

General meeting demands power

TODAY, at 1.15 p.m., a Special General Meeting of the Guild will take place in the Great Hall. It would seem that most of the 50 members who signed the petition calling for the assembly are linked with Socialist Union, and consequently the three-pronged motion has all the democratic inclination of the Left Wing.

Although Guild Council is about to debate the question of democratisation, a major part of the

new Constitution, the sponsors of the motion feel it necessary to resurrect the sit-in controversy in proposing "A vote of no confidence in Guild Council for its handling of the events after the sit-in" and demand therefore "their immediate resignation."

It is proposed that Guild Council be replaced by a form of direct democracy and the third section of the motion reads accordingly: "In future Guild Policy should be de-

termined by a General Meeting of the Guild."

Already this motion has been fiercely condemned as attempting "to stir up unnecessary trouble" especially when Guild Council itself is on the threshold of introducing considerable reform by way of the comprehensive paper on constitutional amendments prepared by Chris Tyrrell.

J.K.

SECURITY TIGHTENED AS THEFTS INCREASE

A clampdown on security is being ordered all over the campus as the number of thefts occurring shoots up.

Guild Council dismissed

GUILD COUNCIL was last night dismissed by President Ray Phillips following the 7.15 recess as an insufficient number of councillors returned to form the required quorum of 41. This left much of the evening's agenda undiscussed, and several members of Council and Executive were very annoyed.

Clare Dutton, Education Committee Chairman, said: "I think it was very irresponsible of those who were here before the recess and did not return, especially as an important educational motion, which should be every councillor's primary concern, was about to be discussed."

Ray Phillips pointed out that debate over the past three weeks on constitutional reforms had taken much longer than expected and Council meetings had been continuing beyond ten o'clock every week. Just before the recess Guild Council had approved in principle the devolution of responsibility for holding Guild Council elections away from the centre of the Guild on to Guild Councillors themselves, and today a General Meeting will debate whether the power to make policy should rest with Guild Council or a general meeting of the Guild.

This has been found especially necessary in the Union. Last week 1,000 cigarettes were stolen from the Union Shop after the only window without bars was smashed open. At the Three B's dance dozens of handbags and purses were reported missing and yesterday two Picasso reproductions on loan from the Arts Council and hanging in Concourse Lounge, disappeared—presumably stolen the night before.

Chris Tyrrell was concerned that although this exhibition was not valuable, it could make it impossible for the Union to insure any further exhibitions. R. T. Jones, Permanent Secretary, said yesterday that the Union Shop window had been mended and bars would be put on it as soon as possible. But, he added that the window had been without bars for fifteen years and this was the first theft.

Yesterday the Catering Officer of the Refectory said: "There is an almost continuous incidence of theft from our cloakrooms." Recently there were five overcoats stolen in two days. The disturbing aspect is that it is impossible to say whether such thefts are being carried out by students or "more professional outsiders," but what is obvious is that they almost certainly have an outlet for selling their stolen materials.

Surprisingly the number of reported thefts from the University Library cloakroom is far lower, only three this term. Last term it was discovered after a student had his cheque book and £20 in cash stolen that the thief was well-known throughout Birmingham and had a notorious record for signing out stolen cheques for goods.

During the vacation, mercury, "worth thousands of pounds" was

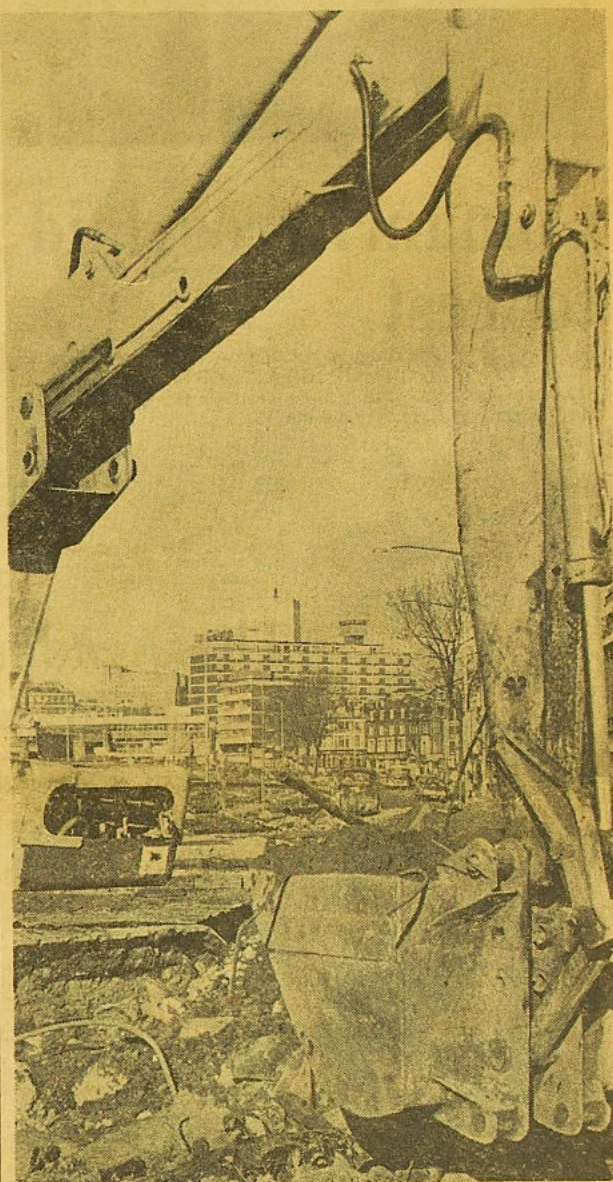
stolen from science and engineering departments by window-cleaners. Building contractors also complain of an alarming amount of materials taken from their sites on the campus.

On the Vale Site staff cars have been broken into and washing machines in the laundrettes have

by
Pete Harrigan

been milked of their silver coins by their containers being prised open. One lecturer had the wheels stolen off his car.

Thefts of books from the Library amount to £500 per year although it is difficult to estimate how many are intentionally stolen. Thefts of cutlery from the Refectory cost the University £500 per year. The Catering Officer has just received an envelope enclosing an Otto Humbert spoon and a small note saying "from a conscience-stricken graduate of the University. I am returning one out of the 385 spoons I have had out of the Refectory since I have been here."



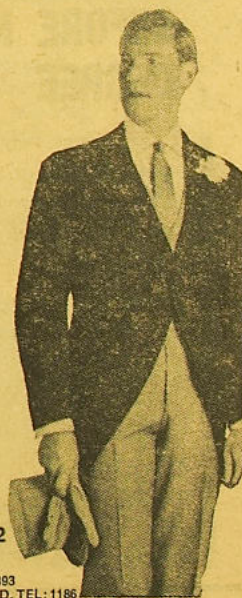
The heart of Birmingham is being torn apart. Inside, "Redbrick" examines some aspects of social and cultural development in Birmingham.

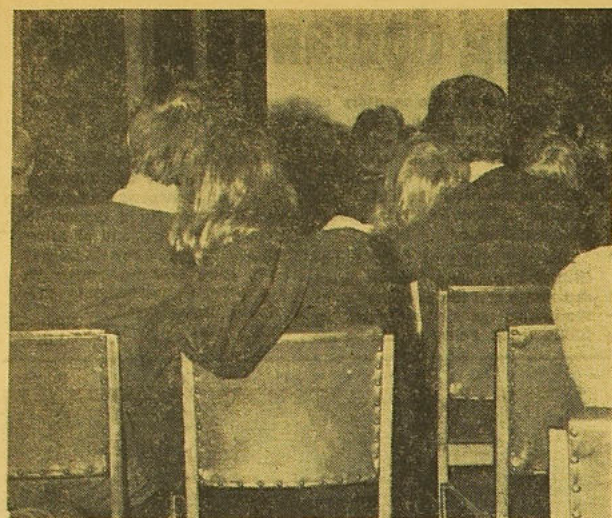
37/6

So smart in appearance in a Dormie Morning Suit, made from the finest materials, impeccably cut, and tailored by Sumrie. So smart in other ways too, because you know a good thing when you see it and save yourself money. At Dormie prices you can outsmart everyone (except other Dormie users) and be the centre of attraction at every social function, whether it's a Dance, Dinner or Wedding. Dormie stock every type of formal dress and all the accessories too, with no deposit or booking fee. Try Dormie and be smart—all the time.

DORMIE
MEN'S WEAR HIRE SERVICE
25 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham 2
TELEPHONE: MIDLAND 6975

Also at 10 MELL SQUARE, SOLIHULL. TEL: 7393
26 BIRMINGHAM ROAD, SUTTON COLDFIELD. TEL: 1186





Sweet dreams

BIRMINGHAM landladies, like landladies the world over, are ultra-sensitive to the potential misdeeds of their lodgers, particularly when it comes to drugs. Possession of drugs is one of the few common student vices which is still illegal—therefore even the most enlightened landlady is likely to have serious misgivings on the subject.

We now come to the case of Miss Stephanie Sweet, owner of a farmhouse in Oxford which she let to some students who were then caught there in possession of drugs. Miss Sweet was arrested and convicted on the grounds of having let her property for illegal purposes.

After the Appeal Court rejected her appeal she went to the House of Lords, where she was acquitted on the grounds that she did not know what the house was being used for.

So landladies who don't actually know that there are drugs on their premises are no longer liable to prosecution. And after Miss Sweet's acquittal last week one landlady was heard to make the permissive statement of all permissive statements when she said to her assembled tenants: "You can smoke yourselves to death on cannabis now if you want—it won't affect me at all."

And by this statement she unfortunately implicated herself in any further action on the subject.

Comancheros laid to rest

IT was 6.30 in the Union, only 30 minutes before rolling time, and how many tickets had been sold for the Sunday flic? Seventeen, actually. Didn't more people want to know whether the "Cincinnati Kid" ever did bite the dust?

Fabulous Ent's Comm. was saved in the nick of time because we counted about seventy in the audience during the first few breathtaking moments of this all-time epic. However, did they all stay to the end? And, will they return next week for the next exciting screen sizzler hired at enormous expense from the cobwebbed archives of "Mammoth Productions Inc."?

Well, it's only your money they lose and if they want to spend it on "The Comancheros" next week, why shouldn't they; after all, it's their society—or is it?

Festival is scared

First they were accused of running a protection racket. Now it seems that the whole lot of them are being threatened with extinction by a "slimy little minority group who think they own the ruddy place." Secrecy surrounds the identity of this band of anti-charity fanatics but they are managing to intimidate Festival organisers with their phantom-like menace. But how can this heinous syndicate succeed? Elvin commented: "I dunno, man, but I sure is scared!"

THE MAN WHO WAS PROFESSOR BEFORE HIS DEGREE

We recruit only from graduates and offer

- Outstanding training programme in accountancy, taxation, management consultancy and computers.
- Progress based directly on performance evaluation.
- Rapidly increasing responsibility.
- Stimulating environment working with other able graduates.
- Salary to match responsibilities, rising from an initial figure of £1,100.

Meet us informally in the Commerce Building, Lecture Room 5, on February 18 at 5.15 p.m., when graduates of Birmingham and other universities will be available to discuss career opportunities.

More detailed information can be obtained from Mr. M. A. R. Biggs at the Appointments Board or from Mr. V. C. Watts, Arthur Andersen & Co., St. Alphage House, 2 Fore Street, London, E.C.2.

CONSULTANTS

then he founded ARTHUR ANDERSEN & CO. an international firm of accountants and management consultants with U.K. offices in London, Manchester, Glasgow and Dublin.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

back to front

Melting moments at New Street Station

WITH the cold weather making a comeback, it is as well to consider the facilities in the city centre — whilst waiting for night services, or for merely raving quietly to yourself after midnight. New Street Station has recently regained its pre-eminence with the "new" buffet. (Note to Prices and Incomes Board: in the "old" buffet, you didn't have to buy a platform ticket to get into it, whereas now, B.R. are extracting every last threepence.)

The whole point about this exposé is not the coffee, or the sausage rolls, but the plastic teaspoons—a real wonder of modern science. You will find these in a bowl at the end of the counter, the colours wondrous and diverse bringing a ray of sunshine into the drab world. The real crunch comes when you try to stir your coffee with one of the orange ones. The first time I tried it, I was engaged in stimulating conversation, and it was only when my fingers became hot and wet that I realised something was wrong—

so wrong in fact that the hot coffee had softened the plastic. Subsequent carefully-controlled experiments (i.e. using the same cup of coffee) showed that only the orange ones do soften.

Whatever you do, though—DON'T complain, or they might take the orange ones away. This would be a shame, because you can have hours of fun building curious modern sculptures with mis-shapen spoons, all for the price of a platform ticket and a cup of coffee.



Resurrecting the past (a whole two years in fact). Back to Front proudly presents our President in one of his finest hours

festival revue, new, light-hearted, funny. JEMIMA SPAGBRACKET. music, sketches, laughter, songs, university of birmingham revue group. JEMIMA SPAGBRACKET. the opposite lock club, six shillings, la dolce vita eight shillings. JEMIMA SPAGBRACKET. end of february, intimate revue, night clubs, great evening's entertainment, "funniest thing i ever saw"—h. wilson. JEMIMA SPAGBRACKET. emporium, drink, dance, cabarets, tickets from reception. i'm sorry i'll read that again. tickets from reception. tickets from reception.

Substantial Discount in Men's Wear

Austin Jeffs

586 BRISTOL ROAD, BOURNBROOK
(2 doors from Woolworths)

THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE

LAST Thursday's Debauchery Debate on the motion that "This House agrees that the best three things in life are a drink before and a smoke afterwards" provided several interesting insights into the activities of certain of those participating, not least Peter Christie and Rhys Vaughan, proposer and opposer respectively.

The evening's proceedings began to liven up with the arrival of Ray Phillips holding what he described as the biggest chopper ever seen in the Council Chamber.

By Patrick Oakes

Perry Christie opened with a tribal mating call, receiving answers from various parts of the House, foreseeing embarrassing moments during the course of the debate, he requested all virgins to leave the room immediately, if only for their own good. Doubtlessly, there may have been some move-



Ray Phillips at Thursday's debate

ments towards the doors, but it escaped my notice. According to Mr. Christie, the motion appealed to a certain sophisticated type of man—one who would start with a Bloody Mary and finish with a Guard.

Rhys Vaughan discounted all this as "bourgeois nonsense." Nevertheless, he admitted that his amorous experiences had been limited to the partial seduction only of countless English middle class "rotties" on behalf of the Free Wales Army; the use of leeks in these encounters was suggested, and Rhys did not deny this. Unfor-

tunately, these manoeuvres had condemned him to the lonely life of the voyeur, forever wandering the Lincey Hills in search of sports cars on dark nights. Mr. Vaughan left us with a warning as to the effect of alcohol of lowering the blood pressure at certain psychological moments, as his opponent could verify.

Interruptions during the evening were ably provided by Mike Hartley-Brewer and Tony Klug. For some reason it was found necessary to vote, and the motion was defeated by 109 votes to 97, with 76 abstentions.

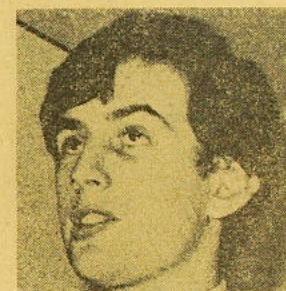
Birmingham marches with L.S.E.

THIRTY students went from Birmingham on Monday to participate in the demonstration by L.S.E. students and their supporters held to call for the re-opening of the school on the students' terms at the earliest possible moment.

As the demonstration approached the school on Monday evening it was held back by lines of police and after attempts to break through the lines failed the demonstrators held a rally in Lincoln's Inn Fields where various speakers reaffirmed the stu-

dents' conditions for the school's re-opening.

A committee of 23 was elected to act in any negotiations with the Director and Governors of the school, and resolutions were passed calling for no victimisation and the re-opening of the school without gates at the earliest possible opportunity. One of the most prominent speakers in the demand to take down the gates was Dave Adelstein, former President of the L.S.E. Union, who was one of the thirteen students against whom the High Court writ was issued.



Dave Adelstein

Ferns slams propaganda and rumour

THE 150-odd people who turned up to last Wednesday's S.G.M. in Deb. Hall found themselves at the centre of the controversy over victimisation and faculty board representation. In the middle of a turgid debate on a long and turgid motion, proposed by Viv Sting, Professor Harry Ferns took the opportunity to attack some of the rumours circulating on the campus, reported in "Redbrick," and in Gerald Hitman's "R" leaflets.

Professor Ferns, a member of Senate and of the Commerce and Social Science Faculty Board, first explicitly stated that no disciplinary action had been contemplated against lecturer Bob Holman by Senate. The only time he had been mentioned was when an individual member had asked that certain factual inaccuracies in Holman's "Birmingham Post" article should be publicly corrected.

This, Professor Ferns stated, was the only basis for the rumours about "threats" and "victimisation."

Moving on to "Redbrick's" two successive front page leads on Faculty Representation, he rejected any implication that Senate, or the other Faculty Boards had attempted to interfere with Commerce and Social Science's plans for student representation.

He concluded by saying that the word "fascist" was being bandied around a lot, but that in his opinion the basis of fascism had never been a political programme, but had rather been the deliberate distortion of the truth and misrepresentation of facts.

After this bombshell, the meeting returned to Miss Sting's motion, which linked trade union legislation with cuts in education, and student

representation in a call for an attack on the Government. The Government, it seems, was engaged in a conspiracy with the capitalists against students and workers. The General Meeting chewed this over and spat it out, rejecting the motion by 71 to 52, with 30 abstentions.

R.L.H.

No more 'Red Base'

SOCIALIST UNION and the Ad Hoc group formed last term have not paid the bill for the numerous handouts printed for them by the Guild before and during the sit-in last term. Ray Phillips revealed this last night in Council, when he said that printing is usually done by the Union office on the basis of trust that the bill will be paid eventually.

As the Ad Hoc group no longer exists Socialist Union is being held responsible for paying the bill and until it is paid the use of various Union facilities, including duplication, is being withheld from them. This means that "Red Base," the Socialist Union magazine, will no longer be printed in the Union, and will have to go out of publication unless alternative printing arrangements can be made for it.

BRITISH RAIL IS GOING PLACES

FAST

Go with them!

Have a talk with the senior railway manager when he visits your University. He can offer careers in management, research, planning, finance, engineering, and estate work.

Or, write to:
Director of Management Development,
BRITISH RAILWAYS BOARD,
222 Marylebone Road, London NW1
or to the Secretary of your University
Appointments Board.



FOR BEER, CIDER, WINES AND 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)



Alan Barr

Chairman Community Action

"WHAT'S his name?" I asked.

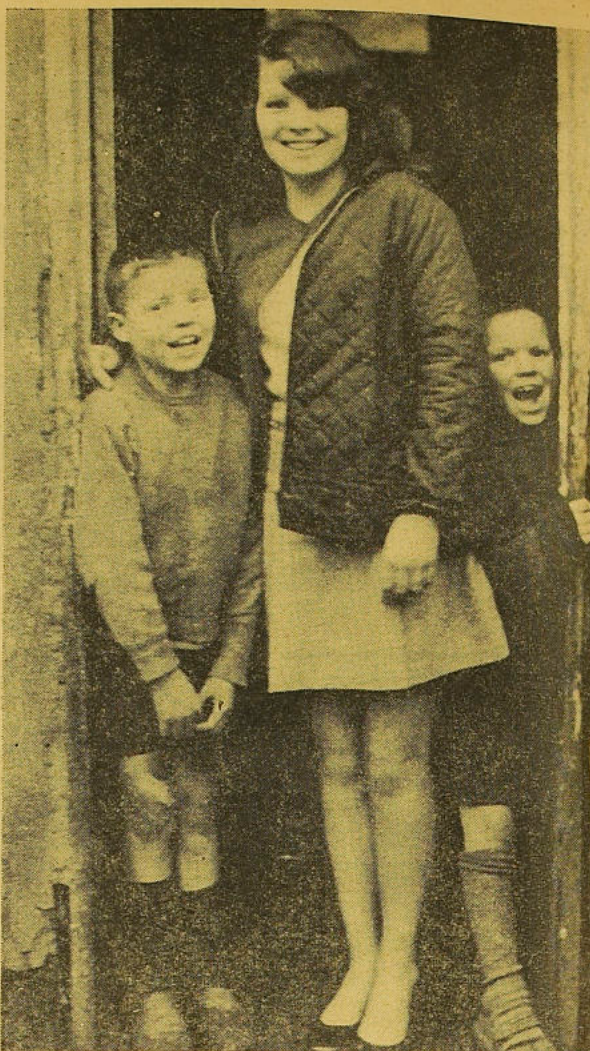
"David . . . no, Paul," was the reply.

Mrs. Seeny has 13 children, she is aged 35; she was widowed a year ago; she lives in a house with plaster falling from the walls, with mould growing on the furniture, with raincoats as blankets, with two light bulbs in eight rooms, with one power socket and one tap. She lives in a council house. Mrs. Seeny looks 55. She has lived in this way for five years.

Having seen the house, the council were prepared to work alongside the Catholic Housing Aid Society to try to rehouse Mrs. Seeny; however, she does not want to move to a new area, being frightened of losing her friends and the support they have been able to give her.

Through the Community Action Section of Festival, Commerce and Social Science are proposing to carry out renovation work, in order that her existence may be a little more bearable until she is forced to move by bulldozers. The Council, after considerable battle, has allowed us to decorate and has agreed to pay the cost.

This is perhaps the most extreme case Community Action is trying to deal with, but all the 40 projects are aiming to plug the gaps in the social service provision and even more to make clear to the students involved the needs of the community in which we are living.



Photos by DAVE ROBINSON

Festival '69 UNIVERSITY ART EXHIBITION

Contributions invited from all Members of the University.

TO BE SUBMITTED:
TUESDAY, FEB. 11th 8.30 - 6.30
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12th 9.30 - 12.00

TO—
ST. FRANCIS HALL - EXHIBITION ROOM
ENTRANCE FEE 2/-

Preview: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17th, 12.00 - 2.00
(with Coffee).

Wednesday
7.30 p.m.:

DEBATE

"This House would
abolish the Public
Schools."
COUNCIL CHAMBER

Thursday
7.30 p.m.:

FILM SOCIETY

'LE BONHEUR'—VARDIA
"Cleo de Cinq a Sept"
—Varda
HAWORTH LECTURE
THEATRE.

Friday
8.00 p.m. - 1.00 a.m.

DANCE

FAIRPORT
CONVENTION
and supporting groups.
LATE BAR 6/-

Saturday
8.00 p.m.:

ENTS. COMM.

DISCOTHEQUE
FOUNDERS ROOM
2/6

Sunday
7.00 p.m.:

SUNDAY FLIC

"THE COMANCHEROS"
DEBATING HALL
3/-

FOR RESERVATION: PHONE SELLY OAK 1698

CHAMON RESTAURANT

507 BRISTOL ROAD, SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM, 29

Only two minutes' walk from the University, this Oriental Restaurant serves delicious English, Indo-Pak and Chinese dishes.

SPECIAL THREE-COURSE LUNCHEON FOR ONLY 5/-

* QUICK SERVICE

* OPENS 12 NOON TO 12 MIDNIGHT EVERY DAY

FOR— HIGH-QUALITY TYPING

of THESE AND OTHER
MANUSCRIPTS
also GERMAN/ENGLISH
TRANSLATIONS

contact Mrs. I. Browne
Tel. 021-458-1753.

Come PONY TREKKING on the Beautiful Gower Coast.

Open all year round—
weekends or weeks.
Novices welcome. Casual clothes

Write: Paro-le-Breos Trekking
Centre, Parkmill, Gower, Glam.
Phone PENMAEN 636.

PERSONAL

CALIGULA Caligula Caligula
Caligula Caligula Caligula.

LAKE Film Club: Julie Christie &
Tom Courtney in "Billy Liar."

JEMIMA Spagbracket.

FRENCH play.

SUBMIT your efforts to the University
Art Exhibition—Festival, February
14th-23rd.

CALIGULA Caligula Caligula
Caligula Caligula Caligula.

LAURENCE Kay.

JEMIMA Spagbracket.

FRENCH play.

LAKE Film Club Julie Christie &
Tom Courtney in "Billy Liar," on
Tuesday, February 18th, 8.45 p.m.

CALIGULA Caligula Caligula
Caligula Caligula Caligula.

FRENCH play.

"THE Magic Flute" is coming. Guild
Opera Group present "The Magic
Flute," by Mozart — from Tuesday,
February 11th, to Saturday, February
15th, at 7.30 p.m. in the Debating
Hall, Union.

LAURENCE Kay.

FRENCH play.

WHAT do you create in the evenings?
Your fruits could be displayed in the
University Art Exhibition in Festival,
February 14th to 23rd—if you dare submit them.

LAURENCE Kay.

JEMIMA Spagbracket.

DON'T miss "Billy Liar" at Lake
Film Club, with Julie Christie.

LAURENCE Kay.

LAKE Film Club showing "Billy
Liar" on Tuesday, February 18th,
8.45 p.m.

LAURENCE Kay.

"HAIR," Tickets for "Hair," March
7th, 5.30 p.m., 15/- Contact Suzette
Russell, Festival Office.

ROY HARPER in cabaret: Coming
soon.

CALIGULA Caligula Caligula
Caligula Caligula Caligula.

LAKE Film Club, Tuesday, February
18th, 8.45 p.m.

WANTED—Two High Hall Ball
Tickets—E. Pickard, via U.P.H.

GIRLS would like to know of any
party going this Saturday—Kathy
Dubeek, via P.H.

WANTED, One Cave, April 4th-6th.
Contact G. Wier, via Union P.H.s.

CALIGULA
SIX times in ninety minutes and
one at the other end as well.

ELVIN McDavid requires healthy
and beautiful young woman to take
care of him until the end of Festival.
Photos and statistics to Events
Comm.

LOST, Brown Wallet in Main Bar.
Reward if found—Contact A. J.
DePerlay.

WANTED, Marshals for Plot-In on
February 15th—Contact Richard
Lines, Carnival.

LAURENCE Kay.
The champ is dead—never to be
seen again—Long live Guevara.

OLD School Tie Debate, "This
house would abolish the Public
School," Wednesday, 5.15. Today in
fact.

YOU'VE seen them around—now's
your chance to buy one! Birmingham
University Sweat Shirts. All
sizes and colours orderable from:
Keith Jones, via Carnival Office;

Ian Martin, Commerce and Mason;
Kevin Lewis, Commerce and Ian
Perrin, Physics.

FRENCH Play.
ROGER Mathew thanks his unknown
benefactor. Rule Britannia!

THE champ has gone—For the next
sle-in you'll need a new loud-
speaker vehicle—Long live the
champ. They don't make 'em like
that any more.

SLEEPING Bags, Bedclothes
wanted! wanted! wanted! Festival
Week only! Contact G.T.G. or Well-
fare, Hurry.

GRUDGE—3d. a shoulder, how
much for a pound. W.O.W.

TONIGHT — Bournebrook Hotel —
Bachdenkel Disco, Light Show. 7.45
p.m., 3/- only.

Jewellery of Your Design



on
Wedding & Engagement
Rings

DISCOUNT on all other kinds of
jewellery, clocks and watches

FOR INTRODUCTION NOTES CONTACT:
Rodney Watts, via The Union P.H. or
Dept. of Medical Biochemistry

Boyle outlines universities of the 70s



Sir Edward Boyle

REDS WALK OUT AFTER PROTEST

TWENTY-EIGHT Russians on a visit to the University walked out of a reception in Founder's Room last Wednesday after Nelson Bathurst had put up an anti-Soviet poster.

The party, on an exchange tour, had been conducted around the University for three days by Martin Lowe, External Affairs Chairman; the buffet was the final event of their stay. For two hours the Russians mixed with students from the Russian department and representatives of various Guild Committees, handing round badges and vodka.

Nelson Bathurst was heard to complain that the Guild should not be spending money entertaining hard-line Communists. He walked out and returned soon after carrying a poster saying "Stop Soviet Anti-Semitism Now," which he stuck on the door. When the leader of the Russian group saw this he ordered them all out.

Immediately afterwards, Bathurst came under severe criticism from some of the students present, but



Nelson Bathurst

he claimed his "personal gesture" was justified. In fact, those present were very divided on this. At Guild Council last night Martin Lowe said that when he saw them the next morning the Russians made no mention of the event, and seemed quite unperturbed.

MOTHERS

HIGH ST., ERDINGTON.
ERD 5514/4792.

Friday, Feb. 7th: 8-Late, S.U. 6/6

THE ELECTION

Sat., Feb. 8th—

AMERICAN ALL-NIGHTER

The Midlands only appearance

of West Coast Group

"MOBY GRAPE"

ALSO FROM U.S.A.—

GROUP THERAPY

plus "Giant" and "John Peel."

Two Sessions: Early 8-11.30

and Midnight to 7 a.m.

Admission: Early 12/6, Late 20/-

Hot Food available all night!

Wear what you want!

JAZZ

at the
BOURNBROOK HOTEL
in the STEIN KELLER
KEN INGRAM'S CLASSIC
JAZZ KINGS
EVERY THURSDAY at 8 p.m.

JUNCTION JAZZ
EVERY MONDAY, 8.0-10.45

Junction Hotel,
High Street, Harborne



MOEWAN'S
EXPORT



NEWCASTLE
STRONG
BROWN ALE



Wm. YOUNGER'S
TARTAN
KEG

SCOTTISH & NEWCASTLE BREWERIES LTD.

SIR EDWARD BOYLE'S address on Education last week was distinguished for its frank and often quite blunt statements, which ranged from "It's a bad V.G. who allows himself to be run by his Council" to "Universities can't cope with postgraduates—there are far too many."

Perhaps one of his most interesting admissions came after the speech, when he let it be known that he was offered the position of Vice-Chancellor at Birmingham when Sir Robert Aitken left, but he gave no detailed reasons for turning the job down.

Covering most of the aspects of University education, he continued to give his opinion on various con-

roversial topics, including the concept of the "Free University" as expounded by Professor Ferns. He said he had "grave scepticism as to the viability of this plan."

His own ideas for improving the existing structure embraced the possible establishment of "super-post-graduate colleges linked with the Civil Service." However, he did not elaborate on this point, although he would presumably envisage such institutions to serve as half-way markers between the University and society.

When the inevitable theme of "student protest" came up, Sir Edward complained strongly about "strong words not sense" and "using emotions, not minds." His comments favoured a very moderate approach at this stage, culminating in a declaration that "students have better things to do than to attend interminable General Meetings." Following this he said: "Some student Unions new new Constitutions."

Yet a further topic was raised when Sir Edward suggested that University facilities such as the Library and the Union should be available for use by members of colleges in the immediate area, the main consideration being financial. Nevertheless, the Shadow Minister of Education left the audience with several sober thoughts, and one of the most interesting was his belief on disciplinary matters that "the power to withdraw grants should be left to the University and not to local authorities."

Debsoc. expands

DEB. SOC. is alive and well and meeting in the Council Chamber and intends to provide debates this term which are as entertaining as any in the past. Deb Soc. also intends to expand in spheres other than the regular Wednesday or Thursday meetings.

Debating competitions still play a great part in the activities of Debsoc, and we have three competitors in the semi-finals of the N.U.S. Observer Mace Tournament—Jill Munns and Bob Vella speaking as a team and Andrew Hamilton as best individual speaker. Bob Vella and Perry Christie should now have returned from Ireland where they have been representing the university in a one-day tournament. Nearer home the open debating tournament is imminent; to encourage interest and entries both the prizemoney and the publicity for the tournament have been increased. Entrants should forward their names to Debsoc via Union reception.

The programme of debates for this term has been almost completed, though minor setbacks have occurred. The debate which was to include Colin Jordan had to be cancelled, not because of the danger of giving the man a political platform but simply because of the fact that a debate at which he spoke would be so disorderly that it would not be worthwhile. Secondly, due to pressure of work (his autobiography) the dynamic Godfrey Winn will not be able to speak, and similarly neither will Clement Freud.

New ideas are continually being toyed with—such as the suggestion first made last term that a speakers' corner (plus soapbox) should be instituted near the Union for the free airing of grievances. There is also the possibility of weekend events in Halls.

Government criticised

VARIOUS aspects of Mr. Edward Short's speech on student affairs in general and L.S.E. in particular were criticised in a letter in yesterday's "Birmingham Post." The letter, which also expresses support for those staff and students of L.S.E. who have "jeopardised their careers in making a public stand for a participatory conception of democracy and freedom," was signed by Ray Phillips, Chris Tyrell and various members of staff, including Dick Atkinson, Bob Holman and Liz Mackie.

They criticise the Government for encouraging the Vice-Chancellor's Committee in their attempt to enforce stricter authority on students and cite the suggestions of the recent P.I.B. report on salaries as one example of this encouragement. They also point out that the image of militant students permeated by the press is preventing many people, including the Government and university authorities, from achieving a rational, balanced view of the situation: the division of students into "militants" and "moderates" is naive and harmful, and gravely oversimplifies the situation.

Stakes in Tomorrow

Six capable, imaginative and responsible students are shortly to be selected to join Millets Stores—now establishing their position as leaders in the field of outdoor clothing and camping equipment.

Status will, from starting date, be Trainee Manager. Candidates are expected to become full managers within a few years.

During training an attractive salary will be paid, matching usual post-graduate pay. The salary will rise on appointment as Manager.

Location will be in any one of Millets' nationwide chain of stores.

If, with a university background, you would like to meet the challenge of running a retail operation and are interested in getting in on tomorrow today, then contact

Mr. Stanley Cox, Personnel Officer, Millets, who will be at the Midland Hotel, Birmingham, from 10.0 a.m. to 12.0 and 2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m. on February 10 and 11.



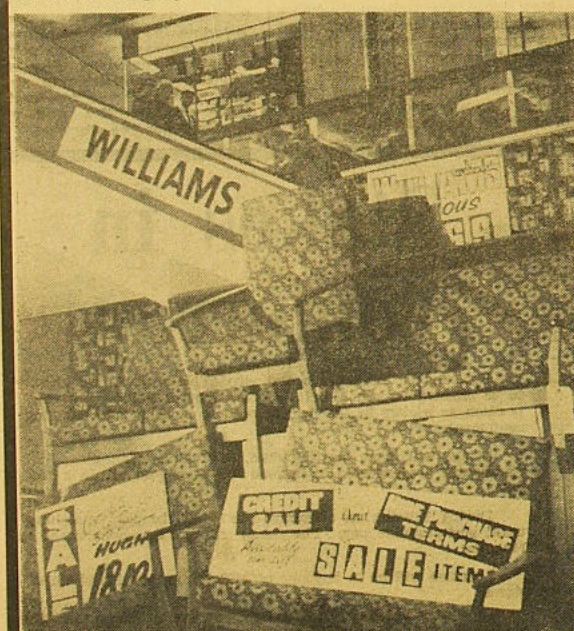
THE Bull Ring is the largest excrement on the cement jungle which encircles the remnants of Birmingham's original city centre. It incorporates a shopping centre and a small open-air market, the replacement for the old market which existed in the shadow of St. Martin's in the Bull Ring until it was shattered by bombs during the war.

Originally its designers must have imagined that the Bull Ring would be an ultimate in city centre design, an exciting complex of shining white concrete to overshadow the sooty Victoriana of New Street and Corporation Street. Now, after a few years of intensive use, the concrete is dirty and the shopping centre is a huge disappointment. Though it is commercially successful, socially and culturally it is somewhat less than a success.

The reasons for its failure are in part easy to determine. Its most obvious flaw is that it induces severe claustrophobia. One approaches it from New Street via a maze of narrow concrete tunnels of the sort which bedevil Birmingham in all but a few parts of the city centre. To try and escape from these on a Saturday afternoon, when half the population of Birmingham seem to be trying to use the one inadequate exit escalator, must be the nearest thing yet devised to an attempt to get out of Hell. And inside the Bull Ring is no better; the advantages of dryness and absence of cars are outweighed by the oppressively low roofs and the inescapable glare of canned music.

The most fitting description of the Bull Ring interior is "cheap." The shops present an amazing array of the worst features of modern British design; there has been no attempt at any kind of aesthetic unity, and the mixture of cultures, rich and poor, English and Oriental, which could have been so well exploited, has become an anonymous, badly designed muddle. All hints of nature have been lost; only outside the building does the church of St. Martin cling desperately to its few anaemic trees, the only remnant of natural life in the concrete jungle. The church is, in fact, the Bull Ring's only link with its past—there has been a church on the site since it was originally licensed by Richard II in 1333, and it has had close links with the market throughout its varied history. St. Martin's Market, popularly called the Rag Market, is behind the main Bull Ring, and is one of the few bits of the market which has retained a measure of individual identity—here on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons can be seen a superb range of people. Brightly dressed Indians, way-out students, the pinched faces of the poor whites who still live in the shadows of the city and the bitter paths of the maimed, deformed victims of past disasters—this is only a small part of the vitality which can be found in the Rag Market but never in the Bull Ring.

The relief at escaping from the Bull Ring seems almost an act of treason—it seems disloyal to find the dreamchild of the city planners so abhorrent. But compared with Birmingham at its best, with the eighteenth century elegance of the cathedral and with the sheer beauty of some of the better products of Birmingham's wealth and industry, such as the Midland Bank building on Waterloo Street, the Bull Ring cannot be admired. Buses of Ghiberti and Cellini gaze down on the remnants of the Victorian beauty of Colmore Row, which can still provide a measure of cultural and architectural identity for Birmingham. But when the last of the Victorian buildings has gone the main representative of the city's identity will be the Bull Ring, a horrible example of complete insensitivity to the social and individual needs of the citizens of Birmingham, in which no attempt to improve the taste of this traditionally philistine city has been made. Its designers catered to the lowest common factor, not to the highest, and thus produced something little better than an extension of the green-lit concrete tunnels which run under Smallbrook Ringway.



Bad design on sale at vastly reduced prices in the Bull Ring.

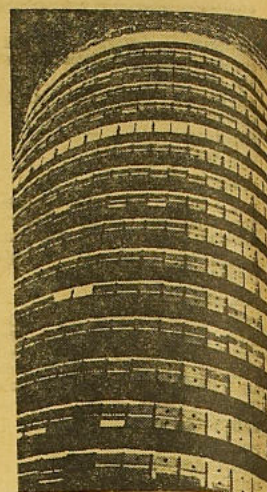
BIRMINGHAM, OH BIRMINGHAM

REDBRICK, Feb. 5th, 1969—Page Seven

By
PAUL SOMMERS

IN Birmingham Cathedral is a memorial to one Moses Haughton, an "eminent artist" who lived in Birmingham for over 40 years and died in 1804. In spite of his eminence and the "Powers of his extraordinary Genius," he "passed his days in obscurity" and died without ever achieving the recognition that someone obviously thought he deserved.

This is just one example of the notorious insensitivity to art of Birmingham—this city, with one of the finest provincial art galleries in Britain, is noted for its philistinism, its complete lack of taste. And this is nowhere better illustrated than in its architecture. Victorian Birmingham has a certain beauty, but modern Birmingham is a social and architectural disaster.



The Rotunda

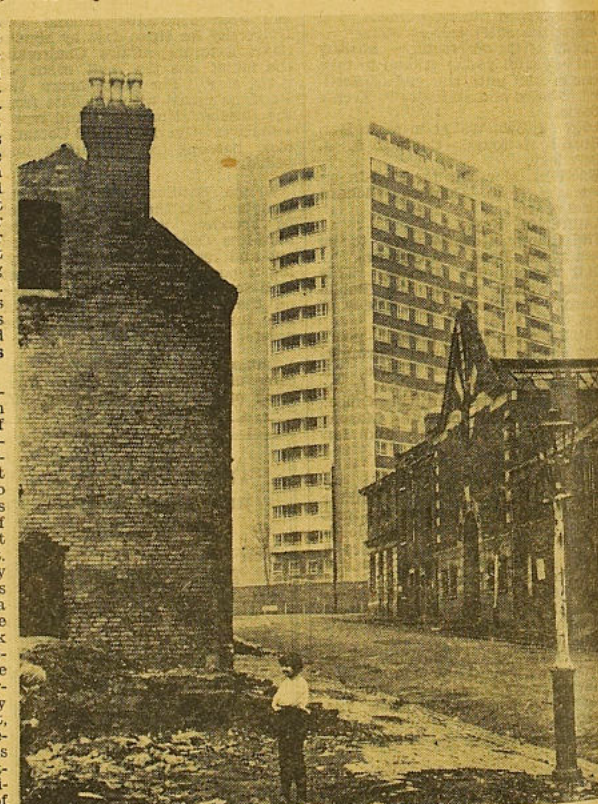
BIRMINGHAM is just one of many cities to participate in the current craze for housing redevelopment—not an unhealthy trend, particularly considering the terrible slum housing which did, and still does, exist in some parts of the city. But in the enthusiasm for redevelopment the City Council seems to have been prompted to building tower blocks for tower blocks' sake, concrete obelisk after concrete obelisk.

Coming out of the city along the Bristol Road one can look to the right and see an impressive array of white skyscrapers interspersed with large grassy slopes, seemingly spacious and elegant as it glows softly in the afternoon sun. Where some of the city's worst slums once stood is now all sweetness and light. But how beautiful is all of this to the people who live in it—is it really the basis for a new community or is it just another social disaster?

There is no doubt that when these flats were planned, before the disadvantages of tower block life had been fully realised, they were thought to be the all-time answer to the endless problem of how to give people living conditions in which the essentials of human dignity could flourish. So families were uprooted by the score from the little, decrepit tenements which were their homes and were housed in cramped, stereotyped boxes piled one on top of another into structures that were impressive if nothing else.

But these tower blocks have turned out to be socially disastrous. People living way above the ground feel isolated from the surrounding community (if there is a community at all) and miss the familiar street life which does not seem to flourish on the cramped corridors where each family seems constricted behind its individual front door. There is no space for recreation—nowhere safe for children to play within sight or sound of a mother living on, say, the fifteenth floor. The masses of luxuriant grass which would seem a children's paradise are firmly plastered over with **Keep Off The Grass** notices.

For all their visual excellence the tower blocks which comprise the larger part of Birmingham's housing redevelopment are amazingly soulless, having been built just too soon for the planners to realise that skyscraper blocks are not the only method of housing people cheaply and at high density, nor the best. The vitality and individuality of the city's housing seems now to be concentrated in a few select areas—for example on the side of Lee Bank which has not yet been redeveloped. Here there are some terraced houses of great character which have so far, by some miraculous accident, escaped the maw for redevelopment. Battered gas lamps stand lightly askew as if waiting for the inevitable demolition—decaying remnants of Edwardian England which inspire an excessive degree of nostalgia in the face of the unrelenting walls of cement which are already past their best, showing signs of wear far quicker than the preceding Victorian terraces did.



A glass, cement and steel monolith dominates these rapidly disappearing relics of one phase of Birmingham's development. The Birmingham of the Industrial Revolution, often more beautiful than its modern replacement, will not be allowed to survive.

A PERSONAL VIEW OF REDEVELOPMENT IN BIRMINGHAM

By JENNY WICKHAM

BIRMINGHAM is Britain's second city, so we are told. This is certainly not true in regard to the cultural life. It would be unrealistic to hope that Birmingham could rival London in the scope of its artistic activities; the capital naturally attracts much of the available talent and resources away from other parts of the country, but Birmingham falls far behind most of the other, smaller, provincial cities, from Sheffield to Bath.

Cultural agencies cannot be provided without money and initiative coming from the local authorities. Both are sadly lacking and the resulting cultural life has more in common with the slums of Balsall Heath than with the ambitions, if ill-conceived, town centre.

Fortunately the University provides some cultural life for itself. It has a distinguished and ambitious Theatre Group willing to experiment, and a Film Society which, although

it usually only meets once a week, maintains a high standard.

The contrast between University and city is painfully obvious. The Repertory Theatre, once probably the best in the country, is declining rapidly and relies on past glories and pantomime. Experimental Theatre is practically non-existent and Stratford is too far away for those students who do not possess some form of transport.

Films are, on the whole, appalling and there is little variety. Those cultural pursuits directly subsidised by the council are highly conventional. Culture seems to be seen as an unpleasant necessity to be locked in dusty institutions. Museums, art galleries and concerts do exist but there the presentation and content show little imagination.

Until the attitude to culture changes and it is regarded as something alive, it will remain as drab and uninteresting as the city itself.

The Birmingham and Midland Institute has been the bastion of culture in Birmingham for many years; unfortunately it has not proved itself equal to meeting the potential cultural demands of the city. Maybe it never will, unless there is a dramatic change in the city's attitude to the arts.



THE cinema provides the worst example of Birmingham's "entertainment." The two large circuits, Rank and A.B.C., faced with diminishing audiences and the resulting overnight transformation of cinemas into bingo halls, will not take any chances with the programmes they present. The distributors have a set idea of what is commercial and it is only the occasional experimental film, such as Lindsey Anderson's "If," which even has the chance to prove that it might be commercial. The playing down to a supposedly low level of public taste may well be the final blow to the restricted circuit system.

The answer to the declining numbers of people coming to the cinema has been found in London by the Academy Cinemas and Cinecentre. Smaller cinemas without the crippling ground rents of the local Odeons and Regals can not only survive but prosper.

Cinecentre distributors are opening cinemas all over the country but unfortunately the prevalent image of Birmingham has so far dissuaded them from opening one here. Most large provincial cities have had a National Theatre for several years. Only now, after years of haggling the pendent Birmingham Council may have reached agreement with the British Film Institute.

It takes imagination and initiative to attempt to capture a new, ever increasing market. If the old one, though declining, is still quite profitable, Birmingham lacks people with such initiative.



"HAIR": One of the cultural excitements that will never reach Birmingham

GRADUATES & COLVILLES

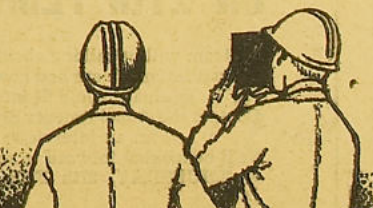
Colvilles offer graduates excellent career opportunities in the scientific and technological aspects of steel production, with great emphasis being placed on research and special projects associated with modern steelmaking practice.

The Division produces a wide range of steel including hot and cold rolled strip, special high quality alloy products and heavy plates, bars, sections, etc. In addition to steel manufacture, the commercial interests extend into the fields of production and structural engineering, the total employed strength being approximately 19,000.

Initial starting salaries will be competitive and will be accompanied by excellent career progression opportunities for energetic and determined men eager to develop with the organisation.

Graduates or those about to graduate in Engineering (Electrical or Mechanical), Metallurgy, Chemistry, Physics, or other appropriate technical disciplines are invited to contact, either direct or through their Appointments Board:

The Divisional Education and Training Officer,
COLVILLES Division,
British Steel Corporation,
Park House, Park Street, Motherwell



It was totally irresponsible for Guild Councillors to absent themselves from Council in such large numbers that it was dismissed with many important motions still to discuss. Apart from Clare Dutton's Education motion, one of the most important was the motion on confidentiality and open University committees.

It is Guild Council's duty to ensure that participation is not restricted to the few representatives who sit on committees, but that all students have the opportunity to know what is being decided. Then informed student opinion can make itself known to the student representatives, and in this way the best use can be made of representation. Both staff and students agree that communication within the University must be improved. The best way to do this is to ensure that the University newspaper can fully report the proceedings and decisions of committees; student representatives should report to Guild Council and to "Redbrick" what goes on at meetings.

Better still of course, would be open committees where anyone interested could go along to listen to the debate and the decisions. The objections raised to this idea are fatuous, or surmountable; the world has never claimed that personal matters should be decided in public, but one of the authorities' objections is that such matters are discussed. This is obvious, and in fact is rather a red herring. Another is the suggestion that open committees would inhibit the members from expressing "their wilder flights of fancy"; this would seem to be an advantage rather than an objection!

It is ludicrous for universities to claim to be havens of freedom and democracy when they are governed in such an undemocratic fashion; even Parliament carries on its business, which is so much more important, in public. The universities should set an example to society, not the reverse. At present secrecy serves to make those involved feel more important. The Guild should not get itself involved in such a system.

In fact the Guild has set an example to the University authorities; its committees have been held in the open for some time now, and are a great success in getting real involvement by more than just the select few. And of course Guild Council meetings are open; many will recall the presence of the Registrar at the Guild Council meeting on the Wednesday of the occupation. The Guild experience should prove that openness is one of the greatest moves towards a democratic University possible.

Editor	PETE ULLATHORNE
Assistant Editor	JENNY WICKHAM
News Editor	JOHN KEETLEY
Features Editor	PETE BROWN
Pictures Editor	CHRIS ROBINSON
Reviews Editor	PAUL SOMMERS
Sports Editor	JOHN PALMER
Back-to-Front Editor	GLEN BURROWS
Business Manager	MIKE SPALTON

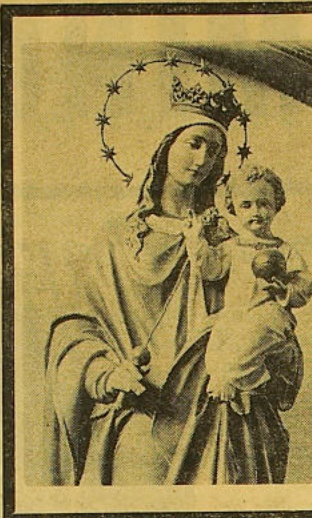


**BRITISH LEYLAND
WILL BE HERE
ON 27th FEBRUARY**

Our team will be talking about the kind of organisation we are and how you as a graduate, could fit into it.

Contact the Appointments Board now to fix an interview.

We'll be looking forward to seeing you on **THURSDAY, 27th FEBRUARY**



OBEDIENCE
POVERTY &
CHASTITY



**LINDA POTTER AND
PHOTOGRAPHER
DAVE ROBINSON
SPEND A DAY IN A
CONVENT**



PEDALLING into city bicycles, gleefully watching "Gas and Gas," Brother!" on the telly, out in the evenings to a youth club, learn the arts of flower arrangement, the Greek Testament, or sitting-up late into the night to work geometry, algebra and physics papers; just the activities of the Sisters of St. Paul's Convent.

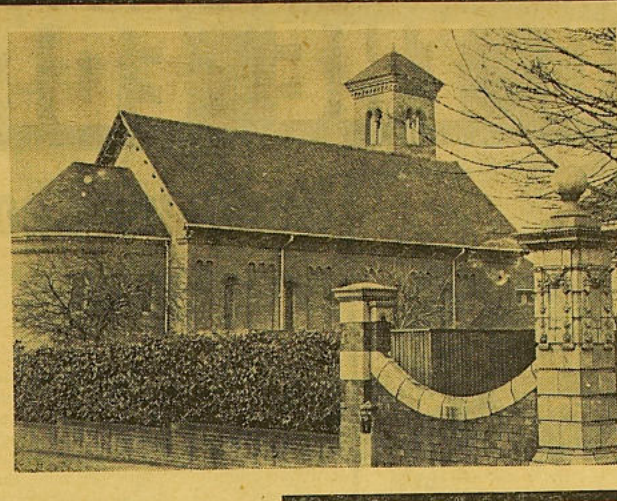
For anyone who has heard in the cloisters of school, it perhaps comes as no surprise to meet and run, and to discover some of the warmest, most free to fulfill their mind, humorous and their non - secular down-to-earth people in the term "vocation." It is but it is all one can adequately say. Someone chooses such a way generally because of the inner conviction, which becomes instantly, that the way one is called through commitment to a living people, is by and in a convent situation, one closely relates religious and their activities.

One way in which nuns wish to escape the preconception of them as being "other" is by showing that they are not so different from the rest of the world. Sister Christine, who has been a nun for 15 years, says, "I have always had a very normal life in business, education, and the home. I've never had a special egg breakfast in the convent kitchen, and a hit-and-run driver didn't stray off the road, nor did I get lost at the convent at night. I have spent several years as a secretary, and I have been before the court. But Christine's life is not so different from the rest of the world as she would have you believe. Sister Christine came to the convent for her training as a nun."

The very happy dissolution of this 18 month Sisters group side by side with temporary vows, which must be really serious dedication, is renewed for the next six years work. The Sisters are mainly teachers of the day at the convent, four of the first of the six years' training to teach in the Inner Ring; some of the first in theological and biblical studies; some secondary school teachers; one sister is a school matron; another a school mistress; domestic work is organized by two sisters in the convent; yet another nun is secretary at a local city

So forget any image of cloistered and pious veiled women. Nuns are out and are part of the whole community, the *Corporation* of the Sisters of St. Joseph, originally in the 17th century in Chartres, encompasses a very wide, generous range of service activities. Apart from primary and secondary teaching, they are found working in a huge range of jobs for teachers, in hospitals, old people's homes, for the aged, homes for the poor and unmarried mothers. Their congregation - also has a presence in Africa, where Sisters run primary schools and hospitals, and are actively handing over to local staff as they become trained.

The job of work per-
nun, and the reason to
life in a convent com-
generally vaguely unde-



cal studies in a London college, whilst the remainder of the time is devoted to training for a specific profession, or taking up that profession, if already trained.

Final vows are then taken. Poverty, obedience and chastity, vows which probably take a lifetime to understand. The poverty bit really means having nothing superfluous. The Sisters do not own any money themselves, but they have the use of money from a central purse whenever they require it. Such a vow frees them from time-consuming, material worries, although the Mother Superior is by no means free from a certain number of administrative worries in the actual running of the convent.

The trendy Sisters of St. Paul reflect a much more realistic approach in general by the Roman Catholic Church to the actual scene (although its approach, as yet, is far from reaching the nerve centre of a modern, industrial society, it's true); still, the nuns are definitely moving quite rapidly with the times, even if some parts of the Church are not.

Their habits have considerably altered in the past 10 years to be more practical and economical.



YOUNG
BIMLEY

THE time has come to have a good moan about food. Now we all know that as conscientious, hard-working students we must partake of wholesome sustenance at regular intervals throughout the day. It is desirable that, as well as being protein-packed, our nourishment should also be acceptable to the most delicate and discriminating of palates and, if possible, it should be pleasing to behold.

Or how about those ham sandwiches which turned out to be something out of a tin—it looked like ham, didn't it? (There are real ham ones but the trays containing the tinned stuff are placed right next to them—you've got a fifty-fifty chance so don't despair of ever getting the real thing, not that the occasion is really worth waiting for).

Unfortunately, our financial resources are limited—the delights of your Egon Ronays and your Clement Freuds are for the present denied us—and we are prepared to accept much less than the gourmet would expect. But there are limits (If you are one of the few fortunate fellows in possession of a young lady who realises the way to a man's heart, read on with compassion).

Whichever establishment the starving thousands patronize, they are faced with seemingly endless queues, but only in the Union coffee-bar do they come face-to-face with such deluged salad sandwiches at 8d, a time—the expression of horror as they gingerly lift a corner to expose one lettuce leaf, lavishly garnished with a translucent, thin slice of tomato, must surely tear at the hearts of the fortunate few.

Last week I got pangs of conscience about missed opportunities and so on, so I went along to a couple of lectures. Last Friday night Sir Edward Boyle, Shadow Minister for Education, appeared in the Council Chamber at the invitation of the Conservative Association. He spoke on the future of education, with special reference to the universities, and was very much the politician throughout, giving away little of his own personal feeling and, in my opinion, being generally patronising to his audience.

He spoke of small disruptive minorities and loss of human dignity. However, he praised the questioning of the purposes of education by students and asserted that they had every right to protest, but suggested

"Attention please . . ." The Union tannoy commands your attention. You wait expectantly. Could it be for you? "Will Young Bumley come to Reception immediately?" or "Take a phone call for Young Bumley." —I can almost hear the words crackling out.

Could this be the big moment? Fame at last! Dreams shattered as a chorus of croaking voices sing out: "Fest-i-is wonderful, Fest-i-va-al!" Talk about the influence of mass media in advertising. They are trying to palm you off with their wares.

That leaves a choice of egg-on-brown or cheese-on-white. Don't go for the former unless you are partial to a bit of roughage in the form of eggshell. Cheese?—well you could put it down to the dumping of French cheddars of inferior quality or perhaps it's just "matured" English.

Can things get worse, you ask. Yes, round about 6.30 p.m. when you drag yourself into the coffee bar, having hung on to avoid the queue. You peer into the sandwich cases and there are only cheese left, their corners turned up in a sort of menacing grin.

Hot food is not much better. Greasy hamburgers or cold-dogs. Mugs of soup—you ask what flavour but it's only a matter of habit, you realise as you empty heaps of salt and pepper into it—it all tastes much the same.

that they should stay away from speakers with whom they violently disagree—which is just what most of his possible opponents were doing. There was a meeting in the Refectory at the same time, discussing solidarity with L.S.E., Bristol and Warwick.

On Monday night A. J. F. Taylor lectured on the Nazi Revolution. In contrast to the Friday night turn-out, you could hardly get into the lecture theatre—the "common man's historian"? When you did finally manage to squash into a space somewhere you were told that the "Nazi Revolution" wasn't a revolution after all.

As the speaker himself put it on entering the hall: "I'm wondering what you all came for and I think you will be wondering yourself before long."

a stylised 'F' on it anyway, especially at the extortionate price of 6d—that's only 2d short of one of those sandwiches I was moaning about. What use is a ballpoint pen with "Birmingham Festival" written on the side of it, especially when they run out five minutes after you buy them. The carrier-bags aren't too bad at 9d, but those orange T-shirts are absolute revolting—they ought to pass you the 9s. 6d. for wearing them.

I suppose it's all in a good cause though—I'm just bitter about not having my name called out on the tannoy.

Bumley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

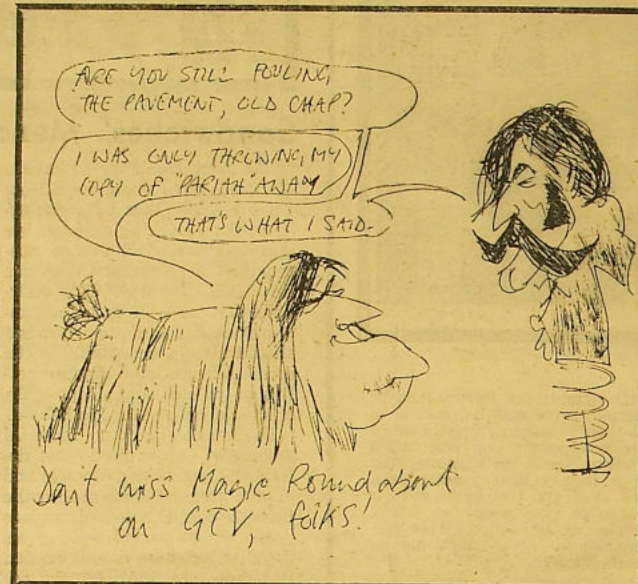
Horse's mouth laughs

SIR,—I could hardly stifle a bellylaugh when I read your report of why "New Student" did not publish a Margate Council report (January 22nd, 1969). It alleged—if I may remind your readers—that Phil Irving, your noted film columnist, had not come out "into print" because he denounced conference as a farce.

Clearly you did not read what appeared in its place. That was the headline "Conference Is A Farce" which was supplied to us by Trevor Fisk. As you are a man of immaculate news sense, I need hardly point out that it is better if one can get a quote like that from the horse's mouth.

Phil Irving has often contributed to "New Student" and many have read his well written and controversial articles. On this occasion, however, we were looking for a news report on conference with names of speakers, speech reports and such nuts and bolts. No doubt thanks to a misunderstanding, we were provided with a denunciation of conference, rather than a report.

We felt there was no point in printing a long denunciation of



conference, where a short, authoritative one would do. Are you suggesting we should have bored our readers by saying it a thousand times?

Yours avidly,

M. LINTON,
Editor,
"New Student."

Phil Irving comments: After I had initially written the article, I was informed by "New Student" that my article (which was hardly a denunciation of conference, more a report of the little that did take place, together with a few constructive criticisms and suggestions as to how it might be improved) was being printed with a few cuts (I

was not consulted as to what these should be). Then I was informed that as the photographs of conference were unprintable "New Student" were not covering the conference at all, but that I would still be paid (any money has yet to materialise). Then I was told that a few photos would be printed of NUS "personalities" mostly culled from previous conferences — together with a few fatuous comments as to who these people were. If "New Student" can find sufficient photos to accompany trivia, one is tempted to inquire why they cannot find sufficient photos to accompany constructive criticism. One wonders, in fact, if NUS is at all capable of critically looking at its own elephantine manoeuvres.

Redbrick should not be propaganda machine

SIR,—On January 27th your reporter asked my reaction to the decision of an assembly of students in the Faculty of Commerce and Social Science to demand unilateral action by the Faculty in the matter of student representation on its Board. I stated unequivocally that I am opposed to any action of this description; that any reforms in the Faculty must have, and can only be effective if they do have, the formal approval of the properly constituted legislative authorities of the University; that any decentralisation of decision-making involving greater Faculty autonomy (which I personally favour) can only be achieved within a framework generally approved by and applied by the University as a whole.

By omitting a significant part of what I said you have given the impression that I am in sympathy with endeavours to take unilateral action in the matter of reforms agreed on in the Faculty but requiring general University legislation to be effective.

This orchestration of facts to fit the needs of propaganda marks a change on the part of "Redbrick." I think "Redbrick" should strive to preserve its character as a newspaper and to avoid the character of the multitude of anonymous leaflets which flutter about the campus telling us of non-events like the victimisation of Mr. Holman, the suppression of reforms in the Faculty of Commerce and Social Science, and the "sell-out" by the officers of the Guild.

These are the work of people who hide themselves, refuse to take further responsibility for what they publish, refuse to verify their "facts" and in their own way shelter behind the alleged "confidentiality" rules of University officers. If a university is anything, it must be a body whose members attach importance to truth and the verification of evidence. If its members are unwilling to be scrupulous in this matter then there is no reason for our existence. That is why I

urge "Redbrick" to dissociate itself from those whose standards in this matter are low or non-existent. The time has come when Mr. Atkinson should devote more attention to teaching his flock about the verification of evidence and less about the theory and practice of revolution. Perhaps he could organise a constructive dialogue devoted to the examination of the brilliant generalisation of that great operative sociologist, Abraham Lincoln: You can fool all of the people some of the time and some of the people all of the time, but not all the people all the time.

Mr. Gowan could be urged to contribute a paper, and Mr. Wright invited to add the findings of a particular observer.

The whole proceedings would make an excellent New Fabian Pamphlet or a good contribution to the Pseudo Corner of "Private Eye."

Yours faithfully,
PROF. H. S. FERNS
(Professor of Political Science)

REVOLUTION WITHOUT REASON

by Chas Critcher



CHAS. CRITCHER, ex-chairman of Education Committee, draws some conclusions from Socialist Union's magazine, "Red Base."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of the hard work which goes into the production of Red Base cannot preclude serious criticism. If you publish, you must expect to be damned. My concern with Red Base is that it highlights fundamental deficiencies in the arguments of the extreme student left. My thesis is that basically inadequate political analysis is reflected in a crude and arbitrary use of language. Eventually, the crudity pervades, and erupts in, the sphere of political activity.

In the second issue, Carolynne states that "It is crucial to the ideological perspective of the Left and the Socialist Union as the hard core of the movement should be Marxist and that actions undertaken by its members should be those of revolutionary socialists." There is no room for non-Marxist socialism. The reader is expected to know and accept the tenets of Marxism. Like the evangelical text Redbase is to the converted.

The terminology and slogans are meaning only in an exclusive intellectual framework; to the uninitiated the jargon is meaningless. For sin read bourgeois; for salvation read revolutionary socialism. The mission apostolic, the objective conversion. But only the completely faithful may join; deviation is heresy.

The key words are "capitalist", "bourgeois", "revolutionary". No terms are defined—reference is made to the writings of K. Marx, collected in the "The Communist Manifesto". The legitimacy of the application of 19th-century theory to 20th-century society is never established. This is not to say that Marxism is totally inapplicable, only that its applicability is never assumed.

Space unfortunately restricts the

analysis which would fully justify these criticisms. Here is one example from an article on the Ulster situation: "For almost fifty years the Unionist Party, the political wing of Protestant prejudice aided and abetted by the Nationalist Party, its Catholic counterpart, has redirected the class struggle into the barren wastelands of religious mythology."

This is a resolution of a difficulty of rigid Marxism. Since, according to Marxist theory, religious differences are reflections of the contradictions in the economic substructure religion cannot be autonomous nor determine in politics. Therefore religious issues do not exist; they are conjured up by party politicians. The result is a totally perverted interpretation of Irish history, an attempt to deny Paisleyism as a political reality.

The central concept of the ideology of Redbase is that of the bourgeoisie. These are the owners of the means of production (shareholders and directors) who control all spheres of life—economic, political, and especially educational. "The university authorities are now no more than one of the agents of state control and an agent of the state's master—the bourgeoisie." Nowhere does the writer attempt to substantiate this claim or to analyse any checks, for example the concept of academic freedom, on the exercise of external control of higher education.

The complex political feeling behind Powellism and the movement of sections of the working class away from a Socialist-Humanitarian ideal is simplified by the use of the word "Fascism". One is almost tempted to agree with "Wall's" version of the Revolutionist's Handbook: "Fascist" = anyone who does not agree with you.

One may postulate—hesitantly—that political ideology is the product of an ethical-emotional reaction to

a departmental level, the ruthless control of students through an educationally worthless examination system and the ideological content of courses. This ideological content is not examined, and its "bourgeois" aspects are not differentiated from ideas attributable to technology.

The resultant clichés—the "red base" are the foundation for failure. Labelling replaces analysis; the language is not descriptive but emotive. Occasionally it collapses into hysteria—as in the article on L.S.E. of the description of the Tory Party as the "sewer-rats of capitalism". This criticism is true even of the difficult and penetrating essay by a European Marxist theoretician, who begins his analysis from Marxist theory and not from the living social relationships (in so far as these can be viewed "objectively"). Prescription of cure invariably precedes examination of patient.

Thus the more complex issues are engulfed in the flood of rhetoric. No where, for example, is discussed what seems to me to be one of the basic problems of any socialist programme: how to define and preserve individual freedom and integrity in a collectivist society.

Discussion of such "hypothetical" problems is important, because although it is easy to mobilise people against institutions or groups seen as oppressive, the difficulty is to convert this identification and consciousness into a positive movement towards a new mode of human existence.

And this does not mean "solidarity with the workers." Nothing is more disheartening than many revolutionary socialists' blind insistence on identification with the working class. Even if it is true that both groups are opposing the same ruling elite there is a very great difference in the way each group perceives its situation. Expressions of solidarity will not overcome the cleavage created by differences of class and education.

What, then, is to be done? The solution is to begin the analysis again from fundamentals—to clarify one's perception before attempting generalisations. Any radical or revolutionary group must have as its base rigorously worked out intellectual convictions and enough confidence in the justice of its course to participate in rational argument with anyone, whether opponent or potential ally.

Even ultimately political ideas are based on emotionally-derived beliefs about the potentiality of human life, one's arguments must be amenable to rational analysis. The forcing of contemporary political events into a Marxist interpretative framework seems to me to evidence an inflexibility which is ultimately irrational.

Mercian Builders Merchants Ltd.

EXECUTIVE OPPORTUNITIES in a Sales Organisation

* A modern Nation requires new houses and flats, schools and universities, shops, and offices, factories and hospitals and all the other buildings necessary for progress. Hundreds of different materials, fittings and types of equipment are used in every modern building and they must all be brought together, in the right quantities and combinations and supplied to the tradesman on time. This vital process of combination and co-ordination is the function of the Builders and Plumbers Merchant; he is the essential link between the manufacturer on one hand and the consumer on the other.

* Mercian Builders Merchants Limited are, mainly by acquisition, the largest group of Builders Merchants in the United Kingdom, with a turnover in excess of £35 million. Through over 65 branches we meet the requirements of the Building and Allied trades and the General Public. As both wholesalers and in part retailers, to be effective in our role as distributors of in excess of 100,000 different items in a highly competitive industry, we need a thorough and competent Sales and Marketing Policy.

* To this end, the 3,500 staff we employ are all sales orientated, whether they be product or technical salesmen, showroom or transport specialists or in one of the several specialist services such as Buying, Computer, Organisation and Methods, Display, Accountancy, Training and Personnel. Our training policies are geared for individual advancement to make each person more effective in his work and to provide for future promotion. Opportunities are good and moves to Senior Executive level can be speedy.

* Mercian is recruiting graduates in 1969 to train them for our management team. A fifteen-month training programme has been designed to give an insight into our industry and to enable the graduate to decide what function he wishes to pursue.

You can obtain further details if you call at your University Appointments Board or write direct to

The Group Personnel and Training Officer,
Mercian Builders Merchants Limited,
10 Leam Terrace,
Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire.

Ford puts its graduates in the driving seat

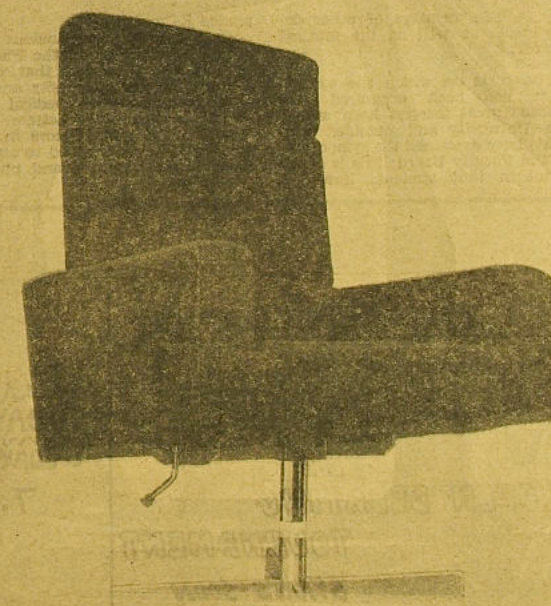
You have spent the last 17 or so years of your life in the process of "learning". We do not believe that the process stops now, and we feel sure that you agree with us. We do believe, however, that it is time you had a chance to put your knowledge to the test. So our initial induction period consists of showing you what we do and why. We shall then put you in a job which we feel will match your abilities and reflect your own inclinations. It will certainly give you real responsibility.

We offer you, besides this, a good starting salary — £1,116 (£1,200 after six months); a flexible approach, you can choose your job after seeing several; good management experience — within three years most graduates are taking significant decisions; a realistic approach to career planning, through our performance reporting system. There are, of course, many other points we could make and we will be happy to talk to you about them.

If you would like to know more about a real career, then please contact your appointments officer or write to:



Vernon Lewis, Graduate Recruitment Officer, Room 1/177
Ford Motor Company Ltd, Warley, Brentwood, Essex



FIRST TEACH-IN SHOWS IMPRESSIVE RESULTS

DISCUSSION of the basic values and purpose of education formed a large part of the English Department teach-in which was held last week. The teach-in, inspired partly by last term's sit-in, and partly by the reform movement which has been functioning in the English Department since last year, ran for two days and included an open forum and a variety of discussion groups.

The open meetings, at which all four of the department's professors gave a brief summary of their work to provide a complete picture of the varied activities of the department, was the first step towards improved staff-student understanding. At the final meeting, Chris Hewitt, the newly-elected chairman of English Club, said that he thought that the improvement of staff-student relationships was the most important effect of the teach-in.

One of the most significant revelations to come out of the professors' statements was the fact that

groups on specific subjects—intellectual content, assessment, teaching methods and the history of English Studies among other things.

These meetings, while originating a great many discussion points, emphasised the wide differences of approach to teaching and to the whole question of English studies within the department—a discussion on intellectual content between Professor Geoffrey Shepherd and Professor Richard Hoggart revealed the two polarised extremes of attitude to this question.

The open forum which closed the teach-in was a solidification point for the mass of ideas which the various discussion groups produced. At this meeting Charles Critcher raised the question of whether money spent on English students was really worthwhile; though the purists thought it definitely was. Professor Hoggart agreed that the question of social priorities was a very important one, and one from which the subject could not be divorced.

The problem remains of how to put the many suggestions of the teach-in into practice; unless some of the suggestions are effected the impetus will be lost and the teach-in will only be said to have achieved very little; as it is a considerable proportion of the department, and particularly of first years, took little or no part in the discussions.

This was not so much due to the department's traditional apathy, but, as one first year said: "Head of Department Professor Spencer's introduction hinted on productivity in terms of higher degrees of the department and how so-called 'increasing unteachability' of students could be overcome in order to increase this productivity. This seemed to emphasise the final qualification rather than the validity of the academic discipline by which it is obtained."



Prof. Hoggart

already all staff in the department, as in the University as a whole, are grossly overworked, and that staff intake is not going to be increased to keep pace with the inevitable increase in student intake ordered by the Government.

This mushrooming of universities was dealt with in a discussion of a proposed structure of a new university; this was one of the topics dealt with in a series of discussion

MEDICS ORGANISE AMBITIOUS PROGRAMME

THIS term has seen the beginnings of the organisation, at both departmental and faculty level, of discussions on the nature of university studies and the relevance of courses. The most ambitious of these is a symposium arranged by the University Medical Society, entitled "Education for Medicine." The symposium will take place on Friday and Saturday, February 14th and 15th, in the Arthur Thompson Hall of the Med. School.

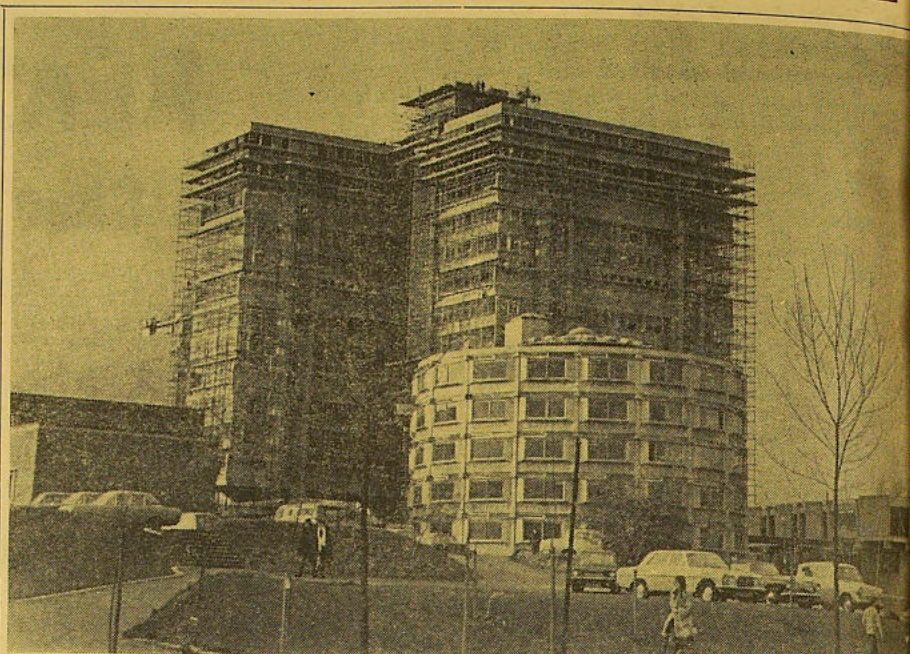
The programme is an extensive one with topics ranging from "The Objective of Medical Education" to "The University in the Community" and "Free University". Speakers from other medical schools have been invited, and Dr. John Ellis, the Dean of the London Hospital Medical College, will speak on Saturday. Speakers from this University

include members of other departments as well as the medical faculty.

The scale on which the symposium has been organised has aroused great interest both within the University and outside. Students have explained the symposium to the Faculty Board; this is significant in that students have at-

tended its meetings.

The organisers are anxious that not only members of the Faculty should take part, but that other members of the University and all those concerned with medical care should be involved. Letters have been sent to 1,000 doctors in Birmingham, and it is hoped to attract social workers, nurses and physiotherapists.



June revelation expected for Tower splendour

SOARING above the architectural hotpot of the North Campus is the imposing mass of the "Grey Tower." The maze of girders girdling its 12 storeys will be gradually shed to reveal, by June it is hoped, the new Arts-Commerce tower in all its splendour.

The "it is hoped" should be stressed, for, as with most large Midlands building contracts the completion date is the great unknown—it tends to be highly sensitive to Government squeezes, Birmingham weather, and Irishmen downing tools as Sikhs don their turbans. In fact just about anything can happen on a building site; in the words

of one of the workers, "the whole bloody lot is collapsing."

Visiting the site we were nearly bowled over by a helmeted, multinational swarm of workers pouring out of their wooden canteen after being blasted into action by the 3.15 whistle. "We just can't say when it will be completed, you understand," said a site official of the contracts, Trollop & Colls, and refused curtly to indicate just how far ahead or behind schedule they were on the building.

Assuming that all goes well, the staff of the Commerce and Arts buildings should be comfortably settled in their new suites by September. However, "squeezing a quart into a pint pot" is going to be a difficult task if it now seems inevitable that there will be insufficient room for all of the Commerce and Arts Faculty staff, and that there will be a physical split as some departments are left behind in the old buildings.

The Accommodation Committee, endeavouring to achieve the near impossible task of pleasing all concerned in the change-over, had its report, listing among other things, room allocations, referred back to a meeting last week of the Faculty Board of Commerce & Social Science. Hence the words of Miss Barbara Smith, chairman of the Accommodation Committee, "It's all back in the melting-pot at the moment."

When the Ashley Commerce "tower" was built some five years ago it suffered the indignity, due to Government cuts, of having a few storeys lopped off its plans, resulting in its "stumpy wedding-cake" appearance, a shortage of rooms and the consequent last-minute clamour of some staff trying to secure accommodation. Similarly

by PETE HARRIGAN

larly the new tower will not hold all the departments due to a shortage of finance or possibly to a gigantic blunder by the planners.

Yet the building will bring both quantitative and qualitative gains to both faculties—greater student intake and better provisions; and certainly no-one involved in the transition will suffer a decline in their present standard of accommodation. The lecturers' caravans stream out of the car-park, the Nissen huts bit the dust; a new era will begin when Trollop & Colls proudly present to us their new 12-storey Arts-Commerce Tower. Everyone will be happy—until the life breaks down, when the scenes of bedlam that will result are unimaginable.

FILMS

WHILE most of the Birmingham cinemas are occupied with re-run programmes, the only centre offering anything new this week is the Odeon, which takes the rather pretentious war movie "Play Dirty." It's yet another example of how the commercial cinema tries to be nasty and to be condemned, but to judge on the evidence of the present attempt, it hardly succeeds in convincing itself let alone the audience.

Set in North Africa a little before the Montgomery advance during the Second World War, it chronicles the adventures of a group of semi-official mercenaries who supposedly stand for the British, but in fact make quite a living out of the war rather than performing any useful function. Surely, one asks, people grow mercenaries exist, without being produced by Harry Saltzman putting it out in such an obvious way. "Look, mercenaries..."—which is about the limit of the film as far as perception is concerned.

The British Army, conscious of the fact it supports the mercenaries, sends an unbelievably ingenious officer (Captain Douglas, played by Michael Caine) as the nominal commander of a mission sent behind the enemy lines to blow up a dump. Inevitably, he has all the boy-scout-cum-army codes of honour, and equally predictably, the mercenaries possess no moral values at all, and a little notice of his authority. So, they squabble and fight on their way. What the story lacks in suspense and inventiveness it makes up for in realism, i.e. violence.

It's hard—what the blurb writers like to euphemise "Gutsy", and with a certain bitterness. They eventually reach their objective without too many of the group being eliminated, proving on the way that they're all bastards at heart. The trouble is that realism does not make any point of view; neither does it make for lively plot sequences, or any of the "will they, won't they make it?" stuff.

Director Andre DeToth delights in disrobing the seamy side of war, producing a brutal film with few redeeming features, save on the technical side. Technically, and especially photographically, the movie is superb—the shots of the desert are amongst the best and most dramatic I have seen. The actors' performances are good—as far as they go (though I never could take Michael Caine seriously) but supporting parts—especially Harry Andrews and Nigel Davenport, the latter last seen in "The Hill," are all credible.

It's a technically competent film, ruined by absence of either a point of view or a bit of old-fashioned suspense. It has neither, and ruthless brutality does not make up for the lack.

At the A.B.C. "Bullitt" continues—well, with a "2001"—A Space Odyssey continues at the A.B.C. Cinema, "Romeo and Juliet" stay firm at the Scala.

Retained at the Cinephone this week is "Onibaba," which translates apparently as "The Hole," a bizarre and horrifying Japanese film, concerned principally with the sexual drives and instincts of two Japanese women—a mother and her daughter-in-law, who are living alone during a war in medieval Japan.

BOOKS

A SERIES of eight of Fidel Castro's major speeches is now published by Stage One for the Geographic Department of the Revolutionary Government. In print they lose the dynamism of the customary eight-hour harangue in the Liberation Square, Havana. For the student of Marxist economics, however, they present a detailed picture of the present financial problems facing the Cuban Government. The omission of the more emotional parts of the speeches and the prominence of economic detail render the speeches not only readable

but interesting. The mode of argument becomes more linear than the all-embracing feeling which the uncut versions would no doubt arouse in a revolutionary nation.

The honesty of Castro in his attempt to explain administrative problems is made more potent for those outside the Third World by its clear-cut rationalisation. The problem of petrol is central, in central to the island's economy, and it is heartening to see an attempt to explain its intricacies to a semi-educated agrarian community.

The concept of revolutionary education is most seriously discussed in several of the speeches and it seems that either Castro or his editors have laid the foundation of much discussion of the relationship between the state and educational institutions. It is a brave prediction

preferably, soup—the latter is tastefully fresh, home-made and tasty, in contrast to the aggressive, watery slop served up in some places, and there's more of it. Also the rolls are crisp with light, fluffy insides as against the monotonous weathered masses of high specific-gravity dough. Next comes the main course, generally a choice from two Chinese dishes, two English and a curry. All can be recommended, even the latter—most unusual in a Chinese restaurant. The standard of food and cooking is uniformly high, and the portions are satisfying.

Sweets, also, are more substantial than the standard four chunks of pineapple or spoonful of semolina. There is a choice of two, such as apple fritter or suet pudding—this again is varied each day. As usual, coffee is extra.

Excellent, though the cheap lunches are, it is only in the more expensive set meals that the culmination of the Warley's culinary expertise can be appreciated. The prices of these range from 25/- to £3 for from two to four people and considering their content and quality are remarkably cheap by any

defined as follows:—"I said that the world is absurd but I was too hasty. This world in itself is not reasonable that is all that can be said. But what is absurd is the confrontation of the irrational and the wild longing for clarity whose call echoes in the human heart. The absurd depends as much on man as on the world. From the moment absurdity is recognised it becomes a passion, the most harrowing of all."

Caligula, as portrayed by Camus, is a man destroyed by this passion; he decides to apply the principles of the absurd to their logical limits, which as emperor he has the unique opportunity of ac-

TANTALUS

BIRMINGHAM restaurants can boast of a wide range in both price and quality. Generally quantity and/or quality are proportional to the price but there are a few places where a respectable amount of good food may be obtained at a reasonable cost.

The prime example of such a restaurant is the Warley on Hagley Road, opposite the King's Head. It is easily the best Chinese restaurant in Birmingham, giving excellent quantity and quality of food and good service. It is only to be regretted that it is so inaccessible from the University, for the cheap business lunches at 5/6 must surely rank among the best gastronomic value anywhere.

Unlike most places offering such meals, the Warley changes its menu every day and in successive visits there has not yet been any duplication of menus. Start the meal with fruit juice or

THEATRE

ALBERT CAMUS is better known for his novels "The Stranger" and "La Peste" than for his dramatic work. He differs from the main current of contemporary existentialism in proposing his theory of the absurd, which translates the lack of any meaning between man and the world. Camus wrote "Caligula" one of his earliest dramatic works, in 1938, at a time when he was much concerned with the concept of absurdity, which he

A very animalistic movie; it's not a little spoilt in the version at the Cinephone, by the American dubbing on the sound track, which lends a comic air to the proceedings at times, but "Onibaba" is still very well worth seeing. At times a study in the frustration of the older woman, as her daughter-in-law, whose husband is reported killed in the war, rushes off to the nearest man. Each night, as the other woman sleeps, she runs to him through the long grass surrounding their hut. The camera moves sensuously over the wind-swept grass, and over the sweating skins of the lovers in a style similar in many ways to "Woman of the Dunes" (also a rather primitive, animalistic Japanese film) but not as claustrophobic.

A study also in the brutality of the two women as they are forced to try and survive the war. Their men now dead, they kill unsuspecting warriors in order to sell their armour for food. They have to make themselves brutal in the extreme—this is simply physical survival. On the other hand there is sexual survival—where only the younger woman succeeds in attracting a man—to the intense jealousy of the older woman. The latter tries every trick she can think of to either prise her daughter away from the man, or alternatively, to try and offer herself to him as well.

Ultimately she resorts to superstition, praying on fear and ignorance to achieve her ends. The whole film has an aura of the primitive and the animal; of a world which at times seems uncomfortably close to the veneer of civilisation in which we live.

"Nude Paradise" billed with "Onibaba" is a classic of its type—not to be missed if you want a laugh.

PHIL IRVING

to hope for universal higher education in twenty years in a society which is just stepping out of illiteracy.

All the cutting does not take away some taste of the most militant and demagogic elements of Castro's speeches. There still remains the stirring phrase and the more notorious forms of nationalistic exhortation. There is even the occasional slip into the rhetorical answer to a meaningless question which features more often in the more decadent forms of fascist imperialist speech-making by Western political propagandists.

The speeches remain a testimony to the integrity of a revolutionary leader tainted only slightly by the excesses of exuberance.

NATHANIEL LORRE

standard. The meals include one of the delicately-flavoured Chinese-style soups, served with pancake roll or light, crunchy prawn crackers. The main course is a large bowl of fried rice plus three to six separate Chinese dishes, depending on the price paid.

These may be any of a number of fairly standard dishes, such as sweet and sour, Chow Mein, Chicken and Almonds, Water Chestnuts, bean sprouts, bamboo shoots or more exotic seafoods, as in the more expensive meals. Portions could be described as adequate if you haven't eaten all day. For the more adventurous, chopsticks are available. Try them—they're easier to use than their look.

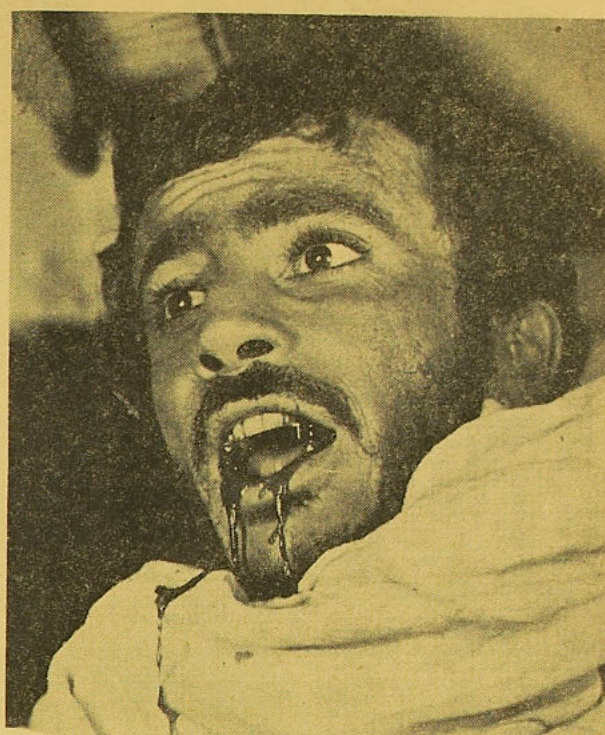
Sweets are chosen from a long and comprehensive list, ranging from lengal and paw-paw to fruit salad and ice cream. Finally, the coffee is served black in sensibly-sized cups rather than the ridiculous demitasse demanded by high society. There is demerara sugar on the tables and fresh cream available in which can be floated on top of the coffee by being carefully poured over the spoon.

complishing. The resultant tragedy bought upon his subjects and ultimately on Caligula himself is paralleled by the sympathy evoked for the Caligula who is ceaselessly tormented by his knowledge of the absurd and his human longing for logic and reason.

In this production the Cercle Francais have tried principally to convey this duality in Caligula's character and by a minimal evocation of imperial Rome to relate Caligula's experience to this universal human situation rather than a strict historical setting.

DAVE ALLSOP

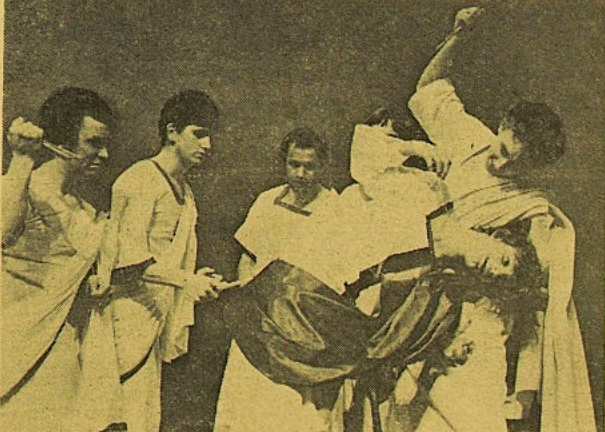
REVIEWS



"PLAY DIRTY"



MICHAEL CAINE



"CALIGULA"

ADVERTISEMENT

DEBATING SOCIETY

Let the challenge be known!

THE OPEN DEBATING TOURNAMENT STARTS SOON

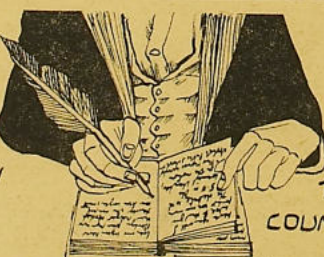
GRAND PRIZES

Winner—£10
Runner up—£5
All finalists—£1½

McKee Ladies' Cup
Winner's Cup

All entries to Debsoc via reception

TODAY
WEDNESDAY
7.30



IDEIBATIE

THIS HOUSE WOULD ABOLISH THE PUBLIC SCHOOL



DEBATING SOCIETY
Come and air your views at your first serious debate since time immemorial!

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

J. Jackson

sport 1

SOCCER

FATE STRIKES IN THE SAME PLACE TWICE

SWANSEA UNIV. 3, BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 2.

If anyone arrived at half-time to watch this game, they were very lucky. They missed a poor first half and witnessed a very exciting second half, in which Swansea probably deserved victory on their initiative and willingness to go for goal. Birmingham could have won this game comfortably with merely an average display, for Swansea's side was practically a two-man affair—their U.A.U. defender, Suddaby and their diminutive, but very talented inside-left, Turner. Birmingham played well below par and lost to the U.A.U. championship holders, who cannot be very confident of their chances this year.

The first half was almost devoid of football skill and entertainment. A partisan Swansea crowd, who must have numbered 300 or so, went wild at the least provocation. The only incident worth mentioning in this period was a phenomenal flying save by Ian Finch from a very good shot by the Swansea centre-forward.

After five minutes of the second half, Finch was beaten by an excellent shot from 25 yards, again by the Swansea centre-forward. Ten minutes later they increased their lead when Suddaby took advantage of terrible confusion in the Birmingham defence, to shoot home from close range.

Soon afterwards Dave Wortley substituted for Rog Dobson, and with 20 minutes to go, Mel Birkinshaw dispossessed Suddaby on the half-way line, interchanged passes with Bob Brown on the right wing, and centred for Andy Malle to head home.

At this stage of the game there was no holding Malle, who was using his speed to its fullest advantage, and with four minutes to go, after a typical run down the right wing, he blasted the ball into the Swansea goal from the narrowest of angles on the edge of the goal area.

Naturally, Birmingham thought they had earned extra time, however, poor marking from a corner allowed Swansea to regain the lead with a header in the very last minute.

FIFTH-ROUND DEFEAT

Blackheath Town 1, Birmingham Univ. 0.

On a day when both teams would rather have decided the tie by the toss of a coin than on a pitch which appeared to have suffered from mining subsidence at one end, the University went out of the second major competition within a week, again by the odd goal.

Any team can expect a spell of bad luck, but for fate to strike in the same place twice was cruel indeed. Playing downhill, and against the blizzard in the first half, Birmingham failed to use this advantage. The defence, which had to be reshuffled because of an injury to Rosbrook, were finding the greasy conditions, plus the robust style of the opposing forwards, difficult to handle. Hart, however, mastered both and was giving his usual 100 per cent effort throughout.

Apart from a moment when

MEN'S LACROSSE

BLAIR SPEED A REVELATION

Boardman and Eccles 11, Birmingham Univ. 5.

Once again the men's lacrosse team fell to inevitable defeat. They made the usual slow start and were three goals down in as many minutes but stuck manfully to their task and were by no means disgraced by the end of the match.

The root cause of the defeat was the amateur body-checking of most of the defence which led to goalkeeper Bullough being left without cover. The attack showed some of its best form and every goal was the result of a fine move. Jim Wilde scored two brave solo efforts and Crowhurst, Farrar and Blair added goals in the second half. Ian Blair in particular had a brilliant game, and his turn of speed was a revelation to all.

Team: Bullough, Jarvis, Farrar, Buckley, Ashton, Bolland, McCraight, Blair, Lither, Wilde, Crowhurst.

Finch tossed the ball up for the opposing centre-forward, two yards from the goal line, which he could only manage to head straight back to the keeper, and a shot from the right which cannoned off the post, the new-lock defence gave nothing away.

For the second time in a week the fatal half-time score was 0-0.

In the second half it was Birmingham's turn to defend, and well they did it, too. Wave after wave of attack was blunted, usually by the head of Eastman or the ferocious tackling of Hart.

The wingers, too, were finding it difficult to get past the tenacious tackling of Payne and Barraclough. Again the goal that mattered, as at Swansea, came from a mis-hit scoop-type shot which dipped over the advancing Finch and went in via the underside of the crossbar, just on the hour.

Birmingham never gave up, despite atrocious conditions, which had worsened by this time. Dobson was "carted" on the left wing and Davies substituted. Happiest player at this time was Dobson, who went in for a nice hot bath 20 minutes before everyone else.

The game was still in the balance up to the last kick of the match, when Davies broke clear on the right and his hard, low cross which Hughes hammered only inches wide.

There was scarcely time to collect the ball from the sewage farm behind the goal before the final whistle blew.



JUDO

BLACKBURN DOMINATES

BIRMINGHAM are through to the British University Judo area championships in London in March. On Saturday they fought Oxford in the Midlands area eliminations and did well enough to get through by drawing.

Last year Oxford narrowly beat Birmingham in the final. But on Saturday though they won twice, Oxford by no means had things all their own way. Giant John Blackburn dominated his two opponents, throwing the Oxford captain for one win, but just failing to trap Bob Darby, the curly Oxford black belt. Blackburn's weight training seems to be paying off, for twice he stood



Photo: Dick Jeffries.

The Birmingham University 1st XV forwards gain possession from a line-out during last Saturday's rain-soaked match on Bournbrook. Lydney ran out 14-11 winners to end Birmingham's winning sequence.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

HOLDERS FALTER IN SEMI-FINAL TIE

BIRMINGHAM 2, READING 2 (after extra time)

In a hard-fought match on Wednesday, Birmingham 1st XI, the joint holders, defeated Aberystwyth 2-1 in atrocious conditions at West Hills with goals from Margaret Pike and Rose Lown and so moved into the W.I.V.A.B. semi-final. For this the team travelled to Reading on Saturday and in a repeat of last year's semi-final were held to a draw.

As on the previous occasion it was a close uncompromising game with the ball swinging rapidly from end to end. Birmingham scored first through Margaret Pike but by the interval the defence had conceded

2 goals. Not long after this Birmingham's efforts were rewarded with an equaliser from Rose Lown.

Birmingham were well in control throughout extra time but were unable to find the net so there will be a replay at West Hills at 2.30 today. Team: H. Piddock, H. Disney, S. Moore, P. Clay (capt.), V. Welsh, F. D'Alcorn, K. Brown, R. Lown, M. Pike, G. Smith, P. Cranmer.

Birmingham's 2nd XI also reached the final of W.I.V.A.B. Championship with wins over Aberystwyth and Leeds. Against Aberystwyth, who could field only eight players, the 13-2 victory included goals from J. Robinson (7), D. Lane (2), P. Lee (3) and J. Brock. At Leeds in the semi-final it was a much closer affair played in driving sleet. A hat-trick from Jean Robinson helped Birmingham to a 4-3 victory. Susan Archer was the other scorer.

BADMINTON

VICTORY AS MIKE RETURNS

Birmingham University 8, Junior Birmingham 1.

WITH five consecutive victories under their belts, the first Men's team and firm favourites to regain the Birmingham League Division I Championship this season, Mike Donovan returned to the side for last week's 8-1 victory over Junior Birmingham, whose solitary success was achieved by ex-University player Pete White. The University should now be at full strength for the remainder of the season, as G. Mostafa is also recovered from a recent operation.

The rest of the League picture looks equally bright, with three other teams challenging for promotion. The first and second mixed teams, both demoted last year, this time head their divisions with 100 per cent playing records and should regain their former status — although mixed I have yet to play away from mine. The third Men's team have dropped only two points to Pyper Hayes, and must hope to avenge this defeat in the return match.

On this showing a fit Birmingham team should be able to beat Oxford in the finals.

Team: R. Willis, J. Blackburn, P. Nicholson, J. Winter, J. Fuks, T. Poporowski, W. Isalski, N. Beddow, P. Dodurum, M. Peacock, G. Potter, T. Halford, J. Routh.

TRAMLINE

... a weekly column of news and opinion in the University sporting world.

★ AFTER what seems like a decade out in the cold, the U.A.U. title has finally come Birmingham's way—and with a bang. The cross-country team really ground the holders, Leeds, into the mud. A couple of weeks ago a U.A.U. selector from Loughborough was still predicting a win for Leeds because "they have more depth." When it came to the crunch Birmingham won with over 100 points to spare.

This was a personal triumph for Birmingham's captain, Malcolm Thomas, and freshman Andy Holden who came in together 66 yards clear of the field. As the B.U.S.F. Championship was incorporated in the one run Thomas and Holden collected two cups, six medals and two plaques between them for individual and team performances—quite a haul.

But this was no fluke. To reach the standard necessary to win such a race the two Birmingham boys train up to a hundred miles a week. Just think of it. An average day consists of five miles before breakfast, a quick three miles at lunchtime and then maybe several miles in the evening not to mention weight sessions here and there. They certainly deserve every bit of their great success.

★ Athletic Union is well on its way to bringing about the second major change in the award of colours in three years. The revision this time seems to be basically the procedure by which the awards are made. In the end all boils down to the old difficulty of finding a balance between the Oxbridge system and our system, under which in effect only U.A.U. representatives are awarded blues.

It is my view that there should be two entirely separate awards for Birmingham. One should be automatically awarded to all players who have played in over 75 per cent of first team matches and a second award for really outstanding performances. This way no one goes empty-handed; and if the standard for the second award is set at a very high level, say international or at least B.U.S.F. standard, then all the old difficulties fade away.

★ Roll up, roll up, for two days of fast-moving, exciting entertainment. That is what we are offered on Friday and Saturday when the U.A.U. Basketball Championships are to be held in the Sports Centre. Last time they were held here, Birmingham were not involved and still the crowds were big. This time with Birmingham as second favourites, the crowd will be enormous and the atmosphere electric. Let's hope the packed gallery can do more for the University team than Docherty did for Aston Villa, and bring a second U.A.U. title.

SKI IN SWITZERLAND at EASTER

There are still a few places on the

PHYSICAL EDUCATION SKI COURSE at LEYSIN

March 23rd-April 6th

Price only £36.

Apply Sports Centre Office

sport 2

CROSS-COUNTRY

U.A.U. TITLE IS OURS!

THOMAS & HOLDEN SHOW WAY HOME

GRAVES PARK, Sheffield, on Saturday, was the scene of the best performance ever by a Birmingham University cross-country team, when they not only won the U.A.U. Championships, which they last won in 1931, but also achieved their highest ever placing in the B.U.S.F. Championships, coming in third behind Cambridge University and Oxford University.

To make the day complete, Malcolm Thomas and Andy Holden tied for first place well clear of Oxford's varsity match winner John Valentine and last year's B.U.S.F. winner from Leeds, Frank Briscoe. The race was over a course of fast but soggy grassland, with some steep hills and woodland thrown in for variety. Four laps of a 4-mile circuit meant that everyone was well acquainted with its minutest details by the time they had finished.

From the start, which was very fast, even for this class of field, Malcolm was always with the leading bunch. By all accounts he looked very impressive as he followed first Briscoe, then Ashton (Cambs.), then Valentine, who tried vainly to shake off the following bunch. Andy meanwhile was working through the field from down in the nineties, but by the end of the second lap had crept up to fourth place. Having caught the leading three, he pushed on ahead, and after another mile Briscoe and Valentine had been dropped, leaving the two Birmingham stars 50 yards clear.

On the last lap Andy fell over and was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.

Pete Griffiths, who had been up

was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.

Pete Griffiths, who had been up

was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.

Pete Griffiths, who had been up

was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.

Pete Griffiths, who had been up

was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.

Pete Griffiths, who had been up

was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.

Pete Griffiths, who had been up

was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.

Pete Griffiths, who had been up

was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.

Pete Griffiths, who had been up

was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.

Pete Griffiths, who had been up

was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.

Pete Griffiths, who had been up

was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.

Pete Griffiths, who had been up

was not seriously hurt and with his help was soon "moving good" again. They crossed the line together in 39 minutes 9 seconds, and were over 60 yards clear of the fast finishing John Valentine.



Malcolm Thomas (275) at the front of the leading bunch, at Graves Park, Sheffield. Close on his heels is Andy Holden (217) who tied first place with him.

BASKETBALL

LUKE'S PRESSED HARD

ST. LUKE'S 47, BIRMINGHAM 43

SIX stalwarts and supporters made the long trek to St. Luke's College, Exeter. Facing the British Colleges champions with so small a squad was like David facing Goliath without a sling so the narrow four-point defeat was almost a victory.

Undaunted by the fearful odds Birmingham fought furiously over every loose ball and the defence was as airtight as a submarine. Intelligent defence made St. Luke's shoot

from the outside and they got very few close buckets.

George Greene and John Lord playing masterly games, fed the side with incisive passes and also hit some sugar-sweet shots. Meanwhile the big men, John Simons and Keith Booth, were rebounding to great heights on offence and defence. Such magnificent work kept Lukes at bay and they often verged dangerously close to the 30 seconds rule.

The closing minutes of the game provided enervating entertainment for the crowd. Two points down the visitors tried to press Lukes but just failed.

DON'T MISS THE U.A.U. CHAMPIONSHIPS ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

GOLF

Brilliant birdies by Wawn

Liverpool 5, Birmingham 2.

THE University, fielding a weakened team, lost to Liverpool University by five matches to two, with one halved. Local veteran Arnie Wawn: "I hadn't played for so long, I'd forgotten how brilliant I was!" Withered the course into submission with three fine birdies on the second half and won three and one. Captain Dathan played a fine round of 72 to beat his ex-schoolboy international opponent by a comfortable margin, whereas Pete Bieby succumbed to the same standard of golf by a most uncomfortable margin.

Ian Coldicott, resplendent in lime green socks, managed to halve his match on the 18th, but Cox, Paterson, Lister and Manmington all lost very close matches. Today the University plays U.A.U. champions Manchester, and is looking for its second victory over them this year.

I.D.S. LEAGUE

TABLE TENNIS Tuesday League (up to January 21st)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Metallurgy	5	3	0	2	35	15	13
Phys. Ed.	3	3	0	0	25	5	12
Maths	4	2	1	1	25	10	4
Geography	3	1	0	2	10	20	4
Chemistry	3	1	0	2	8	22	4
Min. Eng.	2	0	1	1	5	15	2
Geology	2	0	0	2	2	18	0

BADMINTON Thursday League (up to January 23rd)

	P	W	F	A	P
Chinese	5	5	23	2	35
High Hall	5	5	20	5	12
Metallurgy	5	4	19	6	8
Maths	6	3	15	15	6
Mason	5	3	12	13	6
Physics	5	2	15	10	4
Biochem	4	1	7	13	2
Univ. House	4	1	4	16	2
Commerce	6	1	6	24	2
Eng. Prod.	5	0	3	22	0

SECOND TEAM RUNNERS-UP FOR THIRD TIME

THE University 2nd team came second in the U.A.U. 2nd team Championship for the third year running. The race was held on the same course as the first teams had run on earlier in the afternoon, but was only three laps of the one and three-quarter-mile circuit.

The Cambridge runners, who were running as guests, dominated the individual positions with four runners out of the first five to finish, followed by a procession of Manchester University runners.

Birmingham were well represented in the top 20, with Ron Taylor at 14th and Gordon Thompson 16th. Considering Ron has been unable to train because of an injured knee which kept him out of the first team, he did remarkably well. Conditions had considerably worsened after the first team race, and with heavy driving rain turning to sleet later in the race, Gordon seemed to be stimulated rather than discouraged, and ran his best race since last year's U.A.U. Championships.

Other Birmingham placings! 22 Phil Smith, 29 Tony Thickett, 32 Bob Kerich, 42 Robbie Ball, 67 Tom Salway, 70 Doug Jardine, 76 Peter Rawlinson, 88 Graham Hilder, 104 Brian Spearing.

Teams:
1 Manchester Univ. 97 points.
2 Birmingham Univ. 155 points.
3 Leeds Univ. 223 points.

FENCING

Liverpool whitewashed by girls

IN their first match of the new year, the women's fencing team showed impressive form in annihilating Liverpool University 9-0. The visitors fenced quite competently, however, but could not contend with the quicker and more effective Birmingham girls, who won an advantage on aggregate hits of 36:8sec. Sue Dight and Sue Metcalfe won three fights without difficulty and Margaret Mansell had only one hit scored against her in her three bouts.

The men's team fenced rather ineffectively in allowing Liverpool to beat them 14-8. The final score of 2-7 in the sabre, rather flattered the Liverpool team, who also beat Birmingham in the foil, by 5-2. Ralph Evans producing the two face saving victories.

The team fought back in the Epee to win 4-2. Evans conceded only one point in winning his two fights, but the performance of the day was certainly that of Bryan Preedy who won both his fights, quite oblivious of the fact that he is a sabreur and foilist and not an epeeist. In fact, in his first fight he achieved the almost impossible feat of coming back from 0-4 down to win 5-4.

This week's sport

Saturday, February 8th

Soccer:
Birmingham City v. Manchester United (k.o. 3 p.m.).
W.B.A. v. Arsenal (k.o. 3 p.m.).
Rugby:
1st XV v. Widnes, on Bournbrook.
Women's Lacrosse:
1st v. Nottm. Univ. (Wast Hills).
Men's Hockey:
1st v. Kings Heath (Wast Hills).
Squash:
1st v. Coventry (Old Gym).

MANOR ESTATE PLANS

TENDERS IN BY TODAY

UNIVERSITY TO BUILD FLATS

REDBRICK
Birmingham University

No. 755 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5th, 1969 Price 3d.

THIS week the University will receive tenders from several building firms for a contract to build a block of self-contained student flats on the Manor House Estate. If everything goes well they could be open by the beginning of the autumn term, 1970. Until the tenders have been examined to see if the scheme is economically viable, there will be no definite commitment by the University to go ahead.

This is intended as much as a pilot project as anything, and if successful, it could be the first of many buildings of the same kind, both in Birmingham and at other universities. The basic philosophy behind the scheme comes from local authorities

who find it profitable to build large units of flats with fairly low rents.

The sum of £300,000 will be needed to build the proposed 100 flats, which will include both two and three-bedroom units. Either groups of three and four people, or even married students with children could live in the flats. It is this flexibility which makes the scheme so attractive in contrast to the present rigidity that it is inevitable in small rooms of Halls of Residence. The flats are to be self-contained

Church must rethink

IN yesterday's open lecture the Bishop of Southwark, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Mervyn Stockwood, spoke on "The Relevance of the Church to Modern Society." The church has always been regarded as something of an enigma, he said, and the establishment of the church in England was an attempt to reconcile the divided loyalties to State and Church. Although the established church is an anachronism, there is no reason to believe that bringing this to an end would make the church more effective—the church in Wales, which is disestablished, was a case in point.

On the question of the differences of denomination, the Bishop said that these were both "dangerous and expensive today, we cannot expect to be taken seriously if we claim to have the basis of community and are divided." However, he said that although doctrinal differences remained, at least there is now discussion, after centuries of abuse, between Rome and England.

A basic rethinking and reorganisation is necessary within the Church of England if it is to rise to the challenge presented by the problems which exist in this country today, said Dr. Stockwood.

By
ROGER KELLY

and needless to say, the University aims to keep the rents at a parity with those in the private sector.

At the moment there is a shortage of public money available for educational purposes. But the University hopes that most of the capital will be provided by a Housing Association. Although the situation is unlikely to arise, it remains a fact that saleable property, such as these flats, is more attractive to building societies. Consequently, the University is optimistic about its chances of raising the money.

The initial plans were discussed by a Planning Sub-Committee of the Planning and Priorities Committee, which included five students representing postgrads and undergraduates at all levels. The same Committee will be reconvened to discuss the tenders.

At the moment the fate of the flats is very much in the hands of the builders. The economic situation at the moment hardly encourages acceptable tenders but the University, through the Bursar, is quick to point out that failure at this time does not destroy the idea of student flats. Indeed, this pioneering may lead the University to take a long-overdue interest in this area of student welfare.

Union plan to sell contraceptives?

ROD PLAYFORD, Chairman of Welfare Committee, said yesterday that he was writing to the University Refectory Committee and the Union Services Committee to ask if contraceptives could be sold in the two campus barber's shops.

"There is a demand for such a service, as the number of enquiries in Welfare Office shows; but more important than this is that it can save considerable emotional and social disturbances in some cases," he said.

It is one of those services that the Guild and the University could undertake without any unnecessary fuss or harm to anyone.

"In the age of enlightened society, the deliberate avoiding of even discussion of subjects is outmoded. As other students' unions throughout the country undertake to provide such services to their members I can see no reason why Birmingham should remain aloof."



Overcrowding in Deb. Hall last Friday

CHAOS AT 3 B's DANCE

DOZENS of people surged on to the Deb Hall balcony on Friday night as a more than capacity crowd filled the hall to hear the Bonzo Dog Band at the Three B's dance. And as fast as they tried to get on to the balcony Union stewards, on the instruction of stage staff, forced them down the stairs again.

The Bonzo Dog were billed to appear at 10.30, but by 9.30 the hall was already completely full, with many ticket holders unable to get in, or, if they got in, to see anything. But when they tried to get on the balcony in order to sit and watch they were turned back on grounds of safety and also supposedly because of the fire risk. In fact, however, the balcony is not structurally weak and could hold, standing, 1½ times the number of people who could actually get into it. The rail at the edge, however, is weak, and might collapse under the pressure of a large crowd.

The fire regulations which govern Deb. Hall and the back-stage area also apply to the balcony, so that the present ruling that only 1,000 people may be allowed in the area at any one time includes it in this specified area. The total capacity for dances is 1,750, but this is on the assumption that it will be spread out over the main dance, the discotheque, the Founders Room Bar and the Old Entrance Hall area.

Last Friday, however, the total size of the audience, including gate-crashers, was well over the statutory limit.

The question was later raised of why the full number of tickets need be sold; in fact, if less tickets were sold the dances would run at a loss, particularly when major groups such as the Bonzo Dog are appearing. The number is only kept to 1,750 by the fire regulations, and the fact that the Union is not insured for fire. (This, in fact, is because of the prohibitive cost of the premium, which could run into thousands of pounds per year.)

Although security at Friday's dance was very strict it was not strict enough to prevent gate-crashers getting in; the card check on the only entrance was inefficient and large numbers of people, particularly women, were let in without any attempt to ensure that they were members of the Guild. In view of the many thefts, this is obviously one of the weak points of Union security.

Confusion at Arts Faculty meeting

ON Monday about a hundred students heard Chas. Critcher read out a letter from the Dean of the Faculty of Arts at a Special General Meeting of the Faculty. Professor Davies' letter came in reply to last week's meeting when a large number of students rejected the Dean's proposals for student participation on Faculty boards at the same time expressing their wish to attain full representation and not merely an advisory capacity on certain subjects.

The letter attempted to explain that the Dean personally "had made no proposals, but the Faculty Board had agreed to implement 'Student Role' and he continued to say that, last week, students were rejecting "their own proposals, not his."

Amended wording

In the light of this standpoint by the Dean, the meeting suitably amended the wording of the motions for debate, Part 1 reading as follows: "This meeting does not wish to use the 'Student Role' proposals as a basis for negotiating Faculty Board representation and welcomes Guild Council's recognition of their inadequacy. However, this meeting wishes to open negotiations with the Dean and the Faculty Board on the possibility of recognising the right of students to full participation on Faculty boards."

When this had been accepted with a two-thirds majority, Part 2 was put before the assembly: "The meeting appoints four students to (1) draw up a document outlining the case for, and possible forms of student representation on Faculty Board; (2) report back to students with the document; (3) negotiate with the Dean and/or Faculty Board on the basis of this document; (4) report back to students on the progress of negotiations."

Unanimous approval was given to this part and the following were elected to present the document and begin negotiations: C. Githere (History), C. Critcher (Comp. Hons.), Miss J. Moore (Theology) and D. Reid (History).

Postgrads rebuild

Work has begun on the complete internal rebuilding of the Postgraduate Centre. The new facilities will include a television, a bar to be open every evening, and a kitchen serving hot and cold snacks at lunch-time.

The centre, due to be opened by the end of March, will be available for small socials and dances, and should prove especially useful to postgraduates when the Union facilities are closed during vacations.