

DEBATE:  
That this House would  
**CONTROL**  
**IMMIGRATION**  
THURSDAY, 5.15,  
COUNCIL CHAMBER

# GUILD NEWS

No. 599

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18th, 1961

Price 3d.

FILM SOCIETY  
Eisenstein's  
**'Ivan the Terrible'**  
Part 2.  
Mech. Eng. Theatre:  
7.30: FRIDAY NEXT

## NEW COMPUTER FOR BACK-ROOM BOYS

By the end of next year the Maths-Physics department is to obtain a high-speed digital computer which operates 20 times faster than any computer at present installed in a British University. The new computer, bought at an initial cost of £175,000, will be a KDF9 data processing system produced by the English Electric Company.

News of the purchase became known when, after an exhibition at Olympia, it was announced that orders to the value of £1,000,000 had been placed with English Electric by four universities, Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds and Liverpool. The Birmingham machine will be paid for by means of a grant from the University.

Mr. Redish of the Maths-Physics department, said: "The grant allowed for the purchase of the machine was less than had been hoped, with the result that for the time being we shall have a smaller capacity system available for our use."

### Extension

It is the intention of the University to loan the use of the computer to large concerns outside the University who find such machines useful for payroll calculations. With the proceeds of this hire system, it should eventually be possible to purchase the parts needed for the extension of the computer.

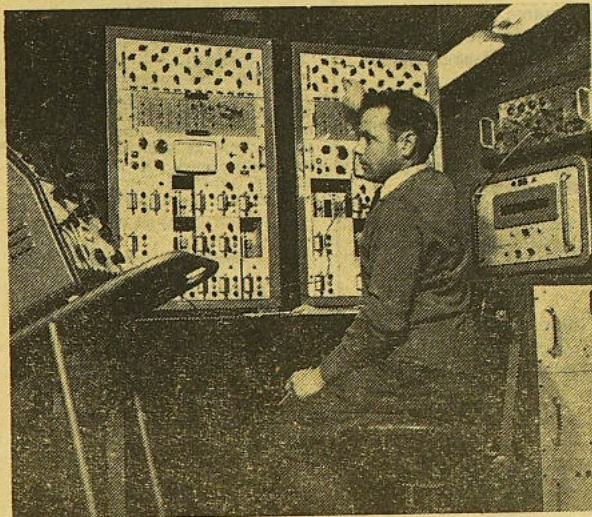
One of the reasons for the choice of a KDF9 is the extremely fast rate at which it can perform arithmetical calculations. It can add numbers together at the rate of 100,000 per second to an accuracy of 12 decimal places, and it can multiply at about half this speed. This speed of operation will, however, be exceeded by the Atlas computers to be installed at Manchester and London at the end of this year, which will be four times as fast again as the KDF9.

### In basement

When it is put into position in December 1962 the computer will occupy the basement of the

Maths-Physics Department on the site at present filled by the Lodgings Warden office. It is hoped that alternative accommodation will have been provided for the Lodgings Warden and her staff by the time the move takes place.

This purchase means that the University will possess a means of tackling many research problems that have never been attempted because of the immense amount of numerical calculation involved.



An analogue computer.

(Photo: Arthur Burgess)

## COUNT DOWN

THERE are two types of electronic computer—digital and analogue. The latter is widely used in the University (see photo), there being three in the Mechanical Engineering Department alone.

### Magnetic

Digital computers are found much more rarely. They are built up of a central computing unit—the part which performs the arithmetic miracles—and a means of storing numbers and the instructions which tell the machine what to do next.

In the proposed system there will be two forms of storage; one will consist of a large number of "magnetic cores"—tiny pieces of magnetic material wired together into a device capable of storing 8,000 numbers of an equivalent amount of instructions or programme.

The second storage medium is on large reels of magnetic tape of a similar type to that used on a conventional tape-recorder. This form of storage, although very slow in operation compared with the magnetic core store, has the advantage that it has almost unlimited capacity—the reel of tape is simply extended when necessary.

### Punched

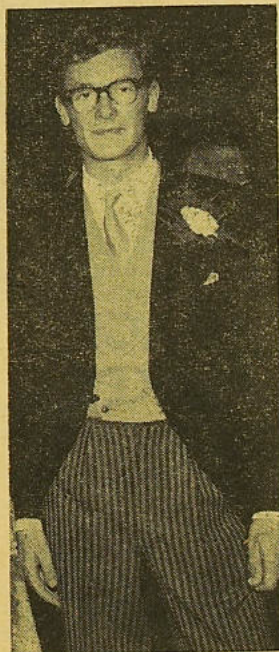
To insert and extract numbers from the computer a punched paper tape (see above headline) is used. Conversion to and from punch marks on the tape is carried out by means of an electric typewriter connected to a tape-reading device.

Large digital computers need a number of programmers to keep them running full time. The programmers' jobs include preparing the problems in a form suitable for insertion into the machine, preparing the paper tape and putting the calculations on to the computer.

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## Presidential discretion invoked CUT-PRICE TICKETS STAY



The sun still shines for Moss Brothers.

LAST Monday, Guild Council rejected the Executive's recommendation for abolishing cut-price tickets for Entertainments Committee functions. Previously the Executive has obtained concessions to enable them to observe the running of these functions. At a recent meeting they discussed the question of expenses, with particular regard to events organised by Entertainments Committee. Methods of economising on Guild Dinner also came under consideration, and a memorandum was issued to Council members.

The Executive unanimously agreed that expenses involved in the entertainment of distinguished visitors were valid, as were those necessary to hold Guild "At Homes" and send representatives to other universities. Council endorsed this.

### Divided

On the matter of Entertainments Committee functions, the Executive did not feel that it had any right to free entry for Sunday Flics. With regard to Hops, opinion was almost evenly divided, some members feeling that it enabled them to keep in touch with student opinion informally.

The Executive considered that some of its members should be present at all formal functions, but that this did not necessitate subsidised tickets.

The past arrangement has been for Exec. to pay for the food only—amounting to about half price. However, Council decided that in future the decision would be left to the President.

Guild Dinner incurs an annual loss of £350-£400, and the Executive are anxious to reduce this without lowering the standard of the function. They therefore recommended to Council economies which should save over £100. These involved councillors paying for their own dinner, the hire of evening dress for Executive, and the use of the public address system being discarded. Council felt, however, that expenditure on Guild Dinner could not be decreased without spoiling the function, and rejected Executive's recommendations by 42 votes to 12.

### Annual

Opinion was divided over the matter of inviting representatives from other Universities; a saving of £50 could be made by adopting a system where they were invited on alternate years only. Some felt that this might affect the success of the dinner as a whole. Exec. Council rejected this idea also.

Have you seen this week's New Statesman?

THE NEW STUDENT  
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# GUILD NEWS

The Birmingham University Newspaper

## Why Sit Down?

WHAT are the ethical principles underlying civil disobedience? Is it justifiable under any circumstances at all?

We ask these questions because Miss Pat Arrowsmith has been forced to end her hunger strike and we are interested to know how she justifies her action.

It seems clear, from the very name of the movement if nothing else, that the action which the Committee of 100 is taking is illegal. Civil Disobedience—disobedience of the civil law.

It also seems clear that, in a democratic state, their action should not be necessary. If the movement had sufficient popular support it would be able to remove the government of the day for one of its own choosing.

Do we mis-state the problem? Is it as we have suggested? or are arguments about illegality and obedience to the law (however idiotic) irrelevant to the point at issue?

We have asked many people their views. Not only do they give different answers to these questions, but each side seems unable to be clear about its own views, let alone those of its opponents.

What is the truth?

## Rubber Stamp

FOR those of you who are not familiar with the idea of having a Warden, we may explain that, every three years, the Guild elects a distinguished man to this position, a man who will be a figurehead worthy of the Guild and of whom the Guild can be proud. The Warden has the responsibility of organising fresh elections in the event of the resignation of all the elected members of the student body.

At the first meeting of Guild Council this session it was proposed that the new Warden, to replace Professor Humphrey Humphreys, who has retired, should be Sir Arthur Thompson, ex-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

Let us say nothing against Sir Arthur, a man whom we should be delighted to see as Warden, but why was there only one nomination for this post? Furthermore, why was this nomination made by the President?

It is, of course, possible that it was pure coincidence that only the President had anyone to propose, but the suggestion of the decision being taken before Council had a chance to consider any alternative suggestions is an unfortunate one.

Why should we not have as spirited a competition for the position of Warden as there is for the position of President? Election to the position of Warden should be an honour, not the rubber stamp procedure implied at present.

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## Appeal from teenager

# OUR CHANCE TO VOTE

SIR,—Now that the yearly intake of 18 and 19-year-olds has reached you again, it would be interesting to hear their views on the topic of votes at 18. This should touch undergraduates closely as they represent quite a large proportion of the population in the 18 to 20 age group.

We are allowed to die at 18 by due process of the law; we are still, in time of national emergency, liable to fight for our country at 18; we are judged capable, in many cases, of the responsibilities of marriage at 18.

Yet with all this, we are not allowed to decide who shall be the people with the power to thrust these things upon us. What immutable natural law says that we become adult only at 21? We may be young but

if there are so many things which vitally concern us in the history of the nation then we must be of some importance to it. Let us have the vote at 18.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN CRABBE.

## TO BE HUNG

SIR,—With oblique reference to my last letter to the effect that the Union consider hanging pictures I have received an invitation to hang an exhibition in the Arts building.

Would any members of the University who paint seriously and are interested in hanging about six of their own pictures, contact me as soon as possible via pigeonholes in the Union or the Arts building?

Yours sincerely,  
CHRISTOPHER CROWE.

## NOT SO SIMPLE

### Defence of M. J. Q.

SIR,—Having just read the review of the M.J.Q. concert of last week, I feel obliged to rush to my already overheated typewriter to defend the character of John Lewis who, reportedly, "carried simplification to ridiculous extremes" in his piano solos.

In writing the above phrase D.W.C.V. has himself oversimplified the matter of those piano solos. While the "four men, one sound" idea may well be an acceptable superficial explanation of the musical ideals of the M.J.Q., the fact remains that the quartet is composed of four individual musicians, each having his own individual personality and temperament.

At a time when it seems socially necessary to malign this most famous of all modern jazz groups, allow me, please, to add just one dissenting voice to the chorus.

Yours, etc.,  
ANTHONY SUTTON.

## WRITERS' CHANCE

SIR,—"Degree" is an independent inter-universities magazine now in its second year of existence.

The aim of the magazine is to present a forum of university opinion and writing from all over Britain. The magazine is run by a group of Cambridge and London University students. It is quite independent of any one college or university, however, as it is of any political party.

### Aspect

With the end of the academic year went most of our writers and distributors. We welcome both new authors and "salesmen." While we cannot afford to pay writers, we do offer 25 per cent commission to all distributors—and there is no expense nor any obligation involved.

### To help

Please write to me for further details.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL BURRAGE.  
42 Wenderover Court,  
Finchley Road,  
London, N.W.2

## SONG BIRDS

SIR,—The proposed choir will fill a need evident to all of us who can sing remotely in tune—whether or not we can read music. The enjoyment and satisfaction of joining other men and women in international folk songs and other music, are something that can be shared with little sacrifice. Potential achievement of a Guild Choir is immense; and I do hope that the response this afternoon will indicate that an activity already successful on the Continent can be introduced to England by our Guild.

Yours etc.,  
RODNEY KLEVAN.

## BRANCHING

LOYD'S BANK has recently announced that it will be opening a full branch on the University campus. It will be situated in the new Refectory, and it is hoped that it will open early in the New Year.

### Introvert

John Lewis happens to be the most introvert of the four, and his solos have always borne the mark of characteristic understatement (in my opinion contrasting very well with the flights of fancy of Milt Jackson) and a certain deliberate restriction of self-expression. I am surprised that D.W.C.V. should find this a "fault," for it is not a new thing. The same economy of style is to be found in his work of 10 years back.

## PRESS POST

Would the gentleman who picked up a briefcase, whether by accident or design, I do not know which, please return it to the Stewards' Office in the Union or communicate with Mr. D. Adelman, First Year Mathematics, via the pigeonholes. The case, which contained a slide-rule and several files, is clearly marked inside with my name.

Yours truly,  
D. ADELMAN.

### Nero says

## Bricks and Straw

FROM the present appearance of the new Refectory it seems likely that by the time that it is finished, it will be a close contender for the title of Ugliest Building in the University. Seen from beneath the Physics Bridge, probably the best line of approach, the building looks ill-proportioned, ill-positioned and generally rather ridiculous.

## IMAGE MAKER

SIR,—If your film critic really must set up between himself and any would-be readers a defence-barrier of pseudo-erudition and literary allusion, it would be a great help both to his image-building project and to readers interested in films, if he would make just one concession to convention and intelligibility by adopting the old-fashioned device of getting his facts straight.

Last week Mr. Reed said that "Victim" would be a better film if its directors had treated its theme of homosexuality "uncompromisingly, like Visconti in La Terra Trema." Since "La Terra Trema" is documentary about Sicilian fishermen with quite normal sex-lives, one begins to wonder who your critic thinks he's fooling.

Yours,  
ROGER SHAMSHALL.

## Meeting of the new thinkers

# THE CRIMES OF RELIGION

THE Roman Catholic attitude towards Birth Control is a crime against humanity," declared Professor Sargent Florence speaking to the New Thinkers. His Presidential address was entitled "Religion as an obstacle to progress in the underdeveloped countries."

He pointed out how poor many nations are; Indonesia has only two per cent of the United States' average income, while Pakistan, India and Egypt have four per cent. Two-thirds of the world's population are inefficient because they are undernourished, he said. Although he was not unduly worried about standards of living, he realised that most people wanted to be better off. His criticisms of religion were concerned with productivity, equality of income and population problems.

### Example

Citing the example of the Mohammedan fast, Ramadan, he accused religion of hindering productivity. Work virtually ceases during such fasts and the authorities cannot get any co-operation from the people. Apart from this, many religions prevented women from taking jobs, hence cutting productivity by at least 30 per cent. The Hindu practice of keeping cows sacred, allowing them to eat the crops and not using their

milk and meat, was typical of the religious attitudes in the East. Worst of all was the attitude of religion towards education. In some instances two-thirds of the education was devoted to religious study, and many Mohammedans had to learn the Koran word for word.

A prosperous society must have a fluid class system with no rigid castes, he said.

### Final

His final and most vehement criticism was that against religious attitudes towards Birth Control. It has been estimated that if the present birth rate continues we will not even have any standing room in 600 years time. Furthermore, women were encouraged to take a submissive part in society.

Turning to a more constructive viewpoint, he felt that foreign aid should only be given on conditions which should eliminate religious interference to progress. Countries with no such obstacles could be used as examples, and he suggested Puerto Rico.

Answering questions later he felt that Russian infiltration into underdeveloped countries was spectacular, but not on a scale to cause worry.

## THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PARK



Mist and rubble and a tall, tall lamp post.

(Photo: Arthur Burgess)

## Credits

AMONG those involved in the production of "Guild News" this term are:—

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Adverts       | Peter Ealey     |
| Features      | Val Jennings    |
| News          | Mike Coe        |
| Politics      | Bruce Abrahams  |
| Sport         | Dick Thorne     |
| Sub           | Tim Betts       |
| Subscriptions | Judith Strong   |
| Photographs   | Arthur Burgess  |
| "             | Mike Webber     |
| "             | George Chapman  |
| "             | Stanley Dolphin |
| "             | Brian Wigginton |

Wendy Burrow, Celia Layzell, David Vine, Harvey Jervis, Martin Binks, Bunny Reed, Keith Surtees, Siné MacLennan, Rosemary Godfrey, Sue Thompson, Maureen Jones, Bob Mundy, Judy Skempton, Judith Prideaux, Alan Woods, Dave Hencken, Pauline Neale, Steve Goddard, Vincent Powell-Smith, Tim Austin, Pete Hudson, Graham Powell.

## Chaplain's higher service

THE University Chaplain, the Rev. Keith Wilkes, has been asked by the World Student Christian Federation to serve on an International Study Commission on "The Christian Community in the University." He is at present engaged in editing a collection of essays from several countries on "The Christian Mission in the University."

## Med. School Column IT'S UP TO YOU

THE aged medic, sitting in the happy jumble of the canteen or sunk deep in the smoky gloom of the common room, has yet again a grouse. No longer are the swift couriers bringing him the latest copy of "Guild News."

In fact, if he urgently needs this pleasant soporific, he must stir out of his chair, put on his gumboots and wade through mud and the comments of Irish labourers down to the Union. And there, of course, he has to pay for it. Gone is the

pleasant system where he strolled into the canteen, took a copy invitingly displayed and, in the rush for the hot meat pies, forgot to pay for it.

### Rightly

For even "Guild News" staff eventually realised that they were losing money. And they have rightly stipulated that unless someone of the medical fraternity is prepared to give up an hour every Wednesday to supervise the sale of the paper, it will no longer be sold in the medical school.

If therefore you want "Guild News" sold in the Med. School, it's up to you, isn't it?

TABES.

## Debating SPEAK UP!

THERE must be many Freshers who used to debate at school but who have not yet orated at a meeting here, otherwise how does one account for the comparatively poor quality of the debates held so far this term?

As an inducement to reluctant Ciceros, vast prizes are offered for the winner and runners-up of the Freshers' Debating Tournament, the Preliminary rounds of which will be held next Wednesday afternoon in comparative peace and privacy.

Entrants may not speak for longer than five minutes even if they want to, and the motions are announced several days beforehand. You can still enter if you write a little note to Bunny Reed before the weekend.

All welcome to an informal forum (with student panel), on aspects of unilateral disarmament for Britain: Thursday, 5.15, Com. Moom 3.

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## Not The Only Ones

# Fire and eggs

IN six months three students at Cambridge have committed suicide. All have gassed themselves.

Cambridge Union authorities, therefore, are demanding the removal of gas fires from students' rooms and their replacement with electrical appliances. It is thus hoped that students will not find such an easy solution to their perennial problems of love and money.

This reminds us of the psychiatrist in Edinburgh who drastically reduced the city's suicide rate by raising the parapet of its main bridge by a few inches. The dread of London students—and especially the ladies—was reawakened a few Saturdays ago when students of the Royal Veterinary College attended a dance in the gardens of the Westfield College for Young Ladies. "The rowdiest dance I have ever known," said one aged porter, "I couldn't sleep," said another. But one young lady at least must have found it tame: "Just like a school dance," she said.

### Fire

A serious fire which broke out in the Chemistry Block of Reading was discovered only by chance. Mr. Ron Ashfield, a technician, who discovered it whilst taking his motor-cycle for a walk, was able to summon the Fire Brigade in the nick of time. Only one room was damaged by the fire and no valuable research material was lost.

We are glad to announce that the University budgeters did not suffer in the conflagration, although their night's sleep was somewhat disturbed by the clumping of heavy boots.

### Bad Eggs

Oriental students of this university will be interested to hear that an Oriental Ball at Leeds was interrupted by the throwing of bad eggs at the stage.

"Malayan Undergrad" reports that a committee of enquiry has been set up to discover the culprits.

## New Choir SING! SING!

A MASSED Guild Choir that would sing folk-songs from all countries is an idea that has recently found much support in certain quarters of the Guild.

The project is basically the brain-child of David Cohen, a Commerce student, who was present, during the vacation, at an international student song festival in Israel. Most people in Britain, he thinks, do not realise that a choir is made up of "ordinary" voices, and that a band of singers with "untrained" vocal chords can, if directed by someone who knows what he is doing, produce a pleasant and rousing sound after a very short period of rehearsal.

### Meeting

The Guild Choir is, briefly, conceived as an outlet for the aspirations and ambitions of frustrated bathroom baritones and sopranos; that is, people who just like singing. For everyone interested in this idea, there will be a meeting today in the Council Chamber at 5.15, when David Cohen will explain it more fully.



## Research at Stratford

# CORELLI TO THE BARD

TO anyone, with even remote knowledge of either Shakespeare or Marie Corelli, the Victorian novelist, a connection between these writers will appear impossible, or at any rate, undesirable. A connection, however, does exist. Mason Croft, the square red-brick 18th-century house in Stratford, formerly the home of Marie Corelli, is now the headquarters of the Shakespeare Institute.

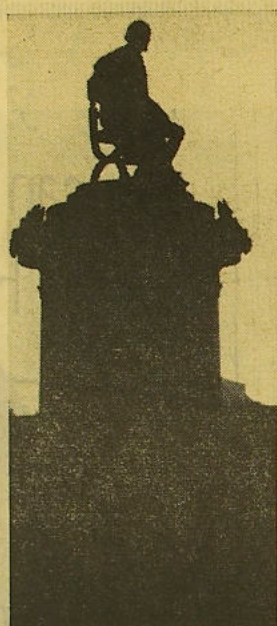
Her gazebo in the garden has, surprisingly enough, been the place of the inspiration of many a learned treatise, such as that on the use of the word "tush" in 16th-century English or plant symbolism in Shakespeare.

Miss Corelli was the proud owner of a gondola complete with Italian gondolier who conveyed her up and down the Avon while she wrote her novels. Budding authors among the research students at the Institute firmly deny that the practice continues today.

### Charm

There is a danger of thinking of Stratford as an American colony. It is so much more than a place where you pay to go into the church because it happens to house a poet's bust. The Institute has a natural architectural charm which commercialisation has left still surprisingly unspoilt. It is a most desirable place for quiet study and, as the senior tutor emphasised, it forms no part of the Shakespeare industry.

For some years Birmingham University has run an international summer school in Shakespeare studies and an annual Shakespeare Conference and has published the findings of scholars in the Shakespeare



survey. These are the foundations on which the Institute was built, but it was through the

initiative of its benefactor, Mr. Oliver King, a Birmingham industrialist, and particularly Professor Allardyce Nicholl, the eminent Shakespearean scholar, and its director till his retirement this year, that the Institute began in 1951.

### Research

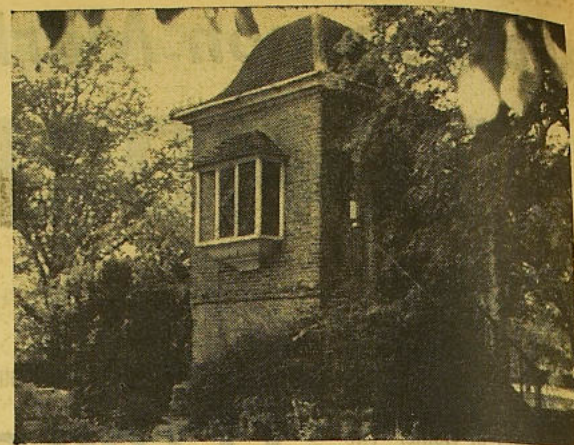
As part of the English Department of this University, it was established to promote study and research into all aspects of Elizabethan life and literature and particularly into the life and works of Shakespeare.

There is a staff of four teaching Fellows and usually about 20 students of widely differing ages and nationalities, including this year students from Canada, America, India and Syria. Most of them are candidates for higher degrees; one lady we met is doing research into 16th-century wood engravings.

Students exchange findings and opinions at seminars and ample resources for their work are available in the Shakespeare Memorial Library, in local archives and particularly in their own unique collection in the microfilm library.

### Complete

They will soon have one of the world's most complete collections of early printed work—thousands of books in the original



The gazebo in the garden of Marie Corelli's old house, now the Shakespeare Institute.

(Photos: Mike Webber).

nal style and printing—and all contained in a steel filing cabinet. In the microfilm reading room there are five big readers at which the students sit like monks in their cells, closely studying the facsimiles. This library—a revolution in the

### by G.N. STAFF

world of scholarship—has obvious advantages. It is less expensive than buying rare books, or going abroad to see them, and it also saves priceless manuscripts from damage.

The students study the handwriting and documents of the time and help to contribute to the general files of the Institute. Catalogues are being built up of patrons, performances, and characters' names, among other subjects, and this apparently

solless task has often proved of great use and interest.

You may think that the Institute should be situated nearer the University. Both students and staff do tend to feel rather cut off from the English Department, but they find a far greater sense of community at Stratford and there is always the added attraction of the theatre.

### Intercourse

The group at the Shakespeare Institute is small enough and scholarly enough for close intellectual intercourse between all the members, whether in the library or the lounge, the conservatory or the fellows' room. There is about the place an air of peaceful celebration in which hard work is not harrowing and related studies make for the best social relations in an international and eminently civilised academic community.

## SPORT

FOOTBALL  
HOCKEY  
BADMINTON  
BASKETBALL

## XV's FIRST WIN

University 16 pts., Old Eds. 8

AT Bournbrook last Saturday, the Rugby Club scored its first win of the season by defeating Old Edwardians by two goals, one try and a penalty goal to one goal and a penalty.

Though the University deserved to win, the score flattered them somewhat. Certainly the half-time score of 10-0 did little justice to the Old Eds, who had had a good proportion of the attacking play until then.

### Fine run

The first try came from a fine run by B. Jenkins after cutting through the centre and beating off innumerable tackles, Davies converting easily. Right on half-time, the opposition having gone close several times, Pole went over for a try under the posts, following a good break by A. Jenkins. Davies again converted.

For long periods in the second half the O.E.s. were the better team; playing with great vigour, they fought back to 10-8. Nevertheless, a spirited revival by the University put the issue beyond doubt. Keeping up an almost continuous attack, they went close several times before Nelchurpe went over in the corner. Just before the end, Davies completed a useful afternoon's work by kicking a penalty goal from the 25-yard line.

### More ideas

Throughout, the O.E.s. defended stoutly, although the tackling was sometimes at fault; however, the University had far more ideas in attack, despite a tendency for the halves and, to some extent, the centres to hold on too long.

By and large, this was an interesting, if slightly scrappy game, and it should emphasise for the University that no match is won at half-time.

## Toughest Task Visit to Loughboro'

TODAY the Football Club faces its toughest task of the season: they travel to Loughborough for the first U.A.U. championship match. For the benefit of those who may not know, U.A.U. (University Athletic Union) championships are divided into regions; the Midlands region for soccer comprises Birmingham, N. Staffs, Leicester, Nottingham and Loughborough.

### Little risk

It will be risking very little to predict that Loughborough will win the Midlands section and go on to collect the U.A.U. soccer championship. (Oxford, Cambridge, and London not, of course, being members). Of the Loughborough team which last season reached the fourth round of the Amateur Cup and won the U.A.U. title with a goal average of 37-4, five remain.

### Awe-inspiring

It is this awe-inspiring collection of footballers that the Football Club takes on this afternoon. However, class oppo-

THE immediate reaction after the Freshers' Trial was one of dismay. This was due to the dearth of foreign post-graduates on whom the Basketball Club usually relies to form the nucleus of the first team. Only one such player has emerged this season—Joe Moravek, a Czechoslovakian from the Spartak Sports Club in Prague, who is a qualified coach in his own country. Any other post-graduates who have basketball experience will therefore be very welcome to join the practices at 5 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Gym.

All of last year's stars have left except Umit Imre, the brilliant Turkish player who is a constant source of delight to players and spectators alike with his amazing ball control and genius for the unexpected.

### From scratch

Six-foot seven-inch centre Ben Smith has returned to Canada, whilst Hungarian Toni Komali, the brains behind last year's team, is now doing research at London University. Add to these the loss of former captain Bob Kempson and last season's highly successful captain, Tony Draper, and it can be seen that this season team-building will have to start virtually from scratch.

However, the situation looks far bleaker than it really is because of the inevitable compar-

### BASKETBALL

## Bristol Beaten

AFTER being outclassed in the opening two games against teams which included several internationals, the players showed improved individual form and better teamwork in defeating Bristol University.

The return of Imre in this game proved an inspiration to all and by half-time a lead of 23-8 had been built up. Then, however, Bristol fought back and in fact deservedly out-scored Birmingham during the second half, but the return of Imre just before the end enabled them to notch a fine victory.

Results:—  
Univ. 44, R.A.F. Bridgnorth 84  
University 26, Dolobran 42  
University 44, Bristol Univ. 32

## Outlook bleak for Basketball

# STARS GO OUT, SO CHANCES DIM

## Hockey Hopes

DESPITE the fact that the Women's Hockey Club lost 1-0 to Leeds last week, this game promised well for the season. Vacancies in the team were filled by three freshers, two former second-team players and a graduate from South Africa.

### Defence safe

The defence was generally safe and effective, sound covering and stick-work being their main assets. There is undoubted potential in the team, and greater experience of match-play will develop this.

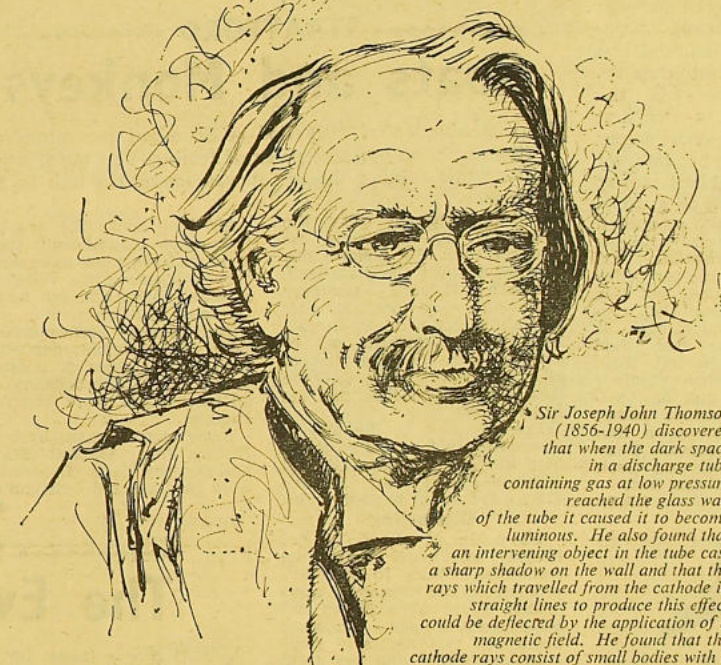
The second team lost 5-4. However, there seems to be greater enthusiasm and ability than in previous years, and if this standard is maintained they can expect a successful season.



Nick Bond.

vital first round of the U.A.U. championship is on the 18th October against Loughborough—always a tough nut to crack even in the best of seasons.

## Turning Points to Tomorrow



Sir Joseph John Thomson (1856-1940) discovered that when the dark space in a discharge tube containing gas at low pressure reached the glass wall of the tube it caused it to become luminous. He also found that an intervening object in the tube cast a sharp shadow on the wall and that the rays which travelled from the cathode in straight lines to produce this effect could be deflected by the application of a magnetic field. He found that the cathode rays consist of small bodies with a negative charge which he named electrons.

The modern student of science meets up with the electron at a stage in his career when he can hardly appreciate the tremendous creative contribution made by Thomson to the science of atomic energy.

The solutions to the problems confronting the U.K.A.E.A. today may well become the foundations for future scientific development. They call for qualities parallel to those of the pioneers and offer every opportunity for creative work of enduring scientific significance.

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# ACADEMIC BOOKS FROM EAST GERMANY

An exhibition organised by Deutscher Buch-Export und -Import GmbH, Leipzig C 1, German Democratic Republic.

October 24—27, 1961

The University of Birmingham

The Rare Book Room of the University Library

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The exhibition consists of a selection of books issued by the academic publishers of the German Democratic Republic. All fields of learning are represented, particularly linguistics and literary criticism, history, natural sciences and medicine.

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## FILMS

# Stiff-Necked People

ONE supposes there is some sort of parallel between the establishment of post-war Israel and Vergil's account of the foundation of Rome, tenuous though it be. But anyone who thinks that by witnessing "Exodus" (West End) he may expose himself to the power and sweeping range of the subject-matter to be found in the book, I mean the Book, the subtle allegorical nuances touched at times with what seems to be an almost metaphysical insight, has got another think coming.

In general, the first three hours of this long, and even longer-winded film, are tolerably entertaining, but the next six-and-a-quarter are very hard-going indeed. It gets off to a splendidly epic start with Paul Newman, who takes upon himself the role of pious Moses, emerging from the spumy wave all muscles and scout shorts.

### Herculean

It is he, as Ben Something—or other, who is destined to let his people go home to the land of their fathers, and, one assumes, mothers. He goes about this Herculean task by adroitly hijacking a Jewish refugee camp, transplanting it on the eponymous ship of state and shooting the entire menage off to Palestine.

Throat-cutting, terror, and violence are piled on indiscriminately for no better reason, it seems, than that some people are prepared to pay 3/6d. to watch such edifying spectacles.

The trite technique of cutting for acute contrast is exploited ad nauseam; and tranquil

scenes of British gentlefolk drinking cocktails on hotel balconies are suddenly interrupted by big bangs and dirty deeds down in the Arab quarter.

The fact is that the squalid political intrigue of ten years ago, which forms the backbone of this story, is hardly the stuff good epics are made of. Events must be looked at through the wrong end of a telescope darkly before they can be seen in any sort of heroic light. At this rate some enterprising mogul will be making an epic out of Suez, with the University Chancellor playing God, Colonel Nasser, the snake, and the United Nations as Adam and Eve.

Mr. Newman, talking fast and, owing to some quirk of voice, apparently through a mouth full of chewing-gum, comes out of it all with some Titanic stature, but he had that to start with; also recognisable is the world's worst actor, John Derek, heavily disguised as an Arabian chief.

One would not, in short, wittingly inflict this affair on anyone other than "Guild News" film reviewers and those seeking four hours' consecutive dark in the warm. The whole thing is soaked in Technicolor, presumably to make sure the blood flows nice and red.

Bunny Reed.

## G.T.G.

# At Last!

"WAITING FOR GODOT" is a play that you either like or loathe. Judging from the full house and the applause last Sunday, most theatre-goers in the University are in the first category: but some empty seats after the interval showed that Beckett wasn't having it all his own way.

John Brown's production aimed at maximum realism: where characterisation was concerned this made for better drama and contrast, but the jerky lighting effects that represented the arrival of night at first strained the eyes, then dazzled them, then left them useless so that when Vladimir told Estragon to pull his trousers up, the audience hadn't even seen them fall down. Ron White, Paul Harman, Terry Hands, David Elboz and Geoff Hutchings formed the cast.

T.A.S.



Paul Harman as Lucky.

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Sal Mineo and Eva Marie Saint console each other during a hunger-strike on board the "Exodus."

## The Great Unknown

TWO comparatively little-known films comprise a double-bill at the Gaumont this week. One, "The Big Bankroll," should stay that way. The other, "The Wastrel," is a minor masterpiece of movie-making on modest means and deserves wider recognition.

I have always found big business and high finance rather mystifying. Now I've seen "The Big Bankroll." I still do, only more so. Set in Chicago in the twenties, the film, tells of the rise and fall of one, Arnold Rothstein. The language difficulty, (Chicago slang), was some barrier to my complete appreciation of his steps on the road to tycoonery. Indeed, when the fall came, I was still trying to figure out his first deal.

This film is one for Legs Diamonds, Wall-Street wallahs and Chicago shysters. Incidentally, if you're going to see Mickey Rooney and Diana Dors,

billed as stars of the film, keep your eyes open. It's like watching for Hitchcock.

Praise does not do justice to "The Wastrel." It should be seen. Starring Van Heflin as Duncan Bell, a rich American living on a West Indian island, this refreshingly unusual Italian film accounts for his present desperate depression through a series of flashbacks, as naturally introduced as they are dramatically relevant. The realism of both story and dialogue, at sea and on land, is matched by a trio of excellent performances and flawlessly sensitive direction by Giovanni Paolucci.

How do the two films compare? Both concern rich men. One succeeds and is wrecked, the other wrecked and succeeds. So ends the comparison. I'd sit through one to see the other anytime.

Harvey Jervis.

## STRATFORD

# Goats and Monkeys

THE production of "Othello" at Stratford has stimulated the critics to opposite poles of feeling. For one it was a failure while another thought it was among the best he had ever seen.

This disagreement about the production is, of course, no stronger than the historic disagreement about the play itself. Compare Rymer's summary judgement, "the Tragical part is plainly none other than a Bloody Farce, without salt or savour," with the idea that of all Shakespeare's plays, "it is the most painfully exacting and the most terrible."

The greatness of the play is obvious today, but it is questionable whether Sir John Gielgud (Othello), and Ian Bannen (Iago) are equal to their roles.

### Distracting

The action of "Othello" is not helped by more than the traditional setting. In Zeffirelli's production, the scenery is overloaded. There were pillars and battlements, huge embossed doors and vast flights of steps—all distracting the eye from the acting. Complicated scene changes slowed down the pace of the play and the attention was lost during the long pauses after nearly every scene.

Gielgud has never played Othello before and everyone hoped he would be a success. He wasn't. Othello is a noble Moor with the heroic qualities of strength and courage. This Othello was dignified but inhibited and lacking in majesty and power. He had the dignity of a prince but could never have been called a thick-lipped barbarian.

Sir John spoke the verse in the usual magnificent classic style we have come to expect of this "disembodied voice" as someone called him, but he was obviously miscast.

Ian Bannen's performance as Iago, the terrible puppeteer, with its overtones of homosexuality, was an interesting one, but his words were often inaudible.

Patsy Byrne was lively as Bianca; Peggy Ashcroft (Emilia) and Dorothy Tutin (Desdemona) were good but not outstanding.

M.S.

## BOOKS

# The Evil Thereof

NOTHING is taken for granted in a new Penguin Special entitled "What's Wrong with the Church?"—which is particularly refreshing when it is considered that the author, Nick Earle, is himself an Anglican minister. He is not afraid to reduce everything to its original and basic conception in order to find out what has gone wrong and how.

He lays much of the blame at the door of the church's impregnable hierarchy, showing that the wedding of church and state precipitated the downfall of the former by turning it from a community into an organisation, with a form of authority that has led the church into political, economic and social slavery.

### Immediacy

A lack of immediacy is another criticism which he makes—believing that the contemporary loss of faith in the church is due to its own concern with tradition, history, and aesthetic considerations, rather than with being perceptive and understanding in its pronouncements on twentieth-century moral problems.

"It is surely grotesque," he writes, "to reproduce Jesus's story of the leaven in a lump of bread for the benefit of an

audience which buys its loaves sliced and wrapped—simply because Jesus told it."

### Asceticism

And in a chapter entitled "A Society for the Sexless?" he challenges the association of the church with asceticism, giving a convincing reconciliation of sex and worship that pays full heed to Freud's psychological discoveries.

He has, too, some constructive suggestions to offer. How practicable these suggestions would prove is debatable, but nevertheless, an attempt has been made.

The book is written in a lucid and readable style which will be welcome to those who are nauseated by the facile clichés that are bandied about at S.C.M. and suchlike meetings, or by the inept vacuities of the "Come to Church" propagandists.

K.S.

## MUSIC

# Bax of Bliss

SIR ARNOLD BAX's "Tintagel" of 1920 is a very satisfying work, not only in emotional content and orchestral colour, but also in design. I cannot recall hearing a better performance than that which the C.B.S.O. and Harold Gray gave last Thursday. (Mr. Gray knows how to handle an orchestra).

The tuttis of big scores like "Tintagel" need very careful control and balancing. This performance not only had these qualities, but was spaciouly conceived. Before I leave "Tintagel," I must mention the exquisite moulding on the main melody on the first violins. There was no better phrasing in the whole evening.

### Heartening

Sir Arthur Bliss's "Meditation on a theme of John Blow" was commissioned by the C.B.S.O. in 1955. It is heartening to see that tonal music of this high quality is still being written to combat the onslaught of atonality.

Structurally speaking, it is easier to write a series of shortish movements as Bliss has done here, than to write a single long one.

Some may have found the work too superficial (due perhaps to the brilliant orchestration?), but surely musical invention abounds in plenty. The performance of the "Meditation" was first-rate.

Moisevitich's interpretation of Rachmaninov's "Paganini Rhapsody" disappointed bitterly, being rhythmically very lax, with the result that pianist and conductor frequently found themselves at different parts of the score, with the audience wondering whether they were both playing the same work.

Martin Binks.

## T.V.

# The Skipping King

THE eye of the T.V. camera is heartless and malicious; any personal quirk or mannerism is magnified so that the audience sees not so much a man with a quirk, as a quirk with a little man stuck on it.

One was forcibly reminded of this when watching Mr. Large in the B.B.C. programme "Scan" on Wednesday which dealt with this University. He seemed to be suffering from acute chorea; he tossed his head, shrugged his shoulders and made little skipping movements. Thus, it was

very hard to concentrate on what he was saying.

I cannot judge whether the programme, made to show the impact of University on freshers, succeeded with the outside world—though it possibly covered too much ground. But for the collector of things bizzare it was something to watch.

### Bad ways

It will be difficult to forget Mr. Large's Testament of Faith. Sorrowfully he told us that as a Freshman he went bad ways; he got into a crowd that apparently believed in work rather than the full University life; but suddenly he found his salvation. At this point one felt a plug for Horlicks was coming, but his panacea he told us, in tones of great moral fervour, was—the Debating Society! Collapse of University audience!

The Freshers interviewed provided much unintentioned amusement. All the ladies—and a right sweet bunch the commentators chose—denied that they had come to work. It was the social life for them. "Work here?" Oh no! I went to a convent school" said one.

The young men were more serious. A hard young Physicist was very suspicious about the social life gambit offered. Such flighty things weren't really for people like him.

And finally we had a Man with a Beard; "Man with a Beard says something weird," we quoted; but he didn't. He talked very good sense about what he was expecting to get out of the University and how most Freshers were too young. We liked him; perhaps he might be persuaded to write for "Guild News" sometime.

T.A.B.