. If they do not, and the Green Revolution, etc. provide more opportunities (albeit limited) for population expansion, then Ardrey's second chance comes into action—the alternative of death by stress, a "messy solution."

Alternative control

"If we accept that population density, not food supply, is the chief factor . . . and also that no population can increase indefinitely, then however unattractive or in some the alternative control might be, we may have to accept it."

Death by stress comprises:

(i) Automobile accidents—a "quite perfect form of population control" being mathematically determined by population density. Also, it strikes mostly at the young;

(ii) also striking at the young: drug addiction. Though we are still not sure if drugs affect reproduction potential, though they seem to reduce breeding drive;

(iii) cardiac problems. These mainly affect non-breeding populations, but in terms of survival of the fittest, the less fit are more susceptible;

(iv) as real estate gets more prohibitive in price as it edges in on the green belts, the population may move back to city centres, which, however, will produce more stress, more victims of crime in the streets, more couples in unproductive sin;

(v) homosexuality. This already subtracts 4-6 per cent from the American breeding population;

(vi) suicide, which is already highest among the Swiss and the Swedes, two "rich" countries.

War has lost its popularity as a means to reduce the population—the wastage of expensive materials is a greater preoccupation now than the traditional wastage of inexpensive man.

The choice, put in Ardrey's terms is obvious; but we have to accept the ecological portents of disaster first. It's a pity we can't see what is happening to the "most advanced" society more closely: "Detroit's like from a mile above chemical muddy streams of grey waste fogging the surface to the centre more than half the lake discoloured metallic . . . and the horizon edged with grey gas clouds from East to West unmoved by wind."

"I take care of other people's business," said the old man sleeping next seat.

Wallet and pens in his inside pocket, green tie, black suit, boots. "Ever since the world began gold is the measure of solidarity." (Ginsberg).

Books to read on the subject:

Gordon Rattray Taylor "The Doomsday Book"
Paul Ehrlich "The Population Bomb"
Rienow and Rienow "Moment in the Sun"
Rachel Carson "Silent Spring."

reviews



"They Call Me Mr. Tibbs," Odeon, New Street.

THEATRE

IT is, I suppose, a truism to say that art does not have to have an extrinsic meaning, when its very existence is enough to give it an intrinsic one. Eliot could thus say that a poem IS: it does not MEAN anything. I have felt this truism very strongly twice this week, and the fact that this idea is obvious does not remove any of its potency.

The first play I find myself writing about this week was not open for public consumption as such, but was showing to colleagues a piece of work done in a design course by students of the Drama Dept. here. I do not feel reticent about reviewing Samuel Beckett's "Breath," however, because it has rarely been seen, and it deserves a written record of its performance.

"Breath" lasts slightly over 30 seconds, but in that half-minute Beckett has packed the image carried by all his other works.

In a corner of the Allardyce Nicoll Studio we were confronted with a box-shape, its walls made of curtains stretching above us. We were allowed to face two sides of this box and then we were plunged into darkness.

Slowly and mechanically the curtains were heard to part. A faint light showed us a square of stage, containing what appeared to be a rubbish-dump—a broken-up car, straw and paper, and in symmetrical relationship to one another, three bodies, painted to blend in with the general grey-rust of decaying matter.

There was a brief cry on tape (Beckett indicates it is the instant of vagitus), and at the same time as a fade-up of light, there came an amplified inspiration of human breath. Silence once more reigned, and then there was an expiration of air, coinciding with a dimming of the light on the set. Immediately the cry was repeated and the last light faded as the curtains closed on us again.

I give all this description because the text is fairly inaccessible, and because the whole of the above occurs in 30 seconds! Beckett has produced a piece of austerity, which in my opinion owes much of its power to its brevity.

It is painfully impossible to take everything in at the first view. Ten minutes later, I, and half a dozen others, were given a second showing. In some ways it is more

staggering the second time through, but one loses the sense of its spontaneity, because one now knows where to direct one's attention; I think this against Beckett's wishes.

What does all this mean? Is it pseudo-intellectual rubbish? I do not think the play has a meaning. Beckett has presented us in all his other plays with the last moments of life, and the paradox of their interminable length. In Beckett, everyone's penultimate minute of existence seems eternal—though the mound in "Happy Days" gets higher, Winnie is never seen to be covered, Hamm and Clov are not seen to separate in "Endgame," Estragon and Vladimir might well still wait for Godot in a third act of that play, if one existed.

Here in "Breath," Beckett shows us the corpses, but it is his supreme talent at ambiguity which also allows him to suggest life, for the breathing in and out of the newborn baby are set directly against the stage-picture.

How does one criticise a production of such a work? Well, Rob Savage's version of "Breath" was not Beckett, to my mind. Firstly it had bodies, and none are stipulated in the text, second its set of rubbish was carefully placed and coloured; Beckett says it should be scattered and miscellaneous, thirdly it is implied the play takes place on a full stage, with a seated and detached audience; standing peering into a corner creates a totally different, though equally valid experience. Let's just not call it Beckett's play.

With precision and economy the playwright has used shape, light and sound to create a microcosmic drama. Where next, Mr. Beckett? One of his latest works is rightly called "Lessness!"

"Ubu Cuckolded," presented by Dustin Hughes' Late night Rep group at Station St. on Friday was another adventure into the meaningless. I found this the worst of Jarry's three plays not only meaningless, but trivial as well. On the printed page Cyril Connolly's translation holds me for its bare thirty pages, but on the stage, despite its colour and its quick tempo, I found my patience running out.

I felt, in fact, like standing up and shouting "merdre" back at Pa Ubu, as he plodded his way over the pop-art set of "1066 And All That." Ubu was of course a school-boy invention of Jarry's, during his days at the Rennes Lycee, in 1888.

Avant-garde though it may still be, the use of children's jargon, sharp repartee and mock declamation, to say nothing of the inexplicable coinages, like hornstrumpot or palcontents, grows tiresome in 1971, and seems better suited to Spike Milligan's kind of show. In fact the original Ubu play, "Ubu Roi,"

was adapted by Milligan as a play called "King Fred." I think he must have been happier in it than John Baddeley and the Rep Co. were.

Since the theatre-goer cannot be expected to place the Ubu plays in the context of Jarry's other writings, particularly his theory of Pataphysics, this play will never be anything but a 19th century oddity. Like any bizarre art form, this kind of play will not outlive its novelty stage unless it has lasting qualities. A play ahead of its time runs the risk of never being assimilated into the progression of art.

"Ubu Cocu" has never even had a novelty value, for according to the programme, last Friday's was the first English stage performance of the play. I am not surprised. John Baddeley romped through the play, giving us his Mr. Doolittle for the comic asides, and his Bottom for the weighty declamation—an unhappy, but sporadically funny combination.

Peter Benson was the only memorable performer, playing Achras, the pseudo-scientist with his polyhedra, looking like Spike Milligan's Beachcomber, and shuffling on and off in worn-out slippers. Paul Henry, in drag, had about four lines of dialogue and several compromising positions as Ma Ubu.

The play ended suddenly and though there was a great deal of laughter at the incongruities of the play, the immediate applause on curtain fall owed more to relief than excitement. The play is unperformable, and the Rep performed it. They must be congratulated for trying, and so nearly succeeding.

If there are any Ubu fans, you might like to see the Brighton Combination do their adaptation of Jarry-cum-Milligan, called "The Rise and Fall of King Fred." This can be seen at the Birmingham Arts Lab, next Saturday, the 27th, at 8 p.m. and 11 p.m., or Sunday 28th, at 8 p.m. Brighton Combination are also doing the N.A.B. Show, which is loosely based on Aristophanes' "The Wasps." The wasps have become National Assistance Board visitors, swarming through an environmental structure, and using elements of documentary, slapstick, and music hall (Arts Lab on the 25th at 8 p.m., and 26th at 8 and 11 p.m.).

I definitely recommend both of the above shows, and you should not miss this widely-acclaimed experimental theatre group, who are on their first major national tour outside their Brighton home. As a nameless friend of mine says: "It is not hope but a fact that the future of the theatre lies with the experimental companies." At the end of this week, University House presents "Pygmalion."

BRIAN BUTLER

CINEMA

"THEY CALL ME MR. TIBBS" (Odeon New Street) is a sequel to "In The Heat of The Night" (Rod Steiger's Oscar film) and again stars Sidney Poitier as detective Tibbs in a "whodunnit." This time, however, the racial setting is reversed—complete integration rather than Southern prejudice. Tibbs, now in San Francisco, is shown as the typical(?) American

male, a loving husband slightly bewildered by his rebellious young son. Of course, he's highly respected by his fellow cops.

Tibbs is involved as a friend of one of the chief suspects of the murder (of a call-girl), a minister with a large following as a political reformer.

Martin Landau somehow never quite looks the part (but perhaps this is intentional in the light of later events). We also meet a variety of pimps, drug-racketeers, and other shady characters, people who go to great lengths to keep out of Tibbs's clutches. These involve a car chase ("Bullitt" certainly started something), a foot chase and goodness knows what others.

There is a lot of talk about analysing semen on bed sheets, dust on shoes, blood on medallions, etc., etc., and the police are seen to be very cunning, but decent with it.

It's not a film that really gets one's heart thumping, one's eyes moistening or one's soul searing, but is nevertheless competent and entertaining.

DAVE BAXTER.

HAVING last seen "Gone With The Wind" at the age of ten, and remembering only two expressive scenes—the Negro slaves working in the cotton-fields and the Southern wounded dying on the railway tracks of Atlanta—I looked forward once more to seeing the film this week with a mixture of hope and anxiety, lest it appear dated. Neither feeling turned out to be fully justified.

The background for the story is the American Civil War when the Southern states defied the North for the right to keep their slaves. Scarlet O'Hara, played by Vivien Leigh, is the spoiled eldest daughter of a southern landowner. She discovers that her supposed sweetheart, Ashley Wilkes (Leslie Howard), is going to marry his cousin Melony, instead. Scarlet mar-

ANDY GOLTZ



The Brighton Combination at the Arts Lab.

MUSIC

ON Thursday night Johnny Winter played at Birmingham's own Kinetic Circus. If you can imagine Hyde Park covered with a carpet, and lit by extra-terrestrial chandeliers, that will give you a fair idea of the atmosphere—extreme warmth, the gentle odour of cigarette ash burning the carpet, coloured lights and loud music.

We purposely turned up at 10 p.m. in order to miss Indian Summer. That may sound rather mean, but have you heard Indian Summer? The other supporting group was The Dog That Bit People. I can't think of anything exciting to say about them, even though they have got a long name.

Johnny Winter appeared at about 10.30 p.m., with his band—Rick Derringer (vocals and guitar), Randy Hobbs (vocals, bass), and Randy 2 (drums). Apparently they were all members of the McCoys of "Hang On Sloopy" fame. As they broke into "Guess I'll Go Away" an eerie green light fell on Winter, and his albino features took on a sinister, death-like appearance.

Dressed all in black, with long black boots to match, he oozed around the stage on his spindly legs. His guitar playing was, predictably, impressive, backed up some "mean riffs" (as the music papers say) by Derringer.

Now I've mentioned both guitarists in the same sentence, I would like to elucidate on the interplay between these two on stage. Between them they have worked out a very exciting stage show, which on numbers like "Rock and Roll Hootchie Coo" (one of the best tracks on their last LP), was quite amazing to watch. When Winter wanted a guitar break from Derringer, he'd writhe up to him in his strange, feline way, pointing a long white finger at him. I've been told that this is sexually arousing—personally I find Jagger's gyrations give me deeper satisfaction!

After a very extended version of the slow blues "Be Careful With A Fool" came a very exciting rendering of "Jumping Jack Flash," which featured the limbo-like antics of Rick Derringer, whose guitar playing proved to be as forceful as Winter's.

When they started a rock and roll medley we were subjected to some boring bum-wiggling from "Buffalo Rick" (as he liked to call himself). It seemed at this stage that he had completely dominated the performance; Winter walked back and had a cigarette, and the bass player alternated between changing guitars and drinking beer. Nevertheless, some of Derringer's guitar playing was very imaginative, and the pace never dropped.

After some more rock 'n' roll they left the stage, only to return to do "Hound Dog" and later "Highway 61." What I remember best about the evening now is Johnny Winter suggestively towering over the jerking little figure of Derringer and shrieking "C'mon baby, light my fuse."

SIMON SHEPHERD
(L.P. Winner)

TOMORROW night's concert at the Town Hall will undoubtedly prove to be the most popular this season. John Williams, the world-famous guitarist, will join Louis Frémaux and the C.B.S.O. in a performance of Vivaldi's guitar concerto in A, and Rodrigo's work for the same medium—"Concierto de Aranjuez."

The programme will also include Honegger's Symphony No. 2 for strings and trumpet, Roussel's Suite No. 2, entitled "Bacchus et Ariane," and Debussy's universally loved tone poem, "Prélude à l'après-midi d'un Faune."

This will not be the first time that John Williams (originally from Melbourne, Australia) has visited Birmingham. In fact, many will undoubtedly remember his performance here at the University two years ago in Feb. 1969. He is particularly famous for his guitar arrangements of Bach's keyboard Preludes and Fugues, and for his virtuoso performances of the Villa Lobos guitar Preludes. The guitar has become a very popular instrument, particularly since the first world war, largely thanks to the travels of artists such as Andrés Segovia and John Williams, who are together responsible for the modern popular interest in classical guitar music.

Debussy's tone poem "Prélude à l'après-midi d'un Faune" was first performed in December 1894, written in the most productive and

successful decade of the composer's career. It was at this time that he was meeting regularly in Parisian cafes with the leading impressionist painters and poets.

Their influence bore great fruit in the compositions of this piece, the first major orchestral score in which the distinctive impressionistic style of the composer appears before us fully formed. The work has the distinction, shared by very few other works of the category, of possessing outstanding musical qualities apart from the realisation of the programmatic idea.

If advance ticket selling is anything to go by, this has certainly been the most popular C.B.S.O. concert for a long time. Tickets have been sold out for almost a week.

ALISON MACNAMARA

DEB. HALL was bursting at the seams for the Curved Air concert. It must have been very frustrating for those outside, because the stage act was almost as exciting as the excellent music.

They opened with "It Happened Today," and included most of the better-known tracks from their album. The best performance was "Situations," though the more exciting items, "Stretch" and "Vivaldi," which had been demanded vociferously throughout, earned the warmest reception.

In spite of electrical trouble, there was very little to fault in the set, and they thoroughly deserved the encores. Unfortunately, by then they were definitely winding down, and these consisted mainly of fill-in material, indifferently performed, and speeded-up "Vivaldi"—a disappointing end to an otherwise superb evening.

LIZ UNSWORTH

FOR some reason, the Town Hall doors were not opened till just before the performance, so that when T. Rex came on to the stage people were still milling around and taking very little notice of them. Marc Bolan sat cross-legged in an improbable-looking dungaree suit, smiling sweetly and thoroughly meriting the proverbial nicknames



T. Rex at the Town Hall last Tuesday

of elf/pixie, etc., till he had the unfortunate brainwave of playing some "mood" (i.e. tuneless and boring) music while we sorted ourselves out. By the time the set officially started with "Deborah," the reception was lukewarm, to say the least.

From this point on, they really had to work to improve matters. They began to break through with their best acoustic number, "Pavilions of the Sun," very long and, for them, exceptionally varied, which completely overshadowed the better-known "One Inch Rock."

For the last number before the interval, they went electric and were joined by the bassist, I was surprised to find that Bolan is a much better guitarist than I would have thought, making particularly good use of the wah-wah pedal, and assorted "effects."

The atmosphere in the second half was more relaxed, the result of starting with "Woodland Rock," not to mention the services of the Town Hall bar. Although I still cannot pretend that T. Rex are musically impressive, they've definitely got something, and it would have been difficult not to enjoy the second half.

The attention is naturally focused on Marc Bolan, but Mickey Finn is also worthy of the praise they are given. His fierce concentration, especially on "novelty" items like finger cymbals, has definite and as yet unexploited comic potential.

"Ride a White Swan" was greeted with predictable rapture, and in the encore, "Sumertime Blues" followed by miscellaneous rock. Bolan's cryptic hope, expressed at the beginning, that "those who had anything would let it all hang out" was at last fulfilled. The audience, notably the younger end, were an incredible spectacle, adding greatly to the entertainment value, and T. Rex thoroughly deserved this uninhibited appreciation.

LIZ UNSWORTH.

T.V.

TELEVISION: Educator of the Nation, entertainer of the masses.

Television: It's smallest minority audience would be too large for Wembley Stadium.

Television: A massive propaganda machine. Working every day in every home to preserve the political, social, economic status quo.

Television: The perpetual revolution—one of the means of expansion.

sion of the consciousness. Television: Perpetrator of the most banal standards of art and morality.

Television: The only truly creative medium within which young writers can work in Britain.

Monday evening saw the first of a series of four "Meet the Audience" events at the Birmingham and Midlands Institute under the umbrella title of "British Producers Today." Barrie Gavin, producer of B.B.C. "Music on 2" and "Workshop" series and of other music documentaries, talked about his craft and ideology of television.

Not one of your "Make Culture available to the masses" snobs, this man; he is adamantly working for a situation where programmes will truly reflect musical taste of more than the bourgeois educational elite which comprised his audience on Monday.

This situation of producer and audience meeting each other physically with the electronic entrails of Broadcasting House castrating their conversation, is God-given. Perhaps one of the main defects of our broadcasting system is that this hardly ever happens—there is no effective feedback of audience opinion.

Of course, statistical analyses are made, but these are no help in the effective critical appreciation of material. Equally, every newspaper carries its television critic, but we have yet to discover a critic who intends to sit down and analyse seriously the work of the great artists of television. What we need is an audio-visual "Great Tradition" and it seems very far away indeed.

Thus, the more opportunities there are to get at the programme-makers, the better. That is why these meetings at the B.M.I. are not just another event, but are dialogues of as much importance to the visiting speaker as to his audience. Barrie Gavin wanted to know what people thought about his programmes—so will the other visiting producers.

It would be interesting to see a larger number of people telling the programme-makers what they think of their programmes at the next three sessions. Coming up on March 1st is Shaun Sutton, Head of Dram. Group, B.B.C.-TV; on March 8th, Rowan Ayres, Head of Presentation, B.B.C.-TV—producer of "Late Night Line-up," "Disco 2," "Film Night" and "Points of View." The last meeting, March 15th, features Brian Izzard, London Weekend TV producer of "The Eamonn Andrews," "Simon Dee" and "Kenny Everett" shows.

No doubt each of these will be amply illustrated by film extracts, all the meetings taking place at 7.15 p.m., and student admission is 15 new pence.

GEOFF BIGNALL



Sonja Kristina and Darryl Way of Curved Air

sport 1

HOCKEY

Sheffield squashed

ON Saturday morning, with blurred recollections of High Ridge Ball and other celebrations, the "dedicated" (?) Birmingham players staggered off at some unearthly hour for the W.I.V.A.B. final down at Dartford.

They faced the fresh Sheffield side (who had travelled down the night before) forewarned that the latter played the supposedly disconcerting 4-2-4 system, or was it 2-4-4?

In any case, Birmingham, cheered

on by its handful of supporters, exploited the weakness of the system and soon dominated the game with numerous fast breakaways. Unfortunately, all too often, these attacks were thwarted by dubious and desperate tackles.

One of these which left their goalkeeper, a back and Cath Lewis in a tangled heap, deservedly resulted in a penalty bully. Due to fine saves by Fiona Burns in goal and inaccurate shots from the Birmingham forwards, it was not until

the second half that the scoring deadlock was broken.

Amidst a melee in the Sheffield circle, Kathy Basham managed to scramble in a goal. From then on Sheffield were a beaten side, worn down by the determined and unrelenting pressure produced by the Birmingham side. So, yet again, the first team trophy, won by outstanding team work and team spirit, deservedly rests with Birmingham.

Team: Fiona Burns, Helen Disney, Jude Hancock, Jayne Tinkler, Cate Jackson, Lorraine Thomas, Gill Fletcher, Ang Edwards, Kathy Basham, Cath Lewis, Fred Cotton.

Disappointing dominance

BIRMINGHAM 2nd XI 0, LANCASTER UNIVERSITY 1

ONCE again, Birmingham were disappointed in losing the final of W.I.V.A.B. to Lancaster University after dominating a fast moving, skillful first half with plenty of opportunity to score.

Birmingham, however, were continually thwarted by an attacking goalkeeper. Lancaster had few attacks, but on being awarded a corner they made full use of it and the centre-half, who held the Lancaster team together, scored a well-deserved goal from an apparently impossible angle.

Birmingham were naturally demoralised at this unexpected turn of play but continued to attack and were unlucky not to score. The second half began with Birmingham determined to equalise but being continually frustrated.

The team had to be reorganised when Gill Stokes was injured by a dangerous kick from the goalkeeper, and Haggis, but of course, stepped into the breach.

The team continued to press, with Haze "The Intrepid" at centre-forward, wondering how her shots could possibly keep missing by half-an-inch every time, but Birmingham began to lose heart as all efforts failed.

The final score was, therefore, 1-0 to Lancaster. As with last year the umpiring left a lot to be desired. However, Birmingham cannot be so unlucky again next year, can they?

NETBALL

Hat-trick for 2nds

THE 2nd netball VII won their third successive victory in the W.I.V.A.B. finals with a deserved 37-28 win over Leeds University.

Despite some good shooting by the opposition, defenders Sandra Hallett and Liz Williams managed to control well their area of the court, and mid-court players Annette Barber, Cath Healey and Gill Wood-

head wore down the opposition with accurate passing.

Shooters Liz Webb and Judith Ridley converted this overall supremacy into goals with some excellent shooting. Once again this was a fine team performance by Birmingham, who emerged worthy winners of the trophy.



SAILING

Good co-ordination

BIRMINGHAM has continued this term to defeat all comers in a series of away matches. Their first win came at Cardiff, when what was virtually a second team competently gained victory despite attempts to capsize the Athletics Union's minibus on the journey down.

A still depleted team the following week dispensed with University College (London) and Imperial College in the same day. The full first team overcame Bangor the next day despite high winds, strong tides and the opposition's commodore.

This victory and the subsequent defeats of Warwick and Loughborough, the latter's being particularly impressive, appear to ensure Birmingham of winning the Midland University Sailing League.



NETBALL

SIZE IS DECISIVE

BIRMINGHAM 1st VII 20, DURHAM 1st VII 27

AFTER a promising start by Birmingham which saw the 1st VII 5-2 up in the first few minutes of the first quarter, our team became over-confident and relaxed too soon to let the unknown Durham back into the game, to tie the score at 5-5.

From this position, Durham never looked back and always kept Birmingham a few goals in arrears until the third quarter when (thanks to the cheering crowds!) we fought back to equalise at 15-all.

However, Durham went ahead again, and although we never gave up, we did panic and lose heart until the final whistle saw Durham rolling home by seven goals after a hard and exciting match between two equally-matched teams.

The Durham victory can be solely attributed to the height of their goal attack and accuracy of their goal shooter. Once the ball reached Durham's attacking circle, the Birmingham defence, Jill Barber and Diane Birnbaum were powerless to stop an inevitable goal, despite doing all that was humanly possible and both making some good interceptions. Even if the shot missed, Durham's giant always regained the ball to try again (and again).

Unaccustomed to finding defenders who have any influence on them, our shooters Paula White and Philippa Bonarino were put off their game by a very able and tall Durham defence and were unable to score goals and pass within the circle with their usual ease. They kept trying though.

RUGBY

RECORD MAINTAINED

CAMBRIDGE LX CLUB 0, UNIVERSITY 13

LAST Wednesday, the 1st XV travelled to Cambridge intent on keeping their recent winning record intact. They did just that by playing strong attacking rugby in atrocious conditions. Once again it was the pack that paved the way for victory.

The two wing forwards, Bruce Ward and John Sugate (the only two married members of the side) were in particularly great form, constantly probing weaknesses in the Cambridge defence.

Despite this forward superiority

Chris Osnard, as usual, made some excellent interceptions and helped feed the ball down court. Petite (?) Lynette Buxton did very well to overcome her tall wing defence and Sheila Pook found her best form. She was obviously trying extra hard to inspire her team and keep them calm in a bid to gain a prize-winner's "spoon" in her last W.I.V.A.B. final—but to no avail.

However, despite a disappointing defeat, we were by no means disgraced and hopes are still high of winning the league cup.

sport 2

BADMINTON

UNIVERSITY CRUISE TO TITLE

LAST weekend, at Keele, the University men's team duly won the U.A.U. team award for the first time in the history of Birmingham University Badminton Club. On the Friday night Leeds were the semi-final opponents and were beaten 6-3, but only after a few anxious moments.

Birmingham's top pairing, Dave Jones and John Croxton, maintained their 100 per cent record against other universities, whilst Leeds pairs to three games.

In the final on the Saturday, Sheffield were eclipsed by the score of 9-0; Sheffield only managing to win two games. The W.I.V.A.B. finals were also held at Keele and after seeing what Liverpool had to offer, the team regretted that Birmingham's girls weren't there. Actually one of them was there; Judy Warrington was reputedly giving vital support to the whole of the team.

TEAM CHARACTERISTICS

Dave Jones: Post Grad. Metallurgist, A.U. secretary—reported as giving Ann a hard time of it at weekends.

John Croxton: First Year Mech. Eng., genius, brilliant player, but please, get yer hair cut, John!

Eric Donachie: 'nth year in French Dept., a veteran in every sense of the word—his handicap: two "gothas."

Mastafa: Post Grad. Physicist, occasionally has a "ding."

Chris Jones: Final Year Mech. Eng., brilliant rally driver—all 6ft. 6ins. or him.

John Davidson: Final Year Maths, unreliable captain—reportedly short 'n fat 'n hairy, all over.

The season continues now and the club goes on in its search for more beer in the Birmingham & District Leagues and also in the U.A.U./W.I.V.A.B. individual championships.

A.F.D.

MOTOR CLUB

Millins supreme

STAR driver Neil Millins reaffirmed his superiority in Autotests last Sunday winning the Spring Meeting by a margin of 0.9 seconds. This was a superb effort as he pulled back a 30-second penalty incurred early in the afternoon over rival John Buck.

These two in their Minis beat the winner of the combined Sports Car/Rear Drive Saloon class, John Smith in his Escort, who drove spectacularly well to beat the tail-happy Midget of Andrew Bodman.

A completely standard Mini, borrowed by Chris Warwick from his mother, took fifth place overall, leaving sixth to Chris Jones, who had just returned from helping Birmingham take the team prize in the U.A.U. Badminton championships at Keele.

The performance of Neil Millins, now returned to the University after an absence of six months, and driving a perfectly standard car, bodes well for the Inter-Varsity Autotests at Manchester next weekend.

PAR JOEL

ATHLETICS

GREAT DEBUT BY RUTH

NO-ONE could possibly have predicted the remarkable start Ruth Martin-Jones made to her Great Britain international career. When she won the W.A.A.A. indoor championship with a leap of just less than 20 feet Ruth didn't even expect to gain international honours thinking the selectors would favour more seasoned internationals.

However, Ruth grabbed her chance with both hands and soared out to a personal best of 21ft. 1in. which puts her right into the international class. If anyone should think this was a freak then they would be effectively answered by her series, 20ft. 3ins., 20ft. 7ins. (personal best), 20ft. 10ins. and 21ft. 1in. If she hadn't hurt her back in the next round who knows how far she would have reached?

Although they didn't have such spectacular starts, Jim Aukett and Moira Nicol both performed creditably. Moira got within four yards of the world-record-breaking German girl. Jim made up for a disappointing 400 metres by displaying admirable tactics to hold off a faster opponent on the last leg of the relay.

HOCKEY

Basics forgotten

STOURPORT 0, BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 1st 0

THE combination of Stourport playing above themselves and Brum just not clicking produced a stalemate, in which we had more of the play but they had most chances.

For only the second time this year the heart of the defence looked suspect and for the first 15 minutes such basics as tackling and stopping the ball seemed to be unheard of. The forwards were no better and had little idea of how to create a scoring chance. The only memorable effort was a Pete Longman first-timer which fizzled over the bar.

Fortunately for us Duck Burt, in goal, was again in superb form and saved three certain goals, one by a full-length dive and the others by using his stick, a sign of true class.

The best chance for us was a

"fluffed" penalty flick, and that's putting it politely. However, justice was done when the opposition also missed one. The experiment of switching Longman (it's good to see you back!) to inside-left proved a flop, mainly due to the lack of penetration around him.

The number of people who played well could be counted on one finger, though no-one played badly. A public Recreation Ground wasn't really fitting for this League match, though on reminiscing . . .

Congratulations to Pete Longman and Mike Gilbert on being selected to play for the U.A.U.

TEAM: Burt; Williams, Blake; Gilbert, Wheeler, Taylor; Globe, Guise, Jackson, Longman, Moyle.

D. L. TAYLOR.

SOCCER

Payne transforms

WITH one eye on their forthcoming U.A.U. final on March 9th, the 1st XI coasted to an easy 2-0 win over U.W.I.S.T. on Saturday. With two well-taken goals by Pearce and Barlow midway through the first half the early challenge of the Welsh visitors soon disappeared and goalkeeper Chilcott was able to take a spectator's view of the game from his rear position.

After weathering early, determined and aggressive play by U.W.I.S.T. the University scored from a Ray Barlow long throw-in, a rare event which showed that the "gods" are smiling kindly on Brum at the moment. The throw-in was back-headed by Andy Malle into the crowded goalmouth where goal-poacher Harry Pearce coolly smashed the ball into the net.

Now playing with confidence and authority, a second goal was soon forthcoming. A great overlapping run by that experienced campaigner John Payne swiftly transformed play from a defensive situation to the edge of the U.W.I.S.T. penalty area. The ball was temporarily cleared only for Alan Cross to put over a tailor-made centre on to the head of Ray Barlow who glanced the ball into the net brilliantly.

From this point on with the game well in hand the University kept a tight rein and could have scored several more times but when the final whistle went everyone seemed contented enough.

Team: Chilcott; Payne, Bigmore, Eastman, E. Pearce, H. Pearce, Cross, Ramsay; Malle, Barlow and Wortley.

The 2nd XI played their first game for many weeks and came back with a vengeance, beating Steve Haxey made a startling break before handing on to debut boy Al Beyer, who sold dummy after dummy as he slowly went over the line. Once again it was Boot who finished off the scoring to bring his points total for the season to 23/41!

Welcoming back Dick Legg and Brian Phillips after injury, the lat-

Sportscene

CONGRATULATIONS to the Women's Netball and Hockey teams. At last they have scaled the heights and reached the zenith of their achievements. I am not, of course, referring to their exploits on the courts or pitches of Dartford but their wonderful performance in having a record played in their honour on JUNIOR CHOICE.

Well done girls, magnificent stuff, now you may all retire with a deep sense of satisfaction and peace.

I've never really been a big advocate of this early to bed and leave off the booze lark. Time and time again I have seen the so-called rules disproved and the latest addition to the list is Ray Smedley.

Ray's exploits on Friday evening prior to the Hyde Park Relay made Bobby Moore's Blackpool outing look like an afternoon tea party at the vicar's. An observer tells me that at 5.30 a.m. young Raymond was wandering the corridors of High Hall clad solely in a dinner jacket, clutching a half-empty brandy bottle in one hand and an antique jock-strap in the other. He was variously described as being in a state of intoxication.

by Andy Holden

Another observer tells us the same R. Smedley was partaking of breakfast at 8.30 a.m. That he ever reached Hyde Park at all was something of a miracle. The worst moment came on the tube to Imperial College. Ray got mixed up in a party of Girl Guides and almost finished up on a day tour of the Natural History Museum.

As he set off on his leg, the rest of the team and their supporters fell to their knees in prayer, conjuring up visions of fishing a half-drowned Raymond from the Serpentine.

They needn't have worried for he stormed round the stage taking the team from eighth to first, running one of the fastest six laps of the day (only three seconds slower than G.W.). There are plans afoot to take him round the nightclubs of Norwich the night before the national championships. Brian London has been approached with a view to opening new premises specially for the occasion.

A silent figure sat outside the Sports Centre last Friday afternoon. He held a placard which stated emphatically: "I AM NOT GOING."

Knowing observers have recognised that the handsome features and familiar spectacles belonged to none other than that stalwart of the Hockey Club and Athletic Union mud fights, Ed Rose.

If anyone had taken the trouble to approach him and ask the purpose of his demonstration he would have explained to them, with his usual eloquent logic, the deep inner significance of this ostensibly simple message.

The venue to which Ed referred on his banner was no less than High Hall, where a ball was being held last Friday evening (see previous section). Furthermore, Ed wasn't the least bit interested in what Bristol had to say and Frankie Valli just isn't his scene.

So now dear readers you know just as much as we do.

NEXT WEEK:
CORRUPTION IN
A.U.
DON'T MISS THIS
"Redbrick" Sports
Exposé

of the network of vice within the heart of the University's Sports Club, uncovered by our ace reporters!



Brian Mitchell and Mostyn Lewis, recent winners of the B.U.S.F. table tennis doubles title.

around

GALLERIES

Museum & Art Gallery: The Mount Trust Collection of Chinese Art, until February 28th. Pre-Raphaelite Draughtsmen Exhibition.

Midlands Arts Centre: Paintings, Masks and Costume Designs by Iris Debley.

Compendium: Paintings by John Inglis. Paintings, Prints and Multiples by Barrie Eccleston.

Ikon: "Propositions." Exhibition by three students from Starbridge Art College.

CINEMAS

Jacey: "Bob and Carol & Ted And Alice" plus "The Deadly Affair," 6.35 p.m. Next week: "Virgin Soldiers," plus "Easy Rider."

ABC Cinerama: "Ryan's Daughter," 6.45 p.m.

Gaumont: "Tora Tora Tora," 7.30 p.m.

Odeon, New Street: "They Call Me Mr. Tibbs" plus "Hornets' Nest," 6.35 p.m. Next week: "Countess Dracula."

Cinephone: "Alyse and Chloe," 6.10 p.m.

ABC, New Street: "Monte Walsh," 8.05 p.m.

Futurist: "Lust for a Vampire" plus "The Losers," 6.50 p.m. Next week: "Anatomy of Love."

Odeon, Ringway: "Gone with the Wind," 7 p.m. (for at least two weeks).

Midlands Film Theatre (Cannon Hill): "Boom!" 7.30 p.m., 30p.

THEATRES

Belgrade Theatre: "It's a Two Foot Six Inches Above the Ground World."

Repertory Theatre: "1066 And All That."

Midlands Arts Centre: "The Hero Rises Up."

Alexandra Theatre: From March 1st—"Glamorous Night," by Ivor Novello. Tickets from 45p.

Crescent Theatre: "Oedipus Rex" from February 27th. Tickets: 40p (20p Monday and Tuesday).

Arts Lab: Brighton Combination.

Thursday and Friday, February 25th/26th: The NAB Show, 8 p.m. (also 11 p.m. Friday).

Saturday and Sunday: "Ubu Roi," 8 p.m. (also 11 p.m. Sunday).

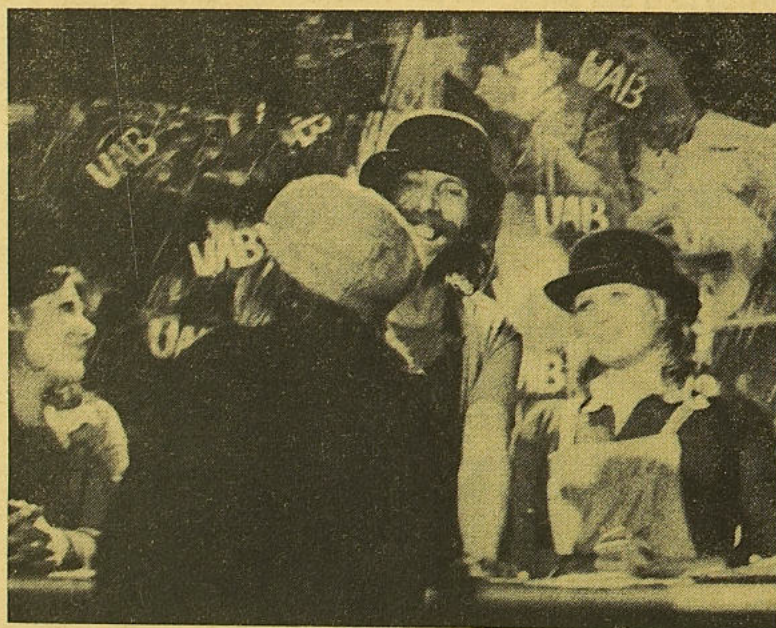
DAY-BY-DAY

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24th

Deb. Soc.: "This House deplors English Eating Habits," Council Chamber, 7.30 p.m.

Free—plus Amazing Blondell. Town Hall. Tickets from 40p.

Poetry Reading: Anthony Howell and Alan Fuchs, B.M.I., 8 p.m., 25p.



The Brighton Combination's N.A.B. show at the Arts Lab.

THURSDAY, FEB. 25th

Concert: The Tatrai String Quartet, Barber Institute, 8 p.m.

Film Soc.: "Destry Rides Again," by George Marshall, Haworth Lecture Theatre, 7 p.m.

C.B.S.O.: Town Hall—Pieces from from Honneger, Vivaldi, Debussy, Rodrigo. Featuring John Williams. 7.30 p.m. Tickets from 25p.

"Trash, Art and the Movies": Talk by Neil Sinyard. Saint Francis Hall, 1.10 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 26th

Concert: Barber Institute (as last night).

Carnival: Pyjama Hop with Arrival. Aston, 9 p.m., 50p. Girl Auction, Aston, 12.30 p.m.

Late Night Theatre: "The Boggart," by Henry Livings, Cannon Hill, 10.30 p.m., 25p.

SATURDAY, FEB. 27th

The Dog That Bit People—plus Disco. Deb. Hall, 8 p.m.

Carnival: Raft Race and Dratting. Small Heath Park, 2 p.m. Midnight Stroll, Disco, Aston, 8 p.m.

Midland Youth Orchestra: Town Hall—Pieces by Beethoven, Franck, Holst, 7.30 p.m. Tickets from 10p.

Birmingham Chamber Music Society: The Sebestyen Quartet City Art Gallery, 7.15 p.m., 70p.

The Range of the Harpsichord: Recital by Alan Cuckson, Carrs Lane Centre, 7.30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 28th

Perception: Discussion with Dennis Farr, director of City Museum and Art Gallery. Midlands Arts Centre, 3 p.m.

Carnival: "Repulsion" plus cartoons, Deb. Hall, 7 p.m. Magna Carta & Sally Angie—Mason Hall, 8 p.m., 40p.

The Claims of the Old Testament by Rev. A. S. Herbert, Saint Francis Hall, 6.30 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 1st

Carnival: Mr. Aston, Aston Union, 12.30 p.m. Kinks, Cochise etc. Top Rank, Dale End, 7.30 p.m. 60p.

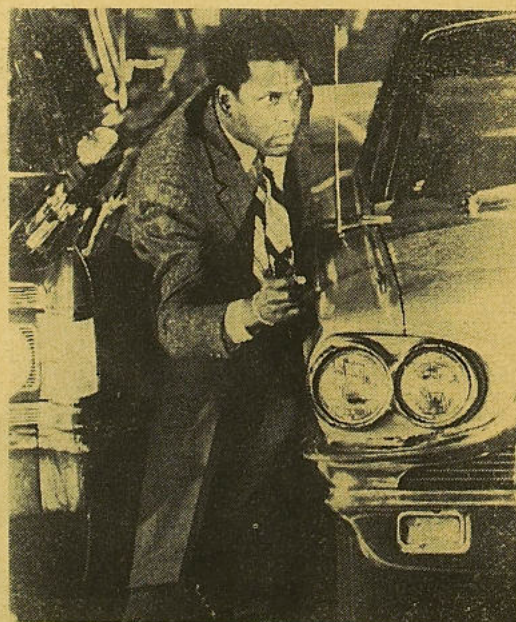
Classical Guitar: Discussion and Recital by Merlin Best, B.M.I., 6.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2nd

Carnival: John Walker piano recital, Aston, 7 p.m. Hora Dancing, Colmore Circus.

"Carry on Camping," Haworth Lecture Theatre.

Judith Durham: Town Hall, 8 p.m.



Sydney Poitier in "They Call Me Mr. Tibbs," at the Odeon, New Street.